



The Mike

The Newsletter of St. Michael & All Angels Episcopal Church, Studio City, CA

VOLUME 24, ISSUE 7 • November 2015

Jesus Asks Peter, “Do You Love Me?”

By the Reverend Dan Justin

At the end of the Gospel of John there is a famous conversation between Jesus and Peter. Three times Jesus asks Peter “Do you love me?” Peter assures Jesus that he does indeed love him. After each assurance of Peter’s love Jesus tells Peter to “Feed my lambs.” This passage is filled to the brim with meaning and possible applications. One option is to interpret the passage quite literally—those that love Jesus are to feed others. We are called to carry on the mission of Jesus who puts a very high priority on caring for those in need.

We here at St. Michael and All Angels have decided to take this call from Jesus to heart. We are dedicating our fall activities to doing what Jesus asks—feeding people. We began the month with the annual CROP Walk. This event happens all over the country and is truly a wonderful event. Churches of every variety, flavor, and size join together, raise money, and walk to help fight world hunger. St. Michael’s Outreach makes one large donation on behalf of the congregation. Participants are then also encouraged to find sponsors and raise additional money from outside the parish. Nancy Woods and Julie Bellevue Smollar will be happy to share with you how the event turned out this year. You may even want to start planning now for next year!

On the first Sunday of every month our parish also participates in Sack Lunch Sundays. This is a food packing event which supplies food to hungry people. We make close to two hundred bagged lunches during coffee hour. These are then picked up and distributed by MEND (Meeting Each Need With Dignity—www.mendpoverty.org).

The great thing about our Sunday Sack Lunch program is that anyone can participate. Young and old alike can make sandwiches and fill paper bags with apples, chips, water, and love. It is a great hands-on ministry that makes a real and immediate difference in the world. Avi Aazami can give you all the information you need about participating in Sack Lunch Sunday.

These are two events in which we are taking the words of Jesus—Feed my lambs—literally.



But Jesus said it to Peter three times. And so we have one more opportunity before the end of the year. On December 12th, St. Michael’s will once again host our Holiday Cheer event. This Christmas party welcomes hundreds from area shelters

for a huge holiday blow out event. Each child receives gifts from Santa. There are crafts and activities to participate in, sports to be played, and even family portraits to be taken.

don’t worry if you are busy on December 12th. There are plenty of volunteer opportunities and needs to prepare for the event. You can shop for kids providing them with gifts and outfits to open on that day. You can come to the church on December 11th and help decorate the Ministry Center and help with set-up for the party. You can even sign up to come after the event ends and help us clean up. Meredith Reese and Julie Bellevue Smollar can give you all the information you need about participating in Holiday Cheer.

I realize we are all busy and it is hard to fit one more thing in to our schedules, especially around this time of year. But these real life opportunities to serve and make a difference in the world that should not be missed.

They provide a totally different kind of faith formation. It provides us the opportunity to put faith in action. The question Jesus asked Peter is asked of all of us—“Do you love me?” The world will see the answer to that question as we feed his children.

Blessings,
Dan+

Scenes from past Holiday Cheer events



And, of course, there is food. A spectacular lunch is provided for all. Volunteering for Holiday Cheer is an opportunity not to be missed. I am certain you will have a great experience, especially if you have never done it before. My heart is always filled with joy as I watch the kids enjoy this event. And



Join Us for Children's Chapel, November 8th

St. Michael's is trying something new and you are invited to be part of it. On Sunday, November 8th, we will have not one, but two services going on at the same time. In the sanctuary, we will have our typical Sunday Eucharist service. In the Ministry Center, we will have a brand new service geared for our youngest parishioners that we are calling Children's Chapel.

At Children's Chapel, we will have songs, prayers, and activities to engage our Sunday school children. The youth group has been plotting and planning and will be acting out the Gospel and helping to lead the service. Amber Russo is teaching new songs to the Sunday school during family sing. Stefanie Wilson will be preaching a child-centered, interactive sermon. There will even be a celebratory parade around the courtyard.

