

DECEMBER 2018

# A BLESSED ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SEASON

Sunday, December 2
First Sunday of Advent,
St. Nicholas Fair

**Saturday, December 8** *The Greening of the Church, 9:00 a.m.* 

# Sunday, December 9 Second Sunday of Advent Advent Lessons and Carols, 4:00 p.m., reception following

Saturday, December 15
Festival of Lights with
St. Michael's Choir School, 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 16 Third Sunday of Advent The Longest Night Service, 4:00 p.m.

**Sunday, December 23**Fourth Sunday of Advent



# Monday, December 24 Christmas Eve

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

Service with Holy Eucharist, 8:00 p.m.

Christmas Day, Tuesday, December 25

Festival Holy Eucharist, 10:00 a.m. Family Christmas Dinner, 12 - 2 p.m.

# Sunday, December 30

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

# Sunday, January 6,

The Feast of the Epiphany, Bishop Ely's Visitation and the Sacrament of Confirmation celebrated, 8 & 10:15 am

#### FROM THE RECTORY

### **SNOW DAY**

We got a phone call at 5:40 am this morning; it was the principal of the high school glee-fully announcing that today was a snow day. When I was growing up, the schools didn't call parents. Instead, we dutifully got out of bed and listened carefully to the radio to hear whether our school was named as being closed for the day. There were always great shouts of joy when our school was named and moans of disappointment when it wasn't. Snow days meant sledding, building snowmen, relaxing at home.

I still experience excitement with the announcement of a snow day. Even though I live right next to the church and can easily work regardless of the weather, a snow day still feels like a gift: time to be together as a family, time to sit in front of the fireplace, time to be cozy and enjoy the beauty of the snow, time to wonder.

The spacious feeling of a snow day, the time for wonder, is the experience I hope for every year for the Season of Advent. According to the dictionary, wonder means "to think or speculate curiously" and comes from the old English word "wunder" which means "marvelous thing, marvel, the object of astonishment."

Jesus' birth, no matter how many times I hear the story, is always a marvel and a cause for astonishment. There is something about the nativity story that calls me to wonder, wanting to enter into the story in a new way. Being part of a church community is part of this call to wonder – singing and hearing the Advent hymns at the Advent Lessons and Carols service, sharing the joy of children at the Christmas Pageant and the Festival of Lights service, and sitting in silence in the candlelit church after singing Silent Night on Christmas Eve.

May this Season of Advent be full of wonder and as spacious as a snow day for all of us!

Blessings, Mary

### **NEWS OF THE PARISH**

# STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

We are very grateful for the pledges St. Michael's has received for our ministry for 2019. As of November 20, we have received 109 pledges which total \$222,316. This is wonderful news and we are so grateful for the generosity of our community!

Our goal this year to support our ministry in 2019 is to receive 140 pledges for a total of \$265,000. 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 (802-254-6048). Thank you for your love and commitment to our ministry together.



# CHRISTMAS EVE PAGEANT REHEARSAL BEGINNING DECEMBER 2

Calling toddlers, children and teens! Join St. Michael's Christmas Eve pageant and help bring the Nativity to life for our parish.

This year, the Christmas Eve pageant will be directed by St. Michael's High School teens Jayne Fritz, Jonah Johnson, and Caleb Fritz, with the continued help and assistance of Assistant Director Miranda Smith. We are so grateful to Annie Landenberger, who stepped down this year, for her many years of amazing directorship of the Christmas Pageant.

This year, **there will be a new script,** but we will still need all the usual suspects - Mary, Joseph, Baby Jesus, Angels, Shepherds, Wise wo/men, Starbearer, Innkeepers and more!

We'll rehearse: Sunday mornings 9:00-10:00 a.m. on December 2, 9, 16 and 23. December 23rd's dress rehearsal may occur in the afternoon, but has not yet been determined.

December 24 is the day of the Pageant. All should arrive at 3:15. The pageant begins 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.

# DECEMBER FORUMS Stories of the Nativity: Unlikely Characters

The Adult Forums for the Advent Season will focus on lesser known but no less important characters of the beloved story of Jesus' birth.

