

# THE ARCHANGEL

Dear Friends,

October 2011

I had a good chuckle when I first read the above cartoon in a church publication. I know that most of you sit in the same pew on Sunday. We're creatures of habit. In colonial days parishioners used to rent pews. I remember visiting old Christ Church in Philadelphia once and sitting in George Washington's pew, which had a nameplate on it. It was quite a thrill. He had rented the pew for a year.

All of this is background to share some thoughts with you about the ministry of hospitality. As you might be aware, we have created a Welcome Table in the corner of the Gathering Area. Parishioners have volunteered to stand beside it and introduce St. Michael's to those who might be walking through our doors for the first time on Sunday morning. I applaud this effort and thank those of you who have volunteered to help with this important hospitality ministry. We need such an effort, but, if we are not careful, there is a potential problem in it. The potential problem is that we might start thinking that the welcoming ministry belongs to only group of people and is not something that we share together as a community. If you talk to new members of any church, you will find that just coming through the church door for the first time was probably a difficult experience for them. Studies indicate that the level of hospitality new people experience is extremely important when it comes to making a decision about joining a new church. Quite frankly, newcomers expect the clergy to be hospitable. (Alas, from some of the stories I've heard during the course of my ministry, this might not be a valid assumption!) How they are treated by lay people can very often tip the balance.

I have said on numerous occasions that I believe hospitality is part of the DNA of St. Michael's Church. It's one of our strengths. In terms of parish development, a church should work on its strengths first. As we move into a period of transition, I ask that we all assume responsibility for this ministry, with the result that we might become even stronger in this regard. What can you do? Simply this: on Sunday morning be attentive to people who are not familiar to you. If you see a new face, say hello. Some people fail to do this because they worry that the person may be a member already. Please take the risk and approach them. Even if they are members, you will begin the process of getting to know a member of your church. That's a good thing to happen! If you go to coffee hour, invite them to join you. Coffee hour can be the loneliest time of the morning for new people. While you're at coffee hour, try to be aware of people who may be alone. Invite them into your circle of conversation. If there is something happening at church you think might be of interest to them, invite them to attend. They just might say yes! I've known some churches that take welcoming new people so seriously that the visitor feels pressured. This is obviously not the environment we want to create.

**Vision Statement**  
*Glorifying God  
through passionate  
Christian  
discipleship.*

I ask only this of you: imagine that next Sunday you are coming to St. Michael's for the very first time. Assume that you do not know anyone. What would help you feel comfortable? On any given Sunday morning during the coming weeks, you will see someone in the pews who is new. You will have an opportunity to welcome that person as you would like to be welcomed. I can almost guarantee you that it will make a big difference to that person.....and you will feel better for having made the effort.

Faithfully,

Paul

## October Church Night

Back by popular request, our October Church night will feature a hymn sing on Wednesday, October 26. This event is being planned by the Gathering Ministry Team. Supper, served at 6:00pm, will be provided for a nominal charge. The sing will take place at approximately 6:45pm and will conclude no later than 7:30pm. Please use the sign-up sheet that will be on the kiosk by October 2.

## Save the Date to "SPARKLE"

The Connecting Ministry is sponsoring a Luncheon, Fashion Show and Sale on Saturday, October 1, beginning at 12 o'clock noon. The youth of St. Michael's have been diligently making crafts for this event as the craft and ticket sale proceeds will benefit the Youth Group's 2012 Italy Pilgrimage. Tickets are on sale in the Gathering Area or call Charles Marino 282-2122. Mark your calendar to attend this event and have a delicious lunch and tons of fun while benefitting our Youth Group and Thrift House.

We are also looking for parishioners who have knowledge of upcoming craft shows in October, November and December (i.e. high school booster club, senior club, etc.) to sponsor a table for our youth to sell their beautiful crafts. Please contact Donna Carraway, SPARKLE Chairperson, at 719/659-9272 for additional information.

