

The Sword



Your weekly connection with St. Michael's Episcopal Church

27 June 2013

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From the "editor":

Please note that next week we will not publish the *e-Sword* given the Independence Day holiday. We will resume publication of the *e-Sword* on the 11th of July. The parish office will be closed on the 4th of July.



Also, please note that in last week's *e-Sword* "In the Parish Family" Rachel Rutkowski's name was spelled incorrectly. My sincerest apologies for the editing oversight!

Upcoming at St. Michael's:

+ Part III of the discussion of The Church Blessing (or Not) of Same-Gender Relationships: "Hearing from the Parish" runs between June 29 and June 30 during the following times:

- Saturday, June 29, 8:30 to 10:00 am - Community Room
- Sunday, June 30 from 8:45 to 10:15 am - Undercroft
- Sunday, June 30 from 10:30 to 12:00 pm - Undercroft

To Rejoice? Or not to Rejoice?

a letter to the people of St. Michael's from the Rector

Dear People of St. Michael's,

You wouldn't be reading the word *apocryphal* in a *Sword*

6.30 Bill Ferry, Stuart
Taylor, Janette
Warner, Marty
Guthrie, Anna
Montgomery,
Arianna Scotti,
Samuel Szarzynski,
Jack Eissler, Kara
Joy Baker

7.1 Kalena Keclik,
Maesyn Poidomani,
Renee Buxton

7.2 Jennifer Seyffert,
Mason Guthrie

7.3 Ann Daly, Leslie
Yerger, Quinn Blue,
Geoffrey Dowling

7.4 Michelle Smith,
Rick Hardy

7.6 Josh Arms,
Katherine Palmer

letter if I didn't think it was timely and important, relative to the now-peaking conversations at St. Michael's having to do with the blessing (or not) of same-gender relationships.

According to one dictionary, *apocryphal* means: *Of doubtful authenticity, although widely circulated as being true.*

Conspiracy theories and half-truths typically find their way into environments where highly charged matters are at stake. The present conversations at St. Michael's, in my own perception, have been not completely but relatively (and blessedly) free of apocryphal intention, accusation or inference.

But *apocryphal* also has a second meaning. Relative to the Bible, it technically describes writings or stories that are related to the canonical Scriptures but are of debated authenticity and value. One example came to mind during our first Town Hall Meeting last night. To understand the apocryphal story, the context is critical:

In the Book of Exodus, after God delivered the unarmed Israelites through the Red Sea, with the entire Egyptian army in close pursuit, *"The Lord swept [the Egyptians] into the sea ... Not one of them survived ... Then Moses and the Israelites sang ... 'I will sing to the Lord, for he is highly exalted. Both horse and driver he has hurled into the sea.'"* (14:27b,28b, 15:1)

The apocryphal story, not included in Scripture but kept alive by many rabbis over centuries, goes like this: *When God saw the jubilation of Moses and the Israelites, he chastened them, saying, 'How can you rejoice while my children, the Egyptians, are drowning?'*

This apocryphal story wasn't mentioned at last night's Town Hall Meeting. But its essence was evident in the remarks of several souls who spoke or who wrote to the vestry. They showed great sensitivity to a pending vestry decision that (whatever it is) will inevitably leave some people feeling as if they've drowned in the Red Sea and others inclined to rejoice.

Those parishioners were pleading for all the faithful humility, sensitivity and mutual respect that all of us are able to muster as we move forward. With deep gratitude for those parishioners' sentiments, I share their plea and prayers.

Anniversaries

Rest in Peace

7.4 Ned Dally
7.5 Clark Beverly, Sr.

- Patrick+

Also from the Rector

As We Anticipate the 4th of July ...

Searching for an inspirational thought or two relative to Independence Day, I came across a website that included some children's patriotic poems, including this, by one J. Mason Knox:

*It ain't the guns nor armament,
Nor funds that they can pay,
But the close co-operation,
team-work
That makes them win the day.*

*It ain't the individual,
Nor the army as a whole,
But the everlasting

Of every bloomin' soul.*

Little Red Wagon

The Barrington Township Food Pantry will be the recipient of our food collection in the month of June. Food needs are rice, crackers, cereal, peanut butter, jelly and more rice.

Personal care items and paper products are always welcome.

If you will not be shopping, please remember the container attached to the Little Red Wagon for donations to the Food Pantry Fund.



The young author indicated that his poem was inspired by Benjamin Franklin, who, after the signing of the Declaration of Independence, is reported to have said: *"We must all hang together, or assuredly we shall all hang separately."*

See a few other related quotes at the end of the Sword.

