

THE MESSENGER

St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church

April 2010 at St. Michael's

Saturday, April 3

Holy Saturday

9:00 a.m. Holy Saturday Service (no Eucharist)

7:30 p.m. Easter Vigil with lighting of Paschal Candle, and Holy Eucharist (in Church)

Sunday, April 4

Easter Sunday

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist (one service only) followed by Easter egg hunt for children and St. Julia's Bake Sale in Parish Hall

Sunday, April 11

Second Sunday of Easter

9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Holy Eucharist

Sunday, April 18

Third Sunday of Easter

9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Holy Eucharist

Sunday, April 25

Fourth Sunday of Easter

9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Holy Eucharist

[see inside for Holy Week Schedule]

FROM THE RECTOR

The Rev. Dr. Pamela Redding

Recently, I read a book of travel stories, written by people who go all around the world and write about their experiences. It was advertized as "the best" travel writing of 2009. I really enjoyed reading about the places, but "the best" part from my perspective was being included in the inner changes of perspective that took place for the traveler, between the beginning of the article or journey and the end. The editor made an important distinction in the introduction between being a tourist and being a traveler. A tourist stays in their comfort zone and observes places they visit and a traveler is open to being uncomfortable, wanting to sleep in odd places and eat new and different food.

All of this points to another type of travel called *pilgrimage* that could be what is really happening inside the traveler. I like to read books about travel because, so far, I have not really been to very many places in our big world. But I still consider myself a traveler. And I have not been on any famous pilgrimages to famous cathedrals or holy places. But nothing has stopped me from going on spiritual pilgrimages into my soul. On my most exotic and distant pilgrimage, I sat in the same chair meditating for 10 days on a silent retreat with 25 other people. In the beginning it was not all that comfortable. It could be said I did not even go anywhere, but that pilgrimage totally changed the direction of my life as it unfolded in the following days and months. Pilgrimage led me to the priesthood and years later to all of you here in St. Michael's.

I suppose this comes to mind because you and I have been companions on pilgrimage. Sometimes talking and sometimes quiet, we have been worshipping together and walking on a sacred path through the story of Jesus and his life. We started with ancient

MORE FROM REV. PAM

stories and with the time before Jesus was born, during Advent. Then during Lent we became more intentional, yet open to whatever God wanted us to learn about love and community. Now, in the midst of Holy Week, our experience is being alongside Jesus as he carries the cross. And on Easter Morning we know we will be with Jesus again in the divine power of life over death and good over evil. It will be powerful, but Easter will not be the end of our pilgrimage because there is even more out there for us.

We have not always been comfortable this Lent, but the company has been excellent. And the results, while unpredictable, will lead our congregation in ways only the Holy Spirit can predict. What I do know is that there are good days ahead and that we are closer as a community than we have ever been. One of the great things about pilgrimage is that we do not really need to know more than that. Putting one foot in front of the other, we are ready for "the best" being a Christian has to offer.

Pam+

PARKING LOT SALE EARN MONEY WITH YOUR EXTRA "STUFF"

May 15th, 2010 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

\$25.00 FOR 2 PARKING SPACES

SIGN UP NOW!! Call Doris Watson at 925-682-7195 or send email to:
F2mom@aol.com

Music Notes from Joyce Pricco

It is unbelievable that we are in Holy Week! I hope your Lenten experience was one of accomplishment and enrichment, and that this week will be a culmination of reconciling yourself to God. We rejoice in that Christ is risen from the dead and that we are/can be like Him.

HELP US SING THE HALLELUJAH CHORUS!

If you have not heard, we are singing the *Hallelujah Chorus* on Easter Sunday at the end of the service. It has been two years since we have sung it and here is an opportunity for you to praise God in song. We rehearse this week on Tuesday, March 30th at 7:30 p.m. I have music if you do not have a score. The choirs start rehearsal earlier and will stop at 7:30 to rehearse "the Chorus." We will have a final rehearsal on Easter Sunday at 9:30 a.m. before the 10 a.m. service. Please be prompt as there is a lot of activity going on and time is of the essence. We look forward to all of you joining us in a rousing and fun rendition Easter Sunday!

