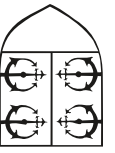


SAINT MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS
EPISCOPAL CHURCH



THE MESSENGER

Mailed June 7, 2007

DEAR FRIENDS,

The weekend of June 9-10th our Vestry and Staff (and Transition Committee) will be at Menucha Conference Center for our summer planning retreat. Holding a summer planning retreat is a long tradition, and we have done some excellent work over the years at this time. Our facilitator is Deacon Janis Hansen.

This year we also take a look at the “big picture.” A significant part of that look has to do with the transition into finding a new rector of St. Michael and All Angels. There is a time for visioning, as well as time to talk about how we are doing with this unfolding reality. Our time together will be personal as well as the Vestry and Staff (and Transition Committee) identifying how best to exercise the ministry of leadership within our parish community.

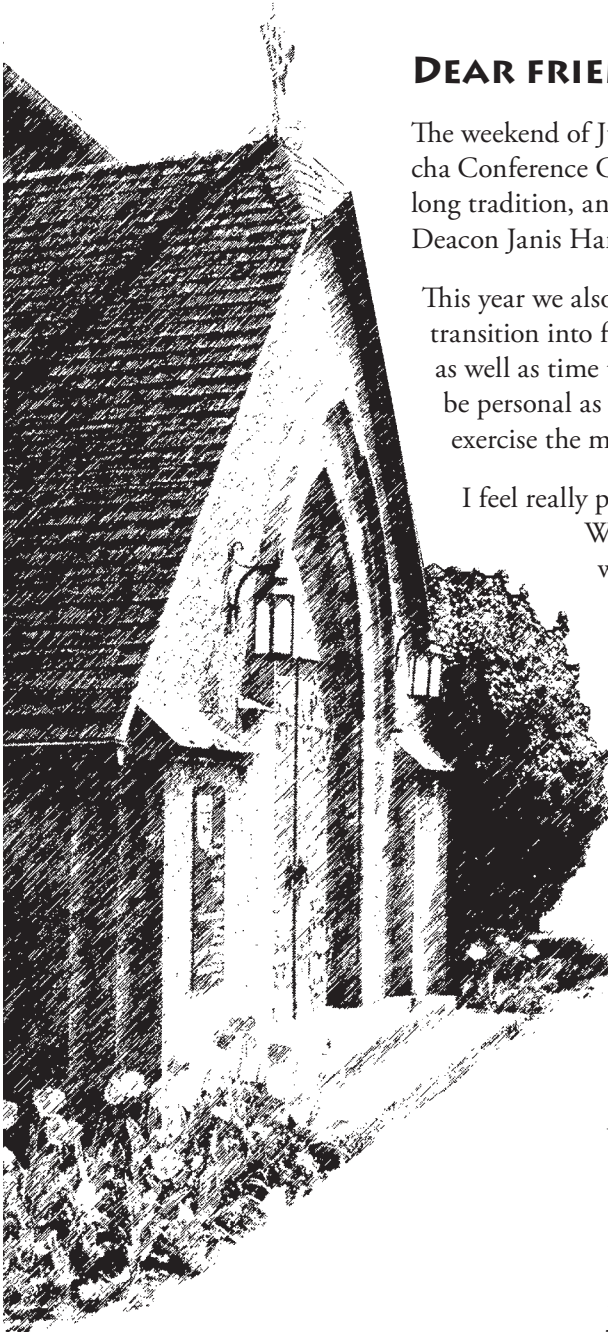
I feel really positive about my decision to retire this summer – for myself, and for our parish. We have extraordinarily gifted leadership in the 2007 Vestry. Our Parish Staff is wholly committed to the well-being of our community. I am deeply proud and pleased that we are a part of one another’s lives in this ministry through St. Michael and All Angels.

I remember years ago on New Year’s Day reading an article by Albert Camus in the New York Times. He said that we normally look at the ending of things (the end of a year, the end of a life) as a tragedy and as a great loss. Certainly this is one aspect of endings. But there is more. Camus observed that with the ending/death of relationships there also opens the possibility of new relationships, and of new ways of relating with one another and with the world. In fact, he observed that our old relationships keep us bound into certain ways of being. When they cease, we are made free (without denying what was) to do “a new thing.”

