

SAINT MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE MESSENGER

Mailed April 25, 2013

CONTENTS

YOUR PRAYERS	2
MOWs/WOWs	2
MESSENGER DEADLINE	2
ASSISTANT RECTOR	2
VESTRY CORNER	3
FROM THE TREASURER	3
A BAND OF BROTHERS	3
OUTREACH & JUSTICE	4
GREEN TEAM NEWS:	4
IWC WORKSHOP	5
RAHAB'S SISTERS	5
HOLLYWOOD EAST	5
ADVOCACY ACTION	5
ADULT EDUCATION	6
THE JOYFUL NEWS	6
MUSIC IN MOTION	7
YOUTH NEWS	7
YOUNG ADULT GROUP	7
SAVE THE DATE!	7
PENTECOST	8
CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS	8

DEAR FAITHFUL PARISHIONERS,

Within hours of saying “Alleluia, Christ is Risen!” on Easter morning, I was on a plane with Carrie to Southern California for another celebration—my grandmother’s 90th birthday. With almost as many flowers as filled St. Michael’s, and with close to the same excitement, we said, “Happy Birthday!” to our sister, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, friend. Not to compare my grandma’s birthday to the resurrection of Christ by any means, but it did make me appreciate the parallel ways in which we gather, as a family and as a community.



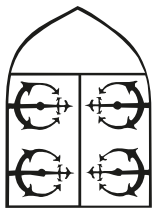
I will be honest and say that I partake in the humor around what is classified as the “Christmas and Easter” crowd. I have typically assumed that our pews fill up as individuals and families feel the pull of obligation or nostalgia. However, as I shook the hands of people filing out of church and pouring into the beautiful sunshine that filled the courtyard, I heard about the great distances that people travelled to be with us that morning—families coming from the coast or from the mountains, individuals coming to be in the place that they called home. While they can’t make such a trek every Sunday, they consider St. Michael’s to be their church family and make a point to be with us on such celebratory occasions.

It was no small feat to have my entire family be in the same place at the same time—there are 44 of us. But the strength that is garnered from being together, the reminder of the connection across time and space, and the faces of unconditional love that shine when we are together are the best testimony to the bonds of family.

I feel blessed this Easter season to be part of the St. Michael & All Angels family and am grateful for our commitment to hospitality and the ways we stretch out our arms to greet one another in peace. I continue to be reminded of how extensive our family is and will be looking for ways for us to continue to be connected across time and space.

Faithfully,

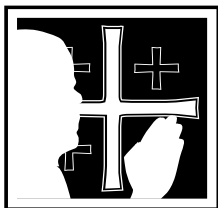
The Rev. Chris Craun



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YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR . . .

- + healing for Jim and June Gravengaard, Juned McCauley, and Rich Connor
- + the repose of the soul of Jo Clausen, who died April 21, and for her daughter and son-in-law Esther and Bob Pyle
- + those who were baptized in March and April, including Amara Elizabeth Disa Limbird, Gioia Antoinette Russo, Kai Jacob Walter, and Mavis Jane Zins; and for their parents, Marty and Liz Limbird, Marianne and Linda Russo, Eric and Brooke Walter, and Nick and Meg Zins
- + our youth candidates for confirmation— Amy Alvarado, Gladys Alvarado, Sanya Cowal, Joe Denniston, Angela Jimenez, Manuel Luna, Yahaira Martinez, Christian Meneses, Rosie Orellana, Annelise Phelps, Stephanie Rojas, and Kristina Strommer—who go before the bishop on May 18
- + our candidates for reception or reaffirmation who will go before the bishop on May 19: Edith Arriaga-Flores, Bruce Collins, Steve Flagg, Stacy Hartline, Nancy Hawver, Paul Irvin, Kathleen Keeling, Vera Lund, Jennifer McBratney, and Ann Wetherell
- + all those who died, were injured, or who are mourning a loss from last week's events in Boston and West, Texas



ASSISTANT RECTOR



As we celebrate the Great Fifty Days of Easter and approach Pentecost, I find it's a good time to reflect on the program year. In this, my third year at St. Michael's (it's hard to believe!), I've had the opportunity to participate in the Catechumenate and see for myself why this process is so integral to the life of this parish.

