



St. Michael's Episcopal Church

Faith, Community and Hope ~ 50 Years and Growing

NEWSLETTER

MARCH/APRIL 2017

from the Rector

Dear Friends,

Whoever wore their pajamas inside out, or put a spoon under their pillow or in the freezer, or flushed an ice cube down the loo, thank you. Thank you for the snow day. As I write this, I am in the confines of my house and admiring what 2-4" of snowfall an hour looks like. I just saw a really fast runner go by my study window and disappear around the corner, and I can't really understand why she would not take this glorious blizzard as an excuse to remain seated. Snow days are that blissful time to collect yourself, to catch up and sleep in, and of course, shovel out.

Adrian, my husband reads the Wall Street Journal – in print. I read the New York Times on-line, but this morning with the leisurely start I thought I would read what he reads. A headline in the WSJ's Life&Arts section especially caught my attention: "You're Not Too Busy, You're Just Rude." The writer, Elizabeth Bernstein, explores as the article suggests, the proliferation of reported busyness in our society. She cites a study that looked at holiday round robin letters from the years 2000-2016 that found that "bragging about busyness was the second most common type of brag" - only second behind "ownership" – i.e. we have the most adorable new granddaughter who is a great sleeper. The pervasiveness of the feeling of busyness was brought home to her recently when she called her 5 year old niece, Sophia, to ask why she hadn't called in the last week (they usually talk daily) and Sophia's responded, "I was busy".

The article suggests striking the word busy out from our conversations. She suggests a little more honesty. Instead of saying I am too busy, speak the truth. Try for example, "I am overwhelmed," or "I am feeling frustrated," or "I have a deadline coming up and a business trip after that" or "I would love to spend the time with you, but I am feeling guilty about not spending the time with my children." The advantage of being honest is that when you tell a person about what is really going on, you are still valuing them. Unfortunately, when you say you are busy, you are effectively saying "I am so busy and you are not important enough to me to make time for you". She also argues we say busy because there is no perceived shame attached to busy. Busy means important and productive.

Lent is a time to fast from busyness. It is a time to set aside time for things that are important. It is also a time for self-examination. It would be an interesting exercise when we feel busy to dig a little deeper to see what is really going on and what we are really feeling. Is what is taking up our time important to us? Could we do less? Ask for help? Could we buy those cookies for the school bake sale or coffee hour instead of bake them? Or maybe just say, "not this time, thank you".

If we look at Jesus for an example, He was undoubtedly busy but He never complained about being too busy. He balanced his public ministry with

(cont'd on next page)

Sunday, March 26

Eucharist at 8 & 10 AM
Liz Steinhauser to preach on
BSAFE

Saturday, April 1

Outreach Spring Auction
7 to 10 PM

Sunday, April 2

Eucharist at 8 & 10 AM

Sunday, April 9

Palm Sunday
Liturgy of the Palms and
Eucharist at 8 & 10

Maundy Thursday, April 13

Agape Supper at 6:30 PM
Footwashing, Holy Eucharist,
and Stripping of the Altar
at 7:30 PM

Good Friday, April 14

Solemn Liturgy at Noon
Solemn Liturgy with Choir
at 7:30 PM

Holy Saturday, April 15

Easter Vigil for Children and
Families at 6 PM

Easter Day, April 16

Eucharist at 8 & 10 AM
Parish Breakfast at 9
Easter Egg Hunt at 11:15 AM

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RECTOR'S NOTE (*cont'd from previous page*)

knowing when to call it quits and pray. He knew when to stop his itinerant ministry and to spend time with friends. He rested, he retreated, and He allowed others to minister to Him, and to partake in the hospitality of others. Of course Jesus had the advantage of being human and divine – but it is still a good model to emulate.

Lent is also that time when we consider what kinds of people we want to be. The article concludes with this provocative question: “At the end of your life, do you want your tombstone to say, “He was busy”?”


