

SAINT MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

THE MESSENGER

MAILED FEBRUARY 20, 2020

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Dear Ones,

I picked up a Lenten Devotional from the *Living Compass* table at the recent Rooted in Jesus conference I attended in Atlanta. It's called *Living Well Through Lent: Practicing Courage with All Your Heart, Soul, Strength, and Mind*. I encourage you to download it electronically for free at livingcompass.org/Lent.

Now, I kind of cheated and looked ahead in the devotional. One of the first reflections reads, "The wilderness is always outside our comfort zone and so vulnerability is a given. What is not a given, but is a choice, is whether we will have the courage to stay in the wilderness long enough to learn what it has to teach us." This determined for me that this was the devotional I needed this Lent. While I feel like I have been in the wilderness long enough already, I am only beginning to understand the depths, complexities, gifts and wonders it can offer. This understanding has only come by my willingness to give it time and space in my life. By willingness, I mean forced commitment to it.

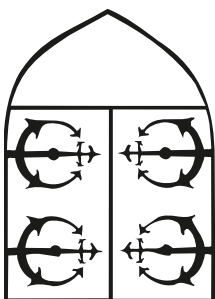
A colleague and friend who serves as a hospice chaplain encouraged me to block off time in my schedule for grief. This proposition seemed ridiculous – how do you plan time for grief? It doesn't seem like something you can plan. It comes when it comes. And yet, how often do we feel grief but are too busy or too exposed to actually pay attention to it? How often do we find ourselves repressing it or putting it aside? If I made room for it, could I pull it off the shelf and sit with it? I didn't think so. Until I did.

During that time, on a random Saturday afternoon in which I didn't have other responsibilities, I just lay on the couch and let myself be still. To my surprise, in the days that followed I felt far more buoyant. My heart and mind were more at peace, and there seemed to be more space in my being to be present. Since then, I have paid more attention to the need to give myself space to be still, to let grief in and even set aside time for it in my week.

As we enter this season of Lent, I encourage you to create the space you need for the feeling that you need to feel. If you are interested in walking together with the Lenten Devotional, I have set up a Google Classroom discussion board. Send me an email (revchristophercraun@gmail.com), and I will extend the invitation for you to join. I would love the company.

Faithfully,

The Rev. Christopher Craun

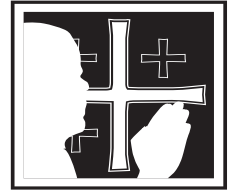


YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED . . .

- + for healing and comfort for **June Gravengaard, Jim Harnage, Georgia Leibowitz, Caroline Litzenberger, David Reichle, Katie Reitel, Katherine Skelton and Pat Wilson.**
- + for the repose of the soul of **Maggie Barnett**, former St. Michael's parishioner, who died in July of 2019.
- + for the repose of the soul of **Margaret Neill**, former parishioner, who died on August 12, 2019.
- + for the repose of the soul of **Ann Schneider**, wife of **The Rev. Stephen Schneider** and former parishioner of St. Michael's, who died on November 6.
- + for the repose of the soul of **John Paul Hastedt**, who died in early December, and for his sister **Priscilla Hastedt.**
- + for the repose of the soul of **Alice Beekman Updike Scannell**, who died on December 9, and for her husband Rector Emeritus **John S. Scannell** and their sons Steven & Andrew.
- + for the repose of the soul of **William Gordon**, who died the week of December 22, and for his daughter and son-in-law **Marion & Jim Robbins.**
- + for the repose of the soul of **Peggy Gulick**, former parishioner, who died on December 20.
- + for the repose of the soul of **Connie Christian**, who died on January 14, and for her significant other **Phillip Blomberg.**
- + for the repose of the soul of **Antonia Montes Rodriguez**, who died on January 19, and for her daughter and son-in-law **Dora Montes & Lorenzo Luna.**
- + for the repose of the soul of **David Donnell**, who died on January 27, and for his wife **Cher** and their children and grandchildren.
- + for the repose of the soul of **John Seidl**, who died on January 28, and for his brother and sister-in-law **Mick Seidl & Jennie Street.**
- + for the repose of the soul of **Ann Filz**, who died on February 18, and for her husband and daughter.
- + for the repose of the soul of **Roberta May**, aunt of **Janet Cowal**, and **Mary Cowal**, sister of **Vince Cowal**, both of whom died recently.

