

ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH WEEKEND ANNOUNCEMENTS
12/7/17

WEEKDAY WORSHIP IN THE CHAPEL

Silent Meditation, 6-7 am, Monday-Friday
Holy Eucharist, 12-12:30 pm, Wednesday
Contemplative Worship, 5:30-6:00 pm, Thursday
Centering Prayer, 8-9 am, Saturday

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to *Clara Fritz*, This Sunday; *Jenny Karstad, Hailey Cogliano, Rebecca Mayer* and *Holly MacLean*, Tuesday; *Paula Ryan* and *Robin White-Diamondstone*, Thursday; *Carol Hesselbach*, Friday.

MEN'S BREAKFAST, THIS SATURDAY DECEMBER 9, 9 AM: All men of St. Michael's are invited to breakfast this Saturday December 9, beginning at 9 am in the Undercroft. **Parishioner Steve Harrison, Executive Director of Kurn Hattin Homes for Children in Westminster, will speak with us.**

DEEP HOPE, STEWARDSHIP 2018: We have received 129 pledges for \$239,876. This year our goal is to receive \$270,000 in pledges (a 3% increase over what we received last year) and at least 135 pledges. If you have not turned in your pledge card, please bring it to St. Michael's or send it to the church office. Thank you for your generosity!

ADULT FORUM, DECEMBER 10 & 17 – "Dwelling with the Story of Epiphany" - The story of the Magi, the Star, King Herod and Baby Jesus is an important piece of the Christmas narrative, but we often don't spend much time on it because it happens after the story of Jesus' birth. This year we are going to delve into the story, exploring the cultural background, context, themes and the meaning of ancient astrology that the Magi followed to find the infant Jesus. Led by Mary Lindquist & Parishioner Benson Bobrick.

SWEET HARMONY JEWELRY AND CROSSES IN UNDERCROFT, THIS SUNDAY 9-12:30: Before and after the 10:15 service, Sweet Harmony, (aka Janet Brocklehurst & Sissi Loftin), will be in the Undercroft with beautiful fused glass pendants and wall crosses and jewelry items such as earrings, pendants, rings, and cuff links. Twenty per cent of proceeds will be donated to St. Michael's. Come and look, find Christmas gifts, and treat yourself as well.

ADVENT LESSONS AND CAROLS SERVICE, THIS SUNDAY DECEMBER 10, 4

PM: Lessons and Carols is THIS SUNDAY at 4 pm. This beautiful tradition promises to be especially meaningful this year, bringing light as we head into the darkest days of the year. Join the choir and your church community this afternoon. And bring a friend or neighbor. This is a great service for those who might not normally be church goers.

ITEMS FOR ADVENT LESSONS AND CAROLS RECEPTION THIS SUNDAY: The reception after the Lessons and Carols Service this afternoon is a St. Michael's tradition and is a wonderful way to thank our choir and to provide hospitality to visitors to our church. We are asking the congregation to help by bringing food. If you are able to help, please bring snacks such as sweet finger foods, fruit, or cheese and crackers. In order not to have too much of one thing, we ask those with last names **A-J to bring sweet finger food and those with last names K-Z to bring cheese & crackers or fruit. Please offer treats that don't require plates!** Food may be dropped off at Coffee Hour or before the Lessons and Carols service later in the day. Thank you for your help!

CHRISTMAS EVE PAGEANT REHEARSALS -- Join St. Michael's Christmas Eve pageant and help bring the Nativity to life for our parish!

We rehearse: Sunday mornings 9:00-10:00 a.m. (during Sunday school:

This Sunday December 10: Finish all blocking; run through with all lines assigned; with music and with props. Costume check: Do we have everything we need? Should we change any costuming?

December 17: Run through "off book," with music and props.

December 23: Dress rehearsal at 4 PM.

December 24: All should arrive at 3:15; the pageant is at 4:00 p.m.

We invite youth from outside the Parish to join in, too. Kids: if you have friends from school or the neighborhood who'd like to be part of the pageantry, please encourage them to come to do so. Your directors are, once again, Annie Landenberger, Miranda Smith and Susan Dedell. For more information, contact Annie Landenberger, 348-7156, verbatim@gmail.com.

WONDERING HOW YOU MIGHT HELP OUT AT ST. MICHAEL'S WITH A MINIMAL TIME COMMITMENT?

