

# SAINT MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

# THE MESSENGER

Mailed November 29, 2012

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## DEAR FAITHFUL PARISHIONERS,

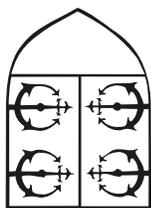
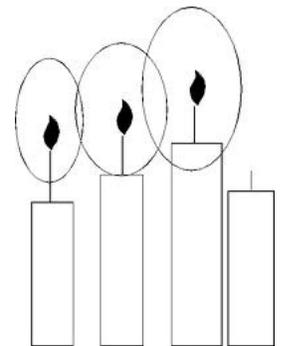
Advent has always been one of my favorite times of year, and yet every year it seems to fly by in an instant. This year I am really trying to be present. To that end, I have been working closely with two groups at St. Michael's to aid in our collective hope of being grounded in this season of expectation.

Early in the fall, I asked our Music and Worship Committee to focus its attention on the season of Advent and to explore ways in which we could add new dimensions to our liturgies. Through our work and prayer together, we found that we were intrigued by the idea of adding a visual-art component to our worship time. Therefore, each Sunday in Advent, you will discover an image on a postcard included with your bulletin. The image is complete on its own; but as we move through the four weeks, the greater whole will be revealed. We will also be including an alternative reading after the psalm during the 9:00 and 11:00 liturgies. These readings were compiled with the inspiration of the Advent themes—joy, anticipation, mercy, hope—in mind. I enjoyed the intense work with this group around Advent, and I hope that the liturgies provide various entry points into the reflective nature of the season.

The other group with whom I have been working is the Adult Formation Implementation Team. While we continue to work towards implementing the goals and objectives approved by the vestry for adult formation, we also would like to offer a few touchstones for adult formation during the season of Advent. Every Sunday in Advent, between the 9:00 and 11:00 am liturgies, we will gather in the Nativity Hall for reflection, education, and spiritual practices. Come and learn from one another and from your clergy and staff about the meanings of this time. Share stories of your favorite holiday, set goals around creating and maintaining meaningful traditions within your own family, and experience space and time for prayer. Come learn about the history of your favorite Advent and Christmas songs, and be ready to sing your heart out on the Fourth Sunday of Advent.

Happy Advent!

The Rev. Christopher Craun +



|                                       |  |   |          |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|----------|
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## YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR...

- + Healing and comfort for **Gloria Fitzpatrick, Peggy Hartman, Jim Gravengaard, and Gerri Wise**
- + Repose of the soul of **Howard Carter**, who died on Oct. 31, and for his daughter and son-in-law **Lynn and Chuck Mason** in their sorrow
- + Repose of the soul of **Hugh Lovell**, who died on Nov. 9, and for his partner **Jean Morrison** in her sorrow
- + Repose of the soul of **William Shelton**, who died on Nov. 20, and for his daughter **Kathleen** in her sorrow
- + Repose of the soul of **Betty Hansen**, who died on Nov. 21, and for her daughter **Joy Young** in her sorrow
- + Repose of the soul of **Loren Clark**, who died on Nov. 27, and for his wife **Charlotte** in her sorrow
- + Thanksgiving for the birth of **Julia Marjean Kenny**, born on Nov. 2, and for her parents **Judy and John Kenny**
- + Thanksgiving for the baptism on Nov. 4 of **Isabella Mercedes Matus Borges**, and for her parents **Bernardo and Emily Matus Borges**



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## ADMINISTRATIVE NOTES

### LOST & FOUND

Are you missing a jacket, a book, a pair of eyeglasses? Did you leave a dish or plate here after a reception? Before things really get rolling for the holidays, please check around for your left-behind belongings. There are dishes on the shelf behind the door in the kitchen, jackets hanging in the Nativity Hall, and a collection of miscellaneous items on the little shelf in the Gallery. Unclaimed items will be sent to charity.

