



THE MESSENGER

Mailed April 2, 2009

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DEAR FRIENDS,

We are entering the days that lead to the very heart of the mystery of our faith – the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ – in the celebrations of Holy Week and Easter. We are called to enter into the life of this community in the many events that make these days holy, to fully experience these days together.

For all of us, life is different today – there has been significant change from just a year ago. We are living in uncertain times; the financial crisis has affected everyone. By our baptism we are called to respond out of compassion, to live into the resurrection – to feed the hungry, and to support the protection of human life, excellence in healthcare and education, and to encourage and support all that enhances life.

We are a community of love and compassion dedicated to serving the needs of the world. As God's people we have a passion for the things of God. Our passion gives hope and joy to the world around us, to our neighbor, to the marginalized, to the suffering. We can sometimes be overcome by the fear propagated by the news – life is messy. So we turn to scripture to find words of encouragement, we meet often for prayer and fellowship, and we become gift to one another.

During this joyous season of Eastertide, let us work for the wellbeing of all, deep care for our children, respect for our elders, and the growing number of those at the margin of our society; remembering the high cost of love and the Lord Jesus who gave all that all might have abundant life. Together we can do this.

Faithfully,

Joan M. Yetter, Interim

WALK OF THE CROSS ON GOOD FRIDAY

Join with folks from at least 12 parishes in the metropolitan area in the "Walk of the Cross," taking place from noon to 2:00 on Friday, April 10. The walk will begin at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 1244 NE 39th Ave. There will be a number of stops, or "stations," along the way and prayers for issues such as education, healthcare, sustainability, and the recession. The walk will conclude with a short service at St. Michael's at about 2:00 pm.

St. Michael's has not participated in these walks for a number of years. Help us to revive this wonderful Good Friday tradition! For more information, please call Joan Winchester at 503/281-6461 or Fr. Bob Krueger at 503/2330-0915; or contact Marla McGarry-Lawrence at 503/284-7141 ext. 314 or marlaml@stmaa.org.

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YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR...

- + repose for the soul of Janet Robinson's mother LOIS FALK, EDITH THROCKMORTON, DEACON JEAN MCAFEE, and long-time parishioner ROSEMARY KALB;
- + births: LUCIA MARIE BAGWELL born March 9, 2009 – granddaughter of Dan and Marie Bagwell and SERIAH ANN born to Kathy Buhl's daughter Ariel;
- + recovering from surgery – CINDY LAWRENCE, ROSEMARY MCGRATH, GARY NEILL, BOB ULLMAN, SCOTT GORDON, ANNA HAWLEY and STEPHEN ROUFFY;
- + thanksgiving for the marriage of ANDREW MORLAND WEX and REBECCA LYNN DITTMAR on March 21, 2009;
- + this community during this journey of transition, especially the work of the DISCERNMENT COMMITTEE and the VESTRY;
- + healing for DICK HALL;
- + JOSH & CLAIRE DEMAREST for the loss of their prematurely born daughters, Josephine and Olivia;
- + all who have lost or are seeking employment in these troubling times.

IT'S A "CELEBRATION OF MINISTRIES!"

SUNDAY, MAY 3, 10:10 AM AND 12:15 PM

You'll want to be at St. Michael's for sure on Sunday, May 3 for the "Celebration of Ministries!" It's a day to make a difference in lots of ways. On May 3 you can –

- Purchase fair trade, organic Palestinian olive oil and green olives from the Holy Land
- Buy and/or order fresh tamales to support the Latino music program
- Bring new underwear for the women served by Rahab's Sisters
- Experience cranking an El Porvenir hand pump and lifting buckets of water
- Bring jars of spaghetti sauce for the Community Meal to kick off a month-long ingathering
- Support impoverished African artist through the Zimbabwe Arts Program
- Experience "Fun and Games" with the Recovery Ministry Team
- Buy fair trade, organic coffee, tea and chocolate from Equal Exchange
- Bring your hazardous wastes to be recycled
- Sign up to be a Freedom Writer with Amnesty International
- Write letters to our Senators and Representatives to support ending hunger and immigration reform
- Many other activities and opportunities

In addition to all these great activities, join the Children & Family Ministries for hands-on spring craft projects and fun for all ages. Come, enjoy yourself and make a difference!

