

THE TRUMPET

St. Michael's of the Valley...making an eternal difference in each other's lives and in the world

St. Michael's of the Valley Episcopal Church, PO Box 336, Ligonier, PA 15658

Phone: 724-238-9411 Church office hrs. Monday – Friday 9 AM until noon

July, 2023

Dear Friends at St. Michael's,

Congratulations on the call of a new Rector! Such an exciting time for you after a year of discerning and searching.

It was wonderful to spend 6-7 months with you as the Interim Rector getting to know the Vestry, staff, and Wednesday congregation. The Vestry and I have done a lot of work to normalize life and plan for the future while God did the work of finding Marjorie, your new rector.

As much as everyone is excited, it is important to remember that things will be changing again, and Marjorie will look to you for support. Great things are going to be born, and sometimes beloved traditions will fade away to make room for the new.

I often remind people that when the former rector leaves, he/she mourns alone, while the congregation has each other to mourn with together. Now when your new rector arrives, there is a good chance that she too will be mourning for a while, even as she rejoices in her new call. Thank you to everyone who has welcomed me, worshiped with me, and enjoyed tea or lunch with me. Blessings on this new start. I will still be here two more times, celebrating the mid-week Eucharist on July 12 and 26, and would love to see you before I leave. As for me, I'm planning to go back to retirement, doing some supply work and enjoying my travel business. I will pray for you and your exciting new ministry.

Last month someone asked me if I could write something about the Book of Common Prayer (BCP). But felt it more important to address the receiving of Communion. I hope you find the following interesting:

When I was a curate, the Bishop used to come to our local clergy meetings once a quarter. He posited to us that he thought part of the decline in our numbers had a lot to do with the lack of knowledge about our own church, leading to a lack of identity with our tradition. He asked how many of us taught church history, liturgy, or polity to new members as opposed to a three-hour class on "the church" - not one single hand went up. . . shame on us. He challenged us to develop curriculum that included more than what jobs needed to be filled in the parish or where the Sunday School was located. Of course, after three years of seminary I was inspired by my Bishop. I did what he asked and wrote a twelve-week class that met for 2 hours each week.

In the class on history, I talked about the various editions of the BCP through the years. Separately, in the class on the 1979 BCP, the one we use today, I started at the beginning and went through to the end. The week before the BCP class I gave everyone a Prayer Book along with a scavenger hunt for finding unique items in the book. Whoever got the most answers right got a prize. I encouraged the class to talk to each other and cheat, of course I had enough prizes. Here are some of the questions, see how many you know. All answers are found in the BCP, and at the end of this edition of the Trumpet.

1. Who's feast day falls on July 17?
2. Many people don't know that Episcopalians have two forms of the Rite of Reconciliation (confession) What page do they start on?
3. The Sacraments are placed in the BCP in the order in which they are usually celebrated in life. True or False
4. Where does it tell you that you may stand or kneel for the Consecration?
5. How many Psalms are in the BCP
6. Where does it say that a priest may deny someone the Eucharist and why?
7. Who are the ministers of the Church?
8. What was the date of Easter in 1916? How about March 1913? The latest possible date and the earliest. (cont.)
9. Where do you find the instruction to take care of your family's "well-being" and make "a will, and disposal of temporal goods?"
10. Where can you find the scripture readings listed for Proper 9, the Sunday closest to July 6?

I hope you found something new about our Book of Common Prayer. One of the things I like most about worship at St. Michael's is the use of our beautiful Prayer Book. It has been handed down to us since 1449. There have been many different updates and adjustments, and I'm sure there are more to come. We are blessed to have such a beautiful book to pray from.

In the peace of Christ
Cat+

NOTE FROM SR. WARDEN NANCY ROST

Many thanks to all who joined Bishop Ketlen at services on Sunday, June 18th, with special thanks to the Vestry for hosting coffee hour and punch on the porch. The Bishop enjoyed meeting many of you all during her visit.

Please mark your calendars! **Sunday, August 6th** will be our new rector **Rev. Marjorie Bevan's** first Sunday at St. Michael's. I encourage everyone to come to church and welcome her in person.



ST. MICHAEL'S CALLS A NEW RECTOR

The Very Reverend Marjorie Bevens is the kind of person you would be happy to meet and chat with at the Giant Eagle or in any other community setting. She is approachable, personable, and clearly interested in you as a child of God.