December 2 – "ELIZABETH" -- Signs, wonders and divine proclamation, all things that tend to make us at least somewhat uncomfortable, are a part of Elizabeth's story. The angel Gabriel appears promising that Elizabeth will give birth, but the news is not delivered to her, but to her husband. And, although the Gabriel greets Zechariah telling him not to be afraid, when Zechariah raises questions about the angel's message, he becomes instantly mute, conversation over. But, our conversation will begin here with an exploration about what all this could have meant to the earliest readers, and to us now. How are signs, wonders, and divine proclamation a part of our continuing the birthing of divine love? Led by Jean Smith.

**December 9 -- "JOSEPH" --** What is Joseph's place in the Advent story? Why is he there? What if Joseph really was Jesus' biological father, what difference would that make? Come and explore the forgotten character in the birth story and some questions that he invites us to pay attention to. Led by Phillip Wilson

December 16 – "SIMEON & ANNA" – You may never meet Simeon and Anna in a Christmas Pageant, but their prophetic presence at the temple after Jesus is born sets the birth story in the wider context of what Jesus' birth will mean for Mary, for Judaism, and for the world. Join us as we explore these two interesting characters through story, art and poetry. Led by Mary Lindquist



# ST. NICHOLAS DAY FAIR, DECEMBER 2

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 2 immediately following the 10:15 service. 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.



# OUT OF BALANCE: #Me Too -- Kavanaugh and Gender Inequality December 3, 7- 8:30 pm

On Monday December 3 from 7:00 pm -8:30 pm in the Upstairs Meeting Room, the Social Justice Ministry of St. Michael's invites you to join us as we together think about issues of gender inequality and how we might respond. The evening will be led by The Rev. Lise Sparrow, Pastor of Guilford Church, and John Bouffard, a national consultant working with non-profits for the past 20 years.

Last month as we in the Justice Ministry were planning for the year, we were responding to the televised hearings and their treatment of women and at the same time recognizing the growing # Me Too movement. We decided to dedicate an evening to explore both topics in depth. Hence, **OUT OF BALANCE:** #Me Too; Kavanaugh and Gender Inequality was planned and scheduled for December 3 at 7:00 pm.

We do this because our baptismal vows "to seek and serve Christ in all persons and to love your neighbor as yourself" demand that we take on such issues and look for new ways to relate to each other.

The evening will look at issues of structural and personal male privilege, at little ways we perpetuate this imbalance without even thinking about it, and at what we can do to recognize and change. We will be able to ask questions and share stories. This evening is for men and women to consider what has to change "to respect the dignity of every human being." (BCP Baptismal Service, p. 305)

Decaf coffee and treats will be served.

# THE GREENING OF THE CHURCH, DECEMBER 8

All are invited to the greening of the church on Saturday, December 8 at 9am. 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 festive gathering!



# MORNING PRAYER, EVENING PRAYER AND COMPLINE IN DECEMBER

Each chanted service, which lasts approximately 30 minutes, includes Psalms, prayers, and readings. The services are in the Mary Magdalene Chapel at St. Michael's.

Wednesday Dec 5	Compline	7:30 pm
Thursday Dec 20	Morning Prayer	9 am
Sunday Dec 16	Evening Prayer	5:30 pm



# ADVENT LESSONS AND CAROLS RECEPTION December 9

The reception after the Lessons and Carols Service on December 9 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 cheese & crackers or fruit and those with last names K-Z to bring sweet finger food. Please offer treats that don't require plates! Food may be dropped off at Coffee Hour on December 9 or before the Lessons and Carols service later that day. Thank you ahead of time for your help!



# BISHOP ELY TO VISIT ON THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY, Sunday, January 6

The Feast of the Epiphany will be celebrated on Sunday, January 6 at both the 8 & 10:15 am service. This year's Epiphany Feast will be extra special, because this is the day the Bishop of Vermont, Tom Ely is doing his FINAL 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 (9-10am)
- There will be a special, festive reception following the 10:15 am service
- Several people from our congregation will be confirmed at the 10:15 am 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.

# MY SOUL MAGNIFIES THE LORD: SAYING "YES" TO GOD Tuesday, December 11, 5:30-8:00 pm

Join us for a time of fellowship, conversation, and worship as we explore how we, like Mary, can say, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord. Let it be with me according to your word."

