

# The Archangel

St. Michael's Episcopal Church

May 2011

## *Our Sacred Trust*

Not too long ago, most parents trusted that the values and ethics for leading “the good life” were clear to their children. They trusted that church and society were in basic agreement about morality. They trusted that young people would learn the most important lessons through the cooperative moral agreement that appeared to be a part of a broad social contract. They trusted that the details of denominational belief could be learned at Sunday school, and that the full engagement of life would bring about formation of the soul.

Today, many act as if the same arrangement exists. The connection between what our young people learn from surrounding culture and what they learn from the gospel has changed. The word of God is always alive and active in the world, but the capacity to discern it has faded to an all-time low, not just in our society but also in the church. We have to ask ourselves: in our hyper-connected, media-dominated culture, how will the soul be formed? What will it look like?

One of our responsibilities to God is to pass on knowledge of the sacred. Though faith is a path that each of us must choose individually, it is a sacred communal trust that must be renewed by every person and by every generation. It is an essential aspect of the command and gift we call love.

When Jesus called Peter to the task of sharing his faith, to live for others, he asked, “Do you love me?” Like Peter, we may be surprised to find our responsibilities to others begin with intense self-evaluation. Do you love Jesus? Do you love God? What is truly important to you? What is your ultimate commitment? The society in which we now live demands a renewed commitment to the sacred trust that compels us to share our spiritual knowledge and traditions with each other and with the generations to come. This is clearly one of our most urgent tasks as a community. It begins by a fearless searching of our individual hearts.

*The Rt. Rev. Mark MacDonald, National  
Indigenous Bishop of the Anglican Church of Canada,  
via The Anglican Journal*

From: The Anglican Digest, Spring A.D. 2011



## Visit by The Rev. Susan Bowman

Susan Bowman, born and raised in Petersburg, VA, and a former member of St. Michael's, will visit on Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup>. Following her ordination, Susan served as a chaplain and then pastored three churches in Virginia and New York before retiring in 2007. She began her 3<sup>rd</sup> career as a Freelance Writer in 2008 and in May 2010, Susan became the Senior Editor of Our Heritage Magazine Online.

During Coffee Hour you will have a chance to visit with Susan and she will have available for sale copies of her book *Lady Father*, a narrative account of her journey through the ordination process in the Episcopal Diocese of Southern Virginia of the 1980's and the subsequent years of ordained ministry. Please give Susan a heartfelt St. Michael's welcome.

# Youth Ministry News

I want to thank Kate Parsio for leading the first meeting in April for providing leadership and prayers throughout the month. The EYC Youth Diocesan board has their first meeting at the end of May.

Last month the EYC built the Gaga Pit with the help of Bill Mason. I want to thank the Allen Family for their donation.

Easter Sunday was real special as the Chris and Nick Anderson along with their mother Karen were baptized. The youth showed their support by serving that Sunday.

This month we will be hosting St. David's EYC as they come for fellowship and to answer the challenge of the Gaga Pit. It should be a lot of fun.

Thanks be to God,  
Michael



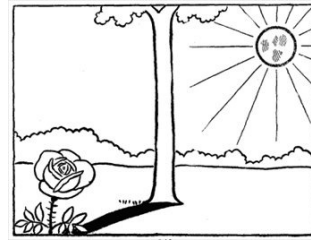
## Mission Trip to Uganda

Dear St. Michael's family,

We are excited to tell you of our plans to go on a short-term mission trip to Uganda, Africa this summer. Uganda suffers from wounds inflicted by the Idi Amin reign of terror, the AID's epidemic, disease, poverty and the burden of millions of orphans. We desire to participate in bringing the hope of the gospel to Uganda and in furthering God's kingdom through meeting the spiritual and physical needs of the people.

Stony Point Reformed Presbyterian Church has sent a team to work with Canaan Children's Home in Uganda for the last 11 years and we have been invited to become part of that team. The trip is planned for June 25-July 9, 2011. This orphanage was established about 15 years ago by Isaac Wagaba and now cares for 130 children. Various members of our team will be doing pastoral training, youth leader training, delivering medical supplies and leading Bible Clubs. The leaders of the team John Keltonic and his wife Anita will be here at St. Michael's during the 10:30am worship service on Mother's Day, May 8th to present a power point explaining the mission trip in more detail. Hank and I hope to show a DVD at the 8am service focusing on this outreach. Please join us to learning about this important kingdom work and the amazing story of its founding and growth.