A native of northern Virginia's horse country, she is a graduate of the University of Virginia (where she majored in philosophy) and the Anglo-Catholic Nashotah House seminary. She also studied law which led to a career in the title insurance business before her call to the ministry in the late 90s. She has been an ordained Episcopal priest for 22 years, serving several parishes in the Richmond area and for the last 12 years as Rector of Good Shepherd Episcopal Church in Parkersburg, West Virginia. (An interesting aside is that she did missionary work among the Inuit in Alaska.) Marjorie is theologically conservative, Christ-centered and very well versed in and focused on scripture. She embraces the traditional liturgy of the Book of Common Prayer. She believes teaching scripture-based theology is her principal calling. She spent the summer of 2022 in England at Oxford studying Christian Apologetics. She is keenly interested in children and young people and feels they have a strong, but unsatisfied, yearning for the life of faith and the spirit. She feels there are several ways to foster a deeper knowledge of God and community, including such things as small home groups and a Theology Pub where young adults can meet to learn about Christ's teaching in a casual setting. Music is another way to reach out with special services for the young and offerings such as Taizé which is a prayerful form of music. She even uses her love of the outdoors as she did when she started a West Virginia chapter of "Holy Hikes", a ministry of hiking and celebrating the eucharist in beautiful places.

Marjorie places high value on pastoral care as well as community participation by her church. At her previous parish, Marjorie led parish involvement in a variety of important community support activities; for example, collaborating with town officials in establishing a Neighborhood Youth Academy, a community garden, and allowing Narcotics Anonymous to meet at the church.

One of Marjorie's principal interests outside of her priestly duties is all forms of church and classical music. She has a trained choral voice and she told us that it was the Anglican musical tradition that drew her to the Episcopal Church in the first place. Her favorite pastimes are horseback riding and enjoying the outdoors. In fact, as a young priest, she served as chaplain to the owners, jockeys, and trainers at the local racetrack. Now she likes to hike and works out several days a week. Her husband, Bruce, is also an Episcopal priest. He serves two small congregations in West Virginia.

REPORT ON JUNE 19th VESTRY MEETING

The Vestry met by Zoom on Monday evening, June 19. In addition to the usual business of approving the financial reports and the minutes of the May Vestry meeting, it was noted that a finalized agreement between St. Michael's of the Valley and the Wood Bridge Preschool has been signed. It was reported with regret that Mr. Mac Fiddner has resigned from the Vestry as he is moving away. Mr. William N. Ferguson was elected to fill Mr. Fiddner's unexpired term which will end in December 2025. Since the Very Reverend Marjorie Bevans has answered the call to serve as our Rector of St. Michael's, Nancy Rost made a motion to decommission the Discernment Committee and thank all the members for their good work, especially lauding Jinny Tuscano for her exemplary leadership. In other matters, the Vestry has decided to acquire name tags for parishioners to help us remember each other's names and to make life easier for Rev. Bevans as she gets to know us. Sean Murphy reported on the Buildings and Grounds Committee's work regarding painting, redoing various bathrooms and freshening the Rector's office which has not been updated in many years. He also noted that a new Sexton will begin mid-July.

THANK YOU FROM RETIRED ORGANIST MARION SUKANOVICH

Thank you to everyone for the gifts and picnic that was organized in honor of my retirement after 16 years as organist/choir director for St. Michaels. Special thanks to Cate Pollina for organizing the picnic. Thanks to everyone who helped with the picnic and for all the gifts I received. Absolutely love the Musical Angel and the beautiful flowers. The day could not have been more perfect and I appreciate each and every one of you.

SUMMER WORSHIP HOURS

St. Michael's summer service hours began Sunday, June 4th and will remain as follows until Sunday, September 3rd.

Rite I ~ 8 AM
Rite II ~ 10:00 AM

Community Worship one combined service to worship together on the following dates:

Sunday, July 9th ~ 9 AM
Sunday, August 13th ~ 9 AM
Let's get together and be one congregation!

