

The Guardian

DECEMBER 2015

A BLESSED ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SEASON

Sunday, November 29

First Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 6

Second Sunday of Advent, St. Nicholas Fair

Saturday, December 12

The Greening of the Church, 9:00 a.m.

Sunday, December 13

Third Sunday of Advent Advent Lessons and Carols, 4:00 p.m., reception following

Saturday, December 19

Festival of Lights with St. Michael's Choir School, 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 20

Fourth Sunday of Advent The Longest Night Service, 4:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve, Thursday, December 24

Christmas Pageant and Holy Eucharist, 4:00 p.m. Festival Candlelight Christmas Eve Service with Holy Eucharist, 9:00 p.m.

Christmas Day, Friday, December 25

Festival Holy Eucharist, 10:00 a.m.

Sunday, December 27

Holy Eucharist, 8 a.m. Christmas Lessons and Carols (no Eucharist), 10:15 a.m.





FROM THE RECTORY

There are only two feelings.
Love and fear.
There are only two languages.
Love and fear.
There are only two activities.
Love and fear.
There are only two motives,
two procedures, two frameworks,
two results.
Love and fear.
Love and fear.

—Michael Leunig

I write these words in the aftermath of the attacks in Paris and Beirut, as well as countless other acts of terrorism around the world. As distressed and unhinged as I am by these attacks, I am equally distressed by the reactions of many in our nation and around the world, especially the closing of borders to refugees and the exploitation of an atmosphere of fear and distrust toward all who differ from us.

One of my favorite artists and writers is Michael Leunig, an Australian cartoonist. Along with some funny and insightful cartoons, he also writes prayers and poems, like the one above. Sometimes I think life is a lot more complicated than the choice between love and fear. Other times, the choice seems to get to the heart of everything.

As we enter this Advent season, it is good to remember what the angels tell the shepherds and Mary in the midst of their unsettling life circumstances: "Do not be afraid." Perhaps we don't have a choice whether we are afraid or not; however, we certainly have a choice about whether we act out of fear or we act out of love. May God give us the strength and courage to choose love in this dark time.

Yours in Christ, Mary

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PRAYER AND REFLECTION DURING THE ADVENT SEASON

While Advent is meant to be a time for quiet reflection and anticipation, we all know that it is often the busiest, most stressful time of the year. At St. Michael's this year, we are offering three brief (30-minute) weekly opportunities to come together in prayer in the inviting warmth of the candlelit Chapel. These gatherings are not meant to be "one more thing to do" but rather a way to insert some prayerful spaciousness into the season.

Mondays, 5:30 p.m., "Praying the Rosary"—This is an opportunity for us to learn the practice of praying the rosary together. We will learn the Anglican Rosary and will have extra rosaries available for those who do not have one of their own.

Tuesdays, 5:30 p.m., Evening Prayer—This quiet spiritual practice can provide peace, calm, and perspective through the crazy pace and demands of our secular Christmas season. We will offer Evening Prayer from 5:30–6:00 p.m. each Tuesday evening in the Chapel during the Season of Advent. If you would like to assist in leading Evening Prayer or reading one of the lessons, please contact Sarah Benton at 802-579-2185 or swbentonvt@gmail.com.

Thursdays, 5:30 p.m., Contemplative Service—Chant, scripture, and silent meditation in community.



NEWS OF THE PARISH

St. Nicholas Day Fair December 6

Did you know that Nicholas, Bishop of Myra, c. 342, was generous to seafarers and to sailors, and more especially to children? This year at St. Michael's we will celebrate St. Nicholas Day on Sunday, December 6, immediately following the 10:15 a.m. service. There is a lunch of soup and bread. At the Fair, we create ornaments for our trees, door swags for our doors, goodies from the kitchen, and gifts for members of the family. If you would like to help with this wonderful parish event, please contact Gwen Mousin at 603-363-8401 or gmousin@myfairpoint.net.



Interfaith Youth Group Gathering December 6

Kids of all faiths in grades 6-8 are invited to meet at St. Michael's Episcopal Church at 3:00 p.m. on December 6 to prepare and serve a meal at the Overflow Shelter at the First Baptist Church (190 Main Street). The meal will conclude by 6:15 p.m.. Kids can be picked up at the Overflow Shelter. If you have any questions, please contact Ricky Davidson at Rickybratt@gmail.com.



