



ST MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Sword May 18, 2023

St. Michael's Weekly News & Updates



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A Note From Our Rector

Jesse Perkins

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On October 1, we will be hosting Bishop Paula Clark at St. Michael's on St. Michael's Day as a part of our 75th anniversary celebrations. Go ahead and mark your calendars now for that Sunday and the evening before, and read more to volunteer to help (we need you!). When a bishop visits a parish, it is customary to have Baptisms, Confirmations, and Receptions while she is here. If you are interested in being baptized, or becoming a member of St. Michael's through Confirmation/Reception, please reach out to me soon. For Episcopalians, we view Baptism as the start to our intentional walk with God. While God has known us from before our birth, it is at Baptism that we name and acknowledge our relationship with our creator. For infants and young kids, that walk with God starts primarily with the parents promising to raise them in knowledge and love of God. For older kids and adults, it includes the candidate making these promises on their own. The Episcopal Church accepts all Christian Baptisms performed in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and does not re-baptize anyone. Once you are baptized as a child of God, it sticks.

After Baptism, Episcopalians usually are Confirmed into the church as adults (or young adults around the start of high school). Since many people are baptized as infants, Confirmation is the opportunity to embrace those same promises and make them your own. It is when one would say, "I too, like my parents, commit to following Christ and his teaching." Only a bishop can Confirm someone into the church, and we do accept Confirmations from a few other Christian denominations, including the Lutheran Church and the Roman Catholic Church; there is no need to be Confirmed again if you are from one of these similar traditions. For anyone already Baptized and Confirmed in other traditions, our bishop will Receive you into the Episcopal Church.

While the promises we make are almost the same at both services, Baptism is when we join God's family, and Confirmation is when we join the Church and decide to live out our Baptism in an intentional Christian community. Confirmation is a prerequisite to serve the wine at communion, and also required in order to serve on the Vestry of the church.

Finally, if you are already Confirmed in the Episcopal Church and would like to renew your promises, you are welcome to Reaffirm your vows with the Bishop that day.

If you would like to be Baptized (on Oct 1 or at another time), or would like to be Confirmed/Received/Reaffirmed by Bishop Paula when she visits, please let me know. I will be planning the Confirmation classes soon to have us ready. Certainly feel free to email me with any questions and I will be glad to help!