In life we are in the midst of death, O God, and in the presence of your beloved child we see that death cannot separate us from your love. Pour out your spirit of love upon all whom we love, especially those whom we cannot be with or see no longer, that we may find comfort and strength in our trust of your goodness, through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

- + in thanksgiving for the marriage of **Avery Heater & Audrey Sackett** on November 23.
- + in thanksgiving for the marriage of **Julisa Hernández y Victor Balbuena** on November 30.
- + in thanksgiving for the wedding of **Savannah Sheeley & Joanna Pozarycki** on December 16.
- + in thanksgiving for the birth on December 25 of **Isabella Riley Wesson**, and for her parents **Kelley & Khamoan Wesson.**
- + in thanksgiving for the birth on January 18 of **Neve Viola Barnett**, and for her parents **Aaron Barnett & Andrea Lampman Barnett** and brother **Ewan.**
- + in thanksgiving for the birth on January 23 of **Miriam Joy ("Mimi") Braga** and her parents **Tammy Blumhardt Braga and Tom Braga** and sister **Addie.**



SENIOR WARDEN

At the Annual Meeting, we elected and welcomed Martha Pérez, Lynda Moses, Stephanie English and Steve Walton to the St. Michael's Vestry. Please give these folks a pat on the back and a warm thank-you for agreeing to serve in this important capacity. I have agreed to continue to serve as Senior Warden in 2020, and Cliff Fairley is continuing as Junior Warden. Please know that the vestry meeting minutes, along with the monthly financial reports, are posted on the bulletin board outside the Nativity Hall.

The vestry will be meeting in retreat in March to plan our goals for 2020. One item that the vestry has on its agenda for 2020 is a street fair to commemorate St. Michael's 110th year, so mark your calendars for September 12. Joe Afryl has put together a group of folks to plan and organize the fair. This looks like a fun activity that will elevate our visibility among our neighbors. Please give Joe a warm and receptive ear when he asks you for help.

— Dave Reilly, Senior Warden of the Vestry



NEXT MESSENGER

Please note that the next Messenger will be mailed/emailed on Thursday, April 23. The deadline for articles is Monday, April 13. Articles may be emailed as attachments or in the body of an email to glorio@stmaa.org. Please contact Gloria at that address or at 503/284-7141 if you have any questions regarding Messenger submissions.

ASSOCIATE RECTOR

Lent is nearly here—a season of reflection and preparation for the joy of Easter—and I’ve been preparing a few ways for us to pass through this sacred time prayerfully together. Between our new Tuesday night program, our Sunday morning Forums and new weekday times for prayer, I think you’ll find one or two that work for you!



On Tuesday nights through Lent and into the first few weeks of the Easter season, we’re hosting a new program designed to allow us to develop more depth in our relationships with one another and in the understanding we share around our faith. Each week, we’ll gather for part of our time in small-group bible study and check-in, and part of our time in large-group exploration of topics related to our faith and spirituality, bookended at the beginning and end with prayer. This format mirrors our Catechumenate program but offers it over a shorter period of time, allowing folks who have been through the Catechumenate in the past to regroup for more connection.

TREASURER’S REPORT

Hello Friends,

It was great seeing so many of you at the Annual Meeting! In case you weren’t able to be there or read the 2019 Annual Report (more copies are available in the Gallery), here’s a brief summary of how we ended the 2019 fiscal year.

