

St. Michael's Episcopal Church

NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2019

From the Rector

Dear Friends,

One of the things I do when I have a decade birthday is I write down 10 things I want to accomplish in the decade ahead. They are not professional or intellectual goals necessarily - just goals to stretch myself personally. This year I planned an extended hike that would be physically challenging for me which I will be starting on tomorrow for three days. I am also in the midst of reading (or listening to) the whole of the Bible in one year. And as many of you know, the year before I attempted to read more books than I thought I could comfortably read - I read a book a week.

Last week I was interviewed by Judy O'Gara for the Meday and Millis News and the Holliston News about St. Michael's 60th Anniversary coming up. She asked me a very difficult question – where do we see ourselves in the future as a church? Honestly, we have been spending quite a lot of time thinking about and celebrating the past that I had not really given the future a thought. We have also been spending our time and energy cleaning up and tidying up and updating some of our rooms that through good use now need loving attention. I thought about Judy's question for a minute and I finally responded that I thought we would continue to try to live out our mission as summarized in our mission statement:

To be a church that welcomes all people to join together in Eucharistic worship, fellowship, and service.

- We pray, work, and learn together to explore and grow in faith.
- We worship God in prayer, music, tradition, and love.
- We foster fellowship in our church and our community in many ways.
- We care for one another.
- We strive to bring God's love and comfort through our outreach programs to those in need.
- We provide Christian education and opportunities for spiritual growth and renewal to those of all ages.
- We value our children and youth as participants in the life and worship of the parish.
- We invite and welcome others of all ages and backgrounds to join with us in this mission.

However, with the changing times, changing priorities, population growth in our area, work culture, and demands on children's time, I also mentioned we would consider prayerfully what new programs, what new ways of being, are being called forth from us.

So I invite you this year, not only to give thanks for what has been, but to join

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Saturday, September 14

Clean Up Day
9 am to 12 Noon

Sunday, September 15

Eucharist at 8 AM
Eucharist with Blessing of the Choir at 10 AM
Guest Celebrant
Edie Dolnikowski
Church School Begins

Sunday, September 22

Eucharist at 8 & 10 AM
Open House and
Parish Ministry Fair at
9 & 11 AM

Sunday, September 29

Feast of St. Michael
and All Angels
60th Anniversary
Eucharist at 8 & 10 AM
Guest Celebrant Christine
Whittaker

Saturday, October 5

Applefest Fall Fair
10 AM to 2 PM

Sunday, October 6

Eucharist at 8 AM
Eucharist & Blessing of the
Animals at 10 AM

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me, our vestry, and our whole congregation in considering what God may be calling us to be and do in the next ten years. What might our big 10 goals for the decade ahead be? I look forward to hearing your thoughts.

Yours in Christ,

Sarah Robbins-Cole



SUCCESS WITH B-SAFE!

Frankie Garner

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped out with B-SAFE this summer! Every contribution, big

or small helped put the day together for the kids; from cooking, preparing the food, setting up and cleaning up, doing arts and crafts, helping with field games, buying water, snacks and paper products. It was a bit of a nail biter this year as we weren't sure if we would be rained out, but it was decided at 5 o'clock the night before that it was a "go". We started the day in the rain, the weather cleared when the kids arrived at Hopkinton State Park and, when they boarded the bus to go back to Dorchester, it started to thunder! We fed about 110 kids and staff and ended the day with the ice cream truck (always a big hit!). This year was a change from previous years, with St. Michael's only hosting the BBQ Friday field trip. The B-SAFE program has grown over the past few years and it's been difficult to organize the Dorchester lunches. Luckily another partner church, which is closer to Boston, was able to take over the two days for St. Michael's. Thank you to Outreach (and everyone who contributed to the annual auction) for providing the funds which supports our part in B-SAFE. We were able to pay for both buses this year, plus the food and ice cream truck! And, again, thank you to all who volunteered their time and talents.



FALL CLEANING AT ST. MICHAEL'S SEPTEMBER 14

We are looking for some volunteers to help us give the church a good cleaning on Saturday, September 14. We will have music and treats to keep you in a festive mood as we make St. Michael's shine. Please bring your favorite dust rag! If you can make it please RSVP to Cathy Harper at cathy@hahpah.com.

GUEST CELEBRANTS SEPTEMBER 15

On Sunday, September 15, we will welcome the Reverend Canon Edie Dolnikowski as guest preacher and celebrant while Sarah is away for Flower Sunday at Wellesley College. Edie is Canon for Ordained Vocations at the Diocese and we once again look forward to making her feel welcome at St. Michael's.

TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY SEPTEMBER 17

This fall we will be studying the Acts of the Apostles. If you would like to use Acts as a devotional, you may want to buy a copy of *A Journey Through Acts* which is a Forward Movement publication. If you would like a copy there is a sign up in the narthex and copies will arrive soon. The cost is \$15. This book is not a requirement to our bible study. Our start date for Bible Study is Tuesday, September 17. Please join us in Meeting Room from 12 to 1 PM with a brown bag lunch and a bible. *Please note: starting in October (10/8) the Tuesday Bible Study will move to the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month.*



PARISH MINISTRY FAIR – SEPTEMBER 22

John 12:26 *If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there will my servant be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.*

On Sunday, September 22, we will hold our annual Parish Ministry Fair. Everyone is warmly invited to stay after the services for refreshments and a chance to browse the fair representing our variety of parish ministries. Please come see what's happening at St. Michael's and learn how you can get involved!

