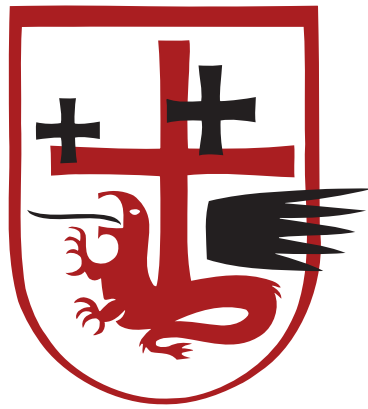


**SAINT  
MICHAEL  
& ALL  
ANGELS**

EPISCOPAL  
CHURCH



**THE  
MESSENGER**

MAILED FEBRUARY 24, 2023

**CONTENTS**

YOUR PRAYERS . . . . . 2  
 OUR RESOURCES . . . . . 2  
 MUSIC PROGRAM . . . . . 2  
 WARDEN OF THE PEOPLE . 3  
 LABYRINTH GUILD . . . . . 3  
 LENTEN BOOK STUDIES . . . 3  
 COLUMBARIUM UPDATE . . 4  
 WELCOMING THE RECTOR 4  
 ADVOCACY ACTION . . . . . 4  
 OUTREACH & JUSTICE . . . . 5  
 COMMUNITY MEALS . . . . . 5  
 CREATION CARE TEAM . . . 5  
 OUTREACH & JUSTICE . . . . 5  
 ADVOCACY ACTION . . . . . 6  
 YOUTH CALENDAR . . . . . 6  
 SHROVE TUESDAY PHOTOS 6  
 BUDGET GRAPH . . . . . 7  
 CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS . . 8  
 LUNCH BUNCH . . . . . 8  
 CALLIGRAPHER NEEDED . . 8

Dear Friends,

Last Thursday, the new vestry met for the first time, with five newly elected members: Lindsay Gutierrez, Ann Hargraves, Sundance Henry, Patrick McLaughlin and Susie Silva-Strommer. Helen Crandell was reelected to serve as Senior Warden. Carl Braginsky was reelected as Junior Warden for Facilities, and Sheri O’Brien was elected People’s Warden. Dave Reilly had already taken over as Treasurer from Daryl Cole, and Becky Tooley as Vestry Clerk, from Marili Reilly.

The transition is in quiet mode at the moment. As I explained in last week’s eblast, the new rector is in a diocese that requires a cleric to leave within 30 days of announcing that they are departing. The plan is that both congregations will make the announcement on the same day, when the time comes. Be patient. God is good – ALL the time!

As I was working on the beginning of the Eucharist for the First Sunday in Lent, a phrase I wanted to include in the Penitential Order leapt out: “You enter the desert to face the hardest truth; we live in self-deception.” We fool ourselves into believing things are different from reality. I think it was Bishop Angus Dun who wrote that Lent is the time to call things by their right names. Sometimes that reality check takes real work on our part.

I will be with you a while longer, at least through Easter, so let us enter our Lenten journey with renewed hope and a mindfulness of the new chapter for St Michael’s/San Miguel that is just around the corner.

Faithfully,

Fr. Sherman

Sherman Hesselgrave, Interim Rector	Ext. 312	Brian Fairbanks, Choir Director	Ext. 315
Roberto Arciniega, Associate Rector	Ext. 316	Hannah Brewer, Music Director/Organist	Ext. 315
Gloria Orellana, Office Administrator	Ext. 317	Leslie Sackett, Associate for Children & Families	Ext. 318
JT Quanbeck, Website & Livestreaming		Manuel Luna, Facilities Assistant	
Jackie Van Anda, Bookkeeper	Ext. 320		

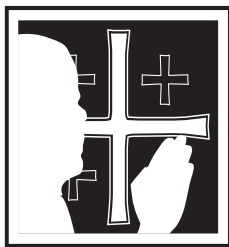
1704 NE 43RD AVENUE / PORTLAND, OR 97213-1402 / PHONE 503/284-7141

[OFFICE@STMAA.ORG](mailto:OFFICE@STMAA.ORG)

[WWW.STMAA.ORG](http://WWW.STMAA.ORG)

## YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED . . .

- + for healing and comfort for **Joe Afryl, Mark Allen, Barack Holt Newton, Mark Jones, Caroline Litzenberger, Joan Meyerhoff, the Rev. David Pace, Jan Plog, Bob Pyle, Melissa Reeves, Lin Robertson, Sarah Rowley and Marlana Stoddard Hayes;**



- + for the repose of the soul of **Dorothy Fisher**, who died on February 19, and for her daughter and son-in-law **Kristina & Matt Kallen** and her grandchildren **Benjamin, Juliet and Nicholas Kallen**. Dorothy's service will be held on Sunday, March 5, at 4:00 pm at St. Michael's.
- + for the repose of the soul of **Shelby Lyn Reilly**, who died on January 20, and for her father and stepmother **Dave & Marili Reilly;**
- + for the repose of the soul of **Jim Reeves**, who died on November 24, 2022, and for his daughter **Melissa;**
- + for the repose of the soul of **Pat Wilson**, who died on November 23, 2022, and for her husband **Gerry** and their three daughters, **Dale, Kim and Sharon;**
- + in thanksgiving for the baptism on January 8 of **Valerie Elise Abshier**, and for her family.

## CONSERVING OUR RESOURCES

We've had some large charges associated with our use of color in the Messenger, bulletins and other publications. As we watch our budget expenses, we'll be using black and white much more. We all love the color, but we love staying under budget even more! We hope to add back in color as the year progresses. This Messenger will be available electronically in full color!

— Gloria Orellana, Associate for Administration

## COME SING WITH THE SAINTS & SINGERS!

This choir is always open for new members. The ability to read music is not required! All that's needed is your voice and a willingness to have fun singing and leading liturgy. We rehearse just once a month, and we sing once or sometimes twice a month, so the commitment is light. Sing music from many different cultures and lands and even in different languages. Rehearsals are always hybrid live/Zoom, so you don't even have to leave your house. For more information, please contact Brian Fairbanks and/or Hannah Brewer.

## MUSIC PROGRAM UPDATES

### HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER & SOUP SUPPER



Our special Lenten musical offering this year will be a prayer service held each Wednesday in March in the Chancel area. This service will temporarily take the place of lay-led Evening Prayer, which will reconvene in April. We will start each Wednesday evening in the Parish Hall with a simple

soup and bread supper at 5:30 pm on March 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29, followed by Holden Evening Prayer at 6:15 pm in the church. This simple supper and sung prayer service will be a way to gather and reflect on a more intimate scale than on Sunday mornings. We will learn to sing the service together, with time for meditation, a quiet prelude from Hannah and some Lenten readings. If you can help with bringing soup one or more weeks, please reach out to Hannah at hannahc-brewer@gmail.com or Gloria at gloriao@stmaa.org.

Holden Evening Prayer is a vespers service written by Marty Haugen during the winter of 1985-1986 while living at Holden Village in the North Cascade Mountains of Washington state. The service is meant to be presented as simply as possible with candlelight, psalmody, readings and canticles led by a cantor and sung by all. It is traditional in form while utilizing contemporary and inclusive language. Join us on Wednesdays in March for a light meal at 5:30 pm and/or our Holden Evening Prayer service at 6:15 pm, finished by 7:00 pm. All are welcome and encouraged to gather in community this Lenten season.

— Hannah Brewer

### THE ST. MICHAEL'S CHORISTERS

The St. Michael's Choristers are now meeting on Sunday mornings, at 10:00 am. We sing in the brief time between the end of the 9:00 am liturgy and Godly Play. We've already sung for Lessons & Carols with the St. Michael's Singers, as well as at the Nativity Play on Christmas Eve. And we just finished a joint project with the St. Michael's Singers, singing Choral Evensong for Candlemas, which commemorates the Presentation of Jesus at the Temple in Jerusalem. Upcoming projects and liturgies include the Palm Sunday procession on April 2 with the Saints & Singers Choir and Maundy Thursday with the St. Michael's Singers on April 6. And of course, Broadway Night in early June!

All young persons in grades K-8 are welcome. Please contact Brian Fairbanks, Leslie Sackett and/or Hannah Brewer for more information.