**NEW VESTRY
MEMBERS ELECTED**

Sarah Robbins-Cole

Maggee Davis

Hello! I would like to introduce myself. I am 59 years old; 24 of those years, I have been an Episcopalian. I earn my living as a hospice nurse. I work in the same company that Anke Geurtsen volunteers with. Al Hunt and I have been married 20 years this coming June. Both of us came to our marriage with children. He has a 36 year old son, Val. I have a 36 year old daughter, Megan. Both of these darling young people have given us grandsons. Our son, Aidan, is going to be 17 this month and has his learner's permit. When I was a Health Advocate Nurse at a theme park in Georgia, I became a Faith Community Nurse.

Annette Hamlet

My name is Annette Hamlet and I am a new vestry member. I am looking forward to being a member and serving this congregation. My husband Darrel and I were married by Father Trask in 1981 here at St. Michael's.

We became Episcopalians after being converted from Catholicism. Both Darrel and I loved our new church quickly immersing ourselves into the many opportunities that are always here. My husband Darrel passed away in 2012. My church family has been a wonderful supportive group of devout Christians who have given me far more than I could ever dream of.

With God's help we can always be a wonderful source of love, kindness, wisdom and empathy to each other and to God.

(Annette is also a writer of poetry - see a sample in the next column.)

Ken Rice is also a new vestry member. Read about him in the next newsletter.

What a Life

by Annette Hamlet

What a life I've had
It's been a rewarding journey
Oh the friends I've had
over the years
Each year brought new friends,
new acquaintances, new loves
and old loves
Every life that has touched mine
has transformed me in some way
It could have been a compliment, a complaint
or support and love
My friends have always been special
They were unique in their own ways
I learned so much
Learned how to be a human being
I hope
One with compassion, understanding and love
I love them one and all
They pulled me out of hell and
Put me closer to God than I have ever been.
I look at their faces, their features,
their emotions
and I am always awed
Before me my friends are miracles
Miracles of God's making
I thank God for miracles.



AN INTERVIEW WITH JARVIS WYCHE

Sarah Robbins-Cole, Rector

One of the great things about being the rector of St. Michael's is not only the wonderful congregation, but also the fabulous staff. Our sexton, Kevin, works behind the scenes on just a few hours a week keeping the church clean and trash bins empty. Amy, the parish administrator, keeps the parish running day to day with considerable enthusiasm and expertise. Roy, our choirmaster and organist, whose talent and experience, sense of humor and fun, keeps our worship lively and meaningful. And then there is Jarvis, our Youth Director, who does an amazing job with our youth. We are so lucky to have him. I was wondering last month how well we all know him – and besides I wanted to learn more about him – so I include in this newsletter a recent interview with Jarvis.

One thing that is not mentioned in this interview is that Jarvis has been appointed to be Assistant Camp Director at the Barbara C. Harris Camp this summer. I am thrilled for BCH. So if you would like your children to try out the Barbara C. Harris Camp – this would be a perfect summer. I will be there during the final week of camp and would love to see familiar faces from St. Michael's there.

Sarah: Tell me about yourself - where are you from, where did you go to school, what did you study?

Jarvis: I was born and raised in Petersburg, Virginia, spending all my childhood years in the same house where my mother still lives today. My musical study began early when I was accepted into a Performing Arts High School for singing. I continued my musical study in college at Virginia Commonwealth University (Richmond, VA) where I obtained a Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance. I continued my musical study at the New England Conservatory of Music (Boston, MA) where I obtained a Master of Music in vocal performance in 2009. After completing that degree, I decided to expand my career options and completed a Master's degree in School Counseling from Northeastern University (Boston, MA) in 2012.

Sarah: What made you decide to do what you do - between the school, St. Michael's and all then the other things!

Jarvis: I consider music/singing my first passion and counseling/child development my second. Music continues to be a part of my life, but most of my energy and focus in the last eight years has centered around child development/mental health. My Christian faith has been the most consistent aspect of my life, and I have always found active participation in some manner in whatever parish/

congregation I've been associated with. At Trinity Church in Boston, I had the privilege to serve as a youth mentor for 4 years within their youth ministries which aligned to my time studying school counseling. That experience was very rewarding for my faith and has become a community I continue to share in to this day. When I returned to Massachusetts from a year in Vermont in 2014, I decided to find a youth program (Episcopal) that I could share in community with and found the Youth Minister position at St. Michael's on the Massachusetts Episcopal Diocese website. The rest is history!