We received \$550,000 in pledges for 2019, and we ended 2019 with close to \$571,000 in pledge income. That means we received more than what was pledged, and as a result we were able to make up for the decreases to staff salaries. Those payments were sent to staff in January.

For 2020, we’ve received pledges in the amount of \$585,000. It’s because of this increase that we’ll be able to increase staff salaries and increase program spending.

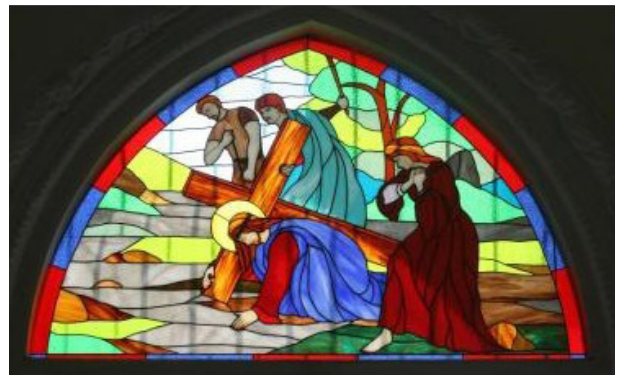
I do not have any financial information from 2020 to pass along quite yet but look for that in the April Messenger. Or, to see the most up-to-date financial reports, check out the Vestry Board outside the Nativity Hall. Gratefully,

— Jeff Swart, Treasurer of the Vestry (outgoing)

Our hope is that these gatherings will give folks who may not be able to make the full commitment to Catechumenate from Advent to Pentecost a taste of what that time together can offer. This time, we’ll be meeting from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm on Tuesday nights from March 3 to April 21. If you’d like to participate in these gatherings, you will find the registration in the eblast, or contact James at jamesj@stmaa.org.

Our Sunday Forums in Lent will explore the ideas of sin and mercy and how we can use each for self-examination and community accountability. We tend to have a very loaded idea of what constitutes sin in our tradition, and for good reason! The classification of sins has a notorious history for being used to dominate and manipulate the faithful with misplaced religious authority. Yet we still hold the idea that there is something good that we pursue in our spiritual lives, and part of that involves discerning which parts of our lives as individuals and communities are worth turning away from.

Through a comparison with how other religious traditions approach this phenomenon, particularly the teachings from Buddhism on the *Five Hindrances*, we’ll look at fresh approaches for how to engage Christianity’s use and misuse of sin. In the process, we’ll develop practices for becoming fountains of God’s mercy in our daily lives. All are welcome in the Nativity Hall each Sunday at 10:15 am from March 1 to March 29.



Finally, my goal during Lent is to make available as many opportunities as possible for community during the week. One of these opportunities will involve praying the Daily Office, but other forms of prayer and possibly a weekly opportunity for Stations of the Cross may be included. I will be planning one or two instructional sessions for anyone who may be new to these practices. The easiest way for me to assess community interest and availability for these times is to respond to the Daily Prayer link in the eblast. I’ll be scheduling the Daily Office based on any time when two or more folks can commit to being present. Even praying with others one other time during the week between Sundays can be a great way to deepen your private prayer practice. Consider whether you might join us for this or any of the other opportunities listed above!

— The Rev. James Joiner

ENDOWMENT FUND UPDATE

St. Michael's Mission Endowment Fund began in 1992 and the first grants were made in 1996. Over the years, many gifts, donations and several bequests, as well as investment earnings, have allowed the principal amount to grow to \$589,195 at the end of 2019. 134 Grants totaling \$208,200 have been awarded from 1996 to 2019. Contributions to the fund totaled \$3,610 for 2019. All contributions to the fund remain invested, and only a portion of the earnings can be used each year.

The purpose of the fund is to enhance the mission of the parish through grants in four areas:

- Scholarships for parishioners for education, training, attending camp or leadership conferences to enable them to grow in Christian faith and service
- Outreach into the community including social service agencies and Episcopal institutions.
- Projects and programs of the Episcopal Church.
- Capital improvements, debt reduction or the building program of St. Michael's.

