

MIKE'S MISSAL

September 2015

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From the Interim Rector

The Gospels give us a glimpse of Jesus' values, often as he confronts practices and beliefs that he views as problematic. Often we hear him in conversation with the religious leaders and authorities of his day. In many of these conversations he challenges the "deadness" of their religious practices – it seems they had squeezed all the mystery out of faith and spirituality: connection with God was based on right belief and right practice rather than faith and a trusting relationship with Mystery.

Time and time again Jesus offered people a glimpse of mystery and urged them to see the world with bigger eyes and a bigger mind (to "repent"). Like most of us, they were tempted to cling to "certainty" that was tentative and precarious, at best.

The wise people I have known, most of them elderly, have been more like Jesus rather than his critics. Two things have gradually occurred to these wise folks: how little they really know for certain, and how peaceful it is to trust in God to carry mystery we can never understand.

As the world becomes smaller and smaller, and as we are confronted more often with values and practices different from our own, fear is a typical response. As fear increases, so does our longing for certainty. In news reports every day we see how irrationally people behave when they are driven by fear.

I can't help but wonder what the world would be like without so much fear: fewer weapons, less greed, more collaboration, less competition, more altruism, perhaps a few more

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laws slanted to help the "have nots" and fewer laws designed to protect the hoarding and greed of the "haves."

As people of faith, we are reminded of the comment Jesus makes most often in the Gospels: "Don't be afraid." He knew how hard it is to trust rather than fear, and he knew how corrosive and destructive fear becomes: without faith in the Mysterious God who loves us, all our efforts to squelch fear with power, comfort, and distractions are efforts in vain.

Tom E. King

ADULT INQUIRERS' CLASS

A six-week class for adults interested in knowing more about the Episcopal Church will begin on Wednesday evening, October 14, at 6:30. The class is open to any and all. Some participants will be folks who are considering confirmation or reception in the Episcopal Church. Others will be folks who have been Episcopalians quite some time and would like another exposure to some of the "signature" aspects of the Anglican/Episcopal tradition: The Book of Common Prayer, corporate worship, and the roles of scripture, tradition, and reason in the formation of our faith. And, some of the participants will be newcomers who want to know more about the life of faith as it is lived out in this particular tradition.



From your newest Deacon

Thank you all for prayers and support in my ministry as a deacon. My journey to both become and be a deacon wouldn't have been and isn't possible without them. My ordination was a joyous event and I thank each and every one of you who were able to be physically present (even more so because of the long drive) and for those who were with me in spirit. As joyous as ordination was, even more joyous was my first Sunday with you all as a deacon. The Bishop's hands and words consecrated me as a deacon but it is your will and my service that makes me a deacon. It is an honor to serve you.

I also want to thank you for the gift of a set of deacon's stoles in all the liturgical colors. Wherever I am, when I place the stole around my shoulder I will remember this wonderful community of St. Michael's who put their trust in me to be a deacon in Christ's church. I am proud to be your deacon and look forward to serving this community for many years to come!

St. Michael's Youth Group Rule of Life

We are a community of daily worship and prayer.

Out of our worship and communion with God, we strive to respect the uniqueness of each individual.

Respect each other. Accept us as we are.

Respect the ideas, wants and needs, likes and dislikes of others in the group
Don't interrupt each other. One person talks at a time.

Don't tell if I say, "Don't tell."

Only share what we feel comfortable sharing

We do not put one another down.

Respect each other's opinion

Don't speak of each other in a condescending way

Respect others by not engaging in verbal or physical abuse

Instead, we are willing to level with one another in love, honoring one another with honesty and respect when we have a problem with another individual

Whatever we do, we do out of love for God, self and one another.

We are in life together.

We interact with each other, not our technology.

Outside our space we will be on our best behavior

We will treat each other equally and not exclude anyone from conversation, hugs, or other types of interaction both inside and outside our space
Both inside and outside our space we will treat each other with common courtesy

Therefore, we are willing to give all we are to one another and with God's help, to offer more.

In everything we do, we seek to be open to the Holy Spirit.

Christian Formation Kick-Off Breakfast

We will kick off our Christian Formation year with a community breakfast on Sunday, September 13th from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Not only will we get to share in some yummy eats but we will also have mixer games, singing, and time for you to meet the teachers for the upcoming formation year. The breakfast is sponsored by the Christian Formation Ministry Team but all help is appreciated.

Youth Group Pool Party September 13th, 6-8p.m.

The Youth Group will kick off the year with a pool party on Sunday, September 13th from 6 to 8 p.m. at Amy Gardner's house in east Norman. We will grill burgers for dinner as well as provide chips and drinks. Kids should bring the normal stuff one needs at a swimming pool- towel, swimsuit (or come dressed to swim), etc. Parents can drop off and pick up their kids at Amy's house. Please RSVP to Laura Blazek so we know how many to cook for along with any food allergies we need to prepare for, and she will give a copy of directions to Amy's house.