Donna Carraway

## A Call To Service

Greetings and blessings from the Sending Ministry. This Fall has begun with a flurry of activity and we are requesting your help for a very important sending opportunity. As you know, each week we take donations to the food pantry at Northern Churches Care. We have had some faithful folks taking the collected food each week to help restock the NCC pantry shelves; however Hodge Hartley who delivered the collected food from the 10:30 service is now unable to continue that ministry. He has faithfully taken the food each week for a number of years and we so appreciate his service to Northern Churches Care. He will be greatly missed. This leaves a huge hole in getting all of the food collected to NCC. We are looking for one or two folks to take the collected food each week. Please contact Joe McCulley at 219-9751 or Debbie Womack at 534-3558 if you are willing to fill this need. Fr. Paul has been filling in for the past several weeks, but is not able to continue for long. The task is a rewarding one and brings great blessings. Thank you for your willingness to serve.

The Sending Ministry Team

## The Adult Forum in October

On October 2, Canon Missioner Lou Blanchard will be joining us in the Adult Forum to talk about the process we will be going through in selecting a new Rector. She will inform us of what's involved in forming a search committee and preparing a "Parish Profile," and give us an idea of the time line along which we can expect this process to proceed. Please come and learn more about this time of transition!

On October 9, 16 and 23, our own Margaret Arms will lead us in a series entitled "Being Made in the Image of God." Margie is both a psychotherapist and a spiritual director, and she has spent a lot of time contemplating this topic from both professional and academic perspectives, as well as from the stand point of a practicing Christian.

On October 30, Julie Wilmot will be back in the Adult Forum to tell us about the Origins of Halloween. Come and learn about the Christian roots of this ancient holiday!

I hope to see you there!  
The Rev. Sally Hubbell

## 1st Sunday Mission Box Collection

**TLC (The Lord Cares) Pharmacy** will be the recipient of our 1st Sunday Collection through December. TLC Pharmacy, serving El Paso and Teller Counties, is a non-profit operated by a dedicated team of volunteers who are dispensing help and hope to low-income, uninsured and under-insured patients by providing free access to medication and education. The pharmacy is a ministry of local evangelical Christians acting as the hands and feet of Christ and serving over a thousand poor people with free medicine. TLC has only one paid staff member, the administrator, plus over 55 volunteers from several different segments of the community, including twelve pharmacists who donate their time. For those of us familiar with Marcella Ruch, this is one of her projects in addition to others in which she has played a key role in providing free medical services in our community, e.g., The Mission Medical Clinic and The Surgery Project.

More information on TLC and how you can become a volunteer: <http://www.tlcparmacy.org/> Also check out this *Gazette* story: <http://www.gazette.com/articles/prescriptions-59681-free-poor.html>

*Please note:* The next meeting of the Outreach Committee is Monday, October 17 at 6:00pm. Open to all.

Bill Oliver, Outreach Committee Chair

## **MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

### **Join St Michael's Adult Choir**

Meet new friends, offer your gifts and talents, celebrate with us in song and share in the legacy of beautiful music. **Who We Are:** We are men and women, working and retired, who love to sing! **Membership Benefits:** Adult Choir members use their energies, time and talents to sing for the glory of God, provide leadership in Sunday worship and special services; and enjoy friendship and camaraderie during rehearsals. We rehearse Wednesday evenings 7:30pm to 8:45pm and sing Sunday at the 10:30am service. Call Trent Ellis at 260-9161 or e-mail at [trentellis@aol.com](mailto:trentellis@aol.com).

### **Operation Christmas Child**

Christmas is just around the corner and that means it's time to look for that empty shoe box to wrap and fill with small gifts to send to needy children all around the world. For the past 18 years, Operation Christmas Child has been delivering shoeboxes filled with school supplies, toys, clothing and hygiene items to children who have endured poverty, disease and disasters. We will be participating in this outreach ministry again this year. Our Collection Sunday will be November 13. Watch for more information in the October Sunday bulletins and the November Archangel.

