



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

Cross Currents

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

April 2021 Edition

My Dear Sisters, Brothers and Others,

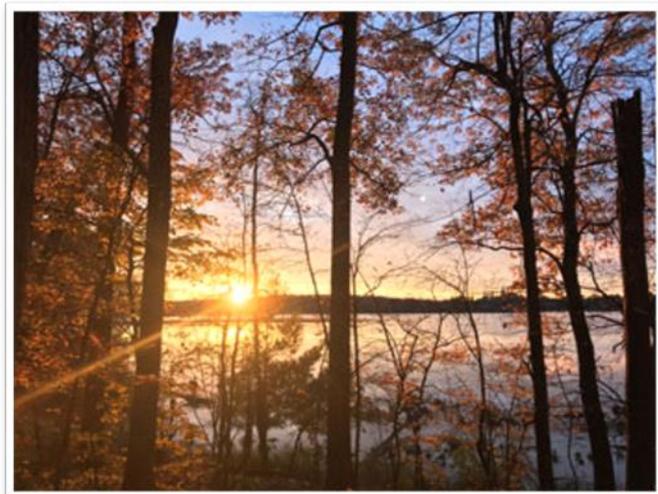
At some level, we all recognize this life is transitory and not permanent. In part, this is what gives our lives value. Yet sometimes we are so preoccupied we don't stop to acknowledge the value of our lives or reflect upon their impermanence, that is until something brings it to mind.

As I write this note, by our church calendar we are in the midst of one of those transient periods that really has the ability to get our attention if we are willing to give it space for reflection. We are making our way through Holy Week, on the cusp of the Triduum – the three holy days before Easter. These days initially only hint at what is to come before they scream watch out then lament a forsakenness and then give up the spirit. If we immerse ourselves in the drama of Christ's Passion, we too might experience the sense of loss and futility that his disciples felt on this side of the mystery of Easter.

But why subject ourselves to the pain of Christ's suffering and death year after year? Well, I suggest it's not unlike the experience of Bill Murray's character Phil Connors in "Ground Hog Day." Initially Phil is resentful and resistant to the cycle of repetition, but with each iteration he gains a bit more insight into and empathy for others until he is transformed himself, and is able to see the value of life, even amidst the mundane.

I hope you will metaphorically join me in walking the way of the cross through the Triduum and into the mystery, revelation and revelry that is Easter, that together – bit-by-bit – we too might grow more Christlike and able to immerse ourselves in his Paschal Mystery.

Yours in Christ's love and mystery,



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

VESTRY HIGHLIGHTS FROM MARCH

Our March Vestry meeting focused on parishioner engagement opportunities including expanding the space available for worship during the Easter service. The in-person attendance opportunity for the Easter service has been received very well. In order to accommodate those still interested, the Fellowship Hall will be used for additional seating with live streaming of the service and audio. Communion (wafers) will be provided for all in attendance as well as spiritual communion for those streaming online. As more space has been added to the original 50 in the Nave, more parishioners may sign up with the office if interested. The Vestry also reviewed the covid safety measures that will be observed to ensure safety of all present. The Vestry also discussed the methodology that would be used to assess how changes in covid rates may reflect on services once the church transitions to in-person worship.

Additionally, the Vestry discussed opportunities to engage our church community in learning about the history, meanings, and potential liturgical association with the musical pieces often played or heard at church services. This will be in the form of narrative provided on a regular basis in church communications.

— *Dani Zoorob*, Sr. Warden

LIVE MUSIC FOR EASTER

For a few weeks now, we have known that we will finally return to in person worship on Easter Day! I will be honest with you, at first this news had me stressed out. I was asking myself if I had enough time to effectively plan a change in the music selections to honor our traditions of live music for our Easter service. After all Easter is a special day in the Liturgical calendar and I have personally enjoyed and missed the celebratory sounds of trumpets and timpani echoing from our nave. So with some helpful and needed guidance, I have hired a string quartet to play for our Easter Service.

The quartet might have a familiar face or two. Alice Petersen, playing the 2nd violin for Easter and who has been my main contact for the string quartet, told me that she had played at our church when Paul Marion was the Director of Music. Playing alongside Alice Petersen will be Dana Mader on 1st violin, Carly Rockenhausen on viola, and James Anderson on cello.

