

THE MESSENGER

Mailed April 30, 2009

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DEAR FRIENDS,

Alleluia. Christ is Risen. The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia! The earth proclaims resurrection as it bursts with new life. We look around these spring days and what we see is amazing – the dogwood, tulips, azaleas, forsythia – every shrub and tree is awash in color. My experience in Portland has been that spring is a phenomenal season that affirms our belief in the resurrection in a world on fire with life, ripe with God. Everything holds up a mirror into eternity for us.

It is into this new reality that the St. Michael's community emerges. May is filled with experiences of vibrant community life and radical hospitality, and everyone is invited to take part.

Don't miss the Celebration of Ministries, May 3, that gives a glimpse of ways that the reign of God is present in our midst and how everyone can participate. Check out the ministry of El Porvenir, buy tamales, write letters in support of immigration reform, and so much more! There really is something for everyone!

St. Michael's Youth Ministries promises an evening of fun for all ages on May 9 when they present "The Big Enchilada" – the second annual Variety Show and Dinner for the delight of the community. Get your tickets now to support St. Michael's youth and give Mom the gift of a splendid evening of fun and food.

We look forward to Assisting Bishop Sandy Hampton's visitation May 24 when over 25 persons will be presented for Confirmation, Reception, or Reaffirmation. The Bishop's visitation culminated months of preparation by the candidates to make this important affirmation of their faith. The festivities will include a FORUM presentation by Bishop Sandy and an update on the bishop search.

The Pentecost celebration on May 31 will include baptisms and the joyous welcome of at least two new Christians into the community. Join with us as we experience Jesus in our hearts in new ways on Pentecost, the birthday of the Church.

Won't you join us on this amazing journey? During the season of Eastertide we experience resurrection as simply another part of the process of growing into God. Life as we know it is simply a temporary point to an eternal journey in a universe of unlimited mystery, endless possibility. God has planted the proof all around us.

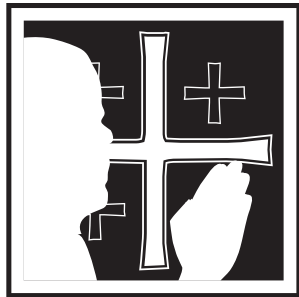
Easter Blessings,

Joan M. Yetter, Interim

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YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR...

- + the REV. JOAN YETTER, whose brother DENNIS MITCHELL died on April 21 in Great Falls, MT;
- + MATT KALLEN whose father BOB KALLEN passed away on April 15, and for Matt's wife Kristina and their children, Benjamin, Juliette, and Nicholas, in their sorrow;
- + the repose of the soul of NELLIE KAREN CHALLIS who died on April 17 and for her husband John in his sorrow;
- + the repose of the soul of JIM CHURCH who died on April 3 after a long illness and for his wife Cynthia and son John in their sorrow;
- + God's abundant healing love to be with JERRY VANNICE, LORRAINE TOPPING, PAT KLUM, and JONICA TABLER.
- + all who will be coming before Bishop Sandy Hampton on May 24 for Confirmation, Reception into the Episcopal Church, or Renewal of Baptismal Vows.
- + our parish and especially for the DISCERNMENT COMMITTEE and our VESTRY as we prepare to call a new rector for St. Michael's.
- + those serving on the DIOCESAN SEARCH COMMITTEE in their ministry of preparing nominations for the next Bishop of Oregon.



MIDDLE EAST STUDY GROUP FORMS: PRAY FOR THE PEACE OF JERUSALEM

Join us on May 21 as we begin to study the history of the Middle East and learn more about the current Israeli-Palestinian conflict. To get us started, we'll be reading Karen Armstrong's book "Holy War: The Crusades & Their Impact on Today's World." We will also view films, speak with local leaders about this conflict, learn about official positions taken by the Episcopal Church regarding the Middle East, and pray together for the peace of Jerusalem (Psalm 122). We'll meet from 3:00 to 4:30 pm at St. Michael's on alternate Thursdays through mid-July. (Please note: If you are interested in participating in this study group, but Thursday afternoons don't work for you, please let us know. We have some flexibility for alternate days and times.) For more information, please contact Deacon Marla McGarry-Lawrence at 503/284-7141 ext. 314, or MarlaML@stmaa.org.