CHRISTIAN FORMATION FOR YOUTH SUNDAY MORNINGS 9:30

The fall semester of Christian Formation for youth will begin on September 20 at 9:30 in the Youth Room. Leaders for this semester are Keith Stejskal and Fr. Tom. The class is open to all teens: those who have been confirmed already, those who are considering confirmation, and those who are not interested in confirmation at all. The class will begin with an exploration of what it means to be a person of faith, what it means to "have" faith. Copies of the book [My Faith, My Life](#) will be available the first day of class.

Christian Formation for Children 3 years old through 5th grade

Classes for this age group will be using the Faithweaver Now curriculum. We will have 2 separate classes for the 3 year olds to kindergarten. One class for children 3 year olds through Kindergarten and a second class for nursery if they aren't quite ready for Sunday school classes. Both classes will meet Sunday mornings in the education building from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Signs will be posted to help you find your way to class.

Teachers for the coming year are: Sharon Vaz and Laura Blazek who will teach the 3 yr. old to Kindergarten class; Bobby Rozzell and Randy Witzke who will teach the 1st to 5th grade class. Lessons from September through Advent (end of November) will come from the Old Testament. Stories will focus on the Israelites fleeing Egypt, their wanderings in the desert, the Ten Commandments, and finally Joshua bringing the Israelites across the desert into the Promised Land. A week by week schedule is posted on the bulletin board in the gathering hall. We will also have a lesson on Saints and orders of ministry as we prepare to install a new Presiding Bishop in November.

On the first Sunday of Advent, we will have an intergenerational Advent Event to kick off the Advent season; therefore we won't meet in the classrooms on that Sunday. More information on this event will be provided as we get closer.

Also, this year instead of having a pageant at Christmas we will have an Epiphany Pageant. Epiphany this year falls on a Wednesday which provides a unique opportunity to celebrate Epiphany and hopefully take some pressure off children and parents during the busy Christmas season. As for the Advent Event more information will come as we get closer, but can tell you now that rehearsals will take place on Sunday mornings during Sunday School time in December and the first Sunday in January.

Youth Group

Youth group is open to any youth who are in 6th through 12th grade. It is a place where we will build relationships through fun activities, service opportunities, prayer, and discussions about life and the world around us. In youth group we will learn how to apply lessons learned in Sunday school and worship to our everyday lives as youth begin to take responsibility for their own lives. It is a place of safety for sharing and questioning. The youth group has a Rule of Life which is shown in this missal along with being posted in the youth room and on the bulletin board in the ingathering space.

There isn't any curriculum that is followed, but together the youth and youth leaders will set a calendar of events, activities, and service projects for the next year. Since the youth are partners in the decision making, a calendar will be forthcoming after our first few meetings. However, we do have some things currently planned and several ideas that we want to run by the youth. We will kick off youth group with a pool party on September 13th from 3 to 6 p.m. at Amy Gardner's house (dinner provided).

Our first meeting in the youth room will be Sunday, September 20th from 6 to 8 p.m. Regular meeting time will be on Sunday's from 6 to 8 p.m. (if we have a special event/activity that requires us to meet outside that time then the following regularly scheduled meeting will be cancelled, e.g. no meeting the Sunday following a lock-in). We are planning a lock-in centered around the Hunger Games trilogy and the release of the final Mockingjay movie. Finally, we want to discuss a trip, a pilgrimage if you will, for later in the year. Youth leaders for the coming year are: Laura Blazek, Oz Alfert, Melissa Gray, and Susie Walker.

BOOK DISCUSSION

The book discussion group will meet on Sunday, Sept. 13th at 2:30 p.m. to review the book The Worst Hard Times by Timothy Egan, which is about the Oklahoma Dust Bowl.

The dust storms that terrorized America's High Plains in the darkest years of the Depression were like nothing ever seen before or since, and the stories of the people that held on have never been fully told. Pulitzer Prize-winning New York Times journalist and author Timothy Egan follows a half-dozen families and their communities through the rise and fall of the region, going from sod homes to new framed houses to huddling in basements with the windows sealed by damp sheets in a futile effort to keep the dust out.

He follows their desperate attempts to carry on through blinding black blizzards, crop failure, and the deaths of loved ones. Drawing on the voices of those who stayed and survived—those who, now in their eighties and nineties, will soon carry their memories to the grave—Egan tells a story of endurance and heroism against the backdrop of the Great Depression.

WICKED WOMEN

Wicked Women will meet on Friday, September 18th, at 7 p.m. at the church. Ana will be preparing a veggie curry and red lentil soup.

