



A publication of St. Michael's in the Hills Episcopal Church

# Cross Currents

Worship: Sunday at 8:00 and 9:45 am

June 2019 Edition

## Bidding Farewell to Father John Hagan

Where to begin? In February of 2017, we were facing Holy Week without a Priest when we heard from Rev. Percy Grant that a retiring Priest was returning to Toledo. Michelle Knecht googled the name (the results must have been positive!) and then made a phone call to then Sr. Warden, Tom Hauck, and Fr. John came to us to fill in during Holy Week. It wasn't long before he came on as Long-term Supply Priest at St. Michael's. Fast forward two years and we have been so blessed to have Fr. John do so much more than a typical Long-term Supply Priest during his time here.



Julia MacLachlan, our Sr. Warden in 2018, said it best in this year's Annual Report when she summed up our time with Fr. John in this way.... "...We have been blessed with the wisdom and caring of Father Hagan, who has challenged and inspired us with his sermons, brought comfort to those suffering or in need with his pastoral care, and made us groan with his jokes! I certainly could not have managed as Senior Warden this year without his help and guidance...."



As we say farewell to Fr. John Hagan, we are so grateful for his leadership, his wisdom, and the love he has shown to St. Michael's the past two years!

*Hello, Goodbye*

## Introducing The Rev. Foster M. Mays

St. Michael's in the Hills Episcopal Church is delighted to introduce our newly-appointed Priest-in-Charge, the Rev. Foster M. Mays. Foster comes to us from Epiphany Episcopal Church in Sedan, Kansas, where he served from 2013 to present. Foster earned his Master of Divinity from the University of the South, School of Theology in 2013, and prior to his calling to the ministry he had a career in trust administration and private banking. He has also served our country as a Naval Flight Officer and an Intelligence Officer in the US Navy and Naval Reserve.



Foster's mission is "To help all people recognize the presence of the Divine in their lives: the power of Almighty God, the revealed love of Jesus Christ, and the inspiration of the Holy Spirit as experienced in worship, Word, open inquiry, and prayer." In addition to serving his mission, Foster is married to Linda, and they have two adult sons and a golden doodle. They will be relocating to Toledo and plan to join our church family in early July and his first Sunday service will be July 14<sup>th</sup>. We hope you can join us in welcoming him to St. Michael's.

*Building a People who Love, Learn & Serve in Christ's Name!*

## A NOTE OF FAREWELL

Dear Friends,

I have been at St. Michael's since late February 2017. It has been a joy and an honor to have been with you. Fr. Foster begins in July. I have met with him and am very impressed. He seems thoughtful, wise, and kind. His wife comes across as warm, outgoing and friendly. Together they are a great team and will be a wonderful fit for St. Michael's. I think they will be a great blessing.

You were patient, accepting, and incredibly tolerant with me. I knew it, and appreciated it. It is uncomfortable for a new priest at first. People (congregations) expect clergy to understand, to know, and to respond wisely (and in a holy way). You cut me a lot of slack as I stumbled through things.

Friends, you have many strengths and are incredibly forbearing. Use those gifts in the days to come. Support, encourage, and be patient. The three gifts that are required for every new priest. You have them in abundance, don't minimize or take them for granted. Any success I had at St. Michael's was because, God and you did it.

Finally, there is a struggling, needy world out there. Don't underestimate how needed and important your actions, prayers, and worship is. As I write this, earlier today I did a funeral service in Michigan. Three women in the parish went every day to take care of him, a man with such severe diabetes that he lost both legs, one arm, and was blind. They went to his care facility every day for years giving him insulin, taking him to dialysis 3 times a week, praying with him, keeping up his spirits up - fighting the battle. Churches have the ability to bring God's power to a hurting world.

Thank you for the honor of letting me walk with you a while.

I have said goodbye to 3 churches in the last 8 years. It becomes much harder if we stay in touch. It would be much easier for us if we avoid each other for the next year. I will be available for funerals in June, but our last day will be June 9<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you for your incredible grace. You have been a real gift. We will keep you in our prayers.

God bless you,  
John+ and Debby



# PENTECOST: BUBBLES AND BALLOONS AND NEW FIRE!

I know that the King James Version is fraught with issues but, please indulge me as a sister in Christ for a second. This is Acts 2:1-5:

“And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. And there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven.”