EUCCHARISTIC VISITORS

For over 20 years, the celebration of Holy Eucharist at St. Michael's has been extended through the ministry of our Eucharistic Visitors to those who are unable to come to church because of illness, injury, frailty, or the birth of a new baby. Sharing in Holy Communion is an important part of the church's ministry of healing and pastoral care. The Book of Common Prayer affirms the place of the Eucharist as "the principal act of Christian worship on the Lord's day and other major Feasts" and also as the foundation of the corporate prayer of the church.

Members of the parish, after appropriate training and vestry approval, are licensed by the bishop to take the consecrated bread and wine directly from our celebration of the Eucharist to those who are unable to be present with the gathered community. As directed by the Canons of the Episcopal Church, the Eucharistic Visitors ministry at St. Michael's is under the supervision of the parish deacon.

For anyone interested in becoming a Eucharistic Visitor, the qualifications include:

- Regular participation in the congregation's worship and a personal piety centered around the Eucharist
- Support of the program of the church
- A manner of life appropriate for this ministry
- Such training in pastoral care and sacramental theology as is appropriate
- Attendance in the diocesan SAFE Church Training program

We are grateful to our dedicated team of Eucharistic Visitors: Jack Harper, Pat Klum, Gayle Morris, Anne North, Ricki Perry, Tim Sackett, Thea Sanchez, and Gerri Wise. If you or a family member is unable to be at church on Sundays for any of the reasons mentioned above, please do not hesitate to call the parish office so that communion may be brought to you at home, at the hospital, or in a care center.

--Deacon Marla McGarry-Lawrence

SUMMER WOMEN'S RETREAT: "WATER MUSIC: POETRY OF PLACE"

JULY 24-26, 2009, AT THE CEDARS RETREAT CENTER

Women of the parish, join us for the St. Michael's Summer Women's Retreat! Co-facilitated by Kathy Buhl and the Rev. Sallie Bowman, the retreat will incorporate a series of reflections on water, Baptism, the Eucharist, poetry, quiet space, and music. The retreat begins with supper at 7:00 pm. on Friday, July 24, and concludes at noon on Sunday, July 26. The cost of the retreat is \$150. Your \$50 deposit by May 1 will hold your space at the Cedars, located on the Clackamas River near Oregon City. For more information, please contact Deacon Marla McGarry-Lawrence at 503/284-7141 ext. 314 or MarlaML@stmaa.org.

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE WHEELCHAIR?

We had to ask this a few weeks ago when a parishioner needed a wheelchair, and we couldn't find one. In response, the Safety Committee is asking for help from our friends in the medical field to serve on a first aid group. The group will assess the parish's first aid and Medical equipment needs and a maintenance plan for first aid supplies. We expect this will require one or two meetings overall.

If you would like to help, please contact Josh English at 503/650-4934 or Joshua.R.English@gmail.com.

THE ST. MICHAEL'S RECOVERY MINISTRY

All are welcome and invited to our gatherings to discuss issues of concern and help plan future offerings to the congregation. We meet every 3rd Saturday at 9:30 am, with our next meeting scheduled for April 18. The following is our mission statement:

St. Michael & All Angels Recovery Ministry exists to support those who desire a renewal of faith and life through recovery and understanding of drug, alcohol, and other addictions. Through education and trust building, we work to develop an environment where support, hope and understanding are available to all.

For more information, please contact Kevin Warren at 503/679-0768 or Larry Street at 503/282-8159.

CONVENTION DELEGATES ELECTED

The Vestry has elected Dan Bagwell, Kathy Buhl, Rob Downer, Mitch Oglesby, and Melissa Parkhurst to represent St. Michael's at the Diocesan Convention to be held November 19-21 in Eugene. Cathy Searls and Leslie Sackett will serve as Alternate Delegates. In the months ahead these delegates will meet with others from Metro-East Convocation to prepare for the Convention at which the next Bishop of Oregon will be elected.

INFORME DE LA COMUNIDAD HISPANA NEWS FROM THE HISPANIC COMMUNITY

Although we don't have regular forums after the 1:00 pm Spanish mass, we do have guest speakers from time to time. A visit from Omar Vargas of the Miracle Theatre inspired us to organize a group to view "Te Llevo en la Sangre" on February 6. Twenty-one of us went to see this Spanish-language comedy/drama from Argentina. On February 15, Chris Anders of Immigration Counseling Services came to give us a presentation on current immigration law as well as to update the community on their rights at a traffic stop or if immigration authorities come to the home.

