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The Sword



Your weekly connection with St. Michael's Episcopal Church

30 August 2012

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Ministry Quicklinks
Our Website

Did You Know?

...we have 80 children in the Children's Ministries

Some Upcoming Events:

(Details about these and other events may be found in this newsletter or future newsletters. A more comprehensive list of upcoming events may be found at the end of the newsletter.)

+Wednesday Evening Series Continues, 5 September....*read more below*

+Sunday, 9 September 9:00 a.m. Service Blessing of the Back Packs!....*read more below*

+Please Remember the Change in Schedule, Sunday, 9 September 2012:

- 7:45 a.m. Service
- 9:00 a.m. Service
- 10:45 a.m. Service

Listening

Pastoral letter from the Rector

Dear People of St. Michael's,

On a Sunday in early June, Ali Pepper briefly shared her personal odyssey and reflections about being welcomed (or not) and later welcoming others (or not) into the campus ministry at her university.

program ages 3 years through 5th grade?

Anniversaries This Week

Birthdays

- 9.2 Gus Chapdelaine,
9.3 Kathleen Blair,
Dolores Duncan
9.4 Colin Smith,
Malyssa Semcken
9.5 Sheryl Romer,
Jennifer Lekai, Rollo
Nesset, Tony
Poidomani
9.7 Michelle
Lanham, Raj Mullick
9.8 Heather Davis

Anniversaries

- 9.2 Janet & Craig
Anderson
9.3 Frank Cesario &
Sophia Ts'o
9.4 Mary & John
Nicol, Hayley &
Mark Eissler
9.5 Katy & David
Pepper, B. Rae &
David Buckley, Jodi
& Bob Sundeen
9.6 Roxelyn &
Richard Pepper
9.7 Colleen & Dean
Maire
9.8 Jerry & Robyn
Seyffert

Rest in Peace

- 9.2 Roy Ziegler
9.6 Howard Johnson,
Adelaide Hunker
9.8 Helen Robinson,
Carmen Gazzola,
Francis Kenney

A few Sundays later, Art Kinney spoke of hanging onto family connections for dear life - even when the people in question no longer look like the 'family' they once were.

Other members of St. Michael's have shared their stories on other summer Sundays. They conveyed the feel and rewards of taking part in our worship over the long haul. They told us what motivated their part on mission trips. They connected financial stewardship to personal faith and to mission. They raised our appreciation for the care for our buildings and grounds. And more.

These short personal moments were the 'Ministry Spotlights' that we added to our summer worship this year, mainly in response to two themes that parishioners have consistently expressed as a priority since I became your rector 18 months ago.

The first of those themes is *connection and reconnection among members*. The second theme is *diminishing the overall, cumulative parish focus on the rector*. In addition to addressing various specific ministries or realms of our faith, those who shared their stories during the Ministry Spotlight series:

- allowed us to connect names and faces;
- broadened our sense of ministry leadership at St. Michael's; and
- welcomed us to become more personally involved in specific ministries.

Everything I've just explained about the Ministry Spotlights this summer also explains why, over the next few months, you'll hear less from me as the primary author of this weekly pastoral letter in the *Sword* in order to allow others to 'let their lights shine.'

In case you have any doubts or suspicions: I love writing this letter! And I still believe in the importance of a rector's newsletter contributions. (In fact, as an illustration of my reluctance to let go, I'll be writing next week's letter.) But I believe the overall well-being and mission of St. Michael's will be better served by my sharing this particular venue; and I wanted to both give you some advance notice of a pending change and explain the basis for it.

Feel free to share your thoughts about this and/or other communications matters with me and/or with our Communications Coordinator and *Sword* editor, Nerissa Brueckbauer.