—Brian Fairbanks

## NEW WARDEN OF THE PEOPLE

Hello, I want to introduce myself as your new Junior Warden of the People. First, I thank Stephanie English for the great job she did last year. I'm confident that with her example, I will definitely succeed.

In a nutshell, I'm here to help, answer questions and give guidance when I can. If you have questions about the vestry, or how things work or where you can help please feel free to contact me. My phone is always on, 503/706-2620. I recently got a new email, which is [Oregon.dollhouse@gmail.com](mailto:Oregon.dollhouse@gmail.com).

### LABYRINTH



In addition, I have been responsible for many years for setting out the canvas labyrinth in the Nativity Hall. The labyrinth has not been

used much as a result of the pandemic; but in the past, it's been a meaningful way for people to meditate and pray while they walk. If you are interested in learning more about our labyrinth or want to be part of the guild to take care of it, please contact Sheri O'Brien at the email or phone number listed above.

— Sheri O'Brien

## LENTEN BOOK STUDY WITH FR. SHERMAN

Fr. Sherman is also offering a small-group Lenten experience. He will be facilitating an in-person, brown-bag book discussion on five Wednesdays, starting on March 1, at 11:00 am at the church. The book he has chosen is the Archbishop of Canterbury's *Lent Book for 2023*, Bishop Emma Ineson's *Failure: What Jesus Said About Sin, Mistakes and Messing Stuff Up*.

In the first chapter, the author quotes Jim McDermott, an associate editor of *America: The Jesuit Review*: "I . . . wonder if a certain sense of failure during Lent is actually a good thing. In part, it reminds us that Lent is not a home renovation show. The primary goal of the season is not self-improvement; we are not here to fix up our own personal backslash. We are trying to open ourselves to a deeper relationship with our friend and savior, Jesus."

It can be purchased for \$11.65 from *The Book Depository* with free shipping. It is also available as a Kindle ebook for \$11.49, and there are a few copies in the office available for purchase. You can sign up on the Welcome Table in the Gallery.

## A BILINGUAL LENTEN STUDY OPPORTUNITY

Whether you speak English or Spanish, here is an intercultural opportunity not to be missed... a bilingual Lenten study group! There is still time to sign up.

Join Padre Beto and Rev. John Scannell, along with Latino members from the 1:00 service and Immigrant Welcoming Congregation Ministry team members, in reading *Encounters with Jesus: Stories of Faith for Lent* (2023). Written by Latino leaders in the Episcopal Church, the daily meditations reflect on stories that "transcend culture and community." For a synopsis and brief video about the book, see [forwardmovement.org](http://forwardmovement.org).

The group will meet from 2:30-3:15 pm after convivio in the Nativity Hall on the first five Sundays of Lent, February 26 through March 26. A few books are available from Gloria Orellana in the office or Padre Beto at [pbettoa@stmaa.org](mailto:pbettoa@stmaa.org). Please contact Bev Hoeffler at [hoefferb@msn.com](mailto:hoefferb@msn.com) to sign up.

## UNA OPORTUNIDAD BILINGÜE DE ESTUDIO PARA LA CUARESMA

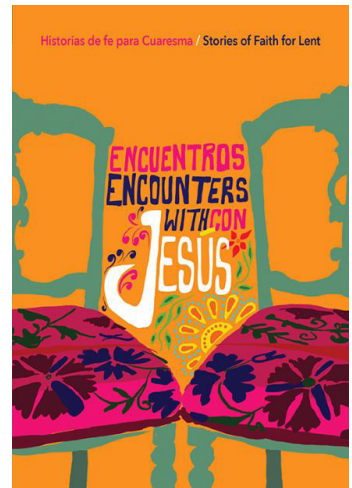
Ya sea que hable inglés o español, esta es una oportunidad intercultural que no debe perderse... ¡un grupo de estudio de Cuaresma bilingüe! Aún hay tiempo para registrarse.

Únase al Padre Beto y al Rev. John Scannell, junto con miembros latinos del servicio de la 1:00pm y miembros del equipo del Ministerio de Bienvenida para Inmigrantes a la Congregación, con la lectura de *Encuentros con Jesús: Historias de fe para la Cuaresma* (2023).