CALLING ALL SINGERS

The Choir is seeking voices to join us for our service on September 29 as St. Michael's celebrates it's 60th Anniversary. We have a few rehearsals before the big day, and if you enjoy singing we'd love for you to sing with us. We rehearse on Thursday evenings at 7 PM. Please come and add your voice to our celebration as we give thanks to God for our special congregation!

SIGN UP FOR LOAVES AND FISHES (LECHEF)!

Our Loaves and Fishes Outreach Program (formerly known as LeChef) could use some help cooking/serving for Shadows and Serenity House. Please use the following Sign Up Genius links to volunteer:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090d4caba62caaf49-serenity2>

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090d4caba62caaf49-shadows2>

These links are also found on our website. St. Michael's prepares and serves a monthly meal at Shadows House, a shelter in Ashland and Serenity House in Hopkinton, a residence for women in recovery from substance abuse. If you have questions about cooking and serving, or need help signing up, please contact Linda Ouellette at 617-686-5606 or louellette@lawson-weitzen.com.

APPLEFEST FALL FAIR OCTOBER 5

Linda Ouellette and Sharon James our Applefest Co-ordinators, will post sign up sheets in Eva's Room for volunteers willing to help with the event. Hopefully everyone is setting aside items for Aunt Stella's Attic, so just a reminder, due to storage issues, Linda asks that you please do not bring anything to the church until the week leading up to Applefest. More information will be forthcoming as to when and where to drop off items for Aunt Stella's, baked goods, and raffle baskets. For more information please contact Linda (617-686-5606 or louellette@lawson-weitzen.com) or Sharon (508-429-2720 or sharon-james1@verizon.net) Thank you!



RAFFLE BASKETS FOR APPLEFEST

If you would like to donate a raffle basket to Applefest this year, or need basket ideas, please email Debi Miller at debimiller108@gmail.com, or text or call her at 774-217-8816.

BOOK CLUB OCTOBER 6

Please join us Sunday, October 6 from 4 to 6 PM in the Meeting Room to discuss *Before Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine* by Gail Honeyman. "Beautifully written and incredibly funny, *Eleanor Oliphant Is Completely Fine* is about the importance of friendship and human connection. I fell in love with Eleanor, an eccentric and regimented loner whose life beautifully unfolds after a chance encounter with a stranger; I think you will fall in love, too!" —Reese Witherspoon. Please come join our enthusiasm for reading and literary discussion. And feel free to invite a friend! Light refreshments will be served. For more information please contact Amy Plante at 508-429-4248 or stmichholl@aol.com.



SUNDAY FORUM BEGINS OCTOBER 13

The Episcopal Church finds its foundation in the three legged stool of "Scripture, Tradition, and Reason". Last year in Sunday Forum we have enjoyed learning more about the Episcopal Tradition (catechism) with *Walk in Love* as our study companion. Starting Sunday, October 13 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. Sarah has ordered *The Path* and it is available to you if you would like to make a jump start on reading this summer. Please let Sarah know if you would like a copy. The cost is \$18. Kindle copies are available for \$9.99. Please know if this is prohibitively expensive, we will have copies for you to borrow for the year.

ALL PARISH DINNER OCTOBER 20

This year's All Parish Dinner will be held at Anthony's on the Green at Pinecrest Golf Club on Sunday, October 20 from 5:30 to 8 PM. The Patriot's are playing on Monday! There will be a buffet with a selection of Italian dishes. Tickets are \$20 per person and children are free. Watch for tickets being sold after services on Sundays. They will also be available from the parish office.



CHURCH SCHOOL: CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Our wonderful church school program, *Catechesis of the Good Shepherd* (CGS) is accessible to all children, of all abilities, ages 3-grade 5. CGS is a rich, thoughtful program that introduces children to the language, symbols, and practices of worship. It uses Bible scripture as lessons, and in the Montessori tradition, materials to enhance those lessons. Lead teachers have had training in the CGS program. Our teachers are all volunteers, and we cannot offer this program without help. We ask parents and any interested parishioner to assist us by volunteering in the classroom. Registration for children ages 3 to grade 5 can be done through email (stmichholl@aol.com) or in person. Registration remains open throughout the year. Your child may join a class at anytime during the year. Our program is flexible and accommodating to children who do not attend every week. Classes begin September 15 at 9:45 AM. All atriiums are now upstairs. Level I atrium: ages 3-preschool. Level II atrium: K-grade 3. Level III atrium: grade 4-5. We look forward to welcoming your child into our program. If you have any questions about CGS, have any concerns about your child, or would like to volunteer, contact Kristen Walters at keawalters@comcast.net.