From Wayne Cook: "I am looking for several new Sunday volunteer counters. Training is provided and the commitment can be as little as once a month for about 60-90 minutes following the 10:15 Sunday Service. Some knowledge of Excel spreadsheets is helpful, but if you are willing to learn the basics, that is all that I ask. With 4 or 5 two-person teams, the rotation can be set for a specific week on a regular monthly basis. It is time to give a few of the current dedicated counters a break, but this can only happen if others willingly step up. Might you have a bit of time one Sunday a month? Please contact me, Wayne Cook, if you have interest or questions. Thanks." *Wayne Cook*, wecooks.alot@gmail.com or 802-896-9446

COMPLINE SERVICE; DECEMBER 12 AND 19; 7:30 PM: All are invited to come to a sung Compline Service (or Office) at 7:30 pm in the Chapel on the remaining Tuesdays during Advent: December 12 and 19. Compline is also known as "Night Prayer" and we will sing the prayers by candlelight. One of the Ministry of Discipleship disciplines is offering ourselves, and receiving God's love and blessings, with our community in worship. In this season of darkness, we look forward to gathering together by candlelight to offer and receive those blessings.

POETRY WRITING GROUP, WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 13, 7 PM: The Poetry Writing Group will meet on Wednesday, December 13 at 7 PM in the small meeting room behind the kitchen. All are welcome. The intention of the group is to make time to write together. Contact Megan Buchanan 892.258.9052 with questions.

LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2017, 4:00 P.M. In this quiet service, as we approach Christmas, we name the broken places that live within even as we look for the growing light. As one person said at the end of last year's Longest Night, "After naming my loss in such a quiet sacred way, I now think I can enjoy the good parts of Christmas more."

GIFTS TOWARD ADVENT GREENS AND CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS: If you would like to give a gift toward the greens which decorate the Church during Advent and the poinsettias at Christmas, there is a green form at the back of the Sanctuary today. You can also stop by the church office, send a gift by mail or email jeanie@stmichaelsvermont.org about your gift. **Information about all gifts and dedications should be in the Church office by the end of the day on Sunday, December 17.**

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR LISA TERZARIOL: As you may know, Lisa's mother Cynthia Terzariol, administrator at St. Michael's for many years, died several weeks ago in Italy, where Lisa lives. If you would like a mailing address for Lisa, please contact the administration office at 254-6048 or jeanie@stmichaelsvermont.org.

CHRISTMAS DINNER AT ST. MICHAEL'S: We will be having our annual Christmas Dinner at noon on Christmas Day in the Undercroft. Everyone is invited. Sissi and Janet will provide turkey and the fixings. You may bring a dish to share if you want. Sign up sheets are in the Common Room. Any questions, sissiloftin@hotmail.com, 254-9509. Please join us for Food and Fellowship.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR DUNCAN'S ORDINATION! Saturday, January 6 is the Feast of the Epiphany and the Ordination of Duncan Hilton to the Priesthood at 10:30 am. It is a super-special thing for a parish to host someone's ordination and we are honored to have the privilege at St. Michael's. If you have never been to an ordination, you have not experienced one of the most meaningful experiences of liturgy and worship ever. As weddings remind us of and help us renew our own marriage vows and promises, ordinations remind us of our own callings and how God has participated and continues to lead us forth in our lives. You do not want to miss this special event!

BLESSED ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SEASON

- Sunday, December 3** *First Sunday of Advent, St. Nicholas Fair*
- Tuesday, December 5** *Compline, 7:30 p.m.*
- Saturday, December 9** *The Greening of the Church, 9:00 a.m.*
- Sunday, December 10** *Second Sunday of Advent
Advent Lessons and Carols, 4:00 p.m., reception following*
- Tuesday, December 12** *Compline, 7:30 p.m.*
- Saturday, December 16** *Festival of Lights with St. Michael's Choir School, 4:00 p.m.*
- Sunday, December 17** *Third Sunday of Advent
The Longest Night Service, 4:00 p.m.*
- Tuesday, December 19** *Compline, 7:30 p.m.*
- Sunday, December 24 (morning)** *Fourth Sunday of Advent*
- Sunday, December 24 (evening) Christmas Eve**
Christmas Pageant and Holy Eucharist, 4:00 p.m.
*Festival Candlelight Christmas Eve Service
with Holy Eucharist, **8:00 p.m.** (note new time!)*
- Christmas Day, Monday, December 25**
Festival Holy Eucharist, 10:00 a.m.
- Sunday, December 31** *Holy Eucharist, 8 a.m.
Christmas Lessons and Carols (no Eucharist), 10:15 a.m.*
- Saturday, January 6** *The Feast of the Epiphany
Ordination to the Priesthood (Duncan Hilton), 10:30 am*

Please note! Our "late" Christmas Eve Service is now scheduled for 8 pm (not 9 pm as it has been in past years).