



# St. Michael's Episcopal Church

Faith, Community and Hope ~ 50 Years and Growing

## NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2019

### *From the Rector*

Dear Friends,

*A lake is a landscape's most beautiful and expressive feature. It is Earth's eye; looking into which the beholder measures the depth of his own nature.*

Henry David Thoreau

In the summer of 2005 my parents rented a cabin in Bridgton, Maine for all of us to go on vacation together. In Bridgton there is a wonderful independent book store. On the wall of the shop there was a plaque that had the above quote on it. That quote spoke to my soul and right then I knew that I wanted to have a place on a lake, and ideally in Maine. We had recently moved back to the United States and we had sold a small flat in West London, England. We decided to use the money from that sale to buy a little place on the water. We found our cottage in the town of Casco, Maine on the shore of Thompson Lake. It just so happens the Giarlas (former parishioners who have moved to Florida) also have a place there. My husband and I have spent all of our married life living in houses that belong to the church and so having a place to call our own was truly wonderful.

I love lakes because they represent everything great about summer: sweet water, the sound of the wind in the leaves, bird sound, loons calling, reading copious numbers of novels and delicious food. But what I also like about lakes is that it affords the opportunity to stare out into the water's surface and watch the reflection of clouds on the water, or to watch as a storm approaches, or even the light reflected on the lake from a full moon. It is easy for me to feel very close to God on the water.

One of the components of Presiding Bishop Michael Curry's Way of Love includes rest, along with turn, learn, pray, worship, go and bless. I hope that this summer you are blessed with rest. I would love to hear from you this summer through an email, or text me a photo and a brief description, or send a postcard, where you found your rest. I'd love to hear why these places in your life are special and hold meaning for you.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 3)

### **Sunday, June 2**

Eucharist at 8 & 10 AM

### **Sunday, June 9**

Eucharist at 8 & 10 AM

Guest Celebrant: Martha Hubbard

### **Sunday, June 16**

Eucharist at 8 & 10 AM

Farewell to Jarvis

### **Sunday, June 23**

Eucharist at 8 & 10 AM

Guest Celebrant: Karen Coleman

### **Sunday, June 30**

Eucharist at 8 & 10 AM

Guest Celebrant: Megan Holding

### **Sunday, July 7**

Summer Schedule Begins

Eucharist at 9 AM

Guest Celebrant: Isaac Everett

### **Friday, July 12**

B-SAFE BBQ

### **Sunday, July 14**

Eucharist at 9 AM

Guest Celebrant: Bill Parnell

### **Sunday, July 21**

Eucharist at 9 AM

### **Sunday, July 28**

Eucharist at 9 AM



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## CHURCH SCHOOL SCHEDULE

The last day of Church School classes will be on Sunday, June 2.

## PARISH OFFICE SUMMER HOURS

Beginning the week of June 16, and during the months of July and August, the office hours of our Parish Secretary, Amy Plante, will be on Wednesdays 9:00-11:00 AM and Thursdays 9:00 AM – 12 Noon.

## SUMMER SCHEDULE

The Sunday schedule with Holy Eucharist celebrated at 8 and 10 AM, will continue through June 30. On July 7, the summer schedule will begin and Holy Eucharist will be celebrated only at 9 AM. This schedule will continue through Labor Day weekend. During the summer, the liturgy will alternate weekly between Rite I and Rite II.



## PASTORAL COVERAGE

Sarah will be out of town on vacation from Saturday, June 8 to Friday June 14; and Saturday, June 22 to Monday, July 15. If you have a pastoral concern during this period, please speak to Senior Warden, Bill Shaw at 508-435-0074 or Junior Warden, Cathy Harper at 508-429-7504. They will make arrangements, as needed, with clergy from St. Andrew's, Wellesley.

## GUEST CELEBRANTS AND PREACHERS



On Sunday, June 9, we will welcome The Reverend Canon Martha Hubbard as Guest Celebrant and Preacher while Sarah travels to Virginia Theological

Seminary to complete her year-long preaching fellowship. Martha is Regional Canon for the Northern and Western Region of the Diocese of Massachusetts.

In addition, Sarah will be away on June 23, June 30, July 7, and July 14 for vacation. The Reverend Karen Coleman, The Reverend Megan Holding, The Reverend Isaac Everett, and The Reverend Canon Bill Parnell will be preaching. We will learn more about them as the time for their visit gets closer. Each one of the guest celebrants and preachers work in a variety of ministries that we know you will want to learn about.

We look forward to making them feel welcome during their visit to St. Michael's.

## AUCTION THANK YOU!

Thank you to all for your support of this year's Spring Auction. After expenses we will have about \$15,000 for outreach grants!