### ELECTRONIC MESSENGER

Are you receiving this Messenger by mail and would prefer or are willing to receive it electronically? A pdf of each Messenger is sent to those who request it on the day that it's published. If you would like to add yourself to that group, please send an email to [glorio@stmaa.org](mailto:glorio@stmaa.org).

### BATS AND MAILERS

Do you have a little time during the week when you could help the Bulletin Assembly Team or our mailing crew? The BATS meet on Fridays at about 11:00 am (you don't have to be here every Friday!), and they have a big day coming up on December 21, when they will be preparing six bulletins for Christmas. The mailers usually meet once every six weeks or so, but they have two mailings coming up: Thursdays, November 29 and December 6, at 1:00 pm. Both ministries offer a great way to get involved and get to know a smaller group. Email Gloria at [glorio@stmaa.org](mailto:glorio@stmaa.org) if you are interested.

## ASSISTANT RECTOR'S CORNER

Confession: Advent has always been a tough season to really "get" for me. I understand Lent and Easter and Christmas and Pentecost. But Advent is hard. Especially when my experience before church was that Christmas started the day after Thanksgiving! So what is this season and what do I do with it?

A little research tells me Advent came from a 40-day fast before Christmas observed in the Eastern Church as early as the third or fourth century. In fact, the Orthodox still celebrates a Nativity Fast that is longer than our Advent. So Advent is a kinder, gentler Lent? That's the theory anyway.

More than anything, it seems to me that December in the 21st century is plagued with clutter of all kinds: events, stuff, expectations, travel, decorations, and especially food. But to receive the Christ child (to give birth to the Christ child?), I need to make room, like a family preparing for a new baby. Clear a space, clear time, re-order priorities. Unlike Lent, this fast is not so much about repentance as it is about clearing a path for the Beloved who is coming. And maybe that Beloved cares more about just being with us than about perfectly planned activities and gorgeous, home-made (or at least expensive and tasteful) decorations, apologies to Martha Stewart.

So what will you do this year to prepare for Christmas? How will you fast before the feast? What can you let go of? How can you make things simpler instead of more complicated? How can you say 'no' a little more frequently to make room for a larger 'yes'?

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### OFFICE COVERAGE

Many folks may not be aware of the schedule in the main office. Gloria works Monday-Thursday but leaves by about 3:30 on Wednesdays and Thursdays. However, there are volunteers here to help you until 4:00 on Wednesday and 5:00 on Thursday. She does not work on Friday at all and so will not respond to emails received from mid-afternoon on Thursday until Monday morning. There is a volunteer here on Fridays from 9:00-2:00, so please call if you have an urgent matter. If you need to speak to someone, especially clergy, over the weekend about something that cannot wait (including unexpected liturgical-minister absences), please call or text them on their cell phones: Chris Craun, 503/780-8084; or Gabe Lamazares, 971/678-2145

### BULLETIN/EBLAST ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you would like something to appear in the Sunday bulletin, please send that information to me at [glorio@stmaa.org](mailto:glorio@stmaa.org) by the Tuesday afternoon before. There is a little more flexibility with the eblast; those announcements need to reach me by Wednesday afternoon.

— Gloria Orellana, Associate for Administration

## STEWARDSHIP 2013



The 2013 Stewardship Season, which ran for six weeks, ended on Sunday, November 18. We were blessed each week to hear from members of this community sharing from their hearts about what this church and this community of Christ mean to them.

Out of these personal testimonies, we were encouraged to look at our own faith journey and reflect on our commitment to God, to each other, and to this community of St. Michael's, and then pledge into our future from our abundance with gratitude and thankfulness to God.