Escritas por líderes latinos en la Iglesia Episcopal, las meditaciones diarias reflejan historias que "trascienden la cultura y la comunidad". Para ver una sinopsis y un breve video sobre el libro, visite [forwardmovement.org](http://forwardmovement.org).

El grupo se reunirá de 2:30pm a 3:15pm en el Salón de la Natividad los primeros cinco domingos de Cuaresma, del 26 de febrero al 26 de marzo. Los libros estarán disponibles en la oficina de Gloria Orellana o Padre Beto en [pbettoa@stmaa.org](mailto:pbettoa@stmaa.org). Póngase en contacto con Bev Hoeffler en [hoefferb@msn.com](mailto:hoefferb@msn.com) para registrarse.

— Bev Hoeffler





## COLUMBARIUM UPDATE

Work continues on the project to remodel and expand the Columbarium areas. The Columbarium is a ministry of the parish to parishioners and members of their families as a repository for the ashes of their loved ones. Funding for the project is coming from the Columbarium Reserve Fund which comes from niche fees and investment earnings.



Parishioner and contractor Brion Kimmel has created a beautiful new door which has been installed at the new entrance to the sacristy. This door was built to match the door to the Chapel on the other side of the Nave. Brion has also filled in the arch near the old door to make room for the new Columbarium cabinet.

The installation of new slate flooring for the Columbarium room, new hallway and the upper level of the sacristy has begun and will be finished this week. The lower sacristy floor appears to have some damage, and we are investigating that so that we can update the rest of the sacristy finishes. The electrician will begin work on new lighting for the hall and some outlets soon. Then all three areas will receive a fresh coat of paint!

— Bob Spiers for the Columbarium Committee

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## WELCOMING THE STRANGER – AKA A BRAND-NEW RECTOR!

We are waiting in hope and joyful expectation for the arrival of St. Michael's new Rector. While we wait, let's put our time to good use and create a "Welcome to St. Michael's and to Portland!" notebook to introduce ourselves to our new brother in Christ and his family.

Everyone across the generations is encouraged to participate! We've put together a simple form with a spot for a picture of your household and a few questions to fill out about what you like and value about St. Michael's. This short questionnaire can be found in upcoming eblasts, and in hard copy at the Welcome Table in the Gallery.

### What this is NOT:

- An extensive personal history of each of our lives and times at St. Michael's

### What this IS:

- A tool to help our new rector put names with all the new faces he will meet
- A way to introduce ourselves and share some of our hopes for the future

## ADVOCACY ACTION

The Advocacy Action Committee continues to bring social-justice and climate-justice actions to the congregation on the second Sunday of each month. We can be found in the Gallery during coffee hour between 10:00 and 11:00 am.

On February 12, the committee asked people to sign letters to the CEOs of Whole Foods and the Sysco Food Distribution Company. The letters asked them to eliminate single-use plastic from their food packaging. Members of the congregation signed the letters and were given a fact sheet on the harm done by single-use plastic as well as ways to cut back on using it. Just some of the ways to reduce use are shown below:

**Clean a river:** Rivers are direct pathways of plastic debris into the ocean. Join a river clean-up or do your own! The river will look better, and benefit its ecosystem and the ocean.

**Shop sustainably:** Next time you are out shopping, choose food with no plastic packaging, carry a reusable bag, buy local products, and refill containers to reduce your plastic waste and effect on the environment.

**Try a zero-waste lifestyle:** Become a zero-waste champion. Invest in sustainable, ocean-friendly products-reusable coffee mugs, water bottles and food wraps. Consider options like bamboo toothbrushes and shampoo bars. These will help you save money and save the ocean too.

**Travel sustainably:** When you are on vacation, try to watch your single-use plastic intake. Refuse miniature bottles in hotel rooms, take your own reusable drinking bottle, and use reef-safe sunscreen without microplastics.

**Be an advocate for change:** Ask your local supermarkets, restaurants and local suppliers to ditch plastic packaging, refuse plastic cutlery and straws, and tell them why. Pressure your local authorities to improve how they manage waste.

Your actions make a difference!

