

THE MESSENGER

St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church

January 2010 at St. Michael's

Sunday, January 3 ***Second Sunday after Christmas Day***
9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Sunday, January 10 ***Baptism of the Lord***
9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Sunday, January 17 ***Second Sunday after the Epiphany***
9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Sunday, January 24 ***Third Sunday after the Epiphany***
10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
Followed by brunch and Annual Parish Meeting!

Sunday, January 31 ***Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany***
9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist

FROM THE RECTOR

The Rev. Dr. Pamela Redding

As I write to you today we are relaxing to enjoy the 12 Days of Christmas – those days after Christmas before Epiphany. We had such a glorious Christmas experience, welcoming the baby Jesus into our lives for another year. I am so thankful to everyone who helped make the sanctuary beautiful with decorations and who donated poinsettias. I am thankful to everyone who planned, who read or sang and to everyone who helped fill the church with happiness and joy. St. Michael's is a great place to celebrate Christmas.

Very soon we will shift gears to celebrating Epiphany – the season of light. Science tells me the days are getting longer during the winter, but only the intellectual side of my mind believes it. Fortunately we live in California and get more daylight than most of the country. Our minds and bodies need light, but even more our spirits need light. In Epiphany we are remembered that Jesus is the light of the world. The winter season holds no power what so ever over the Savior who brings and sustains the life giving light in our lives. Like our bodies need to get out and feel the sun shining on our skin, our spirits need to get out with other Christians in Epiphany to get our fill of Jesus' life saving light.

And one of the great parts of Jesus' light in our world is that it shines and shows the truth. And one of the Episcopal traditions of very practical truth is our January Annual Meetings. At St. Michael & All Angels the Annual Meeting is on January 24, 2010. We will start with a communion service at 10:00AM followed by a world famous St. Michael's potluck. We will celebrate the great work of the parish and talk about the joys of our common life. And we will talk about our finances. It is always important to know as much as we can about our church and in these days of recession, it has never been more important. I look forward to sharing this day with you!

Wishing you a Happy New Year 2010 and all God's Blessings!

Pam+

Message from the Senior Warden

Hello and Happy New Year!

2009 has seen some extraordinary events throughout our country and none more impactful than the devastating hit our economy has taken with the loss of jobs through the collapse of car companies, housing markets, financial corporations and the collateral effects to national and local businesses. St. Michael's too has felt the severe effects of it. Two weeks ago, Diane Loehr, our Stewardship liaison, provided some disappointing news about the status of our 2010 pledge drive. She and your vestry had hoped for a more positive start up to this point. We are still hopeful that more pledges will come in through January. We need all the pledges turned in over the next week or so in order for the vestry and Merrie Jo to plan the 2010 budget. If you haven't done so, please take a few moments to fill out your pledge card and turn it in at one of the services. Each one counts!

To also help our bottom line, we plan on doing fundraiser brainstorming during our **Annual Meeting on January 24th after the 10am single service**. Remember your vestry is only a small subset of the parish so we want and need to include everyone in this activity. It's synergy we're after – the cooperative interaction among groups that creates an enhanced combined effect.

Please pray for our parish financial health in the coming year!

Gordon Wells

Notice of the Annual Parish Meeting

As announced at both services on Sunday, December 13th, **the Parish of St. Michael and All Angels will hold its Annual Parish Meeting on Sunday, January 24, 2010, following the service at 10:00 a.m.**

Brunch (potluck) in the Parish Hall will follow the service and the meeting will begin soon after.

Music Notes from Joyce Pricco

THANK YOU!

I would like to extend my thanks to all our choir members who contributed to a wonderful Advent season as well as Christmas Eve services. We would not be able to sing and perform all the lovely music that these special seasons bring.

The **Svoboda girls, Jackie and Jessica** directed the Children's Pageant with the help of Sunday School teachers and parents of the children who participated. And we had special music from the **Anelli's, Bob and Janice** as well as a couple of soloists, **Bonnie Cahill and Janice Anelli**. Special thanks to our percussionist, **John Waller**, who returned again this year to add his special touch to both Christmas Eve services.

JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT

One of our parishioners and choir members, **Keith Coppage**, is the Drama Teacher and Choir Director at Mt. Diablo High School here in Concord. Keith asked if we would be interested in having his Drama group come and perform the musical they are working on which is *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. As many of you know, we had the children sing the Finale from *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* during Festival weekend. Of course we were very excited to hear about his offer and immediately agreed to have them perform the musical here at St. Michael's. Look for more details in coming weeks. We look forward to having them perform!

As 2009 winds down and we are on the heels of 2010, my prayer is that we as a community of Christians will keep the good news of Christ's birth in our lives and bring it to others as we celebrate His life through the upcoming seasons. Have a lovely Christmas season, it lasts a very short time until January 6th when we celebrate Epiphany! Best wishes for a Happy New Year

Joyce

Help Needed - Get Ready for Epiphany!

The Altar Guild and Art Committee will be taking down the Christmas decorations on Sunday, January 3rd immediately following the 11:00 service. Any help that anyone could offer will be greatly appreciated. **Carl Courtney**

St. Michael's Preschool News

***Come join us for a night of story telling!
Each Teacher will read their favorite children's book.***

***Everyone is welcome to come in Pajama's!
The teacher's will be wearing theirs.***

When: Thursday, January 22nd at 6:30PM

School Closed

January 1st New Year's Holiday

January 18th Martin Luther King Holiday

Food Bank

Happy New Year! Our last donation for November was 299 pounds. Our total stands at 3169 pounds, donated to *the Food Bank of Contra Costa & Solano Counties*. Thanks to you and so many people of this wonderful church, our contribution has helped so many people in our community. Anyone in need for food can call the Food Bank at 925.676.7543.

