

THE MESSENGER

St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church

May 2010 at St. Michael's

Sunday, May 2
9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Fifth Sunday of Easter
Holy Eucharist

Sunday, May 9
9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Sixth Sunday of Easter
Holy Eucharist

Sunday, May 16
9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Ascension Day celebrated
Holy Eucharist

Sunday, May 23
9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

The Day of Pentecost
Holy Eucharist

Sunday, May 30
9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Trinity Sunday
Holy Eucharist

FROM THE RECTOR

The Rev. Dr. Pamela Redding

As I prepare for May, we are well into the Great 50 Days of Easter and Pentecost is looming large on my mind before the end of the month. Pentecost comes early this year and I am excited. Pentecost is my favorite church festival and 4th of July is my favorite secular holiday. They both involve fiery excitement, I guess both are pretty straightforward. For me as a Christian, Pentecost is really what my identity is all about. Pentecost gives us lots to do in the present while holding an exciting vision of the future.

Pentecost starts out with a bang -literally with the rush of wind and then the fire dancing around the heads of the disciples. Then the real excitement begins as they are literally fired up to go out into the world and spread the Good News of God's love. It reminds me of the first minor earthquake I felt after moving to California. When I least expected it, I heard a huge bang. At first I thought my building had been hit by a truck, but then the whole room started to move back and forth. My first thought was, "This moment could really change my life!"

Well, the earthquake did not end up being serious for me, but Pentecost changes my life every year. Each year I get more excited about the ways we can grow as individuals and as an authentic spiritual community. I get more excited about the possibilities God has for us to connect with the world around us as vehicles of God's blessing. What we do not have time for anymore is any way of being that is self-absorbed and isolating. Instead, it is time to get in step with the good God is already doing in our world. The apostle Paul tells us we need to be ready to account for the hope that is in us as Christians. The dream that I carry is that the world will be able to see our hope at St. Michael's is articulated through concrete actions. I cannot wait for Pentecost!

Pam+

MORE FROM REV. PAM

Status of boiler fund raising and repair

The 2010 Lenten experience gave most of us a spiritual challenge we had not expected. Our trusty boiler and furnace needed some costly repairs that were outside our budget. After your wardens and I thought through the possibilities, we decided to be straightforward with the parish and have a mini-capital campaign, asking for donations of \$50. per individual, couple or family. Meanwhile, members of the congregation faithfully kept attending through the rest of Lent, Holy Week and Easter, bundling up a little more and sitting closer together. After only 4 weeks we received 33 donations of \$50. and more, and were able to have the furnace refurbished. Now have a warm cozy church. I am so thankful to all of you who contributed in addition to your ongoing pledges. We know that as a Christian community we can work together to get things done and meet any challenge that may be ahead. We have the capacity to do more than we ever imagine through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Pam+

The St. Michael's Men's Group

The next meeting of the Men's Group is **Wednesday evening, May 12th 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

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 F2FMom@aol.com**

Interfaith Council of Contra Costa County
Benefit Choir Concert
Sunday, May 16, 3:00 p.m.
St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church
2925 Bonifacio St., Concord



Come enjoy a delightful afternoon of music from some of our most spirited groups in Contra Costa, including the choir of Sufism Reoriented, the Mormon Temple Hill Choir, and the Dances of Universal Peace!

A free-will offering will benefit the ongoing ministries of the Interfaith Council.

Rectors of St. Michael and All Angels Church

I hope by now everyone has had an opportunity to view the photographs of St. Michael's past rectors which are now hanging in the narthex of the church. This project which I took on over four years ago is nearly complete. I have not attempted to find information or photographs of interim priests, only the rectors and assistant rectors. I want to thank those of you who encouraged me or helped me in any way with this project, especially **Fr. Chet Watson** and **Fr. Maurice Turner**, who often led me in the right direction to locate some of the rector's pictures and their history.

In the beginning it was **Dollie Root**, but also my daughter **Maureen** and her husband **Ron Willis** who helped me with the photography. **Lance Smith** and **Franke Martinez** gave me their afternoon to drill the necessary holes for the screws to hang the photographs and get them leveled. **Ron Finch** and **Carl Courtney** took the time to hang the photographs so they would be up by Easter. You will find a history of each of these rectors in the narthex, inside the prayer box. I hope each one of you will take an opportunity to read these histories so you will know and understand how St. Michael's came to be and has been sustained over the years by many dedicated priests.

i still need help in locating a photograph and more history of Alan Taylor who was an assistant rector with Dr. Daunton, even a little bit of information or perhaps a snapshot would be helpful.