Sunday School children, their families, and the young at heart are welcome to attend and participate in this new service. You are welcome to sing, clap, pray, do crafts, and have Eucharist with us that day in the Ministry Center.

We are planning to have a service like this roughly four times a year. Help us to kick it off, Sunday, November 8th at 10:30 am.

Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

The Studio City Interfaith Thanksgiving Service benefiting the North Hollywood Interfaith Food Pantry will be held at Faith Presbyterian Church, Valley Village, 5000 Colfax, Valley Village, CA 91601 on **Wednesday, November 25th, at 7:30 pm**. The service will include a variety of participants from congregations in the area representing many different faith traditions.

All are encouraged to bring donations for the food pantry and drop them off at the truck outside. An offering benefiting the food pantry will also be collected during the service.

The Interfaith Thanksgiving Service has been a tradition in Studio City for years. All members of St. Michael's are encouraged to attend and support the work of the food pantry. As is our tradition, our children will be completing a food drive during the month of November. The food they collect will be given at the service.

Christmas Cards for Prisoners

By Betsy Hailey

Bring a note of holiday cheer to a prisoner in solitary confinement at coffee hour on **Sunday, December 6th**, by signing a Christmas card along with a brief message. Cards, postage, first names, and message points will be provided, along with a letter from our Rector. The return address will be St. Michael's.

There are currently several thousand inmates in solitary confinement in California. Hundreds have been there for decades, locked in windowless cells 23 out of 24 hours a day—a practice defined as torture by the UN. An historic settlement earlier this year, to a lawsuit brought by prisoners, is designed to put an end to this cruel and barbaric practice. Cases are slowly being reviewed and inmates released into the general prison population where they will at long last be eligible for job training, classes and, most important, contact visits with their loved ones, touching, hugging, and finally being able to sit and talk without a glass partition separating them.

Cards, especially at Christmas, can bring hope and comfort to those so often forgotten. I am looking forward to seeing you on December 6th.

November Birthdays

Day	Name
6	Olivia Monge
8	Charlie Kammer
9	Linnaea Sage
11	Sarah Valka
14	Eliza Diliberti
20	Stephen Billington Andrea Odinov Fuller
23	Nikolay Best
28	Nancy Woods
29	Marco Hebbe-Zubiate Pablo Mooradian
30	Jackie Eckberg Nolan Reber

November Anniversaries

Day	Name
8	Andrea & DJ Fuller
12	Susan Guire & Cece Tsou John & Laurie Vincent
13	Brooks & Kathleen Taylor
24	William Hendley & Jon Albert
28	Polly Davis & Peter Epstein

Should you be listed here?

Or, if you wish to leave your birthday or anniversary unpublished, give the church office a call or e-mail administrator@stmikessc.org to let us know. Please Note: Birthdays and Anniversaries will be celebrated on the last Sunday of each month.

Coming Up . . .

Advent Lessons and Carols

Save the Date! Advent is just around the corner. It is the tradition of St. Michael's to begin Advent with Lessons and Carols. This year our Lessons and Carols service will be held on Sunday, December 6, 2015, at 5:00 pm. Join us for this wonderful service of scripture readings, anthems, and hymns as we prepare ourselves for the season of waiting and watching for the coming of Christ into our world.

Christmas Caroling

All are welcome to this event to bring Christmas joy to members of our parish and others who are unable to attend church. We will once again go Christmas Caroling around town on **Friday, December 11th**. We will first gather in the Choir Room at **6:00 pm** to practice singing as a group.

When we return from caroling we will join the group working to set up for Holiday Cheer for snacks and hot cider. Don't miss this fun outing. And feel free to bring friends—all are welcome.