Hawaiian Club Crab Feed

Verena Wong from the Concord Hawaiian Club has announced their annual Crab Feed, to be held on January 16, 2010, here at St. Michael's Parish Hall. Tickets for St. Michael's members are \$25.00 (a \$10 savings from regular price). See **Verena** for tickets and information.

The St. Michael's Men's Group

The next meeting of the Men's Group is **Wednesday evening, January 13th in the Parish Hall at 6:30 p.m.** Bring some food to share and join us for a time of fellowship and service.

For more information, call **Rob Zazueta** at 925-246-5449

St. Martha's Guild

St. Martha's Guild, the hospitality guild of St. Michael's Church, would like to sincerely thank all of you for your outstanding support of our Christmas Bake Sale on December 5th. We made close to \$700.00. In addition, the Pub Door sales were close to \$300.00. There is a St. Martha's meeting scheduled for Saturday, January 9th at 10 am in the parish hall. At that time, we will look at our treasury and determine what kind of donation we can make to the general fund.

I would also like to personally thank those of you who donate money almost every time we have a Hospitality envelope in the weekly bulletin. I believe at one time, the first Sunday of the month was designated as a time for a donation to St. Martha's. I, for one, am not very good about remembering to have an extra check that week, but there are a surprising number of you who do, so thank you so very much!

We are always looking for new members, whether you would like to serve coffee hour on a particular Sunday, or join us for special events, everyone is very welcome. If you e-mail me your name and phone number, I will add you to our "mailing list", and keep you up-to-date. My e-mail is leapmom29

Judy Wilson

Loaves & Fishes

What a great turn out at Loaves & Fishes on Monday, December 21st. Thanks to **Keith Cambra, Alice McMillan, Lonnie Plain** and her friend, **Lydia Good, Nancy Reimer, Judy Wilson, Melissa Stafford Jones** and her son, **Douglass, Verena Won** and her sister, **Nona Nachee-Akana**, and from **the Hawaiian Club, Lois Kaya** and her granddaughter, **Meghan Hashimoto**. We served over 270 plates and some from our group helped the First Baptist Church pass out turkeys and all the trimmings to 300 families. Great job!

Come and join us on our next date, Monday, January 18th, 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. at the First Baptist Church, 1802 Alhambra Avenue, Martinez (cross street and entrance on Robinson Street).

Sue Brown
925.934.0245

Nursery Update

We have been able to continue the Nursery for the 9am Service each Sunday. There are five (6) steady volunteers that work in the Nursery on a rotational basis. They are **Amber Delacruz, Taylor Ramey, Julia White, Frances Whitney, Eva Zander, and myself**. We recently had a holiday gathering and discussed One Service Sundays. We will continue to have Nursery on the Sundays with one service, but will not have Nursery on Morning Prayer Sundays.

We could use a couple more adults to volunteer. There are six (6) of us that really take care of three Sundays a month, and do double duty on fourth Sundays. On fifth Sundays scheduling gets a little complicated, so if you are interested and/or feel that you can assist the position is not difficult. Job duties consist of a love for children and an on-line training course offered free through the Diocesan Office. Once the training is completed, then you print a certificate that Rev. Pam keeps on file. We have a time to visit usually over a hands-on-activity, a story time, snack sometimes (depending on how hungry the children are), prayer time, and then the children are taken to the church and join the congregation for Communion. There is a card outlining and giving suggestions for new volunteers to use.

Recently, we have made up name tags for the children and adults to wear. We have installed a coat/sweater hanger for the children to hang their items. We have received aprons, and are making up an allergy form for the parents to sign. The carpets have been cleaned this month after the Holly Berry Tea event.

We are still in the need of a small step stool for the children to use the sink. We are still in the need of some pictures depicting a child friendly spiritual scene. Some more sturdy children's chairs would be nice to have also,

The Nursery cares for the child from infant through kindergarten at this time and opens 15 minutes prior to the start of the service.

Geri Quilici



**St. Michael and All Angels
Episcopal Church**

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On the web:

STMICHAELS-CONCORD.ORG
SAINTMICHAELSCONCORD.ORG

Rector:

The Rev. Dr. Pamela Redding
Cell: 925-408-4082

Office Hours:

Monday—Thursday 9am—1 pm
(closed Fridays)

THE MESSENGER

WEEKLY AT ST. MICHAEL'S

Mondays—Fridays, 6:15 am—6:00 pm
St. Michael's Preschool

Tuesday 7:00—8:30 p.m.

Bible Study & Healing Service (Chapel)

Wednesday

10:30 a.m. **Eucharist** (in Chapel)

6:30 p.m. **Contemporary Choir Rehearsal**

Thursday

12:00 noon **Al-Anon**

7:30 p.m. **Traditional Choir Rehearsal**

SUNDAY SERVICES

9:00 a.m. Contemporary Service

11:00 a.m. Traditional Service

TO:

FIRST CLASS MAIL

PLACE LABEL HERE