Emily McMorran

### **Daughters of the King**

The Daughters of the King (DOK) "is an order for women who are communicants of the Episcopal Church. The mission of this order is the extension of Christ's Kingdom through Prayer, Service and Evangelism. Members undertake a Rule of Life, incorporating the Rule of Prayer and the Rule of Service. By reaffirmation of the promise made at Baptism and Confirmation, a Daughter pledges herself to a life-long program of prayer, service and evangelism, dedicated to the Spread of Christ's Kingdom and the strengthening of the spiritual life of her parish."

St. Michael's DOK chapter, St. Catherine of Sienna, meets monthly on the third Saturday at 9:00am. Our next meeting is October 15 in St. Francis Chapel; visitors are welcome. Our chapter is sponsoring the Lord's Supper on October 9. We also coordinate a portion of St. Michael's ministry to Haiti by creating and sending birthing kits. Any lady who is interested in joining, supporting or learning more about our ministry is invited to contact Patricia Nielsen, at 719-282-8554 or emailing her at [pat.nielsen@usa.net](mailto:pat.nielsen@usa.net).

Christine Mattox

### **Habitat House Nearing Completion**

Much work has been completed on the Habitat for Humanity House in Woodmen Vistas near Woodmen and Powers. St. Michael's is one of eleven churches

participating in this year's "Apostle's Build" project. Each church contributes \$5000 and sends work crews to do construction on Saturdays. Our next workday is Saturday, October 22. We'll work that day with volunteers from St. Patrick's Catholic Church. In addition to five volunteers each for the morning and afternoon shifts, we need volunteers to provide lunch for the workers. Sign up on the kiosk in the gathering area. See Rich Page or Chuck Noll if you have any questions.

### **Recognition of an Eagle Scout Project Well Done**

Over the May to August timeframe, Bobby Fricke, Boy Scout Troop 66, undertook a work project as part of his efforts to earn the Eagle Scout rank. The project consisted of refinishing St Michael's picnic tables, repairing the antique bench near the pavilion, painting the storage shed, and installing solar powered lights along the outdoor stairs leading to the lower level. Bobby conducted the project planning and coordination, obtained required materials and resources, organized a work team, and accomplished the work. He did an outstanding job in all phases of the project. We thank Bobby, Troop 66, and the Troop leadership for this gift to St Michael's.

Dean Logemann

### **BBQ Ministry Gets Underway!!!**

As you all know, we were tremendously successful in selling BBQ Bucks back in August and now our new smoker (which we're affectionately calling *The BBQ Warrior!*) is OURS! That means, or course, that *the time of redemption has come!!!*

So, on the morning of Sunday, October 30, the St. Mike's BBQ Ministers will have been toiling away all weekend to have freshly prepared beef brisket all packed in one pound bags for you to take home for your BBQ pleasure! Bring your BBQ Bucks, and we'll give you a hole punch for each pound you want to take with you on the 30th -- this way you can redeem all of your BBQ at once, or you can save a pound or two to redeem at our next *smoking redemption date*.

Although we anticipate having enough smoked brisket for everyone who wants it, there is a small chance we could run out if everyone wants to redeem their Bucks this first time. For this reason, it's a good idea to come early to redeem your meat.

Many thanks to all of you for your support for this ministry. The St. Mike's BBQ Ministry Team looks forward to lots of good Smoking and Eating with you in the future!

Let the Smoke Spread the Word!!!  
The Rev. Sally Hubbell

## Acolytes

New Scheduling Procedures. (This reiterates part of my entry for September. Please note the one-sign-up-per-month guideline.)

As announced this summer, St. Michael's is changing the way Sunday service lay participants are scheduled. Instead of the church secretary creating the schedule from a roster, participants now sign themselves up on a list posted monthly on the kiosk in the Gathering Area.

Acolytes and parents of acolytes, I ask you to observe the following guidelines for scheduling.

1. If there are open slots for which you are qualified and available, please do sign up for one service each month. (Young acolytes, please check with your parents first.)

2. Prior to the day of the *Archangel* deadline, please do not sign up for more than one service for the next month.

3. On the Sunday of the *Archangel* deadline, if a slot you can fill is still open for the next month, please feel free to sign up for an additional service. If you are unsure of whether or not the one-service-only rule still applies, please ask me.