Blessings,  
Hank and Peggy



## St. Michael's Women's Retreat

Oct. 28-30, 2011

Shalom House Retreat Center  
"God's Beloved Daughters"

The date is set, the theme is planned, the retreat center reserved and the speaker is buying her plane ticket from Budapest any day! I am so pleased that Coralee Murray can come and do what she does best: tell people about God's love. Let me tell you a bit about her and our history.

Coralee and I met in nursing school about 45 years ago and got involved in Campus Crusade for Christ at Northwestern University. We have remained friends ever since. She and her husband Ed are our original Moldovan connection! They helped start CCC in Eastern Europe in 1973 and have been working and traveling all over Europe since then. Over the years she has discovered her passion for helping to encourage women to find their gifting and to see the opportunities that God has given them. She says that "My husband of 43 years is an important part of that as he helps the men learn to view women as significant for God's kingdom work as well". They have 5 children, 4 spouses, and 13 grandchildren, scattered between Austria, Orlando, Dallas and Kansas City. They live in Budapest, Hungary.

We are planning the retreat around the movie "Magdalena" and will be using the study guide that Coralee wrote to support and explore the theme of God's love for His daughters. The movie jacket reads "Magdalena" reveals what can happen when women refuse to live in defeat and chose to discover their real value. It is the true story of Jesus seen through the eyes of Mary Magdalene: a story of tenderness, freedom and purpose. Journey with women from the past to discover hope for your future."

Please put the dates on your calendar, plan to attend and bring a relative or friend. Last year over 1/4 of those coming weren't from St. Michael's. This is a wonderful chance to reach out to someone who may need to be told that they are dearly loved by the Lord and to be reminded yourself. Registration information will soon be posted in the fellowship hall.

I am already looking forward to sharing my dear friend Coralee with my dear friends at St. Michael's! We will all be blessed. God is so good!

Love,  
Peggy



May birthday party will be on  
May 15<sup>th</sup>  
after the 10:30am worship  
service .

**MAY**

- 1 Bob Wilson
- 2 Savannah Couch
- 3 Bo Bottoms
- 5 Brandon Williams
- 7 Bill Bray
- 8 Jordan Johnson
- 11 Mary Margaret Swogger
- 13 Louise Mann
- 14 Bill Mason  
Nicholas Anderson
- 17 Randy Mason
- 28 Ann Watson

**Anniversaries**

**MAY**

- 2 David and Susan Creed
- 3 Mark and Debbie Roudabush
- 8 Paul and Maria Gardner
- 18 William and Patti Christmas
- 20 Bob and Linda Chamberlain
- 21 Frank and Margie Ditri
- 27 Austin and Liz Elliott

**Summary of Vestry Minutes  
Regular Meeting, April 4, 2011**

- EYC Blackstone Weekend was a positive experience.
- Treasurer reported the Audit Report was sent to the Diocese on April 4, 2011.
- Fr. Tige and David Noakes will attend the New Wine Project of the Diocese area meeting at St. John's, Chester, April 9<sup>th</sup>.
- June 5<sup>th</sup> is White Bank Sunday. June 12<sup>th</sup> we begin our summer schedule of services at 8:00 and 10:00am.
- Shoe fund for needy kids will be offered to the congregation as a way to help the needy in our community.
- Next regular meeting, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 7:00pm

**Quarterly Financial Review, April 11, 2011**

- Vestry met to discuss finances for the first quarter.
- Vestry will provide members with quarterly report in the Archangel with an explanation of income and expenditures.

**Thank You**

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Although I have been given the honor and privilege of thanking many of you in person since my release on April 14, 2011, I wish to do so again here so that we all may rejoice and praise God for preparing the path for my release.

Truly, my unjust imprisonment ended as a result of God's divine providence, His loving answer to so many prayers, and the diligent work by the Body of Christ at St. Michael's.