This gathering provides follow up for people who participated in the Missional Workshop on Nov. 3rd and anyone else who senses that God is calling them to respond to the world in a new way. Come prepared to reflect on these questions: "Who are the Angels and God's other messengers in your life right now?" "How are they seeking your attention and inviting a response?"

The season of Advent is a time of patient waiting that births the new. Occurring at the darkest time of year, Advent leads us to Christmas when the light is literally and figuratively born anew. In day to day use, the word advent also heralds a new beginning, a coming into being or use (Merriam-Webster), such as the "advent of spring" or the "advent of a new ministry at church or in your community."

Nowhere is the concept of "advent" more clear than in the story of Mary and Joseph, two ordinary people who had their worlds turned upside down by a visit from an angel of God. Instead of turning their backs to the messenger, they opened their hearts, minds, and their entire being to a deeper and more profound "Yes".

We will gather in the Undercroft at 5:30 PM for a potluck meal, worship, and guided conversation with times for solo reflection and group sharing.





# **FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS DECEMBER 15**

On Saturday, December 15, at 4:00 p.m., the parish is warmly invited to attend a service that features the voices of the Choir School in readings, anthems, prayers, and candle lighting. These young people will be sure to touch your hearts. Whether you have children or not, you will find yourself experiencing the mystery and joy of the season in a way that is especially transmitted through the leadership of our children. Like the Service of Lessons and Carols, hymns and carols will be sung by the congregation as well. Tis truly a special service!



# LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE Sunday, December 16, 2018, 4:00 p.m.

"I so wanted a place to quietly cry in Church this Christmas season."

"After naming my loss in such a quiet, sacred way, I now think I can enjoy the good parts of Christmas more."

"It was place where I could be both sad and happy at the same time. Thank you for letting me name the "sad."

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

These are comments made by people after leaving last year's Longest Night service.

The Longest Night is a service of hope for all who carry sorrow of any kind. 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. 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 help to find the comfort we need and to strengthen the connections we share. All are welcome.

# ST. MICHAEL'S FAMILY CHRISTMAS DINNER CHRISTMAS DAY, 12 - 2

Once again, there will be the annual St. Michael's Family Christmas Dinner on Tuesday, December 25, Christmas Day. Dinner will be downstairs in the Undercroft from, 12-2. Sissi and Janet will provide turkey, gravy, and cornbread dressing. If you want to bring a favorite dish, please call Sissi at 254-9509. Last year we had to cancel because of snow, so fingers crossed that we will celebrate our 6th Christmas Dinner with cooperative weather. Everyone is invited. Please use the sign up sheet in the Common Room so we will know how many to expect. Hope to see you there!



# "REVIVAL" with Presiding Bishop Michael Curry Darcey Mercier

I was excited to go to the Revival in Pittsfield, Massachusetts this fall because I wanted to see what "revival" means to the Episcopal Church. After hearing our presiding Bishop Curry speak at the royal wedding, I knew it would be inspiring! And so Bishop Curry started by asking, "What is God doing in Jesus Christ?" His answer was about the love of Christ. It is the love of Christ that urges us on. It is what motivates us, fills us, and compels us. It is this love that causes us to live for a higher purpose, so that we can live for the good will of the other.

And then we ask that question, "What does love look like now and in each moment?" It looks like sacrifice. It looks like seeking the good. And it looks like loving one another the best way we know how in each moment. Bishop Michael Curry will continue to hold revivals around the country throughout the coming year, spreading his message of love.

#### TAG SALE UPDATE

On Sunday, November 11, about 20 people gathered in the Undercroft to discuss the future of the Tag Sale. After some reflection and discussion, the group decided that a Tag Sale Team will come together, think about the mission of the Tag Sale going forward, and discern the possibility of a new and sustainable way of approaching this ministry. The Team will report to the Vestry at their December meeting. Thirteen parishioners volunteered to help with this task. Please keep them in your prayers and you will hear from them soon!

