



# The Messenger *St. Michael's Episcopal Church*

*"Come Grow in God"*

**July 2010, Vol XL, Number 7**

## **OUR MISSION**

*St. Michael's Episcopal Church, centered in Jesus Christ, welcomes all who desire to grow in their relationship with God.*

## **WORSHIP SERVICES**

### **Sunday Eucharist**

8:00 a.m. .... Rite I  
10:00 a.m. .... Rite II  
5:00 p.m. .... Taizé Eucharist

## **PARISH CLERGY**

The Rt. Rev. Barry L Beisner,  
*Bishop of Northern California*  
The Rev. Canon Mary Hauck,  
*Rector*  
The Rev. George Foxworth,  
*Associate for Pastoral Care*  
The Rev. Rodney Davis,  
*Associate for Spiritual Formation*

## **2010 VESTRY**

Kay Griffin, *Senior Warden*  
Bill Hegland, *Junior Warden*  
Kati Braak, *Clerk*  
Donna Arellano, Jim Carpenter,  
Dave Decker, John Gallapaga,  
Sue Gaston, Mary Groesbeck,  
Dale Morgan, Jim Sargent, Jim  
Wiley, *Members*

## **STAFF & VOLUNTEERS**

Melissa Lovin, *Secretary*  
Glenn Croy, *Sexton*  
Harry Hills, *Treasurer*  
Cathy Burns, *Bookkeeper*  
Kristi Fischer, *Nursery Teacher*  
Darcie Larkey, *Youth Leader*  
*and Messenger Editor*  
Constance Weichert, *Music Director*  
John Cozza, *Organist*

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

We're going into the second month of Pastor Mary's sabbatical. As I write this, she has arrived in London on her way to St. Deniol's Library in the little Welsh village of Hawarden (pronounced "Harden") where I was privileged to spend my sabbatical some years ago. For those of you who like to look at maps, it's about 7 miles west of Chester, just about on the Welsh/English border.

There are several things I'd like to ask you to do for Pastor Mary while she's away. First, remember that this is not a vacation. Priesthood, and especially being rector of a parish, is as much an academic vocation as it is anything else. Clergy need to read, to study, and to stay not only current but even ahead of the issues that confront the church. So, a sabbatical is not a vacation but a work/study leave intended to strengthen one's ability to do the work that God has set before one.

Second, pray for her. Keep her in your heart and hold her before the throne of God for her re-creation through this time. Pray for her safety in her travels. There is nothing that I can think of that would be more supportive for her than to know that the family of St. Michael's has her in our hearts and prayers.

Third, stay fully involved at St. Michael's. Fr. Rod and I are here and keeping everything on an even keel while Pastor Mary is away. That means that the worship, study, spiritual, program life of the parish goes on as usual. God is not on either sabbatical or vacation. Our family continues to be our family and we continue to need each other.

And pray for Fr. Rod and me as we go about the day-to-day work of St. Michael's. We have a great office team with Melissa keeping it all together so that Rod+ and I can continue to do the work that Pastor Mary has given us to do. Our wardens and vestry are simply the best. Our volunteers in all of our activities and committees are just great. Pastor Mary left knowing that things were in good hands. It all affirms just what a great parish St. Michael's is.

So we keep on keeping on, knowing that "our Mother" is strengthening herself for her own work in the Body of Christ. When September arrives and she returns, we'll welcome her home with open arms and rejoice in her continuing ministry with us all.

Faithfully,

George+

## A Letter from Suki

Dear Pastor Mary, Father George, Father Rod, Father Jim and the St. Michael's Parish:

I am writing this letter to thank you for saving my life. When I moved to Carmichael in November 2005, my spiritual life was in disarray and almost completely non-existent. God knew that I needed help in the form of a loving and caring parish and that was St. Michael's. So He planted me there and all of you cared and nourished me, until I grew and my walk in faith returned.

The first day that I walked into the office, there stood Mary Nicolaus and we clicked. At the first coffee hour that I attended, the first one to speak to me was Genie Sholl, and a friendship was formed and continues.

