

The Messenger

Bringing you the news of mission and ministry of the people of St. Michael

March

At a glance

Join us weekly at St. Michael on

Sunday Mornings

Worship & Holy Communion

@ 8:30 & 11:00 am

Sunday School for all ages @ 9:45am

Mondays

Planners @ 10:00am

Scouts @ 7:00pm

Tuesdays

Sewing Ministry 2nd & 4th @ 10:00am

AA Meeting @ 7:00pm

Greif Support Group @ 7:00pm

Wednesdays

Lenten Supper Series (all ages) @ 6:00pm

Senior Choir Rehearsal @ 7:30pm

Stewardship Ministry 3rd @ 7:30pm

Thursdays

Women's Bible Study @ 9:30am

Prayer Shawl Ministry 1st & 3rd @ 10:00am

Pastor's Bible Study @ 7:00pm

NA Meeting @ 7:00pm

Fridays

Beach Babies @ 10:00am

Saturdays

Men's Breakfast 2nd @ 9:00am

Finance Meeting 2nd @ 10:00am

Special Dates to Remember This Month

Mar. 1 @ 7pm Eagle Scout Ceremony

Mar. 4/5 Confirmation Retreat (7th-8th Gr.)

Mar. 5/6 Synod 7th Day Retreat (5th/6th Gr.)

Mar. 6 @ 1pm Crafter's Fellowship

Mar. 7 @ 7pm Council Meeting

Mar. 7 @ 4pm Eagles Concert (away)

Mar. 8 @ 6pm Shrove Tues. Pancake Supper

Mar. 9 @ 7pm Ash Wednesday

Mar. 11 @ 5:30pm Date Night for couples

Mar. 11 @ 5pm LYF Fundraiser

Mar. 15 @ 7pm Social Ministry Meeting

Mar. 16 @ 6pm Lenten Supper & Program #1

Mar. 23 @ 6pm Lenten Supper & Program #2

Mar. 25 @ 7pm Book Club (Panera Red Mill)

Mar. 25 @ 7pm 30 Hour Famine (sr. high)

Mar. 26 @ 5pm 30 HF Break the Fast Dinner

Mar. 30 @ 6pm Lenten Supper & Program #3



March 4th & 5th

CONFIRMATION RETREAT

Jesus said, "Let everyone who is thirsty come to me!" John 7:37

I recently received this picture with the title...**Hope you remembered to fill your tank!**

How often we forget to fill our tanks as we head down the road and then we are left...**THIRSTY!** Day in and Day out we thirst. We thirst for water, for a kind word, for hope, for joy, for forgiveness, and we thirst for relationships.

St. Michael, to a thirsty world, to you and me, Jesus says, "Let everyone who is thirsty come to me!" (John 7:37). Why? Jesus has a gift to share with us, "**LIVING WATER,**" (John 4:10).

Join Us as we head down the road together this **Lenten Season (Mar. 9-April 20)**. For the 40 Days of Lent, we will *discover* where we get this Living Water on Wednesday Evenings! Our theme this year is, **SPRINGS OF LIVING WATER**. There will be a daily devotional for you, Wednesday meals with worship as will explore the Exodus story together in a new and eye opening way and on Sundays join me for Road to Coronation, a look at the Passion of Jesus during Sunday School.

Come and fill your tanks up with us! At every turn, Jesus will provide us the Living Water that quenches our thirst all the way down to our roots!

May Jesus Fill Our Tanks As We Journey Together this Lent!

Pastor Chris

"Everybody's got a hungry heart" For three months, "The Boss" has been singing this song in my head since I opened our 30 Hour Famine Kit this year and saw the logo: **Love Hungry**.

In fact, I'd shared "**Love Hungry**" with our Sr. High Sunday School in January. We talked of the many different ways you could read and understand those two simple words: Love Hungry. It's brilliant, really, and goes to the heart of it! How we **Love Hungry** (the hungry ones we feed with food and with spiritual food: *a sharing-caring-reaching kind of hungry*), how we **Love Hungry** (how we treat others when we ourselves are hungry for something, be it time, attention, words of affirmation, or physical needs: *a frame-of-mind or state-of-heart kind of hungry*), and how we **Love Hungry** (giving up something to help someone else: *a sacrificial-state-of-hunger kind of hungry*), and how we are all **Love Hungry** (created for relationship with God and others, to live life together in community, to care and to be cared for: *a we-are-hungry-to-be-loved kind of hungry*).