As of this writing, 208 pledges have been received, totaling \$463,461. We are nearing our goal of receiving 241 pledges, for \$506,100. If you have already submitted your pledge, thank you. If you have not submitted your pledge, please prayerfully consider pledging so that together we can accomplish our shared vision, as outlined by our parish-wide conversations last spring. These priorities are: first, to fairly compensate our staff for the good work they are doing in shepherding the many ministries we do well at St. Michael's; second, to increase the hours for our Associate for Children and Families, develop our ministry to youth, and add a part-time Young Adult Coordinator; and third, to hire a part-time Sexton for improving facilities coordination and management, and a part-time Volunteer Coordinator for improving the communication and coordination among our many ministries.

A special thank you to all of you who helped out this stewardship season with your time and talents. Let us all go forward into 2013 trusting in God's presence in us and among us and live out of that trust.

— Your Stewardship Committee

## VESTRY NEWS...

It has been a busy fall for the St. Michael's Vestry. During the month of September, in addition to our regularly scheduled meeting, we had two special meetings facilitated by Paula Franck that focused on improving communication and team-building within the vestry. From that work, we have established some "Vestry Norms" that will help guide how we work together as a vestry and as leaders in the Parish.

The fall meeting agendas have been full each month. We've made decisions on a half-dozen Endowment Committee requests, given our approval to the Environmental Stewardship Ministry (Green Team) to move forward with an application to the *GreenFaith Certification Program* and agreed to join other communities of faith in the *Restoring Trust Campaign*. Your vestry members give great consideration to all of the issues that come before them at their monthly meetings. I encourage you to become more familiar with these issues by

## DECEMBER HAPPENINGS

### LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE

On Thursday, December 20, at 7:00 pm, St. Michael's will host a special prayer service for the longest night of the year. We know that the holidays can be a difficult and lonely time for many, so our Longest Night service will be a safe place, away from the sales and carols and tinsel, for all those who are sad or discouraged at the holidays to bring their burdens and bear them for a while among friends as we seek the presence of the One who comes "with healing in his wings," even in our darkest days.

### DECEMBER FEASTS IN THE MISA COMMUNITY: EVERYONE IS WARMLY INVITED!

This year, St. Michael's will celebrate the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe with a special liturgy on Saturday, December 8, to sing *Las Mañanitas* to the Mother of God, who appeared on the hill of Tepeyac in what is now Mexico City in the 16th century. Please join us for a mariachi Eucharist starting at 8:00 pm with food and festivities following. It's an event not-to-be-missed and a warm, splendid expression of faith and community for the whole parish.



On Friday, December 21, we will celebrate our yearly *Posadas*, in which children playing Joseph and Mary go from door to door looking for a place for Jesus to be born. When the last door finally opens for them, a party follows with music and piñatas!

All are welcome to join us for these special festivities and at 1:00 pm every Sunday.

— Gabe Lamazares

checking out the agendas, minutes and various supporting documents that are posted each month in the Nativity Hall.

No vestry meeting is complete without a thorough review of the monthly budget report. Your vestry representatives take very seriously their task to ensure that the financial gifts each of us give to St. Michael's are spent responsibly. It has been a challenging year with some expenses being higher than initially anticipated. In addition to greater vestry oversight, Chris+ has worked closely with the various ministries in order to help them stay within budget. We are hopeful that if the remaining 2012 pledge income is received, we will end the year with a balanced budget.

Please remember that the monthly vestry meetings are open to any member of St. Michael's. Please feel free to come for all or any portion of the monthly vestry meetings. If you have any further questions about anything that is happening in the St. Michael's Vestry, please feel free to contact me or any of your vestry representatives.

—Susie Silva-Strommer, Sr. Warden

## ADVENT CONCERT SERIES

You are invited to come support and enjoy some of the music-making happening at St. Michael's by attending one or more of the Advent Concerts occurring the first three Wednesdays of December at noon.