THE GREENING OF THE CHURCH DECEMBER 12

All are invited to the greening of the church on Saturday, December 12, at 9:00 a.m. This is a festive time when parishioners of all ages are invited to adorn the church with greens and decorate the Christmas tree. Please join us for this fun gathering!



Two Beautiful Music Events in December

Every year we look forward to the rituals associated with Advent and Christmas, and for Episcopalians one of the most special events is the Service of Lessons and Carols. This year, the adult choir will sing this most treasured service on Sunday, December 13, at 4:00 p.m. The choir has some luscious anthems on hand, and the readings are always magical in our freshly greened church. The next weekend, on Saturday, December 19, at 4:00 p.m., the Choir School presents their version of this, the Festival of Lights. Sung and read by just the children, this service will also make your heart ready for the coming of the Christ. Give yourself the gift of joy and plan to attend both of them.

Susan Dedell



ADVENT LESSONS AND CAROLS RECEPTION DECEMBER 13

The reception after the Lessons and Carols service is both a St. Michael's tradition and a wonderful way to provide hospitality to visitors to our church. We are asking the congregation to help by bringing food.

- If you are able to help, and your last name begins with A–J, please bring sweet finger food.
- If your last name begins with K–Z, please bring cheese and crackers or fruit.

Food may be dropped off at Coffee Hour on December 13 or before the Lessons and Carols service later that day. Please contact Betsy Bates if you have any questions, 257-0734. Thank you ahead of time for your help!



THE LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE DECEMBER 20

The holiday season can magnify what is going on in our lives, including pain and loss. "Peace on earth," or even peace in our hearts, may seem an impossible dream. Sadness and memories may seem overwhelming at a time when joy and celebration are expected. The Longest Night is a service of hope for



news of the parish

all who carry sorrow of any kind. Join us in this inclusive service, during which we honor the burdens we bear and claim the promise of light that follows even the darkest night. We hope that the music, readings, candles, and chants may help us to find the comfort we need and strengthen the connection we share. All are welcome.

Each candle, lit by a person in the service, calls forth the light of hope on this the longest night of the calendar year.





REPORT FROM OUR 2015 DIOCESAN CONVENTION

I have been a member of various Episcopal churches for most of my life but until recently had never experienced being at a Church gathering outside of my own parish. This changed when I attended the 183rd Vermont Diocesan Convention as a delegate from St. Michael's on November 6–7 in Burlington. I was willing

and curious but with a touch of trepidation. The name of this annual event sounds very business-like, and in fact there was important business that was transacted at Convention, but it was much more than that. I was surprised at how varied, interesting, exciting, and fun it was!

Sarah Benton and I had been elected delegates from St. Michael's earlier in the year, and we were accompanied to Convention by our Rector Mary Lindquist, our Senior Warden Janet Cramer, and Associate Clergy Thad Bennett and Jean Smith. Our seminarian, Paul Moberly, joined us from Virginia Theological Seminary. The Convention was held at the Episcopal Cathedral Church of St. Paul's in Burlington, a beautiful modern building that overlooks Lake Champlain, the New York State Adirondack peaks beyond, and is highlighted by a



dramatic sky and gorgeous clouds. This seemed like a most appropriate place to be doing God's work.

The work of Convention consisted of one day of workshops and then the actual Convention, a day of discussion and voting on Church policies that will help guide our future course. On the first day

(Friday), I attended a workshop and a forum that were both led by the Reverend Gay Jennings, President of the Episcopal House of Deputies for the national Church. Gay had inspiring words regarding the increasing role and opportunities for Church members outside the confines of church buildings.

Saturday was devoted to actual Convention work. This involved resolutions relating to: clergy compensation (passed), the Diocesan operating budget (passed), supporting sustainable development goals of the U.N. (passed unanimously), and asking our new Presiding Bishop, Michael Curry, to speak out on the important issues of economic injustice and income inequality (passed unanimously). Other voting involved electing trustees and/or board members to a variety of positions in the Diocese. Saturday was a long day but a lot of necessary and inspiring work was accomplished.



NEWS OF THE PARISH

The high point of Convention for most people was the Friday evening performance of *Out of the Lion's Mouth*, a mystery play composed by Paul Dedell from St. Michael's, featuring the children of the St. Michael's Choir School led by Susan Dedell, with Greg Lesch and Martin Leggott. The play was an amazing success, eliciting laughter, tears, cheers, and a standing ovation from the audience; everyone loved it!

