

# THE TRUMPET

*An instrument of good news for our community*

NOVEMBER 15, 2020

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

## **SMEC AND HANDS FOR HOPE 2020**

In previous years, November meant a blurb in the Trumpet for a number of weeks inviting the parish's participation in El Buen Samaritano's Hands for Hope program. Essentially, every \$25 donated ensured that low-income families would have the makings for a Thanksgiving dinner. El Buen uses any surplus funds from the campaign to supplement their food pantry for the year. St. Michael's celebrated donations in a playful, incarnational way—feathers put in the two lovely crocheted turkeys crafted by parishioner Bunny Cowan to mark goals met. This year looks different, partly due to the pandemic, but mostly due to your extravagant generosity. Thanks to you, the Outreach Commission has over \$2000 to donate to Hands for Hope this year plus \$2500 for COVID relief, gifts no less incarnational and communal for the lack of turkeys and feathers in the narthex. If you'd like to learn more about the program and El Buen, please click this link: [elbuen.org/h4h](http://elbuen.org/h4h).

Your extravagant generosity would have filled Bunny's turkeys with feathers and then some. Even more, you'll be helping to fill the tables of many families. Put a feather in your cap!



## **ST. MICHAEL'S SUNDAY MORNING ADULT BOOK STUDY GROUP: THE SEEKERS**

*Speaking of feathers in caps, Phyllis Blee shares a brief history of The Seekers as they approach their 29th year of gathering.*

The St. Michael's Sunday morning adult book study group, affectionately calling themselves "the Seekers," formed circa 1992, is coming up on its 29th year of weekly classes. Its purpose is to be a standing adult class offered on Sunday mornings. Its goals are: *fellowship; greater understanding of our religion and spirituality; a place to be "fed;" discourse—exchange views at mature level; provide a safe place to discuss—never judging; challenging material; tolerance and open mindedness—we are not forced to swallow anything; and to be a thriving small group; making St. Michael's a place not just of greeting but of invitation and welcome.*

Father Robby Vickery led the class for its first 10 years, followed by associate rector, Lex Breckinridge; assisting priest, Scott Irvin; and on occasion, acolytes. To free up clergy for new member and enrichment classes, lay members began leading, thus expanding the rich offerings for adults. Early lay leaders were Sarah and Peter Mullarkey, Elizabeth Turner, Doug Falls, and eventually its current facilitator, Phyllis Blee.

The class covers a wide variety of literature and poetry, supplemented with music and guests, moving at a comfortable pace that allows it to accomplish its goals. Drop-ins are encouraged. A given reading will be supplemented for those who haven't had a chance to read ahead. Truly, the primary goal of the class is loving fellowship, which has been foremost in our thoughts during this time of COVID-19. For information contact: [Phyllis.blees@gmail.com](mailto:Phyllis.blees@gmail.com). You can also find the group on Blogspot: [stmichaelsseekers.blogspot.com](http://stmichaelsseekers.blogspot.com); Password – gmapword; username – btrank@aol.com.

## NOTES

**WORSHIP SERVICES** *All our services follow COVID-19 precautions as outlined by the Diocese of Texas and the City of Austin.*

**CHECK-IN INSTRUCTIONS FOR ALL IN-PERSON WORSHIP SERVICES** Heading to campus for in-person worship? Please text “SMEC” to 312-487-3550 *each week and follow the text prompt; include your full name and the service you plan to attend. Check in at anytime, right up to the service.* This allows us to contact folks easily and rapidly if we have a COVID-19 exposure and in case of weather issues. We certainly won’t turn anyone away. Here is a link to the website, which has a more detailed how-to: <https://www.st-michaels.org/checkin-1>. We’ll have a table on Sunday mornings if you need assistance. If you’ve checked in successfully using your phone, just grab a bulletin and you’re all set!

**COURTYARD EUCHARIST** A spoken Rite I Eucharist that begins at **8:00 am**. Seating is provided.

**PICNIC CHURCH** This completely outdoor service, complete with blankets and wiggle baskets for the kids, happens every Sunday at **9:15 am** in the courtyard. Bring your own chairs.

**HOLY EUCHARIST: RITE II WITH MUSIC** Join us in the sanctuary at **10:30 am** for this service, which is in-person and livestreamed on our website.

