



Photograph by R. Williams

St. Michael's Newsletter

Inside this issue:

Page 2

- **Worship & Music Events**
- **Fellowship & Education: Bible Study, Book Group, Parish Aid, Pot Luck, Safe Church Training, Resource Day**

Page 3

- **Church School Sept. 11 Open House, Registration, Backpack Blessing**

Page 4

- **Stewardship: Time & Talent Opportunities**

Page 5

- **St. Michael's First 18 Months**
- **Steward of the Month: Robert Howie, Jr.**

Page 6

- **A Thrift Shop Afternoon**

Back Cover

- **Service Schedule, Michaelmas Pot Luck**

September Calendar

Happy September Birthdays to

**Lavinia Oliveira
Sarah Comeau
Paige Thibert
Joshua Robertson
Madison Howie
Emma Clark**

From the Rector – Bless the Lord

Bless the LORD, all you his hosts,
you ministers of his who do his will.

Bless the LORD, all you works of his,
in all places of his dominion;

Bless the LORD, O my soul.

Psalm 103: 21-23

Welcome back! From mid-June to the end of August, the summer months invite many to nourish their spiritual lives outside the context of Sunday worship. Gardens flourish (hopefully), sails are hoisted (when not raining), and holidays are enjoyed. As such we shift from two services on Sundays to one at 9:00. This weekend, Labor Day weekend, we return to our regular 8:00 and 10:00 worship schedule. With vacations experienced and schools soon to re-open, families, couples and individuals are making their way into their fall schedules. Here at St. Michael's, Wednesday Bible Study begins again on Sept. 7, the first adult choir rehearsal is Thursday, Sept. 8, and Church School registration begins on Sunday, Sept. 11. Parish life picks up again!

Though parish life is quieter over the summer months, this is not to say that it is quiet all together. The Lobster Luncheon over the July 4 weekend testifies to this. This year's Lobster Luncheon was one of the highest netting "L.L.'s" ever. A combination of the timing of the July 4

holiday, perfect weather, superb organization and enthusiastic volunteers made this so. Everyone who organized and participated earned a well-deserved rest, and heartfelt thanks for its success.

Liturgically over the summer we celebrated two baptisms - one in July and one in August - and two weddings (with two more later this month.) Burial services were also held, as we commended beloved souls who finished their earthly pilgrimage to the peace of God's eternal rest. So while quieter, God's grace and Spirit was very much present in the events and celebrations of the parish. It is my hope that whether parishioners were in church or not over these past months, that all felt the renewing and strengthening grace of God.

The closing verses of Psalm 103 are noted above. We will say or sing this psalm at St. Michael's on Sept. 25, our celebration of St. Michael's and All Angels (Michaelmas). Here the psalmist is blessing the Lord, blessing the ministers who do the work of God's will, and blessing the work done in all places and at all times. In quiet and busy seasons, the parishioners of St. Michaels - ministers all - are a blessing giving life to this parish. Through you God's mission and vision at St. Michael's is carried forward. Again, welcome back!

- Fr. Andrew

Fall Notes from the Music Director

Welcome back to all vacationers and travelers! This past summer was certainly one of the most beautiful weather-wise, and I hope you all had a chance to enjoy some relaxing time.

On Sunday, September 11, we will begin our choir and program year with the St. Michael's Choir singing at the 10 am service. It will be good to have our talented and dedicated singers back with us for worship (it gets a bit lonely up there in the loft without the choir).

Last June the choir spent three nights singing for a recording. We continue to make progress on our CD – the rough editing is done, the artwork and CD booklet are almost done, and we will be proceeding with the final editing and CD pressing in the next few weeks. I am very excited about this project, and I know you will enjoy being able to listen to our fine choir at home or in your car or wherever.



Please join us for Evensong on Sunday October 2 at 5 pm, and also put on your calendar our first Organ Recital,

September—October Worship & Music Events



Sunday, Sept. 4

8 am and 10 am services resume

Sunday, Sept. 11 At 10 am—Choir resumes

Sunday, Sept. 25—Michaelmas

8 am Holy Eucharist

10 am Festal Eucharist

Sunday, Oct. 2 at 5 pm—Choral Evensong resumes

Sunday, Oct. 16 at 5 pm—Organ Recital series

begins with Douglas Major performing new works

-Invite a friend. Grow our community.

