

St. Michael Lutheran Church

News & Events

January 18, 2019

BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK: January 21,, Marie Castagnaro; January 22, Sam Kleckley; January 24, Adam Groblewski, Stephanie Moscaritolo; January 25, Miller Steele, Elle Street; January 26, Henson Forrester; January 27, Lauren Sughrue. We rejoice that you are living and serving among us in faith and discipleship!

THE EPIPHANY SEASON IS GOD'S "SHOW & TELL" through which God continues showing us and telling us "***Who Jesus Is***" and inviting us to deepen our understanding of *who Jesus is for us*. Today we focus on the epiphany – the "God Sighting" – of Jesus' turning water into wine at a wedding celebration and we join in giving thanks for God's abundance throughout our lives.

ALL WORSHIPERS ARE INVITED TO JOIN US FOR LUNCH AFTER THE 11:00 AM SERVICE. SUNDAY'S EVERY MEMBER BIRTHDAY LUNCH is being prepared by the Miles family. Please thank them for their ministry of hospitality making possible this special time of fellowship for all. The cost for adults is \$5.00 and \$3.00 for children. Our worship visitors are always invited to eat at no cost. All are welcome! Please join us!

OUR SYMPATHY AND PRAYERS REACH TO ENFOLD CINDY JONES and her family at the death of Cindy's mother Barbara McClendon (Laurel Hanna's grandmother; Savannah Varney's great grandmother) on Friday, January 11, in Charlotte. Her funeral was held at St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Charlotte, on Wednesday. "I AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE!" says the Lord.

OUR SYMPATHY AND PRAYERS REACH TO ENFOLD THE HARRIZ FAMILY at the death of Linda Harriz' mother Faye Blankely (Jordan, Rachel and Mathew's grandmother) in Pinehurst, NC, on Monday, January 14. "I AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE!" says the Lord.

A "THANK YOU" NOTE FROM IRENE: *My deepest thanks to Pastor Robert and friends of St. Michael's for the prayers, thoughts, messages and cards during my family's grief in the passing of my sister. Blessings to each of you for your support. With a grateful heart, Irene Soderblom.*

AS WE CELEBRATE OUR PHYSICAL BIRTHDAYS WE REMEMBER ALSO our **BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS** and celebrate the *Heavenly Birthdays* of all our beloved saints – the completion of their Baptismal journey in which their faith becomes sight. "*Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us . . . !*" Hebrews 12:1

WE WILL SOON BE PREPARING OUR 2019 YEARBOOK AND DIRECTORY. PLEASE UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION through the church office if there are changes in your address, telephone number, employment or school. Thanks!

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ALTAR GUILD IS IN NEED of several additional members. This is a meaningful ministry that helps prepare the worship space each Sunday. If you have any questions regarding the responsibilities of the altar guild members, would like to become involved, please see Hannelore Schuetterle or Mary Lee Mowry.

DATES TO REMEMBER

LUTHER ROAD with "Church Without Walls" June 10 through 14
SMLC Vacation Bible School – June 24 through 28

ANNOUNCEMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS: In order to help improve the flow of worship and make more efficient use of time during worship, the Worship and Music Team is asking that all news items and announcements be placed in the weekly news blast and on the blue sheet. Any items that need to be shared with the congregation need to be sent to the church office by Thursday afternoon in order to be included in that week's news blast and Sunday blue sheet. Pastor will not be making announcements are the beginning of worship with the exception of updates on the well-being on members of the congregation.

BACKPACK BUDDIES IS NOW PACKING 24 BAGS EACH WEEK! This is an increase of two from December. Your contributions to this ministry make a BIG difference for children at risk for hunger in this community. We are grateful for your abundant generosity and can always use all supplies. ***We are currently in need of white milk, breakfast items, pasta, snacks, and juice.*** This ministry partners with local elementary schools to "Serve Christ in the World."

NURSERY UPDATE: The wheels are in motion for our nursery makeover. Please stop by to see our current space that has been designated for our Little Lutherans. We are so excited to make it over! A board has been set up in the Gathering Area with items that are needed. We are asking for a monetary contribution towards our purchases. You can designate "Nursery Makeover" on your check or envelope. Gift cards are also welcome. There will also be a sign up sheet if you are interested in volunteering your time. With help from our village, the Little Lutherans will love their new space! We thank Diane Locotosh for gifting her Thrivent "Love One Another" funds as seed money for this effort.

WE REJOICE THAT KATHY RICHARDSON WAS ABLE TO GO HOME EARLY LAST WEEK TO THEIR SON'S HOME IN NORTH AUGUSTA! She is slowly gaining strength and her lab numbers are improving. She and Rick continue to express deep gratitude for your notes and cards. They are a source of great encouragement. Because of her suppressed immune system Kathy and Rick are still not able to receive outside visitors. You will bless them as you send them mail to the home of their son and his wife, 5050 Fieldcrest Drive, North Augusta, SC 29841. Please lift them in your prayers for continued healing.

