

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

October, 2023



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The evenings are getting cooler, and the leaves of some trees are beginning to turn. Bright yellow and purple fall flowers dot the fields. Families are home from summer vacation and the children have returned to school. The days are becoming shorter. I don't know why I love this time of the year, but I do.

In addition to the beauty of God's Creation, we have been gifted with these changing seasons of the year. Just about the time we have had enough with the heat of summer, of cutting grass, and watering the landscaping, we receive a break. Air conditioners have quit humming and the sounds of nature now come through our open windows. It is a refreshing time of the year.

So, many of us are getting used to a new seasonal routine, including here at the church. The later service has moved to 10:30 a.m. and a nice group of people have been attending the adult Sunday School time. Representatives from some of the mission work and outreach ministries we support will be joining us on Sunday mornings through the end of October. If you have not yet joined us at 9:15 a.m. on Sunday morning, I hope you will. It's an enjoyable fellowship.

Here are some other things coming up this October. "Bible and Prayer time: with the pre-schoolers at Wood Bridge will begin the first week of October. If you are a fox hunter, I've been invited to Bless the Hunt on Saturday, October 7th for the Rolling Rock Hunt. The Blessing of the Animals will be held on Sunday, October 8th at 1:00 p.m. in Mellon Park. The new pastor from St. James Evangelical Lutheran Church will be joining me to lead the blessing. Families who have school-aged children will be invited to join me for a 'Holy Hike' and picnic sometime later in October.

I've really enjoyed being here and getting to meet so many of you. Sunday mornings are the highlight of the week for me. God has richly blessed us in so many ways. I'm praying He will continue to do so, and we can hope to welcome new families to St. Michael's.

Faithfully,

Marjorie+

Marjorie+

SCHEDULE OF SERVERS FOR OCTOBER

Sunday, October 1st ~ 8 AM
Lay Reader: Mary Walton Whittemore
Usher: Joe Frederick

Sunday, October 1st ~ 10:30 AM
Lay Reader: Sean Murphy
Usher: Carl Campbell

Sunday, October 8th ~ 8 AM
Lay Reader: Joe Moravec
Usher: Ray Speicher

Sunday, October 8th ~ 10:30 AM
Lay Reader: Cindy Pompelia
Usher: Mick Pompelia

Sunday, October 15th ~ 8 AM
Lay Reader: Lisa Laskow
Usher: Jim Beck

Sunday, October 15th ~ 10:30 AM
Lay Reader: Janet Seifert
Usher: Rex Ashbrook

Sunday, October 22nd ~ 8 AM
Lay Reader: Joe Moravec
Usher: Joe Frederick

Sunday, October 22nd ~ 10:30 AM
Lay Reader: Laura Fisher
Usher: ***still needed***

Sunday, October 29th ~ 8 AM
Lay Reader: Bobbie Off
Usher: Cole Frederick

Sunday, October 29th ~ 10:30 AM
Lay Reader: ***still needed***
Usher: Carl Campbell



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.

October 8, October 15th, November 26th. The cost is \$55.00/Sunday.

If you are interested, please call the church office to secure the date you wish.

USHERS AND LAY READERS NEEDED

St. Michael's is in need of Ushers and Lay Readers for services. If you are interested in helping out being a Lay Reader or an Usher for either the 8 AM or 10:30 AM service please call the church office and let us know.

TRUMPET ARTICLES

We are returning to preparing the monthly Trumpet newsletters. Articles will be due by the 15th of every month for publication in the first of the month newsletter. Please email articles by the 15th of every month to office@stmichaelsligonier.org.

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR OCTOBER

Sunday, October 1st

First Reading: Genesis 28:10-17

Psalm 103:19-22

Second Reading: Revelation 12:7-12

Gospel: John 1:47-51

Sunday, October 8th

First Reading: Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20

Psalm 19

Second Reading: Philippians 3:4b-14

Gospel: Matthew 21:33-46

Sunday, October 15th

First Reading: Exodus 32:1-14

Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23

Second Reading: Philippians 4:1-9

Gospel: Matthew 22:1-14

Sunday, October 22nd

First Reading: Exodus 33:12-23

Psalm 99

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Gospel: Matthew 22:15-22

Sunday, October 29th

First Reading: Deuteronomy 34:1-12

Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

Gospel: Matthew 22:34-46

REPORT ON THE AUGUST 28TH VESTRY MEETING

The Vestry met by Zoom on Monday evening, August 28. Nancy Rost was recovering from Covid but was feeling better. As usual the financial reports and the Minutes of the July Vestry meeting were approved. Rev. Bevans was then authorized to obtain signing authority for our various bank accounts and for Fidelity. She noted that she has been reaching out to parents and young adults and looks forward to meeting more and more parishioners. The name tags are a big help! Janet Seifert suggested the parish organize small dinners for Marjorie and Bruce to help them get to know us. If you are interested in hosting or just participating, let Janet know at 724-290-5181 or email her at jrnks1@verizon.net

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. The interior of Smith House has been repainted. The exterior and the steeple will be painted soon. Old books in the book room have been removed and the sorting of items in the Choir loft is underway. He noted that our new Sexton, Darrin Testa, is busy, engaged and working hard to learn the ropes for taking care of the church campus and the grounds. He is doing a great job so far. (Stop by and introduce yourself if you are in the area).

