



THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
ON SANIBEL ISLAND

Summer Service
Schedule

Pot Luck Supper
May 7th
6:30 p.m.

Q & A with
Fr. John

The Red Door
On-line

Vestry Highlights

More "History"

The Red Door

May 2008

News of the people and ministries of Saint Michael and All Angels Church, Sanibel, Florida

And the Beat Goes on...

In the January 1, 2008 *Red Door* I wrote you saying "One of the most important steps we will soon take will be to enter into a Self-Study period". We are now entering that, but the time frame of the entire Self-Study period has changed a little, and I would like to share with you your Vestry's slightly revised plans for it.

After Fr. John agreed to join us as our Interim Rector on April 1st he and I met and he shared with me his twenty year interim experience regarding the Self-Study period. He said that this was a vitally important time for Saint Michael's, and that we shouldn't rush into forming the Self-Study/Parish Profile Committee too quickly. He stressed that in his experience a church needs to take some time for things to settle a bit after the Rector leaves. He went on to tell me that the questionnaire we will prepare to help us discern who we believe we are today and who we will be tomorrow, would result in different answers if we waited for awhile than they would if it were done in the very near future. He stressed that even the questions themselves could take on a different flavor than they might if we delayed that part of the process a little. Frankly, that was a different approach than I had envisioned, but I was so impressed with his thinking that I asked Fr. John to attend our March 13th Vestry Meeting to share this with the Vestry.

He did this at the beginning of that Vestry meeting, and then we discussed everything. The net result was that we all agreed that for us to begin the questionnaire process now would not be advisable. Please know that your Vestry is committed to accomplishing this process as well as we possibly can, and we believe that a slight delay in our beginning it will prove to be beneficial to the future of Saint Michael's.

We have compiled a list of parishioners who have told us that they would be interested in serving on either the Self-Study/Parish Profile Committee or the Search Committee, however, we don't plan to actually form either committee until later in the summer or in the early fall, so there is still time to let us know of your interest. Once we begin the questionnaire process we will proceed quickly, and each of you will be asked to respond to it in a timely fashion.

If you attended the recent Forum Q & A meeting when Fr. John talked about the time frame of things, this will not be anything new for you. But, if you weren't aware of our current thinking I wanted all of you to know where we are at this point in the search process.

Yes, the beat definitely goes on. It just has a little slower tempo than many of us had envisioned. Please don't hesitate to discuss this or anything else with me if you wish.

With thanks,

John Pryor, Senior Warden

Worship is at the heart of all we do

We invite you to worship with us:

- **Saturday at 5** – A “Come as you are Eucharist” and a Reception following.
- **Sunday at 8** – A traditional Eucharist with hymns, followed by Coffee Hour.
- **Sunday at 10:30** – Choral Eucharist, followed by Coffee Hour.*

Summer Schedule begins May 25th

- **Saturday at 5** – A “Come as you are Eucharist” and a Reception following.
- **Sunday at 9:30** – Eucharist with hymns, followed by Coffee Hour.*

(*With Sunday Overseas Shuttle pickup at Woodlands and then at SPV Island)

Wednesdays 9 a.m. Eucharist with prayers for healing
Wednesdays 6 p.m. Evening Worship

Traditional Pot Luck Supper

The May 7th, Pot Luck Supper will be in the Saint Michael and All Angel’s Traditional style, rather than following a theme. Everyone who attends is asked to bring a dish to share - an appetizer, main dish, vegetable or salad, or a dessert. Because we have an accumulation of disposable plates, bowls and cups, we will be using those for the next several months. Anyone who would prefer to bring place settings from home may do so. When the disposables are gone, we will return to using the Church china.

The Parish Life Committee

Wednesday Night Worship

The Wednesday Night Lay Led Worship Service will continue every Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. until the end of May in the Chapel of the Angels. The theme for these last three services will be “The Holy Spirit Moving in our Lives”. We invite your attendance and participation.

During the summer, services will be held only on the first Wednesday of the month, starting on June 4, in conjunction with the monthly Pot Luck supper.

Memorial Garden

Watch your mail for an exciting packet from the Memorial Garden Committee which will bring you up to date on the upcoming renovation and expansion of our Memorial Garden. You will find a cover letter from the committee, an informative brochure with pictures and an appeal/pledge card. Please don’t delay in responding. We hope to finish up the initial fundraising by Memorial Day 2008.

Drivers Wanted!

We are looking for a few good men and/or women. Now that the off season is upon us several of our church bus drivers are heading north.

