



The Messenger



St. Michael's Episcopal Church, February, 2012

Joe's Journal:

From the Rev. Joe Weatherly

“...If Not Now, When?”

We are currently in our lectionary cycle of Year B, which focuses our Sunday gospel readings on the gospel according to Mark. As I have prepared for recent Sunday sermons, I have been reminded how succinct and with a sense of urgency the message is presented. The writer of Mark begins his account of the gospel with John the Baptizer fulfilling the role of prophet and messenger, the baptism of Jesus, God identifying who Jesus is, the temptation of Jesus, and Jesus calling his first disciples in 20 verses and all before even getting halfway through the first chapter of Mark.

I am reminded of the proverbial phrase, “time waits for no man.” Even if I forget it, my aging body now reminds me. The consensus meaning of the phrase is no one can stop the movement of time. But I believe it also means since we are finite beings, and we have only so much earthly time (chronos). Thus, another phrase comes to mind, “if not now, when?” This phrase is part of a longer statement by the 1st century BCE, Jewish scholar, Rabbi Hillel, “If I am not for myself, then who will be for me? And if I am only for myself, then what am I? And if not now, when?”

Living with reality, I must be aware of not only what I am doing, but when I do it. We do live lives in which we must prioritize at least daily and sometimes hourly. Interestingly, those things I really enjoy or want to do always seem to work into any limited time window and those things I do not enjoy or want to do seem to lose my attention. Many times the delay is due to my uncertainty or fear of taking action. These “delays” of actions that “deep down” I know will help me or others are always in tension with the phrase, “if not now, when?”

We have begun a new year at St. Michael's full of this year's hope, and we do live in the reality of time. There may be things in the parish or even in your own spiritual life you have thought you would like to do or even need to do for yourself or for others. It might be helpful to view some of these thoughts in light of the phrase, “if not now, when?” As this year's Vestry ministries begin anew, there will be opportunities for each of us to “minister” for our own sakes and for the sake of others.

We all walk a limited time in the world with our own sense of priorities and our own sense of needs. But we do not walk alone, and we have been blessed by a God who loves us. As stewards of our blessings, how do we apply our time, talent, and treasure? Do we feel any urgency to offer ourselves - “If not now, when?” May God's Spirit guide us not only in our thoughts but in our actions.

EYC & Canterbury

EYC Talent Show & Fundraiser

Join us in the Parish Hall on **February 12th** at **5:30pm** for a Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser for our Episcopal Youth Community. The dinner is “pay what you can” and the teens will put on a talent show for entertainment. The money will go towards our Angel House orphan sponsorship and will also benefit the youth's travel funds. All ages are welcome at the show! Thanks for supporting our youth!

A Personal View of the 180th Convention of the Diocese of Tennessee

As I reflect on my experience at the 180th Diocese of Tennessee Convention, I think of the many diocesan conventions I have attended in the past and how wonderful this recent one was. For me, of course, it was a homecoming to return to Sewanee, the “Holy Mountain” where I lived and worked for 13 years. The Convention itself was held on the campus of St. Andrews – Sewanee, where my children attended secondary school. The hall in which we met was new, but the thick Sewanee fog was just like old times.

One big change was the lack of controversy. Resolutions and the budget were rapidly approved with everyone’s support. Unlike years past, even elections for Bishop and Council (the diocesan equivalent of our parish vestry) were not hotly contested. It was a pleasure to just enjoy fellowship and to listen to an amazing speaker, The Rt. Rev. Geralyn Wolf, Bishop of Rhode Island. She spoke passionately to the convention about liturgy and then preached at the Eucharist on Saturday morning in the University of the South’s All Saints Chapel. Everyone was inspired and invigorated by her words. The setting for the Eucharist in All Saints, along with the procession of clergy, bishops, and banners from churches in the diocese, was beautiful and awe-inspiring.

