

# ST. MICHAEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

118 State Street Harrisburg, PA 17101-1024 (717)234-0092

February 2012

Volume 35, Number 2

## The Archangel

*You are welcome here with us*

A RECONCILING IN CHRIST CONGREGATION

*The cold winter month of February brings activities and worship opportunities to St. Michael that will warm the hearts and the souls of our members, family, and friends. We begin the month with our annual Souper Bowl of Caring, have a fun time luncheon and theatre event scheduled mid month, mark the beginning of the Lenten Season with an Ash Wednesday Service, and end the month with the start of our Midweek Lenten Lite Suppers, Book Study and Services.*

### PASTOR HAWKINS WRITES TO US –

Dear Friends,

You might have noticed or heard through the grape vine that we have been “Skyping” our Sunday morning worship services. Just in case you are not familiar with what Skype is, here are some FAQs:

*pr. Larry Hawkins*

#### ***What is Skype?***

Skype is very similar to phone service provided over the internet that can include video.

#### ***What do people see and hear when they are Skyped into the worship service?***

Currently, they have a single live video view of the worship space taken from a small camera attached to a laptop computer positioned in the balcony. They can hear the worship service through the microphones worn by the pastor and the assisting minister, and the microphone sitting on the lectern. There are plans to add some small unobtrusive cameras so we can also show the entire procession and recession, and be able to focus in more closely on the baptismal font and the altar.

#### ***Does this mean our worship services are broadcast via Skype over the internet for anyone to see?***

No. Only people to whom we initiate a Skype video phone call can watch the service.

#### ***Who has been watching our worship services?***

This is predominantly a ministry to our sick and homebound members. In addition to our homebound there have been special worship services here at St. Michael (i.e. weddings) where some family members could not attend because they were across the country and could not travel to be here. We have “Skyped” them into the service. (Karl Hawkins was one such person as he watched his cousin’s wedding via Skype while he was stationed in California in the Air Force.) Also, on rare occasions some long distance friends of St. Michael (people whom we know who are no longer living in the Harrisburg Area) have asked to be included in our service when their home congregations do not have worship, and we have welcomed them with us via Skype. Christmas Day worship was one such instance.

#### ***Have we ever Skyped to people we do not know?***

No.

#### ***What is the most people who have watched a single worship service?***

Three. Christmas Day 2011.

#### ***Do we Skype every week?***

Yes. Those people who have been watching have come to depend on it as a major part of their Spiritual life. It is how they remain connected to the community, the proclaimed Word of God, and the body of Christ. Another part of the Skype process is that the elements of Communion that are carried from the altar every week just before the post communion prayer are taken and shared with those who have been participating in the service via Skype.

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### ***How can I watch a worship service on my computer?***

It's as easy as 1-2-3.

First, sign up for a free Skype account at [www.skype.com](http://www.skype.com).

Second, tell the pastor which worship service you want to watch, and about your need/desire for homebound communion.

Third, turn on your computer and answer the Skype call with your computer when our Skype Worship Assistant calls you about five minutes prior to the start of the service.

### ***Can I request to be included via Skype when I go on vacation?***

Yes, indeed! If you are going on vacation, out of town for work, temporarily stuck at home because of illness or travel difficulties, simply make your desire to be included known and we will welcome you to worship via Skype. Any legitimate reason for not being able to get to St. Michael to worship is a good reason to request being Skyped in.

### ***How much does this cost?***

The Skype account cost us about \$50/year. It is free to those who watch. Currently the computer and webcam being used are the personal property of a St. Michael member. At our December 2011 Congregational Meeting we approved a budget that included \$8000 to purchase our own equipment for this purpose.

### ***Are worship services the only thing we Skype?***

No. We have Skyped committee meetings to some members who could not physically make it to St. Michael for a meeting.

## **FEBRUARY 5 – THE SOUPER BOWL OF CARING**

For all of you sports fans this day is Super Bowl XLVI. It also marks the 23rd year of the Souper Bowl of Caring, and St. Michael will again be participating. This Souper Bowl of Caring Ministry was started by a youth group united in their belief that they could make a difference in the fight against hunger and poverty. Last year alone over \$9.5 million was collected nationwide for hunger-relief. This year the need is greater than ever. So let's see if St. Michael can exceed our past efforts. One hundred percent of the money collected will be donated to Christ Lutheran's Out Reach Clinic, headed by Pastor Jody Silliker.



Following the morning worship service, a light lunch of soup, salad, bread, dessert and drinks will be served. So please be sure to mark your calendars now. You won't want to miss out on a wonderful day beginning with worship, followed by fellowship and what else...GOOD FOOD. Then for you sports fans, it's on to watching the game.