Well, this is quite a ride! As Julian of Norwich assures us, “All will be well, and all manner of things shall be well!”

Warmest regards,

John S Scannell, Rector



WE ARE ONE BODY: STEWARDSHIP NOTES JUNE 4, 2007

Two recent “prompts” have reminded me to share some thoughts on the practice of stewardship during our time of transition.

The first prompt was an annual appeal letter written by the Rev. Peter Gomes and shared by Steve Walton. The letter seeks support for the mission of Memorial Church at Harvard University. It clearly explains the church’s mission and financial needs and succinctly and earnestly asks for money to support the mission. Rev. Gomes reminded me how important transparency is in fundraising—tell potential donors what is needed and what their dollars will do.

The second prompt was Fred Cooper’s presentation at the FORUM yesterday. Fred’s work with Good Samaritan Ministries in Africa reminded me of the incredible reach of lay ministry at St. Michael’s. Appropriating Good Samaritan Ministries’ goal statement (and using Fred as an example), St. Michael’s has ministers relentlessly and unconditionally loving people in need, here in our immediate community and literally around the world.

Our stewardship program at St. Michael’s can, must, and does support both our parish mission and ministries and the outreach and justice ministries of our parishioners. We should hold this commitment in our hearts and heads throughout our time of transition. Doing it all may prove challenging at times, but we are committed to openness, transparency and dialog.

Rev. Gomes’ letter reminded me that our annual giving to St. Michael’s through our tithes, pledges, and Sunday offerings is foundational to our practice of stewardship. This offering of gifts pays for our staff and the operation of our facilities. While the business world might view salaries, utilities, and building maintenance as expenses or costs, for us these are investments in transformation. Our staff equips the St. Michael’s community, as the Body of Christ, for ministry and mission. Inspired and strengthened through worship, and guided and organized by visionary leaders, each one of us is empowered and encouraged to continue Jesus’ ministry in the world.

Importantly, the full measure of our investment in St. Michael’s is revealed not primarily in the money that St. Michael’s contributes to other organizations (although those gifts are meaningful and important), but in the thousands of hours that we, as a community and in service to Christ, volunteer to improve the lives of others. In turn, through Sunday forums and other educational opportunities at St. Michael’s, we learn of ministries and organizations that are worthy of our support, such as Fred Cooper’s work with Good Samaritan Ministries. As we practice Christian generosity through our gifts of time, talent and money, we build a community of abundance and we extend the St. Michael’s spirit out into the world. May it always be so.

Peter Sergienko, Stewardship Committee Chair

A PENTECOST THANK YOU

A spirit-filled THANK YOU to everyone who made the great Feast of Pentecost such a joy-filled day:

- ✦ Sue Quanbeck and her teams who prepared the strawberries, assembled the Pentecost Cake, decorated the Parish and Nativity Halls, and hosted the receptions (after both the 9:00 and 11:00 services)
- ✦ The astounding number of people who contributed a cake to the creation of the Pentecost Cake
- ✦ The Youth Group and others who came early on Sunday to blow up balloons and place them in the church
- ✦ Everyone who enriched the Liturgy of the Word by “speaking in other languages”
- ✦ St. Michael’s Singers who enriched our worship experience by sharing their musical gifts, and especially for their offering of *A Cantata for Pentecost*, written for St. Michael’s in 1982 by former parishioner, The Rev. Dr. Peter Sipple

It was truly a great day.

Thank you!

CONGRATULATIONS TO RECENT GRADUATES

- ERIC HEVENOR, from Lewis and Clark Law School
- TRACEY LOUDEN, with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing, with honors
- TIM SACKETT, with a Bachelor of Science in Information Systems (Linfield)
- MEAGAN ROBBINS, Bachelor of Science in Social Sciences (Portland State), summa cum laude, en route to law school
- ASHLEY ROBBINS, Bachelor of Arts in Music and Theatre (Pacific)
- CASEY HOPKINS, Bachelor of Science in Engineering (Oregon State)
- CHRIS FOSS, Bachelor of Arts in History (Willamette University)
- DANIEL SARGENT, high school (Cleveland), en route to Montana State

OFFERINGS OF TIME AND TALENT BEYOND THE PARISH

This past month, as parishioners contemplated how best to use their gifts, time, and energy in faithfulness to the Baptismal Covenant, they considered both continuing their current ministries and adding something new. Most also looked beyond this worshiping community and reflected on how they do ministry in their daily lives.