The quartet will be playing selections from a variety of composers. We will hear compositions by baroque composers like Pitoni, Vivaldi, and Hadel with a few selections of Mozart's classical compositions. We will finish off our Easter service with a Rich Heffler arrangement of 'Christ the Lord is Risen Today'.

I look forward to this service as it will be a taste of what was once normal and oh how I long to fill myself with the joys of normalcy once again.

Musically yours,
Justin Bays



ST. MICHAEL'S TRIP TO ISRAEL 2022

Plan on Joining Us for an Opportunity of a Lifetime!

Follow in the footsteps of Jesus of Nazareth and his Apostles as you explore the Christian heritage of Israel. From Jesus' birthplace in Bethlehem to his crucifixion and resurrection in the Holy City of Jerusalem, explore the stories and scenes that set the foundation for an entire faith. For more information, visit the provided links.

Two Travel Opportunities

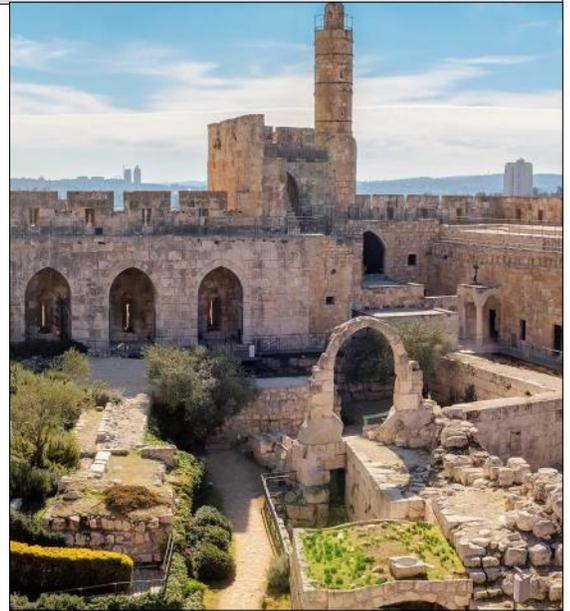
March 26 – April 4, 2022

(During Lent, almost sold out)

<https://grouptoursite.com/tours/israelwithal326>

June 4-13, 2022

<https://grouptoursite.com/tours/israelwithaljune>



Contact parishioner Al Stephens with any questions: astep723@gmail.com



WEEKLY COMPLINE INVITATION

Every Wednesday at 6:00 pm
beginning again April 14th

We offer Virtual Compline on Wednesday evenings at 6 pm. We offer this service via Zoom web conferencing. To access Zoom, visit <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4493892523>. 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'd like to join by phone, dial +1 (312) 626-6799, and when prompted enter the Meeting ID: 449 389 2523.



SELF-GUIDED NATURE HIKES AT BELLWETHER FARM



Self-guided nature hike guides (centered on The Way of Love) are available at Bellwether Farm for individuals or families to explore the wonder of God’s creation through Bellwether’s forests and along the river.

Call 440.839.0088 to reserve a time to hike or visit <https://www.bellwetherfarm.com/>

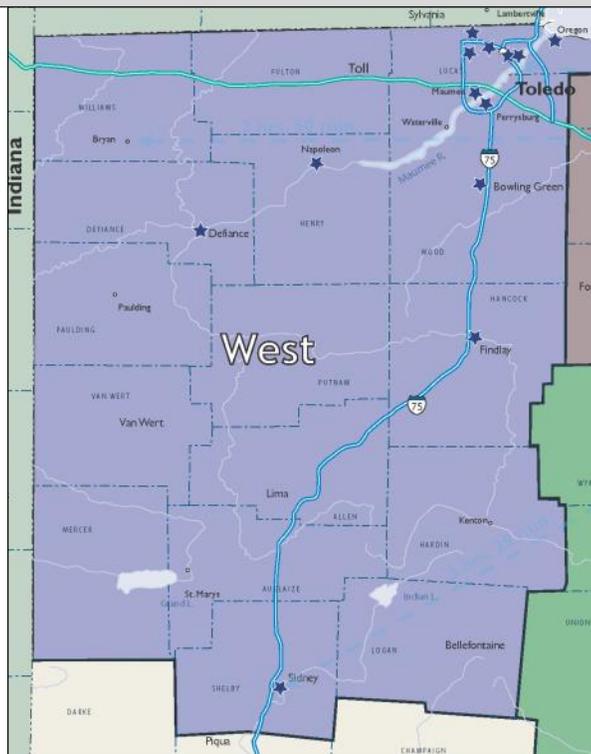
WHAT EXACTLY IS THE “WEST MISSION AREA?”