The Catechumenate is inspiring for lots of reasons. First, it means that we're serious about the ministry of all the baptized. This is not a clergy-led program. It is a long-standing, months-long experience in community facilitated by a group of very able and gifted lay people, assisted by clergy as needed. The question being asked, over and over, is "What does it mean to follow Christ here, today, as my whole self, in this community?" We each have to come up with our own answer, with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, in order to take our place in the Body of Christ.

Second, it offers a weekly opportunity for listening—to Scripture and one another—reflection, mutual affection, and shared prayer. The transformative effect of listening deeply to next Sunday's Gospel reading, sharing from our own experience, and praying for one another can't be overestimated. The earliest church and the church in times of renewal has had cells that looked very much like this, and there's a good reason for it. At its most vital, these small groups of thoughtful, committed people are where the Church happens.

Third, very significant relationships are created and nurtured in the many weeks of the Catechumenate. Newcomers get to know long-timers and one another. Long-timers get an opportunity to reconnect with the community both as sponsors and by reaffirming their life of faith as the person they are now instead of the person they were then. The bonds between us at St. Michael's are supple and resilient in part because of the hard, rewarding work of the Catechumenate.

On Pentecost, we'll be welcoming the bishop for his yearly visitation, and our young people and catechumens will be confirmed, received, or reaffirmed after many months of deep work. Let's keep them all in our prayers as they approach this public affirmation of their faith as well as in the quiet, growing season that comes after the balloons are gone and the red clothes are put away.

MOWS/WOWS REQUESTS

The original St. Michael's **baptismal font** is in dire need of some TLC. If you are experienced with wood stain and gluing and are interested in the project, please contact Richard Hartman at 503/252-8490 (home) or 503/720-6754 (cell).

Last call... for three very nice coats left hanging in the Nativity Hall. After April, they will be donated to charity. Also, please check the lost-and-found shelf in the Gallery for your left-behind items.

— Richard Hartman

FORUMS IN JUNE

Save the dates! We will be offering two Forums, with follow-up small-group opportunities, to learn about an active, meditative and playful prayer practice called *Praying in Color*. These Forums will be held on June 16 and 23, and the small groups will meet Tuesday evenings on June 18 and 25.

— Chris Craun

MESSENGER DEADLINE

Please take note that Messenger articles are due by June 3 for the issue that will be mailed on June 13. After that issue, the Messenger will be on vacation until late August, so please include any notices of summer events and activities.

— Gloria Orellana

VESTRY CORNER

Once again this month your Vestry has been very hard at work. At their April 18 meeting, the Vestry voted on and approved an Immigrant Welcoming Congregation Declaration affirming our desire and commitment to be a welcoming congregation.

The Vestry decided at the March meeting that we will host the Confirm Not Conform dinner on Saturday, May 18, for the youth and their mentors and families. This will be the first year in which the program has a separate service with the bishop which will take place at 5:00 pm and to which the entire community is invited and welcome. This year's confirmation class includes youth members who both attend the Sunday morning and Sunday afternoon liturgies.

The Vestry also decided to once again host the annual parish picnic this summer, and we are still deciding on what other events the Vestry will host to increase our involvement in the life of the parish.

As we look forward to the ordination of Kerlin Richter on April 27, stay tuned for more information on what your Vestry is doing!

— Wendi Schaener, Senior Warden

FROM THE TREASURER

Once again, we celebrated a blessed Lenten season together, culminating in the Alleluias of Easter. Your generous donations of \$1,530 provided not only the gorgeous flower arrangements that morning, but also paid the musicians of the brass ensemble. They add so much to our Easter worship!



The cake auction was a huge success, as always. We raised \$3,515 for Properties, which will be used to put a new roof on the Narthex.

In the next column is a summary of income and expenses as of the end of March. A complete Treasurer's Report is posted on the Vestry board in the Parish Hall.

Thank you for your generous support of St Michael's! It truly takes all of us working together to ensure that our church continues to be the wonderful place of worship we call home.