Members of the Vestry came to the March 8 convivio to discuss St. Michael's budget situation. The community was quite disappointed to learn that we would not be able to hire a Spanish-speaking priest at this time, but it is hopeful that we will call a bilingual rector. In the meantime, the Rev. Roberto Arciniega, Hispanic Missioner for the Diocese of Oregon, has agreed to preside at our Spanish mass twice a month and to help us form a choir. We are also fortunate to have the Rev. Scott Dolph, the Rev. Dennis Parker, the Rev. Sallie

Bowman, and the Rev. Laura Truby available to preside at the liturgy on a regular basis.

We have been walking the Stations of the Cross, or Via Crucis the Fridays of Lent. This year, we are utilizing a bilingual version of the Stations that includes reflections on the Millennium Development Goals. All are welcome to join us at 7:00 pm in the church.

Finally, we are excited about the formation of the new choir, led by Padre Roberto, which met for the first time on March 9. We are grateful for the accompaniment of David Donnell on the piano. The choir made its debut at the 1:00 pm service on March 15.

Padre Carlos Nuñez has been helping Mayte Coutiño Cruz and Mireya Cruz Keymolen prepare for Easter Baptism. Mayte will be baptized at the Great Vigil of Easter, and Mireya will be baptized on Easter Day at the 1:00 service.

— Deacon Marla McGarry-Lawrence

RECTOR SEARCH 2009

Our search for the new rector is in full swing. Please continue to check the journey through transition board in the Nativity Hall!

Thank you for the time and opportunity to update you on our progress at the Forum on Sunday, March 15. We explained the Episcopal Church's protocol for the calling of a rector, available at the Diocese of Oregon website, www.diocese-oregon.org, under the Procedures and Policies tab on the left menu. We also talked about where we are in the process: accepting nominations and receiving applications. We reviewed the Position Description found at our website. Copies can be found at the Information Table outside the office.

There has been some confusion and concern about the search for a minister to the Spanish service and the addition of basic Spanish language skills to the position description in use in our current

rector search. The Vestry has decided that our entire community will be best served by a rector able to conduct courteous and caring conversation with our Spanish-speaking members. Our search for a minister to the 1:00 pm Spanish service has been suspended for the time being because of the challenge of filling the position without a permanent rector in place. The plan now is to resume the search for the Spanish minister as soon as resources allow after we secure the new rector of St. Michael's.

We appreciate all the prayers, interest and participation in this important process. Comments, questions and feedback are welcome.

Faithfully yours,

Ann Hargraves & Pete Schmidt
Co-chairs, Discernment Team

EPISCOPAL PEACE FELLOWSHIP

You've seen the monthly EPF table, and maybe you've signed up to receive the EPF email newsletter; but what does being a member of the Episcopal Peace Fellowship really mean? In the Beatitudes, Jesus says, "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God." For me, the EPF is truly a way to connect—pray—act for peace with others in the Portland area and beyond. The Episcopal Peace Fellowship provides an intentional means of working with others - both locally and across the nation - urging people of faith to promote nonviolence in resolving conflicts, educating Episcopalians on what our church teaches about peace, and working with people of all faith traditions to bring understanding.

The local chapter of the Episcopal Peace Fellowship meets at 7:00 pm on the fourth Thursday of each month, January through October, at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral. In addition to our mission of promoting peace and nonviolence, this year we are also focusing on the needs of children and immigrants. You may also be interested in the 10-session "From Violence to Wholeness," a nonviolence training program that the Episcopal Peace Fellowship plans to offer later this summer.

Won't you join us in our ministry of working for peace? For more information about the national Episcopal Peace Fellowship, please visit www.epfnational.org; or contact Deacon Marla McGarry-Lawrence, 503/284-7141 ext. 314, or MarlaML@stmaa.org for information about our local efforts.

— Deacon Marla McGarry-Lawrence

FOLK ART FROM ZIMBABWE AT ST. MICHAEL'S

St. Michael's welcomes an exhibit of beautiful folk art from Zimbabwe on April 26 and May 3. The art will be available to view and purchase from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm in the Gallery. Brought to us by the non-profit Zimbabwe Artists Project, the art is from the Weya Communal Lands and is done mostly by women. Embroideries, fabric paintings, appliques and board paintings depict scenes and stories from their lives and their world. Each piece comes with a description written by the artist as well as a color photo and short biography of the artist. The proceeds from all sales will be returned directly to the artists.