October 16, when I will kick off the series with some newly composed organ works I've been finishing up this summer. The complete series for 2011 – 2012 will be announced soon.

—Doug Major, Music Director

More Fellowship and Formation Opportunities

Bible Study Resumes

On Wednesday, Sep. 7 at 10:30 am, Bible Study resumes its weekly review of the following Sunday's. Drop in any week and try it out.

Let the Great World Spin

Katy's Book Group resumes on September 11 at 2 pm at the home of Frances Nilsson with a discussion of *Let the Great World Spin* by Colum McCann. The book begins with a tightrope walker's first steps across the span between the World Towers in 1974 and portrays the lives of variety of people in the world below.

Katy's Book Group was formed by St. Catherine's Guild. All are welcome. Contact Frances Nilsson if you would like to join this month's discussion.

Diocesan Congregational Resource Day

Sat., Oct. 1, 9:00-2:30 at Bentley College

Expand your faith horizons with workshops on spirituality, education, youth, stewardship, welcoming, or environment, etc.. Topics include: Contemplative Ways, The Molting Church, Putting Together Lay-Led Pastoral Care, In Abraham's Tent, and Missions Mean Partnerships. More info at www.diomass.org/event/resource-day

Safe Church Training

Saturday, Sept. 10 in Concord

Saturday, Sept. 17 in North Andover

Parish Aid Society

Parish Aid opens their fall season of lunch meetings on Tuesday, September 13 at noon. In October, the noon meetings will return to the 3rd Tuesday of the month. Join for fellowship with an organization that has supported St. Michael's beginning in the 19th century.



Michaelmas All-Parish Pot Luck Supper

September 23, 2011
6—9 pm

In connection with the celebration of the Feast of Saint Michael we are planning a "Welcome Back" potluck supper for Friday, September 24 from 6:00 - 9:00. Come anytime during these hours for a convivial evening of fellowship and good food. There will be sheets in the parish hall for you to sign-up to bring your favorite crowd pleasing appetizer, main course, salad, or desert. Drinks and tableware will be provided. See you there!

Church School & Youth—Aileen Ryder

Church School

Church School meets Sunday mornings at 9:30 am. Students in pre-K-1st grade use Godly Play. Weaving God's Promises is for students in grades 2-5.

The Supper Club

A gathering of Middle School Youth on the 2nd & 4th Tuesdays of the month at 6pm.

High School Youth

Lunch on the last Sunday of the month.

Teacher Orientation

This year we will have "teaching teams" for the Church School. We will arrange dates for orientation sessions with each group.

Michaelmas

All families are welcome to join in our parish-wide celebration on Friday September 23.

Safe Church

There are a couple of opportunities to attend a Safe Church training in September. If you prefer you may complete the Safe Church training online. Please contact Aileen for more information.

September Highlights

Open House & Registration

September 11. We will begin our Church School year together with an open house. This is a great opportunity to invite friends and neighbors to our Church School.

Blessing of the Backpacks

Children and youth are invited to bring their school bags to Church on Sunday September 11. Fr. Andrew will bless their backpacks and their coming school year.



Getting Involved

There are many ways to be involved with the young people of our congregation. Church School teachers share their faith with children. Training is offered for all volunteers; you don't need to be a teacher or a theologian to teach in the Church School! The Supper Club would be happy to have additional cooks and chaperones. Please contact Aileen if you would like to be involved.

