



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

Cross Currents

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

January 2020 Edition

My Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Merry Christmas!

As this is being written, it's still Christmastide; that short 12-day season for celebrating Jesus Christ's incarnation – becoming flesh – as one of us.

It has always intrigued me that we celebrate our Savior's birth just after the Winter Solstice – the shortest day of the year. It's as if Jesus comes to us, literally in our darkest hour as, an unblemished and seemingly powerless babe in arms. Yet with each passing day as the hours of light grow – almost imperceptibly – just as the babe grows more recognizable as the son of God with each disclosure.

Within days Christmastide will end, marked by the Epiphany – the arrival of the revelatory star over Bethlehem – revealing the presence of the King of Peace to the world as represented in the personage of wise men and magi from the East. The Light of the world has not yet attained his climax but his radiance has begun to reach beyond the sleepy town of Bethlehem and we – along with the magi – receive a glimpse of the glory we look forward to as the days grow in light.

According to Matthew's account, the Light will travel for a time to Egypt to thwart the evil intentions of Herod, and then return to his mother's home to continue to grow in stature and Light in relative obscurity until his cousin John begins to proclaim his arrival, leading to his baptism and subsequent temptation, which marks Jesus' readiness to begin his earthly ministry. What a lot to cram into one month of incremental light!

Even as you and I find ourselves in the grip of whatever darkness and weather this month brings us, may we find ourselves day by day growing in awareness of the pervasive and growing presence of the Light of the world in our lives and in our relationships. I hope each of you will join us on this month's journey.

Yours in Christ's Abundant Light,



2020 Annual Meeting

Sunday, January 26, 2020

Following the 9:45 a.m. service

Potluck to follow



We're asking families to bring the following dishes, according to their last names:

A-G Salad

H-N Main Dish

O-Z Dessert

Please sign up on the hall bulletin board.

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

OFF THE BEATEN PATH EVENTS SERIES



"From Conflict to Opportunity" Workshop

Saturday, February 1st

10 am— 3 pm

\$15 registration fee (\$5 for students)

**Lunch included*

Is it possible in 2020 to have meaningful and respectful dialogue where there is real disagreement? YES! Join us for this workshop which will empower us to have calm, respectful conversations and to seek genuine connection. It will be a day of learning and practice, to gain guiding principles and tools to become bridge builders. Rev. Sarah Shofstall, Interim Rector of Christ Episcopal Church in Oberlin, OH will be our workshop leader. Rev. Shofstall brings warmth, humor and much experience in "peacemaking."

Registration is now open! To register, visit: <https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/4484880>. Consider inviting your friends who may also be interested in this topic! We are also looking for willing individuals to assist with the workshop. We will need 8-10 volunteers (church members and others) who can attend a training session with Rev. Shofstall on Saturday, January 18th from 10 am to 1 pm. With questions, contact Sarah Schendel, Steve Wipfli, Lovi Aldinger, or Fr. Foster. *Thank you!*



Join us Sundays in the Fellowship Hall following the 9:45 service for this adult education hour.

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

January 5 *Coffee and Fellowship Hour*

January 12 *What's Next for Off The Beaten Path? How do we think about conflict and transformation to opportunity?*

Come to learn more about the upcoming workshop on February 1st. We will be intrigued by a "Radio Play", directed by Justin Bays, to consider the sometimes competing goals of Truth, Mercy, Justice, and Peace.

January 19 *Report from the Finance Committee and Report on Diocesan Convention*

We'll hear a short presentation on the 2020 budget from our Finance Committee to prepare for the Annual Meeting on January 26th. We'll also hear an overview of the 2019 Diocesan Convention.

January 26 *Annual Meeting and Potluck (See front for details!)*

GETTING TO KNOW YOU... THE SENIOR CHOIR!

We will be introducing you to our Senior Choir members and sharing about a new member each month. This month we would love to introduce you to Joe Myers!

Justin Bays, Music Director

* * *

Joe has attended St. Michaels for 12 years. He first started singing when he was in the fifth grade. (1951) Joe sang mostly in Latin and mostly from a book titled *Liber Usualis*, which contained all the Latin works of the Catholic Church. They usually sang for a Mass every other week.

Joe has been singing in church choirs since college. In fact, for about 4 or 5 years, he directed the adult choir at St. Rose Catholic Church in Perrysburg. Other choirs he has been in are Reformation Lutheran Church and Olivet Lutheran Church, as well as, the UT community chorus (director, Dt. Steven Hodge.) So when Joe and his wife, Kathie, joined St. Michael's they joined the choir. Joe is also sings outside of St. Michael's as a member of Masterworks Chorale of Toledo.



Joe has several favorite performers from different genres of music, ie. Yo Yo Ma, Joshua Bell, the New York Philharmonic, Chris Christopherson, and Queen.

Joe has three children, Matt Myers, 50, Perrysburg; Tom Myers, 43, Atlanta; and Rebbecca Koike Myers, 37, Scarsdale NY.

For work, Joe taught music in public schools from 1963 until 1984, at which time he became a school Guidance Counselor. He mostly worked in Sylvania City Schools, at Southview High School.