At the FORUM on April 26, Zimbabwe Artists Project's Executive Director Richard Adams will talk about the art, the artists, and the values which underlie the Project. For more information about the Zimbabwe Artists Project (ZAP) and to see photographs of the artists and their work, check their website at www.zimbabweartistsproject.org.

VESTRY NEWS

One of the objectives of the Vestry's organizational meeting in March was to have each Vestry member select a ministry to which they will serve as liaison. The selections are as follows:

- Outreach and Justice – Christine Lentz and Bev Hoeffler
- Christian Formation – Kevin Warren and Josh English
- Pastoral Care – Jonna Alexander and Peter Miller
- Worship and Music – Chuck Mason and Kenya Cruz
- Parish Life – Christie Maddocks and Michael Sagun
- Administration – Jennie Street and Karen Oglesby

The idea behind the Vestry liaisons is that it gives the coordinators of each ministry two people on the Vestry that they can communicate with to let them know how things are going. If there is a need, or an idea, or a concern, the Vestry liaisons are there to listen and to help. Vestry liaisons are also available to help support big events within their ministry area. Ideally, each ministry coordinator should expect to hear from their Vestry liaison once a quarter. During regular Vestry meetings, we ask the liaisons to report on their ministry area to keep us up to date on what is happening in each group. It helps all of us stay connected to the many wonderful and vibrant ministries that are carried out within and outside our parish walls.

At our last two Vestry meetings, we have discussed ways to more fully include the Hispanic community in the life of the parish. One of the ideas discussed was to have a second Junior Warden, which is considered the "People's Warden" who would represent the Hispanic community on the Vestry. After checking the canons to make sure that this is possible, we voted to establish the position of a second Junior Warden. Then we elected Kenya Cruz to fill that position for this year. We are very excited about this new endeavor as well as our commitment to better incorporate the Hispanic and Anglo people of our congregation.

Jennie Street
Senior Warden

UNDIE SUNDAY, MAY 3

Times are hard, especially on the street.

Rahab's Sisters needs your continued kind assistance. On May 3, we welcome the donation of new women's underwear (any size or color) and socks. You can bring these things, along with other personal items (toothpaste, toothbrushes, toilet paper, facial tissue, soap, shampoo, hand sanitizer, deodorant, tampons, and lotion) to the church and put them in the brightly colored Rahab's Sisters box located under the table in the Gallery.

Your kindness will be greatly appreciated by the women who receive your gifts and by those of us who participate in this ministry.

2010 EL PORVENIR WORK MISSION TO NICARAGUA

Will 2010 be the year for YOU to go to Nicaragua on a work mission with other parishioners from St. Michael's? Maybe you've listened to an El Porvenir FORUM and seen the photos and thought, "Gee, I would love to do that, but I can't go in January." Well, we have good news. In 2010, there will be two work missions to Nicaragua! The first team will serve in Nicaragua from January 9 to 23, 2010, and will be led by Bev Hoeffler and Carol Beeston. This will be a traditional work mission involving the construction of lavaderos, baños, and waste-water wells (asumideros).

The second two-week trip will be in July 2010 during the rainy season, when we will be doing reforestation work. Reforestation is crucial to maintaining an adequate water table and in stabilizing the land in a country vulnerable to earthquakes and hurricanes.

Each trip will cost approximately \$1200 plus airfare. The fee includes all lodging and meals, transportation within Nicaragua, and trip insurance. Middle-school and high-school age youth are welcome to participate with their parents. A \$100 deposit per person for the January 2010 trip is due by June 1, 2009. For more information about El Porvenir, please visit www.elporvenir.org, or contact Deacon Marla McGarry-Lawrence at 503/284-7141 ext. 314 or MarlaML@stmaa.org.

EL PORVENIR COMES TO ST. MICHAEL'S ON FRIDAY, MAY 1

A special relationship has developed between St. Michael's and El Porvenir (a non-profit organization coordinating Clean Water projects in Nicaragua). We have been sending brigades to Nicaragua over ten years to work with rural communities on projects ranging from latrines to efficient cooking facilities to reforestation.