Additional drivers are needed to fill the ranks in support of this important ministry. If you are interested in participating please call Susan at the office 239-472-2173, or contact Jerry McCullough at 239-466-6428.

You do not need a special license to drive our bus. Thank you for your help.

Prayer Chain Ministry

The Pastoral Care Commission is starting a Prayer Chain Ministry. It will consist of 10 to 15 parishioners who are willing to receive and then make one phone call.

When a parishioner becomes ill, has a death in their family, or is facing some crisis, the chain will be activated (with the person’s permission, of course). Each person on the Prayer Chain will call the next person on the list asking for prayers. For just a few minutes of each person’s time, many prayers will be offered for a parishioner in a very timely fashion.

We are asking anyone who thinks they would like to be part of this new ministry here at Saint Michael’s to please call Mardi Ponader at 395-1140 or Betsy McCullough at 466-6428.

Going North?

As many of you prepare to leave Sanibel in the next few weeks, please remember to inform the Church Office of your departure so that we can better keep you informed of what is happening here at Saint Michael and All Angels through our monthly *Red Door* and other church mailings.

Deadline for the June issue of *The Red Door* is May 20th.

Q. & A. with Fr. John Corbiere

In her excellent article in the *Island Sun*, just published on April 18, 2008, our own parishioner, Carolyn Clark, did a wonderful job of capturing the essence of John Corbiere as a man and priest, his philosophy and style. If you are a “snowbird” and missed it, I’m sorry, and maybe you could write for a copy.

In any case, let’s have a question and answer time with Father John here in *The Red Door*.

Q. One of the points Carolyn elicited in her article about you was in your quotation: “I have fun both in work and in play. I’m for lots of lay participation, doing things they’ve not done and discovering things about themselves in the process.” In the recent forum on Sunday, April 13, you talked about play as “give and take without intent”. Would you talk a bit about this concept of play?

A. Sometimes we get too serious about church, and we forget that we are playing in the field of the Lord. His hands are gracious, beautiful and challenging, and he likes spontaneity. If we don’t take our work as play, then work takes over and consumes us.

Q. What factors contributed to your making the decision to be an Interim Priest?

A. Twenty-odd years ago I was serving in the Diocese of Massachusetts, and I asked the Bishop where he needed me. He said he needed Interim Priests, so that’s what I did – and I found I enjoyed the challenges of a variety of people, churches and places, plus I like to travel.

Q. You have been at Saint Michael’s since April 1. What is your initial impression of this parish? And can you generalize on your vast past experience with many parishes in our position?

*A. Remember, I’ve only been here three weeks (Ed. Note: this interview was done on April 21, 2008), and I’m just beginning to get to know you. I’m impressed with the vitality of the congregation and their commitment to service. I’m also impressed by the professionalism of the Adjunct Clergy and the wonderful work they have done. Every congregation has its unique issues. All churches share problems of growth and money issues. Saint Michael’s needs to discover its identity in a new way. As I said in the April 1 issue of *The Red Door*, “Recognition of the parish’s unique personality and gifts creates a new field of discovery that ultimately enhances the search process.”*

Q. What special gifts do you bring to Saint Michael’s to aid in its development as a parish?

A. My ability to listen and to continually ask questions. That’s how I learn about you. I keep my ear to the ground. Also, I like people, and that makes the job easier.

Q. From what you have seen of our church, what qualities do you think we should be looking for in a Rector?

A. Somebody who is comfortable with their expression of ministry, someone who can be contributed to and enriched by the people of Saint Michael’s, someone who can recognize the distinctiveness of island living.

Q. Do you have some advice as to how we should enter this search process? What are the dos and don’ts?

A. In my position as an Interim Rector it is not appropriate that I comment on this, other than to say you should be supportive of the Profile Study of this church, the Search Committee and the Vestry when they do their work. Support them in your prayers.

Q. Not to put you on the spot, but what comment would you make about the “hot issues” and divisions in the Episcopal Church today?

A. God works in His own way and culls the bad from the good. Division is normal and continuous. Look at the schisms and divisions that have occurred in so many churches over the centuries. Look at, for example, all the branches of the Baptist Church or the Orthodox Church.

Thank you, Father John, for the opportunity to pick your brain and to give our parishioners a chance to know you even better as you guide us in this time of transition and challenge. I personally think we have the right man in the right place at the right time and that we will be the better for your guidance.