— Cheryl Braginsky

- 
- A sign that we are thinking of him and excited about his imminent arrival

The information you provide will not be published, it is being compiled solely to help the new rector and his family get to know all of us as they transition into a brand-new community – where they will certainly be outnumbered!

Please return completed questionnaires by Monday, March 27. Email Leslie Sackett, [leslies@stmaa.org](mailto:leslies@stmaa.org), or drop off hard copies through the mail slot at the church office.

## OUTREACH & JUSTICE

Our 2022 Advent Giving Tree was a wonderful gift to lots of folks this January. Council members delivered a pick-up load of crucially needed items to *Outside In* downtown. A similarly loaded car delivered school supplies and other needed items to the *Community Transitional School*. A fistful of gift cards was given to the Syrian family trying to find housing, jobs, schooling, and a place within Portland to call home. Our hearts were full of thanksgiving to the parish for its generosity and spirit of welcome to all.

The Council has been discussing a focus for this year, and our thoughts are turning to Native American needs at this time. The Warm Springs Reservation still has pipes that will not carry water, and the Chinook, on whose land we stand, still do not have governmental tribal status and the benefits that would give.

There are so many other needs as well. Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD) is calling attention to the ongoing crisis with earthquake devastation in Syria and Turkey, and World Central Kitchen which is there feeding people. We can send a donation to those organizations and know that it will be put to good use. We will continue to discern prayerfully how to disburse funds this year, with gratitude for the opportunity.

— Lynn Baker & Susan Barnett, co-conveners

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## COMMUNITY MEALS



St. Michael & All Angels' volunteers engaging in the community-outreach meals, Burrito Love and It's In The Bag (IITB) have formed a relationship with both our unsheltered and sheltered food-insecure neighbors. Providing our neighbors with these lunches and building these relationships form trust and demonstrate our commitment to being there through all the seasons.

In February 2023, these two community-outreach meals were selected for a \$3,000 grant from Central Northeast Neighbors. This organization is a coalition of nine neighborhoods which support community and civic engagement. The lunches have met these goals by engaging with a diverse community, promoting the strengthening of relationships, and building resilience through nutrition. This is the second year our grant application has been accepted by this group.

Burrito Love provides burrito lunches on the last Saturday of

## CREATION CARE TEAM

Care for the environment has long been an important concern here at St. Michael & All Angels, and we are continuing our work of being stewards of the environment by establishing a Creation Care Team.

This is in line with the Creation Care Covenant of the National Episcopal Church. In support of the covenant, the General Convention passed a resolution to reach carbon neutrality by 2030. Our diocese also passed a resolution to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030.

In June of 2022, Bishop Akiyama commissioned a Creation Care Working Group to assist the churches of our diocese in addressing the urgent issues of climate change and other creation-care concerns. As a member of the working group, I will be able to bring ideas to the Creation Care Team at St. Michael's.

The work will be two-fold. First, there is the work we need to do here at our facility. The solar panels were a fantastic first step, but there is more to do. As the Creation Care Team gets to work, other projects will emerge.

Second, the Team will provide information to individual members of the congregation to help them achieve carbon neutrality in their homes.

Rather than hold monthly meetings, the team will operate on an as-needed basis. When there is a project to do, the word will go out, and team members can volunteer to get it done. An experienced grant-writer would be a great addition to the team, as would writers, researchers and experienced or willing-to-learn home-improvement specialists. Just fill out the Creation Care sign-up form on the table in the Gallery.

— Cheryl Braginsky

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every month from 11:00 am to 12:00 pm, and IITB happens every Thursday from 12:00 to 1:00 pm. Burrito Love welcomes volunteers from 8:00-10:00 am or 10:00 am to 12:00 noon.

It's in the Bag originally was a way to describe a sack lunch. It now also covers the giving-away of clothes and personal items. There is a small budget to cover the grocery items needed to make sack lunches for about 40 people each week. We appreciate all those who have donated money, clothes, shoes, personal items and taken laundry home to wash. We also thank all the volunteers who have given up their Thursday middays to make sandwiches, fill lunch sacks with goodies, put out clothes, help people shop and then put everything away. Our neighbors really like the home-baked cookies, so interested bakers are also encouraged to contact Sheri or Hjalmer. Donations to these meals can be made through [stmaa.org](http://stmaa.org).

