

The Messenger

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

April At a glance



Living Water Can Not Be Bottled Up!

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This time of year you can hear people saying two things: "April Showers bring May Flowers" and in Churches, "Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!"

NOW THAT'S A SHOWER! Join us for Holy Week 2011

Maundy Thursday

April 21st @ NOON & 7:00pm

(Rite of First Communion @ 7:00pm)

Good Friday Stations of the Cross

April 22nd @ 7:00pm

Easter Sunday Services

April 23rd

Outdoor Sunrise Service @ 6:30am

Worship @ 8:30am & 11:00am

Our Sunrise & 8:30 Services are both

followed by a pancake breakfast.

St. Michael the Stone has been Rolled Away and released a shower of Living Water... Love, Joy, Peace, Hope came pouring out of the Tomb and into our lives. Death and the grave could NOT BOTTLE UP the love God has for us in Christ Jesus. Christ is risen to draw us out of the waters and into relationship.

Join in the Shower of God's Powerful love for you as we: gather on Sundays for worship, eat our Lenten Wednesday Soup Suppers and experience Holy Week 2011!

St. Michael, Living Water Can Not Be Bottled! Come thirsty and return often, so Jesus can shower you and you might grow in Love, Joy, Peace and Hope. Now that's a Shower!

Ever thankful to God for each of you,

Pastor Chris

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

April 1/2 Confirmation Retreat (7th-8th Gr.)

April 6 @ 6pm Lenten Supper & Program #4

April 3 @ 1pm Crafter's Fellowship

April 4 @ 7pm Council Meeting

April 8 @ 5pm LYF Fundraiser

April 8 @ 5:30pm Date Night for couples

April 10 @ 12pm Safe Side Children's Fair

April 10 @ 12pm Preschool Open House

April 13 @ 6pm Lenten Supper & Program #5

April 16 @ 10am First Communion Class

April 17 @ 8:30 & 11am Palm Sunday Worship

April 19 @ 11am Eagles Lunch at Golden Corral

April 21 @ Noon & 7pm Maundy Thursday

April 22 @ 7pm Good Friday/Stations of the Cross

April 23 @ 5:30pm LYF/LMF serve JCOC

April 24 @ 6:30am Outdoor Sunrise Service

7:30am Pancake Breakfast

8:30am Easter Worship Service

9:30am Pancake Breakfast

11:00am Easter Worship Service

April 29 @ 7pm Book Club (Panera Red Mill)

April 30 @ 9am Youth Service Project (LYF/LMF)

@ The Well

Women's Spring Retreat 2011

May 20th & 21st

Cost \$75*

The Well Retreat Center 18047

Quiet Way Smithfield, Virginia

*Registration includes lodging & meals

Sponsored by St. Michael Lutheran Church, Virginia Beach

Come fill your cup @ **The Well** and Quench your thirst with the Living Water Jesus offers us as women.

Why not retreat from the busy pace of life to a quiet place where the day moves slowly and there is time for Conversation, Contemplation and Calm. Faith, Friendship, Fellowship and Rest await you

@ The Well.

There's a place for **you.**

Thirsty yet?



Call 757.427.5088 or Email Juliet.dfd@stmichaelyb.org for more information today.



April 1st & 2nd
CONFIRMATION RETREAT

First Communion Class

Sat. April 16th 10am-12pm

A note

From Our Council President

Spring is coming and things are popping up all around us. Each year as God's creation re-awakens, the resurrection of our Lord comes to mind and my spirit is renewed. Here at St. Michael things are popping up all around us as we grow in discipleship. Ministry teams continue to expand and evolve as we focus on God's mission and vision for our congregation. I invite you to take advantage of the many opportunities to serve. Information can be found in the Bulletin, the Newsletter, on the Bulletin Boards, or ask any council member.

The loving generosity of Herb and Evie Dugroo will allow ministries to flourish for years to come and will have a lasting impact on God's children of all ages, not only at St. Michael, but in our community as well.

