

SAINT MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE MESSENGER

Mailed October 18, 2012

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DEAR FAITHFUL PARISHIONERS,

In the past two weeks, I have been involved in three weddings. After a very gracious and blessed day with this community and Bishop Michael on September 30, I officiated at a wedding in Amherst, Massachusetts, on October 7 and at a wedding here on October 14. While I could only attest to being an “expert” on a new life with Carrie for seven and fourteen days respectively, there was something about having been on the other side of being blessed—on the other side of being a participant—which made me aware that I was seeing the act of publicly committing oneself with new eyes and new understanding.

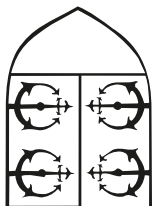
I hope that each of us will commit ourselves to participating in Stewardship. Each of us gains something from our relationship with St. Michael’s, which is why we are part of this community. And by reciprocating—by giving back, by making that promise—each of us returns blessings back to this same community. We invest in a relationship that will be part of our lives as much as we are a part of the life of the parish.

We kicked off the Stewardship season on Sunday, October 14, with our first testimonial by parishioner Rob Downer, followed by a festive reception and the handing-out of pledge cards. For the next five weeks, there will be more testimonies and more chances to ask questions, engage in conversations, and be moved by the spirit of St. Michael’s to fill our hearts and inspire our participation.

There will also be time for prayerful reflection. The wedding ceremony I officiated in Massachusetts was a blend of Episcopalian and Quaker traditions and included, at the request of the couple, twenty minutes of worshipful silence. While I was quite nervous about how the congregation would react to such an unfamiliar request, I was relieved and impressed to realize that what was meant by “worshipful silence” included the speaking-out of individuals who were inspired to share their visions, their hopes, and their reflections with the couple and those gathered. My hope this Stewardship Season is that we may do the same.

Faithfully,

The Rev. Chris Craun, Rector



Main Office	503/284-7141	Chris B. Craun, Rector	Ext. 312
Office email	office@stmaa.org	Gabriel Lamazares, Assistant Rector	Ext. 316
Brian Tierney, Acting Music Director	Ext. 315	Leslie Sackett, Associate for Children & Families	Ext. 318
Hannah Brewer, Organist	Ext. 315	Erin Hess, Associate for Ministry with Youth	Ext. 319
Gloria Orellana, Office Administrator	Ext. 317	Linda Royal, Financial Administrator	Ext. 320

YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED . . .

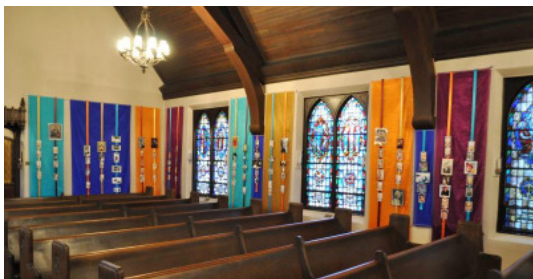
- + for healing and comfort for **Gloria Fitzpatrick**, **Peggy Hartman**, **Tillie Little**, **Jim Gravengaard**, and **Carlos Nuñez**.
- + in thanksgiving for the birth of **Joplin Drake Henry**, born on October 6 to **Sundance and Cash Henry**, and for his full recovery.
- + in thanksgiving for the blessing of the union between **Carrie Struss** and **Chris Craun** on September 30
- + in thanksgiving for **Colin Lentz** and **Josie Earle**, who were married in Massachusetts on October 7
- + in thanksgiving for **Liz Harrison** and **Kyle Pelletier**, who were married at St. Michael's on October 14



THE FEAST OF ALL SAINTS 'A GREAT CLOUD OF WITNESSES'

For in the multitude of your saints you have surrounded us with a great cloud of witnesses, that we might rejoice in their fellowship, and run with endurance the race that is set before us; and, together with them, receive the crown of glory that never fades away.

From *The Book of Common Prayer*, preface for *The Feast of All Saints*.



Who are the saints of St. Michael's—for us as individuals, and for us as a worshipping community? Who runs this race with us and cheers us on?

This year, we will again decorate the sanctuary with photos of our saints—our departed loved ones and members of St. Michael's who have passed away as well as images of the saints of our tradition—to create a 'great cloud of witnesses.' On All Saints Sunday, November 4, please bring in photos of people that you will remember in name and prayer to be suspended from ribbons on the walls of the sanctuary. Your photos can be any size. Also, be sure to sign the Book of Remembrance at the front of the church starting Sunday, October 21, with the names of your departed loved ones.