Alice McMillan

St. Julia's Guild

April was a busy but fruitful month for St. Julia's Guild. Our annual Easter bake sale proved to be a wonderful success for the Guild. Our purpose this year was to purchase a much needed new sign (or two) for the church. All of our ladies put forth their usual effort, and with some support from church members helping us with the baking, we managed to fill several tables with a wonderful assortment of baked goods. **Goldie Nellis** who had just returned home recovering from a fall, together with her daughter **Lorena Tasin**, still managed to contribute to the sale. Amy Waters (suffering from a bad back) contributed to the sale and then managed to take care of the cash box during the sale. My daughter, **Maureen Willis** came from Palo Alto bringing seven cakes for our sale - also a big help!

All of St. Julia's ladies are committed to St. Julia's and always contribute under, at times, difficult and trying conditions. My personal thanks to all of St. Julia's ladies whose contribution this year netted our guild over \$600.00. With the money we already have in our treasury, we will have enough to purchase the needed sign for the church. Thank you to the church members who contributed to our sale and those who made purchases! We can now look forward to a new church sign which we hope will not be too far off.

The last watercolor of a group of three has been sold which netted the Guild another \$150.00. We give grateful thanks to God for our wonderful success this year.

Alice McMillan
St. Julia's President

Vestry News

April 2010 Vestry Meeting Highlights:

Important Note:

After years of much appreciated and faithful service, **Judy Wilson** has withdrawn from performing Parish Hall rental duties. She has done a wonderful job of taking this on and the vestry must now find an individual or a team of two or more people willing to take over this important and valuable function. It is a helpful source of income to our parish. Currently, Rev. Pam is managing this job but this is clearly not in her job description. **Please contact either Rev. Pam or Gordon** as soon as possible if you are interested!

Tom Svejda is leading a small sub-committee meeting in the next week to finish discussion about our new church sign, to be posted on Bonifacio Street. Its appearance and durability is of prime importance.

All are looking forward to the Open Church Pancake breakfast set for Saturday, May 1. **Ramon De la Cruz** did a terrific job of creating the flyer and signing up many of our congregation interested in re-introducing our parish to the neighborhood with hopes of attracting new members.

Gordon Wells
Senior Warden

St. Martha's Guild

St. Martha and St. Julia Guild are busy planning a reception honoring **Goldie Nellis** on the occasion of her 100th birthday! The reception will take place after church service on June 13th. We are so happy to know Goldie and it is a true honor to celebrate with her.

St. Martha's is still looking for more volunteers for coffee hour. Perhaps you could take on one Sunday a month and enlist a couple of your friends to do the same. As with almost every group in the church, most St. Martha members are members of other groups and sometimes are doing double duty on Sundays. Any help would be truly appreciated, and you can talk to any member about what you would need to do.

Judy Wilson

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat

BIG THANKS! to **Keith Coppage** and the **Mount Diablo High School Performing Arts Department** for a wonderful musical afternoon. We thank Keith for all of his passion as a teacher and his devotion to his students. We thank all the performers for the generosity of their time, sharing their creative talents and youthful energy with us. This performance brought one of our ancient Biblical stories to life in a whole new way.

St. Michael's Preschool News

Open House

Thursday May 6th @ 6:30PM

Activities include children singing, visiting of the classrooms, and refreshments

Parent Work Party Saturday, May 15th from 9 am-12Noon

Volunteers NEEDED Please sign-up today!

Parent Luncheon Friday, May 28th from 12Noon-1PM

School will close after luncheon.

National Teacher Appreciation week is May 3rd – 7th

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

Our church's contributions to the Food Bank of Contra Costa & Solano Counties for March was 407 pounds. This brings our total so far to 894 pounds of food. A big thank you to St. Michaels' Men' Group! They gave a most generous check to the Food Bank for \$280.00. This will be going in our church's donation for April at the end of the month.

Thanks to everyone who have helped our neighbors with food and cash donations.

Sue Brown
925.934.0245

Loaves & Fishes

We had a great turn out at Loaves & Fishes on Monday, April 19th. Thank You for the great volunteers of **Judy Wilson, Alice McMillan, Verena Won, Nancy Reimer, Carol Brown** and from the **Hawaiian Club: Lois and Sandy Kaya, and Clarence & Rachel**. We prepared and served over 210 plates at the First Baptist Church, 1802 Alhambra Ave., Martinez.

Thank you **Phyllis Manoogian** for an Easter collection of white socks for the needy of Loaves and Fishes. Because of a conflict with Loaves & Fishes policy, the 125 pairs of socks were donated to group homes of women and children supported by the Salvation Army. St. Michaels assists Loaves and Fishes the third Monday of each month. The next date is May 17, 2010, 9a.m. to 1p.m. Come and join us, any time to assist is appreciated.

Sue Brown
925.934.0245



**St. Michael and All Angels
Episcopal Church**
2925 Bonifacio Street
Concord, CA 94519
(925) 685-8859

On the web:
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

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