In his address to the convention, Bishop John Bauerschmidt spoke of his five years as Bishop of Tennessee. Twice he alluded to the 50+ ballots required before he was elected. The Bishop now seems to enjoy wide support from those in the diocese, having gained our trust and respect during the past five years. If you want to know more about the convention, please read the January issue of *Connections*, or talk to any of us who attended from St. Michael’s: Sharon Artley, Barbara Goodson, Pat Phillips, Rachel Robinson, or The Rev. Joe Weatherly.

- Pat Phillips

Sunday School News

Lenten Soup Supper/Book Study

Lent begins on February 22nd this year. Beginning on **Wednesday, February 29th, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.** in the Parish Hall our Lenten Soup Supper and Book Study will begin. The program will be held on February 29 and March 7th, 14th, 21st, concluding on March 28. The program is open to the community, so if you have a friend or neighbor who may be interested, please invite them. Each session offers a chance for fellowship and spiritual growth.

This year’s book is *The Screwtape Letters* by C.S. Lewis. In one of Lewis’ most thought-provoking works the reader is made privy to letters from a senior demon, Screwtape, to his nephew Wormwood. In each letter Screwtape instructs Wormwood on the finer points of temptation. As with all his works Lewis tackles serious theological issues with subtle wit and insight. If you’ve never read Lewis, *The Screwtape Letters* is a great place to start. If you’ve read it before, you’ll want to come take part in this discussion!

The program begins on Wednesdays 6:00 p.m. with a soup and salad supper. Volunteer cooks are needed for each of the five weekly sessions—please sign up at the display in the Parish Hall. At 6:30 p.m. we will begin our discussion. We will close with the ancient prayer service of Compline between 7:00-7:15 p.m. Childcare will be provided!

Copies of the book are available to borrow from the Putnam County Library or can be purchased at Cookeville’s Books-a-Million, Lifeway Christian Store (both on West Jackson Street), and Cornerstone Christian Books on Broad Street.

SOUPer Bowl of Caring

Apparently there's a big football game on **February 5**. As in years past, our youth and children are collecting canned goods and money for our local food pantry that day. Everything collected in the big soup pots will go directly to Helping Hands of Putnam County. A youth-led program, the SOUPer Bowl of Caring began as a result of a single prayer: "Lord, as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, let us be mindful of those without even a bowl of soup to eat." In the twenty years since that prayer, the campaign has grown into a nation-wide effort to help the hungry in local communities. Please mark the date on your calendar to remember to bring a non-perishable food item (or a monetary donation) to church that day. Thank you for helping tackle hunger!

Stitching for Others Calling all Knitters, Crocheters, and Stitchers!

We would like to invite all stitchers (and those interested in learning) to a charitable stitching group here at St. Michaels. We will meet on Wednesdays in the Library at 12:00 starting February 1, 2012. Bring your needles, yarn, patterns, and most importantly IDEAS as to how to make this a success! If you don't have any knitting or crocheting supplies, come anyway, I have plenty for all! Projects could be hats, toys, baby blankets, and chemo hats for children and adults. Items could be done independently if you don't want to commit to a regular meeting. Call me if you have questions or if you need transportation. Darlene Roberts

Dinners for Eight

The February Dinners for Eight will be on Saturday, **February 4th**. Those wishing to participate need to contact Marilyn Monin by Monday, January 30th to make reservations. Dinners for Eight is open to any adult member of the parish who wishes to enjoy casual dining and good fellowship with other parishioners in a home setting. Contact Marilyn for more information. Thanks, Marilyn

Calling **ALL** women at St. Michael's! We are looking at a great year ahead!

Our first 2012 meeting will be **Tuesday, February 7 @ 5:30-7:00 p.m.** Please bring hors d'oeuvres and any ideas you would like to share on how to make this ministry great. Contact Kim Dearnbarger. Remember : **YOU** are a part of ECW and we want **YOU** to join us in this time of fellowship!

New on the Parish Website

Various photos taken at the pumpkin carving, St. Michael's Day picnic, and other 2011 parish events have recently been added to our website. To view these new images, go to <http://www.stmike-tn.org/>, choose *About Us*, and then *Photo Album*. Thanks are due George Barnard, Ginger Ensor, Jim Lewis and Rick Wilt for these recent contributions.

