

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

May, 2023

Not just your ordinary Vestry.

Mid-April the Vestry and I went on a vestry retreat. Why we call it a “retreat” is beyond me. I have been on many vestry retreats and there is absolutely no retreating on the retreat. In fact, the vestry works darn hard. I always walk away tired, but so happy to have had time to get to know people better, and even more so here at St. Michael's.

St. Michael's of the Valley, you should know that your vestry is one of the most dedicated group of leaders I have had the pleasure of working with. On our first night, as we ate a beautifully prepared dinner, we laughed a lot as we told lies and truths about ourselves and kept each other guessing which was which. Then we looked at areas of parish life that vestry members could liaison with, and boost ministry.

It was clear to everyone that being together, as a congregation, is the most important thing to be done at this time. Covid, Jim's retirement, along with some key ministry leader's departure, has taken a toll on community life. The vestry recognized the gap, and rose to the occasion by reinstating coffee hour, hooray! People need to gather together. To get it going, they signed themselves up to host! They will need your support to keep it going.

The next morning after a stunning breakfast, they again got right to work. “What are we going to do about this” and “what about that?” Everyone was hands on, we even had one zooming in from sunny Florida! There is a report elsewhere in this newsletter on all the work that was done.

What you need to know, is that the vestry is a gift from God. I sincerely believe that God calls the right people, at the right time, in the right place, for the right reasons - and it was evident in the work of these vestry members. Look for more initiatives coming soon.

Next time you see a vestry member, thank him or her, and ask how you can be more involved. Many hands not only make light work, but they also build up the community.

Blessings on St. Michael's this Easter season.

Cat+

SR. WARDEN ~ NANCY ROST

Albert Einstein said, “The measure of intelligence is the ability to change.” We at St. Michael’s must be approaching genius status by now! After all the changes we have experienced over the past few years, we find that we face yet one more.

Marion Sukanovich, our organist, has decided to retire after 16 years ‘on the bench’. We will celebrate Marion and her service to St. Michael’s at our ‘school’ yearend picnic on Sunday, May 21st after the 10:30 AM service. Please sign up on the sign-up sheet at the back of the church or on the bulletin in the Smith House or contact Cate Pollina (814-243-0642) or cateandsam@me.com). The church will be providing BBQ chicken and pork, drinks and buns. Families are asked to bring two dishes and individuals are asked to bring one. Please indicate on the list the dish you are bringing so others know.

We wish Marion the very best with her new found freedom, but hope to find her in the pews with her St. Michael’s friends.

Enjoy the May flowers and all of God’s Spring bounty.

UPDATE FROM THE DISCERNMENT COMMITTEE

Dear Parish Family,

The discernment committee has had a very busy month. In the last four weeks we have reviewed candidate applications, held Zoom interviews, contacted references and are about to enter the final stages of our search which is to meet with each candidate face to face. The last steps in our process will be to conduct a parish visit if appropriate and to begin a thorough background check.

Please keep the committee, and those who are discerning a call to St. Michael’s in your prayers; that the Holy Spirit would continue to be our Comforter, Teacher and Guide throughout the process.

God is good and His mercy endures forever.

NOTES:

Departed: Sam Off passed away Monday, April 17th

Pattie and Jeff Jones wish to thank everyone for the prayers for their daughter Jamie.
She is recovering well.

GREAT NEWS! THE COMMON CUP IS BACK! PRAISE GOD!

“After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, “Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

The Common Cup is back! Praise God!



Starting May 7, the first Sunday in May, we will be using the Common Cup again! So many have missed sharing the ONE cup.

We have been asked to sip only, those who used to “dip” or intinct now have a couple of choices. You may begin to drink from the cup, or you may simply take the cup, hold it in front of you and the Eucharistic Minister will say the words “The blood of Christ, the cup of salvation.”

Over the years I have tried to convince people to sip from the Common Cup because it is more sanitary. As Covid receded and the Cup was reintroduced. The Church decided to eliminate the possibility of finger tips and fingernails from being in the cup. It’s hard to feel the drop of wine when our fingers tips or nails brush against it.

I hope you’ll take the opportunity to taste the Blood of the new Covenant as we have for hundreds of years.

Cat+

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY:

Look around this Sunday, do you know everyone’s name? Name tags would be a great way to learn names, especially for visitors, and visiting clergy, and the new Rector. It’s an easy ministry to start - let any member of the vestry know if you are interested.