On May 1, Rob Bell, Executive Director of El Porvenir, and Jo Buescher, their Delegations Coordinator, will be at St. Michael's to describe current activities and look to the future. The event, including a potluck dinner, will be held from 6:00 to 8:00 pm in the Parish Hall. Rob will present a slideshow; a display will highlight projects and Nicaraguan culture; and volunteers from previous brigades will amaze you with stories of victory in the face of adversity and other life-changing experiences. Some items will be available for sale as donations to El Porvenir. This is a great chance to learn more about this wonderful service opportunity and to help shape the future of our involvement with El Porvenir and the residents of Nicaragua.

Contact Ron Geason at 503/281-6164 or rwgeason@comcast.net for more information and to let us know who will be attending and what you will bring. A sign-up sheet will also be available at the Information Table. We hope to see you there!

If you can't come to the potluck, Jo Buescher will also be at St. Michael's on Sunday, May 3, for the Celebration of Ministries. Jo can answer any questions you might have about El Porvenir's work in Nicaragua and future work trips.

THE JOYFUL NEWS

Springtime is here, and Children and Family Ministries is blooming with opportunities to connect, explore and rejoice in the St. Michael's community. Did you know...

Childcare is available every Sunday morning from 8:50 am to 12:00 pm. Members of St. Michael's worshipping community volunteer approximately one hour a month to care for the infants, toddlers and preschoolers who spend a portion of their Sunday morning in our cheerful Childcare Room.

Godly Play and Sunday School classes occur during the 10:00 hour for children in pre-K through fifth grade. Regular classes continue through Sunday, June 14, 2009 (no classes on Easter or Pentecost). Have you hugged a Sunday School teacher lately?

The Children's Liturgy of the Word meets Sunday morning during the 9:00 and 11:00 liturgies. Children usually begin attending Children's Liturgy during their kindergarten year. Parents are always welcome to accompany young children as they transition from nursery care to the Children's Liturgy.

The Joyful Noise Arts Center is an after-school program for students in first through fifth grade that meets Wednesday afternoons from 3:30 – 5:00 pm. Tuition is \$40 per student, per term. The spring term begins Wednesday, April 1, and runs through Wednesday, June 3. It's awesome!

The Joyful Noise Choir will resume rehearsals after Easter and sing again in church on May 10, 2009. All children in grades one through five who love to sing are encouraged to "Make a Joyful Noise!"

Camping Ministries for all ages are alive and well in the Diocese of Oregon. For more information see the display of colorful brochures on the Information Table or check out the website, www.diocese-oregon.org/camping or www.gocamping.org.

PLANNING AHEAD FOR THE MERRY MONTH OF MAY ...

Baptism for infants and young children will be celebrated next on Pentecost, Sunday, May 31. For more information, please call Leslie Sackett, Associate for Ministry with Children and Families, 503/284-7141, ext. 318.

ST. MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS
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ST. MICHAEL'S CALENDAR

APRIL 10	Good Friday Church opens at 6:00 am, services at Noon and 7:00 pm
APRIL 11	The Great Vigil of Easter Service begins at 8:00 pm
APRIL 12	Easter Day Regular schedule of 7:30, 9:00, 11:00 and 1:00 (in Spanish)
APRIL 19	Easter Readings and Song St. Michael's Famous Cake Auction & Bake Sale at 10:10 am

**"BRIDGES OVER TROUBLED WATERS"
ECW SPIRITUALITY DAY**

Episcopal women in the diocese are invited to the Episcopal Church Women (ECW) Spirituality Day at Christ Church Parish in Lake Oswego on May 2, 8:30 am to 3:30 pm. The cost is \$20. The day will feature worship, eight workshops, coffee and snacks, a full luncheon, vendors, and care packages for the trip home. Details and registration materials are on the diocesan website (www.diocese-oregon.org).

**ARCHBISHOP DESMOND TUTU
COMES TO PORTLAND**

Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon presents the 40th Annual Collins Lecture featuring Archbishop Desmond Tutu: "The Transformative Power of Reconciliation in Society" Monday, May 4, 2009 at 6:30 pm at the Chiles Center, University of Portland, 5000 N. Willamette Blvd.

Tickets for the Collins Lecture are \$20 and may be purchased in person at the Chiles Center box office, 11:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday, or through www.TicketMaster.com or call 866/448-7849.



For information about the Leadership Summit "Practicing Reconciliation," to be held at The University of Portland from 12:00 pm to 5:00 pm on May 4 or to download a Registration Brochure, please check www.emoregon.org.