- *Patrick* +

In the Parish family

+Those for whom prayers have been requested:

Kim; Bridget & Jim; Brian; Megan; Abby; John; Jack; Linda & Clark; Rick; Jennifer; Cynthia; Andie; Jeff; J.D; Gary; Terry; Lee; Mary; Bishop Joseph, Roda, Michele & Grace; Amy; Wauconda-Island Lake Food Pantry; military troops in danger including those

from our parish, especially, Silas, Zane, Robert, Ryan, Michael, Bruce, Arielle, Taylor, Tim and Jake.

+**Megan Yerger**, a Freshman at Lake Zurich High School, has made the Varsity Cheerleading Squad! Congratulations, Megan!

+Our sincerest gratitude to **Bryan and Christy Cressey** for their wonderful hospitality once again this year and hosting the parish picnic! Not only did they host the picnic, they opened their home to the many, the wet, the muddy given the less than perfect weather conditions. **We are so grateful, Bryan and Christy. Thank you!** If you wish to drop Christy and Bryan Cressey a personal thank you note, their home address can be found in your parish directory or by calling the church office.

+You will be seeing some new young faces serving as acolytes in the coming weeks and months. Please take a moment to thank these young people for their ministry. New acolytes in the coming weeks: **Jillian Smith, Campbell Mears, Emma Bishop, Grace Raymond, Owen Raymond and Jackson Paris.**



We continue to offer up our Hands for Haiti!

After last week's wonderful ingathering, please accept this gentle reminder that it is still not too late to contribute to the Mission Trip to Haiti. Financial Donations and School Supplies are still needed.

We are delighted to announce that **we collected \$1,215 towards our financial goal of \$3,275!** We are at about **37% of our goal.** Please prayerfully consider if you can help us reach 100% of this goal.

We are still accepting school supplies, and we will do so until the 9th of September.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES:

Crayola crayons (24 count box) - many boxes (other brands are okay)
 Spiral-bound notebooks (single subject)
 Construction paper
 Preschool writing paper (it's like newsprint with lines)
 Loose-leaf paper (wide rule)
 White glue (not glue sticks)
 1/3rd cut file folders - two or more boxes
 Chalkboard erasers (not chalk=that is actually available in Haiti)
 Blue / black / red pens
 Wood pencils - many boxes (St. Marc's uses 1500 pencils per year)

Pencil sharpeners (either individual or larger for classroom use)
 Erasers
 Markers (many-color packs) for the teachers
 Stickers - "star" stickers and reward stickers in French (English is okay)
 Power strips for the computer lab

Renk Ministry Partnership Meeting and News

RMP Meeting, Thursday, 30 August, 7:00 -9:00 p.m., St. Michael's Conference Room. Open meeting -- all are welcome! Contact Jackie Kraus, 847-381-5518, for information.

Bishop Joseph Garang Atem - Travel Diary:

When one travels from South Sudan to the U.S., particularly from Renk to Chicago, one has to allow several weeks BEFORE even reaching the security line in Jomo Kenyatta Airport, Nairobi, Kenya. Why is that, you ask? During the rainy season the road from Renk is impassable by vehicle (and this is the rainy season). MAF (Mission Aviation Fellowship) flies, at great risk, to Renk with medicine for the clinic there, giving a lift to the very sick needing care in Juba, and the occasional Church official in need of transport to Juba on their way to the U.S. (The MAF Juba office is located on Episcopal Church of Sudan (ECS) property.)

Bishop Joseph departed Aug. 28 from Renk, aboard an MAF flight, the weather cooperating. He is now in Juba, capital of S. Sudan, where he awaits another flight to Nairobi for his visa appointment at the American Embassy, scheduled for Sept. 11. He will wait there until he learns when the visa will be available (assuming it will be granted), and wait again until Oct. 10 when his flight departs from Jomo Kenyatta Airport, and the 18-hour flight, through Istanbul, to Chicago.



Little Red Wagon in September

The Wauconda-Island Lake Food Pantry is a blend of two adjoining towns with area churches supplying the volunteers to serve those in need. The pantry is open six mornings a week and

RMP will follow Bishop Joseph on his journey to Chicago with weekly updates. While he waits, he will meet with humanitarian aid agencies to advocate for his people in Renk Diocese, for the refugees in desperate need of care. He will network on behalf of Renk Theological College with potential partners. RTC is affiliated with St. Paul's Theological Seminary, Limuru, Kenya, from which 3 RTC students most recently graduated with their masters degrees and returned to teach at RTC.