Church School & Youth Schedule

| Date | Special Event | Youth | Godly Play | Weaving God's |
|------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| Saturday, September 10 | Safe Church Training, Concord | | | |
| Sunday, September 11 | Blessing of the Backpacks | | Open House | Introduction to Church School |
| Tuesday, September 13 | | Supper Club "Does God exist?" | | |
| Saturday, September 17 | Safe Church Training, North Andover Intro to Godly Play | | | |
| Sunday, September 18 | | | Creation | Abraham & Sarah Receive God's Promise |
| Friday, September 23 | Michaelmas Parish Dinner 6pm | | | |
| Sunday, September 25 | Michaelmas | Lunch with Fr. Andrew & Aileen | The Story of St. Michael | Peter: from Fisherman to Saint; Stephen, The First |
| Tuesday, September 27 | | Supper Club "Was Jesus God?" | | |

St. Michael's First 18 Months

March 31, 1714—A subscription to pay for a Church:

We the Subscribers, do firmly bind and oblige our Selves our Heirs and Assigns for the payment of Several Summs Subscribed in Order toe the Building and Erecting a Handsom Church in the Town of Marblehead, and the maintaining of a Minister to carry on the service of God in the Ways and methods of the Church of Great Brittain or Church of England; promising to espouse and maintain its Articles, And Defend its Doctrine, which are Agreeable to the Word of God. And this we are Obliged to Perform as soon as may be, as Witness our hands this 31st day of March, Annoq. Domini, 1714.

July 20, 1714—A committee is formed.

Mr. George Jackson, Mr. John Oulton, Capt. John Calley, Capt. James Calley, to be a standing committee for the carry-

ing on that affair in building a Handsome Church.

August 14, 1714—Land is bought.

September 2, 1714—A church is built.

The second day of September, 1714, was momentous in the history of the little Parish. On that day, we are informed, "the committee erected and raised a Church of the dimensions following, viz.: 48 foot square, 23 foot had the tower, being 50 foot from the ground, and 17 foot square, and we design the spire 53 foot above the Tower."

October 16, 1714—The structure is completely enclosed.

July 20, 1715—The Rev. William Shaw arrives from London to serve as the first minister of the Church of England in Marblehead. —*Frances Nilsson, Historic Church Committee*

Our Steward of the Month: Robert Howie, Jr.

"I am a lifer," says Rob Howie about St. Michael's. He grew up in the church and his mother Alma Howie still sits in the pew her grandmother sat in. His grandfather served on the Vestry and both his parents were Senior Wardens. He says, "I've been in churches all over the world, but St. Michael's is home."



As a boy, he was an acolyte and thurifer as well as singing in the choir. Rob may be the only person who ever brought a boa constrictor named Juan Valdez to a choir rehearsal. He was about ten or twelve and he thought the other kids would enjoy seeing the snake, a part of his father's collection. They did, but he remembers that Fr. Norton almost had a heart attack when he saw it.

With a strong interest in history, Rob, often with his father the late Bob Howie, has explored the church from belfry to crypt. He found a 1714 painted trompe-l'oeil wooden window, oldest in the country, and an 18th century tin wall sconce with glass globe still intact. He excavated the crypt and discovered the original 1714 crypt door.

As Parish Historian and with a bequest from Harold D. Hodgkinson, he founded St. Michael's Church Archives, which has become a national model. In the archives, he found the marriage records of his maternal grandparents, and realized they had never actually signed the register. He took it to them and decades later, they signed making their long marriage official. It was personal linking of the generations of St. Michael's.

Presently he is secretary of the Historic Church Com-

mittee and is chair of the St. Michael's Churchyard Committee. He also is leading the planning for the Tercentenary in 2014. He says, "We must look forward and backward equally. We are not a museum. We have a dynamic future. I take the long view of the historian that every generation has its issues."

Rob is married to Marian Wu Howie. They met at Boston College when they sang side by side in the University Chorale. They have four children. Elizabeth and her husband Cliff live in New York City where she works for NBC. Their son John works for JP Morgan, also in NYC. Daughter Alexandra will marry Randolph Stark, an eleventh generation Anglican, at St. Michael's in September. She works for Nickelodeon in NYC. And daughter Madison will be a freshman at Marblehead High School this fall. Marian is a member of Star of Sea where she is a long time teacher of CCD. "We attend each other's services," says Rob.