Alex Flesh

An Opportunity to Serve...

by Gail Meier

The “Soup Kitchen”, run by CCMI – Community Cooperative Ministries, Inc, is located on Martin Luther King Blvd. in Fort Myers. It sustains those in need with a hot meal, and also operates Meals on Wheels to bring a hot meal to shut-ins. The Soup Kitchen feeds about 200 people daily, many of whom are out of work and need help.

Since 1991 parishioners have been providing a helping hand by working in the kitchen, or donating food and supplies on a regular basis. Our Outreach Commission donated \$4,500 last year to help CCMI.

How can you help? You can contribute food. You can help deliver the food to the Soup Kitchen. You can go to the Soup Kitchen and help prepare and serve meals. You can help deliver hot meals to shut-ins.



Saint Michael’s is assigned the last Thursday of every month when parishioners can help prep and serve food. If you would like to help, sign up on the Outreach Bulletin Board in the Parish Hall.

About The Rev. Douglass Lind Adjunct Clergy

Father John asked me to tell you a little about myself and my wife, Penny. We've been married for forty-three years and have lived most of our married life in the Northeast. Right after we were married we lived in Short Hills, New Jersey, and then moved to Mt. Lebanon, Pennsylvania. The rest of our life together has been in Westchester County, New York, just north of New York City and then in Westport, Connecticut, and then most recently in Stonington, Connecticut. However, for over twenty years we have spent part of each winter in Florida. We were East Coast Floridians until the last few years when we saw the light and moved West, first to Gasparilla Island and then to Ft. Myers. We have a condo in Sanibel Harbour Resort which is now our primary home.

I was a Presbyterian minister for forty years and then in retirement, became an Episcopal Priest. As a Presbyterian clergyman I served on the national staff of the denomination. I also served as pastor to the pastors of the Presbyterian churches in New York City. But most of the time I served parishes in Westchester County, New York, and in Connecticut. As an Episcopalian I have served parishes in New London, Connecticut, and also in Manchester, Connecticut.

During many of these years I have been what Presbyterians call a tentmaker. That means I have tried to emulate the Apostle Paul who served the young Christian community for no money and made his living either as a maker of tents or a leather-worker, depending on how one translates the Greek. Perhaps he made leather tents! My tents, however, have been psychoanalysis and psychotherapy, marriage and family counseling and management consulting and executive coaching.

Throughout my career I have spent a great deal of time serving the Episcopal Church in one way or another. For twenty years I was an adviser to The Episcopal Church Pension Fund. For twenty-two years I served a Presbyterian Church that shared a facility and a ministry with an Episcopal parish. Part of each year we worshipped as one congregation alternating between an Episcopal Eucharist and a Presbyterian preacher, and a Presbyterian service with an Episcopal preacher. I've also been a consultant to Trinity Church, Copley Square, in Boston; St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church on Park Avenue in New York City; The National Cathedral in Washington, D.C.; Berkeley Divinity School at Yale University; St. James Parish in Leesburg, Virginia; St. Thomas'

Parish, Whitemarsh outside of Philadelphia among others.

Most of my consulting has been in the corporate world, however, both on general management consulting assignments and one-on-one advising to senior executives.

Penny has been in advertising, media, public relations and marketing throughout most of her career. Also, this cradle Episcopalian became a leader in the Presbyterian Church and has earned the title of Ruling Elder. These last years she has devoted much of her time to prison ministry at Niantic State Women's Prison in Connecticut. She has also been a long-suffering public servant having been on the Representative Town Meeting in Westport for several terms and subsequently a member of the Planning & Zoning Commission in Stonington.

We both love to sail and to travel and compete with each other on the tennis court.

Penny's sister, Linda Seifert, is also a worshipper at Saint Michael & All Angels Church. I look forward to continuing to find ways to be of assistance here at Saint Michael's and particularly to be of help to Father John during his time as Interim here.

NEHM Conference

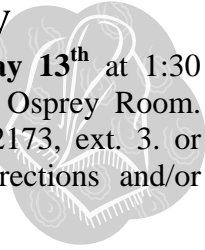
On March 27-29, Roberta Heller, Parish Nurse, and Joanne Syversen attended the first National Episcopal Health Ministries (NEHM) Conference as representatives of Saint Michael and All Angels Pastoral Care Commission. The conference was held at the Kanuga Conference Center near Hendersonville, NC. There were many excellent workshops providing information about health, wellness and caring as well as several spiritual services including Taize, meditation and prayer. Over 100 participants from all over the US attended the conference. The networking and information sharing with both large and small parishes about parish nursing and pastoral care initiatives were most valuable.