Performers will include St. Michael's organist Hannah Brewer, Joyful Noise director Audrey Sackett, acting Music Director Brian Tierney, and two special musicians from our congregation (see schedule below). A free-will offering will be accepted at the concerts to support our music ministry and, in particular, the acquisition of a harpsichord for use during our services and for other special events. A light lunch of soup and bread will be provided after each concert. Anyone wishing to help with the setup, food preparation, or cleanup for these lunches is encouraged to contact Hannah Brewer at [hannahcbrewer@gmail.com](mailto:hannahcbrewer@gmail.com).

The schedule of performers for the concerts is as follows:

Wednesday, December 5: Hannah Brewer, organ

Wednesday, December 12: Audrey Sackett, soprano; Brian Tierney, tenor

Wednesday, December 19: Patti Evans, flute; Steve Evans, guitar

To pique your interest, the first concert, on December 5, will feature three Bs: Buxtehude, Bach, and... Boëllmann?? Come to the concert to find out more and hear some exciting and Advent-themed organ music. Looking forward to seeing you there!

— Hannah Brewer

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## LESSONS & CAROLS

Come and celebrate the beauty of the Lessons & Carols service, a traditional Anglican Christmas service, with the congregation and choir of St. Michael & All Angels Episcopal Church. The service is an intimate gathering of community, and it features nine readings interspersed with traditional carols and other Christmas music sung by the 40+ voices of St. Michael's Singers directed by Brian Tierney. The choir will be performing works by Byrd, Victoria, Tavener, and Howells among other carols and hymns all revolving around the fall of man, the foretelling of the Messiah, and the birth of Jesus. The service is on Saturday, December 15, at 7:00 pm, and is free to the public.



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— Sarah Hauser

## OUTREACH & JUSTICE

### WHITE SHIELD CENTER

The White Shield Center is a facility that serves the needs of pregnant and parenting girls between the ages of 12 and 18, and it provides secure housing for adolescent girls referred by state social-service agencies or the juvenile-justice system.

Thea Sanchez works at White Shield and is a strong advocate for their programs. Every year at Christmas, she brings in supplies so that the girls can make gingerbread houses and have cocoa. She isn't alone in assisting this facility—the Men On Wednesday (MOWs) recently made cribs for all the babies which conform to new safety regulations. Others from St. Michael's have helped in years past. If you want to see the facility, Thea would be glad to give you a tour.

There are ways in which we can help these young women who are striving to learn new ways to behave and live. Thea would love to see some funds for crafts so that they can make gifts for their families. She has offered us the opportunity to come wash dishes on Thursday, December 20, from 5:30 to around 8:00 pm., so that for once the girls do not have to do cleanup. There are always a few girls who do not have safe homes to go to on holidays, so the Center wants to be able to take them out for a festive dinner on Christmas Day itself. This requires funds as well.

If you can help with any of these things, contact Thea at [theahome1@aol.com](mailto:theahome1@aol.com) or 503/284-6749. For Thea, this is not just a job; she cares deeply about these young women and strives to give them the normalcy some have never had. She would love to hear from you.

### 2012 ALTERNATIVE GIFT CATALOG IS HERE

Just imagine: No Black Friday lines! No returns. No wrong colors or sizes. No "out of stock" messages. Make everyone happy with a Christmas gift from the Alternative Gift Catalog. Ten of your favorite charities are available for donations with one easy check to St. Michael's. Catalogs will be available at the Advent Fair and every Sunday in Advent in the Gallery. Your checks will be accepted each Sunday during Advent. Please be generous and help make others happy at Christmastime.

### L'ARCHE PORTLAND CHRISTMAS TREE SALE

L'Arche Portland, a faith-based non-profit that provides lifelong homes to people with developmental disabilities, is pleased to announce their 23rd Annual Benefit Christmas Tree Sale! They have a variety of trees available at affordable prices, and are always looking for more volunteers. All proceeds go directly to supporting daily life in family homes for those with and without developmental disabilities. To find out more about the sale or how to volunteer, please call Katelyn at 503/933-4347, or visit their website: [www.larche-portland.org](http://www.larche-portland.org).