This month, those same Senior High Youth (with the help of our Sunday School, Confirmands and YOU), will gather together with other kids from all over the Tidewater area to host yet another 30 Hour Famine. They will collect money, serve with their hearts and hands, and step outside of their affluent life for just a little over a day to experience something amazing. Change. They will learn of other places, some far away, and some just right up the road, where people are truly hungry. And they will likely hear the rumblings of the hunger in both their tummies and in their hearts. Hunger we all recognize. Please pray for these youth, their leaders and how they will **Love Hungry**.

"Everybody's got a hungry heart." How will you feed yours? We invite you to journey with us this Lenten season to gather and be fed in heart, mind and soul with Word, Wheat & Wine. . . And wash it down with some incredibly refreshing Living Water! Come Thirsty and **Love Hungry**, St. Michael!

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper is March 8th!
Sign up in the fellowship hall or call the church office!

With joy,
Juliet



A note

From Our Council President

It is a pleasure to announce the newly-elected Council Executive to include second-term Vice-President, Mike Eller; Secretary, Ruth York; Treasurer, Tina Allen; and it is my honor to serve as President for a second term.

With the completion of our first Council Retreat of 2011, be on the lookout for many opportunities to serve as we continue expansion and growth in ministry and mission here at St. Michael.

With the approach of Lent, as we prayerfully consider what to "give up" and "give back", please "give yourself" some time each day with God's Word.

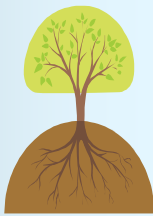
As we reflect and focus on our Baptism during this Lenten season, we in the Tidewater region are blessed to be surrounded by a lot of water. What a great place to hear and feel God's Word, standing at the water's edge, filled with awe at the splendor of God's mighty creation, power and strength.

As we are freed from sin and given eternal life in Christ through the waters of Baptism, may we continue our endeavor to care for the gift and resource of water, the sustainer of all earthly life.

It is my honor and privilege to serve alongside every one of you as we continue our journey together looking forward in faith.

By His Grace,
Nancy Crane

Contribute Regularly means practicing our stewardship on a daily basis. By doing so this becomes a lifestyle. Paul instructs us:



"On the first day of every week, each of you is to put aside and save whatever extra you earn."

1 Corinthians 16:2

The Finance Ministry Team meets the 2nd Saturday at 10am in classroom #1. You are invited to attend!

~Paul Lown

The Stewardship Ministry Team meets the 3rd Wednesday at 7pm in classroom #1. You are invited to attend!

~Jeremy Jeffries

Thirsty for the Living Water...

**2011 Lenten Supper Series
"Springs of Living Water"
Each Wednesday Evening
March 16th - April 13th
6:00pm-7:30pm**

Gather with us this season as we are inspired and refreshed at the water's edge. We will set sail into the images of living water which flow through the stories of Moses as we explore Exodus together. The children will be exploring Moses' stories as well and can follow along daily with our special sticker devotional! Our evening will begin with a light soup & sandwich potluck (sign-up in the foyer) followed by worship & programs for both our adults and children (*Pre-K through 4th grade*)!

The Congregation Support Ministry Team is always looking for more team members. Do you enjoy cooking? Do you like to visit people in the hospital or at home recovering? Do you like to send cards? Are you willing to provide transportation to doctor's visits for those in need? Do you like brightening someone's day with flowers? *Currently, we are looking for two people to send cards to church members. One will be mailing milestone birthday and anniversary cards. The other will be sending birth, baptism, and wedding cards.* The members of St. Michael Lutheran Church are family; this ministry team supports our family. To join the team or for more information, please contact Jodi Cox at 319-2256 or billandjodi@cox.net Thank you.



Feed the Hungry

St. Michael will serve on the following dates:

Sat. April 23, Mon. June 13

Fri. Sept. 5, Mon. Nov. 7

Join our Social Outreach team

as they serve at the Judeo Christian Outreach Center. Volunteers are needed to prepare meals from 1-4pm, and to serve from 5:30-6:30pm. Mary Kaufman is the contact for this special ministry if you would like to join the team! You can contact her through the church office.

4th Friday Book Club

Friday, **March 25th 7-8pm**

(Panera @ Red Mill Commons)

The Christian Atheist

by Craig Groeschel



Like to read ahead?

April's Book:

Prayers For Sale by Sandra Dallas

Date Night! New Couples Ministry!

Married, engaged or dating?

Join us for an evening together exploring "Marriage - Built to Last", Living Intentionally and Loving Biblically. It's a DATE NIGHT with MEANING! We meet for St. Michael Couple's Ministry on **March 11th at 5:30pm in the Fellowship Hall and The 2nd** Friday of every month, we will start together at St. Michael for appetizers and a short program, then you'll head out as couples for dinner, just the two of you!