A BIG THANK YOU TO BOB AND JANICE ANELLI

Many of you are familiar with Bob and Janice Anelli. They have been faithful choir members of St. Michael's since 1999. Lately they have favored us with their special flute and piano duets.

Years ago the Anellis belonged to a choral group through Bank of America (where they were employees) which sang at various functions. When that group disbanded, their equipment went into storage. The storage unit was recently cleaned out and through their generous donation St. Michael's acquired some of that equipment. We are now the owners of a Casio keyboard, piano stand, a couple of music stands, a piano amp, a *sostenuto* pedal, and several microphones. There were some key components missing for the piano which Janice tracked down and bought so that we now have a complete set up to use at the church.

More from Joyce Pricco

St. Michael's has been fortunate to have had all our pianos donated to us (the Parish Hall piano and the Steck baby grand in the church from Father Mac Stanley's family) and now we are grateful to the Anellis for their recent donation! We should have it up and running in the chapel sometime after Easter. I will let you all know when that happens. Thank you Bob and Janice!

JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT COMING TO ST. MICHAEL'S

I am pleased to let you know that Keith Coppage and his Drama group will be performing ***Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*** on Sunday, April 25th at 2 p.m. Keith and his group have been working hard and we are excited to have them perform the musical in the church.

If you did not know, parishioner and choir member, Keith Coppage is the Drama Teacher and Choir Director at Mt. Diablo High School here in Concord. Keith asked if St. Michael's would be interested in having his Drama group come and perform the musical. As many of you know, we had the children sing the Finale from *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* during our 2009 Festival weekend and it will be wonderful to see the entire show. Start inviting your friends and family to this event, I hear they pack the house when they do their shows. We are looking forward to having them bring the show to St. Michael's and hope this will bring out our community to enjoy this great musical by Andrew Lloyd Webber.

Wishing you a blessed Easter season!

Joyce

A View from the Pew

Sometimes it seems like St. Michael's is always asking for money. The call on Stewardship Sunday allows us to budget and plan for the daily ongoing needs. In order to keep the Church doors open, financial goals need to be met. In addition, there are special fund raisers during certain times of year, as in the Easter Flower donation request. These are not included in the budget, but funds raised are used to cover the special event costs. If extra funds are raised, for example, from the flower donations, then those funds might assist with buying the Eucharist bread and wine.

Then there are those requests that are unforeseen with no item in the budget to cover, like the Church Boiler. The Church Boiler has functioned to warm this large House of God for many years. It requires ongoing maintenance. Now it requires *major* maintenance. St. Michael's has many, many parishioners who donate their time and expertise, riches beyond price. But, as in the case of the Church Boiler, professionals are sometimes needed due to the complexity of the work and insurance requirements. Your assistance, as always, is greatly appreciated.

Eva Zander

The St. Michael's Men's Group

The next meeting of the Men's Group is **Wednesday evening, April 14th 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

Holy Week Schedule for 2010

Sunday, March 28

Palm Sunday

10:00 a.m.

Holy Eucharist with Passion Play.

Service begins with Liturgy of the Palms in Parish Hall and procession to Church. (one service only)

Wednesday, March 31

10:30 a.m.

Holy Eucharist (in chapel)

Thursday, April 1

Maundy Thursday

7:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist (in church) followed by stripping of altar

8:00 p.m.— 12 noon on Good Friday

Night Watch Vigil in Chapel

(Sign up in back of church, two persons each hour for safety)

Friday, April 2

Good Friday

12:00 noon Stations of the Cross (no Eucharist)

7:00 p.m.

Good Friday Service (no Eucharist)

Saturday, April 3

Holy Saturday

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Vestry News

The vestry has done significant work since the parish annual meeting and I want to apprise you of its progress. The following are summaries of the meetings.

Retreat Summary:

On 2/20 the vestry gathered at Grace Presbyterian Church outside Rossmoor, for a full day to carry on our discussions from the annual meeting as well as plan for the coming year.