The West Mission area is part of the Episcopal Diocese of Ohio and is home to thirteen parishes who collaborate for fellowship, education, and mission:

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| St. John’s, Bowling Green | St. Mark’s, Sidney |
| Grace, Defiance | All Saint’s, Toledo |
| Trinity, Findlay | St. Andrew’s, Toledo |
| St. Paul’s Maumee | St. Matthew’s, Toledo |
| St. John, Napoleon | St. Michael’s, Toledo |
| St. Paul’s, Oregon | Trinity, Toledo |
| St. Timothy’s, Perrysburg | |

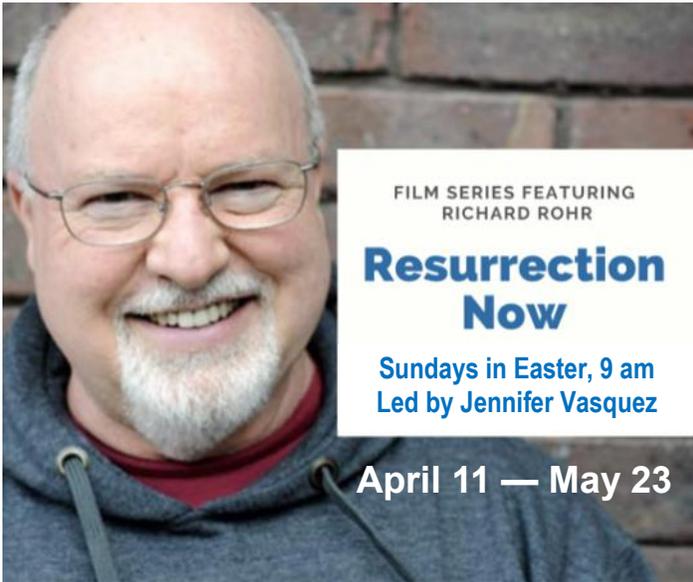
From the Episcopal Church’s website: “The mission of the church, as stated in the Book of Common Prayer’s catechism (p. 855), is “to restore all people to unity with God and each other in Christ.”

As part of that mission, we’re following Jesus into loving, liberating and life-giving relationship with God, with each other and with the earth as the Episcopal branch of the Jesus Movement. We seek every day to love God with our whole heart, mind and soul, and to love our neighbors as ourselves (Matthew 22:36-40).”



Assisting in communication, sharing programs and resources, providing mutual support among our congregations, and identifying and implementing opportunities for collaborative ministry.

WEST MISSION AREA CLASS OFFERINGS: APRIL-MAY



FILM SERIES FEATURING
RICHARD ROHR

Resurrection Now

Sundays in Easter, 9 am
Led by Jennifer Vasquez

April 11 — May 23



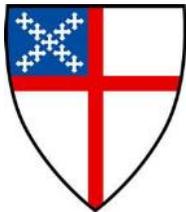
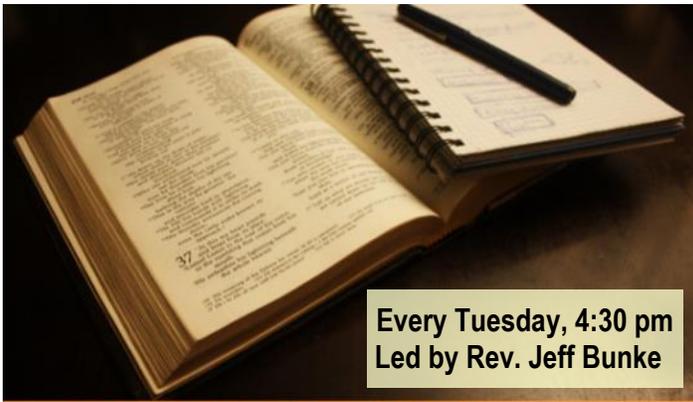
INTERGENERATIONAL CLASS

Building Faith Brick By Brick

Explore Bible stories with Legos
(or preferred medium)!