In order to keep the numbers of services per acolyte roughly balanced through the year, I may need to take additional steps to try to apportion fairly the opportunities to serve. I ask in advance for your patience and understanding as we learn how best to implement the new procedures.

Lester Sharpless

## Thank You!

We want to thank our St. Michael's family for your thoughts and prayers during our Grandson's tour in Afghanistan. Andrew is home safe and sound, Praise the Lord.

Jack and Carolyn Braley

## High School Students meet at the Well

We have an amazing group of teens with wide ranging interests. Somehow they come together Sundays at noon for a meal and discussion about God. Check the web site for info on the Genesis Retreat called "Hittin' the Road," our Laser Quest lock in and Ski Trip information.

<http://www.stmikeschurch.com/ministry/nurturing/youth>, or call Joe at 201-4351

## Middle School Students

Sunday mornings are awesome at St. Mike's. We have a group of middle school students who meet every Sunday for good times, good friends, good snacks and to grow closer to Jesus. Find out more about upcoming events such as The

Genesis Retreat, Laser Quest and the Ski Trip at: <http://www.stmikeschurch.com/ministry/nurturing/youth>, or by call Joe at 201-4351

## REREAT!

In days gone by that was the sound of defeat. Today, it means a weekend away in the mountains near Buena Vista, Colorado. It means a weekend full of song, and joy, and getting to know God and each other better. It means silly skits, goofy games and swimming in a heated pool at 8800 ft elevation. This year it is called Genesis 2011 – Hittin' the Road. Register online by clicking the link on the St. Mike's youth page. Or go to this website: [http://www.coloradiocese.org/03\\_faithformation/camps.html](http://www.coloradiocese.org/03_faithformation/camps.html)

## Adults on retreat?

It seems this time of year ends up as a scramble as we try to sign up adults to serve on the youth retreat. If you are interested in going, please register at the website above. You will need to be Safeguarding certified – see the announcement about that. Questions? Send Joe an email at [joehattick@gmail.com](mailto:joehattick@gmail.com)

## Safeguarding God's Children

We are having another Safeguarding class on Saturday, October 8, 12-4pm. This class is a must for anyone serving children and youth in our parish. It also is a very helpful class for parents and grandparents, or even just people who care that our children are safe. Sign up on the Kiosk. There is no cost to coming. But we provide snacks and so need a good idea of who will be there.

## Sunday School is awesome!

This year we have begun with more students than ever before. We have more teachers, more fun and more learning. Join us 9:15-10:15am Sunday mornings, downstairs. You can register your children anytime by filling out the pink form in the gathering area.

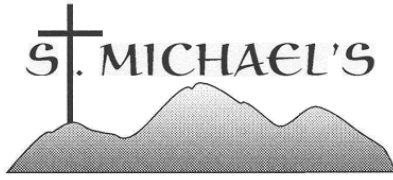
Joe Hattick

## Office Hours

During the school year the office is open Monday – Thursday from 9:00am – 2:30pm. Also, please note that during the office hours, the office door is usually locked. You will have to ring the door bell and be buzzed in to gain entrance. We are sorry for this inconvenience, but this procedure ensures the safety of our staff.

## Diocesan Convention

This year's Convention will take place in Grand Junction on October 7 and 8. Our delegates are: Dean Logemann, Joe McCulley, Lee Kulbitski, Steve Merrill and Marilyn Wright.



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# Church of St. Michael the Archangel

**Staff:**

The Reverend Paul Lautenschlager, Rector  
Trent Ellis, Choir Director and Organist  
Joe Hattick, Children, Youth and Family Minister

The Rev. Sally Hubbell, Associate Priest  
Evan Becker, Bookkeeper  
Esther Myers, Secretary

**Officers of the Parish:**

Rich Page, Senior Warden  
Dean Logemann, Junior Warden

George Greenway, Treasurer  
Diane Dennison, Clerk of the Vestry

**Members of the Vestry:**

Linda Council  
Allen Creely  
Emily Gustafson

Yvonne Franklyn  
Lee Kulbitski  
Joe McCulley

Steve Merrill  
Ken Sagendorf  
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