This is the story of Pentecost, this is the story of the birth of the church.

It's a celebration, Saints! The Balloons and the Bubbles are symbolic of the rushing mighty wind. On Sunday, June 9<sup>th</sup>, don't be shy celebrate the presence of the Holy Spirit by blowing a few bubbles and holding some balloons.

Holy Ghost Power to you! *Imani*



## NEW PLAYGROUND CELEBRATION: JUNE 9<sup>TH</sup>



Join us on June 9<sup>th</sup> after the 9:45 service  
for a festive reception and celebration,  
as we celebrate Pentecost and our new playground  
with **BALLOONS**, **BUBBLES** and **ICE CREAM!**



ALL are welcome! So invite your neighbors,  
bring your grandkids, and tell your friends!



# CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY



## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Sunday, June 23 –

Thursday, June 27

5:30 – 7:30 pm

Greetings,

I am so excited about Vacation Bible School! I believe that we'll have an awesome turnout! We have the opportunity to be a beacon of light for children in our community. As is our custom, we combine our talents and resources with our sister parishes in West Toledo and the youngest disciples from All Saints and St. Andrew's join in the fun and fellowship. We also reach out to the surrounding community to encourage people to bring their little ones to VBS.

**Bible Memory Verse:** "Love the Lord your God. Love your neighbor as yourself." Mark 12:30, 31

### Overview of the Sessions:

- 1) Sunday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> - Love God and Your Neighbor
- 2) Monday, June 24<sup>th</sup> - Who is My Neighbor?
- 3) Live Peacefully
- 4) Everyone is Invited!
- 5) Share with Others



### The Menu:

Sunday, June 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Macaroni & cheese and salad
Monday, June 24 <sup>th</sup>	Chicken nuggets, tater tots, sweet potato fries
Tuesday, June 25 <sup>th</sup>	Tacos
Wednesday June 26 <sup>th</sup>	Baked Ziti
Thursday, June 27 <sup>th</sup>	Closing Pizza party

## HOW CAN YOU HELP??



*If we want our children to do right then, we need to do right by them, Amen?!*

- ◇ **Pray!** Pray that God gives us the will and the vision.
- ◇ **Volunteer!** Would you like to lead a group or help with design preparations?
- ◇ **Sponsor!** We provide dinner every evening... Would you be able to help sponsor a pizza party or serve meals?

Be blessed! — Imani

*Please see the sign-up sheets in the hall to volunteer!*



# COMMON GROUNDS

A D U L T S E M I N A R

JOIN US SUNDAYS IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL  
FOLLOWING THE 9:45 AM SERVICE.

*Grab a cup of coffee, and enjoy stimulating programs and discussion! Each program ends between 11:45-11:50 am.*

June 2 "Lifelong Learning"



Parishioner John Graham has recently completed a year of discernment as a Fellow in the University of Notre Dame's Inspired Leadership Initiative. He will describe the program and offer his reflections on lifelong learning.

FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE SUMMER, JOIN US AFTER THE 9:45 SERVICE  
FOR PUNCH ON THE LAWN. \* SEE PAGE 8 FOR DETAILS! \*



## MUSIC MINISTRY

On May 15<sup>th</sup> we hosted a recital put on by Toledo Opera's Resident Artists. The evening was filled with music from Gilbert and Sullivan's *The Pirates of Penzance* and Gershwin's *Porgy & Bess* to "Agony" from *Into the Woods*. The artistry demonstrated was nothing less than superb as they were able to not only put on a recital but a fully realized show that made the audience want to contribute to their success. We were able to raise \$569 which is a huge success considering the short notice we gave to the public about the performance. This money has gone directly to the artists which will help them pay for the heavy costs associated with the audition process. The average costs for a singer is \$2,000 every audition season. This recital marks the start of our relationship with Toledo Opera where we hope to be able to create another spring recital with their incoming 2019/2020 Resident Artists. We have been so blessed to have this year's Resident Artists as our section leaders and wish them all the best in their musical endeavors.

