



THE TRUMPET

An instrument of good news for our community

JULY 26, 2020

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

EXTRAVAGANT GENEROSITY: GARDEN GOODIES DELIVERED TO MANOS DE CRISTO



In this week's gospel passage, we read one of the many parables Jesus employs using agricultural and garden metaphors—that of the mustard seed. What better time to take a look, then, at the ongoing ministry of the St. Michael's Garden. Gail Reid, who along with Susie Orum and others, tend not only the vegetables themselves, but also our neighbors by continuing to deliver this much-needed fresh food to area non profits during the COVID-19 pandemic. Gail shares details about this ministry, along with some photographs of the recent harvest and a delivery to Manos de Cristo.

St. Michael's Garden is a bountiful basket of love. The garden is planted, tended, and harvested year round. In pre-pandemic times, we typically shared our veggies with Neighbor 2 Neighbor at St. James' Episcopal Church on the first and third Tuesdays of each month. During the pandemic, their process for feeding the many hungry people has changed, so we are not delivering there right now.



Manos de Cristo, however, is still receiving our harvest every week. I miss our friends at St. James', but it is a joy to see Maria Gamez, their Basic Needs Coordinator, each week at Manos de Cristo. Both organizations are always so grateful for what we bring to be shared.

Thank you, Gail, Susie, and everyone involved in the SMEC Garden ministry, for your extravagant generosity.

Note: If you are interested in delivering vegetables, watering the garden, or volunteering at St. James', please contact Gail Reid at reid.gail@gmail.com.

GLIMPSES OF GRACE

Thoughts for the Eighth Sunday after Pentecost *by Luis Ruiz, Student Minister*

In times of anxiety and uncertainty, I've often turned to the Wisdom books of the Bible (Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Job) to try to find a fresh perspective. This week, I particularly resonated with the book of Job.

Job experiences the loss of everything that brings him joy and there seems to be no end in sight to his suffering. His friends propose different theories on what Job did to deserve his condition, but the truth that both Job and the reader know is that Job isn't guilty of anything; his suffering is being caused by greater, unseen forces. Job clings to his faith; however, it isn't a warm, fuzzy feeling. It's full of anger and frustration toward God. Yet, Job chooses to trust that God must have some reason to allow this. When God finally answers, God confirms that none of them is correct and that the world is a much more complex place than they imagined. Humbled by the realization that God does indeed have the world in God's hands, Job's anger turns to awe and he counts the opportunity to see God's glory as reason enough for his suffering.

Like Job, most of us might feel like there is no relief in sight for the trouble we are facing both individually and as a nation. But, like Job, we must hold firm to our conviction that God is holding the world in God's hands, and that in the absence of simple fixes, our gaze should turn to look for God's glory in these troubled times. The best place to start looking for God is in God's image-bearers - our neighbors. Resolving to care for one another in whatever way we can is the surest way we'll catch a glimpse of glory, and it might make the whole trial worth it if we can come out the other side having seen God in one another.

NOTES

BRAVE WOMEN OF THE EARLY CHURCH: PART 3 VIDEO THIS SUNDAY, JULY 26 This interesting three-week video series from parishioner Sally Lombardo, based on her soon-to-be published book, is all about these brave women of the New Testament—Mary Magdalene, Lydia, Priscilla, Chloe, Phoebe, Junia, and Nympha—and how they continue to be meaningful to 21st-century Christian life. We'll share the YouTube link in Sunday's email and on Facebook.

PRAYER CHAIN CHANGES The SMEC weekly Prayer Chain email format has changed slightly for ease of finding names within the Ongoing Prayers section and for Christine to keep track of those being prayed for. Prayers are listed in alphabetical order by first name or word. People listed in the New Prayers section move into the Ongoing Prayers the following week and will cycle off the prayer chain after 60 days, with the exception of the COVID-19 prayers. You are welcome to submit a new request after that. Please send any requests, updates, or corrections to Christine Havens, Communications & Admin Assistant, at chavens@st-michaels.org. It would be helpful to list the full name of the person or persons being prayed for and indicate how we should then share that information. There are many folks with the same or similar first names, and that way the office at least will know how to differentiate between them for pastoral care. If you'd like to subscribe, please contact Christine.