Joe plays the viola and the violin. He played viola in The Toledo Symphony for a while in the 60's and he played viola in The Perrysburg Symphony for over 30 years. He still plays and performs in a string quartet. For hobbies, Joe was an avid fly fisherman and he enjoyed camping and canoeing. Currently, Joe paints in acrylics.



Grace Wipfli,
accompanied by
her father, Steve,
delighted the
congregation on
December 29 with
"O Holy Night"
by Adolphe Adam.

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

MEET CANON ANNA SUTTERISCH

I hope to see you in worship on Sunday, January 12 when the Rev. Canon Anna Sutterisch will join us. Canon Anna is a dynamic, spirit-filled, woman of God that I am excited to have as part of our Diocesan Leadership! Christian Formation is a lifelong endeavor and Mother Anna will help us on our journey!

—Imani

DO YOU KNOW YOUR ACRONYMS?

Hello Family of Faith!

Do you know what these stand for:
DYE, PYG, SYG, and EYE?

I'm sure you do!

Diocesan Youth Event, Provincial Youth Gathering,
Spring Youth Gathering and Episcopal Youth Event.

These are all opportunities for our middle school and high school youth to have fun and fellowship with other youth across the diocese, the province and the whole church!

I would like to get all of our St. Mike's Youth involved this upcoming spring and summer!

—Imani

SEEING THE HOLY EVERYWHERE

My mother has this quirk where she assumes control over my schedule. I was home enjoying the Christmas season when she announced that we would be going to visit her friend who I call, "Sis. Phyllis." As an aside, many people in the Black community put a "Sister," or, "Brother" in front of adults names especially if they are church friends of our parents. It's a respect thing. I genuinely like Sis. Phyllis, I can't say the same for all of my mom's friends (just being honest), so I was happy to make this visit. I figured that we would stop in and say "hello," and, give a general, "how are you" and be on our way. It did not turn out like that. Sister Phyllis was on her way to share food at a homeless shelter. My mother says loudly, "great, we will go with you!" That wasn't really what I had in mind but, what could I do? I accompanied my mother and Sis. Phyllis to the shelter and gave out canned goods to women and small toys to children. We ate pastries and sang Christmas Carols. It really was a holy experience. Are there times where you missed the holiness in everyday things? Ask our Gracious God to give you eyes to see the holy everywhere.

—Be blessed, Imani

My friend, Joel Leon, shared this thought to Twitter:

I never saw my mother walk on water, but I saw her wait for the bus in the snow to pay the rent.
We define holy differently.

THANK YOU FROM ST. PAUL'S!

Thank you for your In-Kind contribution of \$350 consisting of 35 pies. 235 Thanksgiving meals were served, and they all had desserts!

Sincerely,
Joe Habib, President & CEO
St. Paul's Community Center

WINTER CONVOCATION

*Come to Winter Convocation
and bring your teen!*

On February 7th and 8th, the Diocese of Ohio will convene for Winter Convocation.

The Diocesan Youth ministry staff has separate events planned for youth in grades 6-12, including time at Kalahari water park!

Please come and grow your faith, be renewed spiritually and leave your teen in my capable hands.

It will be great, I promise.

NUTS & BOLTS



COMPLINE SERVICE EVERY WEDNESDAY AT 7PM

All are welcome at this Lay led service, usually using the New Zealand office of Compline. Please give it a try & attend as your schedule permits. Questions? Contact Scott or Susan Hendricks, David or Diane Braun, or George or Carol Shirk.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The 2020 Altar Flower chart is posted on the hall bulletin board. If you wish to provide flowers for the altar on a Sunday in memory of a loved one, please sign up. The church office makes the weekly arrangements with the florist, and the florist will direct bill the donor for \$100. A memorial note will appear in that Sunday's bulletin.



LAY VISITOR LUNCHEON

If you have served as a Lay Visitor or would like to learn more, please join us!

Tuesday, January 7 at 12 noon

A chance to celebrate 2019 and plan for 2020!

Please RSVP to Carol Nichols at:
carollenznichols@yahoo.com

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 **January 14th**. If you have any questions, contact Anne Morris, 419-277-6449 or librarianne@bex.net.



*Thank you to
parishioner
David Braun
for this
beautiful
bird's eye view
of the Nave
at Christmas!*

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| 1 Marion Boyer | 20 Daniel Cobau |
| 2 Kaed Egan | 21 Cindy Tuttle George Estes |
| 4 Ruth Ann Sailstad Geoffrey Graham | 22 Barbara Bailey Patty Wise Alexandra Boesel |
| 11 Christopher DeRosa | |
| 14 Letty Haigh Jordan Porter | 23 James DeRosa |
| 18 Jack McBride | 24 Craig Hatfield Andrew Fruth |
| | 30 Hannah Jewell |



*January birthday and
anniversary blessings
will be on January 12.*

WE HOLD IN OUR PRAYERS...

