

ST. MICHAEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

January 2012

Volume 35, Number 1

The Archangel

You are welcome here with us

A RECONCILING IN CHRIST CONGREGATION

Epiphany is a reminder of God the Father's unlimited love and mercy, which He has extended to all of mankind through the revelation of His Son. As we put into place our calendars for 2012 and greet our new church year, let each day remind of God's gift of His son and His grace.

The month of January will be a busy one for the congregation, family, and friends of St. Michael. Plan to worship with us each Sunday and to participate in the special events of this first month of 2012.

JANUARY 6th – 7:00 PM Epiphany Service – Again we will celebrate this principal church festival on this Friday evening. The Service of Word and Sacrament will be followed by a festive international-themed reception. You are invited to bake, buy, or borrow desserts that reflect a particular country of the world. We will worship and enjoy the diversity of God's creative presence. This festival evening worship provides us a glimpse of Jesus in His splendor and His glory to come.



JANUARY 22nd – Our Bishop, The Rev. B. Penrose Hoover, will be visiting with us this day. He will be leading our worship, and we will have an opportunity to visit and share fellowship with him. During the service we will celebrate the Rite of Confirmation of Isaac Hawkins, son of Pastor and Karyl Hawkins, and welcome new members: Debra Cline and Vera Mink. Further details of the plans for the day will be announced in the church bulletin.

JANUARY 29th – Installation of New Council Members – On February 1st the 2012 Congregational Council of St. Michael will assume its responsibilities for the year. As part of our weekly service on this day, a Service of Installation will be held for our newly elected council members: Mike Ennis, Les Van Dam, and Susan Will and for our returning council members: Elizabeth Benion, Nancy Eberly, Kevin Hepler, Guy Kehler, Susan McDonald, and Elizabeth Parker.

FAMILY PROMISE – DATES TO NOTE JANUARY POVERTY TRAINING and 2012 HOSTING WEEKS

JANUARY 17th - The Culture of Poverty training will be held at Cumberland Valley Brethren In Christ Church located at 1071 York Rd. in Dillsburg from 6-8pm. Two homeless liaison coordinators from Dauphin and Cumberland counties will be speaking on the subject. This will be a great opportunity to create a better understanding of how the majority of our guests have grown up, what their value system is like, how they make decisions, etc. Having a better understanding of the culture will make it easier to relate to our guests and serve them in a Christ-like way.

St. Michael will be hosting Family Promise guests in 2012 the weeks of April 22, June 24, September, 23, and December 9. Volunteers will be needed for overnight stays, meals, and some transportation assistance. Keep these dates in mind to plan and sign-up for the times you can be available. St. Michael welcomes this opportunity to say in this way, *"You are welcome here with us."*



THE DECEMBER 11, 2011 ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Following the service on this sunny Sunday, the members of St. Michael gathered in Fellowship Hall to attend their annual meeting. It was a time of conducting good business followed by a good luncheon and fellowship while we did it “Greener.” Previously, yearly committee and treasurer’s reports were produced on paper, and the congregational meeting was held in the sanctuary. This year the reports were sent out electronically for pre-review, and the agenda and other items of business were presented onto a projection screen in the Fellowship Hall. (Limited numbers of paper copies of all were available.) Note that the congregation:

- Approved the minutes of last year’s meeting
- Gave a special thanks to the committee chairs who did a great job preparing their annual reports
- Voted to approve the continued support of hosting the Family Promise Ministry
- Approved the 2012 Budget
- Elected to terms on the 2012 Church Council: Mike Ennis, Guy Kehler, Les Van Dam, and Susan Will
- Elected to represent at the 2012 Synod Assembly: Norma Ickes and Lennie Whitcomb
- Approved the 2012 Church Council Nominating Committee of 3: Norma Ickes, Wayne Noss, and Les Van Dam
- Expressed thanks for their service on council the outgoing members: Norma Ickes, Wayne Noss, and Lennie Whitcomb and to Property Committee Chair, John Wesley

Our Christian Ministry and Lutheran Faith are reflected in our church business.

