



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

Cross Currents

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

August 2020 Edition

Dear Sisters, Brothers and Others,

We have a great story before us this first Sunday of August. It's the story of Jacob's transformation into Israel after wrestling all night with a man in the wilderness. In this encounter Jacob is filled with fear as he anticipates coming face-to-face with his long estranged brother Esau, whom he cheated out of his inheritance.

I see the wrestling match as a metaphor for Jacob's grappling with his fear as he anticipates a confrontation over the harm he visited upon his brother. In this Jacob imagines the absolute worst - the loss of his life, his family and all he owns. To his credit, Jacob is not overcome by his fear. Though he is injured in the wrestling match, Jacob does not succumb to fear, and in his perseverance he comes to a startling revelation: grappling with your fear can bring you into the presence of God - a place of blessing, not fear. It is because of this difficult and perhaps hurtful encounter Jacob (one who grasps or usurps) is transformed into Israel (one who strives with God).

This story [Genesis 32:22-31] resonates among us as clearly today as it did in its first telling millennia ago. In the month to come, as we perhaps enjoy the waning days of summer vacation, I invite you wrestle with this story a bit, and I pray that you may find "good trouble," transformation, and blessings in the presence of God.

Yours in good trouble,

Forst +



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

CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRIES

Things Gained and Lost

Hi everyone! Please know that you are deeply loved and missed. During this time, I have both gained and lost many things. Among the most obvious, I lost the ability to go out to socialize and interact with people. I have lost access to shopping malls and centers. Initially, I lamented these losses. I have since learned that what I have gained is much more important. I have gained more intentional, sustained prayer time. I have gained a meditative spirit. I have realized that I don't really need to shop that much (what a revelation)!

Are you willing to share with me about your losses and gains? I hope so, please email me at imani@lovelearnserve.org I will only use the losses and gains in a Sunday School lesson for our children.

God bless you,
Imani

Share the good news!

Help children have access to reading materials and books!

Friends in Christ, we have Illustrated Children's Ministry materials that you can share with children and families in your neighborhood. This small gesture can open the door to evangelism!

Call the office or email me
(imani@lovelearnserve.org)
and we'll get these resources to you.



We Need YOU!

Everyone has gifts to share and that includes you! Are you an architect? Do you bake, or, craft, or, knit? Do you play the French horn?* Were you baptized in a garage?*

The Children's, Youth, and Family Ministry committee is planning its Autumn and Early Winter Christian Formation. We would like to increase interaction between our adults and children. Please help us with our on-line content tentatively titled, "Who are the people in your Sunday School?" We need adults to share about their jobs or, their hobbies. This is for introverts and extroverts alike. Minimal time commitment. Please let us know if you're interested and we'll get a calendar to you.

*These are quite specific, for a reason.



Our summer bulletins usually have lots of pictures of our children playing during VBS...

Here are some pictures of some of our children last year having fun with friends at The Tabernacle Church in Toledo.



Yes, there is a child inside that giant "human hamster ball!"

PROJECTS: INSIDE AND OUT!

In 2019, former parishioner, Rick Yocum kindly left monies to the church from his estate. The funds were designated “for beautification projects” as approved by the Aesthetics Committee. Rick and Jacquely’s adult children requested that a portion of their gift be used for enhancements of the church grounds. This summer beautification was completed to the exterior landscaping of the front of the church. Beds were redefined and edged, vinca minor ground cover was planted, an existing bush was transplanted, new perennial hydrangea and boxwood plants were added and trees and existing bushes were trimmed up and shaped. In addition, planting areas were composted and mulched.



As worship services are presented now outside, this is a perfect time to take notice of our lovely beautification project with thanks for the Yocum gift.

There have been other enhancements taking place as well. The old nursery room has taken on a new look through wallpaper removal and a fresh coat of paint. The area can now be used as a bride’s room or as a general multi-purpose room. The large youth group room has also been painted and looks great. Stay tuned for other projects that will be completed this Fall.



Aesthetics Committee,
Cheryl Volk & Julie Graham

WEEKLY COMPLINE INVITATION

Please join us for Virtual Compline!

Every Wednesday at 6:00 PM



We offer Virtual Compline on Wednesday evenings at 6 pm. We offer this service via Zoom web conferencing. This allows us to see each other’s faces and interact with each other online, real-time. *Don’t know how to use Zoom?* We can work through it together! You can join from a PC, Mac, iPhone, iPad, Android device, or even via an old-fashioned telephone call!

To access Zoom, visit <https://zoom.us/j/3266613552>. The first time you use this, you will need to download a software program, but it is very fast. When prompted, click “Join Audio Conference by Computer.”

If you want voice only, please dial (929) 205-6099 and enter meeting ID: 326 661 3552

When asked for a participant ID, click “#”

The Order of Service for each Wednesday is posted on our website when available.