— Nancy Parker

A BAND OF BROTHERS

On June 7, a couple dozen St. Michael's men will leave town. If you're a man, you may want to leave, too.

These men will then shed the coat of corporate soldier, of worker bee, of coach, of business owner. They will take off the jersey of marriage, the shoes of parenthood, the pants of son.

If this sounds like a bunch of naked male renegades, well, it is – sort of. The literal departing and figurative disrobing are for the annual men's retreat. The purpose will be for men to know themselves, one another, their world, and their god more deeply. For a whole weekend, they will relax and exhale, putting down the burdens of all that's expected of them as men.

Someone reading this is asking, "Why should I concern myself with this deeper knowledge?" I say it's because if you don't, one day you might find you've been living someone else's life.

When you came into the world, the first thing everyone wanted to know about you was your gender. It's basic to who you are and how you live. Join the band of brothers communing out in the Columbia River Gorge on June 7-9. I'll be there to facilitate. If you want to talk about this singular event, here's how to reach me: Rev. Preston Moore, preston-moore@verizon.net, 757/880-4391 (cell).

— The Rev. Preston Moore

Rev. Preston Moore is a veteran facilitator of adult formation programs. He was called to ministry after a twenty-five-year career as a trial lawyer.

Treasurer's Report as of March 31, 2013

Income	Year to Date Balance	Budget Year to Date	Annual Budget
Pledge Offerings	\$140,696	\$129,390	\$517,557
Open Offerings	4,208	3,750	15,000
Seasonal and Rental Income*	3,774	3,999	16,000
Total Income	\$148,678	\$137,139	\$548,557
Expenses			
Personnel	\$89,016	\$86,643	\$346,530
Property/Utility	18,731	17,697	51,307
Parish Admin.	7,574	6,876	27,500
DPA	22,968	22,968	91,872
Programs/Outreach	7,058	7,839	31,348
Total Expenses	\$145,347	\$142,023	\$548,557
Net Income	\$3,332		

*Seasonal income began with Easter offerings; rental income is anticipated to begin in July. Some figures are affected by rounding.

OUTREACH & JUSTICE MINISTRIES

Alazar Manning, age 12, has created quite a stir! For the past several years, he has dedicated himself to raising money and awareness for AIDS/HIV. In the last four years, he has **raised over \$21,000 for Cascade AIDS Project**. For the AIDSWalk this year and last, Alazar was not only the top youth fundraiser but the top fundraiser overall.



On April 1, 2013, Alazar was honored as one of Multnomah County Health Department's Public Health Heroes. He received the **Katie Jeans-Gail Award for Young Heroes**, an award given to a youth or young group promoting healthy lifestyle choices. Before a crowded auditorium of folks which included the Multnomah County commissioners, Alazar gave a speech outlining the importance of this work. Congratulations, Alazar!

I hope everybody was able to get to the **Ministries Fair, held on April 21**. It was quite a sight to see the large and wonderful group of people in the over twenty ministries which comprise Outreach & Justice at St. Michael's. These folks give their time and talents to a vast variety of endeavors, from food to advocacy to immigration to children's issues. Whatever you want to be involved in, there's a place for you to fit.



Thank you to all who visited the **Bread for the World/Offering of Letters** tables at the Ministries Fair. Remember that you may bring postcards or letters that you wrote last week to Sunday services on April 28, and they will be blessed at the altar. We will then stamp and mail them.

At the **Meals on Wheels People fundraiser** on April 19, over \$8,000 was raised to help feed hungry seniors. Close to 150 people, including many St. Michael's parishioners, participated in the silent auction and wine-and-cheese event and/or enjoyed a fabulous piano and flute concert.

— Lynn Baker and the O&J Ministries team

GREEN TEAM NEWS:

GREENFAITH CERTIFICATION PROGRAM STATUS

Much of the early work toward GreenFaith Certification for St. Michael's is taking place behind the scenes. The focus is on education, assessment, and planning during the first six months of the two-year path to certification. The second 18 months of the program are focused on carrying out an Action Plan, which is based on the education, assessment and planning done in the first six months.