— Hjalmer Lofstrom, [lenabl6769@gmail.com](mailto:lenabl6769@gmail.com) and Sheri O'Brien, [Oregon.dollhouse@gmail.com](mailto:Oregon.dollhouse@gmail.com).



## YOUTH CALENDAR

The youth are keeping active this winter and spring! They are continuing to meet every other Sunday at either St. Michael's or at different churches in the NE Youth Collective, a group of like-minded churches in Northeast Portland. They volunteered with the MOW/WOWs to serve at the Shrove Tuesday pancake supper, as you can see from some of these photos.

**February 26 – 4:00-5:30 pm** – NE Collective Youth Group, field trip to Leaven Housing Assembly – meet at First Unitarian, 1211 SW Main St.

**March 12 – 5:00-6:30 pm** – St. Michael's youth group

**March 26 – 5:00-6:30 pm** – NE Collective youth group – Meet at Fremont United Methodist

**April 16 – 5:00-6:30** – St Michael's youth group

**April 22 (Saturday, most of the day)** Service project with the Diocese, location TBA

**April 30 – 5:00-6:30 pm** – NE Collective youth group – Meet at Augustana Lutheran Church

**May 7 – 5:00-6:30 pm** – St. Michael's youth group

**May 21 – 5:00-6:30 pm** – NE Collective youth group – Meet at Central Lutheran

**June 4 – 5:00-6:30 pm** – St Michael's youth group

A photo of the Diocesan-wide youth retreat in January.



## SHROVE TUESDAY PHOTOS

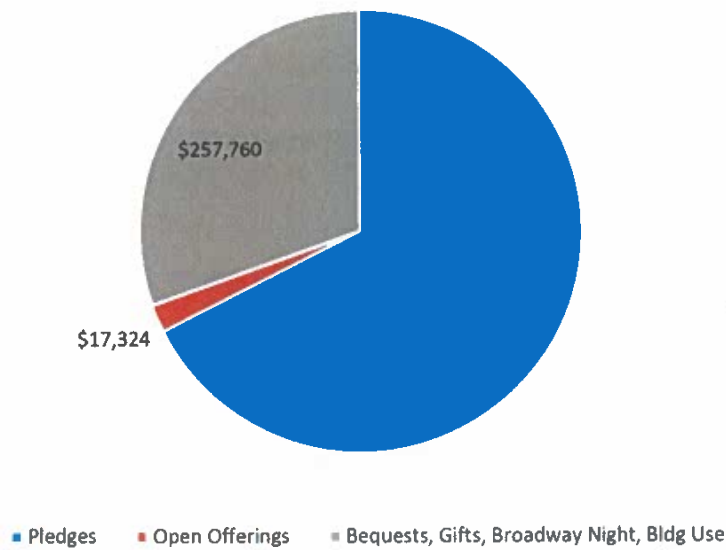
A great time was had by all at our Shrove Tuesday pancake supper! Thank you to all who helped to make it happen, and to all who came and enjoyed delicious pancakes and sausage.