SCHEDULE OF SERVERS FOR JULY

Sunday, July 2nd ~ 8 AM

Lay Reader: Mary Walton Whittemore
Usher:

Sunday, July 2nd ~ 10 AM

Lay Reader: Pilar Herr
Usher: Andy Herr

Sunday, July 9th ~ one combined service @ 9 AM

Lay Reader: Joe Moravec
Usher: Rex Ashbrook

Sunday, July 16, 2023 ~ 8 AM

Lay Reader: Lisa Laskow
Usher: *still needed*

Sunday, July 16, 2023 ~ 10 AM

Lay Reader: Cindy Pompelia
Usher: Mick Pompelia

Sunday, July 23rd ~ 8 AM

Lay Reader: Lisa Frederick
Usher: Joe Frederick

Sunday, July 23rd ~ 10 AM

Lay Reader: Janet Seifert
Usher: Rex Ashbrook

Sunday, July 30th ~ 8 AM

Lay Reader: Jan Carlin
Usher: Joe Frederick

Sunday, July 30th ~ 10 AM

Lay Reader: Laura Fisher
Usher: Carl Campbell

SUNDAY SCHOOL REBOOT

To our Parents,

The Vestry of St. Michael's is keen to resume the Sunday School program this fall, but we need your help. We will be reaching out to parents whom we hope might be interested in Sunday School and would be willing to give us some input on what they would like, what would fit in their lives, and what are their primary concerns. To that end, the Vestry is hosting a Zoom call on the evening of July 10th at 7:00 PM. Even if your children are grown, we hope you might be willing to participate to let us know what worked or didn't work for you.

Please call the church office Monday thru Friday from 9 AM until noon and let us know if you would like to participate

Thank you,

Lisa Laskow



Altar Flowers

OPEN ALTAR FLOWER MEMORIAL DATES

The following dates are available for anyone wishing to have altar flowers in memory or honor of someone on Sunday morning.

July 16th, August 6th and August 27th.

The cost is \$55.00/Sunday. If you are interested, please call the church office to secure the date you wish.

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR JULY and AUGUST

Sunday, July 2nd

First Reading: Genesis 22:1-14

Psalm 13

Second Reading: Romans 6:12-23

Gospel: Matthew 10:40-42

Supply Minister: Rev. Regis Smolko

Sunday, July 9th

First Reading: Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49,
58-67

Psalm 45:11-18

Second Reading: Romans 7:15-25a

Gospel: Matthew 11:16-19 25-30

Supply Minister: Rev. Regis Smolko

Sunday, July 16th

First Reading: Genesis 25:19-34

Psalm 119:105-112

Second Reading: Romans 8:1-11

Gospel: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

Supply Minister: Rev. Jerry Nuernberger

Sunday, July 23rd

First Reading: Genesis 28:10-19a

Psalm 139:1-11, 22-23

Second Reading: Romans 8:12-25

Gospel: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Supply Minister: Rev. Regis Smolko

Sunday, July 30th

First Reading: Genesis 29:15-28

Psalm 128

Second Reading: Romans 8:26-39

Gospel: Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

Supply Minister: Rev. Jerry Nuernberger

Sunday, August 6th

Exodus 34:29-35

Psalm 99

Second Reading: 2 Peter 1:13-21

Gospel: Luke 9:28-36

Sunday, August 13th

First Reading: Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28

Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b

Second Reading: Romans 10:5-15

Gospel: Matthew 14:22-33

Sunday, August 20th

First Reading: Genesis 45:1-15

Psalm: 133

Second Reading: Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

Gospel: Matthew 15:10-20, 21-28

Sunday, August 27th

First Reading: Exodus 1:8-2:10

Psalm 124

Second Reading: Romans 12:1-8

Gospel: Matthew 16:13-20

ORDER OF ST. LUKE 2023

Some of you may be unaware that St. Michael's has resumed our Holy Eucharist and Healing service which our Interim Rector Catherine (Cat) Munz offers 2 times a month. The next services are scheduled for:

Wednesday July 12 at 10 am
Wednesday July 26 at 10 am

Present at these services are members of the ORDER OF ST LUKE HEALING MINISTRY. The members of Order of St. Luke (OSL) have taken an in-depth study of the 26 individual healing encounters that Jesus performed as recorded in the gospels. OSL is a multid denominational Christian organization which uses the scriptures as our guide for healing ministry and his instructions to the seventy-two as he sends them out in Luke 10:9 to "heal the sick who are there and tell them, the kingdom of God is near you". In their healing ministries, the disciples often use oil to anoint the sick. The anointing with consecrated oil in the name of Christ is the sacrament of unction. OSL members use oil that has been consecrated by the bishop. The Order of St. Luke provides a method by which properly trained laity can perform this rite with dignity, confidentiality, sensitivity, and compassion to the benefit of the church and to the glory of God.

The Mission of OSL:

OSL empowers God's people throughout the world with Jesus' healing ministry.