Treasurer's Corner

September 2015—Revenue and Expense Summary

	September Actual	September Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Total Revenue	\$ 30,355	\$ 37,592	\$363,847	\$338,328
Total Expense	32,150	37,589	320,330	338,300
Net	\$ (1,795)	\$ 3	\$ 43,517	\$ 28

Join St. Michael's Community Outreach Projects for Holiday Cheer 2015!

By Meredith Reese and Julie Bellevue Smollar



It's that time of year again—Holiday Cheer, the annual Outreach party, will be held on Saturday, December 12th, from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm in the Ministry Center.

Holiday Cheer is a Christmas celebration of good cheer, home cooked food, crafts, activities, music, and gift-giving. It's our biggest Outreach event of the year. We continue to be awed by the generosity of this congregation and our friends.

St. Michael's hosts 200 guests from the family shelters of MEND and Good Shepherd—Angel Guardian, to celebrate together, show gratitude, and share in the holiday spirit. Every child walks away with a new toy and a new outfit. There are gifts for moms and dads too. For many families, this is their only holiday celebration of the year. We've touched many lives and will continue to do so *with your help*.

There are many ways to get involved and we'd love your help! We're still looking for activity leaders and we always appreciate new ideas. Please find Meredith Reese or Julie Bellevue at coffee hour. Or email stmikesoutreach@gmail.com.

How You Can Pitch In

Buy a Gift and/or an Outfit for a Child

We'll give you a wish list for a child. You can buy both the gift and the outfit or one or the other. Monetary donations for others to shop for you are also encouraged. Wish lists will be available in November. For assignments email Jane Wilson: janeinrecovery@gmail.com.

Bake Gingerbread Cakes (Prep)

We need five people to bake gingerbread cakes before Holiday Cheer. We provide the pans and can reimburse you for supplies. The bread freezes easily, so don't be shy about speaking up early and nabbing a pan.

Decorate/"Wrap" Party Friday Night

We start decorating on Friday night, December 11th, from 5:00 to 9:00 pm. It's a wonderful way to commune with volunteers if you can't make it to the party on Saturday. Hot cider and snacks plus the St. Michael's carolers will be there. All ages welcome.



Cook Food and Bring Treats (Day of event)

We have an amazing volunteer kitchen staff every year, but extra dishes and treats go a long way!

Elf Room (Day of event)

Help organize the gifts, then, distribute to the kids.

Craft Tables, Knitting, Sports, Comedy and Activities (Day of event)

There are many different tables as well as outdoor activities for the kids. Help out at one or more of the tables on the day. Also, we are still looking for team leaders to help organize the volunteers. New ideas are welcome.

Check-In or Clean-Up Crew (Day of event)

Keep us running smoothly by joining our check-in or clean-up crews.

Shifts will be listed at coffee hour or email stmikesoutreach@gmail.com to sign up.

We need help gathering all the supplies that makes this event great! Reimbursements are available thanks to the kind donations of our church community.

Shopping List

Wrapping paper
Large gift bags
Ribbons & bows
Tape
Scissors
Glue sticks
Colored pencils and markers
Drawing and craft paper
Candy canes
Small candies to decorate the gingerbread houses
Plain white icing tubs
Candy sprinkles
Paper plates
Paper napkins
Paper coffee cups
Bottled water
Juice boxes
Lemonade
Plastic utensils
Stocking stuffers
Travel size toiletries
Hot dogs and buns
Cookies
Yarn
Ornament hooks
Christmas decorations

Extra gifts and toys (books, small electronics, DVDs, stickers, costume jewelry, art kits, science kits, stuffed animals, etc.)

This will be an unforgettable event! Invite your friends!

A very sincere thanks to all who have already volunteered. Here's to another great year of Holiday Cheer!