Pastor Mary, you took the time on that day in the office to patiently listen to my tale of woe.

Dear Penny, my pastoral partner, how I treasure our friendship.

Clark Biggs and his wife Shelby, our pew-mates for so long; his sense of humor a delight.

St. Margaret's Guild, your members made me feel right at home, even though Billie stayed on my case all of the time, I knew it to be out of love for me.

I miss all of you terribly and I hope that all is well. Genie and I stay in touch and I hope all of you will too. I would love to hear from my St. Michael's family.

I am gradually getting settled with only three more boxes to unload. Where did all of this stuff come from? My niece Audrey and her husband Bob come over from the Cathedral City frequently, and they take me shopping and help with hanging pictures.

I am in touch with old friends at Sun Lakes Country Club (across the street), where we lived for 16 years.

They take good care of me here, 2 meals a day, and once a week house cleaning. I am making friends gradually, but sometimes I look around the dining room and they look so old and some even appear unhappy. Maybe if I smile more they will come around, don't you think?

St. Stephen's Church is in Beaumont, the city next door. I haven't attended there yet, as it looks formidable to get into. But I will soon, and I hope the parish is as kind and loving, as St. Michael's will be hard to duplicate.

My new address is: 5801 Sun Lakes Blvd, Apt. # 210, Banning, CA 92220

My new phone #: 951.845.0225

Love to All of You,

Suki

# Parish News and Events



## Summer Bible Study

The second session of Summer Bible Study led by Father Rod begins on Sunday, July 4<sup>th</sup>. This class will last 6 weeks and be a relaxed reading and discussion of the *Gospel of Luke*, using an excellent Bible study published by *The Focus Series*. As the group works their way through *Luke*, participants will interact with the text and explore questions of interpretation and possible applications to their lives as individuals and as a part of larger communities.

The group will meet after the 10 a.m. Sunday service; start at 11:15 a.m. and finish one hour later. Child care can be provided, but please express the need in advance. The format for each class is such that you will be able to occasionally miss a session without compromising your experience.

Please call the office, or e-mail Father Rod at [fatherrod@stm-ca.net](mailto:fatherrod@stm-ca.net) to participate. He will then order the appropriate book for you, or you can order it yourself. Father Rod promises there will be no exams or term papers --- just a relaxed good time learning something new.

## The Importance of Pledging

Even though we are mid-way through the calendar year, we are encouraging members, who have not made a 2010 pledge; but who contribute financially to St. Michael's, to make a pledge for a couple of reasons. First, even a nominal pledge (\$5/mo.) represents a commitment to St. Michael's and this is important to the life of this parish. Second, a pledging person or family more genuinely reflects our membership and is reported in the Diocesan records of parish membership.

A financial pledge is not a legal document; and if situations change, pledges can be decreased or increased by simply calling our Treasurer. If you would like to make a pledge to St. Michael's for 2010, please contact our Treasurer, Harry Hills, and he will send you a pledge card or take your pledge over the phone.

## Our New Calendar

Enjoying the new look to the church calendar on our website? We have been working to simplify the entry of events, services, and facilities reservations to allow more accurate and timely information. At the top of the calendar page on the website, you will find a link to a page that will give detailed instructions on some of the ways you can use and view the new calendar. The online calendar will be



linked to the one on Melissa's computer which she will print and post on the wall in the church office. Scheduling an event or reserving a room will continue to be done in the same manner we currently use. You must call or email Melissa at 916.488.3550 or [st.michaels@stm-ca.net](mailto:st.michaels@stm-ca.net) to make your request. You can however, view the calendar online first to see if your room is available or if there are conflicts with scheduling.

## Backpacks for School

St. Michael's has adopted our neighbor, Starr King School. Over 700 students attend with 75% participating in the reduced lunch program. Many students and their families cannot afford basic school supplies. We are sponsoring a backpack drive! Full-sized backpacks are needed for K-8. They can be dropped off in the office during the week, and a collection table will be available during coffee hours. In the weeks to come, more information on ways you can help will be available at coffee hour and in the Sunday bulletins. By providing for the students their basic supplies, we can afford them the opportunity to focus on their education.