OSL does this by:

- . Training people in the healing ministry of Jesus
- . Learning to pray for others
- . Providing opportunities to experience the healing power of Jesus
- . Empowering members to confidentially pray for anyone, anywhere, anytime in the name of Jesus.

We as members of the Order of St. Luke do not do the healing directly. God does the healing through the power of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. OSL members are intercessors-we are merely a vehicle or vessel through which Jesus heals.

We invite those who want prayer for themselves or for others, to come to the rear of the church (the narthex) during communion at the second service. These prayer requests are completely Confidential: they are not discussed with other OSL members, the parish, or other people without the requestor's permission. If you don't feel comfortable coming to the narthex on Sunday or can't come to the healing service, then ask one of our members for private prayer. Our current OSL team consists of Dave and Peggy Vale and Ann Woodall.



**THINK BACKPACKS!
IT'S ALMOST JULY AND TIME
TO THINK ABOUT
“THE ANNUAL TNA BACKPACK PROJECT”**



For more than twenty years St. Michael’s has been filling backpacks for the students of The Neighborhood Academy. Four years ago, St. Andrew’s, Highland Park, Pittsburgh, joined us in providing filled backpacks, since the enrollment at TNA has grown to 171 students. **This year the TNA Backpack Project begins on Sunday, July 23 and continues through August 6. On July 23rd and 30th backpacks will be available for pickup after both services at the Smith House. Also, backpacks will be available in the church office from 9AM - 12 noon July 24 to July 31. Please call Belva to check availability. Filled backpacks are to be returned to Smith House by Sunday, August 6, or to the church office between 9 AM and 12 noon by Friday, August 4.**

There are several ways that you can participate in this project. If you are able, please consider filling more than one backpack. The Outreach Commission will fill a bag for you, if you are unable to shop. The cost is \$30.00. Please call the church office with your request by July 24, and then send a check to the church office payable to St. Michael’s of the Valley, attention Debbie Stouffer, the financial secretary. Some parishioners may want to donate some school supplies from the Backpack Project List, instead of filling a bag. The drop-off box for the supplies will be in the front hall of Smith House beginning July 23rd.

Our goal is to fill **86 bags** by **Sunday, August 6** with the following items:

- 1 “Three Ring Binder” (1 ½ or 2 inch)
- 1 Package of Ruled Binder Paper (approx. 300 sheets)
- 1 Package of Binder Subject Dividers
- Pens and Pencils
- 2 yellow highlighters
- 1 Pack Index Cards (100 3x5”)
- 3 Report Pocket Folders
- 2 “Five Subject” College Lined Spiral Notebooks
- Personal Note of Encouragement

Thank you for your support and generosity. The students at The Neighborhood Academy really appreciate your gift. Please call Anne Bush at 724-493-5902, if you have questions.



AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

St. Michael’s is hosting a Red Cross Blood Drive on Wednesday, August 23rd in the Parish Hall from 1 – 6 PM.

Mark your calendars!



FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP

On a rainy Monday, June 12, several parishioners helped pass out The Fresh Express food from the Westmoreland County Food Bank to over 60 families. “Fresh Express” arrived in the St. Michael’s parking lot in mid-afternoon as Peggy and Dave Vale, Ann Woodall, Muriel Wilders, Lynn Beck, Lisa Laskow and several friends of Ann’s and Lisa’s as well as several members of Heritage United Methodist Church waited to hand out the prepared bags and boxes of fresh food and meats, snacks and treats to our friends and neighbors who are part of the program. Luckily, the rain held off for the two hours we worked!



Ann Woodall Fresh Express Volunteer



Pictured from left to right are Muriel Wilders and Peggy Vale of St. Michael’s and Shirley Nipps from Heritage Church.



Kim Payne presenting Joi Anthony-Gray the 2023 St. Michael’s of the Valley Kimberly J. Payne scholarship.

THE NEIGHBORHOOD ACADEMY ST. MICHAEL’S 2023 SCHOLARSHIP RECEIPT

Joi Anthony-Gray is this year’s 2023 St. Michael’s of the Valley Kimberly J. Payne scholarship winner for the Neighborhood Academy.

Joi will attend the University of Pittsburgh. She will be a pre-med major with aspirations of becoming a surgeon. She was also one of the three finalists in the Senior Seminar Research Presentations. She is an Academy Ambassador doing tours and events representing the student population. For the past two years, she has had a summer internship with the Hillman Academy through the Hillman Cancer Center. Congratulations and best wishes to Joi on all her future endeavors.