July 10 trip to Camp Chicago, Anyone?



2012 at Camp Chicago

Andie, Katie, Ali, Kara, Hilary and our Rector

I'm planning to go out to Camp Chicago, our diocesan summer camp, for Eucharist and the ever-popular foil-wrapped-campfire meal on Wednesday afternoon-evening, July 10. I'd enjoy the company of other interested parishioners. If there's enough interest, I'll take the church van. As I've previously reported, four souls from St. Michael's are serving on this summer's camp staff: **Kara Baker, Katie**

Lindeen, Hilary Murray and Ali Pepper. I plan to leave St. Michael's for Camp Stronghold (the site for Camp Chicago, 75 minutes away) around 3 pm and will probably return around 10pm. Let me know if you're interested in joining me -- it's necessary to plan in advance so that extra meals can be anticipated, praymond@stmichaelsbarrington.org.

-

In the Parish family

+Those for whom prayers have been requested:

Brandon & family; Steve & Barb; Barbara; Rollo; Amy; William; Doris; David; Mary; Marilyn; Blake, Jordyn & Jeff; Dean; Jean; Carol; Lee; Bonnie; Mary; Scott; Connie; Paul, Chris & family; Richard safety & peace in South Sudan; Barrington Township Food Pantry; military troops in danger including those from our parish, especially, Zane, Ryan, Michael, Bruce, and Taylor.

+Juliana Rose Cichon was born on June 21, 2013. Her parents are Carrie and John Cichon, proud Grandma is Connie Wolff. She weighs 7 lbs. 1 oz. and is 20" long and is pictured below!



+ The Rev. Elyse Gustafson, sponsored for



ordination by St. Michael's, was ordained priest at Chapel of the Cross, on the campus of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, in the spring. Father Patrick wrote a letter of thanksgiving to be read at Elyse's ordination. Elyse's letter below is a response to the rector's letter and also explains her plans for upcoming service as an Army chaplain. Please keep Elyse in prayer.



From: Elyse Gustafson [mailto:elyse.m.gustafson@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 26, 2013 3:16 PM
To: Patrick Raymond
Subject: THANK YOU

Dear Patrick,

This is long overdue, but I wanted to thank you for the beautiful letter you wrote for my ordination. It was moving and touching for me and also for those who heard it when the bishop read it at the service. Thank you so much for your thoughtfulness and generosity.

A lot has been going on for me since the ordination. I finished my CPE residency, continued serving at the Chapel of the Cross, and did A LOT of paperwork to transition to active duty Army chaplaincy. I am now just a couple weeks shy of a big move to (of all places) Ft. Bliss in El Paso, TX where I will serve as a chaplain to a battalion 1st Armored Division. El Paso wasn't first on my list of places to go (too hot!), but I'm glad to be getting going with this work. It's taken a long time to get here, as you well know. It feels good that it is starting.

Thank you again for all your support throughout my process. It was truly a blessing to get to know you and to have you looking out for me.

Many, many thanks,
Elyse Gustafson

+Many thanks to Suzi Allen, Ray Kean and Todd Ross for the lovely appearance of the Columbarium landscaping!



Parish Begins Part III: The Church Blessing (or not) of Same-Gender Relationships

We completed Part II on this last Sunday, which reviewed the topic from biological, sociological, societal, and local church views and had a very nice turnout overall across the four sessions. Wednesday evening started our final part of the series. Part III "Hearing from the Parish," offers parishioners an opportunity to ask questions and/or provide comments to the Vestry. Parishioners are welcome to attend any of the following sessions.

- Saturday, June 29 from 8:30 to 10:00 am - Community Room
- Sunday, June 30 from 8:45 to 10:15 am - Undercroft*
- Sunday, June 30 from 10:30 to 12:00 pm - Undercroft*

*We may move to the Community Room depending on where coffee hour is being held.

Please realize that the Wardens will exercise their judgment relative to responding to questions during the Part III meetings out of respect for everyone's time. However, please know that the Vestry is committed to responding to questions directly with individuals as well as including in the meeting notes for this part of the series.

Want to ensure your voice is heard? If you're planning to attend

one of the above sessions and would like to speak, just send us a note with that request to talktothevestry@gmail.com and we'll be sure you have that opportunity.