## OFFERING SANCTUARY TO IMMIGRANTS AND THEIR FAMILIES: EXPANDING OUR MISSION

During the summer and fall, the Immigrant Welcoming Congregation (IWC) team continued to meet with members at St. Michael's to exchange immigration stories and discuss the process of becoming an immigrant welcoming congregation. During these conversations, we heard remarkable stories of perseverance and courage in overcoming hardship and barriers and of hopes for a better future in this country. A question raised in one conversation, however, truly captured our attention: Could a member of the Misa facing deportation before all legal avenues for remaining in this country had been pursued come to St. Michael's for sanctuary?

We asked ourselves if being a sanctuary congregation is the next step in our journey together at St. Michael's because of our long history of radical hospitality and welcoming the stranger, including offering a Spanish misa for nearly 20 years. We would very much like you to join us in exploring this idea for expanding St. Michael's mission.

To provide a context for the discussion, the IWC team will host the following four sessions in January 2013 on Sunday afternoons from 4:00-6:00 pm.

**January 6, Session 1**—Stories from the Misa: discerning a need for sanctuary. We will hear the immigration stories of several Misa members and how knowing that sanctuary was available at St. Michael's would affect their lives.

**January 13, Session 2**—Immigrant justice and sanctuary: a moral argument. The Rev. Gabe Lamazares will lead us in a discussion of the moral underpinnings for offering sanctuary as a faith community.

**January 20, Session 3**—Providing sanctuary to an immigrant family: the experience of one congregation. Joanie McClellan will share her UCC church's moving experience of providing sanctuary to an immigrant family in Simi, CA.

**January 27, Session 4**—Becoming a sanctuary congregation: what would it mean at St. Michael's. Participants will have an opportunity to review and discuss a draft proposal for becoming a sanctuary congregation, including provisions for "hosting" an individual or family seeking sanctuary at St. Michael's. To facilitate the discussion, a panel that includes members of the IWC team, an immigration lawyer, Beth Poteet (Executive Director, Oregon New Sanctuary Movement), and Joanie McClellan will reflect on and address participants' questions.

If you want to learn more about the issues, please join us for these sessions! This is an opportunity for us to listen to each other. The IWC team will be listening to hear what the team would present to vestry regarding what it might look like for St. Michael's to become a sanctuary church.

— The Immigrant Welcoming Congregation team

## GREEN TEAM REPORT

We are thrilled to report that the Vestry has approved St. Michael's application to the GreenFaith Certification Program, an ecumenical, two-year environmental leadership program for houses of worship endorsed by the Episcopal Church. The program is intended to be transformational. It will touch and involve the entire community through environmental education, worship that includes creation care and other environmental themes, green facilities management, and environmental advocacy and justice.

In its *Pastoral Teaching on the Environment*, the House of Bishops has rightly declared: "This is the appointed time for all God's children to work for the common goal of renewing the earth as a hospitable abode for the flourishing of all life. We are called to speak and act on behalf of God's good creation." We proudly join with our Bishops, rededicating ourselves to seeking just and sustainable ways of living in harmony with the Creation.

We will provide more detailed information about the program in due course. If you have any questions now, you may ask Peter Sergienko in person or by email, [petersergienko@gmail.com](mailto:petersergienko@gmail.com), or check out the GreenFaith website at <http://greenfaith.org/programs/certification>.

— Peter Sergienko

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## EARTH CARE SUMMIT

Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon invites all to the *Earth Care Summit* on January 28, 2013. This annual event is a dynamic gathering of congregations interested in caring for Creation, and the theme for this year's event is *Living Waters*.

Organized by EMO's *Interfaith Network for Earth Concerns*, this fourth annual event includes a simple, locally grown dinner, a keynote address by Bishop Skylstad—leader in the Columbia River Pastoral Letter Project—a congregational case study, useful resources, and round-table discussions. The event will explore the theoretical water issues we are facing on global, regional and local levels, and provide practical ideas on how to address the issues at home and in your congregation.