With his degrees in English, history, and American studies, Rob began his early career in museum work and publishing. In his present career, Rob has co-founded two management consulting groups. Currently he speaks and consults around the world on the "balanced score card." It is a framework that measures the non-financial outcomes of businesses, non-profits, governments, and school systems. In addition he publishes a management newsletter at the Harvard Business School. He also serves on the Board of the Boston Salvation Army.

Rob has some goals for the future at St. Michael's. He dreams of seeing the 18th century steeple, 1714 to 1793, back in place and perhaps when he retires, he will have time to become a lay Eucharistic minister, or maybe serve as warden as his parents and grandparents did.

- Marilyn Day

Stewardship Time and Talent— Grow through the Work of the Church

What is your personal plan for spiritual growth? How will you deepen your faith and knowledge of God's work?

A good starting point is a commitment to participate. Sunday services are at the core of St. Michael's mission. Attend as frequently as possible. Participating in other church activities also helps us water our faith with evensongs, Bible study, and special educational programs. Fellowship activities, such as St. Catherine's Guild, help us grow in our knowledge of each other.

Volunteering is another way we can deepen our faith and give to God. Here we can collectively take advantage of everyone's individual talents. St. Michael's offers an ever-increasing variety of opportunities for service. We each have something of value to give, and we each have a mission in God's world that no one else can perform. Listed here are many of the volunteer opportunities available to interested parishioners; for further details, contact the person listed or call the parish office. Parish directories are also available in the Church Office. A new editions will also be coming out soon.

Good stewards of faith give generously of their time and talent. Participate and get involved for the spiritual and communal benefit will bless all of us.

St. Michael's Episcopal Church Marblehead, Massachusetts

Our Mission is to seek transformation in God's grace by worshipping God in prayer, song, and study; loving and serving our neighbor in and outside our parish Community; and being good stewards of God's creation.

Our Vision is to be a Mission-driven Episcopal congregation that by 2014 will be widely recognized as a vibrant, open, and inviting community, known for liturgically-centered worship and music, for lifelong learning, for pastoral presence and service to communities near and far, for good stewardship of our resources, and for celebration of our legacy as an historic church.

Time and Talent Opportunities—Whom to Contact

Worship

Acolytes, Lectors, Lay Eucharistic Ministers, Ushers & Sunday Sextons Father Andrew Stoessel
Altar Guild.....Anne Foster
Choir, Organ RecitalsDoug Major
Worship & Music Committee Tom Weber

Education

Church School & Youth Aileen Ryder
Adult Education Father Andrew Stoessel
Child Care..... Father Andrew Stoessel
Parish Library Fred & Martha Alling
Education Team..... Tom Connolly, Joe Oliveira

Fellowship & Evangelism

Evangelism & Welcoming Team Jan Barnett, James Dearborn
Hostess & Oblations..... Jane Maihos
Evensong/Recitals Receptions Doug Major
Parish Aid Society Harriet Diamond
St. Catherine's Guild Lesley Tracy, Aileen Day
St. Michael's Thrift Shop Liz Grader, Jacqui Williams

Pastoral & Outreach Ministries

Pastoral Care Committee, Cards, Soup & Conversation, Transportation Sue Cool, Deirdre Robbins
Eucharistic Visitation Rev. Andy Stoessel
Outreach Committee-Haiti, food pantry& meals, Esperanza Academy, animal rescue, etc.Linda Smidt, Peggy Bittermann

Stewardship

Stewardship Committee Avery Russell
Finance Committee, Investment Subcommittee Sarah Bates
Historic Church Dana Denault, Rob Howie
Property Management Jack Attridge, Edward Nilsson

Communications and Technology

Communications Team, Newsletter Frances Nilsson
Web Site Chris Riegle
Office Helpers Jane Maihos
Office Technology Father Andrew Stoessel

Annual Events

Blessing of the Animals (October) Father Andrew Stoessel
Christmas Pageant (December) Aileen Ryder
St. Michael's Christmas Fair (December) Frances Nilsson
Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper..... Father Andrew Stoessel
Rogation Sunday (June) Sue Cool, Aileen Ryder
Lobster Lunch (July) Linda Smidt, David Bittermann

Parish directories are available in the Church Office.