COUNCIL ACTIONS – DECEMBER 12 MEETING

- Approved Colonial Lawn & Landscape, LLC to provide our snow removal services
- Moved to the Financial Resources Committee for the discussion of fee schedules for all non- ministry building use and for this committee to then make their recommendations to Church Council

TREASURER’S REPORT: NOVEMBER 2011

November Income	\$14,102.96	YTD Income	\$127,172.31
November Expense	(\$10,429.89)	YTD Expense	(\$149,678.11)
Difference	\$3,673.07	Difference	(\$22,505.80)

FROM THE THANK YOU CORNER.....

Thank you to all who helped to make the annual St. Michael’s Harrisburg Holiday Parade Open House a success! We opened our doors, welcomed, and fed over 160 most appreciative parade-goers! A special thanks to those who prepared and donated items. The left over hotdogs, rolls, and individually wrapped desserts and snacks were donated to Helping Hands Ministries for their Sunday dinner served here at St. Michael Church! (Those guests appreciated the food, too!) It was yet another opportunity for us to live our brand, “You are welcome here with us.”

Kudos to the “Special Fifteen – Those Candy Makers Extraordinaire” The official totals and acknowledgements are not in, but at the conclusion of their work in mid December, this dedicated, hard working group had made nearly **9,000 super delicious St. Michael Christmas Candy Patties**. Profits are anticipated to exceed last year’s. How about that! Details will follow in a future newsletter.

HELPING HANDS MINISTRIES UPDATE

St. Michael Lutheran Church welcomed back Helping Hands Ministries (HHM) to Fellowship Hall on Sunday, October 2, 2011. On any given Sunday and Wednesday afternoon 50–100 guests have been served a hot meal in a warm setting. As the weather has turned colder, there has been an increase in the number of those seeking shelter from the brisk conditions. There has also been an increase in the number of children, as well as, single women. It is a blessing that our congregation can offer a safe, clean, and warm environment for the guests to eat dinner. Thank you, Jesus!

Kathleen Schulkins continues to be well organized and runs a “tight ship.” She does not allow any of the guests to behave inappropriately or overstay their welcome. As a reminder, if any volunteer from St. Michael has an issue with a HHM guest, refer the guest immediately to Kathleen, or see Kathleen yourself.

The outside volunteers recruited by HHM take care of all that needs to be done. The cleanliness of the church is noticeable upon the departure of HHM guests and volunteers.

St. Michael volunteers signed up to cover Christmas Day and New Year’s Day. Kathleen was so excited that a hot meal in a warm setting was available and that traditional menus were served for these holidays. A turkey was donated by a member, as was the New Year’s Day dinner of pork and sauerkraut. We were also blessed to have members bring in clothing to be distributed to the guests of HHM. Thank you, good and faithful servants from St. Michael!

Over the past three months, twelve (12) members have signed up to open and close the church on Sundays and Wednesdays. We are thankful that members are following Jesus’ command to “feed my sheep.” A checklist is in the kitchen (on the wall near the telephone) to ensure that everything that needs to occur for this ministry does occur.

A HHM “wish list” is being created and will be in Fellowship Hall in the near future. The list will include such weekly staples as disinfectant wipes, Clorox, Lysol spray, coffee creamer, etc.

If anyone would like to discuss HHM and St. Michael’s participation in this congregational ministry, please speak with Mike Ennis or Lindsay Mills.

‘For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in’ ... ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’ (Matthew 25:35, 40 NIV)

BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARIES CELEBRATED IN JANUARY

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 January:

Eric Smith	January 8	Stephanie Winegar	January 12
Scarlett Mink-Border	January 10	Karyl Hawkins	January 21
Ken Harm	January 11	Marlene Kanuck	January 30



STEWARDSHIP STEW

“Happy New Year” is a greeting that we hear often during the time between late December and early January. And it is a fitting greeting because we move from calendar year 2011 to 2012. However, the Christian Church Year begins with the first Sunday in Advent (which in 2011 was on November 27.)

Why bring this up? The answer has to do with the reality that we Christians actually live in two different cultures—a secular culture and a spiritual culture. The secular culture is the world we live in and specifically the United States of America; the spiritual culture in which we live is the kingdom of God. These two cultures have very different values, especially in regard to Christian stewardship.

In our secular culture we are led to believe that we are owners of all the “things” we have. That means, among other things, that we are free to do whatever we want with our possessions and don’t have to give an account to anyone. As members of the kingdom of God we are instructed by the teachings from the Bible. The Bible gives us a very different perspective on ownership because it teaches us that God is the owner of all things (Psalm 24:1) and we are managers of all that God has entrusted to our care.