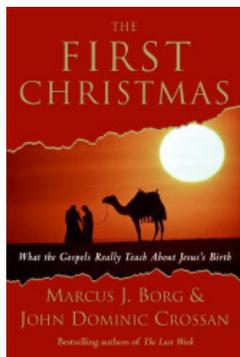
*The Earth Care Summit: Living Waters* will take place from 5:30 to 8:45 pm, with an optional building tour at 4:30 pm and registration and display tables opening at 5:00 pm. The event will take place at St. Andrew Lutheran Church, 12405 SW Butner Rd., Beaverton. Pre-registration is required. The cost is \$25/person (includes dinner) and \$15/students. Scholarships are also available. Registration forms can be found at [http://www.emoregon.org/emo\\_events.php](http://www.emoregon.org/emo_events.php), or you may call Krystal at 503-221-1054.

— Jenny Holmes for Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon

## DECEMBER & JANUARY BOOK SELECTIONS

St. Michael's Book Group will meet twice before another Messenger is published. On December 8, we will discuss *The First Christmas: What the Gospels Really Teach about Jesus' Birth*, by Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossan. Then on January 10, we will discuss *Let Your Life Speak: Listening for the Voice of Vocation*, by Parker Palmer.

*The First Christmas* presents a thought-provoking exploration of the Gospel stories of Jesus' birth. In the book's preface, the authors acknowledge that "for many Christians, ... Christmas has emotional power," because it is so rooted in our earliest memories. But, they say, "The stories of Jesus' birth are more than sentimental. ... [They] speak of both personal and political transformation." This book, then, has two main thrusts:



to explore and analyze the "stories and their meanings in their first-century context," and "to treat their meanings for Christian understanding and commitment today." We will gather at 7:00 pm on December 8 to discuss this book.

In choosing *Let Your Life Speak* as the book we will discuss in January, we're reprising a book that was the focus of a weekly Lenten Book Study in Lent 2007. That was a powerful experience for most of those present and has much to say to all who engage with it. Here, 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. This book invites us to reflect on

our lives in order to gain a clearer sense of God's call for each of us at this particular time. We will gather at 7:00 pm on January 10 for the discussion of this book.

Copies of each book will be available for purchase in the main Office two to three weeks before the date of the discussion. For each discussion, we will gather at 7:00 in St. Michael's House. All are welcome! Caroline Litzenberger will lead the discussions.

— Caroline Litzenberger

## CHRISTMAS RECEPTIONS

Christmas receptions are just around the corner. Traditionally, we have a warm and friendly time after each service to visit with each other over light refreshments. As always, several volunteers—each doing a small part—make these events possible. Would you be able to help in the kitchen or bring some sweet or savory holiday treats? Sign-up sheets will be in the Gallery.

## ARMED FORCES DISPLAY

Do you have someone you care about in the Armed Forces? We are proud of those serving and want to honor them. St. Michael's has an Armed Forces display in the Nativity Hall, and there is room for your information. We would like a name, how they are related to parishioners, their rank and deployment. We'd love a picture if possible, too. Contact Gloria in the office or Lynn Baker at [lm.rl.baker@comcast.net](mailto:lm.rl.baker@comcast.net) to let us know how we can include your loved one.

— Lynn Baker

## IN APPRECIATION

### FESTIVE RECEPTIONS

I appreciate all the volunteers who helped with the All Saints Day reception: Holly Denniston, Ann Hargraves, Vera Lund, Susie Silva-Strommer and Jane Winfield. It was fun working with all of you! To all the folks who brought treats that day: Thank you! Thank you!

