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The Sword



Your weekly connection with St. Michael's Episcopal Church

24 January 2013

In This Issue

- +Like trees planted by streams of water
- +Renk Theological College-2nd Graduating Class
- +In the Parish Family
- +Food for the Journey
- +Prayer Shawl Ministry, 29 January
- +Wednesday Nights are Back
- +From Our Youth Minister
- +Annual Meeting Packet
- +AWSM Bunco Night
- +Lenten Overnight Retreat for Women
- +Dads and Kids Movie Night
- +Invitation to a Combined Celebration at Church of the Redeemer
- +Contribution Statements for 2012
- +Haiti Mission Trip in July
- +Community Meal - TONIGHT!
- +CROSSwalk Procession, Save the Date

This Sunday At St. Michael's

+The Parish Annual Meeting, today at 12:00 p.m. A light lunch will be served. Childcare is available.

Like trees planted by streams of water

a pastoral letter from the rector

"They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; everything they do shall prosper." - Psalm 1:3

Dear People of St. Michael's,

'Come and grow!' That invitation was recently used on two leaflets mailed to all parish households. Both leaflets featured images of trees. The tree shown in the August leaflet was more summery. The tree in the November leaflet was more wintery. The seasons had changed, and the tree with it.

'Come and grow!' I can't remember why, last August, we picked the image of a tree. But a tree provides some worthy points of reflection as we anticipate our January 27 annual meeting. A tree, like a church congregation, is alive - and hopefully growing! A parish also has seasons: for worship, serving, growing, saying good-bye and hello, even watering, hibernating, pruning.

'Come and grow!' At the Annual Meeting, you'll be invited to take part in *'Roots & Branches'*. What is it? Think of the branches as all of the visible parts of a parish: programs, buildings, budgets, Bible studies, mission trips, and more. And think of the roots as the joined faith of all of a parish's members. *Roots & Branches* invites each member (root) of

+Annual Meeting
Packet

Ministry

Quicklinks

- Our Website

[-Church School this
Week](#)

Anniversaries

This Week

Birthdays

1.27 Ruth Silver,
David Harris

1.28 Nicole

Anetsberger, Timothy
Okonek, Julia Bishop

1.29 Zachary
Johnson, Zane

Okonek

1.30 Christopher
Sykes, Tristan

Chapman, Justine
Savage, Katie Pardun

1.31 Jay Younger,
Liam Nance

2.1 Patty Ledwig

Anniversaries

Rest in Peace

1.27 Sarah Jane
Allen

1.28 Edwin Tukey

1.29 Patricia
Magnuson

1.30 Alice Peto,

St. Michael's to connect with, learn a bit more about and nourish at least a few fellow roots (members), while also adding to the vitality of the whole tree.

'Come and grow!' I trust you now see why, when I considered all of this, I recalled the verse from Psalm 1, above. Imagine if it faithfully described each of us - and all of us together - at St. Michael's. Thank you for being connected to St. Michael's. Thank you for your faith and ministries. And thank you in advance for a positive, energizing annual meeting.

'Come and grow!'

-Patrick +

Click [here](#) to review a complete copy of the Annual Meeting packet - agenda, by-law revision, budget, Vestry and Diocesan Convention Candidate information - only limited copies will be available at the Annual Meeting on Sunday!

Renk Theological College - 2nd Graduating Class

by Jackie Kraus



On Jan. 12, 2013, twenty-three seminarians graduated from RTC to the cheers of families, friends, local political leaders, most of them Muslim, and Archbishop Daniel Deng Bul (1st Bishop of Renk), whose vision it was to establish the institution since 1998. In 2001, Renk Bible School began, under the leadership of "Fr." Joseph Garang, its first Principal, now Renk's 2nd Bishop. Three of the class of 2013 are women, one of whom is Dean of St. Matthew Cathedral in Renk, MarthaDeng Nhial. Dean Martha sends her deep gratitude to St. Michael's. "I will serve the ECS as a servant leader of God and humanity, the way the shepherd looks over the flock. I will be a steward of my people, showing Christ's love. St. Michael's Church support is unique in our lives. This support is the fulfillment of the commissioning by Christ in Matthew 28. What can I say to you?"