The Promises of the Baptismal Covenant do indeed set us free to live into the reality of God in our lives, every day of the week, no matter where we are. Parishioners embraced this understanding of their call to baptismal ministry as they filled out their “Time and Talent” Forms. The specific ministries to which they pledged their gifts, time, and energy revealed some of the myriad ways that are open to us as we contemplate how best to join with the rest of the Body of Christ in spreading the Good News of God in Christ and work for the coming of God’s reign. Some of those ministries are personal, others involve institutions, and still others are connected to paid employment. Here is a sampling of these ministries in daily life:

- ✦ In relationships
 - + Reflecting love and acceptance in every encounter with another
 - + Being fully present to the people with whom I live and work, and those I talk to and meet. Show them respect and that I value them as persons.
 - + Smiling at 5 “New” people every day
 - + Helping friends, family, and neighbors
 - + Parenting our children to be mindful Christians and citizens of the world
 - + Promoting acceptance of diversity
 - + Listening carefully when others speak
- ✦ At work,
 - + Being a good employer or a good example
 - + Caring for the elderly

- + Caring, teaching, or setting an example of service and good stewardship for kids
- + Caring for those who are dying
- ✦ As a volunteer in the community
 - + Providing hospitality and pastoral care in a hospital or nursing home
 - + Serving on the board of an agency dedicated to peace, social justice, the welfare of our children or the elderly, or environmental action
 - + Assembling and distributing survival kits to the homeless
 - + Offering guidance, support, and safety to individuals in crisis

Community Institutions mentioned in these ministries included:

- ✦ The Salvation Army, including food programs and the White Shield and Growing with Music programs for young women
- ✦ Habitat for Humanity
- ✦ ARK for Peace: Global journeys for peacemaking for youth from several different countries
- ✦ Sisters of the Road
- ✦ Oregon Farmworkers Ministries
- ✦ Legacy Good Samaritan Hospital and Hopewell Hospice
- ✦ Stand for Children
- ✦ Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon

This list is indeed rich and varied. We rejoice with everyone who has found such a wonderful way to live more and more fully into the promises of the Baptismal Covenant. May we all be inspired by these examples and pray for one another as we continue to find creative ways to engage in our particular baptismal ministries.

TAIZÉ PRAYER, FRIDAY, JUNE 15 AT 7:30 PM

A candlelight service of meditation, reflection, silence, readings and music in the style of the ecumenical French monastic community of Taizé.

The simple chant-like music creates an atmosphere of peace and calm to quiet the soul.

Come and be renewed at the end of the work week.

Singers and instrumentalists interested in providing musical support, and those willing to assist with setup before and after should contact Bob Spiers in the parish office at 503/284-7141, or <bobs@stmaa.org>.

JOIN THE PORTLAND PRIDE PARADE!

Come be part of the St. Michael’s group at the Gay Pride Parade on Sunday, June 17 at Tom McCall Waterfront Park. Step-off is around noon, and the parade moves at a leisurely pace, lasting about an hour. We’d love to see lots of folks accompanying our new banner and showing support for the gay and lesbian community. Donations to help defray the banner’s cost will be gladly accepted. Questions? Call the Parish Office, 503/284-7141, or email office@stmaa.org.

Lynn Baker and Jan Jenkins
Parishioners

JOYFUL NEWS JUNE 2007

BLESSED ARE THE PEACEMAKERS: LEARNING ABOUT NOBEL PEACE PRIZE LAUREATES

What does it mean to be a “Peacemaker?” Where do Peacemakers come from? What inspires them to do their work? These are just a few of the questions to be explored this summer when Children and Family Ministry will focus on the study of Nobel Peace Prize Laureates.