—Kathleen Rose, Reception Coordinator

*Thank you* to all who helped decorate (and undecorate) our Nave for All Saints this year with colorful banners and photos and images of our many saints. Those hardy volunteers included Lynda Garner, Karen Oglesby, Nancy Parker, Amy Valentine, the MOWs, and the maestra of all things All Saints, Ann Wetherell. Also, thank you to our *Dia de los Muertos* altar decorators Edith Arriaga and Rose Luevano, and to Christie Maddocks, who provided the marigolds.

*Thank you* to Steve Sargent, who worked with a landscape designer and construction friend to regrade the courtyard perimeter so that we don't have the frequent flooding in the lower level that has plagued us for many years.



*Thank you* to all who brought in warm clothing for the residents of Hollywood East. Hjalmer Lofstrom made multiple trips to the building over the past two months, taking with him many jackets and coats, sweaters, scarves, hats and pairs of mittens.

— the St. Michael's Staff

We never want to minimize the importance of our hospitality ministry at St Michael's. Our festive receptions provide an opportunity to celebrate, to make acquaintances and to nurture friendships. Thanks again to all of you who make them possible!

— Kathleen Rose, Receptions Coordinator

# THE JOYFUL NEWS DECEMBER 2012

## *Children & Families Ministry Sings a New Song!*

**Celebrate the opening of the new Children's Music Room at our Open House on Sunday, December 9, during the 10 o'clock hour!** We've transformed a classroom on the lower level into a music room to give St. Michael's children a rich educational and diverse music experience. Music teacher Audrey Sackett invites children in grades 2 – 5 to this exciting new class that will meet Sunday mornings at 10:10 am. In music class, kids will sing and explore a variety of musical styles, play music-themed games and participate in lots of fun, music-based activities. Godly Play stories and seasonal projects will also be interspersed throughout the school year. It's going to be *fa la la la la* - fantastic!

**Speaking of music, you won't want to miss the three Advent noontime concerts** at St. Michael's. Each half-hour concert will be followed by a light lunch in the Parish Hall. Please see Hannah Brewer's article elsewhere in this issue for more information.



**A wonderful way to share this season is to bring a new Teddy bear to church on December 2, 9 or 16.** Teddy bears are being collected in preparation for the annual Holiday Party that St. Michael's is hosting for local children in foster care. Teddy bears will be given to the children who attend the December 18th Holiday Party which is sponsored by the Mid-Town branch of the Department of Human Services. St. Michael's volunteers are needed for morning or afternoon time slots to help provide hospitality, kitchen support and cleanup. Please sign up in the Gallery or contact Leslie Sackett, [leslies@stmaa.org](mailto:leslies@stmaa.org).

Wishing all children and their families *a beautiful Advent Season full of hope and joy and a blessed Christmas Season full of love.*

— Leslie Sackett, Associate for Children & Families Ministry

## PIANO DISCOVERY WORKSHOP

On December 15, from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm, Joyful Noise Choir Director Audrey Sackett will hold a *Piano Discovery Workshop* for all grade-school children (K-5). This fun-filled four-hour day of exploration will introduce concepts about music, piano-playing, composition and song. Students of piano as well as children who simply have an interest in music are encouraged to attend! All activities, art and music are designed to challenge and encourage children.

Contact Audrey Sackett at [audrey.sackett@gmail.com](mailto:audrey.sackett@gmail.com) to register. The workshop will take place in the new Children's Music Room in the lower level of St. Michael & All Angels Church. Tuition is \$65; lunch and supplies are included.

— Audrey Sackett

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

**December 2:** All ages (3 – 12) sign up for the Christmas Eve Nativity Play

\* Pre-K – 1<sup>st</sup> grade: Godly Play Story of Advent

\* Grades 2 – 5: Get scripts for Nativity Play & sneak peek at Music Room!