Did you know that our staff Belva, Debbie, Rick, and Marion - if you added up all their years at St. Michael’s it would be over 50 years?

What is your definition of “outreach?” Besides the people/organizations that are listed in the Annual Report, wouldn’t you count the 60+/- children who are in Wood Bridge Preschool? There are also requests for help from people in the community who need boost, that’s outreach too. . . St. Michael’s does a lot of good in the Ligonier community, tell someone outside the parish. People like to know how the local church supports them.

Chat with someone you don’t know well at coffee hour. Isn’t it nice to have a coffee hour!



SPECIAL THANKS



Special thanks to Mike Ledgard who has managed St. Michael's webpage and Facebook page since Jim Simons retired. We very much appreciate your willingness to take on that responsibility.

Mike is now handing the torch to Julie Follansbee who will now manage the webpage and Facebook account for St. Michael's. We very much appreciate Julie's willingness to share her time and talents and take on this responsibility.

Special thanks also to Mick Pompelia for organizing the garbage pick along Rt. 381 in front of the church and to his helpers David Vale and Ann Woodall.

The next clean-up will be in the fall, watch for the date to be announced and consider signing up to help.

HOLY EUCHARIST & HEALING PRAYER SERVICE DATES

Wednesday, May 10th, 10 AM
Wednesday, May 24th, 10 AM
Wednesday, June 7th, 10 AM
Wednesday, June 21st, 10 AM
Wednesday, July 12th, 10 AM
Wednesday, July 26th, 10 AM

SCHEDULE OF SERVERS FOR MAY

May 7th, 8 AM
Bobbie Off
Joe Frederick

May 14th, 8 AM
Lisa Laskow
Joe Frederick

May 21st, 8 AM
Jan Carlin
still needed

May 28th, 8 AM
Lisa Laskow
still needed

May 7th, 10:30 AM
Elizabeth Elin
Rex Ashbrook

May 14th, 10:30 AM
still needed
Carl Campbell

May 21st, 10:30 AM
Pilar Herr
Andy Herr

May 28th, 10:30 AM
Laura Fisher
Rex Ashbrook

COFFEE HOUR SCHEDULE

Coffee Hour is every Sunday after the 10:30 AM service. Following is the schedule for the month of May. Please think about signing up to host a coffee hour in May or in June when we move to punch on the porch.

Sunday, May 7th ~ Janet Shrum and Peggy Vale

Sunday, May 14th ~ Ellen Walton & Mary Whittemore

Sunday, May 21st ~ no coffee hour ~ Picnic after 10:30 AM service

Sunday, May 28th ~ *still needed*

LAY READERS AND USHERS NEEDED

We are in need of Lay Readers and Ushers for both the 8 and 10:30 AM services. If you have an interest in either, please call the church office Monday thru Friday from 9 AM until noon. There is training available for anyone interested.

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR MAY

May 7th

First Reading: Acts 7:55-60

Psalm: 31:1-5, 15-16

Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:2-10

Gospel: John 14:1-14

May 14th

First Reading: Acts 17:22-31

Psalm: 66:7-18

Second Reading: 1 Peter 3:13-22

Gospel: John 14:15-21

May 21st

First Reading: Acts 1:6-14

Psalm: 68:1-10, 33-36

Second Reading: 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

Gospel: John 17:1-11

May 28th - Day of Pentecost

First Reading: Acts 2:1-21

Psalm: 104: 25-35, 37

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13

Gospel: John 7:37-39



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. The cost is \$55.00/Sunday.

The open dates are as follows: Sunday, May 14th, Sunday, June 11th and Sunday, June 25th. If you are interested, please call the church office to secure the date you wish.

MORNING DELIGHT RECIPE

1 cup brown sugar

½ cup melted butter or margarine

7 cups stale bread-cubed

6 eggs

2 cups milk

1 TBSP. vanilla

Optional: Blueberries, apples, pears or other soft fruit

Put brown sugar in a 9 x 13 pan. Pour melted butter on top and stir to mix. Spread evenly on the bottom of the pan. Layer bread cubes on top. Sprinkle with optional ingredients if desired. Mix eggs, milk and vanilla together. Pour over bread.

Cover and refrigerate overnight. Bake at 350 degrees for 40 to 45 minutes.

Sprinkle powdered sugar over the top if you want to be fancy!