## **FEBRUARY 6 – CANDY MAKERS BEGIN MAKING EASTER EGGS**

On Monday, February 6, the smell of peanut butter, coconut, butter cream, chocolate and other flavors will drift through St. Michael's kitchen. It will be time to begin making Easter Candy Eggs! Workers will come in mid morning (10:00ish) and be done around noon. Work days will be Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. You are welcome to help any or every day. If you would like to be a part of this lively group of candy makers, contact Lindsay Mills at 234-6644 or [lmills266@comcast.net](mailto:lmills266@comcast.net).

## **FEBRUARY 12 – A LUNCHEON AND THEATRE HARRISBURG'S PRODUCTION OF JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT**

On this Sunday members of St. Michael Lutheran Church and their friends are invited to attend Theatre Harrisburg's production of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* at Whitaker Center's Sunoco Theatre. According to Theatre Harrisburg this is "The well-known biblical tale of a young man with a very special gift and some very big adventures. When Joseph receives a wondrous colorful coat from his father, his jealous brothers take matters into their own hands. In Egypt, however, his fortunes take an unexpected turn for the better when he helps a troubled - but rockin' - Pharaoh. A delightful, eclectic pop score by Andrew Lloyd Webber highlights this timeless favorite for audiences of all ages." For more information on the show check out Theatre Harrisburg's website at [www.theatreharrisburg.com](http://www.theatreharrisburg.com).

The luncheon will take place at St. Michael at 12:30 p.m. with the performance starting at 2:00 p.m. Tickets for the show are available for a very special rate of \$15.00 each and may be reserved by calling Sonya Mink at (717) 307-8731 or emailing her at [scarley68@gmail.com](mailto:scarley68@gmail.com). Cash or a check made out to St. Michael Lutheran Church will be accepted as payment. This is a wonderful way to celebrate Valentine's Day so make your reservations early.

A note from Theatre Harrisburg: Minimum Age Policy---As a courtesy to both our audiences and cast members, no one under the age of five (5) will be admitted to our Mainstage productions. Additionally, infants and toddlers may not be seated on parents' laps. Thank you for your cooperation.

## FEBRUARY 22 – ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES AT ST. MICHAEL



St. Michael will host the Downtown Lutheran Churches for this 7:00 p.m. service. We will serve a variety of soups before the service starting at 6:00 p.m. We welcome donations of home made soups and desserts (pies, cakes, cupcakes). Contact Lindsay Mills at 234-6644 or [lmills266@comcast.net](mailto:lmills266@comcast.net) if you are able to provide any of these items. Join in the service and the welcoming of Lutherans from the downtown churches as we mark the beginning of the Lenten Season. The offering from this service will go to the food pantry at Messiah Lutheran Church.

## FEBRUARY 29 – MIDWEEK LITE SUPPERS AND SERVICES DURING LENT BEGIN

Wednesdays in Lent mean Evening Prayer Services. They will be preceded by our gathering at 6:00 p.m. on those Wednesdays for a meal and table talk. Volunteers are needed to provide the meals. Please consider preparing and serving one of these meals. There is a sign up list on the bulletin board.

## MAKING SENSE OF THE CROSS

Beginning with *Soul Food* on Sunday, February 26th, then continuing each Wednesday evening during Lent, Pastor Hawkins will lead us in the book study “Making Sense of the Cross” by David J. Lose. Books are available for \$13.00. See Pastor Hawkins or Cecilia to get your copy while supplies last. You are encouraged to read each chapter before the session.

|                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| Sunday, February 26    | A Man Hanging on a Tree                   |
| Wednesday, February 29 | Portraits and Perspectives                |
| Wednesday, March 7     | Ransom and Victory                        |
| Wednesday, March 14    | Substitution, Satisfaction, and Sacrifice |
| Wednesday, March 21    | Example and Encouragement                 |
| Wednesday, March 28    | Event and Experience                      |

## KEEPERS OF THE ALLELUIA BANNER NEEDED

On the Sunday of the Transfiguration of Our Lord, February 19, the “*Alleluia!*” will be removed from our liturgy and hymns until Easter. Symbolically, the “*Alleluia*” banner will also be removed from our sight and cared for during Lent by members and friends of St. Michael Church. Households are needed to care for the “*Alleluia*” banner during Lent. If you would like to keep the “*Alleluia*” banner hidden, but safe, in faith, please sign up on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall. **Please plan to be at church the Sundays you both receive and pass on the Alleluia.** We will make the exchange between households during the sharing of the Peace in our Sunday morning liturgy.