UPDATE FROM ANNI KENYON

Time in the States and Ministry Partner Development:

It has been a joy being home and getting the chance to reconnect and share about how God has been working in Austria. I have been able to speak at several churches as well as with current and new ministry partners and new churches. I have been thankful for each and every opportunity that has been graciously given to me to share.

Besides support-raising, I was able to finish the Perspectives' course and other trainings required with the transition over to Long-Term. In addition, I finished up some projects for English Camp this summer and was able to help with my home church's VBS (Vacation Bible School) program doing recreation and supervising the skit, which was really fun.

My time home has looked a little bit different than I was anticipating as I've been working through some health issues and working on giving my body the space and time to heal (gut healing & autonomic system resets take a while), but this has prompted a lot of thinking about rest and what good rest looks like. This includes what does it look like to work well so that I can in turn rest well and vice versa.

Support Update:

Despite those unexpected hurdles, God has been really faithful in this time. And it has been a pleasure to partner with so many of you. Over the past two months as even **THIS WEEK**, there have been *new financial partners* that joined in addition to **many current partners who have continued or even increased their regular giving!**

So right now I am currently at **48% of my monthly budget!** There is only **52% left** to raise in the *next 1.5 months*, so that I can return to the field at the end of August/beginning of September.

If around 25 individuals/families gave *an average* of \$100/month, my monthly budget would be reached. **Would you be one of those 25 people?**

As long as I know a gift is regularly coming in (*yearly, quarterly, monthly*), I can count this towards my monthly goal. So, **if you are planning on giving, but haven't started yet**, would you let me know by replying to my email (anni.kenyon@efca.org), how much you are planning to give? Verbal commitments for intended support are included in my calculations and allow me to keep my numbers up-to-date.

If you have any questions regarding this transition, I would love to answer them. Shoot me an email, text, or message and I will get back to you as soon as I can.

Things to Lift Up (Prayer Requests):

- **English Camps** - The team is in the final stages of preparation for camps! US Staff arrive and training begins on July 4th and the first week of camp begins on the 9th. Pray for *the final preparations and details to come together*, for **a final US (native speaker) guy counselor to be found**, and that God would be preparing both the campers and the staff.
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- **Health** - Thank you for your prayers; I have seen significant improvement in the last months, which is really encouraging. There is still a ways to go as I wait for my body to heal, so *pray for endurance, patience, and continued healing*.
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- **Discipleship Programs**
 - Bootcamp (a teen/high-school discipleship program):
 - Praise that the *girls have been sharing their faith* and what they have been learning **with their churches, classes, and friends**. It has been really cool to hear their stories and opportunities.
 - Pray for the final weeks as we come to the end of this first section.
- **Lighthouse & Innsbruck Ministries** -
 - Pray for the final weeks of the school year ministries that they would be able to finish strong at the end of the month.
 - Pray for the middle school and high school youth groups in Innsbruck; There are quite a few leaders who cannot continue this upcoming year and replacements are needed.
- **Ministry partnership development (support raising process)** -
 - Pray that *full-support would come in quickly* so that I can book tickets and make plans for returning by my hoped for departure (end of August/beginning of September)
 - Pray for strength, wisdom, and endurance during this process and that I will be able to continue to connect with individuals and churches interesting in partnering to support the work being done in Austria.
 - Praise for many new opportunities with new ministry partners as well as new churches that I have been able to contact and speak with.
- **How can I be praying for you?** I would be love to be able to pray for specific requests; shoot me an email here: anni.kenyon@efca.org

Thanks to Alec Mellon for the pictures from the Bishop's visit



BCP answers from page 1

1. William White, Bishop of Pennsylvania, 1816
2. Page 447
3. True, although not everyone will be married or ordained
4. Rite I, both prayers, and Rite II, in Prayers A, B, and D, after the *Sanctus* (Holy, holy, holy). In Prayer C the line is left out of the prayer assuming everyone will be standing.
5. 150
6. Disciplinary Rubrics on page 409
7. Lay persons, bishops, priests, and deacons *note the order, page 855 in the Catechism
8. April 23 and March 23 find on pages 882 and 883. There are other years that have the same dates, but not many.
9. In the section of the BCP for the Thanksgiving of a child pg 445
10. Page 897 in the Sunday Lectionary