## FINANCIAL GRAPH & UPCOMING FORUM

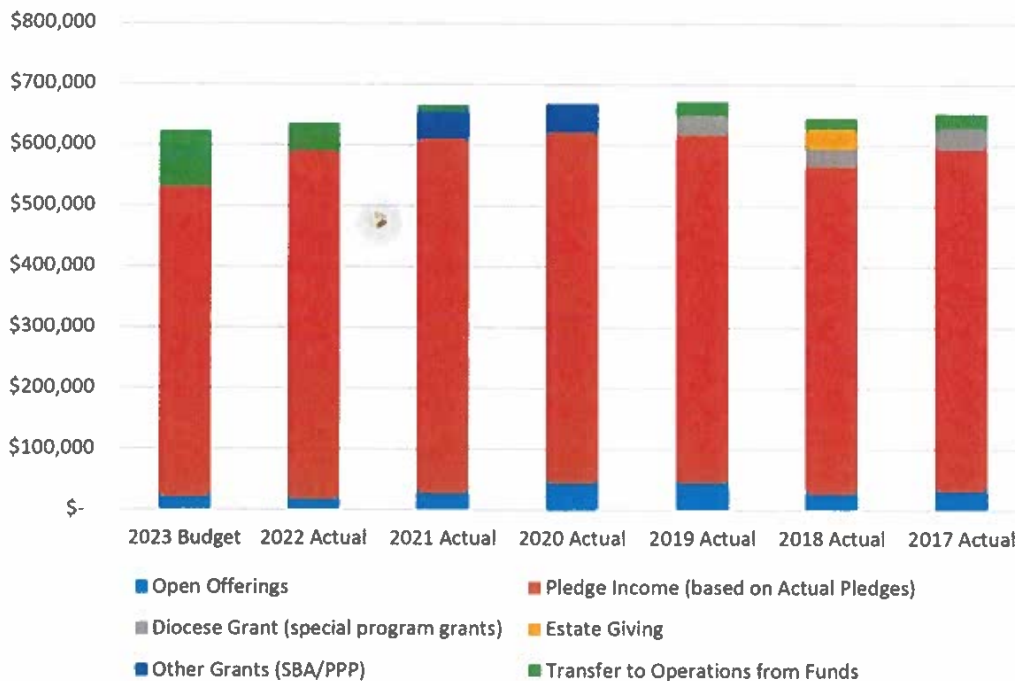
Dave Reilly, our Treasurer for the Vestry, is holding a **forum on Sunday, February 26, at 10:15 am** in the Nativity Hall. He will take this opportunity to answer any questions you might have about the St. Michael's budgeting process and funds management. He will have copies of some of the graphs (such as the one below) and spreadsheets that were shown at the Annual Meeting but which many attending weren't able to see clearly. Please plan to attend and learn more about how your money is distributed and safeguarded.

2022 STMAA Income Derived from Parishioners



This chart shows the total funds parishioners donated to St. Michaels in the form of pledges, open offerings, bequests and special gifts in 2022. The Operating Fund income only includes pledges and open offerings. The bequests and special gifts were donated to the funds, Building, Music, Endowment, Undesignated Bequests, etc. Projects such as the remodeling of the restrooms, security fencing and lighting, roofing, boiler repairs, etc. are undertaken through these Funds.

STMAA Operating Fund Income Components (\$)



ST. MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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Portland, OR 97213-1402

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CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

10:00 am - 5:00 pm, Monday through Thursday,  
9:00 am - 12:00 noon on Fridays  
503/284-7141 or office@stmaa.org.

# THE MESSENGER

## CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

- FEB. 26      **Treasurer's forum**
- Lenten bilingual book study –  
Sundays through Mar. 26 (page 3)**
- MAR. 1      **Simple supper & Evening Prayer –  
Wednesdays through Mar. 29 (page 2)**
- Lenten book study with Sherman –  
Wednesdays through Mar. 29 (page 3)**
- APR. 2      **Palm Sunday**
- APR. 6      **Maundy Thursday**
- APR. 7      **Good Friday**
- APR. 8      **Easter Vigil**
- APR. 9      **Easter Day**
- APR. 23     **Earth Day forum**
- APR. 30     **Cake Auction**

## THE LUNCH BUNCH & OPEN TABLE

You are invited! Something new is happening, and it is called *The Lunch Bunch*. Anyone can come to visit monthly with church members at a chosen restaurant during the noon hour. Dates and times will be in the Sunday bulletin and/or eblast.

*Open Table* is also currently underway. We dine in the evening at popular restaurants around town. Our next night out is March 14 at Farm House Kitchen Thai Restaurant at 6:00 pm. Please contact Paula Raines if you are interested in learning more about or attending either of these gatherings, at psrmelody@comcast.net.

## DO YOU KNOW CALLIGRAPHY?

We're looking for someone who is skilled in calligraphy. The memorial book in the Nave has not been updated for a few years. This book displays the names of people who have donated an item involving a substantial amount of money, time, effort or all three. Are you able to help us? Please contact Sheri O'Brien at Oregon.dollhouse@gmail.com or 503/706-2620.

PLEASE CHECK THE WEEKLY MESSENGER/EBLAST FOR  
MORE INFORMATION ABOUT UPCOMING EVENTS.