Many people helped make this auction a huge success. If we named them all we would be forgetting someone so rather than name people we are naming the jobs: thank you to those who donated items, baskets or wine, those that provided the delicious food, desserts and beverages, those that created the beautiful decorations, those that solicited items from businesses, those that helped with set up and clean up, those that helped with the sound system and our computer network, those that helped with data entry, those that helped with different jobs the night of the auction, those that helped spread the word about our new location, those that created our new signs, flyers, postcards and booklets, those that took care of all the money, thank you to those that came to the auction and those who prayed for its success. Thank you to Amy for letting us store items in her office for a month!

Thank you to Adrian Robbins-Cole and Pamela PinterParsons for jumping in and being our auctioneers when our real auctioneer let us know at 7:30 that night that he couldn't make it. You two did a stupendous job and kept everyone laughing and bidding high! Thank you all for your support - we couldn't have done it without you!



## B-SAFE BBQ JULY 12

Changes, Changes!! This summer, St. Michael's is making some changes to our participation in our

ministry with B-SAFE. Due to several factors (distance to and from Dorchester, the increasing number of kids and staff at Epiphany (all good for their program!), and our small, yet mighty, parish), it was decided that we should focus on the Friday BBQ at Hopkinton State Park. So, we will not be making and serving meals at Epiphany in Dorchester. Thankfully, other churches closer to Boston have stepped up to fill the gap. We are hoping to make Hopkinton State Park a great outing for the kids and staff, using our resources to provide a high quality outdoor experience for the B-SAFE kids. If you would like to help, please join in making this a memorable time for the kids at B-SAFE. Email Frankie Gartner at [fgartner5583@comcast.net](mailto:fgartner5583@comcast.net).

**(RECTOR'S NOTE CONT'D FROM COVER PAGE)**

One of the amazing powers of these restful places is that we can return to them in our imaginations. I never really thought of this before until I read the following poem by the Irish Poet, W.B. Yeats. He wrote this while in London. While it is wistful in tenor, it speaks of our ability to return in our soul to places where we find beauty and spiritual sustenance through our imagination. So I leave you with this beautiful piece of writing.

***The Lake Isle of Innisfree***

W. B. Yeats - 1865-1939

I will arise and go now, and go to Innisfree,  
And a small cabin build there, of clay and wattles made:  
Nine bean-rows will I have there, a hive for the honey-bee;  
And live alone in the bee-loud glade.

And I shall have some peace there, for peace comes dropping slow,  
Dropping from the veils of the morning to where the cricket sings;  
There midnight's all a glimmer, and noon a purple glow,  
And evening full of the linnet's wings.

I will arise and go now, for always night and day  
I hear lake water lapping with low sounds by the shore;  
While I stand on the roadway, or on the pavements grey,  
I hear it in the deep heart's core.

Yours in Christ,

*Sarah Robbins-Cole*

**SPOTLIGHT ON THE PANERA BREAD/SERENITY HOUSE OUTREACH MINISTRY**

For a number of years, St. Michael's has partnered with Panera Bread in Milford to provide Serenity House in Framingham with a donation of breads and pastries. Every Friday morning, a St. Michael's volunteer picks up the Panera Bread donation and delivers it to Serenity House. The donation can be anywhere from one box to a carload. Who knew how hefty a box of bread could be? Currently, there are six volunteers who participate in this ministry. A quarterly schedule is set up and volunteers are assigned to Fridays based on their availability within the quarter. The pickup and delivery is done every Friday except for the day after Thanksgiving as well as inclement weather that results in school being canceled. St. Michael's thanks Panera Bread for their ongoing and generous support of this program. The staff and women of Serenity House always welcome the donation and look forward to what goodie may be inside each box. Serenity House provides services to women living in recovery from past addictions to drugs and alcohol. Any woman over the age of eighteen years of age with a desire for living a drug free lifestyle may voluntarily enter the Serenity House program. The residential program provides services such as group education, skill development, vocational training, employment search, housing search, placement, and advocacy. If you would like more information or would like to volunteer for this Outreach Ministry please contact Sharon James at [sharonjames1@verizon.net](mailto:sharonjames1@verizon.net) or 508-429-2720.