Bishop Joseph's schedule in Chicago includes worship at St. Michael's, Oct. 14, being guest of honor at the II South Sudan Soiree, Nov. 10, attendance at Diocesan Convention, Nov. 16 & 17, preaching at St. Michael's, Nov. 18 (the day before he departs to return to Renk).

Pray for Bishop Joseph as he travels; pray for the Church in South Sudan as it seeks to spread the message of forgiveness,



The Compassion Commission, sponsored by Barrington Area Ministerial Association (BAMA), has targeted Saturday, September 8, (10 am- noon) for a gathering of fresh food produce from area gardens. Representatives from the local food banks will be on hand to accept the donated food and to tell their individual stories and specific needs.

There will also be "information booths" to help people learn about composting, raised bed gardening, master gardener tips etc.

If your congregation (or individuals from your congregations) would like to have a booth to share information and education in a related area, WE WOULD LOVE TO HAVE YOU COME!!!

Please contact Amy H (ahenderson521@gmail.com), Rhoda A (rasche617@aol.com) or Sue M (smullen@stmatthewbarrington.org) if you would like to participate with a booth.

St. Matthew's will be highlighting their SIGE (Special in God's Eyes) group that participated in their raised garden project this summer.

Think about what great things God can do through us as congregations in our community to help people in need.



Wind Down Foyers 2011-2012!

Wind Up Foyers 2012-2013!

Another season of Foyers is almost here! So finish up those Foyers dinners from last season, and get ready for the next season! Look for more information to come with registration starting in September! Point of

contact is Janette Warner, home phone (847) 516-3235 and this email janette.warner1@gmail.com for questions or early sign-up via email.



Blessing of the Backpacks!

On Sunday, 9 September we will bless the backpacks of our students (of any age!) during the 9 a.m. service. So pack 'em up and move 'em out to church on Sunday the 9th!

DESPERATELY SEEKING SITTERS

The Tuesday morning women's group, Soul Journey: A Women's Gathering, needs a sitter. We have the funds just not a body. This is a 10-week commitment on Tuesdays at the church from 9:30-11:30 a.m., from September 11 through November 13. Anyone



interested or know of someone who would be, please contact Nerissa Brueckbauer (at 847-381-2323 or nbrueckbauer@stmichaelsbarrington.org) or Kay Lewis (at 847-381-7820) as soon as possible.

Many thanks!!

August Vestry Meeting Summary

by Vestry Clerk Craig Anderson

The business of the Vestry at its August 20 meeting included a positive report from and dialogue with the Little Angels Preschool Director, Caren Hunter; a consensus recommendation to the Rector for the Sunday Worship and Ministries plan for the coming school year after a thoughtful and positive discussion; a Vestry study plan for the coming months related to the unresolved issues having to do with blessing same-gender relationships; a proposal from the Strategic Plan Task Force regarding the Vestry's future organizational structure and priorities; and more. A more thorough summary can be found by clicking [here](#). Full minutes of each Vestry meeting are always available upon request but only after they are reviewed and approved by the Vestry at the next regular meeting. The next Vestry Meeting is the 17th of September at 7:00 p.m.



From Little Angels Preschool

Summer is over and school is starting! Our goal was to start with 100 children enrolled and we exceeded our goal and are starting with **101 students!!** We still have openings in several of the classes, so if you know someone with a preschooler spread the word!!

Reminder: Our OKTOBERFEST Fall Fundraiser is Saturday, October 13th at McGonigals Pub. We are currently asking for donations that we can auction at our silent and live auction that will be held that night. If you would like to donate ball game tickets, a lake house for a weekend, gift certificate from your personal business, etc. we would love to talk with you. Feel free to contact Caren Hunter in the preschool office for more information. 847-381-5490 or chunter@stmichaelsbarrington.org.