\$16,325 was awarded in grants approved for the following during in 2019:

- Scholarships to help IWC Team members Beverly Hoefler, Julie Romberg and Anna Zeigler attend Spanish-language training in Cuernavaca.
- Scholarships for youth to attend Latino camp
- Scholarship for Chorister Lucy Shields to attend the RSCM Summer Choir Course.
- Scholarship to assist Rolando Ornelas to continue his studies at PCC.
- Travel expenses for IWC team members to attend Diocesan Convocation meetings to make presentations urging support of the welcoming to immigrants and refugees resolution and upcoming workshops
- The Diocesan Sanctuary Commission for *Offering Sacred Welcome to Immigrants and Refugees* workshops.
- The Building Fund to assist in paying for the red-door project

We invite you to make a gift to the Endowment Fund at any time during the year. Simply designate the purpose of your gift on your check, envelope or with electronic giving.

For more information about the fund or to inquire about a grant application, contact a member of the committee or consult the Fund brochure available outside the Parish Office. Committee members are Dan Bagwell, Kenya Cruz, John Pedisich and Bob Spiers (chair).

— Bob Spiers

INTRODUCING JUDITH MECKLING

Please welcome new associate clergy The Rev. Judith Meckling and her wife Jo Ann Fricker to St. Michael's. In this photo, Jo Ann is on the left and Jude is on the right.

Jude was ordained in the Diocese of Oregon at Christ Church, Lake Oswego, in 1986. She was the first female ordained by a bishop of this diocese (Bishop Ladehoff) and later served as a chaplain at Legacy Good Samaritan Hospital. She recently returned from two decades of caring for her parents in Pennsylvania and 32 years of ministry to enjoy retirement in this beautiful part of God's creation with her wife, Jo Ann Fricker.



Jude grew up in suburban Philadelphia, the oldest daughter of a deaf father and hard-of-hearing mother. The Rev. Gustav Meckling founded The Chapel for the Hard of Hearing, assisted by his wife Jane. This ministry was later merged into All Souls' Church for the Deaf. Jude grew up in this context and has spent her life and ministry seeking to be hospitable and welcoming to all.

In Philadelphia, Jude was asked to lead All Souls' Church for the Deaf in its final years, following her father's ministry 50 years after he retired. She also served in several African/African-American congregations and was active in interfaith ministry. She is a trainer for a project sponsored by The Interfaith Center of Greater Philadelphia and Krista Tippet called *Civil Conversations*.

As a priest, chaplain and spiritual director, Jude has worked in women's health, addiction and recovery, elder care, hospice and with the special-needs community. In Portland, Jude founded the Legacy Domestic Violence Awareness Task Force and was co-founder of Sophia Center, a place for men and women to explore feminine spirituality.

Jude and her new wife, Jo Ann Fricker (first-time marriage for two seniors!), are still settling into their new home in southwest Portland and are delighted to have found a church home at St. Michael's.

MONDAY BOOK GROUP

The Monday Book Group will meet next on Monday, February 24, at 1:00 pm in the Raphael Room to finish discussing *Holy Envy: Finding God in the Faith of Others*. The next book they will read and discuss on March 9 and 23 is Desmond Tutu's *No Future without Forgiveness*. All are welcome!