—Justin Bays, Director of Music





# GINGER RYAN'S 100TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION!



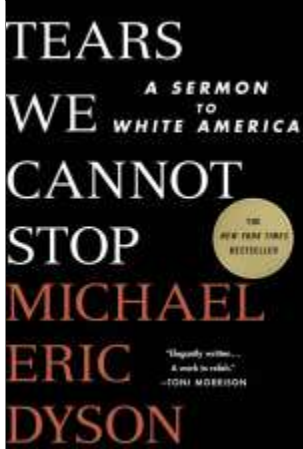
*Special THANK YOU to parishioner Julia MacLachlan for all her hard work organizing such a wonderful & festive celebration for Ginger on May 12<sup>th</sup>!*



*St. Michael's  
TWO Gingers!  
Ginger Graham  
and  
Ginger Ryan*



## BOOK CLUB — JUNE 14<sup>TH</sup>



Parishioner Sarah Schendel was inspired to host a St. Michael's discussion group because of two compelling books she had recently read. The initial members of The Book Club found the books and subsequent discussions profound and transformative, and they wanted more! Now, the group is looking forward to their fourth book and discussion, and all parishioners and friends are invited to participate.

All four works are focused on the topics of justice, racism and immigration.

Join us Friday, June 14 at 1 pm in the Commons Room as we discuss "*Tears We Cannot Stop: A Sermon To White America*" by Michael Eric Dyson. Copies are available at various branches of the Toledo-Lucas County Public Library. St. Michael's Hannaford Library has a copy as well.

Members of The Book Club are Debbie Carlisle, Lovi Aldinger, Nancy Elzinga, Nancy Hughes, Edwina Ledgard, Carol Nichols, Sarah Schendel and Steve Wipfli.

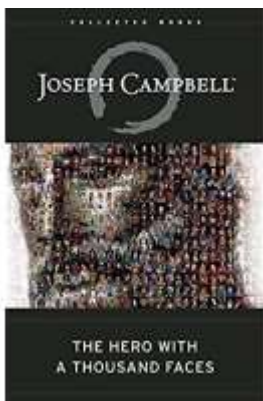
Please let Sarah know if you are interested in joining the discussion: [schensar@sbcglobal.net](mailto:schensar@sbcglobal.net)

Perhaps you are also interested in these excellent titles we have already read:

- *I'm Still Here: Black Dignity in a World Made for Whiteness* by Austin Channing Brown
- *White Fragility* by Robin DiAngelo
- *Dear America: Notes of an Undocumented Citizen* by Jose Antonio Vargas

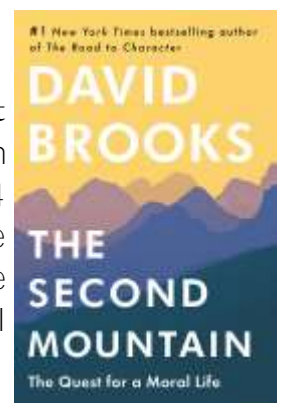
—Steve Wipfli

## NEW BOOKS IN THE CLAUDIA HANNAFORD LIBRARY!



May 5<sup>th</sup> during Common Grounds, Joe Gerhardinger presented "Joseph Campbell and the Hero's Journey". It was an interactive presentation whereby we watched clips from famous movies and then placed movie characters in the archetypal Hero's Journey. The Claudia Hannaford library now has a copy of Joseph Campbell's book, *The Hero with a Thousand Faces*, used by Joe to lead us in the discussion.

Upon the recommendation of a parishioner, David Brooks' latest book, *The Second Mountain: The Quest for a Moral Life* has been added to the church library. In this book, Brooks explores the 4 commitments that define a life of meaning and purpose: to a spouse and family, to a vocation, to a philosophy or faith, and to a community. In his view we have taken individualism to the extreme — and in the process we have torn the social fabric in a thousand ways.





## WANTED: GARDEN ANGELS!

The St. Francis Garden is in need of volunteers to help keep the dandelions at bay! If you can help, please contact Dee Becker at dbckr08@gmail.com or (419) 534-2643.