Albert Lockett
2.1 Clara Penney

Renk Bible School was elevated to RTC by the Episcopal Church of Sudan, and is one of 5 accredited schools of theology. Even the demolition of the first campus by the govt. of the north couldn't put an end to training church leaders in Renk.

St. Michael's has partnered with Renk Diocese since 1998, and was 'assigned' by then Bishop Daniel to take responsibility for development of the school. And, so, from a generous gift from a family in the parish for the initial buildings constructed from local materials (straw & mud), to a \$50,000 parish campaign to rebuild with bricks & zinc roofs, to a \$250,000 3-year campaign for ongoing operation of RTC, to two very successful South Sudan Soirees (\$43,000 & \$55,000) led by Ellen and Ric Lindeen and many hard-working parishioners, RTC has now graduated over 35 seminary-trained church leaders...in the midst of civil war and now in the precarious situation of its location at the northern-most border of South Sudan and Sudan.

In the words of Archbishop Daniel, "My heart is still with St. Michael's. This School stands for unity throughout the entire Northern Upper Nile State because of your love for us. It gathers Christians, Muslims, and all the people in peace."

Many different tribes came to dance and celebrate in unity on graduation day.

To see a copy of Father Raymond's letter to Renk Theological College on the occasion of the second graduating class click [here](#).

In the Parish family

+Those for whom prayers have been requested:

Paulette; Thom; Steve; Mary; Joan; Rollo; Ed; the Battcher family; the Callahan family; Mia; the Michaels family; Allison; Sergio; Anne & Bob; Millie & the Troy family; Mary; Steve & Bonnie; Barrington Township Food Pantry; military troops in danger including those from our parish, especially, Zane, Robert, Ryan, Michael, Bruce, and Taylor.

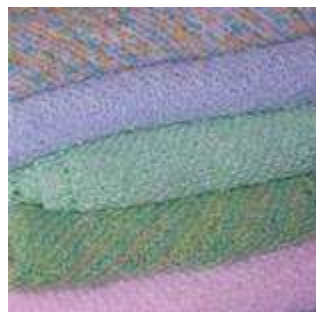
+On the 26th of January, a memorial service will be take place for **Anna Toll**, mother of **Marti Callahan**, at St. Michaels. Luncheon at 11:30 a.m. in the Community Room and the Memorial Service to follow at 1:00 p.m.

There is no scheduled Food for the Journey This Week Given the Annual Meeting.

Food for the Journey, Sunday, 3 February, 10:05 a.m.: Baptism and Belonging...



How many of you remember your own baptism? Or the baptism of a loved one? What does baptism have to do with belonging? What does it mean to 'belong' to the Church and how is that different from belonging to other organizations? How do we make sense of Baptism in the 21st century? A popular phrase over the last 30 years has been that baptism is "full initiation" into the Church. We will explore these questions and the implications of this understanding of baptism. Join the conversation led by Father Kevin.



Prayer Shawl Ministry will gather Tuesday, 29 January

in the church library from 7-8:30pm. We knit and crochet shawls and baby blankets. It's a fun and rewarding ministry. No experience needed. Come join us.

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS ARE BACK... (In Epiphany: Ideas Worth Spreading - reflecting on TED talks)

Worship (5:30pm) * Brown Bag Meal (6pm) * Conversation (6:30)
30 January 2013

Come to any part of an evening or show up for it all...

During Epiphany, we will be talking using a series of videos about Ideas Worth Spreading (from TED talks) to reflect on how our faith intersects with conversations in the world at large. This week we will look at **Power of Vulnerability by Brene Brown**. The talk is described, "Brené Brown studies human connection -- our ability to empathize, belong, love. In a poignant, funny talk, she shares a deep insight from her research, one that sent her on a personal quest to know herself as well as to understand humanity. A talk to share."

We will be watching the entire video on Wednesday night, but if you want to watch it in advance, you can follow this

[link: http://www.ted.com/talks/brene_brown_on_vulnerability.html](http://www.ted.com/talks/brene_brown_on_vulnerability.html)

Brooke Raymond will lead Wednesday's discussion.