— Anna Hawley

MUSIC PROGRAM NEWS

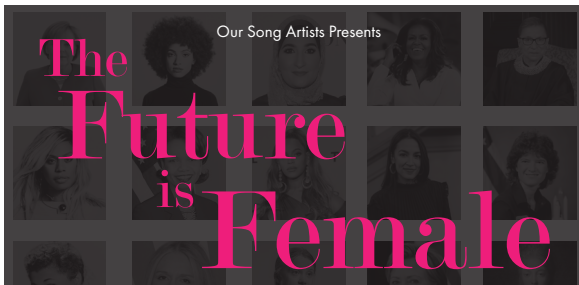
As we wrap up the season of Epiphany and head into Lent, the choirs at St. Michael's are hard at work learning choral anthems by Gibbons, Stainer, Bach, Howells, Casals, Handel, Mozart and many others. Don't forget that all are welcome to our weekly 30-minute, Wednesday-evening prayer service at 6:30 pm, with music led by the youthful St. Michael's Choristers. Meanwhile, here are some upcoming music events at St. Michael's:

Friday & Saturday, February 21 & 22 at 7:00 pm (social hour at 6:00 pm in the Gallery; doors open at 6:30 pm)

Broadway Night fundraiser! This annual entertainment event raises money for our music program so we can fund our paid section leaders, soloists and guest musicians as well as help pay for new music, instrument upkeep and tuning, music licensing and other necessary expenses to keep us legal and thriving. Sadly (and happily), all shows are sold out.

Sunday, March 8, at 7:00 pm

The Future is Female: A concert of early music by, for and about women in celebration of International Women's Day 2020, presented by the nonprofit organization *Our Song Artists*. The concert will feature music by Barbara Strozzi, Elizabeth Jacquet de la Guerre, Hildegard von Bingen, Handel, Vivaldi and more, with sopranos Christine Johnson and Madeline Ross, Baroque cellist/gamba player Adaiha MacAdam-Somer and organist/harpsichordist Hannah Brewer. The suggested donation is \$25.



Saturday, March 28, at 2:00 pm

Cascadia Chamber Ensemble. A concert of piano trios and quartets by Beethoven, Rachmaninoff, and Turina with violinist Elizabeth Doty, violist Leslie Hirsch, cellist Tom Graves and pianist Hannah Brewer. The suggested donation is \$10-15.

CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP

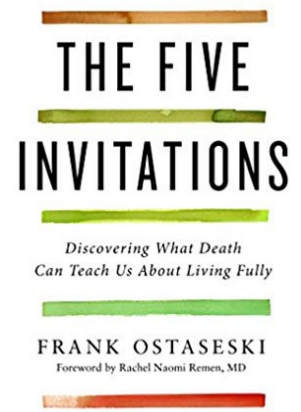
40 million adults in the U.S. identify as caregivers. Caregivers often find themselves overwhelmed, lonely and depressed. If you are a caregiver or know of someone who is, please consider joining us. Our goal is to make the St. Michael's Caregiver Support Group a supportive environment where people can talk about a broad range of issues, where people are accepted and cared for, and where people can learn from each other. The idea is to help people feel less isolated and provide and receive support and encouragement and insight.

LENTEN BOOK STUDY

Join Rector Chris Craun for a five-week book group on Frank Ostaseski's *The Five Invitations*. The group will gather in the Parish Hall on Wednesdays at 12:00 noon. A simple soup lunch will be offered. The dates are: March 4, March 11, March 18, April 1, and April 8.

Death is not waiting for us at the end of a long road. Death is always with us, in the marrow of every passing moment. She is the secret teacher hiding in plain sight, helping us to discover what matters most.

— The Rev. Chris Craun



END OF LIFE WORKSHOP WHAT DEATH TEACHES US ABOUT LIVING LIFE

All are invited to attend this important workshop at St. Michael's on Saturday, March 7, from 8:30 am to 12:00 noon. This workshop will be led by The Rev. Chris Craun and Liz Klein, MD, Deacon Intern.

Death is an inevitable part of life. Have you ever wondered how some people are able to die with the assurance that death is not the final word? Do you have questions about filling out your Advance Directive? Have you ever wondered about palliative care versus hospice care? Do you have questions about the POLST (Provider Orders for Life-Sustaining Treatment) form? Do you have questions about your own funeral?