Sarah: So what's the story about your award and recognition from Trinity and the Diocese?

The Massachusetts Chapter of the Union of Black Episcopalians (UBE) presents its Frederick Douglass Isaacs, Jr. Award for Outstanding Lay Leadership each year at the Absalom Jones Service. This award is given to local Episcopalians of African-American, Afro-Caribbean or African heritage who have demonstrated dedication in lay ministry. All churches in the diocese are invited to submit names; most awardees are from the traditionally black parishes. I have been a parishioner at Trinity Boston since 2007 and throughout that time I have served as a professional staff singer for Trinity Choirs, volunteered with Trinity Boston Foundation, participated in 20s and 30s Fellowship, and participated in service trips to both New York City (providing Hurricane Sandy relief) and to Nairobi, Kenya. Both were trips with Trinity's Youth Ministries. I've served on Trinity's Outreach Leadership committee and currently serve on the leadership committee for Trinity's Anti-Racism Task force.

Sarah: Do you have any hobbies?

Jarvis: My hobbies include classical music concerts (you can find me either at Symphony hall or at the opera any given weekend). I love to explore small towns, long drives, and while exploring new places taking particular time to admire the religious architecture of those towns. I do enjoy baking, but I am still working on that particular skill. I love the organ and would consider that my favorite instrument. I play basketball and enjoy watching all types of sports.

Sarah: How did you become such an amazing singer?

Jarvis: First, my innate singing ability is God given. I have spent hours practicing and have had amazing teachers, mentors, and inspirations to guide my progression!

Sarah: Could you name some highlights since coming to St. Michael's? Any favorite events?

Jarvis: In my time at St. Michael's, I've had many highlights. A few I can recall right now would be each confirmation class and service, the ASP service trip, Apple fest, the retreats I've chaperoned with our youth to New Hampshire and Boston.

Annual Spring Outreach Auction!

April 1, 7 to 10 PM

No Joke ~ there are so many ways
for you to get involved.



Most importantly, come to the auction and bring friends!!!!

Donate - While we get a lot of donations from businesses, it is your donation that makes this auction as special as it is. Please consider donating something that reflects YOU ~ no Foolin'. Maybe it is tickets to a favorite sports team or a basket of your favorite food or host a dinner or a party.

The Jokers – Whether you can be at the auction or not, beginning March 13, you can submit your best blind bid on these items. There are different ending dates. So bid BIG and win! You will receive details on these jokers in the next 2 weeks. Email your bids to Pamela@soulspiritstudio.net or deposit them yourself in Narthex.

Basket Raffle – 10 baskets filled with items for your garden, or perhaps a beer tasting, or kid's basket and of course Ralph's Toolbox (a raffle favorite). Tickets will be on sell beginning March 19th. Winners do not have to be present to win. Contact Linda Ouellette at attylao1958@gmail.com



Volunteering - We will need help the night of the auction. Many hands make light work. Can you help with CLEAN UP? Raffle ticket selling? Check out? Or not sure, but you want to help? Contact Cathy Harper at cathy@hahpah.com

This auction really is no joke. Each dollar raised goes to help someone in need. Imagine that. You (and your friends) can bid on wonderful items through the silent & live auction and perhaps you will win a raffle AND people get fed! School children have a safe place to go to! Local women's shelters get much needed resources. Such a win-win night.



And no foolin', we look forward to seeing you all there!

Make plans to be there AND bring a friend or two or three!

A GUIDE TO HOLY WEEK AT ST. MICHAEL'S

PALM SUNDAY – APRIL 9

8 AM Liturgy of the Palms and Holy Eucharist

10 AM Liturgy of the Palms and Holy Eucharist (with choir)

*Children will leave Church School classes to join
in the procession of the palms and then return to classes.*

MAUNDY THURSDAY – APRIL 13

6:30 PM Agape Supper

You are invited to begin the evening with a simple supper in Eva's Room.