- The vestry elected **Tom Svejda Jr.** Warden for a second year.
- Discussed use of Communications to increase our parish visibility via:
 - Church website
 - Street signs directing people to our premises
 - Social networking at free sites such as corporations, Facebook, Twitter,
 - The use of parish cards (like business cards) containing address/phone number, services, info about the pre-school and the listing of our new website available to all to hand out.
- Continued discussion and development of ideas for fundraising from the annual meeting. This included
 - ideas submitted by parishioners after the meeting.
 - Developed a vestry to-do list to help keep us on track with regard to fundraising.

March 17 Vestry Meeting: The night the lights were out and we conducted our meeting in the parish hall by candlelight – a special evening. The following is a summary of our discussions.

- Discussed the broken boiler situation. Greatest discussion was about how to pay for it given our financial situation. Do we borrow again or get it repaired when we have the money? The vestry voted to ask a suggested donation of \$50 from each adult and to pay for it after we have the money.
- Parking Lot Sale moved to **May 15** from the original May 22.
- Received a bid for the new church sign

More Vestry News

- We want to use social networking (Facebook, Twitter) to advertise events, our church, our pre-school.
- Discussed the success of the Men's Group corned beef dinner netting over \$1500.
- As part of the Interfaith Council, Pam brought a request from them to use our sanctuary for a concert. Vestry voted on use of the sanctuary only for a date to be determined in the near future.

Gordon Wells, Senior Warden

St. Julia's Guild—Easter Bake Sale!

This year St. Julia's Easter Bake Sale will help fund the purchase of a new sign for the front of the church. Come to the Parish Hall after church and purchase wonderful cookies, cakes and other tasty baked items.

During the bake sale, St. Julia's will also be raffling off two Easter baskets and **Shirley Kimsey's** wine cake. If you haven't purchased your tickets yet, they will be available at the Bake Sale.

Alice McMillan
St. Julia's President

St. Michael's Preschool News

Thank you to all church members for coming out to Sweet Tomato and supporting our Fundraiser. It was great to see you! Thank you for your support it means a lot of the preschool!

April 1st is our Annual Easter Egg Hunt. Donations for Plastic Filled Eggs are welcome.

Preschool will be closed on April 2nd for Good Friday!

Week of April 11th is the **Week of the Young Child.**

April 17th, the Preschool teachers will attend a Child Development Conference.

Thank you to all who bought See's Candy from our Spring Fundraiser. We had 80% participation and made \$870.00. If you were unable to participate; remember we are a private nonprofit organization that gladly accepts cash donations. Fundraising is an essential part of our program. We do have a few items left for sale. Please see Ms. Pam for details.

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE NAMI WALK!

**Saturday, May 22, 2010
Speedway Meadow, Golden Gate Park,
San Francisco
Check-in opens at 9:00 a.m.**

Join thousands of walkers as we raise awareness and funds for the FREE Bay Area mental health programs sponsored by The National Alliance on Mental Illness.

For more information: www.namiwalksSFbay.org or info@namiwalksSFbay.org or contact **Father Chet** or **Doris Watson** at 925.682.7195.

Food Bank

Good News! St Michaels Men's Group announced they will be making a donation of at least \$130.00 to the Food Bank. This is being donated from proceeds from the terrific St. Patrick's Dinner & Raffle on March 13th. Thank you St. Michael's friends and family for the wonderful support of this event.

For the month of February, St. Michaels gave 217 pounds to The Food Bank of Contra Costa & Solano Counties. That makes our total so far 487 pounds towards 2010 goal of 2500 pounds. Good Job!

Sue Brown

925.934.0245

Loaves & Fishes

We helped feed 200 plates to the good people at Loaves & Fishes on Monday, March 15, 2010. Thanks to the great volunteers of **Alice McMillan, Verena Won, Lonnie Plain, Nancy Reimer, myself and from the Hawaiian Club: Lois & Sandy Kaya.** Great Workers! We served a rice dish with sausage patties, green & fruit salads, bread, dessert & drinks.

Join us the 3rd Monday of every month from 9a.m. to 1p.m. Our next date is April 19th. We serve at the First Baptist Church, 1802 Alhambra Ave, Martinez. (cross street & entrance on Robinson St.)

Carol Brown from our church got excused from her program so she can help serve the bread at future Loaves & Fishes. She says "It's a wonderful thing to help other people."

Sue Brown

925.934.0245



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

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Concord, CA 94519
(925) 685-8859

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