We will discuss end-of-life spirituality, beliefs, hopes and fears. We will review hospice care and palliative care, advance directives and POLST forms, and we will discuss planning your funeral service. These are gifts that only you can give your family and loved ones. Come join us to discuss these topics and much more. Please register by sending an email to eklein13@yahoo.com Blessings,

— Liz Klein

The group is meeting on the third Sunday of the month at 12:00 noon in the Raphael Room. We met in January and February and discussed self-care and resiliency. Our next gathering is March 15, and anyone interested is welcome, whether or not you've attended previous gatherings.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact Liz Klein, Deacon Intern, or the Rev James Joiner, and please contact Liz at eklein13@yahoo.com if you plan to attend. She is providing food for those who attend, so please let me know about food allergies as well. Blessings,

Liz Klein, MD, Deacon Intern

ADVOCACY ACTION TEAM UPDATES

Do you believe you can make a difference in these tumultuous times? The Advocacy Action Team believes we can, and we want to make it easier for you to have your voice heard. Last year, we collected 100 or more signatures every month at our Second Sunday Table, letting our elected officials know how we felt about upcoming legislation and many hot-button issues. At our February table, we made available a letter to Representatives Blumenauer and Bonamici in support of House Resolution 2407, *Promoting Human Rights for Palestinian Children*. We also



keep an eye on the Episcopal Policy Network to bring you actions that are important to the national Episcopal Church. This year we will be focusing on ways we can help to “Get Out the Vote.”

Keep in mind that we are always open to your ideas for actions. Feel free to join us for lively discussions on the fourth Wednesday at 7:00 pm, or talk to co-chairs Cheryl Braginsky (cherylsky5@gmail.com) or Marili Reilly (cascademarili@gmail.com).

— Marili Reilly

IWC NEWS

The Immigrant Welcoming Congregation (IWC) team held its annual retreat in January. We reviewed our successes and challenges from the past year, and we outlined goals we would like to accomplish in the coming year. One of the items that emerged during the retreat is the recognition that more can be done to increase the dialog between the English- and Spanish-language services.



To help facilitate that dialog, the IWC is putting together a *Different Expressions One Community* initiative. Look for a Forum this spring that will explore the differences between the Spanish- and English-language services – spoiler alert, it is more than just language. For four Sundays following the Forum, there will be structured opportunities for English-speakers to explore a Spanish-language service and vice-versa. We hope to emphasize that, although we have different means of expression, we are all one Body of Christ.

— Dave Reilly for the IWC

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

GETTING READY FOR OUR LENTEN JOURNEY!

Shrove Tuesday, February 25

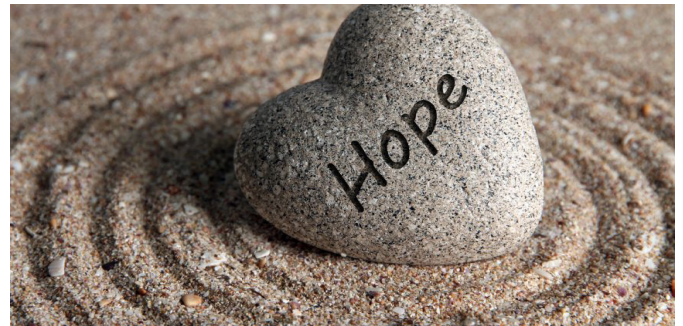
Bring your whole gang for a delicious Pancake Supper (5:30 -7:30 pm) as we celebrate “Fat Tuesday” in grand Mardi Gras style! We’ll enjoy food, music, games for kids and plenty of time to enjoy being with friends and family! St. Michael’s Youth Group is hosting this year’s supper with all proceeds going to support their mission trip to Puerto Rico this summer.

Ash Wednesday, February 26

Ash Wednesday liturgies at 7:00 am, 12:00 noon and 7:00 pm (bilingual and with full choir). Childcare for young children will be offered at the noon and 7:00 pm services.

