

Volume 1 Edition 8



St. Michael the Archangel
Episcopal Church

September
2011

The
Cupcake
Diaries

September is a busy month at St. Michael's so we have much to talk about. In this edition of Cupcake Diaries, Mother Laurie will talk to you about Celebration Sunday and the Ministry Fair that day. Also I want to introduce you to one of the longest running ministries at St. Michael's, VA Bingo. Robert Srodulski gives a great look at that ministry. And it is time to sign up for fall Super Groups. Mary Carol Cooper has

written about this great opportunity for fellowship. All of these programs are wonderful places to get involved with your St. Michael's family.

Bishop Sauls has now left for New York so I wanted to give you an update about the diocesan plans underway to find a new bishop. We hope you enjoy this edition and please join us and "Meet a Need" at St. Michael's.



What Needs Can You Meet?

We need volunteers to help with Sunday breakfast.

We need volunteers to help with the new Angel Choir.

The EYC needs adults to help with their fall events.

Would you like to help keep St. Michael's organized and clean?

Can you volunteer to help in the church office?

Would you like to be part of one of our liturgical ministries:

Altar Guild, Lectors and Intercessors, and Chalice Bearers.

St. Michael's Supper Groups Mary Carol Cooper

Have you ever joined the Supper Group Bunch? If you have, it's time to sign up again for the Fall Supper Groups. If you have not, it's time to come on along and join in the fun. If you are a newcomer to St. Michael's, this is an absolutely wonderful way to get to know people and to have questions about your new parish answered.

St. Michael's Supper Groups have been meeting for almost 20 years. These groups are small, consisting of approximately eight people who gather in each other's home for a simple (key word) meal. The purpose of the groups is to socialize, meet new people in the Parrish, and have a good time. Each group will meet in each other's home one time and each household or a pair of buddies or acquaintances will be responsible for one meal. Pairing up singles has worked out well over the past few years. By doing this, one person doesn't have to do all of the work. Please don't let being a single stop you from signing up. We have always been able to work that out.

We keep the meals simple. This is a fellowship more about hospitality than about cooking. Most hosts have a one-dish meal (spaghetti, soup, casserole, etc.) with bread, a salad and dessert. If you are a vegan, vegetarian, or

have a food allergy, that shouldn't stop you from signing up. The groups always take this into account and compensate.

It's up to the group to "make the rules". Some invite the children of group members or invite someone who has not joined the Supper Groups such as a newcomer, visitor, clergy, staff or vestry. Some have brunch and some meet during the week if that suits best. There are no set patterns for the groups. The individual groups are very flexible, BUT they should all agree.

Groups generally plan to get together monthly. Again, this is up to the group, but be sure to complete a round of gatherings before the Spring rounds start. I have been in several supper groups that had so much fun that we tagged on an extra potluck supper at the end of the season.

Please sign up for a group on September 11th. There will be a table with the sign up sheet and someone there if you have questions.

We will try to have the groups together and good to go by October 1.

If you have any questions or concerns you may call or email Mary Carol Cooper, 859-277-0656 or mccooper050952@gmail.com.

The Bishop Search

Duncan Hart

Now that Bishop Stacy Sauls has said his goodbyes, what is next for the Diocese of Lexington? As a member of your diocesan Standing Committee, I want to report on several of the issues that we have been working on. We have made several key decisions and we have published a report that is on the bulletin board outside the church office. I will continue to post information on this board as the process to elect a new bishop continues.

There will be two important parts of this process that will occur in the month of September. First the Standing Committee will appoint two committees that will do the work of finding the person God will call to this diocese to be our bishop. Second, we will get a interim bishop who will serve in our diocese on a part time basis until the new bishop is elected.

By the end of September, the Standing Committee will choose the people who will serve on the Nominating Committee and the Transition Committee. The roles of each committee are posted in the Narthex, but in its most simplistic form the Nominating Committee chooses the candidates for bishop and the Transition Committee organizes the interview process and runs the Election Convention. If you would like to serve on one of these committees, there is a form on the bulletin to fill out. Also you can talk with Mother Laurie or me about what you will need to do to be part of this process. I would like to say that to me the Transition Committee is just as important in this process

as the Nominating Committee. The Standing Committee plans to announce the members of these two committees by the end of September so they can begin their work.

We are also in the process of interviewing retired bishops that would be interested in serving part time in the Diocese of Lexington until a new bishop is elected. The sooner an interim bishop is in place the better and the Standing Committee is moving quickly in this area. This interim bishop will be with us two weeks and three Sundays each month and will share most of his/her duties with the Standing Committee.

The next important objective of the Standing Committee is to layout a time line for the whole process down to the date that our new bishop is to be ordained. The Standing Committee has been working on this document so stay tuned to the bulletin board. When this schedule comes out please feel free to ask me any question you may have. The diocese also has a e-newsletter that will have updates from the Standing Committee. You can ask for it by going to the diocesan web page.

Finally, I would ask your prayers for all the people serving on the Executive Council, Standing, Nominating, and Transition Committees. People from all over this diocese will be coming together for the good of all of us, so let us pray for their spiritual well being and good health.