An Afternoon at the Thrift Shop—Be a Volunteer!

It's about 12:45 and volunteers begin to arrive to open St. Michael's Thrift Shop in the Davenport House at 20 Pleasant St. in Marblehead. "Open" or "Sale" flags are put up outside the door and at the corner of the fence. If the weather allows, goods are hung outside and bins of t-shirts are put on the steps. Sometimes shoppers are waiting nearby or bags of donated goods are sitting on the doorstep. More often, though, goods are left in the green tub in the Parish Hall, or brought in during open hours. The 'new' goods are brought in to the old kitchen and will be sorted, priced and tagged later when business is slow.

Among the shoppers that drift in and out during the afternoon are familiar faces who come frequently to check for 'new' clothing and wares: a retired professor and his wife come often from Danvers, weekly one woman picks out a few greeting cards to send to friends, a family from New Jersey visits local relatives every Halloween and checks out the Thrift Shop, a summer resident selects a jigsaw puzzle or book and donates another, gardeners pick up a vase for flowers to bring as a hostess gift, locals add to their wardrobes and pick up gifts for young relatives who will be visiting. And then there are tourists stopping in for a bargain, a jogger who finds men's clothing, and young people picking up kitchen and house wares for their first apartment. It's not long before you are getting to know new friends and being surprised by visits by others you know. Shoppers are always greeted with a smile and thanked as they leave.



St. Michael's Thrift Shop at the Davenport House, 20 Pleasant St.

dition are taken to Goodwill or tossed. If many wares have been sold, shelves are rearranged to show off other items. Volunteers with an eye for color and merchandising creatively change the displays. Suddenly items that you did not see before are tempting you. Most volunteers seldom leave without finding something a bargain for their household.

As the 4 PM closing nears, the day's sales are tallied, entered into a book, and set aside. Items displayed outside are brought in along with the flags. If it's Saturday, the center hall and steps will be cleared to make room for Sunday church school activities.*

The proceeds from St. Michael's Thrift Shop continue to benefit the many programs of St. Michael's. Over the years it has provided building down payments, paid off mortgages, bought sound systems and other furnishings, and donated to missions and outreach. Currently it contributes to the church budget over \$10,000 annually in rent and donations. To continue its valuable work of Stewardship, Fellowship and Outreach the Thrift Shop needs volunteers, men and women, and your donated goods. Consider volunteering a Saturday or weekday afternoon once or twice a month.

- Frances Nilsson, Thrift Shop Volunteer

*The upper rooms of the Davenport House are sacred spaces and on Sundays shoes and outer gear are left in the hall before the children head up to class.

St. Michael's Thrift Shop Fall Goods Needed!



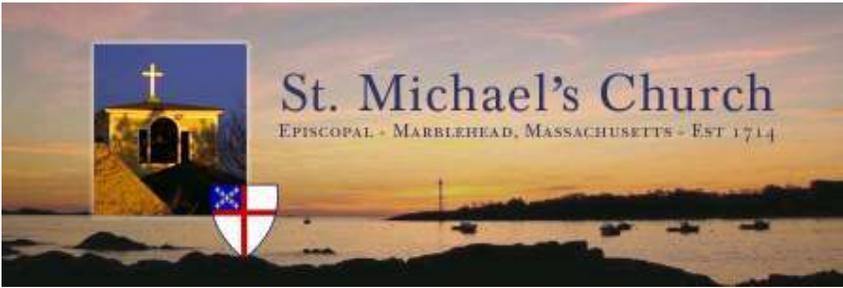
Take those fall items you did not use last year to the Thrift Shop! Clothes, linens and housewares—clean and in good condition—can be left in the designated bin in the parish hall or brought to the Thrift Shop during open hours:

Fall Hours

Monday—Saturday, 1- 4 pm

And the beginning of each season door and table decorations, decorated and seasonal clothing are set out. At the end of each season, sales bring in customers looking for items for a song.