## YOUR NEW 2012 CHURCH COUNCIL



In conjunction with the January Church Council Meeting the new 2012 Church Council met. New members Mike Ennis, Les Van Dam, and Susan Will joined returning members Elizabeth Benion, Nancy Eberly, Kevin Hepler, Guy Kehler, Sue McDonald, and Elizabeth Parker to elect their officers. Elizabeth Parker will serve as president, Sue McDonald as vice-president, Elizabeth Benion as secretary, and Guy Kehler as treasurer. The 2012 Church Council was installed on January 29<sup>TH</sup> and will hold their first meeting February 13<sup>TH</sup> at 6 p.m.

## BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARIES CELEBRATED IN FEBRUARY

Martin Luther purportedly began each day reminding himself, “I have been baptized!” By water and the Spirit, each of us who are members of the Church has been called to faithfully live as the Body of Christ in the World. We rejoice with the following members of St. Michael Church who celebrate the anniversary of their Baptism during the month of February:

Alison Bell

February 12

Brianna Cobaugh

February 14



## FAMILY PROMISE NEWS



### Daytime Volunteers Needed!

Family Promise of Harrisburg Capital Region (FPHCR) is a local non-profit organization that provides shelter for homeless children and their families in houses of faith overnight. The guests use the address of the Day Center for their mailing address. This is where the children are picked up for school, guests depart/arrive from work, conduct housing and employment searches and receive case management services.

The Day Center has relocated to 525 Hummel Avenue in Lemoyne. *Beginning in February, we will be in need of Day Center volunteers to answer the telephone, take messages, interact with guests and provide general oversight when the Network Director is not available.* Training will be provided. If you might be interested in helping in this way or for further information, please contact Georgia Rehm at 564-0757.

### Family Promise Open House – February 24

On Friday from 11:00 - 3:00 Family Promise of Harrisburg is holding an Open House that will include tours, a free luncheon and a silent auction to celebrate its new Day Center location that opened at 525 Hummel Avenue in Lemoyne. This is a very exciting time for Family Promise. It's a fresh start – a new year, new location and new digs.

The building is owned by Trinity Lutheran of Lemoyne, immediately adjacent to the Day Center. It is through Trinity's generosity that Family Promise has its new location to continue its good work. The room layouts provide more practical space utilization. The property is adjacent to CAT transportation, and most importantly it brings Family Promise closer to the clients it serves and the resources, employment opportunities and support that are so critical to getting these families back on their feet.

This Open House will provide an opportunity for all members of St. Michael to become more familiar with this ministry that **you** are so generously and willingly helping to support. Attend the Open House and check it out! If you are not able to attend but would be interested in a tour, please feel free to contact Family Promise Director, Krissy Marshall at 737-1100. In addition there is a flyer posted on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall.

## COUNCIL ACTIONS – JANUARY 9<sup>TH</sup>

- Approved Barry and Hope Ridge to be accepted for membership by transfer at the January 22<sup>nd</sup> service
- Approved an amount from the Kuhnert Fund not to exceed \$1,000 to subsidize the congregational luncheon and theatre performance to be held February 12<sup>th</sup> (Note it is not anticipated this amount will be needed; however, Council did want to set a cap on a spending amount.)
- Approved to send to Financial Resources Committee to determine an expenditure of a capital expense of \$2890 to Select Security Wireless for the upgrade of our security system and for the committee to then make a February recommendation to Council.

### TREASURER'S REPORT: DECEMBER 2011

|                  |               |             |                |
|------------------|---------------|-------------|----------------|
| December Income  | \$16,421.09   | YTD Income  | \$143,593.40   |
| December Expense | (\$16,366.28) | YTD Expense | (\$166,044.39) |
| Difference       | \$54.81       | Difference  | (\$22,450.99)  |

## FROM THE THANK YOU CORNER

### TWO THANK YOUS FROM THE MINISTRY TO SOCIETY COMMITTEE

#### *THE CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE*

The Ministry to Society Committee would like to extend its appreciation to the members of St. Michael for their generous response to the Christmas Giving Tree. Our collected items of food, water, clothing, small appliances and household goods, linens, toiletries, personal items and gift cards were delivered to Jesse and Pam Peterson of Royalton on December 22<sup>nd</sup>. The Peterson's were overwhelmed by the gifts received from our congregation and sent their heartfelt thanks and blessings to Pastor Hawkins and the members of St. Michael. As an update on their living conditions, Mr. Peterson informed us that his landlord had consented to have repaired the electrical system that was damaged by the most recent flooding.