From Our Youth Minister and Children's Choir Director

THIS WEEK:

SUNDAY 1/27 @ 9:00, LIFT Worship, Formation, & Chili Orders

SUNDAY 1/27 @ 10:45--SMUSH Worship & Attending the Annual Meeting (lunch will be provided)

UPCOMING:

Friday 2/1--Deadline to confirm participation in either the LIFT or SMUSH 2013 Mission Trips

Friday 2/1, 4:00-9:00 pm--The Great Chili Cookoff in the Community Room

Tuesday 2/12, 4:30-7:30 pm--Shrove Tuesday Pancake Fundraiser

Annual Meeting Packet - Midpoint Reminder

Click [here](#) to review a complete copy of the Annual Meeting packet - agenda, by-law revision, budget, Vestry and Diocesan Convention Candidate information - **only limited copies** will be available at the Annual Meeting on Sunday!

AWSM (All Women of St. Michael's) Bunco Night



Tuesday, February 5th

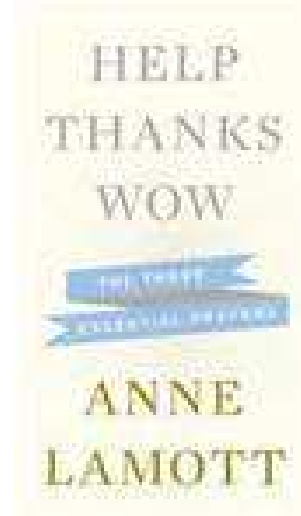
7:00 - 9:30 p.m.

St. Michael's Community Room

**Come for the fun, laughs, and fabulous fellowship!
No Bunco experience necessary!**

More details to follow soon.

**Help, Thanks, Wow (Amen)
An Overnight Lenten Retreat for Women
Friday, February 22 to Saturday, February 23
Camp Stronghold, Oregon, IL**



Drawing from the themes in Anne Lamott's latest book *Help, Thanks, Wow*, we will explore how these three simple prayers can help us get through tough times, everyday stress, and the hard work of living in our fast-paced culture. Led by Deacon Laurie Michaels, the retreat will provide opportunities for individual reflection, small group sharing & discussion, yoga, art, walking meditation, worship & song.

Space is limited so sign up soon! The cost is \$55 a person (double room) and scholarships are available. For details and registration, link to the registration form [here](#). Registration forms are also available in the church office and on the church website.

Dads and Kids Movie Night on February 22nd at 5:30 p.m. in the Community room at St. Michael's.

More information will follow and an e-vite will follow.

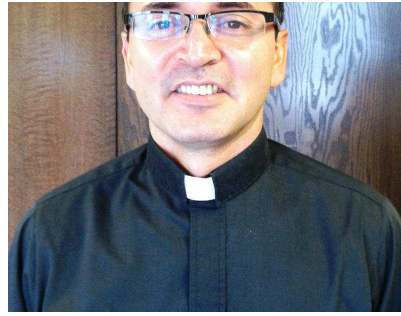


**Invitation to a Combined
Celebration at Church of the
Redeemer**



Little Red Wagon in January

Thank you to those who kept the Little Red Wagon filled in December with many good things for the Families in Crisis at the Church of the Redeemer. But the wagon is now empty and ready to be filled to assist the Barrington Township Food Pantry. Its special needs are cereal, crackers, jelly, tea, instant coffee, dish detergent, bath soap, toothpaste and toothbrushes. Monetary donations are also helpful to the Food Pantry Fund.



Greetings and blessings to all!
I hope everyone's Christmas season was full of blessings and joy.

On Friday, February 8, at 7:00 PM, we will have a combined celebration at Redeemer: The ordination as a permanent deacon of our parishioner Rachel Hultz, and the Celebration of New Ministry as Rector for me.

I am not sending private invitations, but will love the honor of your presence. All clergy and lay leadership are welcome to attend. Clergy are welcome to vest for worship. There will be a reception following the service. No need to RSVP.

Please join us in giving thanks to our loving God as we celebrate these great blessings!

-Uriel+

Compartimos con ustedes nuestra alegría de la ordenación al diaconado permanente de Rachel Hultz y la aceptación de Padre Uriel como Rector.