When it's quiet, clothing is refolded and rehung, hangers are put in order, and shelves neatened. The items are also priced and tagged within guidelines or set aside for Liz Grader and others to price. Items that are not in good con-



ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
26 Pleasant Street
Marblehead, MA 01945-3432

Phone: 781/631-0657
Fax: 781/639-2866
E-mail: office@stmichaels1714.org
Web: www.stmichaels1714.org

Weekly Service Schedule

Sundays

8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I
10:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II
Michaelmas Celebration on Sept. 25

Wednesdays

9:30 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II
Bible Study resumes Sept. 7 at 10:30 am

All-Parish Pot Luck Supper

Friday, September 23
6—9 pm



St. Michael's Church

Officers: *David Bittermann*, Senior Warden; *Frances Nilsson*, Junior Warden; *Sarah Bates*, Treasurer; *Larry Robbins*, Assistant Treasurer; *Walter Haug*, Clerk.

Vestry: *Jenny Armini*, *Stephen Clay*, *Susan Cool*, *Ian Hunter*, *Harriett Magee*, *Joe Oliveira*, *Avery Russell*, *Tom Weber*, *Victor Wild*.

Delegates for Convention: *Jan Barnett*, *Denise Shea*. **Deanery Delegates:** *Jan Barnett*, *Frances Nilsson*, *Denise Shea*

Staff: *The Rev. Andrew J. Stoessel*, Rector; *Dr. Douglas Major*, Music Director; *Aileen Ryder*, Church School Director, *Jane Maihos*, Parish Administrator; *Ron Warburton*, Sexton.

Saint Michael's Church

September 2011

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

Parish Office Hours
Monday - Friday
8:30 am – 12:30 pm

Thrift Shop Hours
Monday – Saturday
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

| | | | | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|--|---|---|----|
| | | | | | 1) 8:30 am – 12:30 pm <i>Office Hours with Aileen Ryder</i> | 2) 8:30 am – 12:30 pm <i>Office Hours with Aileen Ryder</i> | 3) |
| 4) 12TH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST Proper 18 8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I 10:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II | 5) Labor Day <i>Office Closed</i> | 6) 5:30 pm St. Michael's Team at My Brothers' Table, Lynn 7:30 pm Property Meeting | 7) <i>Marblehead Public Schools open.</i> 9:30 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 Bible Study 11:45 am Staff Meeting 8:00 pm AA | 8) 7:30 pm Adult Choir | 9) 5:00 pm Howie-Stark Wedding Rehearsal | 10) 11:00 am – St. Michael's Team at Lifebridge, Salem 2:00 pm Wedding Alexandra Howie & Randolph Stark | |
| 11) 13TH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST Proper 19 8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:30 am Church School Open House and Registration 10:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II with returning choir and Blessing of children & backpacks 2:00 pm Katy's Book Group at the Nilssons | 12) | 13) 12:00 pm Parish Aid 6:00 pm Middle School Supper Club 7:30 pm Wardens | 14) 9:30 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Bible Study 11:45 am Staff Meeting 8:00 pm AA | 15) 7:30 pm Adult Choir | 16) 6:00 pm Simonson-Carlson Wedding Rehearsal | 17) 11:00 am Wedding Kristin Simonson & Brian Carlson | |
| 18) 14TH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST Proper 20 8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:30 am Church School 10:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II | 19) | 20) 7:30 pm Vestry | 21) 9:30 am Holy Eucharist 10:30 am Bible Study 11:45 am Staff Meeting 8:00 pm AA | 22) <i>Newsletter Deadline</i> 7:30 pm Adult Choir | 23) 6:00 pm Parish-Wide Michaelmas Pot Luck Supper | 24) . | |
| 25) MICHAELMAS SUNDAY 8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite I 9:30 am Church School 10:00 am Festal Eucharist, Rite II | 26) | 27) Fr. Andrew at Fall Clergy Day in NH 6:00 pm Middle School Supper Club | 28) 9:30 am HolyEucharist 10:30 am Bible Study 11:45 am Staff Meeting 8:00 pm AA | 29) 7:30 pm Adult Choir | 30) | | |