Please join us! We would love to connect with you, share a simple service, and worship together.



Our 2019-20 section leaders are hard at work creating “Nevertheless We Persist”. The virtual performance explores the centennial of Women’s Suffrage in the US and will appear as a three part Facebook series on the St. Michael’s in the Hills Facebook page. So make sure to mark your calendars for August 12, 19, and 26th to witness the talents of our very own choir members.

As a reminder of the accomplishments of our section leaders, I am including their bios for your reading pleasure.

Caroline Miller, soprano



Caroline Miller is an innovative and theatrical singer with a particular interest in contemporary opera, operetta, and film. She appeared with Ohio Light Opera as Phyllis (Iolanthe), Mascha (The Chocolate Soldier), and the dramatic diva Bellabruna (Blossom Time). Ms. Miller appears on the only contemporary professional recording of Blossom Time, produced by Albany Records. Opera News lauded her portrayal of Bellabruna, writing “Miller projects all the confident insouciance of a pampered prima donna.” She is a co-founder of The Pleiades Project, which tells women’s stories and brings opera to new audiences through film. Ms. Miller starred in the short-film *Così*, which was named an official selection in the NY Indie Theatre Film Festival. She holds a Masters of Music in Vocal Performance from the Eastman School of Music and a Bachelor of Arts from Washington University in St. Louis.

Mary Cloud, mezzo soprano



Mary Cloud is a mezzo-soprano from Atlanta, Georgia, and is thrilled to join the Toledo Opera as their mezzo-soprano Resident Artist for the 2019-2020 season. Ms. Cloud performed the role of Despina (*Così fan tutte*) at the Hawai’i Performing Arts Festival and the Metro Detroit Opera Workshop. She also sang the role of the Second Lady (*Die Zauberflöte*) at the Hawai’i Performing Arts Festival. Also at home in the world of musical theater, Ms. Cloud performed the role of Ladybug in *Pasek and Paul’s James and the Giant Peach* at Tulane Summer Lyric Theater in New Orleans. Ms. Cloud was recently a member of the New Orleans Opera Chorus and performed with the company’s Opera on Tap chapter. She holds degrees from Loyola University, New Orleans (MM) and Indiana University, Bloomington (BM).

(Continues on page 5...)

Jaewook Lee, tenor

Jaewook Lee, tenor and native South Korean, received a BM from Seoul National University and a Diploma and a Master's degree from Southern Methodist University. His operatic roles while at SMU included Don Basilio (*Le nozze di Figaro*), The Mayor (Albert Herring), Count Belfiore (*La finta giardiniera*) and Sam Polk (*Susannah*). He sang the role of Tamino (*The Magic Flute*) at the Amalfi Coast Music Festival in Naples, Italy, Nemorino in the Dallas Opera's outreach production of *The Elixir of Love* and Alfredo (*La traviata*) at Opera in the Ozarks. Mr. Lee was a finalist in 2012 and 2014 at the Dallas Opera Guild Vocal Competition and 2014 at the McCammon Voice Competition and won fourth place at NATS. He just finished his Artist Diploma program at Texas Christian University where he performed the roles of Don José (*La tragédie de Carmen*), Fenton (*Falstaff*), Lysander (*A Midsummer Night's Dream*) and Rinuccio (*Gianni Schicchi*).

Rahim Mandal, baritone

American baritone Rahim Mandal who is known for his vocal power and charismatic presence, is thrilled to be one of Toledo Opera's Resident Artists for the 2019-2020 season. Recently, Mr. Mandal was seen singing Usciere (*Rigoletto*) with New Orleans Opera. Other professional engagements include the Big Bad Wolf in Samuel Barber's *Little Red Riding Hood* with New Orleans' MetroPelican Opera Company's outreach program, Wagner (*Faust*) with Natchez Music Festival, and Aeneas (*Dido and Aeneas*) with Teatro Lirico in Havana, Cuba. Mr. Mandal has also been a soloist for many concerts including a benefit concert of Faure's *Requiem*. Mr. Mandal holds two degrees in vocal performance, a Bachelor's from Loyola University New Orleans and a Masters from Florida State University.

Emily Morin, pianist

Pianist Emily Morin explores her interest in a wide range of solo repertoire and frequently collaborates with vocalists, instrumentalists, and composers. As a participant in the 2018 soundSCAPE Composition and Performance Exchange in Cesena, Italy, she performed as a soloist with a chamber orchestra and in various ensembles. She then returned to soundSCAPE in 2019 as a staff accompanist for the festival's vocal masterclasses, in addition to chamber music performances. Currently based in Toledo, Ohio, Emily enjoys accompanying students in a variety of educational settings and competitions (most recently, the NATS Great Lakes Region Auditions). Emily completed her Master of Music degrees in Piano Performance and Collaborative Piano at Bowling Green State University (BGSU), studying with Dr. Solungga Liu. She also holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Music from Providence College, where she studied with Dr. Sang Woo Kang. While at BGSU, she and Nicholas Kottman were awarded first prize in the Dr. Marjorie Conrad Art Song Competition. After joining Toledo Opera as a Resident Artist in 2019, Emily is thrilled to continue with the company for their 2020-2021 season.