WISE WOMEN LUNCHEON



The Wise Women will resume their luncheons on September 26th, beginning at 11:30 at St. Michael's. All are welcome to join the potluck luncheon and fellowship.

St. Mike's Got Artistic Talent & Interesting Collectibles September 27th

(Rescheduled from August 30th)



Are you an artist, carpenter, florist, collector of interesting things? Sunday, September 27th, (following the 11:00 service) will be an opportunity to share your work and/or some of your collections with the congregation. Artists and collectors of all ages, especially children, are encouraged to participate -- and to let the congregation know a bit more about you and your interests. There will be no jury, no prizes, no judges – just a bunch of friends who would be delighted to see and enjoy your work.

If your hobby or special talent is in caring for animals, feel free to bring plenty of photos, but leave your animals at home! Please plan to have no more than ½ of an 8 foot table to display your wares so there is plenty of room for everyone who wishes to participate. Forms to register your collection for display are available in the in-gathering space. You may set up your display as early as the Wednesday prior to the 27th, or any time during the week that the building is open.



St. Michael's Sunday Evensong

Join the choir and congregation for a service of Evensong to celebrate St. Michael's Sunday at 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, September 27th. Evensong is a choral service of evening prayers, psalms and canticles. St. Michael's will also conduct Evensong services during the three Wednesdays of Advent.

Adult Christian Formation

Along with all the other things going on with Christian Formation, we also have an adult class that will begin on Sunday, September 20th, during the Christian Formation time of 9:30 – 10:45. *Living the Good News* will be facilitated by Wallis Ohl.

Living the Good News education program focuses on the same cycle of weekly readings used in the worship services. In other words, it follows the Revised Common Lectionary each week.

This program is available on-line so you can review it at any time. The office will need to know your preferred email address to get you started. Paper copies of all program information will also be available.

SOAR (Singles Outreach and Resource)

St. Michael's SOAR (Singles Outreach and Resource) group would like to invite you to join us. We meet for lunch one Sunday a month immediately following the 11:00 a.m. service. Our next gathering will be on Sunday, September 27th at Blackbird Gastropub located at 575 S. University, Norman. Guests, friends, family, neighbors and couples are always welcome to join in this lunch fellowship. If you have questions about SOAR or would like to RSVP, please contact Paula Magarian at magarian@ymcanorman.org or Rita Akin at ritaakin@att.net

We hope you will join us in this lunch fellowship

KNITTING AND CROCHETING

Our knitting and crocheting group meets every Wednesday from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. We are currently making prayer shawls, scarves for Special Olympics (either crimson and cream or black and orange), and purple baby caps (for a child abuse prevention program). We have lots of yarn and welcome everyone! If you need instruction, we can provide it.

FINANCIAL TRACKING

FINANCIAL SUMMARY: JULY 2015	
BUDGET	25,499.99
FUNDS RECEIVED	28,408.52
OVER/(UNDER)	2,908.53

FINANCIAL SUMMARY: YEAR-TO-DATE		
2015 Budget: 309,950		
BUDGET	180,950.05	
FUNDS RECEIVED	181,317.02	
OVER/(UNDER)	366.97	

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE		
Monthly Payment Amount: \$ 3,178.13		
Outstanding Balance	242,585.33	06/30/2015
Principal Payment	2,170.21	07/02/2015
Extra Principal Pmt.	2,000.00	07/02/2015
Outstanding Balance	238,415.12	07/31/2015

Birthdays

- 02 Clark Morter
- 02 David Pruitt
- 06 Richard Kerner
- 06 Paul Wilson
- 08 King Price
- 10 Paul David Schonauer
- 15 Charmaine Magarian
- 17 Lorand Kyler
- 18 Paula Price
- 18 Elise Miller
- 20 Jaci Williams
- 21 Pepper Haraway
- 21 Carol Gibbens
- 21 John Hartley
- 24 Peter Rodrigues
- 25 Deno Argentos
- 25 Paula Magarian
- 26 Julianne Parker
- 27 Tim Kellogg
- 30 Margaret Witzke

Anniversaries

- 03 Sunday and Abiodun Adegbuyi
- 03 Lawrence and Nancy Larsen
- 04 Wallis and Sheila Ohl
- 05 Howard and Suzanne Moore
- 20 Michael and Erin Risley
- 27 Jonathan and Heather Bogle

Check the monthly calendar for listings of usual meetings and events. Read the Wednesday E-Missal and the Sunday bulletin announcements page for more detailed information.

