

THE TRUMPET

Your gateway to all things St. Michael's

DECEMBER 15, 2019

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

EPISCOPAL RELIEF & DEVELOPMENT (ERD)—ST. MICHAEL'S CONNECTION

Dear St. Michael's Family—

It has been my privilege to travel with Episcopal Relief and Development three times in the last few years and see firsthand how their projects are helping to heal a hurting world. Whether it's a rehabilitation hospital for children in Palestine, an orphanage in Bethlehem for Muslim children, a school for special needs children in the Azarq Refugee Camp in Jordan or a group of women in a Sri Lanka jungle making life better for themselves and their village through micro-loans, Episcopal Relief and Development is there helping either alone or partnering with others.



Through Gifts for Life, families are able to have chickens and other livestock to feed their families, then ultimately have enough to sell to others inside and outside their communities, greatly improving their quality of life. The women in Sri Lanka were excited to show us how they conducted their business meetings and how their loan system worked. We were the first foreigners to visit since they started the micro-loan program.

Please check out their website at www.episcopalrelief.org to see more. I urge you to "Like" their Facebook page and/or sign up for emails to keep current on their programs all around the world.

Blessings,

Karen Blair, St. Michael's parishioner

"I just remember listening to normally reserved Karen light up and talk a million words a minute about the effect she felt as she would travel with ERD and seeing the camps and what had been done in Jordan to provide schools and safer housing within the camps. I had not grasped before that that people would live for years or decades in the camps without knowing what would happen to themselves and how hard it was to keep up hope and how important structure and education were to prevent hatred and chaos from brewing deeper."

—Karen Haslund, St. Michael's parishioner

SIMPLE GIFTS PRESENTS EPISCOPAL RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT (ERD) GIFTS FOR LIFE ADVENT DISPLAY Looking for the perfect gift for someone who has everything? Maybe buying a goat for a farm or a bee hive might be just the thing. Check out the ERD Gifts for Life display in the narthex December 15 & 22. Members of our Outreach team will be on hand to provide more information about this program.

Photos courtesy of Karen Blair



JOIN US FOR A HOLY CHRISTMAS

Christmas Eve

5:00 PM
Family Eucharist
with *Drop-in Christmas*
Pageant

7:00 PM
Contemporary
Eucharist

11:00 PM
Traditional Eucharist
Music Begins at 10:30 pm

Christmas Day

10:00 AM
Rite II Eucharist
no music

NEWS THIS WEEK

DEADLINE FOR CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA DEDICATIONS—DECEMBER 17 Help make St. Michael's beautiful for our Christmas services by donating a poinsettia. Dedicate your flowers in memory or in honor of a loved one, or in thanksgiving or in celebration of an event, group, or individual. *The deadline to donate is **Tuesday, December 17**, if you want the recognition to appear in the Christmas Eve publications.* Envelopes are in the narthex, or you may email Christine at chavens@st-michaels.org or call the church office.

GET READY FOR THE 2019 CHRISTMAS PAGEANT! At **5:00 pm on Christmas Eve, we offer a Christmas Pageant for kids of all ages.** Kids in grades 1 - 12 who would like a speaking part are to attend three rehearsals: December 8 and December 22 during Sunday School (10:10 - 10:50) in the sanctuary, **AND** December 24 at 4:00 pm in full costume. Everyone else is invited to "drop in" on Christmas Eve dressed as an angel, a shepherd, or an animal from the nativity. We have some simple costumes to share, but you are encouraged to provide your own. We can't wait to welcome the baby Jesus with you.

GREENING OF THE CHURCH | SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22 | AFTER THE 11:00 AM SERVICE Come and join us as we hang the greens and the Epiphany star, decorate the narthex, trim the poinsettia tree, and make St. Michael's beautiful for Christmas. We'll have a quick pizza lunch before we get started. Please RSVP to Claire Bray at claire.bray@sbcglobal.net so we know how much pizza to order.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR TRINITY CENTER CHRISTMAS OUTREACH EVENT | SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22 | 2:00-4:30 PM Join us as we worship and serve our neighbors experiencing homelessness at Trinity Center. Volunteer (must be 11 or older) needs: welcoming neighbors, setting up for worship, being part of the kitchen crew, and clean up. Cookie and prize donations are also needed. Contact Elizabeth Turner (eturner@st-michaels.org) to RSVP about cookie baking; prizes (socks, blankets, towels, back packs and carryall bags, water bottles, t-shirts) can be brought to the collection area in the narthex. Questions or want to volunteer? Contact Elizabeth Jackson (ejackson68410@gmail.com).

CHURCH OFFICE HOLIDAY HOURS Week of December 22: Monday, December 23, 9 am-4 pm; *closed Tuesday and Wednesday for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day*; Thursday, December 26, 9 am-4 pm; closed as normal on Friday.
Week of December 29: Monday, December 30, 9 am-4 pm; 9 am-NOON on Tuesday, December 31; *closed Wednesday, January 1*; 9 am-4 pm Thursday, January 2. **Please note** that noon on December 31 is the cutoff time for dropping off any 2019 donations in the office as well as the postmark date for any that are mailed. There will be no Trumpet on December 29.

ADVENT HOLY HIKE On Saturday, December 21, at 10:30 a.m., folks are invited to hike at McKinney Roughs Nature Park in Cedar Creek. \$5 park entry fee. For information about the park, see <https://www.lcra.org/parks/Pages/mckinney-roughs-nature-park.aspx>. Contact the Rev. Becky Watts at becky@stthomasbcs.org to RSVP and for more info.