All of the above, plus meeting lots of great people, praying and singing together, hearing what is going on in other parishes in Vermont, eating delicious food, and being in the midst of a powerful spiritual environment, made attending Diocesan Convention a wonderfully moving experience for me. Thank you for sending me, and I highly recommend it to others!

Elizabeth Vick



SAVE THE DATE: St. Michael's Women's Retreat February 5–7

St. Michael's will be offering a women's retreat on February 5-7 at the Lower Farm Retreat Center. This will be a chance for the women of St. Michael's to come together in reflection, play, refreshment, prayer, and conversation. We hope women of many different ages will join us for this wonderful opportunity. More information to come.



THANKS FROM SUSAN DEDELL

I want to extend my special thanks to my friend and colleague Bruce Griffin (also a parishioner!) who not only played a beautiful all-Beethoven program here last month, but who donated a professional piano bench to our church. Bruce, you are tops!

Also, huge thanks to Annemarie Pluhar, Joanne Patalano, Jenn Karstad, and Karen Guthrie for their invaluable assistance with the chanting weekend.



PARISH FINANCIAL UPDATE: OPERATING INCOME/EXPENSES FOR JANUARY-OCTOBER

Total Pledges Received: \$190,165 vs. Budget of \$179,898 (106% of Budget)

of which: Total Pledges Received in October: \$14,298 vs. Budget of \$17,990 (80%)

This is the amount of income from pledges alone that we have received. The first line shows the amount so far this year; the second line shows the amount for just the month noted.

Total Operating Income: \$285,951 vs. Budget of \$271,386 (105% of Budget)

This is our total income and includes rental income, fund raising (including pledges), memorial gifts, altar guild flower income, hospitality, tag sale, and other miscellaneous income.

Total Operating Expenses: \$270,170 vs. Budget of \$273,922 (99%)

This is the dollars needed to run the church, including salaries, utilities, repaying our building loan from the Diocese, outreach, rectory expenses, administrative expenses, mission and ministry, worship and music, congregation development, grounds upkeep, and snow removal.

St. Michael's Vestry

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STEWARDSHIP 2015

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

We are very grateful for the pledges St. Michael's has received for our ministry in 2016. As of November 18, we have received 112 pledges for a total of \$214,480. Of the 112 pledges we have received so far, 63 have increased their pledges from last year (56%) and we have received 11 new pledges. This is wonderful news and we are so grateful for the generosity of our community!

Our goal this year to support our ministry in 2016 is to receive 125 pledges for a total of \$225,000. This

goal is a stretch, but we know it is attainable. If you have not had a chance to turn in your pledge card yet, please do so soon! You may put your pledge card in the offering plate at a Sunday service or mail it to St. Michael's. If you did not receive a pledge card, there are extras at the back of the church, or you may contact the church office and we will send one to you (802-256-6048). Thank you for your love and commitment to our ministry together.

WHY I CHOSE ST. MICHAEL'S

Good morning. I am Richard Cogliano, a member of the Vestry, although most of you know me better as Hailey's father. I have been attending St. Michael's for nine years.

I grew up in a church family; my mother brought my brother and I to church every Sunday. Growing up, church was that thing that got me out of bed early on the weekend when I would rather sleep in.

After college, when I moved to Dummerston, I was looking for a church that emulated what I knew growing up, a place that I went to for an hour on Sunday and then lived my life. I'm not saying I didn't like church, quite the contrary, I just had the idea of church being a weekly experience, not one of community.

But then I came to St. Michael's. I instantly felt welcome. What struck me most was how engaged people were. Here, church wasn't just for Sunday mornings, it was a way of life. If you like music, we have an active choir, several actually, both for children and adults. If you like silence and simplicity, we have contemplative worship, silent meditation, and the 8:00 service. If you wish to explore Christianity or faith topics, we have weekly forums. There are always ways to engage in learning such as book studies, EfM, and special events and speakers. We open our home to the community, hosting Yoga for Mature Bodies, Alanon, and the Inclusion Center on Fridays. We give. We host two tag sales a year and several fundraisers to

raise money for charities here in our community and the world over.

Over the last nine years here I have discovered what makes St. Michael's special. We are a community, an extended family, and a true body of Christ. In my nearly two years on the Vestry, I have learned so much about what it is that we do here at St. Michael's. The first-hand knowledge has affirmed for me that this church is so much more than just that place I go to on Sunday mornings.