#### LETTER OF THANKS

Dear St. Michael's Family,

Thank you to all of you for your kindness shown to me and my family during our loss of Neil. I was overwhelmed with all your prayers and generosity, from cards, letters, an amazing collection of foods for the reception, and generous financial support. I am so happy to call St. Michael's my home and all of you my friends and family!

Hugs all around,

Betsy Bates



# PROJECT FEED THE THOUSANDS

# This is the Brattleboro area food drive to feed our neighbors, one can of food and one dollar at a time.

You probably have seen the bins and signs at the grocery stores. This year St Michael's is one of the drop off sites. All the cans and boxes of food as well as money donations from St. Michael's go directly to Loaves and Fishes. Centre Congregational Church and All Souls are also supporting Loaves and Fishes.

# "What does Loaves and Fishes do with all the cans and boxes of food?" you ask.

Loaves and Fishes has a share table at each day of service for folks to take home food for themselves and their families. We also serve 14 families at the Centre for Children Nursery at the Congregational Church (another of their missions). These 14 families get a box of food for the weekend with enough food for 2 meals and some items not covered by food stamps such as personal care items, laundry and dish soap, and paper products. Some of the families also opt to receive frozen meals and refrigerated products like eggs and cheese.

# How can the people of St Michael's help?

Help fill that basket that our youth haul up to the altar on Sunday! We need the following items: soups, mac and cheese, canned chili, vegetables and fruit, peanut butter, spaghetti and spaghetti sauce. Think of the single parent family struggling to make a meal for his/her family and when you're shopping for your family add some food to give to your neighbor in need. Bring it to church and put in the basket at the back of the church.

Ruth Tilghman



# **EXPLORING OUR FAITH TOGETHER**

#### **DISCERNMENT & DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRY**

Dear St. Michael's,

It's been a very full month – helping Rosie, Megan, and Leigh to officiate the Wave of Light service, joining Peter Johnson at the Gathering Place for a hymn sing, celebrating a Eucharist service at the Turning Point, praying the daily office with Valerie and others, hosting a Rule of Life workshop, attending diocesan convention, and co-leading a missional workshop with Cary Gaunt.

I've been continuing to reflect on joy as a fruit of the spirit which I tend to overlook. There has been much joy the last month – experiencing Peter's hospitality to me and Whitney at the Gathering Place as he circled up chairs for his friends at the Gathering Place and solicited song requests, Caleb and Jonah sharing a glowing rap song they wrote about diocesan convention on the car ride home, singing the psalms in unison with others in the chapel, longtime members of the parish visiting the open discipleship group for the first time and opening their hearts.

I'm delighted that the discipleship groups continue to thrive and it's become clear that, building off the thick relationships developed there, the focus of the ministry for this year is about mission, the outward-focused aspect of following Jesus. That focus began with the workshop on November 3rd when we practiced Holy Listening, 1:1 Relationship-Building, and Praying the Neighborhood, an exercise Cary taught about learning to recognize how God speaks to us through our surroundings. In reference to the missional workshop, one of you asked me recently, "Don't we already do enough mission?"

Yes, absolutely. There is already so much good work that St. Michael's does for the community. The missional workshop isn't about doing more or doing things more effectively or addressing more needs in the community. It's not about starting something new. It's about experiencing the renewal, inspiration and surprise that can happen when people tell their stories about what is breaking their heart and what is making their heart sing and share the resources that they have to respond.

One of the pastors who inspires me around mission is Mike Mather, a Methodist pastor in downtown Indianapolis. His understanding of mission is that God's abundance is bubbling up all around us, usually in the least likely places where who is the leader and who is led gets turned upside down. That's been my experience – whether that's been learning to pray from Latina grandmothers when I was working on a voter registration campaign or learning hospitality from folks with special needs. You can hear him tell an inspiring six-minute story here (https://youtu.be/WOET3FReOfM) about how through inviting people to share about their gifts and stories, his church moved from focusing primarily on serving at a food pantry to helping one of the guests launch her own business.

In November the folks who came to the workshop learned some practices to help look for that abundance in the neighborhood and one another. On January 12, we'll have a follow up workshop for anyone feeling called to move more deeply into action as part of a team. God only knows what's in store!