The conference provided us with assurance that we are very fortunate to have an active Pastoral Care Commission and Parish Nurse Ministry. It was uplifting to hear many of our current activities recommended as caring projects, and to learn of other directions that some parishes have gone in their care for parishioners and clergy. The pastoral setting at Kanuga was the perfect place to host this conference as spring was emerging in the Blue Ridge Mountains. We came back energized with new ideas for Saint Michael's. Thank you for providing us with this educational experience.

From Roberta Heller, R.N., Parish Nurse

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Our next meeting is **Tuesday, May 13th** at 1:30 p.m. at Shell Point Village in the Osprey Room. Please call Roberta Heller at 472-2173, ext. 3. or Janet Bendall at 454-5953 for directions and/or questions.



Lunch and Learn

Mark your calendars for **Tuesday, May 20th** when Elise Eifert, MS, Health Educator speaks at our last *Lunch and Learn* for the season about Dementia and Alzheimer. Please RSVP Roberta or Susan at 472-2173.

Pastoral Care

If you know of anyone who is in need of pastoral care, please let Susan know by emailing her at parishsecretary@saintmichaels-sanibel.org or by calling 472-2173.

Prepared to Respond in an Emergency - CPR

On Monday, April 21st and Friday, April 25th, 17 parishioners of Saint Michael's completed the Heartsaver CPR Course at the Sanibel Fire Department. They learned the basic skills necessary to respond quickly and effectively in an emergency.

Congratulations go to Jandy and Jim Bird, Jean Stanton, Penny and Scott Chrysler, Margie and Charlie Hohns, Peggy Hupfeldt, Betty and Bill Carr, Phil Pilibosian, Patricia and Robert Rohde, Jane and Don Adams, Suzanne and Dmitri Scutakes for a job well done!

Each year 330,000 people have a cardiac arrest outside of the hospital setting. The quick response on the part of CPR and AED trained individuals often makes the difference between death and a positive outcome – leaving the hospital alive and with normal brain function. Please consider taking a CPR course so you will be prepared to help a spouse, grandchild, neighbor or fellow parishioner. A course will be offered again in the early spring.

It is God himself who has made us what we are and given us new lives from Christ Jesus; and long ages ago he planned that we should spend these lives in helping others.

- Ephesians 2:10

Vestry Highlights

From the April 17, 2008 meeting of the Vestry:

The Vestry welcomed Father John Corbiere to his first meeting of the Vestry. As Interim Rector, Father John will attend the meetings to inform and advise the Vestry; he is not a voting member.

The 2008 Revised Budget was passed in keeping with expected income. Ellen Trevor, Treasurer outlined several measures being instituted to keep expenses in line with the budget.

The Vestry approved, with necessary signatures, the 2007 Parochial Report that is sent to the Diocese.

As Chairman of the newly formed Art Committee, Betsy Schuman presented the Vestry with a number of ideas for new displays in the Gallery as well as improvements of our bulletin boards as communication centers. Look now at the display of our Shawl Ministry in the Gallery.

The History of Saint Michael's has been completed, with many thanks to Dory Rooker and Alex Flesh, and, with the help of Barry Gordon, will be sent to press in the near future. Nancy Santeusano has written an article for the local papers which will appear after the book is published.

John Pryor, Senior Warden, reiterated what the Vestry had decided at the March Vestry Meeting, which is to delay the beginning of the Search Process for a period of time to allow our congregation to experience our fellowship and worship under an alternate leadership and to develop a sense of what we see as the gifts and strengths of our church family. With the help of a Parish Survey we can move on to creating a vision for our future and then we will look for the new Rector who is best suited to lead us.

John also commented that Fr. John has been warmly welcomed at Saint Michael's since he joined us on April 1st. A record number of 110 parishioners turned out to greet him at the April 2 Pot Luck Supper.

Our Property Chairman, Bill Carr, is a busy man managing upkeep and improvements on our facilities. The apartment is being painted and repairs made as necessary. The Parish Hall air conditioner will be modified and extended using a Capital Projects Gift (non-operating funds) made in 2007. Lighting in the Nave is being adjusted to save energy. The Parish Hall carpet will be cleaned on May 12. A low water use toilet will be installed I Noah's Ark with expected savings of at least \$1150/year. Funds for installation will be supplied by the Capital Projects Gift.

The Parish Nurse, Roberta Heller, will be using the vacant office in the Administrative Building on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The office will be available to the Adjunct clergy on other days.