September 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2 6:00 Healing and Eucharist 6:30 Knitting 6:30 Lectio Divina 7:30 Choir Practice		4	5
6 8:30 Service Holy Baptism 11:00 Service	7 Offices Closed Labor Day NPS Closed	8 Cleveland County Special Elections 7:00 Bell Choir	9 6:00 Healing and Eucharist 6:30 Knitting 6:30 Lectio Divina 7:30 Choir Practice	10 9:00 Staff Mtg	11 3:00 Food for Friends 7:00 Wild Men's Night Out	12 10:30 Food for Friends
13 Recycle Day 8:30 Service 9:30 Christian Formation Kick-Off 11:00 Service 2:30 Book Club 6-8 Youth Grp Swim Party	14 7:00 EfM 7:30 NCCS	15 7:00 Bell Choir	16 6:00 Healing and Eucharist 6:30 Knitting 6:30 Lectio Divina 7:30 Choir Practice	17	18 7:00 Wicked Women	19
20 8:30 Service 9:30 Christian Formation 11:00 Service Handbell Choir 12:30 Vestry Meeting 6:00 Youth Grp	21 7:00 EfM 7:30 NCCS	7:00 Bell Choir	23 6:00 Healing and Eucharist 6:30 Knitting 6:30 Lectio Divina 7:30 Choir Practice	24 10:00 Bible Study 11:00 Healing/Eucharist	25	26 11:30 Wise Women
27 8:30 Service 9:30 Christian Formation 11:00 Service 12:30 SOAR St. Mike's Got Artistic Talent 5:00 Evensong 6:00 Youth Grp	28 7:00 EfM 7:30 NCCS	29 7:00 Bell Choir	30 6:00 Healing and Eucharist 6:30 Knitting 6:30 Lectio Divina 7:30 Choir Practice			

St. Michael's Contacts

Rector	Fr. Tom King	405-703-0574	frtom@stmichaelsnorman.org
Deacon	Nancy Wakely	360-9676	wakely11@swbell.net
Deacon	Laura Blazek	321-8348	laurablazek@sbcglobal.net
Parish Administrator	Donna Young	321-8951	administrator@stmichaelsnorman.org
Finance Secretary	Suzanne Moore	321-8951	treasurer@stmichaelsnorman.org
Organist/Choirmaster	Jon Roberts	850-5252	dachs.mirabilis@cox.net
Sexton	Ashley Engle	243-7745	
Treasurer	Thomas Pearson	990-5644	tpearson521@gmail.com
Christian Formation			
Senior Warden	Rick Young	637-6376	dry0un654@hotmail.com
Junior Warden	Jeff Baldwin	217-2337	jbaldwin@pioneerlibrarysystem.org

WORSHIP

Altar Guild	Paula Price	321-1687	PPrice@nrh-ok.com
Lectors and Acolytes	Oz Alfert	476-8298	it-admin@stmichaelsnorman.org
Schedule			
Lay Eucharistic Visitors	Nancy Wakely	360-9676	wakely11@swbell.net
Youth Group			
Education for Ministry	James W. Smith	833-3901	muskratsmith@cox.net
Retreat in Daily Life	Julianne Parker	872-1120	
Cursillo	Amy Gardner	366-8321	awgardner@yahoo.com
Prayer Chain	Amy Gardner	366-8321	awgardner@yahoo.com
Daughters of the King	Kathren Dominquez	414-1106	racoonskits@yahoo.com
Acolyte Ministry			
St. Cecelia's Guild	Tim Phillips	625-9894	timrphillips@mac.com

OUTREACH

Kathaleen Cassidy Bookstore	Nancy Larsen	321-6795	nancyelarsen@yahoo.com
Memorial Library	Sue Harrington	329-6932	sueharrington0127@att.net
	Anne Million	364-2971	adecm@juno.com
Food for Friends	Vickie Blythe	492-8173	vickie.blythe48@gmail.com
Meals for Parishioners	Jocelyn Pedersen	823-7674	canadianokie@mac.com
Newcomer's Ministry	Kathy Rodrigues	899-7418	twinpinesok@gmail.com
Thanksgiving Baskets	Bob Magarian	364-3273	rmagaria@swbell.net
Community Christmas	Bob Magarian	364-3273	rmagaria@swbell.net
Dinner			
Prayer Shawl Knitting	Amy Gardner	366-8321	awgardner@yahoo.com
BAHRD Uganda Children	Rosemary Ford	808-1848	rosemarysomersford@aol.com

FELLOWSHIP

Wild Men's Night Out	Clark Morter	213-3675	lcmorter@yahoo.com
Wicked Women	Lezlie Christian	834-1924	whistleseed@gmail.com
Wise Women	Betty Eick	321-3195	bettyeick@cox.net
Episcopal Church Women	Basha Hartley	535-9215	bashahartley@gmail.com
Easter Vigil	Randy Witzke	691-7325	randywitzke@sbcglobal.net
SOAR	Paula Magarian	414-8202	magarian@ymcanorma.org