

## ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS – 1/16/2020

### 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

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to *Pam Carr*, This Sunday; *Miranda Smith*, Monday; *Linda Neilson* and *Lily DeLeon*, Tuesday; *John Carnahan*, Wednesday; *Julie Cogliano*, Thursday; *Melia Allen*, Friday.

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY** to *Neil & Anne Montgomery*, Saturday.

**ST. MICHAEL'S CELEBRATES MARTIN LUTHER KING THIS SUNDAY:** St. Michael's celebrates Martin Luther King at the morning services. **The Rt. Rev. Gayle E. Harris, bishop suffragan in the Diocese of Massachusetts, is preaching at both the 8:00 and 10:15 services and leads the Forum at 9:00 am.** Bishop Harris currently chairs the House of Bishops Pastoral Development Committee and the Board of Directors of the Episcopal Church Investment Group. She is the immediate past president of the Massachusetts Council of Churches and currently serves on its Working Board and Advisory Committee.

**COME SAY FAREWELL TO MAURICE AND MIGHT!** This Sunday, January 19, is Maurice & Might Harris' last Sunday at St. Michael's, as they are moving to New Haven for a new job opportunity. They have been important members of our parish for the last three years. Please come and thank them for their involvement at St. Michael's as we bless them for this next chapter in their lives together.

**BUDGET REVIEW MEETING THIS SUNDAY, AFTER THE 10:15 SERVICE:** Those who would like the opportunity to review St. Michael's budget for 2020 and ask questions prior to the Annual Meeting are invited to a choice of two budget meetings today. The first budget meeting is at 9 am in the Undercroft and the second budget meeting will be in the Meeting Room following the 10:15 am service.

**INTERFAITH MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY SERVICE, MONDAY, JANUARY 20, 4 PM, CENTRE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, 193 MAIN STREET, BRATTLEBORO.** Join together with other faith communities in Southern Vermont to celebrate Martin Luther King Day. The featured speaker will be *Dr. Dottie Morris* and the featured music will be *The Kurn Hattin Children's Choir*.

**THE BOB DRIVE** – Until, January 20, the Outreach Team is running **The BOB Drive**, an effort to supplement our parish's ongoing food offerings with a special drive for non-food items that are much needed, often not supplied by existing programs, and too rarely donated. Please take home a flyer with all the information, including a list of suggested items to donate. As part of the Martin Luther King Day of Service on January 20, we invite everyone to come from 10 am-12 noon in the Meeting Room to help sort the BOB Drive donations and prepare them for delivery to Loaves and Fishes and to Groundworks. For more information contact Alix Fedoruk: [alixf@mac.com](mailto:alixf@mac.com).

**DESIRE AND DISCERNMENT: LEARNING HOW TO LISTEN FOR GOD'S CALL -- HALLELUJAH FARM IN WEST CHESTERFIELD, NH; FRI. JAN. 24, 2 PM TO SUN. JAN. 26 AT 9:30 AM:**

Do you have major life questions and decisions, unresolved desires and curiosity to learn how to listen to that still small voice within? The Discernment for Lay People Team (Christy Fritz, Cary Gaunt, Joanne Patalano, the Rev. Duncan Hilton) is leading a retreat that provides an opportunity for a deep dive in learning discernment and prayer practices in the tradition of St. Ignatius. This retreat will apply Ignatian discernment practices to a decision in your life. We hope that this will be the foundation for an ongoing circle of practice. Stay overnight or commute each day. \$115 per night for overnight guests and \$55 per day for commuter participants (meals included). To register, sign up in the Common Room or email [Duncan@stmichaelsvermont.org](mailto:Duncan@stmichaelsvermont.org). Partial scholarships are available for those in need.

**SIGN UP TO HOST A COFFEE HOUR THIS WINTER!** Coffee, snacks and warm fellowship are especially welcome in the winter. A sign-up sheet for hosting coffee hour this winter is in the Common Room. If the cost of snacks is a barrier to hosting, you may submit receipts for reimbursement of part of the cost. There is also a coffeemaker each Sunday, so the host is not responsible for that task. The hosting tasks include bringing and setting out snacks, cleaning up after coffee hour, and helping people feel welcome. Thanks for your help!

**2020 SACRED GROUND GROUP AT ST. MICHAEL'S:** This fall, a Sacred Ground dialogue group has been meeting at St. Michael's. Sacred Ground is part of Becoming Beloved Community, The Episcopal Church's long-term commitment to racial healing, reconciliation, and justice in our personal lives, our ministries, and our society. We would like to offer another group beginning in the new year. We would meet every two weeks from mid-January through mid-May. If you are interested in joining or want more information, please contact Sissi Loftin at [sissiloftin@hotmail.com](mailto:sissiloftin@hotmail.com) or 254-9509.

**PARISH ANNUAL MEETING ON SUNDAY, JANUARY 26:** All members of St. Michael's are invited to attend our Parish Annual Meeting following the 10:15 am service on January 26th. We will elect three new members of the Vestry each for a three-year term, adopt a budget for 2020, elect delegates to the Diocesan Convention and receive reports of St. Michael's various ministries. In addition, we will view our annual slide show highlighting life at St. Michael's in 2019. Childcare will be available. The Annual Meeting is an important overview of the past and future of our ministry together. Please make every effort to be present for lunch and the meeting!

## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO MAKE MAC-N-CHEESE OR BAKED ZITI FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING!**

It was so much fun to share a real meal with the congregation during the Annual Meeting last year that we decided to do this again. If you are able to make a mac-n-cheese or a baked ziti to feed 10 people, please sign up in the Common Room or contact the Church office at 254-6048 or [jeanie@stmichaelsvermont.org](mailto:jeanie@stmichaelsvermont.org). Many thanks!

## **VESTRY CANDIDATES:**

### **Personal Statement from Nancy Ames**



Having been a member of our parish for 13 years, I am humbled to have been asked to serve on the Vestry of St. Michael's Church. A woman of questionable faith, I came in search of community, and have been blessed to have found that and so much more. I was told to "just show up." I did, and that advice has changed my life, both inside the church and out. St Michael's is an inclusive, vibrant place for worship, and outreach, as well as being a safe place where parishioners celebrate and support one another. Faith has grown in me over these years and keeps me coming back to a church community which means the world to me.

### **Personal Statement from Rebecca Olmstead**



I have been an active member of St. Michael's Episcopal Church since my family moved here in 1988. I have grown up in this church. I was confirmed and was married here at St. Michael's and my two children were baptized here. More recently, I am a member of the altar guild and coffee ministry. I am a School Nurse in Brattleboro and I hope to bring my knowledge of our community to the vestry.

### **Personal Statement from Jared Rediske**



I came to St. Michael's over 13 years ago after I moved here from Minnesota. At first, I wasn't the best parishioner. I was not a consistent member but would always meet my once-a-month obligation for my church counting. When Susan asked specifically for basses to join the choir, I knew I needed to speak to her. After we spoke and I saw Susan's enthusiasm, I knew this was my calling.

Now I am a devout bass that comes to choir every Sunday that I'm in town. And now I've been honored to be asked to be on the vestry. I was thinking about getting more involved within our parish but didn't know which avenue to take. It would seem that God has called me to this next step, and I am ready to answer. I hope to serve St. Michael's and Christ well and thank you for your faith in me.

**"HEALING JUSTICE" FILM, THURSDAY JAN 30, 7:30 PM, ST. MICHAEL'S**

**MEETING ROOM:** The Social Justice Ministry invites you to a showing of "Healing Justice," one of the films shown in the Sacred Ground course. "Healing Justice" explores the causes and consequences of the current North American justice system and its effect on marginalized communities. This powerful documentary addresses the school-to-prison pipeline, the need for criminal justice reform, and the importance of healing and restorative practices. Vanessa Daniel writes *"Healing Justice" is a medicine for anyone who craves tangible solutions to mass incarceration and a clear path to real safety and healing for our communities. A must see for anyone who cares about racial justice in America: in these troubling times, it is a ray of hope.*

**COME CELEBRATE THE FEAST OF ST. BRIGID - FRIDAY, JANUARY 31 AT 6PM**

**IN THE CHAPEL:** There will be a contemplative service with Holy Eucharist followed by a simple meal in the Undercroft: Irish stew, potato leek soup, and bread. We will gather for the third year to honor holy and beloved St. Brigid of Ireland, patron saint of babies, blacksmiths, boatmen, brewers, cattle, chicken farmers, dairy workers, fugitives, infants, mariners, midwives, nuns, poets, the poor, poultry farmers, printing presses, sailors, scholars and travelers! This service will follow the pattern of a mid-week Eucharist, except that in place of a homily, there will be a time for people to share about a woman who has been a light in their life in honor of St Brigid (*born circa 450AD - died in Kildare in 523*). We will also include a time to light candles in honor of Candlemas. Duncan will be our celebrant.

**TRAINING, CONNECTING AND ORGANIZING FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE, FEB 1, 3-**

**6 PM:** Save the Date for an afternoon of training, connecting and organizing for social justice with Vermont Interfaith Action and other Brattleboro area congregations --

**Saturday, Feb 1st from 3 to 6 pm, Brattleboro area location TBD.** [Vermont Interfaith Action](#) (VIA) organizers, Daniel Quipp and Debbie Ingram, and Northeast Regional Organizer of Faith in Action, Tim Lilienthal will lead a gathering that will leave participants inspired and with practical tools for bringing about social change. Participants will learn about how Vermont Interfaith Action works, be trained in using one-on-one conversations to understand how people see the world, connect with their neighbors from other faith communities, and enjoy a meal together.

VIA works throughout the state on issues that matter to its member congregations and is also involved in the coalition to raise Vermont's minimum wage and bring about a Moral Economy. Daniel is based in Brattleboro and is organizing a number of congregations in Southern Vermont. **For more information or to set up a one-on-one conversation with Daniel email [daniel@viavt.org](mailto:daniel@viavt.org) or call (347) 977-1192.**

## **ST. MICHAEL'S WOMEN'S RETREAT 2020**

### **"The Sacred Gift of Voice: Speaking One's Truth"**

**Saturday, February 22, 10 am - Sunday, February 23, 11:30 am**

All women of St. Michael's are invited to the St. Michael's Women's Retreat, held at the beautiful Hallelujah Farm. During this retreat, we will reflect on the sacred gift of voice and speaking. Our voices, located between our heads and our hearts, gives us the means of expresses our deepest selves and our deepest truths.

Registration forms can be found in the Common Room or at this link:

<https://www.stmichaels-vt.org/test/>

This retreat is led by Margery McCrum, Jenny Karstad and Mary Lindquist. The registration deadline is February 8, but space is limited, so if you are interested, register soon!