

DOCUMENTING OUR MINISTRIES

MINISTRY: OUTREACH AND JUSTICE COUNCIL

DATE OF THIS DOCUMENTATION UPDATE: FEB. 2009

MINISTRY DESCRIPTION:

The Outreach & Justice Council provides oversight to St. Michael's many outreach programs, provides leadership in social justice advocacy, and makes outreach budget recommendations to the vestry. At St. Michael's, we believe that worship and action go hand-in-hand as two sides of the same coin. In Holy Baptism we make solemn vows to "seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving our neighbors as ourselves" and to "strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being."

St. Michael's was named as a Jubilee Center by the Episcopal Church in 1997 in recognition of our work of empowering parishioners to "do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly" with God. (Micah 6:8). In addition, St. Michael's is committed in working toward the Millennium Development Goals by committing time and resources to eliminate extreme poverty in our world.

The Outreach & Justice Council is charged with supporting existing outreach ministries, discerning if potential new ministries are right for us, and calling forth leadership for our outreach programs.

POSSIBLE WAYS TO BE INVOLVED

The Council meets quarterly usually on the first Thursday evening of February, May, August, and November. Members review proposals for new outreach ministries and social justice activities, take responsibility for specific ministry activities related to outreach, justice and the Millennium Development Goals, and make budget recommendations as requested.

POSSIBLE ACTIVITIES

Council members may work with a group or individual who wishes to make a proposal to St. Michael's about a new outreach/justice ministry area. Members may take responsibility for a specific ministry or project such as the Alternative Gift Catalog, for shepherding a specific Millennium Development Goal through seeking speakers for the Adult Forum, or for advocacy-related activities related to social justice.

WAYS TO BE INVOLVED:

Some members are unable to attend quarterly meetings, but choose to be responsible for a specific ministry, project or activity undertaken by the Council.