Not able to attend Part III, but want your voice heard? You can submit questions and/or comments via email to talktothevestry@gmail.com, and we'll read them during at least one of the sessions on your behalf. (Note: If you do NOT want your email shared publicly, please make that clear so that we honor your wishes. Otherwise, we will mention your name prior to reading what you submitted.)

Parishioners can also simply drop off a note to Nancy Holmes in the Church Office prior to these sessions, if they prefer, and we'll handle the questions/comments in the same way as delineated above.

Not sure what you'd like to do before the sessions? You'll have the opportunity to ask questions or make comments during the session after those who've taken the route above. Also, if you'd like to submit a question immediately after one of the sessions, you can write your name and question on a card and we'll respond to it within a week and include with the other meeting notes.

After Part III is complete the Vestry will compile the notes from each of the session. These minutes will contain the questions raised and include the Vestry's response as well whether it was provided during a meeting or afterwards. Parishioners will be able to request and receive a copy of the summary after it becomes available. More details to follow in the coming weeks.

Reminder - If you'd like to review any materials shared during Part I or II or even the booklet of resources compiled by Fr. Raymond in conjunction with the process, you can either contact Nancy Holmes in the Church Office for a hard copy or send email with your request to talktothevestry@gmail.com.



Thank you, thank you!!!

Many thanks to all who attended this year's RIBFEST! We enjoyed a sold-out event! Sincerest appreciation to the set-up crew, which included some

help from the Senior High Youth Group, the kitchen crew,

the clean-up crew, and many, many others!



RIBFEST! A SOLD-OUT EVENT!

Next-up: Oktoberfest, Sunday, 27 October - Save the Date!!

Media and Video Specialists Needed! Little Experience Required! Apply Now!

The Outreach team is looking for a volunteer/volunteers to assist in putting together a presentation for the parish. This project is envisioned to be a simple (i.e., not perfect) multimedia view of the recent youth mission trip, and we are hoping to produce this in the next few weeks. It will not require a large time commitment, but your experience and creative input is just what we're looking for! If you can help, please contact Dave Evans (224-628-3654) or Ann Ryba (847-877-1565). Thank you!

Vestry Meeting Summary, 17 June 2013

by Clerk of the Vestry, Craig Anderson

Please click [here](#) for a summary of the Vestry Meeting held on 17 June.

Information from the Episcopal Diocese of Chicago Committee on Peace and Justice

Ellen Lindeen, parishioner, serves on the Diocesan Committee on Peace and Justice which is also the Chicago Chapter of the Episcopal Peace Fellowship. Click [here](#) to read information from Ellen and the Committee regarding the Silence the Guns initiative and the diocesan entry in the upcoming Chicago LGBTQ Pride

Parade on Sunday, June 30. This note includes details on opportunities to participate in the parade. Jackie Smith is the St. Michael's point person for parade participation, her contact information is phone 847.525.4847 or email jacksmith5657@yahoo.com.



Jump for Jeanette

Our parish outreach project for the people of Jeanette, Haiti, is once again underway. Twelve parishioners have committed to traveling to be with the people of Jeanette and create an outdoor play space for the children at the school. 650 children attend the school in rural Jeanette and the only "play" item they have now is breadfruit that falls from the trees. The children kick the fruit around a dirt play yard like a soccer ball. Your assistance is needed to provide play items and monetary donations for supplies. The team will be building 3 teeter-totters, 3 low balance beams and 3 climbing steps for the youngest children. We will also build 2 basketball backboards and a storage bin. We plan to take basketballs (20), soccer balls (20), playground balls (20), plastic horseshoes (10 sets), jump ropes (50), hacky sacks (50), swings (10), climbing nets and ladders (4). After both services this Sunday, members of the Haiti team will be accepting your donations. Please stop by and learn more about Jump for Jeanette and select an item to contribute. Checks may be made payable to St. Michael's with "Haiti" in the memo. Thank you on behalf of our team and the people of Jeannette.



And All the Angels Gift Shop JULY SALE!

For the month of JULY, the angel gift shop will offer a sale of 30% off of most of the store's inventory from baby items to greeting cards to fine jewelry. Books and Demdaco Angels are marked at 20% off. Please visit us to take advantage of this rare opportunity!

And All the Angels is able to award the Barrington Food Pantry with a monetary donation. Thank you for your patronage.

Pastoral Care Survey

Has the recent focus on some of the Pastoral Care Ministries at St. Michael's piqued your interest? Would you like to become more deeply involved in some of the circles of care at St. Michael's like the prayer shawl ministry, taking communion or visiting fellow parishioners? If so, we'd like to hear from you. Please complete the Pastoral Care Survey by clicking [here](#) - the instructions for completing and returning the survey are included.



