

ST. MICHAEL'S MESSENGER

September 2007



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 Church

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The Right Rev. J. Michael Garrison, Bishop

The Rev. Charles Wheeler, Rector
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(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
Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 8 am – Noon

Vestry:
Ed Gorczyca, Sr. Warden; Carol Weekley, Jr. Warden;
Addie Broome; Sharon Schlossin; John Neubert; Dave Noonan;
Jack Bidell; and Mike Ham

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

- Doors open at 10:00 am with vendors in place, and there will be seminars on various topics throughout the day. The doors will close at 3:00 pm. Exhibitors will be:
Meals on Wheels
Hospice
Erie County Department of Senior Services
Fire Departments
- There will be coffee and homemade cookies all day, and lunch may be purchased at a modest price.
- Catered Dinner at 6:00 pm (Cost is \$10.00) and everyone is welcome. The Keynote speaker will be The Rev. Canon John Macdonald, Director of the Stanway Institute for World Mission and Evangelism and Assistant Prof. of Mission and Evangelism at Trinity School for Ministry.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

- There will be the regular schedule of morning services, and one of the Seminarians will be preaching.
- Following the 10:30 service, there will be a luncheon before Father Macdonald and his students head back to Pennsylvania.

This is a huge undertaking for St. Michael's, but it is our hope that this event will bring this church family closer together and all working for the same purpose – to put St. Michael and All Angels Church on the map, so to speak. Hopefully when people know that we are here they will feel like joining in worship and fellowship with us.

RECTOR'S REFLECTIONS

HELP NEEDED!

By now, I'm sure you have all heard about the "THE EVENT." The Evangelism Team and others have been working very hard to make this event a success, but they need your help – everybody can do something for the event. The Team needs prayers (lots of prayers), people to put up posters, help with the various activities that weekend (yes St. Michael's does it up big – a 3-day event), donate door prizes, spread the word, and bring your friends.

There are sign-up sheets posted in the narthex, and if you are not sure what you can do, please talk to someone on the Team, or Father Wheeler, or just call the office.

The idea of "The Event" began with the formation of the Evangelism Team – how to make St. Michael's a presence in this community. With the help of The Rev. John Macdonald and several of his seminary students from Trinity School of Ministry near Pittsburgh, the inspiration for a 3-day event began. In the next newsletter there will be more information about Father Macdonald, his students, and his work in the field of Evangelism and Mission.

Schedule of Activities

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

- Sometime in the afternoon Father Macdonald and followers will arrive. Some of our parishioners have graciously offered to house our guests.
- **Pot Luck Dinner at 6:00 pm.** Please bring a dish to pass, put a smile on your face and join in fellowship and get to know the seminarians. There will be various table discussions and the evening will close with Compline.

The importance of the upcoming "September event" (Life Enhancement for Caregivers and Seniors) can't be over-emphasized. It will, I believe, benefit both our congregation and our community for the following reasons.

1. **Senior health and safety issues are uppermost in the minds of so many in our community today. Caregiver issues are also growing as major concerns.**
2. **We need to reconnect with our neighborhood and community. This format will provide a way to do so.**
3. **As our Fish Fries have in the past, so will this event provide an opportunity for our people to work together to accomplish a common goal.**
4. **The participation of Dr. Macdonald and his students from Trinity Seminary will add that necessary Gospel emphasis. They will teach us more about evangelism and missions and will bring to us youth, energy, and enthusiasm.**

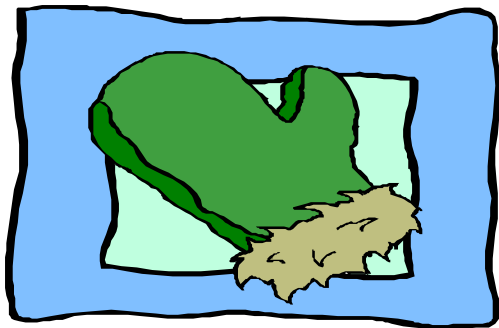
Our evangelism team has been hard at work planning this event. I thank you as members of our Vestry for your support as well. My thanks to the Team and all others who have been involved thus far. Please, if you are not already, plan to become involved in planning and participating. Please continue to pray for the success of this event; invite others to come and plan to attend as well. This will be only the first of several such events over the next several years.

**In Christ,
Father Wheeler +**

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Once again the members of St. Michael & All Angels will be participating in "Operation Christmas Child," a project of Samaritan's Purse, headed by Franklin Graham. The project involves filling shoe boxes with Christmas gifts for children around the world who live in extreme poverty. Everyone is invited to participate in this project. We request that all gift-filled boxes be brought to the church by November 7, 2007. Further information is available at the Gift Shop. Thank you for your cooperation and support.

Shirley Szen



FOR THE NEEDY

Warm your hearts with love and hang a pair of **warm mittens** on our **MITTEN TREE**, any size, any color. These will be given to those in need. Warm blessing will be yours!

Marion Wohlford and Olive Beutler

HEALING SERVICE & BIBLE STUDY

The regular Wednesday morning Holy Eucharist with healing will begin again on September 19th at 9:30 am. The Bible Study will follow the service.

SOMETHING NEW!

**Don't know what to do on a Saturday morning?
Enjoy having coffee and donuts with a friend?
Just feel like some Christian fellowship?**

If you said yes to any of these questions – then

**Join Father Wheeler for coffee and donuts
In the Parish Hall at 9:30 am**

Please mark your calendar for the first Saturday of the month and join with your church family for coffee and sweets, with a different topic for discussion each month.



There will be an Altar Guild meeting on
Saturday, September 29th at 9:30 am