About some new windows in our interior doors.

If you take a tour down the church's north hallway you'll notice new windows in the choir room and sacristy doors. The windows are a pleasant aesthetic addition, but they were added in order for St. Michael's to better comply with church guidelines about simple building features that can make most interior spaces (including especially classrooms and offices in addition to choir rooms and



sacristies) more transparent and thereby reduce the risks of sexual misconduct in churches.

In case there may be any misguided speculation: this project was not undertaken in response to any known past or recent incident at St. Michael's. But the Vestry's approval of this project was motivated by appreciation for the high values and standards established in the Diocese of Chicago program known as 'Keeping God's People Safe'. Three individuals at St. Michael's - Fr. Kevin Caruso, Youth Pastor Kara Baker and parishioner Carrie Garbarek - are certified trainers for the 'KGPS' program. They'll be offering some related training here at St. Michael's sometime this fall, and meanwhile any of them would welcome any related inquiries.

Special thanks to Russ Watson and others on our buildings and grounds committee who contributed to all the steps required to get the window-door project done and done well.



Reflecting on the words of George Herbert (1593-1633): priest and poet - Wednesday Evening Series Continues, 5 September

5:30 p.m. Eucharist

6:00 p.m. Shared Dinner-Please bring something to share!

6:30 p.m. Conversation begins!

George Herbert paints pictures with his words. His poems have stood the test of time and continue to find an audience to this very day. As one biographer notes, "Herbert has described his own poems as 'a picture of the many spiritual conflicts that have passed betwixt God and my soul.' " (Holy Women, Holy Men). On Wednesday night, our time together will begin with a brief biographical sketch of George Herbert's life to set the stage. The bulk of our time will then be spent on reading his poems and discussing them. *If you have found a particular piece of George Herbert's work meaningful in your own life, bring it to share!*

Upcoming Events

+Thursday Evening, 30 August, RMP Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

+Wednesday Evening Series, Reflecting on the Words of George Herbert, 5 September, 6:30 p.m.

+Soul Journey Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study to resume Tuesday, 11 September, 9:30 a.m.

+Saturday Morning Bible Study, Saturday, 15 September, 7:15 a.m.

+Exploring Sacred Music in the Anglican Tradition 2012-2013 program begins 23 September, watch for details!

+Spirited Sisters Tuesday Evening Women's Bible Study to resume Tuesday, 25 September, 7:00 p.m.

+Octoberfest, October 21st. at 4:00 p.m., *50! Something*

Revised Common Lectionary Year B, Pentecost 14

Song of Solomn 2:8-13, Psalm 45:1-2, 7-10, James 1:17-27, Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Contact Info

St. Michael's Vestry

Kathy Sawyer Randolph - Sr. Warden, Shan Atkins - Jr. Warden

Pete Douglas, Lora Gier, Amy Magro, Dave Evans

Dale Griffith, Sean Harrington, Pat Kane, Mike Savage

Cristy Cressey, Bob Gilbert, Michele Philips, Lance Marcinek

John Davis - Treasurer, Craig Anderson - Clerk

Joe Schmidt, Youth Representative Madelyn Lanham, Youth Representative
Clergy and Staff

The Rev. Patrick Raymond, Rector; The Rev. Kevin Caruso, Curate; The Rev. Laurie Michaels, Deacon; Caren Hunter, Director of Little Angels Christian Preschool; David Baker, Director of Music Ministries; Tom Wibbels, Organist; Kara Joy Baker, Youth Pastor & Director of Children's Choir; Nerissa Brueckbauer, Children's Education Director & Communications Coordinator; Kim Lessner, Parish Operations; Nancy Holmes, Parish Administrator & Rector's Assistant; Jeff Schirmer, Sexton.

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The Sword is published each Thursday. Any questions or comments regarding this publication should be sent to news@stmichaelsbarrington.org.

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