Of particular note at this time, I call your attention to a very special upcoming event. The 25th anniversary of St. Michael will occur in 2013. Preparation and planning are now getting underway. Please contact Pastor Chris, Sharon, or any council member if you'd like to be a part of this exciting phase of our upcoming celebration. All are welcome!

As we are enriched and renewed by springs of living water during Lent and as we celebrate our risen Lord at Easter, may your spirit be renewed as we 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

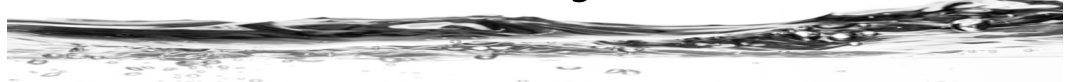
The Finance Ministry Team meets the 2nd Saturday at 10am in classroom #1. You are invited to attend!

~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" Continues each Wednesday Evening
April 6th - 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*)! 5th through 12th graders help lead the Wednesday night children's program as a service and outreach project. There's something for everyone!



HOW TO PLANT YOUR GARDEN

For the garden of your daily living. Plant three rows of PEAS: Peace of mind, peace of heart, peace of soul. Plant four rows of SQUASH: Squash gossip, squash indifference, squash grumbling, squash selfishness. Plant four rows of LETTUCE: Let us be faithful, let us be kind, let us be patient, let us love one another. No garden is complete without TURNIPS: Turn up for meetings, turn up for service, turn up to help one another. Nurture your garden with THYME: Time for prayer, time for family and friends, time for God. *Water freely with patience and cultivate with love.* There will be much fruit in your garden as you reap what you sow.



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 1-3pm, 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.



From the Eagles' Nest...

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

Be sure to **sign up by 15 April** to join us on **May 1st at 3pm** for the matinee performance of *Bye Bye Birdie* at the Regent University Theater. Check payments of **\$13.25 are due** to Mary Jane Murphy by **April 17th** (Palm Sunday). Make checks payable to "St. Michael Lutheran Church" and hand deliver or mail to Mary Jane Murphy to benefit from the group pricing & advance reservations required by the Regent Box Office.

Don't miss the *EAGLES' no host luncheon and planning meeting* at the Golden Coral restaurant located at 3177 Upton Drive at **11 AM on Tuesday April 19th**. A sign up sheet for this luncheon will be posted on the *EAGLE Bulletin Board*. Invite a friend if you wish, share your *EAGLE Power in Christian fellowship*.

"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



Easter Breakfast!

Join us Easter Morning, April 24th for a delicious pancake breakfast hosted by our Men's Ministry and served immediately following the 6:30 Sunrise Service and the 8:30 Worship Service.

St. Michael's Couples Ministry!

"Date Night couldn't have come at a better time!" Please consider joining us at St. Michael on April 8 at 5:30 for our Date Night program for dating, engaged and married couples. We meet for appetizers, fellowship, and a brief video before couples go out to eat on their own. Our theme for April's Date Night is 'Breaking Down Walls,' from the series by Pastor Chip Ingram: *Marriage Built to Last*. Please sign up in the fellowship hall to let us know you are coming.

Need Childcare? St. Michael LYF (senior high youth) will be providing childcare for pre-registered children 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!
May 13, June 10, and July 8

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

Watering God's creation with our blessings

Watered by the Living Word. . .

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 LUTHERAN CHILDREN'S MINISTRY (LCF)*

Volunteers Needed! 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!

With Thanksgiving . . .

THANK YOU to all who made the 30 Hour Famine possible this year—and thanks to the St. Michael LYF for being great hosts! THANK YOU to Confirmands: Lauren Seaver, Shelly Brenneman, Matthew Ross, Allyson MacLeod and Kenny Sisk for helping make the Break-The-Fast dinner a success! THANK YOU to our Fellowship & Congregational Care Ministry for their ministry to our families.

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 as part of the children's program after soup supper.

*Cherub choir is 4 yrs old thru 1st grade
Kids of the Kingdom is 2nd grade thru 5th*

FISHSTICKS! IS CHILDREN'S LITURGICAL WORSHIP THROUGH MOVEMENT & MUSIC

FishSticks! will Rehearse Sat. April 9th 11-12
Children must be in kindergarten or older to participate.



