

ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS – 8/21/19

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 Dedell, Betty Elwell* and *Grainne Buchanan*, Monday; *Emmanuel Keppel*, Tuesday; *Fred Bump*, Wednesday.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY to *Christine Hart & Bill Morlock*, This Sunday; *Vince Johnson & MJ Woodburn*, Friday; *Ed & Jane Sbardella* and *Robert & Susan Kochinskas*, Saturday.

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS, THIS SUNDAY AT 10:15 SERVICE - All students and teachers heading back to school this fall are bringing their backpacks for a special blessing at the 10:15 am service. We will honor, bless and support you as you begin this new year!

NO LEMONADE THIS SUNDAY: There will not be lemonade and cookies after the 10:15 service. Come join us at the picnic!

PARISH PICNIC AT SPOFFORD LAKE THIS SUNDAY AFTERNOON: All are invited to St. Michael's Annual Parish Picnic Sunday, August 25, from 12 noon to 4 pm at 29 Barn Road, Spofford Lake, New Hampshire (about a 15-minute drive from St. Michael's). Maps are available in the back of the church and in the common room. Kate and Dana McGinn again are generously hosting the picnic at their place, right next to the lake, with a great porch for sitting, wonderful grounds for playing and great access to the lake for swimming, kayaking, etc. There will be games, swimming and a chance to sit and visit with those (both old and new) from our St. Michael's Community. Drinks, hot dogs, hamburgers and veggie burgers will be provided by the church. If you are able, please bring a side dish or dessert to share. And don't forget your bathing suits!

Parking is limited at Spofford Lake, so please try to carpool with others to the picnic.

L'ARCHE IN VERMONT? AN EXPLORATORY GATHERING AT ST. MICHAEL'S

THIS SUNDAY, 3-5 PM IN THE UNDERCROFT: St. Michael's is hosting a gathering with members of the L'Arche Boston community and with Vermonters of all interests and abilities. The goal is to better understand L'Arche, to imagine what is possible in this state, and to discuss next steps. The journey to start a community takes years; this is an exploratory first step. L'Arche communities "provide homes and workplaces where people with and without intellectual disabilities live and work together as peers, create inclusive communities of faith and friendship, and transform society through relationships that cross social boundaries" (www.larcheusa.org). Today, there are 147 member communities of L'Arche in 35 countries.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 8 AM SERVICE AT CHRIST CHURCH: September 1 will be the final 8 am service of this summer season at Christ Church. The 10:15 service will remain at St. Michael's. Please remember that Christ Church has several steps which are not accessible for some with mobility limitations. The 8 o'clock service on September 1 is a lovely time to experience worship at our mother church, the first Episcopal church in Vermont.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO SORT FOR THE FALL TAG SALE! We can use help generally on Tuesdays (clothing and linens) and Thursdays (housewares) from 2 to 4 pm until the middle of September. **IN THE COMING WEEK, THE THURSDAY SORTING DAY CHANGES TO FRIDAY, AUGUST 30.** Sorting times will change in mid-September when The Choir School begins in the Dunham Room. Please join us if you have time- no experience needed, and the fellowship is great! We meet in the Dunham Room on the lower level of the church building.

FUNERAL FOR LYNN BILLINGTON, SEPTEMBER 7, 10 AM – There will be a funeral at St. Michael's for Lynn Billington on Saturday, September 7, at 10 am. A reception will follow in the Undercroft. All are welcome.

KIDS & YOUTH OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8-- September 8th marks the beginning of our program year at St. Michael's! On that day between 9:15-10 am, there will be an Open House for parishioners, kids, parents and all who are interested in supporting and participating in St. Michael's ministry for children and youth. Come check out Godly Play, Youth Discipleship Group, the Choir Schools & more! There will be food, an art project for kids, play, bouncy house and balloons. Invite your friends who have children to come and check it out. We will also be commissioning/praying for the teachers and leaders during the 10:15am liturgy. Please join us for this special day!