**SUMMER READING IDEAS**

Are you looking for some good books to read over the summer? The St. Michael's Book Club focuses on historical fiction. This year we have enjoyed reading



*Maisie Dobbs* by Jacqueline Winspear (the very first book of the Maisie Dobbs series), *The Nightingale* by Kristin Hannah, *The Joy Luck Club* by Amy Tan, *Before We Were Yours* by Lisa Wingate and the *The Book of Salt* by Monique Truong. We will not meet again until fall. For more information about our Book Club, please contact Amy Plante (508-429-4248 or [stmichholl@aol.com](mailto:stmichholl@aol.com)) who also recommends these authors: Christina Baker Kline, Agatha Christie, Dan Brown, Sarah Addison Allen, John Grisham, Anne Perry, Louise Penny, Debbie Macomber, Fredrik Backman and Sue Monk Kidd.

**WHAT HAPPENS DURING THE SUMMER?**

In New England, people have several approaches to summer. Some retreat to a favorite place, be it the beach or the mountains, every weekend. Others stay in town except for a special trip, perhaps to visit family far away. And, some of us stay in town all summer for a variety of reasons, including work/family responsibilities or finances.

Whatever your summer plans, please remember that St. Michael's is here. Opportunities for worship and outreach are available all summer.

One of our biggest financial challenges is that contributions usually decline significantly during the summer. Just as your household bills such as rent/mortgage/utilities need to be paid when you are on vacation, St. Michael's, also, has to continue paying its bills throughout the summer. The Church relies on pledge payments and donations to do just that.

Please consider switching to electronic/automatic giving so that your usual weekly/monthly support continues even while you are away on vacation. It also ensures that St. Michael's will receive regular contributions throughout the year, regardless of long holiday weekends, bad weather, or other events that hinder your attending church.

**LITANY FOR LIGHT**

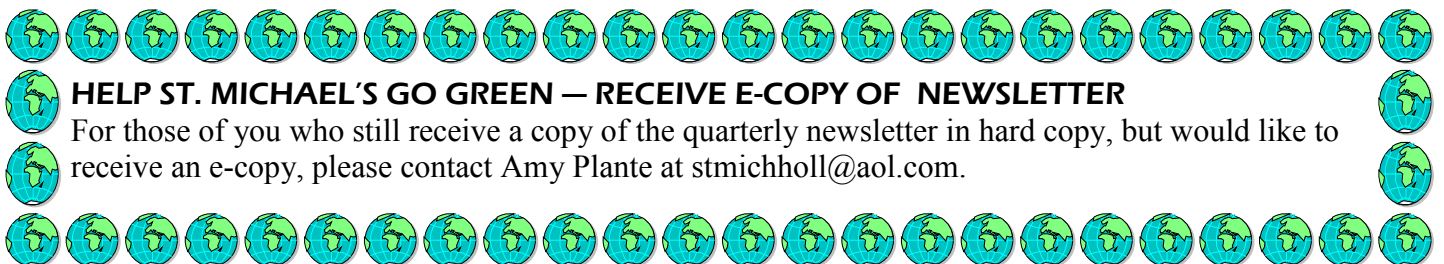
*Sheila Constance Forsyth*



Let us rejoice for Spring  
and the return of luminous light;  
the sweetness and the glory  
of blossom and bud,  
fruit and foliage;  
the balm of softer winds and restorative rain.  
Let us give thanks for lengthening daylight  
after months of shadows;  
more light for the sprouting of seeds,  
added light for emerging animals;  
a purity of light to awaken the soul  
to a shining re-dedication  
to appreciate Earth's wondrous fragility.  
Let us praise  
the gift of each lustrous day  
from dawn's rippling bird-choir ebullition  
to twilight's blue silence of serenity.

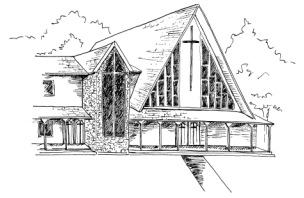
**ARE YOU GOING AWAY THIS SUMMER?**

Keep St. Michael's in your minds and hearts this summer by sending us a postcard, sharing pictures of your trips, or bringing in a bulletin from another church that you visited while away on vacation. We will gladly post them on a special bulletin board in Eva's Room.

**HELP ST. MICHAEL'S GO GREEN — RECEIVE E-COPY OF NEWSLETTER**

For those of you who still receive a copy of the quarterly newsletter in hard copy, but would like to receive an e-copy, please contact Amy Plante at [stmichholl@aol.com](mailto:stmichholl@aol.com).

## Sunday Opportunities to Serve



Have you ever thought about playing a role during Sunday services or wondered how your children can get involved? There are many ways to participate as you can see on the following list below. Our quieter summer months are a perfect time to contemplate ways you can serve. To be an intimate and integral part of Sunday worship is very rewarding, and we invite all who are interested to contact Sarah Robbins-Cole (508-429-4248 or [stmichholl@aol.com](mailto:stmichholl@aol.com)) for further discussion or preparation.