The Vestry recently read a book entitled *The Agile Church*. This book taught us about becoming more than just a building. It taught us about relationships with the greater community, how to be progressive without shunning the classic or the past, and it taught us, most clearly for me, how God meets us where we are. God takes our past and our gifts and sets us up for the future. God provides us with situations where we can turn to him and achieve greatness. If you look at the prophets of old, none of them were perfect, but God worked through them, and today we celebrate their achievements.

When I first came to St. Michael's, I never thought I would be standing here before all of you extolling what this special community means to me. I never thought I would serve on its vestry, and I never thought a church could be so much to so many people.



STEWARDSHIP 2015

Five years ago, I stood up here and married the love of my life. Twenty-two months ago I brought my then nine-day-old daughter to her first service. She has been almost every Sunday since. She is the youngest member of the 8:00 congregation by about 30 years. As she has grown, more and more of you have encouraged me to keep bringing her, saying that when she says hi in the middle of the service or closes out a prayer with an extra loud amen, it's God working through her.

Just two weeks ago toward the end of the service she said "bye my church." Hailey, at 22 months old, has recognized what this is. This is her church, this church is our church, and we make this church what it is. We are a family and a community. We come together in times of worship, praise, and thanksgiving. We break bread together.

St. Michael's is only able to be all of this to all of us because we give what we can. In this season of stewardship, think about how much the community of St. Michael's has done; how much it has touched your heart and impacted your life. Think about how St. Michael's has truly been a Christ-centered community of practice awakening to the abiding presence of God.

Richard Cogliano

DECEMBER LECTIONARY

Sunday, December 6: Second Sunday of Advent:
Baruch 5: 1–9 or Malachi 3: 1–4;
Canticle 4 or 6; Philippians 1: 3–11; Luke 3: 1–6

Sunday, December 13: Third Sunday of Advent: Zephaniah 3: 14–20; Canticle 9; Philippians 4: 4–7; Luke 3: 7–18

Sunday, December 20: Fourth Sunday of Advent: Micha 5: 2–5a; Canticle 3 or 15 or Psalm 80: 1–7; Hebrews 10: 5–10; Luke 1: 39–45

Sunday, December 27: Christmas Lessons & Carols

EXPLORING OUR FAITH TOGETHER

ADULT FORUMS FOR ADVENT

November 29, December 6, December 13, December 20, "Dwelling in Advent: A Forum Series for Advent"—The season of Advent is supposed to be one of quiet expectation and reflection, but too often this season becomes one of the most stressful and busy times of the year. Our forums for Advent will offer an opportunity for quiet reflection and conversation on some of our well loved Advent and Christmas scripture texts and poems. Mary Lindquist and others will facilitate this scripture/poem interactive reflection.

There will be no forum on December 27.



EPIPHANY BOOK STUDY

To help us continue the conversation on racism, a book study is being offered during the Epiphany season. We hope the reading and conversations will help us stretch our thinking and that we will learn from one another as well as from the author. We have chosen the book *Learning to Be White*, by Thandeka, which focuses on systemic racism. Thandeka, a Unitarian Universalist minister and theologian,

explores the politics of the white experience in America. Tracing the links between religion, class, and race, she reveals the child abuse, ethnic conflicts, class exploitation, poor self-esteem, and a general feeling of self-contempt that are the wages of whiteness.

We'll meet six consecutive Saturdays beginning January 9 from 10:00–11:00 a.m. in the Meeting Room. Please join David Carr, Jeff Hiam, WHITE

THANDEKA

and me to discuss this book and what it means to be white in our society. This book is available at amazon.com or abebooks.com. For more information or if you would like to sign up for this book study, please contact me, Sarah Benton, at 802-579-2185 or swbentonvt@gmail.com.



FALL CLEAN UP AND TREE PLANTING











REFUGEES IN EUROPE

SUPPORT FOR REFUGEES ON THE RUN

This Nativity season feels different. The flood of families crossing from the Middle East into Europe makes the flight of Mary and Joseph and their newborn son into Egypt as vivid as today's newscasts. Help is sporadic; fear and anger flare and stop these refugees at the borders; even the Red Cross and Doctors Without Borders are overwhelmed by the immensity of the need and various official obstructions.

What about Episcopal Relief and Development? They are working with Islamic Relief and the Orthodox Church in Greece and with other relief agencies; the Convocation of Episcopal Churches in Europe is responding through local ministries in Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Italy and Switzerland.