On the education front, GreenFaith Green Team members are required to view webinars presented by GreenFaith program experts on a variety of topics. The first, and certainly a very helpful, webinar explained and walked us through the program's structure, processes, and requirements. Subsequent webinars have covered sacred texts that are sources of creation care and environmental justice and strategies for incorporating environmental themes into our worship.

Regarding assessment, GreenFaith provides forms to guide us through an information-gathering process to see where we are in our current efforts to be environmentally conscious and sustainable. There is no judgment in this process—we are simply given tools to help us understand what we already do well and to identify areas where we could improve. The areas assessed include the following: Worship, Religious Education, Spiritual Practices, Energy, Food, Water, Waste, Toxins, Ground Maintenance, Transportation, Environmental Justice Education, Building Relationships with Environmental Justice leaders, and Environmental Justice Advocacy.

Finally, the planning processes include writing a Communications Plan, crafting a Mission Statement, and, as the final product of the planning stages, creating an Action Plan. Importantly, the process for crafting a Green Team Mission Statement, which complements the parish mission statement, includes efforts to involve the parish as a whole. We started this process at the April 14 forum and will continue it through a survey and informal conversations with parishioners.

If you have questions about the mission statement or GreenFaith certification process, or if you want to provide feedback or input, please talk to one of our Green Team members: Dan Bagwell, Marie Bagwell, Chris Craun, Pat Huston, Leslie Kowash, Jane Peters, Marili Reilly, Matt Reitel, Meg Ruby, Peter Sergienko, or Wendi Schaener.

— Peter Sergienko

IWC WORKSHOP

WAGE THEFT AND WORKERS' RIGHTS (WITHIN A CONTEXT OF OUR NATION'S IMMIGRATION HISTORY WITH MEXICO AND CENTRAL AMERICA)

On Sunday, May 5, from 3:30-5:30 pm in the Nativity Hall, please join our speakers Marcy Haugh and Leslie Lambert as we:

- * look more in-depth at the impacts of wage theft and worker exploitation of immigrants in our community;
- * learn more about how our nation's immigration history impacts immigration policy today and the experience of workers in the U.S.;
- * hear stories about the most vulnerable workers in our community affected by unjust working conditions as they struggle to support their families;
- * learn about day laborer organizing, local advocacy and legal defense to protect and empower immigrant workers to gain control over their working conditions.

Marcy is currently a social worker in Portland and is passionate about issues pertaining to immigrant rights. At Loyola of Chicago, Marcy's studies at the School of Social Work specifically focused on serving immigrants and refugees through a lens of both large-scale policy reform as well as direct service. She co-facilitated a delegation in the fall for the Interfaith Movement for Immigrant Justice (formerly Oregon New Sanctuary Movement) focused on Wage Theft.

After graduating from the University of Washington, **Leslie** joined the Peace Corp in Mauritania, West Africa, where she worked as a health educator in a maternal/child health-care clinic. After moving to the Portland area in 2010, Leslie became involved in the immigrant rights movement and has worked on educational and fundraising projects with VOZ and the Oregon New Sanctuary Movement.

— Bev Hoeffler

RAHAB'S SISTERS

WHAT ARE THEY DOING AND PLANNING? DO THEY NEED ANYTHING?

Upcoming events for Rahab's Sisters include a May 11 Mother's Tea at St. John's Milwaukie benefiting Rahab's Sisters. Call 503/653-5880 to reserve your spot. \$10 or packages of woman's underwear will get you in the door.

On May 14, June 11, and July 9, fundraisers will be held at the Burgerville at NE 82nd & Glisan. Rahab's gets 10% of sales made between 5:00 and 8:00 pm.

Rahab's Sisters has several needs. Meal Team volunteers prepare dinner once a month, every other month or once a quarter. Hospitality Volunteers welcome and serve our weekly visitors, and we are always seeking new board members. If you are interested in learning more about any of these positions, please contact Mary Dettmann at rahabs.sisters@gmail.com,

HOLLYWOOD EAST INGATHERING

Our spring Hollywood East ingathering will support craft activities for the residents. Please look over the following list and see if you can provide any of these items:

Glue or any type of adhesive	Safety pins
Markers	Wooden shapes
Scissors	Plastic animals
Decorative/scrapbooking paper	Paints
Squares of wood/frames/canvas	Beads
Wire and needle-nose pliers or snips	Polymer clay
Card stock/envelopes	Decorative stamps
Magnets of any type	

Items may be placed in the large green tub in the Gallery. The residents of Hollywood East, which is the high-rise building across Broadway from St. Michael's, include disabled, senior, and other needy folks. St. Michael's has had a community partnership with Hollywood East for many years.