As God’s stewards we are not our own; we have been bought at a price (1 Corinthians 6:19-20) so we can glorify God and show love to others! As God’s stewards we do well to remember what St. Paul wrote to Timothy: **“For we brought nothing into this world, and we can take nothing out of it.”** (1 Timothy 6:7 NIV) What we do between our birth and our death is the measure of our stewardship. In addition, we should not view stewardship as a task that we have to do, but rather something that we get to do with the understanding that **“Stewardship means “belonging to God” - all that we are and all that we have comes from God. We are grateful to God for it all, and responsible to God for how we use it. There is a connection between stewardship and spirituality: generous giving as a spiritual discipline helps us to grow in Christ. ‘Duty and delight’ are both motivating factors for giving - doing what we ought to do as responsible church members, and making cheerful sacrifices out of love for God.”**

So “Happy New Year” for our secular culture and “Happy Giving” – of time, talent, and treasure – for our spiritual culture! And let’s not forget “Happy Epiphany!” Let the light of Christ shine – in us and through us!

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

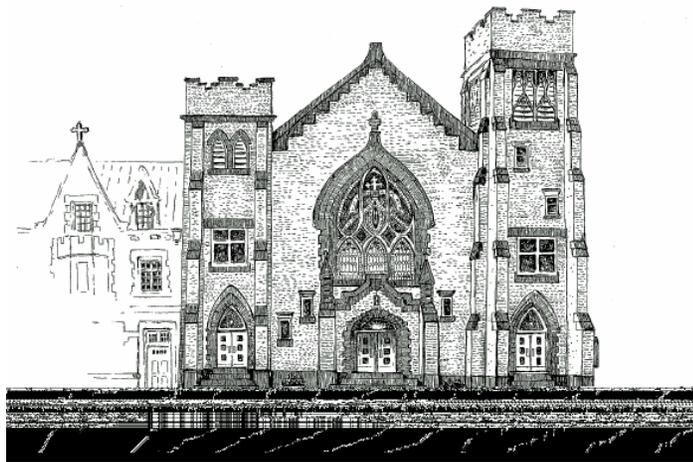
The Staff

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

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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.

JANUARY READINGS AND PRAYERS

January 1—Name of Jesus

Readings: Numbers 6:22–27 Psalm 8 Galatians 4:4–7 Luke 2:15–21

Prayer of the Day: Eternal Father, you gave your incarnate Son the holy name of Jesus to be a sign of our salvation. Plant in every heart the love of the Savior of the world, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

January 6—Epiphany of Our Lord

Readings: Isaiah 60:1–6 Psalm 72:1–7, 10–14 Ephesians 3:1–12 Matthew 2:1–12

Prayer of the Day: O God, on this day you revealed your Son to the nations by the leading of a star. Lead us now by faith to know your presence in our lives, and bring us at last to the full vision of your glory, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

January 8—Baptism of Our Lord

Readings: Genesis 1:1–5 Psalm 29 Acts 19:1–7 Mark 1:4–11

Prayer of the Day: Holy God, creator of light and giver of goodness, your voice moves over the waters. Immerse us in your grace, and transform us by your Spirit, that we may follow after your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

January 15—Second Sunday after Epiphany

Readings: 1 Samuel 3:1–10 [11–20] Psalm 139:1–6, 13–18 1 Corinthians 6:12–20 John 1:43–51

Prayer of the Day: Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ, most merciful redeemer, for the countless blessings and benefits you give. May we know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day praising you, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

January 18—Confession of Peter

Readings: Acts 4:8–13 Psalm 18:1–6, 16–19 1 Corinthians 10:1–5 Matthew 16:13–19

Prayer of the Day: Almighty God, you inspired Simon Peter to confess Jesus as the Messiah and Son of the living God. Keep your church firm on the rock of this faith, so that in unity and peace it may proclaim one truth and follow one Lord, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

January 22—Third Sunday after Epiphany

Readings: Jonah 3:1–5, 10 Psalm 62:5–12 1 Corinthians 7:29–31 Mark 1:14–20

Prayer of the Day: Almighty God, by grace alone you call us and accept us in your service. Strengthen us by your Spirit, and make us worthy of your call, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

January 25—Conversion of Paul

Readings: Acts 9:1–22 Psalm 67 Galatians 1:11–24 Luke 21:10–19

Prayer of the Day: O God, by the preaching of your apostle Paul you have caused the light of the gospel to shine throughout the world. Grant that we may follow his example and be witnesses to the truth of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

January 29—Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Readings: Deuteronomy 18:15–20 Psalm 111 1 Corinthians 8:1–13 Mark 1:21–28

Prayer of the Day: Compassionate God, you gather the whole universe into your radiant presence and continually reveal your Son as our Savior. Bring wholeness to all that is broken and speak truth to us in our confusion, that all creation will see and know your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS

All gifts are given to the glory of Almighty God.

