

ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS – 1/23/2020

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
Contemplative Worship, 5:30-6:00 pm, Thursday
Centering Prayer, 8-9 am, Saturday

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to *Rebecca Olmstead* and *Andachew Mousin*, This Sunday; *Gwen Mousin*, Tuesday; *Paul Dedell*, Wednesday; *Megan Buchanan*, Thursday; *Linda Parker*, Friday, and *Steven Meyer*, Saturday.

PARISH ANNUAL MEETING THIS SUNDAY, JANUARY 26: All members of St. Michael's are invited to attend our Parish Annual Meeting following the 10:15 am service. We will eat lunch, 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!

ADULT FORUM THIS SUNDAY MORNING: During our Adult Forum (9-10 am) this morning, we will hear reports from many of our ministry committees and teams that we usually just "accept by title." This is your chance to get a good overview of the many ministries happening at St. Michael's and to ask questions.

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!

"HEALING JUSTICE" FILM, THURSDAY JAN 30, 6:30 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. Discussion will follow the film. Representatives from the Brattleboro Restorative Justice Program will join us for the film and the discussion following.

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 or call (347) 977-1192.**

ADULT FORUM, FEBRUARY 2: "The Scopes Monkey Trial (My great, great, great, great grandpappy warn't no Monkey!)" Religion, science, and government collided in the Dayton, Tennessee courtroom in 1926. High school teacher John Scopes was accused of teaching evolution in the public schools instead of the state approved account in Genesis. It would become the most famous trial of the twentieth century, a Broadway play, and a Hollywood movie. Robert Anderson will read a selection of H. L. Mencken's courtroom dispatches — always acerbic, sometimes appalling, and occasionally hilarious. This is Mencken at his best and certainly one of the high points of American journalism.

TAG SALE MINISTRY GENERAL MEETING, SUNDAY FEB 2, 11:45 – 12:30:

Everyone is invited to a general meeting of the Tag Sale Ministry, 11:45 a.m.-12:30 pm on Sunday, Feb. 2 in the Meeting Room (originally scheduled for Sun., Jan. 26). We will be sharing information about how the Spring Tag Sale will be bigger, better, and more fun than ever [with your help]!! Please join us to hear about our plans and learn about the wide variety of ways in which you can be involved! We look forward to seeing you!

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!**

SOCIAL JUSTICE BOOK CLUB, FEB 9, AFTER 10:15 SERVICE: In conjunction with the announcement by the Social Justice Committee that they have invited Jeffrey Deskovic to speak at St. Michael's, we would like to invite members of our parish to read the best-selling memoir, Just Mercy by Bryan Stevenson. Like Stevenson, Deskovic is a a noted activist who helps wrongly convicted men and women. The Social Justice book club will hold a discussion about Just Mercy on Sunday, February 9, 2020 fifteen minutes after the end of the 10:15 service. The book is available in both adult and middle school versions. For those of you with limited time, the middle school version reads beautifully and incorporates most of the original work. Hope to see you there.

"FROM WRONGFULLY IMPRISONED TEENAGER TO LAW SCHOOL GRADUATE: JEFFREY DESKOVIC SPEAKS ABOUT HIS STORY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM": THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2020 • 6:30 PM–8:30 PM. The Social Justice Committee of St. Michael's and the Windham County Branch NAACP will present a special program on criminal justice reform on Thursday February 13. Jeffrey will speak on his story (arrest and conviction, time in prison, appeals and exoneration, reintegration (difficulties and successes), and the non-profit Jeffrey Deskovic Foundation for Justice. He will also address topics such as the causes of wrongful conviction and reforms needed to address those systemic deficiencies, prison reform, solitary confinement, parole reform, college education in prison, mass incarceration, voting rights for the formerly incarcerated, and prisoner reentry. The final 30 minutes will be devoted to Q & A with the audience. The program will be in the sanctuary of St. Michael's. All are welcome.

SPRING TAG SALE DONATIONS STARTING SOON: Tag Sale donations for the Spring Sale will open on **Sun., Feb. 16**. There are 2 labeled closets where you can leave donations in the downstairs back hall –one for clothing and linens, and one for housewares and books. **IMPORTANT-** Please see the complete donation guidelines posted on the closet doors! Furniture is welcome anytime, but please do not bring furniture to the Church- there is no place to store it there. Furniture pickups can be scheduled once a month during Jan., Feb. and March by calling Daniel Dobson at (425)785-8262 or emailing Dbdrunner@dobsongroupinc.com. Upholstered furniture needs to be in excellent condition and please, no particleboard furniture.