Sundays in Easter, 11-11:30 AM

April 11 — May 23

Every Tuesday, 4:30 pm
Led by Rev. Jeff Bunke

LECTIONARY STUDY

FOR MORE
INFORMATION,
VISIT:
westmissionarea.org



WEDNESDAYS, 5 PM

The Jerusalem Collection

A Bible study on generosity and abundance, led by Pastor Julie Beitelschees

April 14 — May 19



BIBLE STUDY

Wednesdays, 7 pm
April 7 — May 19

Led by Jennifer Vasquez

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.lovelearnsolve.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.

**GIVE
PLUS+**

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!*



Instagram

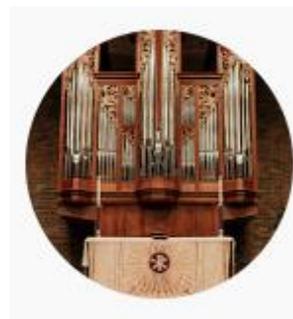
If you are on Instagram,
we invite you to follow our church account:
@stmichaelsinthehills

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:

- Weekly Compline Services via Zoom, every Wednesday at 6:00 pm
<https://lovelearnsolve.org/worship/worship/>
- West Mission Area Group Studies
<https://westmissionarea.org/>
- 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/>

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| 1 Lovi Aldinger
Kay Gerhardinger | 18 Suzanne Rorick
Abby Hauck
Sara Roberts |
| 2 Spencer Smith
Julia Waweru | 19 Margot Estes |
| 4 Carolyn Cousino | 20 Leonard Walker
Scott Lundgren
Mike Porter |
| 5 Brent Cousino | 21 Meredith Randall |
| 6 Susan Hendricks | 22 Elmer Haigh
Scott Tuttle |
| 7 Craig Bailey
Caroline Lathrop | 23 Puffin Coe
Christopher Sailstad |
| 8 Julia Burtscher | 27 Elizabeth Day |
| 11 Vivian Bork | 29 Susan Mason
Lindsey Walker |
| 12 Grace Waweru | 30 Cam Smith |
| 14 Ann Verner | |
| 17 Vicki Creekmore
Julie Graham | |



WE HOLD IN OUR PRAYERS...

Homebound: 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, Ginger, Mark, and Rod and Joan Durgin.

*Family & Friends: Didi Beckham, Dixie, Evelyn, Lee Gable, Jean, Karen, Lexi, Sandra, Nancy, Bill, Michele, Monica, Caleb, Dick, Alan, Lynn, Terry and Beth.

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

May Newsletter: *Articles due April 23rd*

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.



If you are giving a donation of stock to the church, please ask your broker or financial advisor to issue a letter to the Church with your name on it so we can credit your gift appropriately. Otherwise, it is often not clear who the gift is from. Thank you for your consideration!



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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Visit us on the web: www.lovelearnserv.org

THE VESTRY

Dani Zoorob, *Senior Warden*
Maureen Latigo, *Junior Warden*

Class of 2022

Jim Boyer
Kay Gerhardinger
Eboné Waweru
Dani Zoorob

Class of 2023

Jen DeBacker
Joe Myers
Carol Nichols
George Shirk

Class of 2024

Maureen Latigo
Al Stephens
Nancy Lehmann
Donna Tozer-Wipfli

PARISH STAFF

Michelle Knecht & Kim Schrinel – Administrative Assistants
Gretchen Rohm – Financial Administrator
Justin Bays – Director of Music
Rebecca Park – Organist
Diane Reeves & Lisa Watson – Sextons

PARISH LEADERSHIP

The Rev. Foster Mays – Priest-in-Charge
Dani Zoorob – Senior Warden
Maureen Latigo – Junior Warden
Al Stephens – Clerk