



# The Guardian

SEPTEMBER 2016



## FROM THE RECTORY

As I recover from a back procedure I had in early August, I have had the luxury of watching coverage of the Olympics. I'm not a big sports fan, but there is something I love about the Olympics. I'm not sure if it is the awe I feel at athletes who have sacrificed so much to become the best in their sports, the incredible human interest stories from around the world, the sense of love and connection I observe between teammates, or the mix of cultures, customs, and languages that, even under the strain of competition, can bring out the best in people.

I have also been moved by the number of athletes (mostly African) who have prayed or crossed themselves before and after their competitions. To me this brief act of piety was a reminder that even strongest or fastest person in the world was ultimately dependent on God.

One of the races I will not forget is the final of the 400 meter men's race for track and field. Before the final of the race, there was a profile of one of the runners, Wayde Van Niekerk from South Africa, whose coach is a 74-year-old woman named Anna Botha. In the profile, Botha speaks with sadness about how many gifted non-white athletes she has coached in her life who were never given the opportunity to compete outside South Africa because of apartheid. One of these gifted athletes was Van Niekerk's mother.

In the profile, Wayde Van Niekerk spoke about his sense that he was competing not only for himself, but for his mother, his country, his coach, and all the non-white athletes who were prevented from competing in the past.

Van Niekerk went on not only to win the men's 400 meters, but also to break Michael Johnson's 17-year-old world record. Present at the race was his grey-haired coach. In an interview following his win he said, "God just showed how faithful he's been in my life and I'm very grateful for the continuous blessing."

*Yours in Christ,  
Mary*



## NEWS OF THE PARISH

### SUNDAY SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE SEPTEMBER 11

September 11 marks the beginning of our program year at St. Michael's. On that day from 9:15-10:00 a.m., there will be a Sunday School Open House for parishioners, kids, parents, and all who are interested. Come check out St. Michael's great opportunities for kids—Godly Play, Workshop Rotation, Youth Forum, Choir School, and more! There will be food, play, a bouncy house, and balloons. Invite your friends who have children to come and check out St. Michael's! We will also be commissioning the teachers during the 10:15 a.m. liturgy. Please join us for this special day.



### BISHOP ELY VISITS SEPTEMBER 25, ST. MICHAEL'S DAY

The Feast of St. Michael and All Angels will be celebrated on Sunday, September 25, at both the 8:00 & 10:15 a.m. services. This year, the celebration will be extra special, because this is the day the Bishop of Vermont, Tom Ely, is doing his official visitation to St. Michael's.

Here is why you won't want to miss this special celebration:

- Bishop Ely will preach, celebrate, and confirm several parishioners
- Bishop Ely will lead the Adult Forum (9:00-10:00 a.m.)
- We will honor Susan Dedell for her 25 years of ministry at St. Michael's
- There will be a special, festive reception following the 10:15 service

In the Episcopal Church, only bishops can offer the sacrament of Confirmation. If you are interested in being confirmed or received, please let Mary Lindquist know ASAP. Bishop Ely only visits once every 12-18 months, so this is your last chance for awhile!



### CELEBRATING ST. FRANCIS OCTOBER 2

On October 2 we will be celebrating St. Francis' Day at St. Michael's again this year with the choir singing the wonderful Missa Gaia (or Earth Mass). You will not want to miss this amazing service!



### PARISH FINANCIAL UPDATE: OPERATING INCOME/EXPENSES FOR JANUARY-JULY

**Total Pledges Received:** \$136,449 vs. Budget of \$138,833 (98% of Budget)

**of which: Total Pledges Received in June:** \$14,218 vs. Budget of \$19,833 (72%)

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:** \$194,067 vs. Budget of \$194,279 (100% 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:** \$201,148 vs. Budget of \$192,956 (104%)

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.

### COME CELEBRATE 25 YEARS WITH OUR BELOVED SUSAN DEDELL!

Did you know she auditioned barefooted?

Find out even more on September 25 at the 10:15 service.



## OUR MISSION & WORK...AND HOW YOU CAN HELP

### BLACK LIVES STILL MATTER



Few of you reading this have probably heard of Dolores Kendrick. Dolores is Poet Laureate of Washington, D.C. She was also a colleague of mine years ago and the one and only female African-American emerita of the prep school where we both taught. My favorite anthology of her work is

“Women of Plums,” an anthology of poems depicting the lives of African slaves who were transported to America. Dolores spent time in the barrier islands off the Carolinas to learn the Gullah dialect and to better understand the roots of those Gullah speakers. One of her poems, arguably the most powerful, tells of an African mother who drowns her children rather than allow them to enter the cycle of slavery. The lives that she depicts date from the days of yore in American terms. European-Americans were the “superior” race then, and in too many ways, not much has changed.