Need Childcare? St. Michael LYF (senior high youth) will be providing childcare in the Martin Murphy Room during the event and while you are out to dinner (*from 5:00pm-9:30pm*)! They will be accepting donations to be used for Mission and Synod event scholarships.

**Please sign up in advance for childcare so we can be prepared to welcome your children! Pack n' Plays & nap mats/sleeping bags welcome! We have a quiet/sleep room.

Save Date Nights on your calendar now!

April 8, May 13, June 10, and July 8

From the Eagles' Nest...

Make plans to join the Eagles of St. Michael (our Seniors' Ministry) for fellowship in faith! What's coming up?

Monday, March 7th, we'll enjoy a choral concert at Gloria Dei Lutheran located at 250 Fox Hill Road in Hampton. Meet at St Michael at 4pm. Concert begins at 7 pm. **Drivers are needed** for carpooling. We will leave the church parking lot at 4:15pm and return around 10pm. We will have dinner prior to the concert at 5pm at the CAPRI Italian restaurant in Hampton.

Please see the bulletin board for the most current information and details regarding the Eagles Theater Outing this spring to see Regent University's "Bye Bye, Birdie"! presented by the Regent University.

Further information for March & April events can be found on the bulletin board, in the bulletin, and the April Messenger.

"but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."
Isaiah 40:31



Questions about the Eagles? Contact our senior ministry coordinators, Mary Jane Murphy and Rich Kessmann through the church office or on Sunday mornings in the choir loft, sharing their gifts of music!

Hungry to feed God's people

Hungry for the Living Word. . .

30 HOUR FAMINE 2011
 March 25&26 for 9th-12th graders COST \$20 each (includes t-shirt) Registration Forms on bulletin board!
Deadline March 16th
 Invite a friend or two!



POWER IN THE SPIRIT!
 July 14-16, 2011
We Love to Tell The Story!

Virginia Synod's Power in the Spirit is an inspirational conference for everyone who wishes to explore God's call to service through joyous worship, Bible study, keynote addresses, workshops, and fellowship. Info on bulletin board.

With Thanksgiving . . .

The CONFIRMANDS SAY, "THANK YOU, ST. MICHAEL!" Together, we collected over \$1583.00 and 220 lbs of food to fight hunger in Virginia Beach!

To all of the members of the Congregation Support Ministry Team who have provided so much help, love and support to our church members during January and February. You all have been so gracious in providing meals, visits, delivering flowers, sending cards and serving at church as needed. It has been a blessing to see this ministry team in action. Your sister in Christ, Jodi Cox, Team Leader

The Principal and the Clinic at Strawbridge Elementary School would like to thank the Sunday School classes for their donations of candy, crackers and sweatpants. They appreciate your thoughtfulness and generosity. These items will directly assist their students. They wanted you to know that they are truly blessed to have such wonderful people in their community!

CRAFTER'S FELLOWSHIP

Sunday, March 6th, 1-4 PM in the Martin Murphy Room. Anyone is welcome, bring a friend, snack, lunch, extension cords, etc. & catch up on your projects!
 Upcoming Dates:
 Apr 3rd May 1st June 5th



CONFIRMANDS Will be joining in mission by helping serve and share the break the fast potluck supper on Saturday, March 26th at 5pm in the fellowship hall. 7th & 8th Graders, come for dinner to hear and see how lives were changed by loving hungry this year!

DID YOU KNOW that access to clean, safe water can cut a community's child death rate in **HALF**!



It's St. Michael's First Annual SAFE SIDE SUNDAY!

April 10th from 12-3pm in the fellowship hall! Bring the kiddos & join "Safe Side Super Chick" to talk about stranger danger, safe adults, internet safety and go home with family discussion guides to keep the conversation going as well as child identification kits for each of your children! This event is appropriate for all parents, caregivers and children and is designed to help families address safety with their little ones! *Sponsored by St. Michael's LCF LUTHERAN CHILDREN'S MINISTRY*

Can you HELP? We will need finger food (kiddo style) & some adults (*who do not have young children anymore*) as well as youth (*5th-12th grade*) to be on hand to help facilitate this outreach to our young families! Contact the office or sign up on the bulletin board!



SUNDAY SCHOOL CHALLENGE!

The 9th-12th grade class is challenging the other classes to raise at least \$30.00 per class for the 30 Hour Famine this year! \$30.00 feeds a child for a whole month! That's \$1.00 a day! Between now and March 27th, bring in your change and put it in the Hungry Jar! We will keep track of the competition on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall. Thank you for helping other children to eat!