OUR CONSECRATION SUNDAY RESPONSE CONTINUES AS FAMILIES continue making financial commitments to our mission and ministry together in 2019. As of Thursday, we have received 78 Estimate of Giving cards totaling \$321,550 pledged for St. Michael's in 2019. 35 of these giving units were moved to increase their commitment over last year. Thank you for your commitment!

ALL 2018 ANNUAL REPORTS ARE NOW DUE IN THE CHURCH OFFICE! Please be diligent in celebrating the ministries we have accomplished effectively, and in challenging us to the ministries we have yet to engage.

LUTHERAN MEN'S VALENTINE DINNER: Please join us on Thursday, February 7th at The Open Hearth, 2801 Wade Hampton Blvd, Taylors, SC 29687. There is a sign-up sheet on the table outside the Gathering Area. Please email Randy Freeman with questions (ranfreem@aol.com).

SPIRIT MATTERS resumes meeting THIS THURSDAY, January 24! We plan to gather monthly on Thursday evenings. The dates we have planned are as follows: January 24; February 21; March 21; April 11; May 9; May 30. This group focuses on spiritual nurture in a group setting, "beholding the One who beholds us in love." Contact Maureen Nelson or Pastor Robert for more information.

WHERE HAVE ALL THE FLOWERS GONE? The **2019 Flower Chart** is available on the blue kiosk in the Gathering Area. There is an abundance of available spots for Sunday flowers. Please prayerfully consider signing for one of these open Sundays. We have an arrangement with Embassy Flowers to provide flowers for the worship space. Through Embassy Flowers, the cost for both floral arrangements is \$110. Several families are welcome and encouraged to sign up together for flowers on an open Sunday and share the cost. Although we have an arrangement with Embassy Flowers, you are not obliged to use Embassy Flowers, and can make other arrangements of your own. If you do not wish to use Embassy Flowers, please let Stacey Anders know so she can contact them.

SAINTS ALIVE WILL KICK OFF THE 2019 SEASON ON WEDNESDAY, January 23, 2019 with a luncheon at 12:15 pm in the social hall. Our lunch will be soups, sandwiches, and salads. A sign-up list is posted in the Gathering area. Mr. Ed Hunt will be providing a musical program for us to enjoy. We ask each of you to please bring canned soups for our United Ministries mission. Please mark the 23rd on your calendar and join us for our first luncheon of the new year.

OUR WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY GROUP has begun reading and learning from the book of Ruth. This week we will focus on the first part of Chapter 2. Come and learn how God works to make this foreign woman the many-times-great grandmother of Jesus. **ALL** are welcome to join us at 10:30 am in the "Green Room" for fellowship and faith-nurturing conversation. **There is always room at the table! Come and bring a friend!**

YOUTH MINISTRY

CRAWL Youth Group (Birth - 3 YEARS & Parents)

Meeting Sunday

Young Youth (K4 – 5th Grade)

No Meeting Sunday

LCY (6th – 12th Grade)

Join us THIS SUNDAY, JANUARY 20th from 4:00 – 8:00 PM

to plan for the Variety Show!

Meet at St. Michael at 4:00pm

Dinner will be out-to-eat!

We have a reservation at Red Bowl at 6:30pm.

Pick-up will still be at St. Michael Lutheran Church at 8:00pm

Y'ALL: Young Adults Living Lutheran

Join us January 23rd at St. Michael in the Green Room, 6:00 - 8:00.

We will share a meal as well as our faith together. For the month of January, we are focused on starting a new year with get-to-know you activities and faith talks

All are welcome!

Dinner and Childcare provided weekly!!!

See Heather Hester for details and check out our **FACEBOOK** page.

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Thirsty Thursdays

COME. FELLOWSHIP. BE FED.

Do you consider yourself a “Young Adult”?

Are you looking for an intentional faith group & good friends?

Do you need a break from your regular weekly routine?

Do you want a place where you can stay connected to Jesus, have a support network within the church, & have meaningful conversation about faith & life in a casual social setting?

Then **JOIN US** for *Thirsty Thursdays*

Join us again January 24th!

We meet the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month.

See Emily Bugay or check out our page on **FACEBOOK** for info.

HAPPENING THIS WEEK

A "FAITH 5" VERSE

"His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."

John 2:5

Monday, January 21 – Martin Luther King Holiday

12- Step Group 7:30 pm

Tuesday, January 22

AA 7:00 pm

Wednesday, January 23

Bible Study 10:30 am

Y-ALL 6:00 pm

New Creation Worship 6:00 pm

Chapel Choir 6:30 pm

Chancel Choir 7:00 pm

Thursday, January 24

Breakfast Together 8:30 am

Nursing Mothers' Support Group 12:00 pm

AA 7:00 pm

Al-Anon 8:00 pm

Friday, January 25

Saturday, January 26

Sunday, January 27

Holy Communion Service 8:30 am

CRAWL 9:30 am

Faith Formation 9:30 am

Children's Choir 9:45 am

Holy Communion Service 11:00 am

Variety Show and Chili Cook-Off 6:00 pm

Lessons for January 27, 2019

The Third Sunday after The Epiphany

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

Psalm 19

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

Luke 4:14-21

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