A colleague from Germany, herself a dual citizen (France) whom we know from orientation work with international high school students, created a citizens' group in Cologne and Bonn to help the refugees as they walk across Europe toward asylum. Now a Foundation with branches in the Benelux countries, Support for Refugees on the Run, collects and delivers needed supplies for the refugees crossing from Turkey through Greece and into the Balkans on their way to EU countries.

Volunteers drive the supplies to the borders where refugees are stuck waiting for transit visas and distribute them. One couple flew needed medicine to Lesbos. When they return from the Greek, Croatian, Slovenian, Serbian, or Hungarian borders, they advise and update the list of what is needed most. They also work with Doctors Without Borders and other organizations, but aside from the practical help they are a person-toperson presence which assures refugees of the concern of Europeans for their plight.





From Nicole in October: After a long and hard night giving out hot tea, food and clothes, we decided to try crossing the official Serbian border and leave EU territory. A risk, because the Serbians mostly block humanitarian transports, but we got the allowance and could pass. At the "green border point," Berkasovo, we delivered part of our goods. The situation there is so bad, around 6,000 people (2,000 children) passing the border here in 24h, most of them during the night. We've seen small tents from Doctors Without Borders, UNICEF, UNHCR--but they all stop their service during the night. A worse thing, because the refugees especially need help during the night time. We gave out hot tea, food and warm clothes. There are so many people that we just served the refugees who came barefoot or with shorts and Tshirts. If we consider that the night temperature in this area is around 38°F and mostly raining, it must be horrible. I've seen fathers checking out their food stock and only eating if they could see that there s enough for the kids. As well there're so many small kids and babies, some of them born on the run. At Berkasovo there were no military/police or any official Serbian patrol. It is all organized by volunteers, all are doing a great job for the refugees. During the night our team organized the groups to

cross the border. With our own radio equipment we did the security and stewarding jobs to bring them to the Serbian border. An important job as well, as there're many old mines in the ground in the border area.

And this month: Tonight has been a good night, gave out more than 10 baby carriers to delighted parents. They were so grateful, we really need more carriers. Desperately in need. I wrapped a one-month-old baby, then showed his

Continued on page 11



ROTA FOR DECEMBER

Liturgical Rota for December $2015 \cdot 8:00$ am and 10:15 am Sunday Services unless otherwise noted.

Position	December 6	December 13	December 20	December 27
	8	:00 A.M. SERVIC	CE	
Lay Assistant	Anita Crosson	Wayne Cook	Kate McGinn	Wayne Cook
Intercessor	Kiersten McKenney	Anne Brown	Doug Lilly	Bill Ames
Sacramental Healing	Janet Cramer	Janet Cramer	Janet Cramer	Janet Cramer
Usher	Judy McGee	Anne Cook	Anne Cook	Judy McGee
	10	0:15 A.M. SERVI	CE	
Crucifer	Fred Bump	Miranda Smith	Mikael Mattson	LESSONS & CAROLS
Torch Bearers	Brian White Liz Vick	Clara Fritz Caleb Fritz	KC Mattson Jake Mattson	
Element Bearers	Judith Hildreth Sue Dyer	Ken Jacobs Ricky Davidson	Betsy Bates Nancy Barber	NO EUCHARIST
Lay Assistant	Jeff Hiam	Annamarie Pluhar	Greg Lesch	
Lector	Julia Fedoruk	Elise Burrows	Caleb Fritz	SEVERAL READERS TO BE ANNOUNCED
Intercessor	Craig Hammond	Jodi Clark	Mary Carnahan	
Ushers	John Daly & Leigh Marthe	Andy & Elise Burrows	Sarah Benton Linda Rice	Judith & Alan McBean
Sacramental Healing	Carolyn Taylor-Olson Sarah Benton	Sarah Benton Betsy Bates	Robin White-Diamondstone Judith Hildreth	
Altar Guild	Mary Carnahan Charlene Kemp Betty Elwell Rebecca Olmstead Zadie Olmstead	Madelyn Howard Carol Hesselbach Lynn Billington	Madelyn Howard Carol Hesselbach Lynn Billington	Susan Dyer Elise Burrows Pat Laubach Judy Walker Laurie Chiperfield
Coffee Hour	St. Nicholas Fair	Megan Buchanan	Elise & Andy Burrows	Leigh Marthe & John Daly
Counters	Ricky Davidson Jared Rediske	Wayne Cook Judith Hildreth	Anne Cook Judith Hildreth	Sherry Stimmel Jeanette Landin

If you cannot make it, please find your own replacement; then call Jeanie in the Office at 802-254-6048, ext. 104. Thank you.





