



THE TRUMPET

An instrument of good news for the community

AUGUST 15, 2021

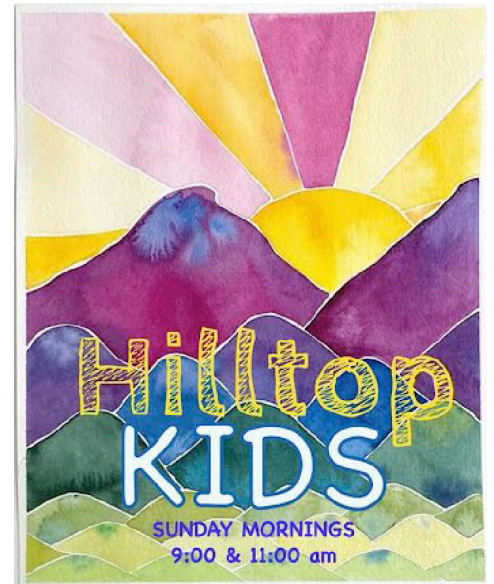
TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS: GETTING READY FOR SCHOOL

It's that time of year again—summer's ending, stores have been running ads for pens, pencils, folders, crayons, and more; orientations have been attended; new clothes and shoes purchased. In short, school's starting soon. With all the uncertainty about what the coming year will look like, St. Michael's would like to invite all students, and educators, to our 10:00 am service. During the announcements, Fr. John will bless backpacks, bags, or other school-related items. Family Minister Amanda is ready with special Hilltop Kids tags, just for you! ➡

Below is a Back to School prayer from Wendy Claire Barrie, who served as a Christian educator in several East Coast Episcopal Church over the last 30 years.

—Christine Havens, *Communications and Admin Assistant*



God of Wisdom, we give you thanks for schools and classrooms and for the teachers and students who fill them each day. We thank you for this new beginning, for new books and new ideas. We thank you for sharpened pencils, pointy crayons, and crisp blank pages waiting to be filled. We thank you for the gift of making mistakes and trying again. Help us to remember that asking the right questions is often as important as giving the right answers. Today we give you thanks for these your children, and we ask you to bless them with curiosity, understanding and respect. May their backpacks be a sign to them that they have everything they need to learn and grow this year in school and in Sunday School. May they be guided by your love. All this we ask in the name of Jesus, who as a child in the temple showed his longing to learn about you, and as an adult taught by story and example your great love for us. Amen.

—from Wendy Claire Barrie, *Blessing of the Backpacks*, Church Publishing, 2011

NOTES

Worship at St. Michael's! We invite you to join us for Sunday worship at St. Michael's. Our summer services are at 8:00 and 10:00 am. BOTH services are in the sanctuary, and the parish hall restrooms are open.

We will livestream the 10:00 am service; we will have the pre-recorded on the website, too, in case of technical difficulties with the livestream, such as a new sound system. Just go to www.st-michaels.org/worship-online to view. The Sunday morning email will have this information, too; it will arrive in your inbox by 8:00 am at the latest.

Paul's Letter to the Romans: Rector's Bible Study Coming Soon! A verse from Romans led to St. Augustine's conversion. Luther ensured that this epistle was at the heart of the Protestant Reformation, and Wesley's heart was "strangely warmed" when hearing a commentary on this letter read aloud. One can scarcely overestimate the importance of Paul's letter to the Romans in the history of Christian thought, where the apostle Paul, writing to a group of Christians he has never even met, speaks passionately about his belief that God's covenant with Israel was never meant to be a private affair, and that what God did for Israel God also did through Israel to bless the entire world. At the center of God's plan? Jesus, the Christ, in whom the righteousness of God has been revealed. Join us this fall as we take a deep dive into this literary and theological masterpiece! **Please note the new Zoom login info for the Tuesday Bible Study (being used currently):**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84290310446?pwd=WG1iK0t6WFVITjdNVTYyTk41S29yZz09>

Meeting ID: 842 9031 0446

Passcode: 582175

Altar Guild Needs Help The Altar Guild is always looking for women and men to join this ministry. This group makes sure that the sanctuary is clean and readied for services and other liturgical events that happen at St. Michael's. If you are interested in serving or for more information, please contact Gail Reid at reid.gail@gmail.com.