Take-home Lenten Resources for families are available the first Sunday in Lent, March 1st.

Children and parents can stop by the Mural Room to pick up their Lenten bags after the 9 and 11 o'clock liturgies. We are very happy to save you a bag if you are unable to attend church on March 1. We look forward to sharing this sacred journey with all the children and families at St. Michael’s.



Music Makers & Family Worship on Saturday, March 21, at 4:30 pm

Join the circle of families with young children as we gather in the Nativity Hall to sing and pray together in ways that engage our hearts and minds and bodies. We love to have friends and grandparents take part in this lively worship experience with us. A potluck dinner follows in the Parish Hall.

Godly Play at 10:10 am for grades pre-K through fifth

Two beautiful classrooms and wonderful teachers await St. Michael’s young students every Sunday morning at 10:10 am. Classrooms are located on the lower level around the corner from the big mural. During the season of Lent, the stories focus on Jesus’ life and ministry, his death and resurrection. The stories are thoughtfully crafted and very compelling. The narrative is also completely age-appropriate for young children.

Questions about Baptism? Please contact Leslie Sackett at leslies@stmaa.org. The next dates on the church calendar for Holy Baptism are Easter Sunday, April 12, and the Feast of Pentecost, May 31.

— Leslie Sackett, Associate for Ministry with Children & Families

SHROVE TUESDAY & ASH WEDNESDAY

All are welcome on February 25, from 5:30 to 7:30 pm, for a delicious Shrove Tuesday pancake supper. This year's supper is hosted by and benefitting the St. Michael's Youth Group, which is going to Puerto Rico for the mission trip this summer. Children's activities will be available in the Nativity Hall. Prices are \$5 for adults, \$3 for children and \$13 for families.

On February 26, services for Ash Wednesday—all with the imposition of ashes—will be at 7:00 am, 12:00 noon and 7:00 pm. The evening service is bilingual, with music led by the St. Michael's Singers. Childcare will be available for both the noon and 7:00 pm services. The labyrinth will also be available to walk all day in the Nativity Hall.

110TH ANNIVERSARY BLOCK PARTY

On September 12, 2020, St. Michael's will celebrate its 110th anniversary with a multicultural afternoon of fun, laughter and fellowship. This special event will include children's activities, entertainment for all ages, food and surprises!

Because we know big celebrations require planning, we even have a committee. But we can't do it without YOU. To make the planning as fun as the day itself, the Block Party Committee has divided the event into smaller areas, including children's activities (games, bounce house, etc.); entertainment (bands, comedians, etc.); food and beverages (both those given out and sold); contact with local businesses; and marketing of the event with the community and parish.

We know you have talent and passion in these areas. Come join one of these sub-committees, or volunteer your services, or just plain tell us your ideas. What a wonderful way to work together, strengthening our bonds as members of this great parish and being a visible example of love and, yes, fun!

St. Michael's is going to be 110! That deserves a grand celebration. Contact any member of the committee to talk about how you can help: Joe Afryl, Edith Arriaga-Flores, Lynda Garner, Nicolás Meneses Peña, Mick Seidl and Tim Shields.

— Joe Afryl, Co-chair, afryl@aol.com, 651/2600-1921

LEARN TO SPEAK SPANISH

AUGUST 1-15, 2020

Are you ready to learn to speak Spanish? Or, maybe you have studied Spanish previously but want to improve your conversation or grammar skills? Here is your opportunity!

Registrations are now being accepted for the annual Diocese of Oregon's Spanish-language immersion program in Cuernavaca, Mexico. The language program will be held from August 1-15, 2020, at the Anglican Diocesan Center in Cuernavaca and is a joint venture of the Diocese of Cuernavaca and the Diocese of Oregon. All levels are welcome—from those with very little or no Spanish to more advanced students.

A FUN OPPORTUNITY TO SING!