**SEEKERS BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP** The Seekers will be starting a new book on Sunday, November 22! It’s the internationally-renowned novel about the life and death of Jesus—*The Last Temptation of Christ* by Nikos Kazantzakis, a book that has generated controversy and conversation since its publication. The group meets at **11:45 am each Sunday** and all are welcome. Here’s the Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/158321072?pwd=SE9Zc0hscE13REM1U1WYjVU3YyZz09>. Please email Phyllis Blee at [phyllis.blees@gmail.com](mailto:phyllis.blees@gmail.com) with any questions.

**STEPHEN MINISTRY HERE FOR YOU** Lonely? Sad? Discouraged? Pandemic fatigue? Going through a rough time—emotionally or spiritually? Struggling with a life crisis? Consider letting a Stephen Minister help. A Stephen Minister is a parish member who is trained to listen, care, encourage, pray, and walk alongside you during difficult times. It’s confidential, free, very helpful, and the ministers follow CDC guidelines for safe visits. To learn more, please contact a Stephen Leader: *Jeff Robinson* ([jrobinson100@gmail.com](mailto:jrobinson100@gmail.com) or 512-963-6687) or *Julie de Wette* ([julie@losmadrone.com](mailto:julie@losmadrone.com) or 512-925-7029). Or you may contact our rector: *the Rev. John Newton* ([jnewton@st-michaels.org](mailto:jnewton@st-michaels.org)).

Extravagant  
**GENEROSITY**  
Ingathering

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15  
10:30 AM SERVICE

A BLESSING OF YOUR  
2021 PLEDGE & BUILDING PROJECT CARDS

Thank you for those already received.  
Make your pledge online during the offertory hymn at  
[www.st-michaels.org/take-action](http://www.st-michaels.org/take-action)

ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Pledge cards for 2021  
are available at  
the Welcome Table on Sundays.

## ADULT FORMATION & FELLOWSHIP

**RECTOR'S BIBLE STUDY: THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES TUESDAYS & SUNDAYS @NOON** What was the early church like? How did Christianity spread? What can we learn about the church's mission today by studying the acts and actions of Jesus's first apostles? These are just a few of the questions we will explore over a period of 14 weeks, **September 8-December 13**. Sessions will be recorded and made available on YouTube for those who cannot attend a live one. Click the link for the full [syllabus](#). Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84133373380>.

**ST. MICHAEL'S BOOK CLUB** All are invited! The next title is *White Fragility*, by Robin DiAngelo, which will be discussed on Wednesday, December 2, at 2:30 pm. Please email Rhoda Silverberg at [rmorrillsilverberg@icloud.com](mailto:rmorrillsilverberg@icloud.com) for more information and for the Zoom link.

**ST. MICHAEL'S WOMEN'S VIRTUAL POTLUCK** Table fellowship with friends via Zoom—women of all ages are welcome to join. Alternate **Monday evenings at 6:00 pm** every other week. Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84019837778?pwd=SGRmQXhoYlIXSUZCZEkrL0hMdFhldz09>; passcode is 242636.

**MORNING PRAYER, TUESDAYS @9:00 AM** You're invited to Morning Prayer with Mother Minerva each Tuesday morning at 9:00 am. Please note the new Zoom link and passcode: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81346686555?pwd=MHFKdmlwWXRnZlVZM2tlb04wUUVHUT09>. **New Passcode:** prayer.

**CENTERING PRAYER ON TUESDAY EVENINGS** 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 Bles with questions: [phyllis.blees@gmail.com](mailto:phyllis.blees@gmail.com). For more about contemplative prayer, click this link: [Heart of Texas Contemplative Outreach](#).

**EVENING PRAYER, WEDNESDAYS @4:30 PM** Led by Fr. John each Wednesday at 4:30 pm. **NEW** Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88082768969>. **Passcode now required:** 826364. The information is also in Fr. John's weekly Tuesday e-news.

**THURSDAY AFTERNOON BIBLE STUDY @1:00 PM** This informal group discusses the Daily Office readings—drop in anytime! Led by Mthr. Minerva Camarena Skeith, [mskeith@st-michaels.org](mailto:mskeith@st-michaels.org). Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87035409217?pwd=b3RVWmJwOGFRTHgvK0dXMTB3UEM0Zz09>. Meeting ID: 870 3540 9217. **PLEASE NOTE** that you should use this passcode: biblestudy.