— Hjalmer Lofstrom

ADVOCACY ACTION

The Advocacy Action is an informal group that meets every third Monday at the church to talk about issues that members feel strongly about. And we don't just talk! So far this year, we have taken action, by email, phone, and in person, to make our voices heard on the following concerns:

Coal trains
State forest plan
Ocean conservation
Firearms control
Health Care for All
Immigrant Welcoming Congregation
Multnomah Co. ICE detentions
Prop. 8 and DOMA

To learn more about the issues we are taking action on and how you can get involved, go to our Advocacy Action Facebook page, or contact Alice Hardesty at ahardesty88@comcast.net.

— Alice Hardesty

or dettmannmary@gmail.com, or 503/794.8223. You may also talk with Leanne Carnes or go to the Rahab's Sisters website at www.rahabs-sisters.org to find out more about Rahab's Sisters and fill out a volunteer application.

Rahab's Sisters welcomes laundry soap and personal hygiene supplies either in regular or sample size. You may leave your donations in the colorful box under the information table in the Gallery. Thank you for your support!

— Mary Dettmann, President

ADULT EDUCATION OFFERINGS

Year One: Trust Steadily in God

Deepen our understanding of the Nicene Creed within our tradition and understand the place of the Creed in our faith.

GOT CREED?

Sunday Forums on April 28, May 5 and May 12, led by The Rev. Chris Craun and The Rev. Gabe Lamazares

Theology is developed and expressed by people facing real-world forces as well as searching the Scriptures and the wisdom of their own hearts. The Nicene Creed didn't drop out of heaven complete and perfect from God. It was developed by people struggling to figure out what they believed about God, just as we are trying to figure out what we believe. We will look at the historical context of the Nicene Creed, the conflicts that were fought over, the decisions that were made, and we will talk about how we would have written it ourselves.

Join us at 10:10 am in the Nativity Hall for these sessions.

MOVIE NIGHT

The Bridge on the River Kwai, Friday, May 3, 7:30 pm

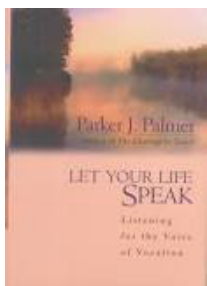
On the topic of Creed. . . this is a powerful film about the strength and resilience that can come from what a person believes. Winner of seven Academy Awards, including best picture, best director and best actor for 1957, David Lean directs an outstanding cast in this gripping tale of British prisoners of war forced to construct a bridge to help complete the Burma-Siam railway during World War II.

Please enter the Nativity Hall through the outside door in the courtyard, and feel free to bring camp/lawn chairs if you prefer those to the church's folding chairs. We'll have the popcorn ready—hope to see you at the movies!

MONDAY BOOK GROUP

The Monday Book Group will continue to meet on the first and third Mondays of each month through the summer. We will finish reading and discussing *Embracing Israel-Palestine* by Rabbi Michael Lerner on June 3. On June 17, we will begin various short-term topics for June, July and August. Sound interesting? Join us anytime in the Raphael Room at 1:00 pm for some wide-ranging conversations and lots of laughter.

ST. MICHAEL'S BOOK GROUP



St. Michael's Thursday Night Book Group will meet on May 9 to discuss *Let Your Life Speak: Listening for the Voice of Vocation*, by Parker Palmer. If you missed the gathering in April, you have another chance to discuss this insightful book. In it, Parker Palmer shares with us his own story—his successes, his struggles and, ultimately, his full embrace of the person

God is creating him to be. We will gather at 7:00 in St. Michael's House. All are welcome! (Please obtain your own copy of the book.) Caroline Litzenberger will lead the discussion.