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION AVAILABLE One of our parishioners, Sally Lombardo, is offering free spiritual direction to St. Michael's parishioners during this time. Sally has an MDiv from Truett Seminary at Baylor and a Certificate in Spiritual Direction. If you are interested, please email Sally at shlombardo@gmail.com.

REGULAR ZOOM OFFERINGS

ST. MICHAEL'S BOOK CLUB Join St. Michael's book group this summer! July's book is *The Sunday Philosophy Club* by Alexander McCall Smith; the discussion is at **2:30 pm on July 29**. August's book selection is *Jayber Crow* by Wendell Berry; that discussion happens on **August 26 at 2:30 pm**. Please email Gail Reid at reid.gail@gmail.com for more information and the Zoom link.

WOMEN OF ST. MICHAEL'S VIRTUAL POTLUCK Table fellowship with friends via Zoom—women of all ages are welcome to join. They generally gather **Monday evenings at 6:00 pm** every other week; the next meeting is **July 27**. Please email Becky Brindley at rmbindley@yahoo.com for the Zoom link, password, and email updates.

MORNING PRAYER, TUESDAYS @9:00 AM You're invited to Morning Prayer each Tuesday morning at 9:00 am. Please email chavens@st-michaels.org for Zoom meeting link.

EVENING PRAYER, WEDNESDAYS @4:30 PM Led by Mthr. Elizabeth each Wednesday at 4:30 pm during July. Please email chavens@st-michaels.org for the Zoom meeting info.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON BIBLE STUDY Weekly Tuesday Bible Study is at 1:00 pm, via Zoom. Please email chavens@st-michaels.org for the Zoom link and meeting ID.

CENTERING PRAYER ON TUESDAY EVENINGS This ministry is available every Tuesday night at 6:30 pm. Please email Phyllis Blee with questions: phyllis.blees@gmail.com or for the Zoom meeting link and ID.

SEEKERS BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP The Seekers are currently reading *Divine Dance: The Trinity and Your Transformation* by Richard Rohr and Mike Morrell. They meet at 9:15 am each Sunday. Please email Phyllis Blee at phyllis.blees@gmail.com for the Zoom meeting info.

Here are links to a couple of Zoom tutorials on YouTube. This one, <https://youtu.be/9isp3qPeQ0E>, from the Creative Life Center, is great for those just using the platform for joining meetings. Click this link, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FnFSBjFvK2o>, for a more detailed tutorial or if you're interested in how to host a meeting. If you have questions about using Zoom that aren't answered in either of the videos or you need clarification, please email Luis Rivas at livas@st-michaels.org about a Q&A session.

STUDENT MINISTRY

AVATAR IN AUGUST WITH ST. MICHAEL'S EYC! Sundays in August, from 4:00-6:00 pm, watch Nickelodeon's great animated series, *Avatar*, with your friends! Just download the Chrome extension, Netflix Party, and you're all set for throwback fun! Questions? Contact Luis Rivas, Student Minister, at livas@st-michaels.org.

PARENTS & STUDENTS—STAY IN THE KNOW! FOLLOW AUSTIN AREA EYC ON INSTAGRAM! The Austin Area EYC continues having fun activities at a safe distance. Follow [@austin_eyc](https://www.instagram.com/austin_eyc) on Instagram to stay connected to future opportunities for virtual worship and fun with other Episcopal youth from around the city. Direct Message on Instagram for Zoom links. Please contact Luis Rivas, Student Minister, at livas@st-michaels.org for more news about youth group happenings.

FAMILY MINISTRY

OUR ONLINE CHILDREN'S OFFERINGS are on hiatus for July to give everyone a break from screen fatigue. Stay tuned to the SMEC Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/St.Michaels.Austin/>, for pop-up activities and inspiration for family fun!