Betty Carr, Junior Warden announced that the Parish Directory is being updated.

Father John reminded us all that when any of us "volunteer" our services to the church, we are truly Ministers, not volunteers.

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Steege, Secretary

Noah's Ark Schedule

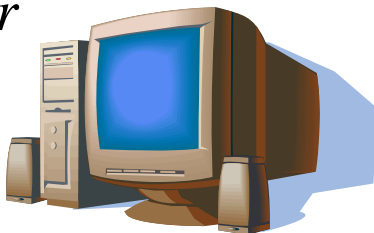
The Ark will be closed on May 1st. Beginning May 2nd Noah's Ark Thrift Store will begin their summer schedule.

Tuesday and Friday
9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

We will not be open on Saturdays. "Bag Day" will be August 15th. The Ark will then close until October. We will continue to accept contributions during the summer. Noah's Ark is staffed by church volunteers, and proceeds support a wide variety of charities at the local, regional, national and international levels, including disaster relief. Phone: 472-3356.

The Red Door On-line

As introduced in the last issue of *The Red Door*, the Vestry and staff members of Saint Michael's



Church are pursuing ways to reduce costs, in the areas of Administration. Doing so will enable us to maintain staff, grow our ministries, and improve our financial stability. *The Red Door* newsletter is one place to start.

The Red Door will be published monthly instead of bi-monthly. *The Red Door* is and has been available on our website and we ask those who can, to read the newsletter on-line (or download and print it) instead of receiving it by U.S. mail.

Internet users will be notified by e-mail as each new issue of *The Red Door* becomes available. (You'll be able to opt out of notification if you wish.) **To ensure that we have your current e-mail address, please go to the website at www.saintmichaels-sanibel.org and click on "Contact Us".** Then forward via e-mail your name and current address.

We won't deprive faithful parishioners of access to *The Red Door* if they cannot read it on the Internet. **If you want to continue to receive *The Red Door* by U.S. mail, please contact Susan in the Church Office at (239) 472-2173 or drop us a note.**

Once you convert to Internet delivery, you'll have the satisfaction of receiving the issue several days before your paper copy would have arrived, and of knowing that you are helping the Earth to conserve resources and the Parish to conserve money.

Thank you!

Thank you all so much for the picture you gave me at the April Covered Dish Supper. For those of you who have not seen it, it is a beautiful painting by Jim Bird of the Chapel of the Angels window. As you can imagine, nothing could have pleased me more – I find this area within the Church a very special place for worship and prayer, and the painting is a lovely reminder of all that this means to me.

Thank you for your words of support and encouragement too. The past couple of months have truly been a joy, and I have valued being more involved in ministry among you, during our time between full-time clergy. There is such a powerful feeling of God at work among us all, and I know that many of you are aware of this. This is an exciting time, as we welcome Father John as our Interim Priest, and move forward together into the future for Saint Michael's.

+ Liz Farrow

Many, many thanks for the beautiful painting of the angel window by Jim Bird. It is not only a wonderful work of art from a very talented artist but a very poignant memory of Saint Michael's and all that it means to Dick and me. Saint Michael's is truly our spiritual home and a most important part of our lives.

The painting now hangs in our front hall – a constant reminder of all of you and the wonderful, loving community of Saint Michael's.

It is always a great privilege to preach and celebrate and I loved being able to help out where I could while we were without a rector. However, without John Pryor's superb leadership none of us would have managed it all so well.

Now I rejoice, as I'm sure you do as well, that Fr. John is on board and I look forward to supporting him whenever needed.

I am greatly honored by your thoughtfulness and generosity and thank you all.