Children and their families are invited to choose a Nobel Peace Laureate to research and then make a presentation to the whole group of school age children on one Sunday in July or August. Presentations will be made in the Lower Level mural room during the 10 o’clock education hour the eight Sundays between July 8 and August 26, 2007. A complete list of all Nobel Peace Prize Laureates, a guideline of questions and art supplies are available to all school age children and their families. Please contact Leslie Sackett, Associate for Children and Family Ministry, for more information, to reserve a Sunday or if you need any kind of help finding resources for your presentation. Shalom!

SPEAKING OF PEACE...

On the Road to Peace is a theatre camp for students ages 7 through 14, being held this summer at Rose City Park Presbyterian Church, August 13 -17, 2007. The camp meets every day from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Students will work with theatre professionals as they explore ideas and skills needed for peacemaking through Creative Writing, Creative Movement, Musical Theatre, Improvisation and Theatre Games. St. Michael’s and Rose City Park Presbyterian are very happy to be co-sponsoring this special summer camp. Tuition is \$50.00 per student. Please contact Leslie Sackett if you have any questions, scholarship needs, or if you would like to volunteer as part of the adult leadership team during the week of camp. Brochures are available on the information table outside the church office.

St. Michael & All Angels Church 2007 Operating Income and Expenses		
Summary	Budget	As of May 31, 2007
Open	\$21,500	\$11,383
Pledge	466,080	192,516
All Other	39,500	9,419
Income Total	\$527,080	\$213,318
Diocese of Oregon DPA	\$96,958	\$33,180
Salaries	256,425	104,423
Other Personnel Expenses	73,800	29,972
Insurance	7,700	7,799
Maintenance	14,000	7,769
Utilities	22,957	9,660
Parish Administration	24,000	13,048
Outreach/MDG*	8,690	2,141
Programs/Contingencies	22,550	8,624
Expense Total	\$527,080	\$216,616
* Millenium Development Goals		

SUMMER AT ST. MICHAEL’S

Most churches wind down in summer. Instead, we try to seize this very creative moment to build for our future. On summer Sunday mornings – we maintain our regular schedule: Worship: 7:30, 9:00, 11:00 and 1:00 (Spanish); Program (FORUMs); Child Care and the Children’s Liturgy of the Word (during 9:00 and 11:00).

Tom Ehrich prepares a newsletter called *Church Wellness: How to Nurture a Healthy Church*. He talks about “best practices,” and says, “Do we give people a rest, or give people a reason to come to church?”

It is urgent that people get refreshed and renewed, and summer is a great time for this. The danger comes in our getting detached – detached from community, detached from on-going immersion in the Good News and losing the story. I like to say that “single logs do not burn well.” So in the community, in a relaxed, but not slack mode we “keep the feast” of Christ’s resurrection by our Sunday by Sunday gatherings.

Summer is a time for special attention to hospitality as guests and visitors share in our life of worship. People come here seeking a place of welcome and acceptance and purpose. They figure out quickly whether we are alive and whether we are interested in life and the purposes of Jesus. We also have several playful times ahead – namely, Apple Pie Sunday (July 1st), marking Independence Day; and an Ice Cream Social (Sept. 2nd) marking Labor Day.

YOUTH NEWS

MY DEAR FRIENDS,

It is time for a change. I began this conversation with my colleagues in October and continued it with my team in January and then the Vestry, the kids and their parents in April. And now you.

I have been involved with the youth ministry at St. Michael's for a long, long time. (I remember being pregnant with KC and going to Mt Hood with the youth group for a ski trip in 1996.) I was invited to be the official Associate for Ministry with Youth in 2001. I accepted it as a way to honor the youth and the many people who had provided presence and ministry to the youth at St. Michael's! It was important to move forward by promoting a strong and effective youth program. Over the time of this official staff position, there have been big changes. We have done much good work together and had some really good times.