Duncan



# ST. MICHAEL'S RECEIVES DIOCESAN GRANT

St. Michael's received a grant of \$15,000 from the Diocese of Vermont for the second year of our three-year experiment in Discernment and Discipleship Ministry. This ministry includes the Discipleship Groups, the Rule of Life ministry, Missional Training, the Discernment for Lay People, and many other things that our Priest for Discernment and Discipleship, Duncan Hilton, has helped create and offer at St. Michael's. We are very grateful for the encouragement of the Grants and Loans Committee who were very excited to hear about what St. Michael's doing and interested in how this ministry can be shared more widely with other parishes.



## **EXPLORING OUR FAITH TOGETHER**

### FROM THE LIBRARY SHELVES

A Short History of the Episcopal Church by The Reverend George Hodges Forward Movement Publications Cincinnati, Ohio 4" X 6 1/4" 126 pages

# PART TWO

Part One dealt with the growth of the Church from early settlement through the Revolution, the War of 1812, and the emerging dioceses in New England.

A little-known, much-suppressed, and highly-embarrassing meeting occurred in Hartford in the last stages of the War of 1812. The so-called New England Convention of the region's states met to resolve its grievances with the Federal government consequent to the painful war-time restrictions imposed upon these states. What developed was a threat to secede from the nation. Delegates were sent to Washington to present their demands. Ironically and embarrassingly, upon their arrival they discovered the War had ended. The secessionist delegates, being reasonable fellows, joined in the celebratory merry-making and everyone went home happy if a bit worse for wear. The reader can visit the elegant room in which the delegates met in the Old State House in Hartford. The Constitution State, formerly the Nutmeg State, prefers not to promote it as a tourist attraction (early Connecticut peddlers duped innocent farm wives by cleverly selling them wooden nutmegs—something the now self-righteous state no longer finds amusing).

With the advent of the Civil War, and the outbreak of serious secession, the Church had to deal with its role in the conflict. Should it take sides? The relation of the states to the national government was still unclear. Was ours a sovereign nation and indivisible forever? Or was it a confederation of states from which any state might choose to resign?

Heretofore, the triennial General Convention had met in both northern and southern states. The clergy attending had become personal friends. But, in1861, the southern dioceses followed the secession of their states and adopted their own constitution and canons and held their own convention in 1863. It was not unusual for its clergy to join the Confederate army, notably Bishop Polk of Louisiana. The Reverend Pendelton of Virginia became Lee's brilliant artillerist. Further, both Lee and Jefferson Davis were ardent Episcopalians.

In 1862, the General Convention met in New York and, ignoring the secession of their southern brethren, began the roll call of attendees with Alabama and proceeded to call the full roster of dioceses including those absent. The convention adopted a resolution affirming the duty of clergy and churchmen to sustain and defend the country and prayed for the restoration of the Union.

At war's end, the southern dioceses began to filter back as their states, with Lee's influence and encouragement, rejoined the union. Among the clergy, old friends who had been on opposing sides in the war once again reunited their friendships. Churchmen, now united, began debating again the role of ritual in the Church dividing themselves between so-called low and high factions. Alterations were made to the canons for the purpose of making the Church a force for righteousness. They addressed the growth of divorce in marriage and how the Church would respond. But bigger issues loomed on the troubled horizon as we shall see in Part Three.

Robert R. Anderson



### THIS IS MY BODY

St. Michael's Women's Retreat 2019 Saturday, February 2- Sunday, February 3 Hallelujah Farm, West Chesterfield, NH

This theme of this year's women's retreat is "This is my Body." These are the words that Jesus said at the Last Supper as he fed his disciples. And these are the words we hear during the Eucharistic Prayer every Sunday, "This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Why did Jesus choose this particular way to be remembered? What does it mean about our own bodies? How does it relate to how we live in the physical world? Come explore these questions and more as we gather together to eat, drink, talk, hike, do yoga, celebrate being bodies and the gift of Jesus' invitation to remember him as body.

The retreat will begin at 10 am on Saturday and end by 12 pm on Sunday. We welcome all women from St. Michael's and ask that you commit to being present for the full retreat. Registration and more information will be available at the beginning of January.