### **Choir - Adults or Young Adults**

If you enjoy music and like to sing, think about joining the St. Michael's Choir. We would love to have you join us as we make a "Joyful Noise unto the Lord"! The choir takes a break during the July and August months, but start up again in September, heading into full swing with rehearsals on Thursday evenings at 7 PM and performing at the 10 AM service on Sundays. Please talk to Roy Kelley, our Organist and Choir Director, if you are interested.

### **Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers - Adults or Young Adults**

A lector is generally scheduled to read one lesson once or twice a month. A Eucharistic Minister helps to lead the liturgy, including reading prayers and serving communion. *Lector positions are open to young adults in middle school or older and Eucharistic Minister positions are open to those in high school.*

### **Acolytes - Children from seven years old & up**

Young parishioners are eligible to serve as acolytes beginning in the third grade. The younger children begin with tasks appropriate to their abilities, and as they grow, take on more duties.



### **Greeters and Ushers - Adults or Young Adults**

Greeters and Ushers have the very important task of greeting both parishioners and newcomers as they enter the church before services while doing their best to make everyone feel welcome. *Young adults aged twelve and up are eligible to serve as a greeter or an usher.*

### **Altar Guild - Adults or Young Adults**

The Altar Guild is an important part of parish life because the people involved handle all preparations for worship, including setting the altar before services and cleaning items afterwards. Anyone who thinks he or she is a "behind the scenes" type of person would probably enjoy being part of the Altar Guild. *High school students are also invited to be part of the Altar Guild.* If you are interested in joining this integral part of our parish life, please contact Camilla King (508-429-0784 or [camillaking@verizon.net](mailto:camillaking@verizon.net)).



### **NEXT PROGRAM FOR SUNDAY FORUM**

*Sarah Robbins-Cole*

The Episcopal Church finds its foundation in the three legged stool of "Scripture, Tradition, and Reason". This year, in Sunday Forum we have enjoyed learning more about the Episcopal Tradition (catechism) with *Walk in Love* as our study companion. Starting in the fall, we will turn our focus to the leg of scripture. We will be working through the Bible using *The Path, A Journey Through the Bible* as our study companion. We realized as we worked through the catechism that we wanted to have a better understanding of the arc of the narrative of the Bible. I have ordered *The Path* and it is available to you if you would like to make a jump start on reading this summer. Please let me know if you would like a copy. The cost is \$18. Kindle copies are available for \$9.99. Please know that if this is prohibitively expensive, we will have copies for you to borrow for the year.



## Outreach Opportunities

As you can see from the following list, St. Michael's offers many opportunities for parishioners of all ages to participate in Outreach. Our quieter summer months are a perfect time to contemplate ways to become involved.

### Loaves and Fishes

St. Michael's serves Serenity House in Hopkinton, a residence for women in recovery from substance abuse, and Shadows House, a shelter in Ashland. We prepare and serve a monthly meal at each house and, also, make weekly deliveries of breads and pastries donated by Panera Bread. If you are interested in joining this program, please contact Linda Ouellette (617-686-5606 or [attylao1958@gmail.com](mailto:attylao1958@gmail.com)).

### Food Pantries

As well as giving grants to the food pantries in Ashland, Holliston, Hopkinton, Medway and Millis (*from the proceeds of our annual Auction for outreach*), we invite parishioners to bring food donations for the Holliston pantry and place them in a box in the narthex at St. Michael's.



### Stockings of Hope

We give each resident of Serenity House and Shadows House a Christmas stocking with small items such as toiletries, socks, etc. Parishioners are invited to donate items or to sponsor the cost of a stocking or to help in assembling and delivering the stockings. For more information, please contact Pamela PinterParsons (508-277-9230 or [newpamela@comcast.net](mailto:newpamela@comcast.net)).



### The Appalachian Reading Project

St. Michael's supports school children in Kentucky by collecting and sending children's books. You can support this ministry by donating your gently used children's books. Donations can be placed in collection boxes in the church narthex. For more information, please contact Anke Geurtsen (508-429-1132 or [fgeurtsen@aol.com](mailto:fgeurtsen@aol.com)).

### B-SAFE Summer Day Camp

St. Michael's partners with B-SAFE, the summer day camp program started by Bishop Tom Shaw, former Bishop of Massachusetts, to provide academic enrichment and fun activities for inner-city children in the Boston area. Our parish organizes a day's outing at Hopkinton State Park that includes a cookout. You can help by preparing food or helping with activities and/or food at the state park outing. For more information, please contact Frankie Gartner at [fgartner5583@comcast.net](mailto:fgartner5583@comcast.net).