Yours in Christ, Anne

Saint Michael and All Angels
April 2008 Approved Budget

	Feb '08 Budget	Budget changes	Approved 4/17/08 Budget
Income			
Unpledged Contributions including plate	\$61,000		\$61,000
Pledge payments	\$465,000		\$400,000
Pledge payments prior yrs	\$14,000		\$14,000
ECW contributions	\$50,000		\$50,000
Stock gain/loss	\$0	(\$500)	-\$500
Total Contributions	\$590,000	(\$65,500)	\$524,500
Designated Gifts (Incl ECW's)	\$9,000		\$9,000
Trust Income	\$38,500	(\$10,000)	\$28,500
Other Income	\$2,700		\$2,700
Total Income	\$640,200	(\$75,500)	\$564,700
Expenses			
Ministry Expenses			
Worship	\$3,600	(\$2,400)	\$1,200
Music	\$2,550	\$200	\$2,750
Education	\$7,100	(\$500)	\$6,600
Training & Conventions	\$4,200	(\$2,300)	\$1,900
Pastoral Care	\$4,100	\$300	\$4,400
Parish Life	\$4,000	\$1,000	\$5,000
Mission Outreach	\$38,000	(\$3,000)	\$35,000
Diocesan Assessment	\$56,261	\$0	\$56,261
Art Committee	\$0	\$400	\$400
Parish Growth	\$4,500	(\$400)	\$4,100
Stewardship	\$3,000	(\$1,000)	\$2,000
Total Ministry Expenses	\$127,311	(\$7,700)	\$119,611
Administrative Expenses			
Audit, Legal & Misc Office	\$5,000	\$300	\$5,300
Office Equipment Lease	\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000
Office Supplies, Paper, Printing	\$13,000	(\$2,000)	\$11,000
Postage	\$5,500	(\$2,000)	\$3,500
Telephone	\$5,500	\$0	\$5,500
Computer Support & Internet	\$4,850	(\$1,000)	\$3,850
Vestry Misc Expense Fund	\$0	\$2,000	\$2,000
Total Administrative Expense	\$43,850	(\$2,700)	\$41,150
Personnel Expenses			
Payroll			
Lay Staff Salaries	\$138,135	(\$2,500)	\$135,635
Clergy Stipends	\$62,085	(\$7,650)	\$54,435
Total Payroll	\$200,220	(\$10,150)	\$190,070
Benefits			
Insurance, Pensions & Annuities	\$65,865	(\$4,623)	\$61,242
Housing Allowances - Clergy	\$32,180	(\$4,100)	\$28,080
Total Benefits	\$98,045	(\$8,723)	\$89,322
Reimbursements			
Clergy Relocation Expense	\$5,000	(\$4,500)	\$500
Auto Expenses -Lay & Clergy	\$3,300	(\$1,120)	\$2,180
Continuing Ed -Lay & Clergy	\$1,500	\$0	\$1,500
Other Reimbursements	\$1,400	\$500	\$1,900
Total Reimbursements	\$11,200	(\$5,120)	\$6,080
Total Search Expense -Consultant, Travel Misc.	\$17,000	(\$9,000)	\$8,000
Total Personnel Expense	\$326,465	(\$32,993)	\$293,472
Property Expenses			
Cleaning & Furniture Set-up	\$21,500	\$500	\$22,000
A/C maintenance	\$6,000	\$0	\$6,000
Landscaping	\$5,160	\$0	\$5,160

	Feb '08 Budget	Budget changes	Approved 4/17/08 Budget
Inspection of Lift Station & Irrigation, garbage	\$6,700	\$0	\$6,700
Total Contracted Services	\$39,360	\$500	\$39,860
Other Property Expense			
Building & Driveway Repair	\$9,800	\$200	\$10,000
Utilities-sewer, water, electric	\$13,000	(\$1,000)	\$12,000
Taxes & Building Insurance	\$25,430	(\$1,000)	\$24,430
Shuttle expenses	\$4,940	\$0	\$4,940
Total Property Expense	\$92,530	(\$1,300)	\$91,230
Total Operating Expenses	\$590,156	(\$44,693)	\$545,463
Income less Expenses	\$50,044		\$19,237
For Reserve Fund	\$50,000		\$19,000
Net Surplus	\$44		\$237

Budget

This budget, approved by the Vestry on April 17th, reflects the results of the completed 2008 pledge campaign as well as cost saving measures in the property and administrative areas.

Some ministries budgets have been reduced and all commissions have been asked to monitor their expenses in order to stay within their budgets. Parish Administrator Edie Huggins is providing full details of all expenditures monthly to each commission head.

Additional savings are being sought in physical plant expenses (while also conserving resources). In an effort to save paper, postage and printing costs, we are asking parishioners to receive their Red Door online. Church leaflets will also be changed to reduce paper costs.

This is an opportunity for Saint Michael's to realign our spending with our income, adjust our spending habits, and to institute cost saving measures. With the support of our parishioners and Fr. John, the Vestry is committed to having a balanced budget in 2008. Thank you for your support.

Ellen Trevor, Treasurer

Anyone for Iona in 2009?

We'd like to lay before you an exciting possibility for a trip to Scotland next June 2009.