THIS WEEK'S PRAYERS

NEW PRAYERS

For Kelly, Jackie's daughter, that new chronic pain treatments are effective.
For Rachel & Chris, that their rental house might sell.
For Sandy, Chris Whitty's friend, who has terminal cancer.

COVID-19 RELATED

For Liz, friend of Donna H., who just lost her husband to COVID
For Sue, friend of Donna H., who just lost her mother to COVID
For Marshall and Madison, family members of Margie Ayres, who have COVID-19
For Maddie, Christian, and Val, who are self-quarantined in TN after exposure
For Sara, who has COVID-19, and for the Hines family; may she recover safely and the rest of the family stay healthy.
For Rosa, cousin of Lena Carson, as she returns to her work as a physician.
For all those living in eldercare facilities, and for the staff, and for their families.
For Stuart Wiggin, who is an EMT, that he might be safe and stay well.
Prayers for Drew Marye's stepsister, Sherry, who was diagnosed with COVID-19.
For all those without employment at this time.
For Hannah M.
All of our hospital workers, including J'aime, and Patty who works in Yale's ICU, and all who are keeping services for us.
Miriam Carrillo, and Alfred Carrillo, sister and brother of José, whose livelihoods have been affected by the public emergency.
For Ed Erdman.

RESOURCES

MEDICAL & MENTAL HEALTH

One Good Turn: <https://www.onegoodturn.org/covid-19-resources>
Corona Care Kit: <https://drive.google.com/drive/u/3/folders/1CTVtsrX6AuO4PfvHSSStKdRLa0Cy95Xvj>
Texas Health & Human Services COVID-19 Mental Health Support Line:
<https://files.constantcontact.com/8f1dee88001/d0a7b37e-45a2-4d63-aec6-ca2dd9aefb03.pdf>

PRAYER

Prayers for Use During the COVID-19 Pandemic: https://episcopalchurch.org/files/wol_prayers_for_pandemic_final.pdf
Society of Saint John the Evangelist: <https://www.ssje.org/>
Mission of St. Clare—Daily Office: <https://missionstclare.com/english/index.html>
Online Book of Common Prayer: <https://www.bcponline.org/>
Venite App: <https://www.venite.app/>
iACT's Daily Dose of Hope: <https://interfaithtexas.org/category/the-daily-dose-of-hope/>

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE—INDIVIDUALS & FAMILIES

United Way Emergency Food and Other Assistance: connectatx.org/

ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH STAFF

Rector

The Rev. John Newton
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Curate

The Rev. Minerva Camarena Skeith
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Deacon

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Assistant to Pastoral Care

The Rev. Elizabeth Turner
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Assisting Priest

The Rev. Hope Benko
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Seminarian

Joel McAlister
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ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATIONS

Sponsoring altar flowers is a wonderful way to honor loved ones or celebrate an occasion. Dedications can be emailed to the office: chavens@st-michaels.org. Your donation can be mailed to the church office or given via the "Give" page of our website, <https://www.st-michaels.org/take-action>.

The altar flowers this week are given to the glory of God.

BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES

Are you celebrating a birthday or anniversary? We'd love to pray for you during the Sunday service and print your name(s) in the bulletin. The submission deadline is noon of the Wednesday prior to when you'd like to receive a blessing; email to Christine Havens at chavens@st-michaels.org.

READINGS, JULY 26, 2020 EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Genesis 29:15-28
Psalm 128
Romans 8:26-39
Matthew 13:31-33,44-52

SHARE YOUR STAY-AT-HOME PHOTOS!

Worshipping with your family, friends, pets? Have something else you'd like to share? We'd would still love to see your photos and share them on Facebook and/or in the Trumpet! Please send in as high a resolution as possible to Christine at chavens@st-michaels.org. Thank you!

THE TRUMPET SUBMISSION DEADLINE

Have a submission for the Trumpet? Please send it to Christine (chavens@st-michaels.org) by 12:00 pm on the Wednesday prior to the date you would like your announcement to appear in the Trumpet. Running it two weeks prior to your event is recommended for most church announcements.

*Your extravagant generosity is appreciated.
Text SMEC1500 to 73256 and follow the prompts to make an e-offering.*