7:30 PM Holy Eucharist

*Our service, in its entirety, will start at 7:30 in the church
and will include the traditional liturgy of Footwashing,
Holy Eucharist, and Stripping of the Altar.*

GOOD FRIDAY – APRIL 14

12 Noon Solemn Liturgy

The traditional Good Friday liturgy.

7:30 PM Solemn Liturgy (with choir)

The traditional Good Friday liturgy.

HOLY SATURDAY – APRIL 15

6:00 PM Easter Vigil

*This ancient service leads us from death to life through fire, light,
word, water, bread and wine. Please bring bells and noisemakers.*

EASTER DAY – APRIL 16

8 AM Festival Eucharist

9 AM Parish Breakfast

10 AM Festival Eucharist (with choir)

There will be no Church School Classes.

Child care will be available.

*Worshipers are encouraged to bring any sort of
hand-held bell they would like to ring during
the singing of the entrance hymn and closing hymn.
Following the service, there will be an Easter egg hunt and
the Easter Bunny is expected to attend.*





The Stained Glass Windows of St. Paul's Church, Millis at St. Michael's Church, Holliston

When St. Paul's, Millis, closed in 2010, the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts wanted to ensure that all the artifacts in the building and, particularly the windows, were appropriately placed in other churches. Since several of the remaining households at St. Paul's had become parishioners at St. Michael's, the Diocese approved the gift of six windows to St. Michael's and gave a grant towards the cost of their installation. The remaining funds were raised by parishioners at St. Michael's who had long hoped for stained glass windows to complete the original plans for the sanctuary. In 2014, back lighting for the stained glass windows were funded by the Hodgman family in memory of Ian Hodgman.

The windows, now at St. Michael's, all illustrate images from the Gospels. The highest windows represent Jesus as the Good Shepherd and as the Light of the World, images he used to describe himself in the Gospel according to St. John. The middle windows depict the beginning and end of Holy Week, from Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday to the resurrection on Easter Day. The lowest windows show two scenes of Jesus and the disciples on the Sea of Galilee.

Following is a brief description of the windows kindly supplied by Nancy Gittins, formerly of St. Paul's.

Good Shepherd window

Given in memory of George Grant Hoff, by his wife, Anna Prentice Hoff. Mr. and Mrs. Hoff were founding members of St. Paul's. The first services were held in their home at the corner of Lavender and Exchange Streets.

Light of the World window (Christ knocking at the door)

This window is designed after the William Holman Hunt painting which hangs at Keble College, Oxford University, and represents the words in Revelation 3:20: "Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if any in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me."

The window was given in memory of Anna Prentice Hoff, the founder of St. Paul's, by her children, including Dorothy (Hoff) Walker (Mrs. Harry N.). Mrs. Hoff died on November 29, 1932. Her daughter Dorothy was the first confirmand at St. Paul's, and can be seen with Bishop William A. Lawrence in the photograph of the cornerstone laying ceremony.

Palm Sunday window

Given in memory of Lt. Stanley B. Pollard, Jr., (1914-1943) by his family, and dedicated on April 11, 1965. Lt. Pollard gave his life for his country in the Pacific during World War II.

Resurrection Window

Given in memory of William G. Mallette (1912-1978), by his wife Jeanette "Jan" Mallette. Mr. Mallette served as church Treasurer for many years.

Christ Stilling the Storm

Given in memory of Philip C. Hunter, by his sister, Mrs. A. Thomas King, and dedicated on December 8, 1974.