Digital photos (in JPG/JPEG format) are always eagerly accepted for possible inclusion on the website. Contact Barbara Goodson if you have some you'd like to share.

For Parish Life
special events

Put it on your calendar now to join us for the **Annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, February 21st from 5:30-7:00**, come at any time during the hour and a half, the vestry will be cooking up pancakes with delicious toppings and sausage to go with it. Hope to see you there!

Coffee and Conversation Volunteers needed!

We will now be having a coffee social time after the 10:00 am service to give us a chance to meet any visitors and to mingle every Sunday. There will be a sign up sheet on the parish life bulletin board. Please help us make this a success and sign up for a Sunday or two. Very easy, not a lot of work involved, just make a pot of regular and a pot of decaf, and bring some kind of finger food to serve. It could be anything from coffee cake, to donuts, to cookies, to brownies, cheese and crackers, etc, etc... You get the idea, just something to have a bite with the coffee and orange juice. Any questions, just call me, Becky King.

Also, if you have been missing the coffee / breakfast time after the 8:00 am service, there is still a sign-up sheet on the parish life bulletin board, it is just in need of volunteers. Please, feel free to volunteer, and maybe we can rekindle this activity that I think the 8 o'clockers enjoy. If you sign up for it, the duration won't be as long as it used to be, since church is done around 8:45 and Sunday School starts at 9:00 now, there is just enough time to grab a cup of coffee and a bite before heading into Sunday School, and then a little clean up afterwards, it doesn't have to stay out till the later people come, since they have the opportunity after church. Questions, contact me, Becky King.

Outreach

News from Fr. Jaime, priest of our sister church in Ecuador:

We now have a fairly direct route of keeping informed as to Fr. Jaime's situation, thanks to "translation services" by Barbara Goodson and Martha Austen, who both know Fr. Jaime from participation in medical missions. Fr. Jaime's nephew, Carlos, sent an email to us (Ginger and Dale Ensor) which was translated by Barbara. Since that initial contact, she has been conducting the communication with Carlos, providing a direct and reliable source of updates. Fr. Jaime is receiving chemotherapy for the cancer and indicates that he is feeling somewhat better. It would appear that the

prognosis is not favorable - but all things are possible with God's help.

Last month, we sent the card that Fr. Herb and Betty made for the Davilas, along with a check to assist with medical expenses. We included translations into Spanish by Martha of comments that you wrote on the card, so Fr. Jaime and Lillian were able to read all that was written on the card. The letter included below is to all of us at St. Michael's, expressing his appreciation for our support and love. In another email, he says, "...please convey my gratitude to all of my friends and brothers and sisters at St. Michael's. Please ask them to keep me in their prayers. I always give thanks to God and Jesus our Savior for your friendship, dear friends. I want to tell you that, as always, my wife Lillian is helping me with everything. She takes care of me and feeds me with great care; God gave me this beautiful companion - please also pray to the Lord for her health."

Thank you for your prayers and support for Fr. Jaime and Lillian and the people of Jesus Obrero. Please continue to lift them up. We'll provide updates as they become available.

Letter from Father Jaime Dávila

To my brothers and sisters at St. Michael's Church:

My heart is filled with great joy to be writing this message to you - a marvelous multitude of true Christians. I will always be eternally grateful to all of the members of St. Michael's.

I pray to God to give you the greatest blessings and strengthen your noble spirits; I've shed tears of happiness because of your messages, which I consider as blessings because they were inspired by God. I now bear these messages in the depths of my soul.

Thank you, dear brothers and sisters; I want to let you know that the Lord Jesus has made me a little better. He is next to me, caring for and strengthening me.

I ask always for your prayers.

The love of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be always with you.