Cindy Purnell reported that the cleaning and repair of the reredos (that's the area behind the altar) is finished. She also noted that we need a new editor for the Trumpet. Don't be shy. Give the office a call if you would like to help with this important ministry.

Lisa Laskow noted that the Cemetery (which is separate from the church) is raising money for a maintenance fund to take care of the Cemetery in the future as well as take care of some current issues including road repairs, drainage issues and landscaping.

THE BOOK ROOM

Since St. Michael's has not had a fair in recent years, and the Book Room is filled with thousands of interesting books on many subjects. If you are interested in finding new books to read at a very reasonable price, stop by the Book Room during the week. The Book Room will be open daily 9-12, Monday through Friday. Just stop in the office and let the secretary know that you are going downstairs.

Hardback Books - \$2.00
Paperbacks - \$.50
Trade size paperbacks (larger) - \$1.00
Children's books - \$.25
Pamphlets, etc. -\$.10

PLEASE DO NOT BRING BOOKS TO THE BOOK ROOM. ST. MICHAEL'S IS NOT ACCEPTING BOOKS AT THIS TIME.

AN UPDATE FROM THE ALTAR GUILD DIRECTOR

Many of you may hear the term “reredos” and wonder “just what is that”? The altar is where the sacrament of Holy Communion is carried out and the reredos is the decorated wall immediately behind it. Some churches may have biblical scenes or statues of apostles and saints. At St. Michael’s we have three panels with the Lord’s Prayer, The Ten Commandments and The Nicene Creed written in gold leaf on a creamy background. They were given in memory of T. Howe Nimick by his family in 1950.

Over the years this area has become discolored and in need of a deep cleaning. Because of the gold leaf lettering, the cleaning procedure involves more than just washing the area and as a result, requires the expertise of restoration artists.

After consulting with Elias Painting of Johnstown, restoration artists Michelle McLoota and Marko Au were engaged to complete the work.

The following steps were taken:

- Assessment of the gold leaf lettering
 - In testing it was discovered that the letters were oil-gilded which determined the proper cleaning products to use.
- Cleansing and restoration of the panels
 - Utilizing specialized cleaning products, the letters and the background were gently wiped removing the dirt and soot.
 - This process was done three to four times on all panels.
- Preparation of the area around the panels for painting
 - Any gaps or holes were filled in to ensure a smooth surface
- Painting and Preservation
 - Using small brushes and rollers, Michelle meticulously painted around the panels restoring the area to its original color.
 - A clear protective coat was applied to the panels for preservation and ease of cleaning.

A dedicated fund has been established to cover the initial cost of the project as well as the continued maintenance and beautification of the altar and reredos.

Cindy Purnell
Altar Director

THE NEIGHBORHOOD ACADEMY BACKPACK PROJECT

The Neighborhood Academy very much appreciated the backpacks that were supplied to them at the beginning of their school year by St. Michael's and St. Andrews who collectively supplied backpacks for 171 students. Thanks to everyone who bought supplies for the backpacks or made a financial contribution which greatly contributed to the success of the project.



UPDATE FROM ANNIE KENYON

Ready, Set, Go!

Greetings! We did it! As you are reading this, I will most likely be in transit to Innsbruck. Thank you all so much for your love, support, and encouragement over the last months; We were able to get that last 17% with enough time to buy tickets getting me back to the field on the 21st and able to be there for our team's annual retreat where we do our yearly planning and strategizing for future!

The last two weeks have been really crazy in getting all the final logistics and details in places, but it has all come together. This included details like a shuttle from the airport, signing up for electricity in my apartment, many forms, and others. Once in Innsbruck, I have a busy weekend, but the following week will be a time for me to settle in and set up my apartment. Then I will be jumping into ministries, so I'll be sharing more specifics on those next newsletter.

Prayer Requests:

- Pray for safe travels for me as I fly to Munich and then take a shuttle/taxi to Innsbruck.
- Pray for jet-lag that I will adjust quick and that I settle back into life in Innsbruck easily.
- Pray for wisdom in discerning the best use of my time and which programs that I need to be a part of this school year.
- Pray for our weekend that we would be able to use our time well, tackle big questions, and plan well for the future.
- Pray for ministries (youth groups, Royal Rangers, and others) starting up this week and next week. Pray that they will start strong and that that the youth and necessary volunteers will attend.

And as always, if you have any prayer requests that I can be praying for you, I would love to pray for you in specifics.



YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED

TO BRING YOUR PET

TO

THE BLESSINGS OF THE PETS

MELLON PARK, LIGONIER, PA
(next to Giant Eagle)

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8th, 2023 @ 1:00 p.m.

SPONSORED BY:

ST. MICHAELS OF THE VALLEY EPISCOPAL CHURCH AND
ST. JAMES EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A good-will offering will be taken to benefit local animal shelters.