## Coffee Hour Hosts

The entire month of August is currently open. If you are interested, please sign up on the board available during coffee hour or see John Gallapaga. Thank you!

## River City Food Bank

The River City Food Bank, our own Eileen Thomas – director, reminds us that the needs of the poor and homeless do not stop because the weather is warm or because we are on vacation. Please remember the needs of RCFB families as you tend your gardens. We can use more fresh produce, more canned goods, and more donations. RCFB is also in need of summer volunteers as both Intake and Stockroom volunteers to fill in for vacationing “regulars” and for Gleaners and Garden Collectors to bring in fresh goodies.

During the month of May, RCFB served over 1800 adults, 316 seniors, and 905 children for a total of 3,022 total clients. In addition, 273 families were pre-screened for services and 131 applications successfully processed.

To volunteer to help with the Food Bank, call 916.446.2627 x 301. You can also email Eileen at [ethomas@rivercityfoodbank.org](mailto:ethomas@rivercityfoodbank.org)

Thank you for all you do to help feed the hungry in Sacramento County.

## Daughters of the King

Our next meeting is **Monday, July 26<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m.** This month we will be continuing the study of “Spiritual Gifts.” This is a book that was recommended to us by our own Pastor Mary. All women in the parish are welcome to join us for any of our meetings.



Earlier in the month our program committee will meet to plan for next year. If you have any ideas for a program that you would like to have us do and joins for the meeting, talk to one of our members. You can tell us by the cross that we all wear.

## St. Margaret's Guild Luncheon

We will meet at 1:00 pm on Monday, July 12<sup>th</sup> at the Marie Calendar's at 3129 Arden Way. If you have any questions, please contact Janet Olds at 944.2606.



## St. Michaels Fifth Annual Holiday Arts and Crafts Faire

"My Favorite Things" is scheduled for November 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>

Artists and crafters, we are looking for you! Do you have a creative side? A hidden talent you want to share? **We need your treasures.**

Textiles, arts, crafts, needlework, quilting, jewelry, painting, handbags, scarves, hats, caps, mittens, afghans, dish gardens, pottery, miniature holiday trees, stained glass, ceramics, sculpture, woodwork, metalwork, beadwork, baked goods or jams & jellies and any other creative item you think we can sell.

Do you have artistic friends? Why not ask them to participate?

Please remember, this is a fund raiser for St. Michael's, with two ways to participate. Either rent your booth space or donate your items so that all proceeds go to the church.

If you want to participate or if you just want to help, please contact Gail at 359.3506, Billie at 489.8424, or Marcie at 488.6960.

## Thank You for the Success of The Fifth Annual Indoor Yard Sale

Once again, the response from the St. Michael's family was absolutely wonderful. Our thanks to everyone who donated items, and many thanks to all those who volunteered hours and hours of time to sort, organize and price the amazing volume of "stuff" delivered to St Michael's. We know if we list all your names, 35-40 of you, someone will be left off as so many people participated, both old and new, in this event. We also appreciate our wonderful St. Michael's staff for their efforts and support of this event, Glen, Melissa and Skyler. We couldn't do it without them. We had our biggest crowd ever, a perfect day and, as always a spirit of fun and fellowship.

### Let us count the ways that this event benefits St. Michael's and the community:

1. The hard work, laughter, friendship and even the very tired bodies created a camaraderie that was priceless.
2. The community had the opportunity to benefit from our bargains and to experience our teamwork, and fellowship.
3. We gave Saint Mathew's first pick of all our remaining items for use in their outreach efforts. This year the clothes, toys and linens filled most of the truck.
4. Salvation Army took a huge pile of 'stuff'
5. All the shoes were donated to The Reshoe Exports Company that sends them to East and Central Africa.
6. We made money for the work of our parish, about \$2,600, with more to come from eBay sales and consignment of some very nice clothing.
7. Once again we took items for use in our other events.