The Christmas Trees are sponsored in memory of our parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Libby, Sr. and Mr. and Mrs. Thaddeus Mesh by Ted and Carol Mesh; and by Kevin Sheets and Kevin Hancock.

The cedar roping is sponsored in memory of their parents, Loyd and Annie Price; and Samuel and Angeline Forlano by Dave and Cecilia Price.

The large wreaths are sponsored by Jim Cowden and Keith Edwards; Mary Ann Furedi and Rick May; and Mary and Lennie Whitcomb.

The white roses on the altar are sponsored in loving memory of Ken and Paul Miller by Keith Miller.

WREATHS

In memory of:

William and Mary Eberly by Floyd and Nancy

Irene Lutz by Susan Wagner

Aaron and Edith Miller by family

Fred Mink, (Pap Pap) by Vera, Scarlett and Sonya Mink

Lynn Mueller by Guy Kehler and Lindsay Mills

Lynn and Charlie Mueller, and Mid Roth by Gil and Sondra Parthemore

Aunt and Uncle, Jackie and Dave Swartz by Jackie Smith

Barbie Thomas by Gil and Sondra Parthemore

Grace and Samuel Wentz by Susan Wagner



In honor of:

Candy makers by Norma Ickes

Pastor Hawkins by Sue McDonald and Chris Persson

Patrick and Christine Quinn by Mary Whitcomb

POINSETTIAS

Vera Mink

Louise Palmer

In memory of:

Cyril and Linette Archer by the Archer family

Dan and Ruth Capp by Lloyd and Shirley Kramer

Michael P. Cline by Debra Cline

Earl and Kathryn Fackler by Lloyd and Shirley Kramer

Grandparents by Bob Gerberich

Sam, Betty and Karen Lynn Harm by John and Susan Wesley

Treva Attig Heathcote by Debra Cline

Parents by Bob Gerberich

Father-in-law, Jack Smith by Jackie Smith

Jeremiah Smith by Erin, BJ, Maizza; Kara, Kevin; Tom; Isaac, Will, Karl and Caity

Sister, Vickie Slippey, by Jackie Smith

Barbara Thomas by The Humperdinck-L-Ettes

Alvin and Eva Umbenhauer by Ken Umbenhauer

Frank and Esther Wesley by John and Susan Wesley

Don Zutlas by Lloyd and Shirley Kramer



In honor of:

Our boys by Sue McDonald and Chris Persson

Wynn Grace and Libby Wagner by Susan Wagner

Grandchildren, Luke, Jordan and Anya, by Lloyd and Shirley Kramer

Gunnet and Warner families by Clair E. Gunnet Jr.

Nana and Pop-pop Hawkins by Amanda, Jeremy; Emily, Tristan; Shanna, Wes, Noah; Isaac, Will, Karl and Caity

Grandma Ida by Sue McDonald and Chris Persson

Life partner, Doug Warner, by Clair E. Gunnet Jr.

Men and women serving in the military by Lennie Whitcomb

Vera Mink (Grammie) by Scarlett and Sonya Mink

Nan Smith by Erin, BJ, Maizza; Kara, Kevin; Tom; Isaac, Will, Karl and Caity

Our St. Michael family by Sue McDonald and Chris Persson

FOR THIS HOLY HOUSE

Norma Ickes

Ken Umbenhauer

In memory of:

Richard H. Hays and Robert L. Bosley by Earl Truckenmiller

John H. Joseph by Marlene S. Joseph

In honor of:

John Joseph McGettigan by Marlene S. Joseph

Lauren Mary McGettigan by Marlene S. Joseph

Many thanks to all sponsors for the generosity of their gifts so that all may share in the beauty of their giving during this Christmas season.