For more information, please call Ann at 503/249-1104 or email minghua@easystreet.net.

— Ann Wetherell

ASSISTANT RECTOR'S CORNER

As part of a sermon in September, Chris asked us to offer up our questions to God on pieces of paper that were collected in the offering plates with our financial gifts. As poignant an affirmation as this act was of God's love for our questioning selves, I, for one, was interested in seeing what the questions actually were!

I gathered the questions and brought them to my desk, where I read each one carefully. Immediately, I noticed that they weren't questions about everything under the sun. Instead, our wonderings largely fell into a few broad categories.

First, we asked questions about doctrine or Scripture: *What do we believe? What is our story?* Some of these questions have short answers, others have longer answers, but they all have some answer. These were requests for context and information, for learning and broadening understanding.

Second, we asked questions about suffering: *Why do bad things happen? Why is God's powerful benevolence sometimes so hard to discern in the grinding millstones of this world's pain and injustice?* These questions don't always have answers. They are deep questions about human existence and God's relation to us. They are also some of the oldest questions, the heritage of human consciousness looking for a reason for suffering.

Last, we asked questions about spirituality, that personal experience of transcendence, of communication with the Divine. *How do I pray? How do I cultivate an experience of God's presence in my life? How do I know if and how God is communicating with me?* These questions are seeking guidance in spiritual practice. What tools does our faith give us for opening up to communion with God?

These questions are a great place to deepen our life of common prayer and common work together. I would submit that these questions have a place in all our gatherings. Let's hold these questions in our minds and hearts, knowing that so many of us are wondering about the same things, welcoming them as a meeting ground, a space of communion with God and one another.

— Gabe Lamazares

MESSENGER DEADLINE

The deadline to receive articles for the next Messenger is Monday, November 19. The Messenger will be mailed on November 29 and should include events and activities that will take place throughout the months of December and January. There will be a shortened Messenger going out in mid-December with the Vestry candidates' bios and photos.

— Gloria Orellana, Associate for Administration

STEWARDSHIP 2012



The time has arrived! We are now in the midst of our fall Stewardship Season, which will continue through November 18. Each Sunday, a member or members from our community will share personal stories about why St. Michael's is a community they care about and are willing to pledge to support.

In addition, we will all take part in hearing God's message of stewardship through music and liturgy for the next month or so. This is an opportunity for us to recommit ourselves to St. Michael's by pledging and sharing our time and talents.

Each week as we receive your pledges in the offering plate or in the mail, the stewardship banner will begin to change as ribbons representing pledges will begin to form our *One Heart*. It is from the heart of this place that we continue to strive for more and more ways to be Christ's hands and heart in our communities and in our world. **Let us join together and renew our commitment to this place at this time. The Kingdom of God is now and will be forever.**

— Dan Bagwell, Stewardship Committee Chair, with Edith Arriaga, Holly Denniston, Rob Downer, Gabe Lamazares, Jen McBratney, Jim Robbins, Jennie Street, and Vestry Liaison Ann Hargraves

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN JOINING THE VESTRY?

At the Annual Meeting on January 27, 2013, the Parish will elect four new Vestry members to each serve a three-year term.

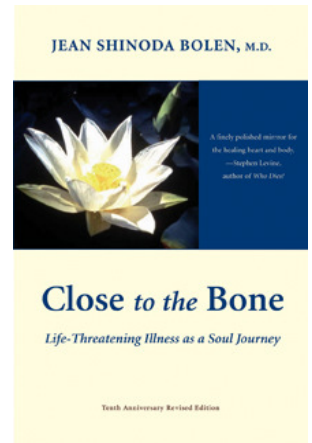
Do you have a strong personal commitment to Jesus Christ? Are you active in the life of our parish? Are you a pledging member of our parish? Do you regularly attend worship? If so, then read on and decide if Vestry is for you!

Vestry kicks off with a transitional meeting where we will say goodbye and thank you to the outgoing Vestry class and welcome the incoming Vestry class. Each new Vestry member will have a chance to select the ministry area they will represent. The Vestry will then begin meeting one Thursday a month. In the spring, there will be an all-day retreat.

Vestry is a wonderful and fulfilling experience. It is also a serious and substantial commitment. As a Vestry member, you are expected to keep in regular communication with the contacts in your ministry area, conduct a meeting with all contacts in your ministry area twice a year, report to the Vestry regarding your ministry area, and sign up to greet at least twice a month after the 9:00 or 11:00 am or 1:00 pm services.