Black lives *still* matter. Of course, all lives matter. The fact is that black lives are being forfeited in our country more than any other lives still—and that includes Latino and Native-American lives.

In our Baptismal Covenant we are asked some very important questions: Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself? Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

We respond to both with: “I will, with God’s help.”

As for me, Black Lives Matter is not a political statement, despite the attempts of some to make it so; it is a moral, Christian statement. That is why St. Michael’s proclaims it.

*Brian Morgan*

### FALL TAG SALE SEPTEMBER 30–OCTOBER 1

Our Fall Tag sale is fast approaching. Anne Cook and Lucia Osiecki will work together to coordinate the event which is set for Friday, September 30, and Saturday, October 1, with prep week starting on Sunday, September 25, after the special reception for the Bishop. Watch your weekly bulletin and email for additional information. There will be ample opportunity (and plenty of work) for everyone interested in helping. If you wish to help with the prep/sale and do not receive a call during early September please contact Lucia Osiecki at 802-257-4582 or [luciandeb711@aol.com](mailto:luciandeb711@aol.com). There will also be sign-up sheets in the Common Room during that month. If you have questions please feel free to give me a call at 802-896-9446 or email me at [anek.cook@gmail.com](mailto:anek.cook@gmail.com).

Donations for the tag sale should be placed in the downstairs closets. We accept housewares, linens, jewelry, adult and children’s fall and winter clothing (clean and in good condition), kids’ toys and games, seasonal décor items (especially Thanksgiving and Christmas), and books. Please no magazines, old encyclopedias/reference books, desktop computers, old-style TVs, or mattresses and box springs. We may have to pay to dispose of such items, which rarely sell, and this comes out of our proceeds. If you have larger items such as furniture, please hold them until the week of September 27. If you are unable to hold these items, we will try to have additional storage space and pick-up assistance beginning in September. You can arrange this directly with Lucia at the phone or email listed above.

Once again I ask that you hold all spring and summer items until after the sale. We simply do not have the storage space and do not want to be forced to discard items.

Remember, this event raises vital funds that support both our church and local outreach ministry. Together, we can make this a great success.

*Thank you,  
Anne Cook*





## OUR MISSION & WORK...AND HOW YOU CAN HELP

### SUMMER UPDATE FROM JERUSALEM PEACEBUILDERS

From July 11–21 at Acer Farm in Brattleboro, 25 Israeli, Palestinian, and American peacebuilders and civil-society professionals gathered for an intensive, two-week professional training program. EXCEL (Exploring Conflict, Education and Leadership) offered participants the opportunity to learn new skills in peacebuilding and conflict transformation, deepen interfaith understanding, and form a strong peer-to-peer professional network and partnerships for peace. The program was led and designed in part by notable educator and peacebuilder Dr. Paula Green, who is known for her work founding the internationally famous Conflict Transformation Across Cultures program (CONTACT) and the Karuna Center for Peacebuilding. The program's faculty also included The Rt. Rev. Thomas Ely, The Rev. Canon Nicholas Porter, and parishioner Jack Karn.

Following the successful adult program in Vermont, Jerusalem Peacebuilders headed down to New Haven, Connecticut, to host a service-learning program for 23 teenagers from July 25–August 2. The 10-day youth leadership program was based at Christ Church, a unique Anglo-Catholic parish of the Episcopal Church. During the program, the teens spent several days volunteering at a local soup kitchen and the IRIS refugee resettlement agency. At IRIS, the group helped refugees from the Middle East and North Africa with food and clothing donations, moving into new apartments, and learning English. In addition to

meeting faith leaders of Yale University and visiting an area church, synagogue, and mosque for interfaith teachings on service, the group traveled to New York City for a special briefing on the Middle East peace process and exhibition of Middle Eastern art at the Guggenheim Museum. To conclude the program, participants were tasked with crafting speeches on service to present to their home communities this fall.

Both of this summer's programs were a big success, and Jerusalem Peacebuilders is ever grateful for all of the volunteers, prayers, and support that the St. Michael's Church community provides for this important ministry.

