

## ST. MICHAEL'S ANNOUNCEMENTS – 12/5/18

### 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

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to *Jeanette Perry*, This Sunday; *Clara Fritz*, Monday; *Wylene Wood*, Tuesday; *Jenny Karstad*, *Hailey Cogliano*, *Rebecca Meyer* and *Holly MacLean*, Wednesday; *Robin White-Diamondstone*, Friday; *Carol Hesselbach* and *McKayla Panzer*, Saturday.

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

- **This Sunday, 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

**CHRISTMAS EVE PAGEANT REHEARSAL THIS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9: *We'll rehearse: Sunday mornings 9:00-10:00 a.m. on December 9, 16 and 23.*** December 23<sup>rd</sup>'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.

**TAG SALE TEAM MEETING, THIS SUNDAY MORNING, 11:45 AM:** The group working on a structure for continuation of the Tag Sale will today at 11:45 on December 9 in the Meeting Room. All interested folks are invited to bring their ideas to the meeting.

**ADVENT LESSONS & CAROLS THIS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9, 4 PM** with our fabulous choir. You won't want to miss this annual event which is both joyful and reflective. Invite or bring a friend with you — what a wonderful way to share the beauty of the season!

**ADVENT LESSONS & CAROLS RECEPTION THIS SUNDAY:** The reception after the Lessons & Carols Service 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. 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 Sunday or before the Lessons and Carols service later in the afternoon. Thank you ahead of time for your help!

**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 on Sunday. You can also stop by the church office, send a gift by mail, or email [jeanie@stmichaelsvermont.org](mailto:jeanie@stmichaelsvermont.org) about your gift. **Information about all gifts and dedications should be in the Church office by the end of the day next Sunday, December 16.**

***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?" 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. For more information, check the article in the December Guardian.

**WEEKLY 12-STEP MEETINGS AT ST. MICHAEL'S:** Contact the Church office if you want to be put in touch with coordinators of any of these meetings.

- **Overeaters Anonymous, Tuesday, 7-8 pm**
- **808 Meeting (LBGT AA group) Thursday, 8 – 9 pm**
- **Al-Anon, Saturday at 12 noon**

**FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS, SATURDAY DECEMBER 15, 4 PM:** On Saturday December 15 at 4 pm, the St. Michael's Choir School presents their version of Lessons & Carols in a service called the "Festival of Lights." Sung and read by just the children, this service will make your heart ready for the holiday season. All are welcome to join in this brief service of Christmas joy!

## **ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS AT ST. MICHAEL'S**

**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 (evening) 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*

### **THE LONGEST NIGHT: A SERVICE OF HOPE FOR ALL WHO CARRY**

**SORROW OF ANY KIND, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16, 4:00 PM:** The holiday season magnifies whatever is going on in our lives. It's often the hardest time of the year. Carrying sadness, pain or loss is an added struggle when joy and celebration are expected. Join us in this inclusive service as we name the burdens we bear and claim the promise of light that follows even the longest night. With candles, readings, music and chants we hope to find comfort as we gather during this time of expectation.

**EVENING PRAYER, DECEMBER 16 AND MORNING PRAYER, DECEMBER 20:**

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.

-- Sunday Dec 16            Evening Prayer            5:30 pm  
-- Thursday Dec 20        Morning Prayer            9 am

**HYMN SING AT THE GATHERING PLACE, TUESDAY DECEMBER 18, 10 AM:**

All are invited to join Duncan Hilton and Peter Johnson for a hymn sing at the Gathering Place on Terrace St. on Tuesday, December 18, beginning at 10 am.

**OPEN DISCIPLESHIP GROUP MEETING, WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 19:**

The open discipleship group meets on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at 5:30 pm. The group will meet next on Wednesday December 19 in the Undercroft at 5:30 for potluck supper. The meeting begins at 6 in the Dunham Room. This group includes lectio divina, sharing from the heart, deep listening, an exploration of Christian disciplines, and prayer. Child care will be provided. All are welcome, and there is no long-term commitment required for attendance. Questions? Contact [jeffreyhiam@gmail.com](mailto:jeffreyhiam@gmail.com).

**ST. MICHAEL'S FAMILY CHRISTMAS DINNER, CHRISTMAS DAY, 12 – 2 PM:**

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 Loftin and Janet Brocklehurst will provide turkey, gravy, and cornbread dressing. If you want to bring a favorite dish or have any questions, 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!

**STEWARDSHIP UPDATE:** Many thanks to everyone who has made a pledge in support of St. Michael's ministry and mission for 2019. So far, we have received 120 pledge cards for a total of \$239,018! We are well on our way towards our goals for pledges received (140) and total pledged (\$265,000). If you have not had a chance to pledge, we encourage you to do so soon. Pledge cards may be returned in the offering plate on Sundays or mailed to St. Michael's. If you have not received a pledge card, you can pick one up in the back of the church, the Common Room, or we can send one to you. Just contact the office at (802) 254-6048. Many thanks for your great generosity and support!