It would begin with two days north of Glasgow, to recover from the transatlantic journey and discover the beauty of this area, before journeying north to Orkney, for the St. Magnus Festival of music, where the Celtic Mass for Peace is to be celebrated in the Cathedral of St. Magnus. We would be singing the Mass with the same musicians who visited Saint Michael's in January, and Philip Newell would be leading the worship. Then journeying onwards for a three-day retreat on Iona, a jewel of an island, steeped in prayer and history, before returning to Glasgow.

There would be ceilidhs both on Iona and on Orkney, together with exhilarating coastal walks and beautiful white sand beaches, lots to see, and time simply to enjoy. A limited edition single malt generally produced for the Festival could also help! We do not yet know exact dates because the St Magnus Festival dates for

2009 have not been released: but it is likely that the Mass for Peace will be celebrated on June 21st.

The pattern might be like this...

- June 17, 18th Resting days, enjoying the countryside north of Glasgow
Trips arranged for those who wish.
- June 19th Glasgow – Orkney, travelling day through beautiful scenery
- June 20th Orkney, and St Magnus music festival
- June 21st Orkney, and Mass for Peace
- June 22nd Orkney – Iona: travelling day
- June 23rd Iona
- June 24th Iona
- June 25th Iona
- June 26th Iona – Glasgow: travelling day

There would thus be two contrasted centres of Pilgrimage, with the bonus of seeing a great deal of the rest of Scotland! Liz and I are definitely intending to go. If anyone is interested in learning more we will be pleased to look into costs and practicalities. Please email george.farrow@gmail.com or telephone 472-3823, by May 15th.

Founders of Saint Michael's and All Angels by Dory Rooker

Many people deserve our gratitude for the work they did fifty years ago in the formation of our church. At first, the plan was to have a temporary worship opportunity especially for the winter months. But that soon changed and the participants began working toward a more permanent mission.

Cecil and Emmy Lu Read were winter residents who had purchased and lived in The Gables when they were on Sanibel. One of the sources of information I found that was helpful in recreating those early days is a series of letters written to the Reads by Fr. Madden when they were at their northern home. I assume that he saved the letters, and after his death they were given to the church, for which I am grateful.

Ralph Pierce was also active early on and was the first organist, playing on a small field organ Fr. Madden purchased for \$15. He was a winter resident who stayed at the Island Inn, along with Brian Kane and Starky Altmeier. Brian owned a shoe store in Columbus, Ohio.

Francis and Billy Saxinger were year-round residents. He worked at Bailey's in the hardware department. At a later time Billy was the church organist for a time.

Fanetta Stahlin moved to Sanibel from Michigan with her husband. When they first arrived they rented the big house that Thistle Lodge was modeled after. At first they shared the house with Mary Gault and her family. On summer laundry days they stripped down to bathing suits to be cooler, but to hang the clothes outside, they donned long pants and long-sleeved shirts as protection from the mosquitoes. The Stahlins operated a trucking company, carrying materials shipped in to Fort Myers out to Sanibel. They also shopped for people while they were in Fort Myers.

Hayes Hudson and his wife built a shop on West Gulf Drive and were year-round residents.

Edna Kearns was another active participant in the early establishment of the church. And so was her daughter-in-law Vivian. Vivian worked for Francis Bailey as a secretary and even when expecting a child, worked right up to the day the baby was born. In one of Fr. Madden's letters, he mentioned that Vivian was one of those least concerned about her situation. He avoided using the word pregnancy.

The Community Church met only in winter at that time and it was the only other church organization on the Island. John Kontinos attended Saint Michael's because there was no Greek Orthodox Church available. He operated a restaurant known as Coconut Grove, where Bailey's store is now located, and his sister had Carter's Beauty Shop on the same corner.

As time went on, Tom Woods, who lived at the lighthouse and worked for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, became part of the group working to establish the mission church.

Although they were meeting in a building near the ferry landing, it was clear that they needed to find a more permanent location, and think about constructing a suitable building, so that was part of the task they took on.

I will write more next time, and if you have information, please let me know. Dory Rooker.

Saint Michael's New Art Committee at Work

In February the Vestry voted in favor of establishing an Art Committee which would work in concert with the Property Committee to select and display all works of visual art, including religious symbols, in the Gallery and in other Parish spaces both inside and out consistent with the guidelines set by the Vestry gift acceptance policy. Vestry member, Betsy Schuman was appointed to chair the committee.