Youth Ministry now has regularly scheduled programs: First Fridays for fun and fellowship, 2 + 4 + 6 twice-monthly bible study gatherings, annual community service events with SOLV and Oregon Food Bank, and parish service events like Shrove Tuesday and Pentecost. These programs have grown Youth Ministry to its current healthy level of twenty-one 6th - 9th graders in active participation. The Y2B confirmation program has provided ten High School seniors a chance to explore the baptismal vows with a mentor and to decide if this is the time to publicly declare their faith.

Major renovations have transformed St. Michael's House into a great place for our young people to meet, eat, talk and play.

Adolescence is not only a difficult time – it is an important time. Love, care and attention from the parish at this time of influence and decision-making is a great contribution to growth and healthy development, particularly to spiritual exploration and choices. This is a great time to be young and Episcopalian!! It is up to us (the adults) to tell them and show them why.

I feel blessed to have relationships with these wonderful young people. I greatly appreciate the relationships I have found with parents and my fellow leaders. My faith is richer because of the generous faith offered me from you: faith in me, faith in the young people, faith in the programs, faith in St. Michael's and that strong faith in God. Thank you.

At this time, I realize I have done what I can do with my gifts and skills in the leadership position. At the end of June I will conclude my work as the Associate for Ministry with Youth. The time is right and ripe to step aside so another leader can take the ministry to the next, exciting level.

The strong, fine and faithful team of Sue Quanbeck, Marjorie McRae, Karen Oglesby and Ron Geason remains in leadership. The community is so blessed to have these dedicated and caring leaders. And a search/interview committee has been formed to call/find the next leader. It is all good.

I have had a great ride and look forward to seeing more exciting things from this ministry! Thank you for your support for the Youth Ministry and for me. Peace be with you,

Ann Hargraves

CONGRATULATIONS, GRADUATE!

We are blessed with having fine, young people in the community of St. Michael's. We celebrate their accomplishments. We wish them joy on their journey and prayers in their hearts.

On June 2, Daniel Sargent graduated from Cleveland High School! At Cleveland, Daniel was a member of the State Championship "A" choir, was also a member of the State Championship cross-country ski team and is currently on the crew of the CHS Dragon Funk dragonboat team competing in Rose Festival this month. His real passion is for physics which he will pursue at Montana State University, Bozeman, in the fall. Daniel traveled with Amigos de las Américas last summer to live and work in community in Nicaragua for six weeks reinforcing his strong Spanish language skills. At St. Michael's, we have enjoyed Daniel's gift of song in the Takes the Fifth choir.

Please remember Daniel and his successful accomplishment in your prayers!

Ann C. Hargraves, Associate for Ministry with Youth

YOUTH MINISTRY TRANSITIONS

Ann Hargraves, Associate for Ministry with Youth, will "retire" from this position this summer. She has been a dynamic leader of this ministry for seven years, supporting many youth on their journey into life and creating a great team of leaders for both the Middle School and the High School dimensions of this ministry.

Ann will address the congregation on Sunday, June 17th, and we will have the opportunity to greet and thank her. We are very grateful for her ministry and leadership.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

A Youth Ministry committee, designated by the Vestry, has been called together to evaluate our program and to discern our needs and opportunities. After the position description is prepared, the committee will search for a new Associate. Committee members include vestry members Charlene Sabin and Pete Miller, parish staff members Caroline Litzenberger and Leslie Sackett, youth ministry team member Marjorie McRae, and parent Andy Phelps.

-JSS

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ST. MICHAEL'S CALENDAR

June 10

Guest: The Rev. Patrick Tomter

Vestry and Staff Retreat at Menucha Conference Center
4:00 pm - U2charist (Nativity Hall)

June 15 (Fri.)

7:30 pm – Worship in the Style of the Taizé Community

June 17th

10:10 am – FORUM on St. Michael's Leadership Transition

June 24th

10:10 am – FORUM: Reflection/Conversation with the Rector

June 29-July 1

A Weekend of Celebration and Thanksgiving –

Friday, June 29, 6:00 pm

A Gala Dinner at the Melody Ballroom

Saturday, June 30, 12:00 noon

A Festive Picnic at Laurelhurst Park

Sunday, July 1, Apple Pie Sunday

Fr. Scannell's final Liturgies as the Rector of St. Michael & All Angels