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

Parishioners: Dick Aldinger, Elmer and Letty Haigh, Carol and Dennis Kanfield, Gayle Kurrelmeier, Jackie Moore, John, Jim Lindeen, Jim and Marion Boyer, Marilyn Palermo, John Shelly, Lindsay Smith, Lillian Spaulding, Peter Handwork, Puffin Coe and Nancy Loughlin.

***Family & Friends:** Ray, Pam, Nancy, Evangeline, Karen Biscay, Kathy, Dick, Mary, Leland Ames, Didi Beckham, Dixie, Ed, Evelyn, Lee Gable, Joan, Jean, Karen, Lexi, Sandra, Salli and Dick Rohm, and Gloria Weller.

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

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



NOTES FROM THE OFFICE

February Newsletter: *Articles due January 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! *Thank you!*

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

JOIN US FOR BIBLE STUDY!



All men are invited to Men's Bible Study which meets on Friday's at 8 a.m. They gather in the large Youth Room from 8 to 9 a.m. for fellowship, a light breakfast and Bible study. For more information, please contact Duncan Thomas: thomaspvb@outlook.com

Women's Bible Study is held on Friday mornings from 9 to 10 a.m. in the Commons Room. They will be starting up again on January 10th. With questions, contact Gretchen Thomas: gigipvb@comcast.net

Pastoral CARE

When you are sick, hospitalized or in need of pastoral care, please notify the church office or Fr. Foster. Privacy laws prevent institutions from sharing such information. Also, the church office is happy to keep a record of your emergency contact info. should someone need to be contacted. In the event of a pastoral emergency after office hours, Fr. Foster Mays can be reached at: (419) 482-8383.

| READINGS | DATE | SERVICE | ACOLYTES | ALTAR GUILD | GREETERS | LECTORS & LEM | USHERS |
|--------------------------|-----------|-----------------|---------------------|--------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| 2nd Sun. after Christmas | Sun. 1/5 | 8 a.m. HE | | Sue Merce | | Vicki Creekmore | |
| Jeremiah 31:7-14 | | 9:45 a.m. HE | Charlotte DeRosa | Penny Cobau-Smith | Cheryl & Laurel Volk | Meredith Randall (LI) | Henry Merce |
| Ephesians 1:3-6, 15-19a | | | Mikayla Gomulinski | Laura Randall | Ann Verner | Laura Randall (L2) | Ron Volk |
| Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23 | | | John Kight | | | Ricky Becker (P) | |
| Psalms 84:1-8 | | | | | | Dani Zoorob (TEM) | |
| 1st Epiphany | Sun. 1/12 | 8 a.m. HE | | Kay Gerhardinger | | Carole Shirk | |
| Isaiah 42:1-9 | | 9:45 a.m. HE | Anna Becker | Gretchen Thomas | Cheryl & Laurel Volk | Alex DeRosa (LI) | Mike Porter |
| Acts 10:34-43 | | | Sam Reszko | Dee Becker | Dennis & Carol K. | Scott Hendricks (L2) | Kyle Randall |
| Matthew 3:13-17 | | | Lucy Porter | | | Duncan Thomas (P) | |
| Psalms 29 | | | | | | Susan Hendricks (TEM) | |
| Sunset House Service | Wed. 1/15 | 4 p.m. | | Edwina Ledgard | | | |
| 2nd Epiphany | Sun. 1/19 | 8 a.m. HE | | Charlotte Halloran | | Ben Dansard | |
| Isaiah 49:1-7 | | 9:45 a.m. HE | William Becker | Sara Roberts | Joan O'Connell | Larry Nichols (LI) | Jeff Smith |
| 1 Corinthians 1:1-9 | | | Mitchell Gomulinski | Nancy Lehmann | Marilyn Palermo | Sam Reszko (L2) | Al Stephens |
| John 1:29-42 | | | Nolan Walker | | | Barb Reszko (P) | |
| Psalms 40:1-12 | | | | | | Mike Ward (TEM) | |
| 3rd Epiphany | Sun. 1/26 | No 8 am service | | | | | |
| Isaiah 9:1-4 | | 9:45 a.m. MP | Will Gerhardinger | Terri Ward | Pam Cousino | Debbie Carlisle (LI) | Scott Tuttle |
| 1 Corinthians 1:10-18 | * Annual | | Walker Kight | | Brent Cousino | David Braun (L2) | ? |
| Matthew 4:12-23 | Meeting | | Myles Waweru | | | Gretchen Rohm (P) | |
| Psalms 27:1, 5-13 | Sunday | | | | | | |

JANUARY SERVICE SCHEDULE



St. Michael's in the Hills Episcopal Church
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Phone: (419) 531-1616 Fax: (419) 531-9332

E-mail: office@lovelearnserv.org

Visit us on the web: www.lovelearnserv.org

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 Burtscher, *Junior Warden*

Class of 2020

Jaymie Fontana
Julie Hagenbuch
David O'Connell
Jeff Smith

Class of 2021

David Braun
Julia Burtscher
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. Foster Mays – Priest-in-Charge

David O'Connell – Senior Warden

Julia Burtscher – Junior Warden

John Graham – Treasurer

David Braun – Clerk