Heartland Blood Centers and St. Paul United Church of Christ are working together to celebrate the 150th anniversary of St. Paul United Church of Christ.

Help us "Paint the Doors Red" by reaching our goal of 150 blood donors at our blood drive on July 8, 3:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. All donors will receive an Oberweis gift card AND a small meal.

You'll get the satisfaction of knowing that so many in need during the summer months will have the blood necessary to save lives.

And each time you drive by the church at 401 East Main Street, Barrington, our red doors will remind you of your generosity!

Please make an appointment online at www.heartlandbc.org or call St. Paul at 847-381-0460.



Icons in Transformation: International Contemporary Art Exhibit by Ludmila Pawlowska at St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Glen Ellyn, 22 June through 31 July. This exhibit has toured cathedrals in Europe, Britain and cities in the U.S. to rave reviews. The exhibit features over 150 paintings and sculptures by acclaimed abstract expressionist Ludmila

Pawlowska. The exhibit also includes a collection of traditional icons created by artists at the Vassilevsky Monastery in Russia. For more information, please visit www.stmarksglenellyn.org. (See Nerissa for a free ticket - we have 1 left!)

Women's Labyrinth Retreat: Walking the Seasons of Our Lives, June 29, 10 am-3 pm

Come to St. James Cathedral for a women's labyrinth retreat on **Saturday, June 29 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.** Two labyrinths--one on St. James Commons Plaza and one in the Great Hall--will be available to walk, to reflect, to focus, to pray and to create community. The group will gather in the Cathedral to begin its journey.

The Rev. Laurie Michaels of St. Michael's, Barrington will join the group and share one of the reflections for the day. All women of the diocese are invited. Please bring a dish to share and RSVP via email to the Rev. Satya Sudhakar.

A few more quotes inspired by Independence Day ...

Richard Petty, race-car driver (Interviewed in 2001)

The United States was formed by people who couldn't get along where they were staying. These people were individual people. They didn't like what they were seeing or what was going on, so they came over to do their own thing. That was two hundred or three hundred years ago. That's our upbringing and we're still doing it.

Emmylou Harris, singer (Interviewed in 2004)

Patriotism can be good or bad. Knee-jerk patriotism can be very bad. I'm patriotic almost to the point of self-consciousness, but I love my country the way I love a friend or a child who I would correct if she was going the wrong way. Who I expect the very best from.

E.O. Wilson, biologist (Interviewed in 2008)

I'm a very patriotic American. Pure reason would say, "Well, America is your tribe, and there are certain things you grew up with, were enculturated with, and that's why you're behaving the way you are." And then I say that's right. I repeat, I'm a very patriotic American. I want America to be the best. I want America to prevail - not conquer but prevail. I want this country to be foremost in its

qualities and its virtues and its accomplishments. And also, to stay together as a closely united country.

Upcoming Events

+23 - 30 July, Haiti Mission Trip

+28 July to 2 August, LIFT Jr. High Mission Trip to Rockford

+5-9 August, Monday through Friday, Vacation Bible School, 9:15 a.m. through 12:00 p.m.

Revised Common Lectionary Year C, Pentecost 6

2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14; Psalm 77:1-2, 11-20; Galatians 5:1, 13-25; Luke 9:51-62

Contact Info

St. Michael's Vestry

Kathy Sawyer Randolph - Sr. Warden, Shan Atkins - Jr. Warden

Pete Douglas, Lora Gier, David Bishop, Sof Ts'o

Dolores Kampert, Ray Kean, Pat Kane, Mike Savage

Cristy Cressey, John Totten, Teri Doran, Lance Marcinek

John Davis - Treasurer, Craig Anderson - Clerk

Marissa Longo, Youth Representative Madelyn Lanham, Youth Representative

Clergy and Staff

The Rev. Patrick Raymond, Rector; The Rev. Kevin Caruso, Curate; The Rev. Laurie Michaels, Deacon; Caren Hunter, Director of Little Angels Christian Preschool; David Baker, Director of Music Ministries; Thom Wibbels, Organist; Kara Joy Baker, Youth Pastor & Director of Children's Choir; Nerissa Brueckbauer, Children's Education Director & Communications Coordinator; Kim Lessner, Parish Operations; Nancy Holmes, Parish Administrator & Rector's Assistant.

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The Sword is published each Thursday. Any questions or comments regarding this publication should be sent to news@stmichaelsbarrington.org.

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