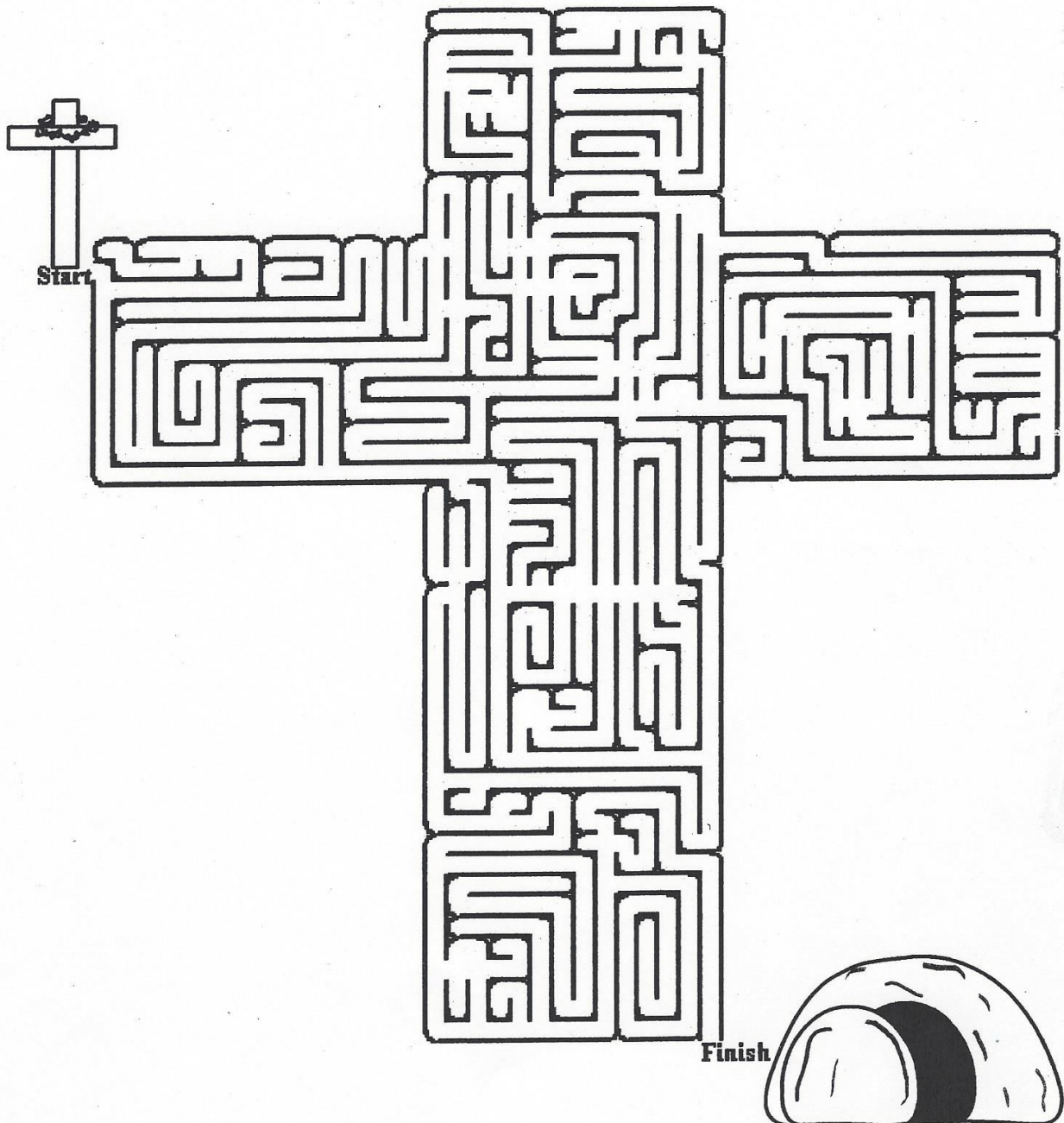
Fisherman window

Given in memory of Charles A. Smith, Jr., by his daughters, Mrs. Frank LaCroix and Mrs. Ronald Mallette.

St. Michael's Kids Page

From the Cross to the Tomb

Find the way through the maze from the cross to the empty tomb.





Easter Flowers and Music

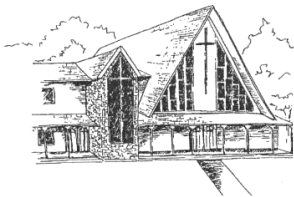


If you would like to make a donation to the cost of Easter flower decorations and music “in memory of” or “in thanksgiving for” a loved one or loved ones, please fill out this form and return it to Amy Plante in the parish office or place it in the offering plate. All memorials and thanksgivings received by April 10 will be listed in the Easter bulletins.

Name _____

In Memory of _____

In Thanksgiving for _____



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