*Your brother forever,
Padre Jaime Dávila Vasquez*

Help for Genesis House

In the near future we may need help in providing support for apartment items for those who continue to hold their jobs. In the meantime, there are the usual supplies needed for the children at Genesis House such as games, books, toys, laundry soap and diapers. Other items needed would be: canned vegetable food, peanut butter, canned tuna, and pasta for spaghetti, macaroni & cheese.

Please leave your small helpful items in the Genesis House collection box at the foot of the stairs near the back entrance as you enter the church. Any big appliances or household items should be taken to the All American Storage, Door 7 on 2005 Fisk Rd., Cookeville, TN 38501, Unit #140 and #141, on Wednesdays (excluding holidays) from 9a.m. – 2p.m.

Genesis House asks that you do not personally deliver any of your contributions. Susan will come for the pickups when she is called by the church secretary. Thank you, Betty Catlin

Servant's Schedule

FEBRUARY 5

Choir Director/Organist: Michael Choate

Acolytes: Logan Terheggen, Maggie Amoss, Emma Choate, Dustin Pegram

8:00 Euch. Min: Myrna Nettleton, L Betty Catlin, P

10: 00 Euch. Min: Mary Jo Meyer, L, Chuck Fleming, P

Vestry: Doc Jones & Bill Carr

Ushers: Shelia & Sam Barnes/Nancy & Ronnie Kelly

Nursery: Mark Clark

FEBRUARY 12

Choir Director/Organist: Michael Choate

Acolytes: Abbie King, Katy & Will Fleming, Cater Capron-Allcott, Logran King, Dominic Workman

8:00 Euch. Min: Jim Vaden, L, Kim Dearnbarger, P

10: 00 Euch. Min: Cheryl Vickers, L, Rick Wilt, P

Vestry: Pat Phillips & Brad Houck

Ushers: Sandi Koczwarra & Bob Freeman

Nursery: Mark Clark

FEBRUARY 19

Choir Director/Organist: Michael Choate

Acolytes: Abbye & Taylor Leek, Daniel Reagan, Laura Frank

8:00 Euch. Min: Walter Derryberry, L, John Wray, P

10: 00 Euch. Min: Barbara Goodson, L, Becky Magura, P

Vestry: Sharon Artley & Craig Fickling

Ushers: Karen & Mac Evans/Kim & Todd Hess

Nursery: Mark Clark

FEBRUARY 22 (ASH WEDNESDAY)

7:00 a.m. Imposition of Ashes

12:00 p.m. Imposition of Ashes

Eucharist Minister: Myrna Nettleton

7:00 p.m. Imposition of Ashes with Holy Eucharist

Eucharist Minister: Pat Phillips

FEBRUARY 26

Choir Director/Organist: Michael Choate

Acolytes: Nick Amoss, Austin & Caroline Stafford, Morgan Dearnbarger

8:00 Euch. Min: Bernie Mattingly, L, Dale Ensor, P

10: 00 Euch. Min: Loretta Jones, L, Cheryl Vickers, P

Vestry: Becky King & David Smith

Ushers: Bettye Vaden & TBA/Pat & Steve Miko

Nursery: Mark Clark

February Hospitality: Laura Fleming, Sandy Jestus, Nadine Jones, Ruth Jones, Darlene Roberts; Contact Person: Rick & Pat Wilt (615-597-5055)

February Altar Guild: Team: 1: Pat Phillips, Dessa Hix, Claire McMillan, Barbara Goodson;

Altar Flowers: Lissa Parks, Sara Parks, & Nancy Kelly

Time of Services & Events:

Sundays 8:00 A.M. – Rite I & 10:00 A.M. – Rite II

Sundays 9:00 A.M. – Sunday School

Wednesdays

Ash Wednesday:

7:00 a.m. Imposition of Ashes

12:00 p.m. Imposition of Ashes

7:00 p.m. Imposition of Ashes with Holy Eucharist

12:00 P.M. Noonday Prayer/Healing Service

5:30 P.M. Holy Eucharist, Rite II

Wednesdays Bible Study - 6:30 p.m.