

ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS – 5/15/19

WEEKDAY WORSHIP IN THE CHAPEL

Silent Meditation, 6-7 am, Monday-Friday
Morning Prayer, 8-8:30 am, Monday-Friday
Holy Eucharist, 12-12:30 pm, Wednesday
Compline, 7:30-8 pm, 1st and 3rd Wednesdays
Contemplative Worship, 5:30-6:00 pm, Thursday
Centering Prayer, 8-9 am, Saturday

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Happy Birthday to *Susan Dyer*, This Sunday; ***Ruth Struthers***, Tuesday; ***Oliver Pomazi***, Wednesday; ***Chloe Hull***, Thursday.

Happy Anniversary to *Janet Brocklehurst & Sissi Loftin*, Friday.

THIS SUNDAY, SPECIAL SEND-OFF FOR MIMI AND DOUG LILLY: During the 8 am service, we will have a special prayer for Mimi and Doug Lilly who are moving to Peterborough, New Hampshire. Following the 8 o'clock service, we will have coffee and treats in the Undercroft. Please come and greet Doug and Mimi as they make this important transition in their lives.

FORUM

- **THIS SUNDAY, MAY 19 -- "Ways to talk about God: Old and New:"** We all use the word "God" but often have very different and even contradictory meanings. This Form opens up some of those various differences, affirming those for whom traditional images work and, at the same time, inviting new images for those who have discomfort with the old. Led by Phillip Wilson.
- **NEXT SUNDAY, MAY 26 and JUNE 3 --** Recently the United Methodist Church General Conference voted a rejection of tolerance of homosexuality, an issue festering in the UMC since 1972. Recently it was announced that spouses of gay Bishops in the Episcopal Church will not be welcome at the 2020 Lambeth Conference, a matter that strikes home to us because Thomas Brown will soon be a bishop and his husband, Tom Mousin, will not be welcome. Come and discuss with us the implications of the UMC act, Lambeth decision, and the broader conditions of religion in America. *David Carr, Jeff Lewis, Annamarie Pluhar, Judy Davidson and Jean Smith*

MATCH UP AT COFFEE HOUR AFTER 10:15 SERVICE THIS SUNDAY: Based on 1 Peter 4:10, "*Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms,*" the goal of the Sunday "Match Up" is to connect people around shared gifts as a way to overcome isolation. It will take place in the undercroft following the 10:15 service and will last no more than an hour. There will be an opportunity to see where there is collective energy in the parish based on the results of the survey, talk with individuals with similar gifts and interests, and then have time to brainstorm with those people how to build community around those gifts. So far some of the gifts and interests from the survey include sacred listening and prayer with others, gentle walking, spiritual retreats, singing, visiting with pets, board games, prayer, birdwatching, and hunting. Whether people are new to the parish or longtime members, our hope is that people will leave with a sense of how they can more deeply connect and with whom.

EVENING PRAYER, THIS SUNDAY, 5 PM: The Evening Prayer service, held in the chapel, lasts approximately 30 minutes and includes Psalms, prayers and readings. All are welcome.

MORNING PRAYER AND COMPLINE: Morning prayer is now offered each weekday, Monday through Friday, at 8 am in the chapel. Compline is now offered the first and third Wednesdays of each month beginning on June 5.

HYMN SING AT THE GATHERING PLACE ON TUESDAY, MAY 21, 10 AM: The May sing at the Gathering Place will be Tuesday 5/21 at 10 am. All are welcome to join Duncan and others from St. Michael's sing along with the participants at the Gathering Place on Terrace St. in Brattleboro. Hope to see you there!

DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS & MISSIONAL TEAM MINISTRIES, MEETING ON WEDNESDAY MAY 29, 6 - 8 PM: Anyone is invited to reflect, celebrate, and discuss future plans for the discipleship group and missional team ministries from **6-8 pm on Wed May 29** at the church. The arc of the evening will be enjoying a potluck meal, praying together, groups and teams sharing and celebrating what's happened this year, and then all of us discussing how to move forward through the summer and beyond.

BISHOPS COMING AND GOING: We are blessed to know two bishops in our communion who in this year are on the move, coming and going. Rev. Thomas Brown, a previous Rector at St. Michael's, is Bishop-elect of Maine. We were the first parish to call him as Rector (at age 29) and he served us for nine years. After consulting with Thomas about his liturgical needs as a bishop, we decided to gift Thomas a purple cassock. On June 22 of this year, we will present the purple cassock of Bishops to Thomas Brown as a gift from the parish of St Michael's in honor and remembrance of our time together. The Vestry is asking for donations toward our gift. The cassock will run anywhere from \$800 to \$1,000 and will be made by J&S Sewing in Newcastle, England. To make a gift toward Thomas' purple cassock, you may send a check to the Church office or place a check in the plate on Sundays made out to St. Michael's Episcopal Church with a memo saying "cassock."

Rev. Thomas Ely, Bishop of Vermont, has been with us for 17 years and is stepping into retirement. With a house in Newfane, he and Ann will be our neighbors in Southern Vermont. Episcopal Churches throughout Vermont are collecting gifts to be given to Tom upon his retirement. We will collect gifts on behalf of the parish of St Michael's in conjunction with the Diocese of Vermont. Any amount is generous. To make a gift for Tom and Ann's retirement, you may make a check out to St. Michael's Episcopal Church with a memo saying "Ely." Checks may be sent to the Church office or placed in the plate on Sundays.

Let them be blessed.