Viernes, 8 de febrero. 7:00 PM en la parroquia del Redentor. Todos son bienvenidos!

-Uriel+

Contribution Statements for 2012

Contribution Statements for 2012 have been mailed to all parishioners as of January 23. Please take a moment to review your statement for any donation discrepancies between our records. If you have not received a statement or find a discrepancy on your statement after reviewing, please contact Kim Lessner at the parish offices, 847-381-2323, ext. 16 or via email klessner@stmichaelsbarrington.org. Thank you!

Is Haiti still calling you?

We are currently planning a return trip to Jeannette, Haiti in July 2013. There will be an informational meeting mid-February but here is some early information.



Mixed Media Painting by
Maria Pace Wynters

We will once again be partnering with the Episcopal Diocese of Milwaukee Haiti Project which has a 26 year partnership with the parish of St Marc's in Jeannette, Haiti.

The July mission trip will include parishioners from St Michaels AND St Marks, Barrington. The trip will be sometime between July 18-28 for 7-8 days. Our first and last days will be at a guest house in Port au Prince. There will be 14

available slots in addition to our 2 group leaders, Elizabeth van der Weide with Project Haiti and Deacon Laurie.

Our work will primarily involve building furniture for the school (ie computer stools, tables) or a playground. We will also spend time with the children of St Marc's School and attend Sunday worship at St Marc's Episcopal Church, Jeannette.

Specific projects will be determined following the return of the current Feb mission trip, by July trip participants and skills, and by Pere Lenord, St Marc's Parish Priest and School Principal.

Deadline for confirmed participation with deposit is March 15.

Cost \$1200

Age: 18+ without parent

16-18 with parent

Additional information on the Haiti Project can be found at www.haitiproject.org or contact Deacon Laurie @ travellaurie@hotmail.com

The Community Meal is a FREE meal hosted once a month at various churches and community centers in and around the Barrington area. All are welcome!

This Month's Meal:

TONIGHT! Thursday, January 24, 2013

Salem United Methodist Church

115 West Lincoln Avenue

Barrington

5-7 p.m

What's Happening in January?

- We will be serving several varieties of homemade soups!
- Look for delicious homemade desserts from Marlene.

Yummy!



CROSSwalk

Save the date for the CROSSwalk Procession

Walk-

Friday, March 22nd, 2013

CROSSwalk

Beginning at St. James Cathedral, 65 E. Huron

Save the date for the CROSSwalk procession, which will take place on the Friday before Passover and the Christian Holy Week.

CROSSwalk is an effort to engage people of faith in addressing the escalating violence against youth in Chicago.

Rooted in the Episcopal Church, CROSSwalk grew out of a four-mile procession across the city during the Christian Holy Week in April 2012. The procession brought together 1500 people from across Chicagoland to remember the more than 632 young people who have been killed since 2008.

As people of faith, we believe that these children are our children and we share responsibility for their safety. We are working to connect with faith communities and with organizations that address youth violence, building relationships which lead to action and change.

Annual Meeting Packet - Last Chance Reminder

Click [here](#) to review a complete copy of the Annual Meeting packet

- agenda, by-law revision, budget, Vestry and Diocesan Convention
Candidate information - **only limited copies** will be available at the
Annual Meeting on Sunday!

Upcoming Events

- +Sunday, 27 January, Annual Meeting, 12:00 pm, Community Room
- +Tuesday, 29 January, Prayer Shawl Ministry, 7:00 pm, Library
- +Wednesday, 30 January, Wednesday Nights, 5:30 pm, Eucharist
- +Tuesday, 5 February, AWSM Bunco, 7:00 pm, Community Room
- +Tuesday, 12 February, Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, 4:30-7:30 p.m.
- +Friday-Saturday, 22-23 February, AWSM Women's Lenten Retreat
- +Friday, 22 February, Dads & Kids Movie Night, 5:30 pm, Community Room

Revised Common Lectionary Year C, Epiphany 3 Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10,
Psalm 19, 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a, Luke 4:14-21

Contact Info

St. Michael's Vestry

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

Pete Douglas, Lora Gier, 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; Thom 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
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