

ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS – 9/12/19

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, 7:30-8pm, 1st and 3rd Wednesdays
Contemplative Worship, 5:30-6:00 pm, Thursday
Centering Prayer, 8-9 am, Saturday

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to *Eleanor Horton*, Monday; *KJ White*, Wednesday; *Skyla Ragle* and *Elise Burrows*, Thursday; *Krista Burtis*, *Ainsley Meyer*, *Christian Olmstead* and *Laura Panzer*, Friday; *Avery Bennett*, Saturday.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY to *Margit & Jack Lilly*, Monday and *Marie & Bruce Lawrence*, Friday.

THREE SPECIAL EVENTS THIS SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15:

- At 9 am there will be a short forum on St. Michael's Memorial Garden and the theology around scattering of ashes.
- At 9:30 am we will walk to the Memorial Garden to remember the names of all who are interred there, bless St. Michael's old baptismal font that will be placed above the Garden, and inter the ashes of Bob Michalke, one of the creators of the Memorial Garden.
- At the 10:15 am service, we will celebrate the baptisms of Oliver, Juniper and Rosalind Ridgway

OPEN SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE MEETING THIS SUNDAY AFTER THE

10:15 SERVICE: Does St. Michael's want to continue to have a Committee dedicated to Social Justice and how do we want to go forward? The Committee's objective has been to build a community of awareness about the intersection of the Gospel and a call to justice making. We have offered various study programs for the congregation and organized the MLK Service and Pride Sunday. We also have discussed how we might collaborate with others locally in response to local and national issues. Please join us in the Meeting Room on Sunday after the 10:15 service so we can hear your ideas and interests as we begin a new season together. You may be interested in the following article about social justice as a Christian tradition.

<https://sojo.net/articles/social-justice-christian-tradition-not-liberal-agenda>

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 (begins this Sunday)

- 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.

JOIN THE HYMN SING AT THE GATHERING PLACE, TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 17,

10 AM: On the third Tuesday of each month, people from St. Michael's lead a hymn sing at The Gathering Place on Terrace St. in Brattleboro. We begin at 10 am. All musicians, singers, and hymn-lovers are welcome!

PARISH AUTHORS, VALERIE ABRAHAMSEN AND BENSON BROBRICK:

From Valerie Abrahamsen:

*"I will read from my 2015 book, **Paranormal: A New Testament Scholar Looks at the Afterlife**, at the **Rockingham Free Public Library, 65 Westminster Street, Bellows Falls, on Tuesday, September 17, 2019, at 5:30 pm**. This will be a repeat of my reading from last fall at Brooks Library. In *Paranormal*, I examined four types of evidence for the survival of the soul after death. The findings offer comfort and confirm the reality of reincarnation, karma, pre-birth decisions and the intimate relationship between the afterlife and our lives in the physical world. The Rockingham Free Public Library is fully accessible, the reading is free, and all are welcome!"*

From Benson Bobrick, who has donated a copy of his new book to the St. Michael's library:

Dear All,

*I thought I might tell you that my memoir, **Returning From Afar** (part memoir, part spiritual autobiography) has just been published and is available on Amazon. If any of you should choose to read it (in whole or in part), I hope you find it worthwhile.*

With love & blessings,

Benson

TAG SALE SORTING WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 18, 10 – 12: Next week, sorting will be on Wednesday from 10 -12 noon. Stay tuned for other new times! 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.

OPEN DISCIPLESHIP GROUP MEETS WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18: The Open Discipleship Group meets the first and third Wednesday of each month, beginning with a pot luck supper at 5:30. The meeting begins at 6 pm in the Dunham Room. All are welcome – no commitment is expected!

COMPLINE SERVICE WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 7:30 PM: Compline is descended from the night prayers said before bed at the end of the monastic round of daily prayer. The service, primarily sung, lasts less than half an hour. All are welcome at 7:30 pm in the Chapel on the first and third Wednesday of each month.

LOOKING FOR SUNDAY MORNING COFFEE MAKERS: Coffee Hour has begun! 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 sign up in the Common Room or let Jeanie Crosby know, jeanie@stmichaelsvermont.org or 254-6048. Thank you for considering being part of this important ministry of hospitality.

WHEN JESUS SAID "FEED MY SHEEP," HE WAS TALKING ABOUT COFFEE

HOUR: The Hospitality Team is seeking volunteers to provide light fare and or snacks after the 10:15 service.. Hosting coffee hour can be fun and rewarding for a group or family, and so we have put out a sign-up list in the Common Room this week to help ensure there are snacks and goodies for each Sunday.

The Hospitality Team is also putting together a little guide to make hosting coffee hour clear and smooth. The coffee will be provided by other volunteers so your job is to offer some finger food such as cookies, coffee cakes, fruit, cheeses, vegetables and dip and to clean up the food and cups afterward. If it is a hardship for you to provide the food, there is the option to be reimbursed for some or all of your expenses.

It is so important to provide a welcoming atmosphere to guests and new comers and having light fare is an excellent part of that ministry. (Plus we are Episcopal and we have a reputation to uphold!) Please consider signing up, and if you have any questions please call Christopher at 380-1474 or email him at cmwvt@svcable.net.

Many thanks in advance, the Hospitality Team -- *Rosie, Jen and Christopher*

L'ARCHE GATHERING, FRIDAY OCTOBER 4 AT GUILFORD COMMUNITY

CHURCH, 5:30-8 PM: There will be a fellowship gathering at [Guilford Community Church](#), just a few miles from Brattleboro, on Friday evening October 4 from 5:30-8 pm. We'll have a potluck meal, enjoy an informal singalong, and engage with [L'Arche spirituality](#). We'll also have time to address some of the questions about L'Arche from last month, but my hope is for this gathering to be less about planning and more about fun and community. RSVP to Duncan@stmichaelsvermont.org; RSVP not required but helpful so that we have some sense of how to set up.

FALL TAG SALE, SATURDAY OCTOBER 5, 9-2. 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.)

2019 BRATTLEBORO BUDDY WALK, 10 AM OCTOBER 5, ON TOWN

COMMON. The Buddy walk is an event to promote inclusion for individuals with developmental disabilities. All proceeds from the 2019 Brattleboro Buddy Walk will go directly to Special Olympics of Vermont for Windham County.

A special message from St. Michael's parishioner, Brian White, "I enjoy being an athlete through Special Olympics. I love swimming, playing basketball, and cross country skiing. I would appreciate any support reaching my fundraising goal of \$500. This money helps pay for expenses such as uniforms, transportation, and lodging for Special Olympics Vermont events. You can sponsor me by check, cash or cc and even better come walk with me and raise funds for special Olympics with me. Thank You !"
<https://give.specialolympicsvermont.org/fundraiser/2226843>