THE JOYFUL NEWS MAY 2013

Loving God, you have blessed us with the joy and care of children: Give us calm strength and patient wisdom as we bring them up, that we may teach them to love whatever is just and true and good, following the example of our Savior, Friend and Brother, Jesus Christ. Amen.
(Adapted from BCP, p. 829)

Children & Families Ministry strives to nurture, empower, and celebrate young children and their families in the St. Michael's household of God. We recognize that along with the immeasurable blessings children bring to our lives, they also bring challenges and uncertainties that test and stretch us as parents, as extended family members, and as brothers and sisters in Christ. We rejoice in the beauty and wonder of each child in our community, and we give thanks to God that we have each other to walk with on this ever-unfolding faith journey.

One of the ways we offer support to one another is by worshipping together. Don't ever underestimate the importance of just showing up! We all have gifts to share, most importantly the gift of being ourselves and the willingness to be vulnerable enough to be known and loved on our good days and on our not-so-good days. Perfection is not the goal! Our children will have a much better chance of growing into their true authentic selves when they are nurtured, challenged and celebrated in a community of faith that cares less about life that is "picture perfect" and more about life that is full of passion, purpose, and honesty—even if it is a little messy now and then! We give thanks for the life we share in community, for the children, the elders and all those in between, and we celebrate the ever-expanding circle of families who call St. Michael & All Angels home.

We've had so much fun in Children & Families Ministry hosting a music class, worship service and potluck for families with young children. At our potluck feast on Saturday, April 20, **we dined on breakfast for dinner!** These monthly gatherings begin at 4:30 pm (Music Makers) followed by a 5:00 pm Family Worship and potluck. Take-home resources are now a regular part of our Family Worship experience so that at the end of the evening every family has a "**take-home bag**" with resources to use at home that connect to the church seasons, the music, and the stories we've shared. (Take-home bags can also be picked up at a later date if you can't make it to Family Worship.) **The final Music Makers & Family Worship Service of the 2012/2013 school year is Saturday, June 1.** Mark your calendars for *A Very Hungry Caterpillar* potluck dinner!

Questions about baptism or any of the programs for children and families at St. Michael's? Please contact Leslie Sackett, Associate for Children & Families Ministry, leslies@stmaa.org.

— Leslie Sackett

MUSIC IN MOTION PDX PRESENTS...

FOUR FUN-FILLED SUMMER CAMPS FOR YOUNG MUSICIANS!

This summer, Audrey Sackett and Paige Whaley will co-teach four diverse, engaging, educational, active, and art-based music camps. In every camp, students will explore the rhythm, melody and the history of the camp's music.

Music Around the World takes a collection of international songs and opens them up to interactive play, rhythm exploration, and discovery of each culture through sound, touch and taste! *Ages 4-7, 9:00 am-12:30 pm, July 15-19*

Detective Music Camp studies the great composers of classical music and allows children to gather all the clues to reveal the five composers hidden in this mystery music camp! *Ages 6-11, 9:00 am-3:30 pm, July 22-26*

Introduction to the Orchestra takes an in-depth look at a few beloved orchestral pieces made accessible to children. Animals come alive, stories are told, and colors emerge in this multi-faceted experience in sound! *Ages 6-11, 9:00 am-3:30 pm, August 12-16*

Pirate Choir of the High Seas takes all the building blocks of music and sails through a week-long journey of Pirate-themed play. Treasure hunts, captured "gems" of music, and a pirate songbook guide us across musical waters of the High Seas! *Ages 5-10, 9:00 am-3:30 pm, August 19-23*

— Audrey Sackett, musicinmotionpdx@gmail.com

YOUTH NEWS

As this school year comes to an end, so does St. Michael's Confirm Not Conform program. Twelve youth—Amy Alvarado, Gladys Alvarado, Sanya Cowal, Joe Denniston, Angela Jimenez, Manuel Luna, Yahaira Martinez, Christian Meneses, Rosie Orellana, Annelise Phelps, Stephanie Rojas, and Kristina Strommer—have participated in 16 class sessions. These bright young adults will take the final step on Saturday, May 18th. With guidance from their mentors, they will decide whether or not to be confirmed.



SAVE THE DATE!