## MEMORIAL GARDEN UPDATE



Late last summer, the Memorial Garden Committee invited Otha Cross to assist them in developing a design for a permanent border around the center rock. Mr. Cross, a multi-talented stonemason well known in Toledo, had previously installed the garden's walkway through the gate and the small stone bench by the tablets on the left hand side. His design was accepted unanimously and, despite disappointing weather delays, was executed to perfection in late April. Now on display, this blue stone circle is a handsome addition to our lovely garden.

## PUNCH ON THE LAWN

Beginning June 23<sup>rd</sup> and continuing through Sept. 1<sup>st</sup>, our Adult Education hour (Common Grounds) moves outside (*weather permitting*), and becomes "Punch on the Lawn" with cookies and lemonade for all.

Please sign up to host a Sunday. The lemonade is provided; hosts simply bring cookies and help serve. A sign up sheet, along with a description of host duties is posted on the hall bulletin board. Grab a friend and sign up together so we can continue this fun summer tradition!



Our Sunday morning services move to the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, June 16<sup>th</sup> for the summer.

## OFFICE hours

for June:

Mon-Tues, 8 am—1 pm

\*Weds—Fri, 9 am – 4 pm

\*The week of June 17<sup>th</sup>, hours will be 8 am to 1 pm, Mon-Fri, due to Kim being on vacation.



## JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- |  |                                   |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| 1 Doug Hileman<br>Kate O'Connell<br>Kay Marion<br>Maddie Hileman | 17 Charles Estes                  |
| 4 Walker Kight   | 20 Ann Heckler<br>Anne Hutchinson |
| 6 Preston Hendricks  | 23 Mike Booth<br>Sue Merce        |
| 9 Steve Wipfli   | 24 Anna Gerhardinger              |
| 10 Walt MacDonald  | 25 Sandy Gardam                   |
| 12 Nancy Burton<br>Penny Cobau-Smith                             | 26 Jennifer Jewell                |
| 13 Meridith Heckler  | 30 Troy Greeley                   |
| 15 Caroline O'Connell  |                                   |
| 16 Kyle Randall<br>Julia Rohm-Ensing                             |                                   |



*June birthday and anniversary blessings will be on June 9th.*

## NOTES FROM THE OFFICE

July Newsletter: *Articles due June 15.*

Please check in at the office when entering the building. It is helpful for the staff to know who is coming and going — so we do not lock anyone in or set the alarm on them.

Please schedule meetings at the church through the church office. All meetings should be written on the church office calendar. Just send us an e-mail or call!

Updated Parish Directories are always available. Contact the office to request one.

## WE HOLD IN OUR PRAYERS...

Homebound: Betsy Bailey, Isabelle Carter, Carolyn Cousino, Kay Marion, Al Reiser, and Jo Youngen.

Parishioners: Alma, Dick Aldinger, Dan, Jack Christopher, Elmer and Letty Haigh, Carol and Dennis Kanfield, Gayle Kurrelmeier, Jackie Moore, Marion Boyer, Scott, Marilyn Palermo, Jean Schaefer, John Shelly, and Lillian Spaulding.

\*Family & Friends: Leland Ames, Candy Corbett, Cindy, Didi Beckham, Dixie, Emily, Evelyn, Lee Gable, Joan, John, Jean, Karen, Leonard, Lexi, Lisa, Salli & Dick, Sandra, Santee, Tori, Toni Hoenicke, Victoria, and Gloria Weller.

**For those in harm's way:** Michael, Ian Reinheimer, John P. Smith and Scott Sykes.

*\*Family and Friends remain on the prayer list for one month unless the Church Office is otherwise notified.*

## KNIT AND PRAY SHAWL MINISTRY



The Knit and Pray Shawl Ministry would like to welcome any other knitters or crocheters out there! They meet the second Tuesday of each month at 9:30 am in the Office Conference room. Join them June 11<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions, contact Anne Morris, 419-277-6449 or [librarianne@bex.net](mailto:librarianne@bex.net).

## COMPLINE SERVICE

All are invited to attend our Wednesday Night Compline Prayer service from 7–8 pm. Come and enjoy this midweek opportunity to share thanksgivings and petitions with others. If interested in attending, please contact Scott or Susan Hendricks or David or Diane Braun.