FORMATION & FELLOWSHIP

Seekers Book Group The Seekers are currently reading *Mary Magdalene Revealed: The First Apostle, Her Feminist Gospel & the Christianity We Haven't Tried Yet* by Meggan Watterson, a WSJ bestseller about the gospel attributed to Mary and about her role in Christian tradition. The group meets at **11:45 am each Sunday** and all are welcome. *Interested in joining the group?* Contact Phyllis Blee at phyllis.blees@gmail.com for more info. Here's the book group Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/158321072?pwd=SE9Zc0hscE13REM1U1lWYjVU3YyZz09>, Passcode: 541706.

St. Michael's Women's Virtual Potluck The SMEC Women's Virtual Potluck group is now gathering at 6:00 pm on the first Monday of each month unless it falls on a holiday. All women of the parish are invited—bring a friend! Stay tuned for news about returning to gathering in person on the church campus in the fall. Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84019837778?pwd=SGRmQXhoYlIXSUZCZEkrL0hMdFhldz09>; passcode is 242636.

St. Michael's Book Club Looking for fellowship and conversation? Love reading? Join the SMEC Book Club! The group will meet again at the end of September (the 29th), but have already chosen the book to read over the summer: *The Library Book*, by master nonfictionist, Susan Orlean. Please email Rhoda Silverberg at rmorrillsilverberg@icloud.com for more information and for the Zoom link.

Morning Prayer: Tuesdays @9:00 am You're invited to Morning Prayer each Tuesday morning at 9:00 am. Please note the Zoom link and passcode: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81346686555?pwd=MHFKdmlwWXRnZlVZM2tlb04wUUVHUT09>. **Passcode:** prayer.

Centering Prayer: Tuesdays @6:30 pm This ministry is available every Tuesday night at 6:30 pm. Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/158321072?pwd=SE9Zc0hscE13REM1U1lWYjVU3YyZz09>; passcode: 541706. Please email Phyllis Blees with questions: phyllis.blees@gmail.com. For more about contemplative prayer, click this link: [Heart of Texas Contemplative Outreach](#).

Evening Prayer: Wednesdays @4:30 pm Each Wednesday at 4:30 pm. Use Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88082768969> and passcode 826364.

Thursday Afternoon Bible Study @1:00 pm This informal group discusses the Daily Office readings—drop in anytime! Led by Mary Healy, mary.r.healy@gmail.com. Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87035409217?pwd=b3RVWmJwOGFRTHgvK0dXMTB3UEM0Zz09>. Meeting ID: 870 3540 9217. Use this passcode: biblestudy.

FAMILIES & STUDENTS

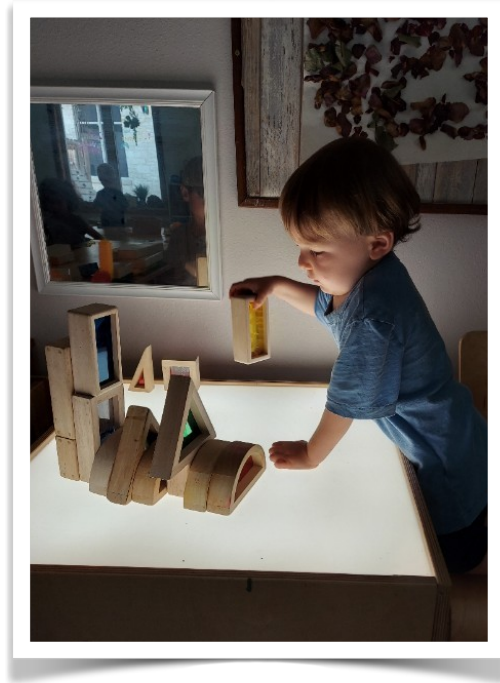
Amanda Evans Lang invites you to check out the [Family Ministry](#) and [Student Ministry](#) pages on the St. Michael's website for updates and activities to enrich your spiritual life. Please email her with questions at amanda@st-michaels.org.