INFORME DE LA COMUNIDAD HISPANA NEWS FROM THE HISPANIC COMMUNITY

Lent, Holy Week and Easter are important times in the faith journeys of both of our St. Michael's communities. Our Friday-evening, bilingual Stations of the Cross/Via Crucis liturgies were very well-attended this year. The members of our Hispanic community were eager participants in our bilingual Good Friday liturgy, and we were very pleased that Mayte Coutiño Cruz asked to be baptized at the Great Vigil of Easter.

A new choir formed in mid-March and now includes seven singers: Armando Cruz, Amparo Abila, Maribel Mendoza, Magali Trinidad, Joe de Luna, Rosa Luevano, and Christine Weber-Kearney. David Donnell is our accompanist, and The Rev. Roberto Arciniega leads the Monday evening rehearsals. The community will be selling tamales at the May 3 Celebration of Ministries to support the choir ministry.

During April, both Francisca Pilar Lozano and Edgar Cedeño Luevano began formation to become Eucharistic Ministers. We also welcomed Julio Solís, Juana Adrade, Eugenia Cortés Muñoz and Efraín Solís as new ushers.

Lorenzo Luna Montes, Aldo Jahir Luna Montes, David Galindo Cortés, Sergio Eduardo Cortés Rivera, Lisa Magali Meneses Zurita, Joceline Aguila Ruiz, Cynthia Corona Andrade, Kevin Maldonado Perez, Eder Maldonado Perez, Eric Omar Silva, Raul Silva, and Orlando Guinto have begun preparations to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation when Bishop Sandy Hampton makes his visitation on May 24. At the same liturgy, Francisca Pilar Lozano will be received into the Episcopal Church, Martha Perez, Margarita do los Santos, Carolino Guinto de los Santos and Mayte Coutiño Cruz will reaffirm their Baptismal Promises.

On April 19, Mr. Jorge Urzua of Donate Life Northwest made a presentation during the convivio on the great need for organ donations and the importance of planning ahead to be an organ donor at the time of death.

ASCENSION DAY PRAYERS FOR PEACE – THURSDAY, MAY 21, 6:00 PM

Forty days after the celebration of Easter, the Church marks Jesus' ascension into heaven. Here at St. Michael's, we will honor Ascension Day with Evening Prayer, focusing on our yearning and hope for peace in our world. The liturgy of Evening Prayer (Rite II) will begin at 6:00 pm and will include Ascension Day hymns as well as hymns of peace. Please come and participate so that our prayers may ascend with Jesus to heaven.

SEARCH PROCESS UPDATE

The search for the new rector of St. Michael's is continuing as the Discernment/Search Committee receives and evaluates candidate application materials. Each candidate's application consists of his or her written responses to two essay questions; at least one sermon in both written and auditory form; a current résumé; an updated Clergy Deployment Form; a list of references; and the approval of our diocese. As we review these materials, the Committee will select those who fit our Parish Profile most closely for follow-up telephone interviews. Each telephone interview will be conducted by at least three members of the Committee, with all candidates being asked the same questions. The entire Committee will then review all materials on these candidates and select those who seem to be the best fit for further evaluation and possible visits.

As we continue to receive application materials, the Committee is meeting more frequently with an eye to completing the search as soon as possible. Our goal is to provide candidate recommendations to the Vestry by very early summer.

The St. Michael's community gave fantastic support to the search efforts by paying ridiculously high prices for cakes, breads, and pies at the Cake Auction on April 19. Thank you to everyone who so generously contributed to the cause by either baking or buying.