2019-2020 YOUTH PROGRAMS *Elizabeth Plume, Youth Director*

This year, St. Michael's Youth Program will consist of Rite 13, Journey to Adulthood and Young Adults in Church. A description of each course is provided below. In addition to these classes, our program will be augmented with additional youth fellowship opportunities, service opportunities, and youth retreats. Youth registration remains open throughout the year. Classes begin September 15.

Rite-13 for 6th & 7th graders

The first two years of the program (Grades 6-7 or 7-8) are called Rite-13, a name that comes from a liturgical rite of passage that we celebrate with young people around their 13th birthday. The Rite-13 program assists young people as they begin to take the first steps of independence from their families into their own lives. During these two years, the community acknowledges the gift of gender, celebrates the amazing creative power and potential of these young people, and creates a safe haven in which to explore new ideas, new interests, and new abilities. Each year this level attends the Diocese Middle School retreat in the late fall held at the Barbara C. Harris Camp and Convention Center. The Rite-13 group will meet from 10:30 to 11:30 AM on Sunday mornings after attending the first part of the 10 AM Service.

Journey to Adulthood for 8th & 9th graders (J2A)

Journey to Adulthood helps teens create and understand the importance of a Christian community as they develop critical thinking and other skills that they will need in adulthood. During the J2A phase, teens learn and practice six basic skills for adulthood: Active listening, Negotiation, Assertion, Research and Information Management, Partnership, and Leadership. In addition to these skills, teens learn different methods of scripture reading, prayer and community-building. Each year this level attends the Diocese High School retreat in the fall held at the Barbara C. Harris Camp and Convention Center. The J2A group will meet from 12 Noon on Sundays.

Young Adults in Church for 10th, 11th, & 12th graders (YAC)

The Young Adults in Church program helps older teens discern and carry out a ministry within their church or in the larger community. Vocation and development of a personal credo are also emphasized. This last phase encourages older youth to take on more adult responsibilities both in their church and in their community.

They are challenged to become good stewards of their time, talent and treasure. They work on identifying their gifts and commit to a specific ministry that uses those gifts. They study some of the church's ancient creeds and then write their own statement of beliefs. They look back on what they have experienced and use that as a basis for their own growing spirituality. The YAC group will meet from 12 Noon on Sundays.



Save the Date
St. Michael's Episcopal Church
60th Anniversary Celebration

Sunday, September 29, 2019

There will be one church service at 10 AM
Former Rector Christine Whittaker is our guest preacher
A Reception will follow the Service

Our celebration provides the opportunity to look back over the past six decades and see how St. Michael's has changed through the years.

If you would like to share photos, memorabilia, memories or anecdotes with the St. Michael's community, please:

- place them in the designated box in the Parish Office;
- e-mail them to stmichholl@aol.com;
- mail them to St. Michael's, 1162 Highland St, Holliston, MA 01746

Please include your name and phone number so we can be sure to return them to you after the celebration.

We look forward to seeing you on September 29th!

Sincerely the Anniversary Committee,
Deb Ervin, Margaret Cardello, Sharon James, Linda Ouellette, Bill Shaw,
Kristen Walters

Small Church, Big Heart

All God's Creatures Invited



Blessing of the Animals

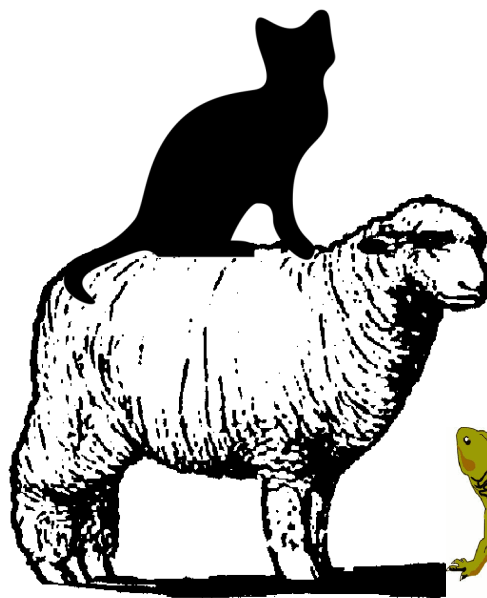


**Sunday,
October 6
10 AM**

**St. Michael's
Episcopal
Church
1162 Highland Street
Holliston**



**Please bring your
animals into
church
suitably
leashed or
caged**



St. Michael's Kids Page



Upcoming Events

Invite a Friend!



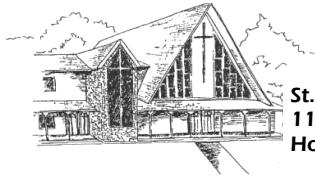
SEPTEMBER 8 - CELEBRATION SUNDAY at 8 & 10 AM

**SEPTEMBER 15 - Guest Celebrant:
The Rev. Edie Dolnikowski**

SEPTEMBER 22 - PARISH MINISTRY FAIR at 9 & 11 AM

**SEPTEMBER 29 - FEAST OF ST. MICHAEL'S AND ALL
ANGELS - 60TH ANNIVERSARY 8 & 10 AM**
Guest Celebrant: The Rev. Christine Whittaker

OCTOBER 5 - APPLEFEST FALL FAIR 10 AM to 2 PM



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