*In Christ,  
Jack Karn, Jerusalem Peacebuilders*



*Teens touring Yale University*



*Fr. Nicholas leading Sunday teaching*



*Sunday teaching before worship*



## OUR MISSION & WORK...

### THE CHOIR SCHOOL

#### *The Choir School: Music That Feeds Mind and Soul*

The Choir School is a children's choral program that nurtures and inspires student achievement through quality music education and the joy of choral singing. It was founded in the spring of 2014 by Susan Dedell, and now offers two levels.

**Level One Choir.** For children ages 8–10.  
*Meets Thursdays 3:45–4:30 p.m.,  
beginning September 15*

Students in Level One will learn basic concepts of rhythm, pitch, and “choircraft” in addition to singing some wonderful music. Little or no prior musical experience is required.

**Level Two Choir.** For singers aged 11–16.  
*Meets Tuesdays 3:45–4:45 p.m.,  
beginning September 13*

In Level Two, students expand their skills in music literacy, vocal technique, and harmony singing. Since in this level kids have begun to acquire sight-singing skills, they are able to learn a lot of good repertoire from a variety of sources. Students in Level Two generally offer four to five individual programs per year, including the spring “Mystery Play.”

In addition to the thrill of singing with others, choral singing is a wonderful way to foster poise, respect of self and others, commitment, leadership, and teamwork.

Both programs are free of charge and are open to all children who love to sing and want to learn more. Talk to director Susan Dedell if you have any questions or need more information. Susan can be contacted at [sdedell@sover.net](mailto:sdedell@sover.net), by phone at 802-348-7735, or leave a message at the church office.

*“When children sing beautifully,  
it speaks directly to the soul.”*

## EXPLORING OUR FAITH TOGETHER

### ADULT FORUM

Our Sunday Forums take place in the Meeting Room from 9:00–10:00 a.m. All are welcome, including visitors and friends.

#### **September 11: The 15th Anniversary of 9/11—**

The Rev. Dr. J. Robert Wright, Historiographer of the Episcopal Church, wrote, “We who live as Christians today must not be content merely to study the history of the past, we must also collaborate in creating the history of the future.” With this challenge in mind, on this 15th anniversary we’ll consider together what some have called “Ground Zero Spirituality.” This ancient spirituality seems to have re-emerged in the months following the attack, and is continuing (growing?) even now. It includes themes of vulnerability and God’s entering into the material world through community. Our presenter will use some of her experiences working at the site as well as written reflections of others to flesh out this “Ground Zero Spirituality.” Led by Jean Smith.

#### **September 18: The Hospitality Experiment: What Have We Learned?—**

At the beginning of the summer, Mary Lindquist issued a challenge to the parishioners of St. Michael’s: put yourself in a situation where you are dependent on the hospitality of others. Did you find ways to fulfill this experiment? If so, what was it like? What did you learn? Come to the forum and tell us about it. Even if you didn’t find a way to be dependent on the hospitality of others, come to the forum as we discuss why this practice is so important to our faith and life as followers of Christ. Mary Lindquist will lead.

#### **September 25: A Conversation with Bishop Ely—**

Bishop Ely will once again be with us to conduct services of Confirmation, Reception, and Reaffirmation. It has become our tradition to sit with him during the forum hour to chat about Diocesan matters or other topics that may arise spontaneously. Please come and welcome him personally.



## ROTA FOR SEPTEMBER

**LITURGICAL ROTA FOR SEPTEMBER 2016 • 8:00 AM AND 10:15 AM SUNDAY SERVICES UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.**