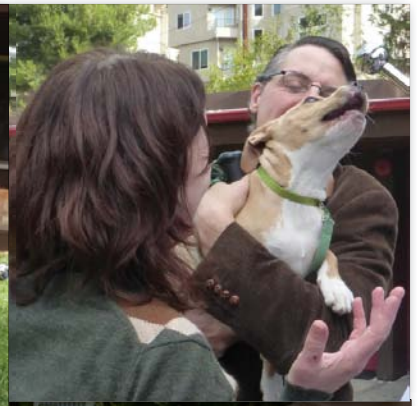
Feast of Saint Michael

Sunday, September 27, Saturday, October 3



Blessing of Animals

Sunday, October 4



Blessing of Costumes

Sunday, October 25



Crop Walk

Members of St. Michael's participated in the Crop Hunger Walk on Sunday, November 1.



Christmastime is here! Time to spread good cheer!

HOLIDAY CHEER 2015

to Benefit the Families of MEND and Good Shepherd

DECEMBER 11th

Friday

5:00pm-9:00pm "Wrap" Party & Caroling

Decorate for the party, Stuff gift bags, Carol for the community

DECEMBER 12th

Saturday

9:00am-2:00pm Holiday Cheer Party

Games, Arts & Crafts, Family Photo booth, Musical Entertainment

Sponsor a Family

Shop for Supplies

SIGN UP

email: stmikesoutreach@gmail.com

St. Michael & All Angels Episcopal Church

3646 Coldwater Canyon Ave, Studio City • (818) 763-9193





The Calendar

November 2015

Sunday Schedule • *Sunday Services are 8:00 am (no choir) and 10:30 am (with choir) in the Sanctuary.*
 • *Adult Learning Opportunity begins at 9:15 in the Ministry Center*
 • *Sunday School begins at 10:15 with Family Sing in the Ministry Center; the children are brought into Eucharist for the Peace.*
 • *Coffee Hour immediately follows the 10:30 am service unless otherwise noted.*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 All Saints' Day 8:00 Holy Eucharist (S) 9:00 am St. Michael's Outreach (CO) 10:30 am Holy Eucharist (S) 12:30 pm Crop Hunger Walk	2	3	4 7:00 pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal (S)	5 7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal (MR)	6	7
8 Pentecost 24 8:00 Holy Eucharist (S) 10:30 am Holy Eucharist (S) 10:30 am Children's Chapel (MC)	9 6:15 pm Book Discussion Group	10 7:00 pm Finance Committee (CO)	11 Veterans' Day <i>Parish office closed</i> 7:00 pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal (S)	12 7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal (MR)	13	14 1:00 pm Concerned United Birthparents (FR) 7:00 pm Youth Group Games & Movie Night (L)
15 Pentecost 25 8:00 Holy Eucharist (S) 10:30 am Holy Eucharist (S)	16	17 7:00 pm Vestry (L)	18 7:00 pm Handbell Choir Rehearsal (S)	19 7:15 pm Choir Rehearsal (MR)	20	21
22 Pentecost Last Christ the King 8:00 Holy Eucharist (S) 10:30 am Holy Eucharist (S) 11:30 am Prayer Shawl Ministry (MC)	23	24	25 7:30 pm Interfaith Thanksgiving Service (Faith Presbyterian Church, 5000 Colfax, Valley Village)	26 Thanksgiving Day <i>Parish office closed</i>	27 <i>Parish office closed</i>	28
29 Advent 1 8:00 Holy Eucharist (S) 10:30 am Holy Eucharist (S) 12:00 noon Pastoral Care Committee (FR)	30 Saint Andrew					

Locations:

CO Church Office
 MR Music Room
 FR Fireside Room
 MC Ministry Center
 L The Loft (formerly the stage)
 S Sanctuary

St. Michael and All Angels Church

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Diane Ballowe
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Gail Green
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Alex Morales
Amber Russo
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Vision Statement

We are a welcoming and evolving community of conscience engaged in the renewal of our faith by embracing diversity and encouraging growth through prayer, scholarship, social action, and artistic endeavor.

Our Mission Priority

Our mission priority is to focus on the United Nations' First Millennium Goal: To eradicate extreme hunger and poverty.