Blessings,

Jesse+

jperkins@stmichaelsbarrington.org

A Note from our Sunday School Director

Kim Curtis

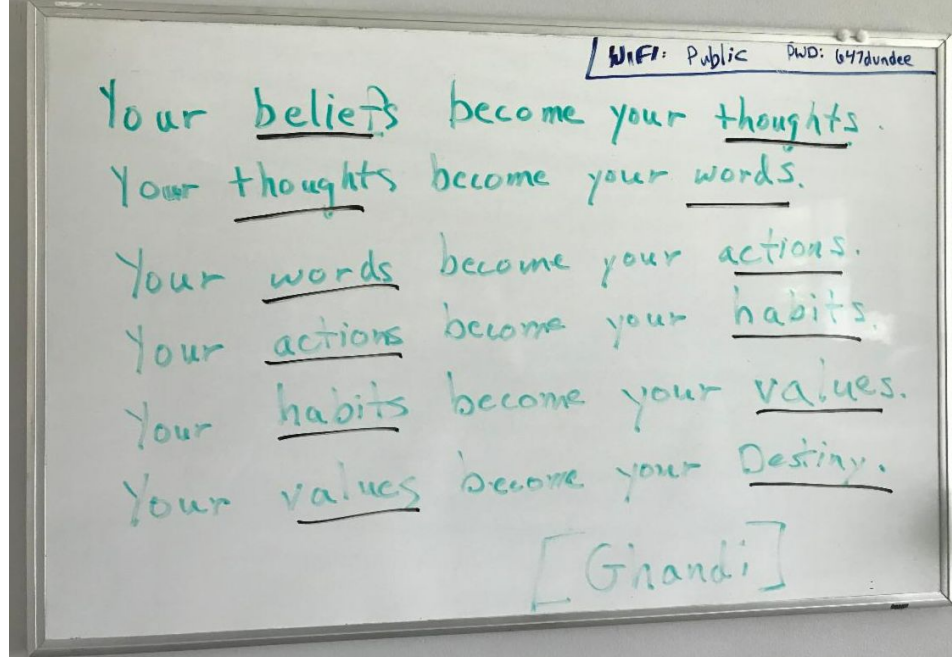
kcurtis@stmichaelsbarrington.org



It is so great to see the kids having fun before and during Sunday School. Sometimes this fun even spills over into coffee hour or after church in general. Hanging with these friends is an important part of their church formation while growing up here at St. Michael's. I would like to encourage all families to stay for coffee hour! I still remember my families church coffee hour. Memories are being made here at church for these kids that will last a lifetime. Because our SS kids are such good friends, they like to follow each other around after church in a big group. This can sometimes lead to some unsafe decisions when some of the smaller kids are hanging with the big kids. Parts of the church are dark and the lights have been turned off after the service is over. The littles think it's fun and funny to follow along, but it can become scary if they get separated from the group.

Safe Church, Safe Communities reminds us of our responsibilities in raising our kids. We ARE the church village that it takes to raise kids these days. Awareness is the start of improving any behavior. Which, in turn, to be aware with action is what corrects bad habits before they become permanent habits. Let's all be guardian angels of our little angels here at church. Even though the teachers and myself are technically off kid duty when Sunday School ends, we do keep an eye out for each other when it comes to safety.

When I was younger, I remember my childhood neighbors redirecting my kid hang out group. They used to say things to us kids like, stay off the grass and use the sidewalk, don't walk in the landscaping, 2 hands on the bike handlebars. We had a community watch group that when I look back was one reasons I felt safe having fun as a child. I knew someone was there in case I needed help. From now on, I would like to give permission to all of us, including myself, to redirect the kids if you do see inappropriate behavior. Create our own community watch group. I also would like parents to have a quick family chat about some safety rules while at church. These include no running, no throwing items, no hide n seek, and if they would like to play in the undercroft after church they need to have their parents permission. Also, the preschool equipment is only for preschoolers under 5 years old. Recently, when I was at the Sturtz house I took this picture of the wipe board in the kitchen. I just had to share it since it fit so well with today's sword message. Thanks Kay and LIFT for laying the ground work of how to create motivational change and posting such truthful words from Ghandi!!!



LIFT



Jr. & Sr. LIFT meets EVERY Sunday morning - 9:00 a.m. Sturtz House

[LIFT Schedule](#)

From the LIFT Leader's Desk

It's hard to believe that our program Year is ending this Sunday. My how time flies! It seems I get so little time with our LIFTers, but I pray that little time we have together is like watering a good seed. Continue to pray for our young people, as they have so much stress and worry in their lives.

When us older folks were growing up, we did not have these kinds of woes. While we cannot give peace, the peace that means no conflict, we can impart the peace that Jesus left us with. That peace passes all understanding and can ground us no matter what.

Parents, try to remember to send food with your LIFTER this Sunday for our food drive. So many are going hungry these days, especially the children. It is a horrible and sad thing that in our country children don't have enough to eat. We can do a small part by helping out this Sunday.

May God's peace be felt in your heart,
Kay Lewis

Music Ministry

Thank you to all musicians of our music ministry for your outstanding leadership in worship this year! We are blessed by your musical offerings and thank you for sharing your time and talents with the congregation!

Please thank a musician when you see them this weekend ☐

Our Summer "Occasional choir" begins June 4th. We will rehearse Sunday mornings at 9:15am before the 10am service (no mid-week rehearsal). The occasional choir supports the hymns and offers a simple anthem through the summer. Music and practice tracks are available for those who would like them in advance.

Please reach out to our music director Sara Torbeck at storbeck@stmichaelsbarrington.org to be added to our weekly email list.

Upcoming Events



Outreach Food Drive

Food Drive This Weekend! Feed One, Help All

Very few of us at St. Michael's have personal experience with poverty or hunger. These realities can seem faraway, even irrelevant. Consider something Fr. Jesse cited in his sermon a few weeks ago: a historian estimated that **70-80%** of the people Jesus spoke to did not know where their next meal was coming from. More statistics to ponder: according to a recent letter from the Greater Chicago Food Depository, prices of basic food items have increased between **52-70%** in the past year, and between **1-2 million** people in Illinois have lost SNAP benefits to buy food.