One of the first acts of the committee was to begin to make plans for displays in the Gallery area for this coming year. In commemoration of our 50th Anniversary, the displays will be designed to highlight the history of Saint Michael's through photographs and artwork, important ministries, and the artistic talents of many of Saint Michael's parishioners, both past and present. These displays will continue a tradition begun by parishioner Marnie Kent many years ago.

The first display, now hanging in the Gallery, features examples of the beautiful work being done by members of the Prayer Shawl Ministry who meet regularly with Parish Nurse, Roberta Heller to knit, crochet and quilt shawls to be given to members of the congregation who are in need of comfort. An explanation and history of the Prayer Shawl Ministry, as well as prayers that are offered are included in the display.

If you have ideas or suggestions for the committee please contact Betsy Schuman at 395-3606 or betsyschuman@comcast.net.

May Birthdays

- 1st Ashley Edgar, Marge Hohns, Julia Boyd
- 2nd Nancy Vernay
- 4th Mary Jane Proctor, Valerie Sadd
- 5th Jack Rushworth, Sr.
- 8th Chris Salerno
- 10th Bob Syversen
- 12th Ted Charles, Judy Pryor
- 14th Carolyn Graham, Gary Kreml
- 15th Shirley Shreiner
- 17th Margery Angst
- 18th Ginny Albertson
- 20th Michael Billheimer
- 21st Jean Lane
- 23rd Jerry Steege
- 24th Gordon Jensen, Judi Kirkpatrick, Nancy Beecher
- 26th Charles Simms
- 27th Geo Lowden, Nip Wilson, Ken Chambers
- 29th Phil Belanger, Jennifer Lessinger
- 31st John Pryor

May Anniversaries

- 5th David and Sally Lund
- 10th Bruce and Joan Sprinkle
- 14th Earl and Judy Moorhouse
- 16th Alex and Beryl Flesh
- 19th Gordon and Peg Jensen, Bob and Carol Allen, Dmitri and Suzanne Scutakes
- 24th William Nickolds and Nancy Santeusanio, Donald and Sarah Fishburne
- 25th Jerry and Christine Steege
- 26th Jim and Jane Bone
- 29th William and Cantor Eagleson

An Ending and A Beginning

— Notes from the Director of Music about our worship song —

With the approach of the Day of Pentecost and of Trinity Sunday, we end the Great Fifty Days of celebration that follow Easter Day, the heart of the Christian year. Island rhythm slows, travel takes many of us to distant places – and left turns become possible off Periwinkle Way.

The musical leadership of the Parish Choir in worship, both as a group and as individuals, has been vital in this parish since Saint Michael's Day in late September. Numbers have significantly increased. Their annual choir year now stretches from our patronal feast to the Day of Pentecost – and, with this year's very early Easter, to Trinity Sunday. In this eventful year they have been, in the words of one visitor, "the glue that holds things together." She was speaking of music, of course, but there is a wider truth as well. Seasonal singers from Illinois, New York, Virginia, Connecticut, Kentucky, Massachusetts, California, Pennsylvania and elsewhere have enriched our sound, shared our musical joys, and now carry fond memories of their time with us. They tell others of the good things that happen here each week of the year, in music and in worship and in parish life.

As the Parish Choir year ends May 11th and 18th, I ask that you seek out these people at a coffee hour or parish gathering, to say a particular word of appreciation for their year of service. We must not simply take our singers' commitment for granted. They arrive early for rehearsal on Sundays, are remarkably faithful in mid-week rehearsals, constantly learn new things and rework familiar ones, and have reached new levels of concentration to meet new musical challenges. Dick Kimball and Bill Rahe spoke memorably about this on behalf of many, during stewardship time. My own work will not lessen in the summer, but will shift emphasis with attention to music ordering and library, plans for the year to come, composition, professional conferences – and a dedicatory organ recital in Maine, to be followed (I am told) by a lobster dinner.

But we will have a fine choir this summer at Saint Michael's, made up of fine people who love to sing to the Lord! This ensemble is the Great Choir of Gathered Christians (yes, just look around you!), the musical heart of our worship. Together, each week at the 9:30 o'clock services **beginning May 25th**, we will lift our hearts and voices in praise and prayer to God ... at all times, and in all places ... including our island home.

Willis



SAINT MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS CHURCH
2304 Periwinkle Way, Sanibel, FL 33957
(239) 472-2173 Fax: (239) 395-1670

www.saintmichaels-sanibel.org

Weekend Worship:
Saturdays at 5, Sundays at 8 & 10:30

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Sanibel FL
Permit No. 61

May 2008