ST. MICHAEL'S BOOK GROUP SELECTION

In November, the St. Michael's Book Group will meet to discuss *Close to the Bone: Life-Threatening Illness as a Soul Journey* by Jean Shinoda Bolen, M.D. Early in this book, the author says, "I have learned over and over again that a life-threatening illness is soul-shaking for everyone involved. ... [It] calls to the soul, taps into spiritual resources, and can be an initiation into the soul realm." She also says, "Once we take the soul seriously ... then we are spiritual beings on a human path rather than human beings who may well be on a spiritual path." Alice Walker says, "This book is a staff on which to lean as we ourselves walk or are called upon to help others walk into the valley of the shadow of death." Other reviewers describe it as "thought-provoking and optimistic," "a godsend," and "a finely polished mirror for the healing heart and body."



Copies of this book are available for purchase in the main office for \$10.25. We will gather to discuss it on Thursday, November 8, at 7:00 pm in St. Michael's House.

— Caroline Litzenberger

Being on the Vestry is also fun! You have the opportunity to enjoy a wonderful meal together each month while handling the important issues that matter to St. Michael & All Angels, rolling up your sleeves and working hard to take care of our parish home, and stepping up to be a leader in a community that gives so much to so many.

If you are interested, please pick up a Statement of Interest in the Gallery and submit it to the office no later than **November 20, 2012**.

Some dates to keep in mind:

- * Nominations are due by **November 20, 2012**.
- * Profiles and photos are due by **December 11, 2012**.
- * Candidate bios and photos will appear in the December Messenger.
- * There will be a Forum for the candidates in January, 2013.
- * The Annual Meeting will be **January 27, 2013**.

If you have questions please speak with Rector Chris Craun, Sr. Warden Susie Silva-Strommer, or me. Please prayerfully consider this wonderful way to serve our amazing and growing parish.

— Wendi Schaener, Jr. Warden

THE CATECHUMENATE

ST. MICHAEL'S IS A CATECHUMENAL PARISH...IS THIS THE YEAR THE SPIRIT MOVES YOU?

A process of faith formation with roots in the early church, the Catechumenate is a dynamic journey of spiritual inquiry and growth. In weekly gatherings, Tuesday evenings from 7:00-9:15 pm, Advent through Pentecost (December through May), the catechumenal process is an invitation to faithful discipleship.



We welcome everyone, wherever you are in your spiritual journey, to this experience of deep community. Adults preparing for baptism, newcomers to St. Michael's, and baptized persons seeking to deepen their faith and commitment come together in a lay-led, Gospel-centered process of reflection, learning and formation.

Over the years, many parishioners of St. Michael's have experienced the Catechumenate journey. Read on:

...the sponsor/candidate relationship was the work of the Holy Spirit. The relationship was truly a gift and one that I will always treasure.

Listening deeply to others helped me reflect about how I could approach things differently in my life.

...the small group interactions helped me to see what kind of person I want to be... little habits that integrate my spiritual life with my everyday life.

It was a weekly retreat which really helped me get through the rest of my busy week.

By participating with such a diverse group of people I got to see many approaches people have with their daily walk with God.

After each meeting I felt my spirit come alive!

... you were open to all of us regardless of where we were in our journey. And the goal was not as important as the journey.

I found myself connecting with people that I might not have if I hadn't met them in the group first. Now I feel like I actually have a church family.

It has made me more fully aware of God in others, and therefore deepened my awareness of God in me.

No real "aha" moment, just a quiet conviction that this was the right place for me, I've looked forward to it each week and am sorry to see it end.

Perhaps this is the year for you. Questions? For more information, contact any member of the Catechumenate team:

Kathy Buhl 503/293-9139

Georgia Leibowitz 503/228-0078

Michael Sagun 503/226-1160

Jennie Street 503/282-8159

Lee Foss 503/703-6555

Kelly Kieft 734/649-4469

Rev. Gabe Lamazares 503/284-7141

or Rev. Chris Craun, Rector 503/284-7141

THANKSGIVING GATHERINGS

"We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing."

THANKSGIVING EVE

On Wednesday, November 21, at 7:00 pm, we continue our tradition of joining with several neighboring churches for a Thanksgiving Eve ecumenical liturgy. This year, the service will take place at Our Lady of Lavang, Southeast Asian Vicariate, at 5404 NE Alameda, near the intersection of Sandy and NE 57th Avenue. All are welcome!