REFUGEES IN EUROPE

mother how to do it. At least he will be kept safe and warm during the perilous journey. Children are dying of hypothermia and each carrier is a life saver.

The Foundation has volunteers collecting food, clothes and baby supplies, local schools raising funds to buy medicine and fill in any gaps in donations, and enterprising young people crowdfunding medical supplies. Local TV and radio has publicized the effort (if your German is good, watch http://www.koelntv.com/blog/magazin/eine-hilfsfahrt-an-die-grenzen-europas) and their Facebook group keeps everyone informed, in German, and sometimes in Dutch, with Facebook's infamous translations:

https://www.facebook.com/groups/supportrefugeesont herun/. One young man made a film as he helped drive supplies to the border: https://vimeo.com/142183633.

Their work continues. Another caravan of vans loaded with supplies leaves in late November and they are organizing the December runs (the December list of supplies is on the Outreach bulletin board in the Undercroft). We can help: the Vestry has given Outreach permission to put colored envelopes into the pews on December 20 for any donations parishioners might want to give. St. Michael's can send funds directly to Support for Refugees on the Run. Everything goes to meet the basic needs of the refugees as determined by those who last drove to the borders.

Some of us may be concerned about possible infiltration by terrorists. Let me give Nicole the final word: Dear friends, her last email begins, There are moments in life, things happen, that no one ever thought were possible. Unfortunately, not only positive things happen this way. Some of you know about my second home, Paris. After all that has happened there Friday night, our work remains more important than ever. It is my very personal concern to share this with you.

Please look for colored envelopes on Sunday, December 20, and keep the volunteers and the refugees in your thoughts and prayers.

Joyce Vining Morgan

CELEBRATIONS

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

December 1	Liz Vick
December 3	Jonah Siegel
December 6	Ramon Escalera Jr.
December 7	Susanna Grannis, Chris Mattson
December 8	Julia Fedoruk, Paul Dyer
December 9	Jeanette Perry
December 10	Clara Fritz
December 12	Jenny Karstad, Hailey Cogliano, Rebecca Mayer
December 14	Paula Ryan, Robin White- Diamondstone, Nathan Potter
December 15	Carol Hesselbach, MaKayla Panzer
December 17	Jessica Bennett
December 20	Merribelle Coles
December 22	Susan Avery, Ann Bonneville
December 23	Jean Smith
December 25	Joyce Vining Morgan
December 26	Jeanette Landin, Hugo Taggert
December 28	MJ Woodburn, Christine Gauthier, Stephanie Diamondstone
December 30	Annamarie Pluhar

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

December 5	Brian & Joyce Vining Morgan
December 7	Michael & Susan Wilmott
December 21	Lucia Osiecki & Deb Jones
December 27	Bruce & Kerry Capponcelli



The Guardian is published monthly by St. Michael's Episcopal Church. News items, announcements, articles, etc., should be submitted to Clark Anderson, *editor*, by the 15th of the month for consideration.

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printed on recycled paper 100% post consumer, PCF

NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION U.S. POSTAGE PAID BRATTLEBORO, VT PERMIT #18

The Guardian

a Christ-centered community of practice awakening to the abiding presence of God

Our Worship Together

SUNDAYS—8:00 a.m., Quiet service of prayer and Holy Communion 10:15 a.m., Prayer, music, and Holy Communion, with Sunday School and childcare

WEEKDAY MORNINGS—6:00 a.m., Silent hour in chapel

MONDAYS—5:30 p.m., "Praying the Rosary" Learn the practice of praying the rosary together

TUESDAYS—5:30 p.m., Evening Prayer

WEDNESDAYS—Noon, Brief service of prayer and Holy Communion

THURSDAYS—9:00 a.m., Morning Prayer Rite I 5:30 p.m., Contemplative service of chanting, silence, and prayer

SATURDAYS—8:00 a.m., Centering Prayer

Coming Up At St. Michael's Episcopal

Please see front for schedule of Advent and Christmas services

DECEMBER 6: St. Nicholas Fair, Interfaith Youth Group

DECEMBER 12: Greening of the Church

DECEMBER 13: Lessons and Carols

DECEMBER 19: Festival of Lights

DECEMBER 20: The Longest Night Service

JANUARY 17: Martin Luther King, Jr., Sunday

JANUARY 21–23: "Listen for a Change: Sacred Conversations for Racial Justice" webcast

JANUARY 24: Annual Meeting