INVITATION: ORDINATION OF THE REV. CAMERON SPOOR | FRIDAY, JANUARY 3, 2020 | 7:30-9:30 PM | ST. DAVID'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH The Rt. Rev. Kathryn M. Ryan will ordain the Rev. Cameron Spoor to the Sacred Order of Priests at 7:30 p.m. on January 3, 2020 at St. David's. As his sending church, St. Michael's folks are definitely invited. For more information, please contact St. David's.

SUNDAY OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL AGES

ADULTS

RECTOR'S BIBLE STUDY Each of the four evangelists offer a unique take on who Jesus is and how his life, death, and resurrection have changed our world. Join us this fall as we tackle topics like discipleship, mission, mercy, healing, forgiveness, the church, our purpose in life, and the Kingdom of Heaven through John's eyes. The class is offered **Tuesdays, 12:00-1:00 pm, in Room 8, and Sundays, 10:10-10:50 am, in the parish hall.** Led by Fr. John Newton, with some guests; see the poster in the narthex for schedule of Sunday classes and facilitators.

SEEKERS' ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL BOOK STUDY The Seekers meet from 10:00-11:00 am, except on Taco Sundays. The group is now meeting in Room 6. The next book is *Inspired: Slaying Giants, Walking on Water, and Loving the Bible Again*, by Rachel Held Evans; discussion begins Sunday, December 8. *The Divine Dance*, by Richard Rohr, is the selection following that. Invite your friends for these great spiritual reads. Contact Phyllis Blees (phyllis.blees@gmail.com) for more information.

CHILDREN

SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE: Our regular Sunday school schedule resumes.

CHILDREN'S CHAPEL CHILDREN pre-K through 3rd grade are invited to Children's Chapel, where we read the same scriptures as "big church," learn prayers, and sing songs. Children in 4th & 5th grade are welcome, too. We rejoice the congregation during the Peace.

WORSHIP BAGS are available in the narthex, as well as in the Gathering Room, the place you can have wiggle room for the little ones, hear the service, and have some coffee.

Kids can **LOOK FOR OUR CHURCH MOUSE DURING WORSHIP.** If they tell Family Minister Lizzie after church where they spotted the mouse, she will give them a sticker!



STUDENTS

SUNDAY SCHOOL, 10:10 AM, RM 8 Our regular schedule resumes.

NO EYC (EPISCOPAL YOUTH COMMUNITY)—SEE YOU IN 2020!

HIGH SCHOOL SOCIAL, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 6:00-7:00 PM, MOZART'S COFFEE All high schoolers are invited for an hour of conversation and fellowship!

FALL YOUTH ALL-NIGHTER, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20, 5:00 PM-SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21, 9:30 AM It's that time again! Come join us for an evening of movies, games, snacks, and probably no sleep. Please RSVP to Luis Rivas at livas@st-michaels.org.

TRINITY CENTER SERVICE DAY, DECEMBER 22, 2:00 - 4:30 PM Youth group will be doing one service project every month. For December, we will be partnering with a team of volunteers from St. Michael's to help serve lunch and play tabletop games with the people we are serving. For more information about the Trinity Center, visit <http://trinitycenteraustin.org/>. RSVP to Luis at livas@st-michaels.org.

ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

1500 North Capital of Texas Highway • Austin, Texas 78746

512.327.1474 • st-michaels.org

Office hours: Monday-Thursday • 9:00 am-4:00 pm

Rector

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

Curate

The Rev. Minerva Camarena Skeith
mskeith@st-michaels.org

Deacon

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

Senior Warden

Rob Scott
emailrobscott@gmail.com

Junior Warden

Hilary Bellm
hilarybellm@gmail.com

Student Ministry

Luis Rivas
lrvivas@st-michaels.org

Family Ministry

Lizzie McManus
lizzie@st-michaels.org

Business Manager

Dr. Michael Reeves
parishadmin@st-michaels.org

Admin & Communication Assistant

Christine Havens
chavens@st-michaels.org

Choir Director

Dr. James Morrow
choirdir@st-michaels.org

Assistant to Pastoral Care

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

Assisting Priest

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

Seminararian

Joel McAlister
joel.mcalister@ssw.edu

ALTAR FLOWERS

Flowers this week are given to the Glory of God, and by the Reverends Skeith (Paul & Minerva) in celebration of their 20th anniversary.

A donation to the St. Michael's flower fund is a beautiful way to honor your loved ones, or to mark a special occasion. Donation envelopes are available in the narthex. Please note "flowers" on the memo line of your check. Place the envelope in the alms basin, or hand your envelope to the vestry person of the day or to the rector. You can also donate online by going to our Give page and clicking the "Give Online Here" button. There is a flower option in the "Select a fund" drop-down box, with a place to write a memo or dedication.

THIS WEEK'S PRAYERS

This week, we pray especially for Mary Kay, Margaret, and the victims of the Jersey City shooting.

WEEKLY PRAYER SERVICES

Morning Prayer

Every Tuesday at 9:00 am in the Worship Space. For more information, contact Gail Reid (reid.gail@gmail.com).

Centering Prayer

Tuesday evenings at 6:30 pm in the side chapel. For more information contact Phyllis Bles (phyllis.blees@gmail.com).

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.

READINGS, DECEMBER 15 2019

Isaiah 35:1-10; James 5:7-10; Matthew 11:2-11; Psalm 146:4-9

Didn't bring cash?

Text SMEC1500 to 73256 and follow the prompts to make an e-offering.