READINGS	DATE	SERVICE	ACOLYTES	ALTARGUILD	GREETERS	LECTORS & LEM	USHERS
7th Sunday of Easter	Sun. 6/2	8 a.m. HE		Sue Merce		George Shirk	
Acts 16:16-34		9:45 a.m. HE	Mitchell Gomulinski	Nancy Burton	Ann Verner	Dani Zoorob (L1)	Scott Hendricks
Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21			Walker Kight	Sara Roberts	Puffin Coe	Barb Reszko (L2)	Mark Keleher
John 17:20-26			Meredith Randall			Mike Ward (P)	
Psalms 97							
Pentecost	Sun. 6/9	8 a.m. HE		Nancy Lehmann		Ben Dansard	
Acts 2:1-21 or Genesis 11:1-9		9:45 a.m. HE	Catherine Kight	Dee Becker	Jaymie & TJ Fontana	John Waweru (L1)	Edwina Ledgard
Romans 8:14-17			Lucy Porter	Carol Kanfield	Mark Frankina	Jeff Boyer (L2)	Nancy Lehmann
John 14:8-17, (25-27)			Myles Waweru			Nate Kelper (P)	
Psalms 104:25-35, 37							
	Wed. 6/12	4 p.m. Sunset	House service cancelled for June				
Trinity Sunday	Sun. 6/16	8 a.m. MP		Kay Gerhardinger		Vicki Creekmore	
Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31		9:45 a.m. MP	William Becker	Terri Ward	Annette Boice	Debbie Carlisle (L1)	Henry Merce
Romans 5:1-5			Charlotte DeRosa		Nancy Hughes	Laura Randall (L2)	Mike Porter
John 16:12-15			Sarah Jewell			Joe Gerhardinger (P)	
Psalms 8 or Canticle 13							
2nd Sunday after Pentecost	Sun. 6/23	8 a.m. HE		Julia Burtischer		Cam Smith	
Isaiah 65:1-9		9:45 a.m. HE	Mikayla Gomulinski	Penny Cobau-Smith	Nancy Elzinga	Meredith Randall (L1)	Kyle Randall
Psalms 22:18-27			John Kight	Dee Becker	Carol & Dennis Kanfield	David Braun (L2)	Jeff Smith
Galatians 3:23-29			Emily Porter	Charlotte Halloran		Anne Morris (P)	
Luke 8:26-39							
3rd Sunday after Pentecost	Sun. 6/30	8 a.m. MP		Kay Gerhardinger		Carole Shirk	
1 Kings 19:15-16, 19-21		9:45 a.m. MP	Sam Reszko	Barb Malkoski	Charlotte Halloran	Scott Hendricks (L1)	Al Stephens
Psalms 16			Sophie Jewell		Marilyn Palermo	Ricky Becker (L2)	Scott Tuttle
Galatians 5:1, 13-25			Meredith Randall			Susan Hendricks (P)	
Luke 9:51-62							

## JUNE SERVICE SCHEDULE







## St. Michael's in the Hills Episcopal Church

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Visit us on the web: [www.lovelearnserve.org](http://www.lovelearnserve.org)

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### Church Office Hours

Monday–Tuesday, 9 am to 2 pm

Wednesday–Friday, 9 am to 4 pm

\*Closed for Lunch from 12-12:30pm

### THE VESTRY

David O'Connell, *Senior Warden*

Julia Burtcher, *Junior Warden*

#### *Class of 2020*

Jaymie Fontana  
Julie Hagenbuch  
David O'Connell  
Jeff Smith

#### *Class of 2021*

David Braun  
Julia Burtcher  
James Carlisle  
Barb Malkoski

#### *Class of 2022*

Nancy Elzinga  
Kay Gerhardinger  
Eboné Waweru  
Dani Zoorob

### PARISH STAFF

Imani Driskell – Director of Children's, Youth and Family Ministry

Rebecca Park – Organist

Justin Bays – Director of Music

Michelle Knecht & Kim Schrinel – Administrative Assistants

Diane Reeves & Lisa Watson – Sextons

Gretchen Rohm – Financial Administrator

### PARISH LEADERSHIP

The Rev. John Hagan – Clergy

David O'Connell – Senior Warden

Julia Burtcher – Junior Warden

John Graham – Treasurer

David Braun – Clerk