I wish I had more words at my disposal to express my love and gratitude. However, I will simply say THANK YOU... all of you... and praise and glory to His Holy Name.

Love,  
Your Brother in Christ, Steve Hood

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Dear Friends,

Thank you for the bottom of my new heart for your prayers and support over the past few months. Just knowing of your love and concern was a great source of strength for us.

I am at home presently but can't drive until after April 15<sup>th</sup>. Hopefully I can fill my back bench in the very near future.

Yours in Christ,  
T.O. [Rainey]

**Lenten Appreciation**

Many, many thanks to the cooks for our Lenten Program suppers throughout Lent this year. Thank you to the Noakes, Schindlers, Baileys, Petersons, Elliotts, Andersons, Moores, Condit, Thompsons, Randolphs, Devereauxs and others. We appreciate their sacrifice of cooking, serving, and cleaning to make the suppers outstanding!

**Pot Luck Lunch  
Sunday, May 1<sup>st</sup>**

Plan to stay after worship for good food and fellowship.  
Bring a hearty dish to share. Beverages will be furnished.

# St. Michael's Episcopal Church

## May 2011

| Sun                                                                                                                | Mon                                                              | Tue                                   | Wed                             | Thu                     | Fri                                                                                                              | Sat           |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| <b>Pot Luck</b> 1<br>8:00am-Holy Euch. I<br>9:15am-Adult Ed.<br>10:30am-Holy Euch. II w. Sun. Sch.<br>5:00pm-EYC   | 2                                                                | 3                                     | 4                               | 5                       | 6                                                                                                                | 7             |
| 8                                                                                                                  | 9                                                                | 10                                    | 11                              | 12                      | 13                                                                                                               | 14            |
| 8:00am-Holy Euch. I<br>9:15am-Adult Ed.<br>10:30am-Holy Euch. II w. Sun. Sch.                                      | 1:00-Cursillo Gr.                                                | 1:00-Bible Study<br>7:00-Cursillo Gr. | 10:30-Al-Anon                   | 7:15-Choir              |                                                                                                                  | 10:00-Al-Anon |
| <b>Birthdays</b> 15<br>8:00am-Holy Euch. I<br>9:15am-Adult Ed.<br>10:30am-Holy Euch. II w. Sun. Sch.<br>5:00pm-EYC | 16                                                               | 17                                    | 18                              | 19                      | 20                                                                                                               | 21            |
| 8:00am-Holy Euch. I<br>9:15am-Adult Ed.<br>10:30am-Holy Euch. II w. Sun. Sch.<br>5:00pm-EYC                        | 12:00-Garden Club<br>1:00-Cursillo Gr.                           | 1:00-Bible Study<br>7:00-Cursillo Gr. | 10:00-A.A.R.P.<br>10:30-Al-Anon | 11:00-ECW<br>7:15-Choir | 7:00-Cursillo Ultreya                                                                                            |               |
| 22                                                                                                                 | 23                                                               | 24                                    | 25                              | 26                      | 27                                                                                                               | 28            |
| 8:00am-Holy Euch. I<br>9:15am-Adult Ed.<br>10:30am-Holy Euch. II w. Sun. Sch.<br>5:00pm-EYC                        | <b>Archangel Deadline</b><br>1:00-Cursillo Gr.                   | 1:00-Bible Study<br>7:00-Cursillo Gr. | 10:30-Al-Anon                   | 7:15-Choir              |                                                                                                                  |               |
| 29                                                                                                                 | 30                                                               | 31                                    |                                 |                         |                                                                                                                  |               |
| 8:00am-Holy Euch. I<br>9:15am-Adult Ed.<br>10:30am-Holy Euch. II w. Sun. Sch.                                      | <b>Memorial Day</b><br><b>Office Closed</b><br>1:00-Cursillo Gr. | 1:00-Bible Study<br>7:00-Cursillo Gr. |                                 |                         | <b>Please Note</b><br><u>May 1</u> – Tracy Bailey's Testimony<br><u>May 8</u> – Uganda Mission Trip Presentation |               |

**The Common Purpose of St. Michael's Episcopal Church:**  
*We're growing to be who Jesus wants us to be and do what He wants us to do.*