Our Food Drives have had many meaningful outcomes in helping to feed many souls in need in this geographic area. Something more to consider this week as we collect and distribute food again is this - our giving to alleviate hunger here makes a global impact in demonstrating God's love for all who suffer, to the oppressed, the refugees, the forgotten, and those near and far who are in desperate circumstances. Please donate food and/or time to help us bring necessary items to those in need. Thank you, St. Michael's family, for contributing to this vital ministry and willingly making sacrifices for the well-being of others.

Click below for a list of items needed by the food pantries.

[Food Drive List](#)



Sunday, May 28

Join us for Pentecost Sunday, wear red and enjoy the ladybug release, great music, food, and ice cream truck after the 10:00 AM service.

We will be serving hot dogs; the ice cream will be self-pay. We will be ready to serve starting at 11:15 AM. We hope to see you there!

St. Michael's 75th Anniversary Lindsay Taylor, Senior Warden

I am excited to write to you all this week about 75th Anniversary festivities at St. Michael's Episcopal Church this fall! (Yaaaaay! Party! Woo!) There will be a series of events, including:

- A kickoff Sunday potluck on September 10 (fire up your Crock Pots!)
- A formal event on Saturday, September 30
- A St. Michael's Sunday after-church reception on October 1
- An annual meeting luncheon on February 4

NOTE: When this schedule was posted last week it included an error regarding the October date, the date above is correct.

These events will be sure to offer many opportunities to use your special skills and gifts to be a part of the planning and execution of these exciting celebrations. While I am sure everyone at St. Michael's will be involved, I am sharing an initial opportunity to sign up to express interest in volunteering.

If you are interested in volunteering your time and skills to making the 75th anniversary of St. Michael's the best it can be, please share your information at the following sign-up link: [St. Michael's 75 Anniversary Events Volunteers Sign-Up](#)

Announcements

Peace & Justice News

The Episcopal Diocese of Chicago is always part of the Coalition of Welcoming Churches entry in the Pride Parade in Chicago. This year it is Sunday, June 25. The Peace and Justice Committee has paid the entry fee. If you would like to participate, or would like to help with the planning of our part in the parade, please let me know. Ellen Lindeen: peacellen123@gmail.com

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Ellen Birkett Lindeen
Professor Emeritus
Writer * Storyteller * Peacemaker * Activist
Fellowship of Reconciliation National Council

Maybe the desire to make something beautiful is the piece of God that is inside each of us.
~ Mary Oliver

I acknowledge that the lands that we now call Illinois are the ancestral homelands of many Tribal Nations including: the people of the Council of the Three Fires: the Ojibwe, Potawatomi, and Odawa, the Peoria, Kaskaskia, Piankashaw, Wea, Miami, Mascoutin, Sauk and Fox, Mesquaki, Kickapoo, Ho-Chunk, Menominee, and Chickasaw Nations.



Time to update your info!

In the spirit of spring cleaning, we're updating our member database so that can have more accurate records and better serve our parishioners. Click the link below to go to the member update form where you can fill out your information, along with that of any of your other household family members. We only require the name and date of birth, but any additional information you can provide would be appreciated!

[Member Update Form](#)

Upcoming Photo Directory

We are also working on a new photo directory for our members! We aim to have a draft ready and printed by mid-May so that we have time for corrections and updates for our final version which we plan to release mid-Summer. Photos are not required, but since it will be a photo directory, we do encourage you to provide one. The directory uses one photo for the member entry, so families should submit a group photo if more than one person wants to be included. Photos can be uploaded in the member update form linked above.

Congratulations to Juliet Duncan!

Dear St. Michaels!

As you may or may not know, I have been working towards becoming a nurse since 2017 (prerequisites). I was accepted into the nursing program at ECC in February 2020 to be in the Fall 2020 cohort. I was elated! My lifelong dream could become a reality! After MANY bumps in the road, including the death of 7 people, including my dad, and being delayed by a year to graduate, I FINALLY made it! I will be graduating on May 20th and will be hosting a graduation party on Sunday June 4th from noon until 6pm. You can come and go as you please. The location is at Lord's Park in Elgin: East Shelter: 325 Hiawatha Drive, Elgin, IL 60120. We will be grilling burgers and hot dogs. There will be sides, chips, pop/juice, desserts, cake etc. If you feel so inclined, you may bring a dish to share (but do not feel obligated). I hope you will be able to come celebrate this momentous occasion with us! If you have any questions or would like to RSVP, my email is: Juliet2384@gmail.com or I can be reached at 847-951-9198.



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