THANKSGIVING DAY

We all have so much to be thankful for! Please join the St. Matthew's community for a celebration of the Holy Eucharist on Thanksgiving Day, November 22, at 10:00 am. As part of the homily, we will each have an opportunity to name and give thanks for particular blessings. The Thanksgiving Day offering will go to the Diocesan Fund for the Poor & Homeless. We will also be receiving donations of hats, scarves, mittens, gloves, and socks for the children served by the Community Transitional School. St. Matthew's is located at 11229 NE Prescott St., Portland.

ADVENT CONCERT SERIES SAVE THE DATES!

The music staff at St. Michael's will be presenting three recitals in December



during our annual Advent Concert Series. Please join us on Wednesdays, December 5, 12, and 19 at noon for half-hour recitals given by Melissa Parkhurst (piano), Hannah Brewer (organ), and Brian Tierney and Audrey Sackett (tenor and soprano duets and solos). Each noontime concert will be followed by a light luncheon. Hope to see you there!

— Hannah Brewer, Organist

AIDSWALK 2012

For the third year in a row, 12-year-old Alazar Manning was the top youth fundraiser for the annual AIDSWalk, raising more than \$9,000 this year. Members of the A-Team and a crowd of around 10,000 walkers were on hand to watch Alazar, on stage with such notables as Gov. John Kitzhaber and Mayor Sam Adams, receive high praise and recognition for his stellar efforts.

Alazar's family has been affected by AIDS, and he decided in 2009 that he could do something about that. He raised \$800 that year and has since become educated about the disease and writes a blog to educate others. Way to go, Alazar!



— Lynn Baker, Outreach & Justice Co-coordinator

EL PORVENIR: A UNIQUE SERVICE OPPORTUNITY

Are you looking for an opportunity to serve others in another country and culture? If so, consider joining the El Porvenir work brigade from St. Michael's that will be going to Nicaragua next July. This 10-day trip (July 13-22) is perfect for youth, families, and adults who have time available in the summer.

You will find your life changed as you work side-by-side with villagers in a poor, rural Nicaraguan community on a clean-water project and visit places of interest in the country. Most often, we help build laundry and washing stations—hands-on projects that require no previous building experience, just a willingness to work closely with the men, women and children of the village who are excited to have our group join them. Nicaraguan trip leaders are bilingual so Spanish isn't required, but it's a great opportunity to practice your Spanish. The trip cost is \$1,025 plus airfare; a \$100 deposit is due to El Porvenir by December 1, 2012, to reserve a space.

Four people have signed up already, and there are eight spaces still open. If you would like to reserve a spot, have questions about the trip or scholarships, and/or would like to talk with a St. Michael's member or family who have gone previously, please contact Bev Hoeffler at hoefferb@msn.com or 503/238-0534.

— Bev Hoeffler

LETTER-WRITING OPPORTUNITIES



Frantic negotiations are going on in Washington, DC, right now

before the election as Congress faces crucial deadlines. Bread for the World urges us to send letters immediately to let our congresspersons know our concern that a *Circle of Protection* be maintained around programs that benefit poor people at home and abroad.

A quick and simple way to make this happen is to use www.bread.org. Click "Write to Congress" on the home page. You'll need to give your personal details, then choose one of five sample letters or write your own personalized letter using a sample letter as your guide (preferred). Your zip code will automatically cause your letter to be sent to the three congresspersons who represent you in Washington. Act today! Help those who need help the most.

— Jim Anderson

COAT COLLECTION CONTINUES

We will continue the ingathering of winter wear for our Hollywood East neighbors through the end of November. The folks who live there include senior and/or low-income citizens and many folks who are physically and mentally challenged. Last year, our donations were gratefully received by those living in the building.



In addition to coats and jackets, we will be collecting sweaters, scarves, hats, and gloves. Look for the green collection bin in the Gallery near the piano. Items will be delivered weekly to Hollywood East. Thank you for your generosity!

— Hjalmer Lofstrom

ELECTION DAY NOONDAY PRAYERS

Election Day is an excellent time to hold our nation in prayer. Regardless of who ultimately is voted into office, we pray for all newly elected officials to be filled with wisdom, compassion, and courage as they begin or continue their public service. The St. Matthew's community invites you to a service of Noonday Prayer on Election Day, Tuesday, November 6, as we pray for our nation to move forward into the future. And don't forget to vote! St. Matthew's is located at 11229 NE Prescott St. in the Parkrose neighborhood of Portland.