The Committee appreciates the continued support and prayers of the St. Michael's community.

VESTRY UPDATE

Members of the Vestry will lead the May 10 FORUM. They will update everyone on where we are in the process and discuss the steps that lie ahead of us. The budget that has been approved for the search will be discussed and, if time permits, there will be an update on our operating budget. Please join with the Vestry in this important conversation.

STEWARDSHIP: SHARING JOY IN COMMUNITY

One of the ways we celebrate being in community is through the practice of stewardship. The Stewardship Committee has reorganized and is seeking new members. Our mission is to help our community answer our call to care for the world, to serve each other and Christ's mission in the world, and to find the joy in abundance and the giving of ourselves and our resources. Monthly meetings are planned for the stewardship team, presently consisting of Larry Street and Charlene Sabin, co-chairs, with Michael Sagun, Phillip Blomberg, and Jonna Alexander. Please contact any member of the team or Joan Yetter if you are interested in joining; or simply come to our next meeting on Tuesday, May 12, at 7:00 pm in the rector's office.

WORLD FAMOUS CAKE AUCTION

On Sunday, April 19, the Nativity Hall was hopping with the enthusiastic bidding of hungry parishioners hoping to go home with the dessert of their choice. Auctioneers David Berkson and Marion Robbins kept the crowd moving quickly through chocolate cakes, spice cakes, breads, and more as the bidding got livelier and more competitive as the number of available desserts dwindled.



All proceeds of the auction were designated for the rector search.

Because the auctioneers wanted everyone to be clear about that, they started off the auction with an amusing list that we thought we'd share with everyone:

A LIST OF THE TEN TOP PROJECTS YOUR CAKE AUCTION CONTRIBUTION WILL NOT GO TO:

- NUMBER 10:** Manicure and pedicure for Ann Hargraves, co-chair of the Discernment Committee
 - NUMBER 9:** New form-fitting choir robes made of Spandex
 - NUMBER 8:** A bubble-top priestmobile for the new rector
 - NUMBER 7:** C-Span-style cable channel providing 24/7 vestry coverage
 - NUMBER 6:** A team of rottweilers trained to reenact the entire Book of Revelation
 - NUMBER 5:** An aggressive corporate takeover of Trinity Cathedral
 - NUMBER 4:** An underground tunnel direct to Trader Joe's
 - NUMBER 3:** A bigger set of cymbals for Larry Street to play on Easter
 - NUMBER 2:** An outreach program that teaches Latin as a Second language
- AND THE NUMBER ONE PROJECT YOUR CONTRIBUTION WILL NOT GO TO:** A golden throne, crown, and scepter for the senior warden

The morning was a great success and full of laughter and fun! Thank you to all who shared their baking skills with the parish; the turnout of desserts was incredible. We are very appreciative of all of the generous bidders. Their abundant spirit raised \$3,700 for our rector search.

Thank you, thank you, thank you!!!

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE TUTORING PROGRAM

Spring term of our English as a Second Language tutoring program continues to bring delight to both students and tutors on Tuesday evenings. Sometimes we ponder verbs and nouns: "The bandage was wound around the wound," and "Since there is no time like the present, he thought it was time to present the present;" or the singular/plural: "If the plural of tooth is teeth, why is the plural of booth not beeth?"

We especially welcome Cathy Searls, who will be assuming the role of ESL program coordinator at the end of the spring term. Cathy is a former ESL tutor and has been part of the catechuminate program at St. Michael's. Many thanks to all of our spring term volunteer tutors: Joanne Austin, Susan Barnett, Michael Berkson, Fran Head, Sigrid Huston, Craig Johnson, Christie Maddocks, Mary Mark, Kate Skelton, George Ivan Smith; and friends of St. Michael's Ed Basaraba, Judy Crooks, Tara Jackson, Karen Meyer, Stephanie Walker-Masson, and Robin Walker-Phillips.