COSA TRAINING, SEPTEMBER 13-14: Following up on the exploration this past year about how to respond concretely to the opioid crisis as a Christian community, St Michael's is coordinating with the Greater Falls Community Justice Center to have a training for volunteers interested in participating in **Circles of Support and Accountability (COSA)**. COSA volunteers "work in groups of three to five (plus a staff person) for a minimum of one year to provide mentoring and support for someone (a core member) as he or she transitions from prison to community." (<http://cjnvt.org/about-us/volunteers-needed/>). **If you are interested but haven't yet signed up, let Duncan know. The training will be the evening of Friday September 13 through the afternoon of Saturday September 14 in Bellows Falls.**

LOOKING FOR SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE MAKERS: While we are still enjoying lemonade during these summer Sundays, we hope to start providing coffee again for Coffee Hour on September 8. If you would be willing to help make coffee on Sunday mornings (no clean up) on a rotating basis (once every 4-6 weeks), please let Jeanie Crosby know, jeanie@stmichaelsvermont.org or 254-6048. Thank you for considering being part of this important ministry of hospitality.

MUSIC IS ALIVE AT ST MICHAEL'S: Yes, it's true! We are truly blessed with the gift of music. Whether you participate actively in one of our programs or not, music touches most of our lives with a true power to connect us more deeply to the spirit of God, and to one another. If you have any questions or want to participate, please feel warmly welcomed to talk to me, either directly at church, or I can be reached at dedellsusan@gmail.com or at (802) 348-7735.

St Michael's Choir (starting on Sunday, September 15)

- 28 amazing adults and 7 experienced teenagers currently form the St. Michael's choir. We rehearse weekly on Sunday mornings at 8:45-10:15, with additional evening rehearsals scheduled throughout the season in preparation for major programs. Although there are no formal auditions for the choir, prior musical experience and music literacy skills are recommended.

The Choir School Programs (starting on Thursday, September 19)

- Teen Choir School: for singers 13-18, meets Thursday at 4:45-5:45. Prior musical experience highly recommended. This group will continue to expand musical skills in harmony, leadership, and ensemble.
- The Choir School: for singers 8-12, meets Thursday at 3:45-4:30 (social/snack time starting at 3:30). This group forms the foundation for building strong musical skills in areas of vocal production, music literacy, and interpretation and musicality. New singers are welcome!
- NEW: Little Squeaks: for beginning singers, 5-7, meets Thursday at 3:45-4:45 (social/snack time starting at 3:30). Choir School Alum Extraordinaire Jayne Fritz leads this group in song, movement, rhythm, and story.

Diocesan Consecration Choir (Saturday, September 28)

- Even if you are not currently singing in one of the St. Michael's Choir programs, you are welcome to join others from across Vermont in a consecration choir that will sing in celebration of the consecration of Shannon MacVean-Brown as Bishop of Vermont. There will be a rehearsal for this historic and joyful event here at St Michael's on **Saturday, September 21 at 10:00** Everyone is welcome, but there are a couple of things to keep in mind.
- All singers must be capable of climbing stairs. The choir will be sitting in the balcony of Ira Allen Chapel, and there is no elevator to it.
- All singers must be in the balcony to rehearse the morning of the Consecration at 8:30 am. This means an early morning start for those of us here in the south, or a plan to stay closer the night before.

FALL TAG SALE, SATURDAY OCTOBER 5, 9-2. DONATIONS NOW WELCOME

GUIDELINES FOR DONATIONS

Clothing: FALL AND WINTER ONLY, adult or child. Must be clean, no stains or rips, good condition.

Linens: good condition, no stains, clean.

Housewares: must have all parts, clean, unbroken, good condition.

Toys: only puzzles or games with all the pieces. Sorry, no other toys and NO STUFFED ANIMALS.

Shoes: only lightly worn, excellent condition shoes, hiking boots, winter boots.

Furniture: big items can be housed at our storage barn if you can't keep them until October 1. Please check with us first about any upholstered furniture. For more information, please contact Daniel Dobson at 425-785-8262 or dbdrunner@dobsongroupinc.com.

Books: books in good condition are welcome as long as they have not been stored in a damp place. No textbooks or encyclopedias, please.)