**December 9: Open House for St. Michael's new Children's Music Room** with activities, songs and snacks for kids of all ages

\* Advent Resources on display for parents and families in the Mural Room

**December 16: Nativity Play & Music Rehearsal**, lower level

**December 22: Nativity Play Dress Rehearsal** in Church, 12:00 – 3:00 pm

**December 23: Nativity Play Rehearsal:** All ages in Church, 10:10 am

**December 24: Nativity Players arrive at 3:15 pm**

\* **Children & Family Christmas Eve Service at 4:00 pm!**

**December 30:** Morning services at 7:30, 9 & 11 o'clock

\* No Godly Play or Music Class today.

**January 6: Epiphany!**

Morning services at 7:30, 9:00, and 11:00

\* Celebrate the Season of Light—special visit from the Three Kings at 10:15 am!



**January 13: Feast of**

**Jesus' Baptism** - Morning

services at 7:30, 9, and 11 o'clock

\* Godly Play and Music Class at 10:10 am

**January 19: Family Worship** - Saturday at 4:30 pm, Music-Makers followed by 5:00 pm Family Worship Service and Potluck Dinner!

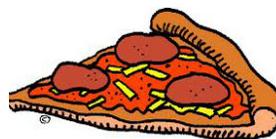
**January 20:** Morning services at 7:30, 9, and 11 o'clock

\* **Godly Play & Music Class** at 10:10 am

**January 27:** Morning services at 7:30, 9, and 11 o'clock

\* **Godly Play & Music Class** at 10:10 am

\* **Annual Parish Meeting** in the church at 3:00 pm



## PIZZA TIME RETURNS!

All 3<sup>rd</sup>- 5<sup>th</sup>-graders are invited to share pizza and games with Assistant Rector Gabe Lamazares on Sunday, December 2, from 5:00-6:30 pm. We'll meet in the Nativity Hall.

**Don't miss it!**

**ST. MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS**  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

1704 NE 43rd Avenue  
Portland, OR 97213-1402

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**CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS**

|                |          |  |
|----------------|----------|--|
| DEC. 2         | 5:00 pm  | Pizza Night for tweens   |
| DEC. 4         | 7:00 pm  | Catechumenate begins   |
| DEC. 5, 12, 19 | Noon     | Advent Concerts  |
| DEC. 7         | 6:00 pm  | Youth 1st Friday   |
| DEC. 8         | 8:00 pm  | Guadalupe celebration  |
| DEC. 9         | 7:00 pm  | Taizé Prayers  |
| DEC. 15        | 9:00 am  | 10 Days of Christmas   |
|                | 10:00 am | Piano Discovery Day  |
|                | 7:00 pm  | Lessons & Carols   |
| DEC. 18        | 10:00 am | Foster kids holiday party  |
| DEC. 20        | 7:00 pm  | Longest Night liturgy  |
| DEC. 21        | 7:00 pm  | Las Posadas  |
| DEC. 24        |          | Christmas Eve services at 4:00 pm<br>(Nativity Play), 6:00 pm, 8:00 pm<br>(in Spanish), and 11:00 pm |
| DEC. 25        |          | Christmas Day liturgy at 10:00 am  |

**TEN DAYS OF CHRISTMAS**



Would you like to spread holiday cheer to those who are in need of a caring thought and gesture? Do you want to wrap presents and put together gift bags? Perhaps you enjoy shopping for small gifts? Or maybe you prefer driving around the neighborhoods to see festive holiday lights and delivering gift bags?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, please join members of the Pastoral Care Committee and put together gift bags on Saturday, December 15, in the Parish Hall from 10:00 am until noon. If you are able, please bring your own tape and scissors. If possible, please bring some small gifts (\$1.00-\$2.50 range). We are hoping to put together 25 gift bags with ten gifts in each bag. All donations are welcome. If you are not able to join us, feel free to drop the gifts off in the church office. Please label the gifts "10 Days of Christmas" so there is no confusion. The gift bags will be given to individuals and families in our church.

If you need additional information, please contact Jonelle Phelps at [Jonelle@spiritone.com](mailto:Jonelle@spiritone.com) or 503/408-1758.

—Jonelle Phelps

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