MAY IS SPAGHETTI SAUCE INGATHERING MONTH

OUR COMMUNITY MEAL PANTRY IS
NEARLY EMPTY –



**HELP US FEED OUR HUNGRY NEIGHBORS
BY BRINGING JARS OF SPAGHETTI SAUCE
DURING THE MONTH OF MAY**

The Community Meal ministry, begun in 1990, has served thousands of meals to our neighbors on fixed incomes that often run out at the end of the month. On the last Saturday of each month, we serve around 100 guests. We are dependent on parishioner donations of spaghetti sauce at semi-annual ingatherings. Please bring your donations to the chancel steps during the entire month of May. At this time, spaghetti noodles are not needed.

ALTERNATIVE GIFT CATALOG

While it's true that the Christmas season does seem to start earlier and earlier every year, all we'd like from you now are suggestions for charitable organizations to include in this year's catalog. Come to the Outreach and Justice Council Table at the May 3 Celebration of Ministries to suggest different organizations and review those listed in the 2008 catalog. Look for the green sheet to make your suggestions known. If you can't make the Celebration of Ministries on May 3, the green sheets will also be on the table outside the office. Fill one out and turn it in to the office to let us know what you'd like to see in this year's catalog. Thanks.

SUMMER CAMP – NOT JUST FOR KIDS!

Check out the display in the Gallery for a wide range of summer-camp opportunities offered by the Oregon-Idaho Camp & Retreat Ministries. Camps are available from May through September for all ages and at six different locations. Got kids? There are dozens of camps for children ages six to eighteen. Like to do crafts? There are needlework, scrapbook, and quilting camps. Want to spend time in the outdoors as a family or with your grandkids? Lots of options here. Crave quiet time? You can find retreats for prayer, taize, and faith-strengthening. Love music? You can find camps for players of brass and wind instruments and for those who love to sing classic hymns. There's even an August handbell camp at Camp Magruder on the Oregon coast.

For lots more information, go to www.gocamping.org or call 503/226-7931 ex. 43. Beth Dieker, Director of Outdoor Ministries for the Diocese of Oregon, can also answer your questions. She can be reached at 971/204-4124 or bethd@diocese-oregon.org.

JOIN US FOR OUTREACH AND JUSTICE!

Interested in getting more involved in supporting our parish's outreach ministries? Have some new ideas on how and where St. Michael's could help our community and our world? Please join us at the next Outreach and Justice Ministries Council meeting this Thursday, May 7, at 7:00 pm in the Parish Hall. We welcome new members to help guide our church's activities and advocacy for compassion, justice and peace. Hope to see you there! If you have any questions, please contact Deacon Marla McGarry-Lawrence at 503/284-7141 ext. 314, or Sue Donora at 971/645-1907 or sdonora@yahoo.com.

UPCOMING BOOK STUDY HIGHLIGHTS THE IMPORTANCE OF COMMUNITY

The St. Michael's Stewardship Team invites you to join a new book group intended to help us reflect on the spirituality of sharing stories, the importance of being inclusive, and the many other rich ways in which we experience community. In this Easter season, our experience of community helps us further the reign of God on earth as Christ's disciples. We will be reading *Jesus, My Mentor, a Spirituality for the 21st Century* by John Kater. It is just the right size for a 4- to 5-week book group. We will hold our first gathering on May 7 and continue through May on Thursdays at 7:00 pm. The books can be obtained in the church office. Please sign up in the Gallery. If you have any questions, contact Charlene Sabin sabin@hevanet.com or Larry Street street1316@comcast.net.

LET'S UPDATE THE MILITARY PERSONNEL POSTER

Deborah Baker has generously offered to update the poster honoring those serving in the armed forces who have family members at St. Michael's. We've enjoyed the photographs and bios of these men and women for several years, but times change and people move on. If there is someone in your family presently serving in the military, please send their information – name, military branch, age, and where they're serving – to Deborah Baker at 503/544-5498 or debs_cleanstreak@yahoo.com. A recent photograph of your loved one would be appreciated.