I will report back to you as more decisions are made to keep you informed and as always please ask any questions you may have.

Word from the Mother

The Rev. Laurie M. Brock

Celebration Sunday

Episcopal Churches have long had the tradition of a Celebration Sunday. Some parishes call that day the Fall Ministry Fair, Rally Sunday, or Reunion Sunday, but it has always been a time to reunite after the summer vacation season and celebrate our parish ministry.

Which is why I like to call it **Celebration Sunday**. Our theme this year is, "What Needs Can You Meet?" You may have seen the banner above the entrance of the church, keeping that question before us. Ministry is and always has been about meeting needs. Frederick Buechner said ministry and vocation occur when our great gifts meet the great needs of the world. Some needs are staggering, from the images of famine and starvation in Somalia to the increasing number of victims of violence and war in our world. Some needs can almost be overlooked, like the needs we all have to be noticed, to feel safe when asking questions about our faith, or to sit in silent prayer for a while.

Meeting needs is not solving them finally, doing away with the need completely, or saving anyone from ever having a need again. Meeting

needs in ministry is the willingness to engage in the need and let God guide. A few coins regularly given in mite boxes to Episcopal Relief and Development or a few cans given to God's Pantry will not eradicate hunger worldwide, but it will feed someone. A few moments shared with our homebound parishioners with our regular visits will not end all the loneliness that besets many elderly, but it will let that one know s/he is loved. A few prayers offered by our healing team will not end all illness of body, mind, or spirit, but those prayers will give comfort to some.

St. Michael's has been meeting needs through ministry in so many ways. Many are well-known, but many are quiet ministries that are faithfully done by a few each week or month. On September 11th, between the 8:00 and 10:30 Eucharists, come celebrate all of these ministries. See what we do as a parish. Feel God nudge you, perhaps, to explore a new ministry. From our liturgical ministries to our prayer ministries to our outreach and even our fellowship, come find the needs you can meet. And come celebrate St. Michael's.

Bingo Outreach

Robert Srodulski aka "The Caller"

Our bingo outreach at the VA hospital started over 40 years ago and has been in continuous operation since then. On the first Thursday of every month members of our church meet to provide "recreational therapy" for hospitalized veterans. Bingo may seem like a simple game, but not St. Michael's bingo! We host 10-20 Vets inside a locked ward, play two games of bingo, award quarters as prizes, finish the evening with sandwiches, desserts and beverages, and leave them smiling.

In St. Michael's style bingo, everyone is a winner, multiple times. Golden tokens (dollar coins) are awarded to the first person to bingo in each game. We don't stop after that first bingo, but we continue to play until every number is called. In addition to the normal up, down & diagonal bingo, we also award for postage stamps, 4-corners, 6-packs, big diamond and small diamonds. Our "caller" is known to call imaginary numbers, numbers which have already been called,

penalize for "delay of game", and "illegal procedure". Anything to make the game more exciting and keep up the interest.

Every month our core group of five volunteers donates \$50-70 in quarters and provides the sandwiches, desserts and drinks to keep this outreach going. Our bingo participants are in the hospital to be treated for PTSD, and for substance abuse relapses. Patient confidentiality is paramount. The games start at 6:30 pm on the first Thursday. We meet outside ward 4-south at the VA Hospital off of Cooper Drive, are buzzed into the locked ward, play the games, serve the food and drinks and usually leave around 7:45.

Bingo. . . something simple, yet we make it something exciting! And memorable! Some of us have been recognized on the "outside" and told "hey, I remember you from that bingo". . . Heart warming. We could use some more volunteers, and we always can use rolls of quarters.

Dates to Remember

September Calendar Dates

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| September 6 th | Angels' Choir Rehearsal |
| September 10 th | EYC Welcome Back Party |
| September 11 th | Celebration Sunday
Services at 8 and 10:30 AM
Project Linus Blanket Blessing
Ministry Fair between services
Breakfast throughout the morning. |
| September 12 th | St. Michael's Night Out
Puccini's in Millpond |
| September 14 th | Blessing of the Crosses |
| September 15 th | Men's Club |
| September 17 th | Project Linus
EYC will hike and explore Shaker
Village at Pleasant Hill |
| September 18 th | Baptism |
| September 25 th | Training for Eucharistic Ministers
Instructed Eucharist for the EYC |

Worship Schedule

Sunday Eucharist: 8:00, 9:00, and 11:15 AM
Christian Formation for all ages at 10:00 AM
Wednesday Healing Eucharist at 6:00 PM
Fifth Sunday Eucharist: 10:00 AM

Complete Event Schedule

www.saint-michaels.org/events

From:

Place
postage
here.

To:

The Cupcake Diaries is a monthly magazine of the Parish of St. Michael the Archangel Episcopal Church in Lexington, Kentucky. It is available online and in print, if requested. Comments, subscriptions, and ideas are welcomed at mail@saint-michaels.org.

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www.saint-michaels.org

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