

St . michael 's

Messenger

May, 2008



Our Purpose

*To bring the light, love and joy of
Jesus Christ into this world – by living the written
word, sharing the living word, and loving without
exception.*

St. Michael & All Angels Episcopal Church

**81 Burke Drive, Buffalo, New York 14215-1305
Phone 836-0220**

E-mail: st.michaelschurch@verizon.net
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The Right Rev. J. Michael Garrison, Bishop

The Rev. Charles Wheeler, Rector
Home #832-3047

E-mail: frcwheeler@verizon.net

(Rector's office hours: Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday
9 am to noon or by appointment)

The Rev. Shirley Trail, Deacon
Cell #604-4379

Linda Seitz, Music Minister
Home #693-2037

Office Hours:

Karen Sundin, Secretary & Editor
Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 8 am – Noon

Vestry:

Carol Weekley, Sr. Warden; and Mike Ham, Jr. Warden

Sharon Schlossin; John Neubert; Dave Noonan; Jack Bidell; Bob
Weekley and Bruce Von Hasseln
Sarah DiLiberto, Clerk

SPOTLIGHT FOR MAY

The Altar Guild

(Janet Casagrande)

The Altar Guild has a number of responsibilities. The primary duty is to prepare the altar and credence table for all services – set up for the Eucharist and be sure that the hangings, frontal and priest's vestments correspond to the church calendar or specific occasion such as weddings or funerals. We also clear the altar after all services and wash the silver and cruets. The linens used during the Eucharist need to be washed and ironed.

We currently have 12 dedicated members, but would always welcome more. The members are divided into four teams. Each team is responsible for all services during their assigned week. We all meet, as a rule, on Saturday morning when there are five Sundays in a month or before special feast days such as Palm Sunday, Easter and Christmas. At that time we gather for coffee and a discussion about any concerns, as well as upcoming events. This is followed by setting up for the next day's services, checking on supplies and linens, polishing silver, etc. For Christmas and Easter, we also place the flowers around the altar and the church. It's not all work – our meetings are always a wonderful social time. If you are interested in joining our group, please speak to Father Wheeler

HYMNS FOR US OLD FOLKS

1. Just a 'slower" walk with thee
3. Precious Lord take my hand – “and help me up”
4. Count your many “Birthdays,” count them one by one
5. Go tell it on the mountain, “but speak up”
6. Give me that old “timer's” religion
7. Blessed “Insurance”
8. Take my hand precious Lord, “I forgot where I parked the car”



Rector's Reflections

Whose church is it anyway? Often we refer to the (local) church we attend as “our church” or “my church.” After all we give of our time, talent, and treasure to “our church.” We were baptized, confirmed and married there. It's perfectly understandable if we think of it fondly as ours.

There is a problem, however, if we forget who is really in charge of “our church.” Jesus said to Peter, “on this rock I will build my church.” Jesus died for his church. On the day of Pentecost the spirit birthed the church in a dramatic way, with tongues like fire and a sound as of a mighty wind. Yes, “our church” is really God's church. Ultimately, he is in charge of it. We forget this at our peril. He has given us the privilege of worshipping in it and of developing our spiritual life. He has given us the responsibility of managing it day by day. However, let's not forget that he holds its future in his hand. He raises up leaders and guides its affairs. Finally, what a liberating truth; that God is in charge.



Upcoming Events

Wednesday, May 7th

Women's Guild Meeting, 12:00 noon (lunch will be provided)

Saturday, May 10th at 5:00 pm

Mother – Daughter Banquet

The dinner is open to all women of St. Michael's, their mothers and/or daughters. No cost, but reservations are required. Please call Bob Weekley or Mark Bidell to reserve a seat/table by May 4th.

Sunday, May 11th Mother's Day

Spring ingathering for UTO

Monday, May 26th

Memorial Day – the office will be closed

Saturday, June 7th

Coffee and donuts with Father Chuck (at church)

Topic: The Reformation



SPECIAL OCCASIONS

Happy Birthday to:

1st Cynthia Dedde
3rd Diane Meacham
9th Mark Bidell
21st Evelyn Miller
26th Norma Miranda



Happy Anniversary to:

5th Carol & Leon Shatzel
22nd Marge & Norm Lange
This will be their **60th** anniversary