HOLY WEEK & EASTER THANKS

Holy Week and The Great Three Days ending on Easter Day were filled with a rich array of offerings of special liturgies and hospitality, and many parishioners stepped forward to offer their gifts in support of one or more of these.

We want to thank everyone who took on leadership roles and assisted in various capacities in providing hospitality for these events:

Christie Maddocks, her husband John, and other family members and parishioners, who set up, cooked, prepared, served, and cleaned up after the Agapé Meal on Maundy Thursday

Gary Lawrence, Armando Cruz, Thea Sanchez, and their teams, who put on the Fiesta after the Easter Vigil

Barbara Miller and her teams, who hosted the festive receptions on Easter Day

THE BIG ENCHILADA



**CELEBRATE MOTHER'S DAY WITH AN
EVENING OF COMEDY, MUSIC AND
LOTS AND LOTS OF FOOD**

**A FUNDRAISER FOR ST. MICHAEL &
ALL ANGELS YOUTH MINISTRIES**

St. Michael's Youth Ministries is proud to announce its Second Annual Spring Variety Show. Laugh, sing and get stuffed...all while supporting your local Youth Group. Do you have what it takes to give your mom the Big Enchilada? Well? Do you?

**SATURDAY, MAY 9, 6:00 PM-8:00 PM IN
THE PARISH HALL**

ADVANCE TICKETS: \$10 · AT THE DOOR: \$15

**MOMS AT DOOR: \$10 · MOMS GET IN FREE WITH
FAMILY OF FOUR OR MORE!**

**BUY TICKETS NOW FROM ST. MICHAEL'S YOUTH OR
CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE**

We also want to thank all who contributed to making the week a rich and rewarding experience for all:

The Acolytes, Readers, Worship Leaders, Ushers and Altar Guild whose leadership and efforts enhanced our worship experiences

St. Michael's Singers who enriched our worship experience by sharing their musical gifts as well as significant amounts of their time and energy

The Labyrinth Guild, the building hosts and others who allowed us to provide gracious hospitality on Good Friday

Thank you, also, to everyone who contributed time, talent, or food to the events of Holy Week and Easter. If you brought food, please retrieve your serving pieces or cooking items. Thank you all so very much!

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

MAY 10	FORUM - Search Update with the Vestry
MAY 17	FORUM - St. Michael's Youth
MAY 24	Confirmations - Bishop Hampton visits. FORUM with the Bishop
MAY 31	The Day of Pentecost Regular schedule - Labyrinth available
JUNE 2	FORUM - Welcoming Congregations

MAY 31 IS PENTECOST SUNDAY!

The Feast of Pentecost marks the end of the Great 50 Days of Easter and the beginning of the rest of the year, with our lives empowered by the gift of the Holy Spirit. Please take a look at the following volunteer opportunities to see where you can help out:

Bake a Cake, square or rectangular, any flavor, unfrosted. Bring it to church Saturday or Sunday morning. We'll build a large cake – the Body of Christ – “mortared” with whipped cream and topped with strawberries to represent the Fire of the Holy Spirit.

Speak Another Language. During the reading of the Pentecost story from the Acts of the Apostles, we will have speakers of other languages say, “Let the peoples praise you, O God, let all the peoples praise you!” All languages and dialects are welcome – the more the merrier!

Put Up Pentecost Balloons. We'll decorate the church with red, orange and yellow balloons. We start at 8:15 am, and we'll need lots of hands to get all the balloons in place before the 9:00 am liturgy begins. This is a great opportunity for families!

Pentecost signup forms will be in the Sunday bulletins beginning on May 10, or call the church office to volunteer.

And remember to wear **Red, Orange, And Yellow** – the colors of the Fire of the Holy Spirit.