ONLINE GIVING OPTIONS

Supporting our summer ministries and mission is only a click away! We offer convenient online giving, available anywhere, anytime, right from your computer, smartphone or tablet. You can make a one-time contribution or set up recurring gifts – a great option for members who are out of town or traveling frequently. Get started by visiting our website: www.lovelearnserv.org. See the “Give Online” option in the upper right hand corner.

Resources ▾

Give Online

To give through our mobile app, download the free GivePlus app from the App Store or Google Play and search for our church by name or ZIP code.



We appreciate your generosity and we hope that you will consider giving a gift to support our congregation!

Please reach out to Senior Warden, Julia Burtscher, if you have any questions. If you prefer to mail your weekly / monthly / quarterly pledges, please feel free to do so. *Thank you!*



If you are on Instagram,
we invite you to follow our new church account
@stmichaelsinthehills

CONNECT WITH US ONLINE!



Check out our YouTube Channel!
Visit www.youtube.com
and search for “St. Michael’s in the Hills”

When you see the organ graphic below,
you will know you’ve found the right channel!
Here you will find videos of sermons,
services and enjoy some anthems by our
Senior Choir section leaders.



ONLINE RESOURCES:

- Father Foster’s Sermons
<https://lovelearnserv.org/news-events/links/>
- Weekly Compline Services via Zoom
(New time!) Every Wednesday at 6:00 pm
<https://lovelearnserv.org/worship/worship/>
- Every Sunday, Holy Eucharist at 10:00 am,
Trinity Cathedral, Cleveland
<https://trinitycleveland.org/worship/>
- Daily Worship at the
Washington National Cathedral
<https://cathedral.org/>
- Bible readings from the
Episcopal Lectionary at
<http://lectionarypage.net/>

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1 George Shirk | 13 Mary Lathrop |
| 2 Connie Mullikin | Thomas Lathrop |
| 3 Claudia Handwork | 15 Julia MacLachlan |
| Daniel Kight | 16 William Maltese |
| 6 Muffy Quinn | 20 Al Reiser |
| Henry Merce | John Ehrmin |
| Michael Jewell | 23 Julie Boesel |
| 7 Heather Keleher | Andrea Kanfield |
| 8 Mary Anne Brown | 27 Grahm Hileman |
| 10 William Lloyd | Mattie Wilson |
| Ginger Graham | 28 Dick Aldinger |
| 11 Laura Randall | 29 Marilyn Palermo |
| Tom Hauck | |
| 12 Nancy Lehmann | |



WE HOLD IN OUR PRAYERS...

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

Parishioners: Bob Butler, Dick Aldinger, Elmer and Letty Haigh, Carol and Dennis Kanfield, Gayle Kurrelmeier, Jackie Moore, John, Marilyn Palermo, Lindsay Smith, Lillian Spaulding, Peter Handwork, and Puffin Coe.

*Family & Friends: Leland Ames, Didi Beckham, Dixie, Evelyn, Lee Gable, Jean, Karen, Lexi, Sandra, Nancy, Monique, Ed and Dan.

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

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



NOTES FROM THE OFFICE

September Newsletter: *Articles due August 24.*

The Office remains closed at this time. If you should need to get into the building, please email or call the Office to arrange this.

Updated Parish Directories are always available. Contact the office to request one. Digital or printed copies are available.



MEMORIAL GARDEN WORKDAYS

We continue to have Memorial Garden work days the 3rd Saturday of the month from 9 am—11 am, weather permitting. Come prepared for the weather and to do some weeding. Gloves and a water bottle are a good idea, as well as a mask. Contact Dee Becker with any questions. Scheduled upcoming days are August 15, and September 19.



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.



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THE VESTRY

Julia Burtscher, *Senior Warden*

Dani Zoorob, *Junior Warden*

Class of 2021

David Braun
Julia Burtscher
James Carlisle
Barb Malkoski

Class of 2022

Nancy Elzinga
Kay Gerhardinger
Eboné Waweru
Dani Zoorob

Class of 2023

Jen DeBacker
Joe Myers
Carol Nichols
George Shirk

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

Julia Burtscher – Senior Warden

Dani Zoorob – Junior Warden

John Graham – Treasurer

David Braun – Clerk