### Youth Mission Trip

Young people in our *Journey to Adulthood* programs, together with adult leaders, spend a week in Appalachia working to repair and renovate houses for low income families under the auspices of the Appalachia Service Project. This mission trip occurs every two years and is the culmination of the J2A program for high school teenagers. Our young people raise funds for their mission, and St. Michael's assists with an outreach grant from the proceeds of our annual auction. For more information, please contact Sarah Robbins-Cole at 508-429-4248 or [stmich-holl@aol.com](mailto:stmich-holl@aol.com).



## A GUIDE TO PASTORAL CARE AT ST. MICHAEL'S

*Nan Malone, Linda Ouellette, Lisa Brady*



### ***Keeping Connected***

Pastoral care is an important way for us to help stay connected with one another at St. Michael's. At certain times in our lives, whether occasions of joy or sorrow, we may have particular needs for pastoral care. The following guidelines have been written to help you know how our Rector, Sarah, and people of St. Michael's will seek to assist you at such times.

### ***Illness***

If you or someone in your household is ill, please make sure that our Rector, Sarah, or Parish Administrator, Amy Plante, know. We would like to be able to offer the prayers of the parish and to provide whatever other support would be helpful.

### ***Compassionate Cooks***

A group of parishioners will provide some meals to parish households at times of special need, for example, during an illness or following the birth of a child. Please contact Amy Plante in the Parish Office if you would like help with meals and she will let our pastoral care team members know.

### ***Angels on Wheels***

Several parishioners have offered to provide rides to medical appointments for parishioners. Please contact Amy Plante in the Parish Office and she will contact pastoral care team members to arrange a ride if a driver is available.

### ***Parish Prayers***

If you would like to pray for someone, please let our Rector, Sarah, know or get in touch with Amy Plante in the Parish Office and let her know the name and other relevant information.

### ***Hospitals and Emergencies***

Please tell Sarah if you expect to be hospitalized. If there is an emergency, please do not hesitate to call Sarah at home, day or night.

### ***Death***

In the event of a death, please call Sarah right away. She priest would like to be able to come and say prayers with you or the deceased.

The Episcopal Church strongly urges that all burial services be held in the church, rather than in a funeral home. Sarah will talk with you about plans for the service.

It is helpful if parishioners make a note of their preferences for the funeral service, including thoughts about readings and music, so that their family will not have to worry about such decisions during a time of grief.

### ***Pastoral Counseling***

Our Rector, Sarah, is available by appointment to provide short-term pastoral care and support. If it appears that more intensive or longer-term counseling would be helpful, Sarah will help you find a qualified therapist with training appropriate to your needs. Sarah will remain available to you for pastoral support once you begin such therapy.

### ***Spiritual Guidance***

Sarah is also available to talk about spiritual or theological questions and provide guidance about topics such as prayer. Sometimes such a conversation can be helpful to a person's journey in faith. Sarah is also available by appointment for private confession.

### ***Baptisms***

Please tell our Rector, Sarah, as soon as possible following the birth of a child. She will be glad to visit the mother and baby and to offer the brief Thanksgiving for the Birth of a Child (Book of Common Prayer, page 439) either at the home or at the hospital close to the time of the birth.

Baptisms are usually held at the Ten O'Clock Service and are held throughout the year with the exception of the seasons of Advent and Lent (unless in the case of an exceptional circumstance).

### ***Marriages***

A marriage may be celebrated at St. Michael's, subject to the agreement of our Rector, Sarah, and the availability of the church building, at any time except during Lent (the seven weeks before Easter). Before making plans for a wedding date, please call Sarah to discuss the wedding at least three months before the proposed date. Marriage preparation is required and usually takes four sessions. A short booklet, *Getting Married at St. Michael's*, is available in the tract rack in the narthex or by calling the Parish Office. This booklet provides important information to be read before getting in touch with Sarah.

If one or both of the couple wishing to be married has been divorced, the Bishop's permission must be obtained before the marriage may be celebrated. Six months is often required to complete the necessary counseling, prepare the paperwork, and await the Bishop's decision.

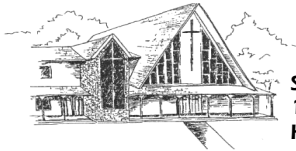
# **ST. MICHAEL'S SPONSORS B-SAFE**

(our Bishops' Summer Academic,  
Fun and Enrichment program  
for children in inner-city Boston)



**Friday July 12**

**SIGN UP TO HELP WITH  
BBQ AT HOPKINTON STATE PARK**



St. Michael's Episcopal Church  
1162 Highland St.  
Holliston, MA 01746