One of the things I love about St. Michael's is the music. Hannah, Brian, Tito, Fabian and all of the gifted singers and musicians fill the sanctuary with beautiful melodies every Sunday. I also love how many people in the pews join in. This community loves to sing!

During the Christmas season, Fabian and I had the pleasure of joining another community that loves to sing – The Portland Intergenerational Choir. The choir uses choral singing as a way of connecting people across generations to provide fun and low-pressure opportunities to sing together. You don't need to be a professional. You just need to love to sing!

If you've always wanted to sing in a choir, but you're not quite ready to sing on Sundays here at church, I encourage you to check out this group. They meet every Monday at 6:00 pm at Pacifica Calaroga Terrace in the Chapel. You can contact Amy Vanacore, the conductor, at vivace88@gmail.com or through www.portlandintergenerationalchoir.com. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask me!

— The Rev. Matthew David Morris

This program is open for up to 18 people from the Diocese of Oregon and neighboring dioceses who will be accommodated on a first-come, first-served basis. The group will stay at the Diocesan Center in Cuernavaca, which has been described as "a modest and friendly place." In addition to grammar and conversation classes Monday through Friday, there will be visits to a variety of religious and cultural sites, including nearby villages. Daily Morning Prayer and Compline, said in Spanish and in community, will provide additional opportunities for speaking, praying and singing with newly acquired language skills. Cost for the course is \$2,200 per person which includes tuition for the language program, airport transfers in Mexico, shared lodging and most meals.



For more information, please contact Deacon Marla McGarry-Lawrence at mmcgarrylawrence@gmail.com or 503/803-0028. To register, please contact Tracy Esguerra at tracye@diocese-oregon.org or call 971/204-4101. For further details, you're also welcome to pick up a brochure on the slat-wood board in the Gallery.

— The Rev. Marla McGarry-Lawrence

ST. MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

- FEB. 21-22 **Broadway Night**
- FEB. 25 **Shrove Tuesday pancake supper**
- FEB. 26 **Ash Wednesday – services at 7:00
am, 12:00 noon & 7:00 pm**
- MAR. 1 **Lenten Sunday Forums begin**
- MAR. 3 **James' Lenten Bible & faith study
gatherings begin**
- MAR. 4 **Chris' Lenten book study begins**
- MAR. 7 **End-of-Life seminar**
- MAR. 8 ***The Future is Female* concert**
- MAR. 9 **Taizé Prayer Service**
- MAR. 21 **Music Makers & Family Worship**
- MAR. 28 **Cascadia Chamber Ensemble concert**
- APR. 5 **Palm Sunday; Holy Week begins**

PLEASE CHECK THE BULLETIN, EBLAST, WWW.-
STMAA.ORG & DISPLAYS IN THE GALLERY FOR
MORE INFORMATION ABOUT UPCOMING EVENTS.

TAIZÉ PRAYER SERVICE IN LENT

All are welcome for this quiet, reflective prayer service which happens on the second Monday of each month at 7:00 pm in the church. Taizé Prayers uses the chants and prayers of the Taizé Community, an ecumenical monastic community in France. Following the reading of a psalm and a Gospel passage, a period of silence is kept for reflection, usually about five to ten minutes. Surrounding the time is the music of the Taizé Community, led by several musicians, in the form of simple chants and songs.

The theme for the March Taizé Prayers is, *Nothing can separate us from the love of God!* This affirmation of trust in God's forgiveness calls us to turn to God in repentance and renewal and to focus again on the promise of New Life in the Risen Christ.

The April 13 Taizé Prayer Service, falling on the Monday of Easter week, is another opportunity to proclaim the joy of the Resurrection. The theme of this month's service is *Easter Resurrection – joy and surprise*. God's surprise of Easter morning and the empty tomb call us to sing out the very Good News. The Risen Christ calls us to be open to the many surprises of God's abundant love. The Taizé songs and prayers can be part of that joy.

— The Rev. David Perry, associate clergy