### **VESTRY UPDATE**

We are very pleased with the direction and parishioner support of our Rule of Life and Discipleship groups. These are exciting and new additions to our life at St. Michael's. In the spirit of considering new ideas, we discussed offering a way for parishioners and visitors to donate to St. Michael's using PopMoney, Zelle, or other similar apps on their smartphone. We will be exploring this option and hope to introduce it early in the new year. We are working through the budgeting process for 2019 -- thank you to everyone who has already pledged for 2019! -- and are meeting in December with a focus group to determine the future of the tag sale. We noted an opportunity for other church services, particularly on Wednesdays or Saturday evenings, designed for those who cannot attend Sunday services. We concluded our November meeting with a bittersweet discussion of the new growth in the church and discussion of ways to recognize the contributions, some many years ago, of our dedicated parish family. We invite any questions or comments and look forward to celebrating the season of Christ's birth.

In Christ,

Feanette Landin St. Michael's Vestry



### VESTRY

### Senior Warden:

Judith McBean, jmcbean1959@gmail.com, 254-6975

# Junior Warden:

Carolyn Taylor-Olson,
oltayols@gmail.com, 254-9255
Lynne Billington,
Billington\_l@yahoo.com, 380-4309
Janet Brocklehurst,
janetbrocklehurst@gmail.com, 254-9509
John Byrnes,
john.byrnes@webbersupply.com, 254-6457
Imogene Drakes,
idrakes10@gmail.com

Mark Horton,
markhorton078@gmail.com, 251-0565
Jeanette Landin,
renplus2002@yahoo.com, 289-3836
Mary Lindquist,
mary@stmichaelsvermont.org, 254-6048
Christopher Wesolowski,
cmwvt@svcable.net, 365-9139

Wayne Cook, Treasurer, wecooks.alot@gmail.com, 896-9446 Joanne Patalano, Clerk, joannepatalano@comcast.net, 254-2294

# **EXPLORING OUR FAITH TOGETHER**

### **DECEMBER LECTIONARY**

# December 2

Jeremiah 33:14-16, Psalm 25:1-9, 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13, Luke 21:25-36

# December 9

Baruch 5:1-9 or Malachi 3:1-4, Canticle 4 or 16, Philippians 1:3-11, Luke 3:1-6

# December 16

Zephaniah 3:14-20, Canticle 9, Philippians 4:4-7, Luke 3:7-18



# December 23

Micah 5:2-5a, Canticle 15 (or 3) or Psalm 80:1-7, Hebrews 10:5-10, Luke 1:39-45

# December 30

Isaiah 61:10-62:3, Psalm 147, Galatians 3:23-25, 4:4-7; John 1:1-18

# **CELEBRATIONS**

#### **DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

December 1 Liz Vick, Cindy Bacigalupo,

December 3 Julian Siegel

December 6 Ramon Escalera Jr.

December 7 Chris Mattson

December 8 Julia Fedoruk, Paul Dyer

December 9 Jeanette Perry

December 10 Clara Fritz

December 12 Jenny Karstad, Hailey Cogliano,

Rebecca Mayer, Holly MacLean

December 14 Paula Ryan,

Robin White-Diamondstone

December 15 Carol Hesselbach, MaKayla Panzer

December 17 Jessica Bennett, Julie Ackerman-Hovis

December 20 Merribelle Coles, Annabel Horton

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 <a href="mailto:jeanie@stmichaels-vt.org">jeanie@stmichaels-vt.org</a> by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month for consideration.

**The Guardian Mailing List:** Contact Jeanie Crosby with address changes or requests to be added or removed from *The Guardian* mailing list. jeanie@stmichaels-vt.org or 802-254-6048.

printed on recycled paper 100% post consumer, PCF



16 Bradley Avenue Brattleboro, Vermont 05301-8429 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 childcare

WEEKDAY MORNINGS 6:00-7:00 a.m., Silent hour in chapel

WEDNESDAYS 12:00–12:30 p.m., Brief service of prayer and Holy Communion

THURSDAYS 5:30–6:30 p.m. Contemplative service of chanting, silence, and prayer

SATURDAYS 8:00 a.m., Centering Prayer