#### *LOAVES OF LOVE*

Jan Hagen-Frederiksen co founder of Loaves of Love, the ministry that serves Harrisburg's HIV/AIDS community, wishes to thank all the members of St. Michael for their delivery of cake mixes, icing and other grocery items. Loaves of Love, located in the lower level of the Harris Street United Methodist Church, was affected by the fall flooding. In spite of that, it remained open to serve its many friend clients. Please take a moment to read Mr. Frederiksen's letter posted on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR ST. BARNABAS CENTER FOR MINISTRY

The St. Barnabas Center for Ministry is a Lutheran-Episcopal outreach to the uptown section of Harrisburg. Many of you are familiar with this ministry, now in its 18th year, by helping the MTS Committee prepare and serve meals to the many children who participate in the Summer Camp Program. The After School Program that operates Monday through Friday to nurture the spiritual, educational and social development of children has an immediate need for volunteers. Assistance is needed to heat and serve meals, tutor and read with school-age children and youth and assist with homework. To learn more, contact Brenda Scott, Program Director at 717-232-3644, ext. 4. Or Carol Witzeamn at [cwitzeman@aol.com](mailto:cwitzeman@aol.com).

### ST. MICHAEL LUTHERAN CHURCH—118 STATE STREET—HARRISBURG PA 17101

#### Sunday Schedule

8:30 a.m. Sunday School  
10:00 a.m. Service of Word and Sacrament  
11:15 a.m. Fellowship

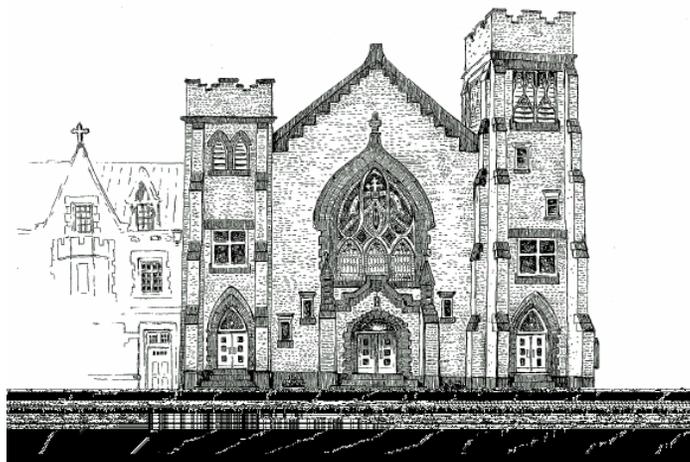
#### The Staff

The Reverend Lawrence Hawkins, Pastor  
Cecilia F. Price, Secretary  
Daniel W. Deitzel III, Director of Music  
Fran Zalek, Custodian

Church Office (717) 234-0092  
Kitchen (717) 234-0106  
E-mail [churchoffice@stmikehbg.com](mailto:churchoffice@stmikehbg.com)  
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Web Site [www.stmikehbg.com](http://www.stmikehbg.com)

Office Hours Monday and Friday 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

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**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

## ***FEBRUARY READINGS AND PRAYERS***

### **February 2—Presentation of Our Lord**

*Readings:* Malachi 3:1–4 Psalm 84 Hebrews 2:14–18 Luke 2:22–40

**Prayer of the Day:** Almighty and ever-living God, your only-begotten Son was presented this day in the temple. May we be presented to you with clean and pure hearts by the same Jesus Christ, our great high priest, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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### **February 5—Fifth Sunday after Epiphany**

*Readings:* Isaiah 40:21–31 Psalm 147:1–11, 20c 1 Corinthians 9:16–23 Mark 1:29–39

**Prayer of the Day:** Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and power to the faint. Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

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### **February 12—Sixth Sunday after Epiphany**

*Readings:* 2 Kings 5:1–14 Psalm 30 1 Corinthians 9:24–27 Mark 1:40–45

**Prayer of the Day:** Almighty and ever-living God, with mercy you look upon our weaknesses. Stretch out your wondrous hand to protect us from danger and restore us to health, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

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### **February 19—Transfiguration of Our Lord**

*Readings:* 2 Kings 2:1–12 Psalm 50:1–6 2 Corinthians 4:3–6 Mark 9:2–9

**Prayer of the Day:** Almighty God, the resplendent light of your truth shines from the mountaintop into our hearts. Transfigure us by your beloved Son, and illumine the world with your image, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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### **February 22—Ash Wednesday**

*Readings:* Joel 2:1–2, 12–17 Psalm 51:1–17 2 Corinthians 5:20b—6:10 Matthew 6:1–6, 16–21

**Prayer of the Day:** Almighty and ever-living God, you hate nothing you have made, and you forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and honest hearts, so that, truly repenting of our sins, we may receive from you, the God of all mercy, full pardon and forgiveness through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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### **February 26—First Sunday in Lent**

*Readings:* Genesis 9:8–17 Psalm 25:1–10 1 Peter 3:18–22 Mark 1:9–15

**Prayer of the Day:** Holy God, heavenly Father, in the waters of the flood you saved the chosen, and in the wilderness of temptation you protected your Son from sin. Renew us in the gift of baptism. May your holy angels be with us, that the wicked foe may have no power over us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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