Position	September 4	September 11	September 18	September 25
<b>8 A.M. Service at Christ Church      8:00 A.M. SERVICE</b>				
<b>Lay Assistant</b>	Kate McGinn	Anita Crosson	Wayne Cook	Kate McGinn
<b>Lector</b>				Jeff Lewis
<b>Intercessor</b>	Kiersten McKenney	Anne Brown	Doug Lilly	Joanne Patalano
<b>Sacramental Healing</b>	Betsy Bates	Janet Cramer	Carolyn Taylor-Olson	Jeff Lewis
<b>Usher</b>	Judy McGee	Anne Cook	Judy McGee	Anne Cook
<b>10:15 A.M. Service at St. Michael's      10:15 A.M. SERVICE</b>				
<b>Crucifer</b>	Jack Karn	Miranda Smith	Mikael Mattson	Jeff Hiam
<b>Torch Bearers</b>	Julian Siegel Nathaniel Johnson	Marian Wojcik Annelise Fedoruk	KC Mattson Jake Mattson	Clara Fritz Caleb Fritz
<b>Element Bearers</b>	Judith Hildreth Sue Dyer	Ken Jacobs Ricky Davidson	Betsy Bates Nancy Barber	Chris Hart Darcey Mercier
<b>Lay Assistant</b>	Jeff Hiam	Sarah Benton	Greg Lesch	Miranda Smith
<b>Lector</b>	Julia Fedoruk	Elise Burrows	Martin Leggott	Greg Lesch
<b>Intercessor</b>	Mary Carnahan	Sherry Stimmel	Jenn Karstad	Sue Dyer
<b>Ushers</b>	Darcey Mercier Susan Nichols	Andy & Elise Burrows	Sarah Benton Betsy Bates	Judith & Alan McBean
<b>Sacramental Healing</b>	Judith Hildreth	Sissi Loftin	Robin White-Diamondstone	Margit Lilly
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Mary Carnahan Charlene Kemp Rebecca Olmstead Zadie Olmstead	Mary Carnahan Charlene Kemp Rebecca Olmstead Zadie Olmstead	Carol Hesselbach Madelyn Howard Lynn Billington Judy Walker	Carol Hesselbach Madelyn Howard Lynn Billington Judy Walker
<b>Lemonade</b>	Whitney Nichols			
<b>Counters</b>	Anne Cook Judy McGee	Wayne Cook Judith Hildreth	Ricky Davidson Jared Rediske	Jeanette Landin Sherry Stimmel

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

### SEPTEMBER LECTIONARY

*Sunday, September 4:*

Deuteronomy 30:15–20, Psalm 1, Philemon 1–21, Luke 14:25–33

*Sunday, September 11:*

Exodus 32:7–14, Psalm 51:1–11, 1 Timothy 1:12–17, Luke 15:1–10

*Sunday, September 18:*

Amos 8:4–7, Psalm 113, 1 Timothy 2:1–7, Luke 16:1–13

*Sunday, September 25:*

Amos 6:1a, 4–7; Psalm 146; 1 Timothy 6:6–19, Luke 16:19–31



## CELEBRATIONS

### SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

September 3	Aaron Sharff, Thad Bennett
September 4	Jacki Capponcelli
September 6	Ricky Davidson, Charles Daigneault
September 7	Chris Lovell
September 9	Sarah Benton
September 11	Grace Xinqi Willingham
September 12	Margit Lilly
September 13	Iris Mayer, Richard McNary
September 14	Kyle Capponcelli
September 15	Calvin Ronconi
September 16	Susan Daigneault, Eleanor Horton
September 17	Donna Reidt
September 18	KJ White
September 19	Skyla Ragle, Elise Burrows
September 20	Krista Burtis, Ainsley Meyer, Christian Olmstead, Laura Panzer
September 21	Avery Bennett, Wendy Cluff
September 22	Anne Montgomery, Alix Fedoruk, Ellen McNary
September 23	Hannah Kochinskas, Jordan Vslego
September 25	Scott McElhinney
September 27	Meredith Martinez
September 28	Corky Elwell, Samantha Sharff, Thomas Brown
September 29	Bruce Hesselbach
September 30	Mary McCarthy

### SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

September 1	Samantha & Aaron Sharff
September 3	Christine Triebert & Carol Ross
September 4	Becky & Robert Anderson
September 5	Alix & Michael Fedoruk
September 10	Betsy Bates & Neil Quinn, Linda & Ken Neilson, Kate & Andrew LeBlanc
September 16	Margit & Jack Lilly
September 20	Marie & Bruce Lawrence
September 28	Judy & Bob Walker

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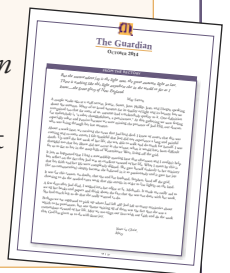
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# The Guardian

*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 childcare

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

**WEDNESDAYS** Noon, Brief service of prayer and Holy Communion

**THURSDAYS** 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

**SEPTEMBER 4:** 8 a.m. Service at Christ Church

**SEPTEMBER 11:** Church School begins

**SEPTEMBER 13, 15:** Choir School begins

**SEPTEMBER 25:** St. Michael's Day with Bishop Ely

**SEPT 30–OCT 1:** Fall Tag Sale

**OCTOBER 2:** St. Francis' Day