## STUDENT MINISTRY

### SUNDAY SCHOOL & EYC

**Episcopal Youth Community (EYC)** is at 4:00 pm and will be gathering outdoors, too. Check the Student Ministry webpage at [www.st-michaels.org/students](http://www.st-michaels.org/students) for more information or contact Luis at [lrvivas@st-michaels.org](mailto:lrvivas@st-michaels.org).

**PARENTS & STUDENTS—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. Please contact Luis Rivas, Student Minister, at [lrvivas@st-michaels.org](mailto:lrvivas@st-michaels.org) for more news about youth group happenings.

## FAMILY MINISTRY

**SUNDAY SCHOOL IS ON HIATUS UNTIL NOVEMBER 29 STAY TUNED FOR UPDATES ABOUT FUN ADVENT SURPRISES!** For more about our Family Ministry program, go to [www.st-michaels.org/family-ministry](http://www.st-michaels.org/family-ministry).

## THIS WEEK'S PRAYERS

### NEW PRAYERS

For Jim McConaughey, brother-in-law of Karen Haslund, who is gravely ill with COVID-19, and for his family.  
For Rachel Ham's family.

In thanksgiving that Alex and Sam, son and daughter-in-law of Karen Moody, have recovered from COVID.

For Christine's daughter in Iowa, Maggie, and her grandson, Jon, who have been diagnosed with COVID.

For all those in harm's way of Hurricane Eta, which still threatens Florida and the southeastern seaboard.

### COVID-19

For Rick & Dianna Lang, in-laws of Amanda Evans Lang, who have been diagnosed with COVID-19.

For Gary & Daisy, friends of Mary Hermes; they have been diagnosed with COVID-19 as has Fr. Robert, their parish priest.

For Rob Rhodes, college friend of Donna & Bill Hulsey, who recently died of COVID-19.

For the Jacob and Abramo families.

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

For Suzanne, who is struggling with loneliness and isolation during this time, and for all who struggle with these issues.

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 Stuart Wiggin, Rosa, J'aime, and Patty, who are keeping healthcare services running.

Miriam Carrillo, and Alfred Carrillo, sister and brother of José, whose livelihoods have been affected by the public emergency.

For Hannah M.

For Ed Erdman.



Our leaf-strewn courtyard smelled of autumn on Thursday morning.



## ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH STAFF

### Rector

The Rev. John Newton  
[jnewton@st-michaels.org](mailto:jnewton@st-michaels.org)

### Curate

The Rev. Minerva Camarena Skeith  
[mskeith@st-michaels.org](mailto:mskeith@st-michaels.org)

### Deacon

The Rev. Sherry Williams  
[sherry.v.williams@mac.com](mailto:sherry.v.williams@mac.com)

### Senior Warden

Hilary Bellm  
[hilarybellm@gmail.com](mailto:hilarybellm@gmail.com)

### Junior Warden

Kathy Wiggin  
[kbwiggin@gmail.com](mailto:kbwiggin@gmail.com)

### Student Ministry

Luis Rivas  
[lirivas@st-michaels.org](mailto:lirivas@st-michaels.org)

### Family Ministry

Amanda Evans Lang  
[amanda@st-michaels.org](mailto:amanda@st-michaels.org)

### Parish Administrator

Julie Hodges  
[parishadmin@st-michaels.org](mailto:parishadmin@st-michaels.org)

### Admin & Communication Assistant

Christine Havens  
[chavens@st-michaels.org](mailto:chavens@st-michaels.org)

### Choir Director

Dr. James Morrow  
[morrowj@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:morrowj@austin.utexas.edu)

### Assistant to Pastoral Care

The Rev. Elizabeth Turner  
[eturner@st-michaels.org](mailto:eturner@st-michaels.org)

### Assisting Priest

The Rev. Hope Benko  
[hope.benko@ssw.edu](mailto:hope.benko@ssw.edu)

### Seminarian

Joel McAlister  
[joel.mcalister@ssw.edu](mailto:joel.mcalister@ssw.edu)

## ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATIONS

*The altar flowers this week are given 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 the office: [chavens@st-michaels.org](mailto: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>.

## 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](mailto:chavens@st-michaels.org).

**NOVEMBER 15, 2020**

## TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Judges 4:1-7

Psalms 123

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Matthew 25:14-30

## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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.*