Diane Walker will celebrate her 80th (can you believe it?) birthday with a gathering at St. Michael's on Saturday, May 18, at 2:00 pm in the Parish Hall. All are invited!

YOUNG ADULT GROUP

HELLO, ST. MICHAEL'S/ALL ANGELS CHURCH FAMILY! JESUS IS RISEN! HE HAS RISEN INDEED!

During the season of Lent, the young-adult (otherwise known as the 20's-30's-40's) group studied the book *The Last Week* by Borg and Crossen with the rest of the study groups and found our conversations fascinating. Not only were we drawn into the historical data surrounding the events of the last week of Jesus's life according to Mark's Gospel, but we were also compelled to discuss how our own history of faith shaped our understanding of those events. Naturally, our conversations turned to our shared Episcopal life and practice and how we live our lives as God's daughters and sons.

The YA's ministry calendar is beginning to take shape, and one thing is true about St. Michael & All Angels: We are a busy, busy people!

Our first YA Sunday Lunch will be on May 5th (Cinco De Mayo!) at Baja Fresh (NE Halsey and Caesar Chavez) at 12:30 pm. Please feel free to drop in and pull up a chair for this informal meet'n'greet!

Plans are in the works for a camping trip to Lost Lake on either the weekend of July 13-14 or 20-21.

We hope to have many low- or no-cost gatherings soon, such as game night, hiking and other adventures. If you have any ideas for events or are willing to host a gathering, please don't hesitate to contact me. Aloha's and Mahalo's,

— CV Hartline, III, 503/473.7487

This is a time for celebration. I invite you all to support the future of our church in this joyous time. Whether the youth choose to be confirmed or not, over the last eight months they have wrestled with their own values and beliefs exploring such topics as the Nicene Creed to their favorite heretic. We've explored what it is to be an Episcopalian, learned about other religions, and even visited churches of other denominations. There have been many questions, doubts, and realizations during our class sessions. This is an accomplishment that should be celebrated, and we plan to do so.

Please join us Saturday, May 18, when the youth will be confirmed in a special service by Bishop Hanley. The liturgy will start at 5:00 pm sharp. All are invited to this very important event in our youths' lives, and we hope to see you there! Following the iConfirm service, dinner will be served to our youth, their mentors, and their families by our generous vestry.

— Erin Hess

ST. MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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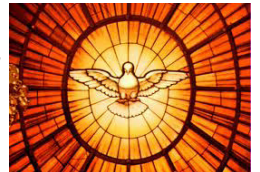
CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

- APR. 27 **Kerlin Richter ordination to the Transitional Diaconate**
- APR. 28 **Forum: Nicene Creed
Sunday Lunch
Día de los Niños**
- MAY 2 **Episcopal 101 (last session)**
- MAY 3 **Youth 1st Friday outing
Parish Movie Night**
- MAY 5 **Forum: Nicene Creed
IWC presentation**
- MAY 12 **Forum: Nicene Creed (last class)**
- MAY 18 **CnC liturgy and dinner**
- MAY 19 **Pentecost and Bishop's Visitation**
- JUNE 1 **Family Worship**

PLEASE SEE THE WEBSITE, BULLETINS, EBLAST AND GALLERY KIOSK FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT UPCOMING EVENTS.

PENTECOST AT ST. MICHAEL'S

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.



— Acts 2:1-4

Pentecost means “fiftieth day” and is celebrated fifty days after Easter Sunday. It is one of the seven principal feasts of the Episcopal church year. The season after Pentecost is the longest of the church year and includes as many as 28 Sundays.

One of the ways St. Michael's celebrates Pentecost is with a cake, a sign of our diversity and of the spirit who makes us one. The cake, whipped cream, and strawberries represent the foundation of the church, the mortar which binds us together, and the fire of the Holy Spirit. Here are some ways in which you can help make the Feast of Pentecost special at St. Michael's:

- * Cut up strawberries on Saturday
- * Bring an unfrosted sheet cake on Saturday or Sunday
- * Dress in the colors of fire: red, orange and yellow
- * Help with receptions after the 9:00 or 11:00 liturgies

Signup sheets and more information will be available soon.