FAMILY MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! Family Minister Amanda is looking for some volunteers to help with prep work. If you enjoy being crafty, helping with tasks like mailing postcards and organizing supplies, and are available during the week, please contact her at amanda@st-michaels.org.

MINISTRIES

STEPHEN MINISTRY Would you like a caring person to be with you steadfastly, in and through a hard time in your life? Consider asking for a Stephen Minister. Stephen Ministry is a free, confidential program that provides Christian care to hurting people with our congregation and surrounding community. Learn more at www.st-michaels.org/stephen-ministry. If you'd like a Stephen Minister, please contact Jeff Robinson (jarobinson100@gmail.com), Julie de Wette (julie@losmadrone.com), or Fr. John Newton (jnewton@st-michaels.org).

DAY SCHOOL PHOTOS OF THE WEEK



Last week of summer classes at the day school! Kona Ice snow cones with friends; playing with light and shapes. *Photos courtesy of day school teachers Melody and Nicole.*

THIS WEEK'S PRAYERS

Please email Christine Havens at chavens@st-michaels.org with prayer requests or to receive the weekly Prayer Chain emails.

Parish Prayer List

For Michael Reeves, who is in the hospital suffering from "a slew of senior challenges," including a broken arm.
For Frances Gordon, mother of Brooke Cato, who passed away recently; for Brooke and George, and the Gordon family as they grieve.

For Chris Watkins, who is having shoulder surgery on August 13.

For Karen Moody's Uncle Jean, who died recently; for Karen, her cousins, John and Rick, and all her family as they grieve him.

For Jim, cousin of Karen Moody and son of Jean, who is very ill in the hospital; for John and Rick as they worry about him.

For Evan, who suffering intense chronic pain due to a traumatic brain injury from an auto accident.

COVID-19

For all children and teachers during this unexpected style of attending school.

For all who struggle with loneliness and isolation.

For all those living in eldercare facilities, and for the staff, and for their families.

For all those without employment at this time.

All of our hospital and healthcare workers, including Rosa, J'aime, and Patty, who are keeping healthcare services running.

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: St. Paul's, Waco; St. Thomas', Rockdale; Waco Church Plant, Waco

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Anglican Church of Southern Africa

ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

STAFF DIRECTORY

Rector

The Rev. John Newton
jnewton@st-michaels.org

Assistant for Pastoral Care

The Rev. Elizabeth Turner
eturner@st-michaels.org

Assisting Priest

The Rev. Hope Benko
hope.benko@ssw.edu

Deacon

The Rev. Sherry Williams
sherry.v.williams@mac.com

Senior Warden

Kristen LeClair
kleclair0704@gmail.com

Junior Warden

Clark Whitty
clark.whitty@gmail.com

Family Minister

Amanda Evans Lang
amanda@st-michaels.org

Student Minister

Michael Wiggin
mwiggin@st-michaels.org

Parish Administrator

Julie Hodges
parishadmin@st-michaels.org

Admin & Communication Assistant

Christine Havens
chavens@st-michaels.org

Choir Director

Dr. James Morrow
morrowj@austin.utexas.edu

ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATIONS

The altar flowers are dedicated to the glory of God. Sponsoring altar flowers is a wonderful way to honor loved ones or celebrate an occasion. Dedications can be emailed to: 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>.

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Track 1

1 Kings 2:10-12; 3:3-14
Psalm 111
Ephesians 5:15-20
John 6:51-58

Track 2

Proverbs 9:1-6
Psalm 34:9-14
Ephesians 5:15-20
John 6:51-58

FOLLOW ST. MICHAEL'S ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook: @St.Michaels.Austin

Instagram: stmichaels_atx

Twitter: StMichaelsEpiscopal @StMichaelsATX

CONNECT TO THE WIDER CHURCH

Episcopal Diocese of Texas (EDOT): www.epicenter.org

The Episcopal Church (TEC): www.episcopalchurch.org

THE TRUMPET SUBMISSION DEADLINE

Have a submission for the Trumpet? Please send your ideas, stories, or photos to Christine Havens, Communications Assistant, (chavens@st-michaels.org) by 12:00 pm on Wednesdays.

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