You are invited to join the Senior Choir as we prepare music for worship throughout Lent and the upcoming Easter season. Email Holly at landersun2@aol.com or surprise us by dropping in at 7:30 on Wednesday evening following the Soup Supper and Lenten Studies. All are welcome!

Do you need prayer or know someone who does? St. Michael has a team that spends time in prayer for specific needs and in general throughout the week. Please contact the church office or one of the staff if you have a prayer concern or praise.



PRAYER.



St. Michael Lutheran Preschool OPEN HOUSE! April 10th 12-2

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!

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHALLENGE!

THANK YOU for raising over \$400 to fight hunger! Well done!



As a reminder, there are Sunday School classes available each Sunday from 9:45 - 10:40 am for EVERY age. 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.

The parenting Sunday School class is discussing Marilyn Sharpe's book *For Heaven's Sake*. The book's subtitle is *Parenting Preschoolers Faithfully* but the ideas for passing on faith hold true for older children as well. **During April our focus will be, 'Parenting Through the Hard Times.'** It is not necessary to buy a book or complete any reading in advance to participate. We meet at 9:45 in Rm 1 at the far end of the education wing. Infants are welcome to stay with a parent during our class.



POWER IN THE SPIRIT!

July 14-16, 2011 *We Love to Tell The Story!* Virginia Synod's Power in the Spirit is an adult faith-building & inspirational conference for everyone who wishes to explore God's call to service through joyous worship, Bible study, keynote addresses, workshops, and fellowship. Call church office or pick up a flier if interested.

1st Sunday Crafter's Fellowship

Sunday, April 3rd 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:
May 1st June 5th

4th Friday Book Club

Friday, April 29th 7-8pm
Prayers For Sale by Sandra Dallas

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

GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS



LMF (5th-8th grades) LYF (9th-12th grades) ST. MICHAEL LUTHERAN YOUTH

These April Projects need YOUTH!

(Sign up on the bulletin board or facebook)

Sun. April 10th from 12-3pm

Safe Side Super Sunday @ St. Michael needs LMF & LYF youth to act as hosts for our children's safety event!

Sat. April 23rd from 5:30-6:30pm

LYF Youth needed to help prep/serve dinner at the JCOC (Judeo Christian Outreach Ctr.)

*DRIVERS/CHAPERONES NEEDED FOR THIS EVENT.

Sat. April 30th from 9-11am LMF & LYF Youth needed to HELP PLANT THE SEEDS FOR THIS YEAR'S COMMUNITY GARDEN at Nimmo UMC (across the street from St. Michael).

Bring garden gloves, closed-toe shoes, wear sunscreen, hats, little shovels and \$ for slurpees when we're done!

*CHAPERONES NEEDED FOR THIS EVENT.



LYF (life) Film Fun Continues

9th-12th grade Sunday School Sunday Mornings at 9:45am in

the Youth Room! We will continue our Series featuring the Jack Black film: *Nacho Libre* during April! Want a txt reminder? Let Juliet know (make sure it's ok with your parent(s), please!).

LYF (life) (9th-12th) & LMF (5th-8th) LOST & FOUND IN CONCERT!

Sun., May 1st \$7/person or \$21/family @Gloria Dei Lutheran in Hampton Meet at 2:30pm at St. Michael to car-pool together. (Eat lunch on your own!) Lost & Found blends music (think Green Day) and comedy for a killer show! Because we will need to arrange drivers & permission slips,

you MUST sign up in advance w/ PAYMENT in order to go, unless you are riding with your own family.

*DRIVERS/CHAPERONES NEEDED FOR THIS EVENT.

LYF (LIFE) FUNDRAISER 2ND FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH! Fri., April 8th 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. Mark down next month: May 13th!

Thirsty for worship and prayer. . .

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

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APRIL 2011




God's Vision for St. Michael

St. Michael Lutheran Church

2208 Princess Anne Road
Virginia Beach, VA 23456-3536
Church Phone: 757-427-5088
Email: admin@stmichaelvb.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

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