**Our successes were many!** We **thank each of you** for your support of this effort and we will see you next year!

*Submitted by* Marcie Larkey and Lynn Rodebaugh

## The Stewardship Committee Becomes the Gratitude Committee

The Stewardship Committee has been a fixture at St. Michael's for a long time. Our Diocese, through the Commission on Gratitude, has developed a year-round gratitude-based program for stewardship and congregational development. This ministry of gratitude is devoted to gathering resources - time, talent, and treasure - in support of our mission. The Gratitude Committee will be responsible for implementing this new program. Details of the program will be discussed in future issues of the Messenger.

## Vestry Highlights

Following is a summary of the **draft** minutes from the June Vestry meeting at St. Michael's:

- The April Operating Statement reflected a gain of \$ 6,988 for the current year. This is better than budget.
- Highlights of the program, "Grateful, Glad, and Giving," were shared in a report filed by Hugh Griffin. This is the new approach to gratitude based giving that will be a year-round program in the parish. The new program is targeted to begin at St. Michael's in January of 2011.
- John Gallapaga reported on the successful meeting of the hospitality committee and the many ideas that were generated for welcoming and including visitors and guests to St. Michael's. The following vestry members agreed to coordinate the hospitality hour following the 10 am service on a quarterly schedule: John Gallapaga, Hugh Griffin, Mary Groesbeck, and Dave Decker.
- Harry Hills reported on the results of the Indoor Yard Sale, chaired by Lynn Rodebaugh. The sale netted \$ 2700. A special thank-you was expressed to Lynn and her great and numerous group of volunteers.
- Jim Sargent reported for the Finance Committee. The committee will be taking on more responsibility for the management of St. Michael's finances. The date of the monthly Finance Committee has been changed to the Wednesday prior to the Vestry Meeting.
- A review of the position of Family Ministries was presented. Cathy Harmon's resignation was reported. The budget includes the position for the remainder of the year. The position is to be reposted and Jim and Mary Groesbeck will be doing interview for candidates to be presented to Pastor Mary+ when she returns. It was also noted that due to Cathy's resignation, Vacation Bible School had to be cancelled.
- Jim Cole reported for the Building and Grounds Committee. The principal issue was the fountain. Repairs have been almost completed for the fountain. Most of the work was done by volunteers, saving the parish almost \$ 2000 in repair costs. Jim also reviewed the latest break-in of the church office. A decision to install an alarm system in the office has been made and the Finance and Building and Grounds Committees will address the issue together. Jim also reported on the umbrellas for the courtyard. Three new fade and weather resistant umbrellas have been ordered.
- Fr. George reported on Pastor Mary+ sabbatical status. She is safe and sound in Wales. She has started her blog which can be found on the parish web site. To read her blog, go to: <http://www.stm-ca.net>. The link to "Pastor Mary's Sabbatical Notes" can then be found along the left side of the page.



## Vestry Appreciations

A special thank you from the Vestry to:

The volunteers who worked long and hard on the repair of the fountain: Jim Cole, Hector Arellano, Doug Burnquist, Kay Griffin, Hugh Griffin, Dick Pryor, and Jack Stellman.

*St. Michael's Vestry thanks the countless other volunteers who give of themselves for the mission and ministry of this parish.*



**St. Michael's Episcopal Church**  
2140 Mission Avenue  
Carmichael, CA 95608

Phone 916.488.3550 Fax 916.488.3564

Editor: Darcie Larkey, [messengereditor@stm-ca.net](mailto:messengereditor@stm-ca.net)

Web Site: [www.stm-ca.net](http://www.stm-ca.net)

## *The Messenger* for July 2010

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*Correction to June's Messenger:* In regards to the Confirmation by Bishop Beisner on Pentecost Sunday, Jessica Ann Busby was sponsored by Sue Davis, and Caroline Grace Elmetts was sponsored by Darcie Larkey.



### **Summer Office Hours**

Monday through Friday  
9 am until 1 pm

*Deadline:* Submissions for the **August 2010** issue are due in the office or to [messengereditor@stm-ca.net](mailto:messengereditor@stm-ca.net) by **July 21<sup>st</sup>**.