— Marla McGarry Lawrence

REQUEST FROM THE MOWS/WOWS

There are chairs in the basement of St. Michael's House that match those in the Gallery. However, all of them are greatly in need of reupholstering. If you have this skill and would be willing to offer your time and talent to St. Michael's, it would be most appreciated! There are also several chairs made with blond wood which need recaning but are otherwise sound. These are available to anyone who could use them. For more information, please contact Richard at 503/252-8490 or rhartman1949@hotmail.com.

— Richard Hartman

IMPROVEMENTS TO ST. MICHAEL'S HOUSE

Next time you're at church, be sure to take a close look at St. Michael's House. The house, which had been looking

pretty shabby, was reroofed during the summer and repainted just in the past couple of weeks. Our contractor, completely replaced the roof and other structural areas where there was

a lot of dry rot. The consistent donations of parishioners to the Building Fund made this project possible. However, our very own MOWs, under the expert leadership of parishioner and part-time painting contractor Bruce Collins, volunteered several long days of labor and prepped and painted the entire house.

The entire MOWs/WOWs group, under the leadership of Jack Harper and Mitch Oglesby, has worked very hard this fall. Their work is constant—painting, cleaning, repairing, replacing, raking, trimming, emptying (trashcans)—and their commitment to St. Michael's amazing. We are very grateful for their gifts of time and talent!

— Gloria Orellana and the St. Michael's Church staff

P.S. Richard Hartman, Day Tooley, Bruce Collins, and Mitch Oglesby are featured in the photograph above.



ST. MICHAEL'S DAY RECEPTIONS THANK-YOUS

Many thanks to all who brought food and helped with the St. Michael's Day Festive Receptions on September 30, including Dan Bagwell, David Lentz, Mickey Harnage, Mary Lou Hennrich, Bev Hoeffler, Terrie Ingram, Vera Lund, Barb Miller, Sue Quanbeck, and Diana Wolford. I wish all of you could have heard the compliments that I did! Just know that you are appreciated very much by the congregation and by me **especially!**

— Kathleen Rose, Receptions Coordinator



ALL SAINTS DAY FESTIVE RECEPTIONS

All Saints Day will be celebrated on Sunday, November 4. After the 9:00 and 11:00 am services, we'll enjoy Festive Receptions. Please watch for sign-up sheets in the Gallery to help and to bring sweet or savory finger foods. Thank you in advance for your generosity. Please contact Kathleen if you can help: giantcedartree@gmail.com or 503/477-6426.

— Kathleen Rose, Receptions Coordinator

RAFFLE BASKET FOR CONVENTION

Many congregations in the Diocese of Oregon are preparing baskets to be raffled off at this year's convention, happening October 25-27 in Portland. The money raised from this raffle goes to the Diocesan Fund for the Poor & Homeless, which provides resources for congregations to address poverty in their communities. Many of these baskets in the last several years have been themed—for example, Death by Chocolate, Pampering Yourself, etc.

Here at St. Michael's, we have many parishioners who are crafty and/or excellent cooks. We would like to put together a basket with the theme *From the Home & Hearth* and fill it with homemade goodies: canned fruits, vegetables, or jams; baked goods or candies; jewelry, candles, sewn or crocheted items—anything that you have made yourself. Let your creativity run wild! This is a great way for St. Michael's to show our support for other western Oregon churches' ministries. Please bring items to the church office before October 24, and/or contact me with any questions at susieinportland@yahoo.com. Thank you!



— Susie Silva-Strommer, Sr. Warden

THE JOYFUL NEWS FALL 2012

There is something for everyone in the family on Sunday mornings at St. Michael's! Please check out our wonderful Childcare Room for infants through five-year-olds and meet some of the world's best childcare providers! These parishioners volunteer once a month to care for our little ones during the 9 or 11 o'clock liturgy or the 10 o'clock education hour. We are blessed to have an amazing team of loving adults (and youth!) who are the hands and feet and heart of Jesus to our young children.



Godly Play and Sunday School teachers practice the art of storytelling and hospitality as they welcome each child into the classroom and the sacred circle of sharing. Teachers pass down the beautiful tradition of our liturgy and sacred stories to our children ages four through fifth grade when classes meet at 10:10 am.

Children's Liturgy of the Word Leaders invite children to deepen their connection to Sunday's liturgical readings as they reflect on the themes and stories of the day. Children's Liturgy meets during the 9 and 11 o'clock liturgy each Sunday morning.

We hope to see you soon—it's just not the same without you!

— Leslie Sackett
Associate for Children and Families Ministry

Saturday, October 20: Music Makers at 4:30 pm, Family Worship at 5:00 pm followed by potluck dinner at 6:00 pm. Kids, bring your parents and grandparents!!