As a reminder, there are Sunday School classes available each Sunday from 9:45 – 10:40 am for EVERY age. Senior High (9th-12th grade) meets out in the youth room, and there are two adult classes currently held on Sunday mornings: *The Good News Connection* with Kevin Gilbert in Room 9 and *For Heaven's Sake! Parenting Preschoolers Faithfully* with Cynthia Bowen in Room 1. Questions? Please contact Jodi Cox, Sunday School Superintendent at 319-2256 or billandjodi@cox.net.



St. Michael Lutheran Preschool

is now accepting registrations for the 2011 Summer & Fall Programs. Please take advantage of the Spring Open House to meet their nurturing staff and explore the faces, places and spaces with your preschooler! St. Michael staff work together to build days of fun, filled with learning, and days of learning, filled with fun! Looking for a preschool right now? Call Miss Sue and Miss Lisa at 757-689-2629 to set up a visit today!

LYF (LIFE) FUNDRAISER 2ND FRI- DAY OF EVERY MONTH!

Fri., March 11th from 5-10pm

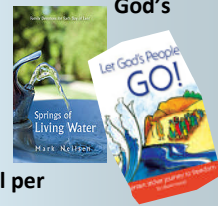
ALL HANDS on Deck to raise money for Youth event scholarships! (Winter Celebration, Mission Trips, etc.) We will provide childcare for our St. Michael couple's date night. 5-10 pm in the Martin Murphy Room.



KYAC – KEEPING YOUNG ADULTS CONNECTED –

SPRING RETREAT is being held April 1-3, 2011 at Grace Lutheran Church Waynesboro, VA. KYAC is a ministry of the Virginia Synod, connecting young adults to local congregations. The theme for this Retreat is the work of the Church and the voice of young adults in it. We will be partly discussing matters facing the upcoming Synod and Church-wide assemblies. Cost is \$25. If you are interested in attending, log onto www.vasynod.org and register under "Events" today! Space will be limited! Register today!

Lenten Devotional Books are here! Pick yours up Sunday and journey with us through the Season of Lent The adult series will explore God's living water as our children explore Moses in their daily sticker activities! Please limit one devotional per family! Thank you!



LYF (life) Film Fun Continues

9th-12th grade Sunday Mornings at 9:45am in the Youth Room!
 3/6 Special Guest!
 3/13 The Book of Eli
 3/20 Nacho Libre! (yes, chips & salsa)
 3/27 The Three Amigos
 Want a txt reminder? Let Juliet know (make sure it's ok with your parent(s), please!).

Do you need prayer or know someone who does? St. Michael has a team of warriors that spend time in prayer for our congregation daily, for specific needs and in general. Please contact the church office or one of the staff if you would like to share a prayer concern or praise or if you'd like to be part of the Prayer Ministry Team!



PRAYER.

7TH DAY SYNOD RETREAT

LMF (5TH & 6TH Grade) Thank you to Chris Worst & Cathy Worst for heading up the mountain with our students on March 5th & 6th! And thank you to Juliet Hutchens & Elly Carlson for serving on the Synod planning team!

CHERUB & KIDS OF THE KINGDOM CHOIRS

Both choirs rehearse Weekly during our children's Lenten program from 6:30-6:50pm in the Martin Murphy Room after soup supper.
Cherub choir is 4 yrs old thru 1st grade
Kids of the Kingdom is 2nd grade thru 5th

FISH STICKS

CHILDREN'S LITURGICAL WORSHIP THROUGH MOVEMENT & MUSIC
 Will rehearse Wed. March 2nd after which a rehearsal schedule for March and April will be posted on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall.
 Children must be in kindergarten or older to participate.

Senior Choir continues to rehearse throughout the season of Lent each Wednesday at 7:30pm in the choir room .

Thirsty for worship and prayer. . .

THE MESSENGER
St. Michael Lutheran Church
2208 Princess Anne Road
Virginia Beach, VA 23456-3536

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MARCH 2011




God's Vision for St. Michael

St. Michael Lutheran Church

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Virginia Beach, VA 23456-3536
Church Phone: 757-427-5088
Email: admin@stmichaelv.org

Office Hours: M-F 9:00-4:00 pm
Sunday Worship: 8:30 & 11:00 am
Sunday School 9:45 am
Pastor Chris Bowen: 757-652-2431

 Join our group/be our friend on facebook!
St. Michael Lutheran Church, Virginia Beach

April Messenger Submission Deadline: March 15th
Please submit all entries to church office email above.