Sunday, November 4: All Saints Sunday Celebration

Saturday, November 17: Music Makers at 4:30 pm, Family Worship at 5:00 pm followed by potluck dinner at 6:00 pm. Don't miss the fun and fellowship!

Sunday, November 18: SAFE Church Training, 12:30 – 4:30 pm (see article)

Sunday, November 25: Advent Fair at 10:00 am. Celebrate the coming season with hands-on crafts and make your own Advent Wreath!

We will also feature our Advent book table and items for sale, including African art, tamales, and olive oil from the Holy Land. Don't miss it!



SAFE CHURCH TRAINING

ALL PERSONS WORKING WITH CHILDREN AND YOUTH: MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

SAFE Church Training: Safeguarding God's Children is being offered at St. Michael's on Sunday, November 18, from 12:30 to 4:30 pm. *SAFE Church Training* provides workshops that build awareness in the areas of sexual conduct and sexual abuse issues for both employees and volunteers working within the congregations and organizations of The Diocese of Oregon. **You should attend *SAFE Church Training: Safeguarding God's Children* if you are:**

*Clergy, whether stipendiary or non-stipendiary

*An intern or person in the ordination process

*A paid employee

*A warden or Vestry member

*A lay minister (age 16 and over) who works with children or youth. This includes all childcare providers, Godly Play teachers, Liturgy of the Word leaders, and youth ministers. Volunteers age 12-15 are welcome to attend if accompanied by a parent. We do not recommend this training for young people under age 12.

*If it has been ten years since your last training

It is with great joy that St. Michael's works to nurture the spiritual life of all our children, youth and adults. As we strive to live out our baptismal promises to respect the dignity of every human being and to seek and serve Christ in all persons, *SAFE Church Training* is one of the tools we use to create a safe place for our worshipping community to learn and grow in the love of Christ.

Please register for *SAFE Church Training* online at The Diocese of Oregon website, www.episcopaldioceseoregon.org. *SAFE Church* is found under the Commissions & Ministries tab at the top of the Diocesan home page, or contact Leslie Sackett at leslie.sackett@comcast.net for more information.

— Leslie Sackett, Associate for Children & Families Ministries

EMPLOYMENT NETWORK RESUMES

The St. Michael's Employment Network, led by two human-resource professionals, is once again meeting every Monday at noon. The Network began in the spring of 2010 as a response to the growing unemployment numbers during the worst of the recession and went on hiatus at the end of June 2012. Over 30 folks found employment in that two-year period.

All those who are looking for work or who are interested in a career change are encouraged to attend. Attendance is not limited to parishioners, so spread the word among your family and friends. Feel free to bring your lunch along.

— Carol Ward

ST. MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

- OCT. 20 **4:30 pm Music Makers, Family
Worship, and potluck**
- OCT. 21 **10:10 am Rector's Forum with the
Adult Formation Planning Team**
Youth pumpkin sale
- OCT. 27 **9:00 am Mayoral candidates
debate, sponsored by CAUSA**
- OCT. 28 **10:10 am Forum: Report from
Convention**
12:15 pm Sunday Lunch returns
- NOV. 4 **All Saints Sunday**
- NOV. 18 **10:10 am Forum: Immigration
policy reform in Oregon**
12:30 pm SAFE Church Training
- NOV. 25 **10:10 am Advent Fair**

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

TAIZÉ PRAYER SERVICE CONTINUES

Start off the fall season with joy, hope and song by joining in the service of Taizé Prayers. Every second Monday of the month, from 7:00 to 8:00 pm, we gather in the Nativity Hall for simple, reflective and meditative moments of worship. Our attendance usually runs between 15 and 25 folks who enjoy singing the Taizé chants. The music is led by gifted musicians on the piano, flute and guitar. Brief scripture readings and chants help to focus the time of silence (usually about 10 minutes). We then offer prayers of intercession and thanksgiving and conclude with the Lord's Prayer and a reading from the Taizé Community in France.

Come and see if this time of prayer and reflection can be meaningful on your journey. It is also a great opportunity to invite someone along for this ecumenical prayer occasion. All are most welcome to be part of this special prayer time.

— The Rev. David Perry

PIZZA TIME RETURNS!

All 3rd- 5th-graders are invited to share pizza and games with Rector Chris Craun on Sunday, December 2, from 5:00-6:30 pm. We'll meet in the Nativity Hall. **Don't miss it!**



— Chris Craun