



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

Cross Currents

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

May 2021 Edition

My Sisters, Brothers and Others,

Aside from being a beautiful time of year, for many of us, May is a time of transition as well. The school year is winding down, students are perhaps preparing for exams and summer plans, and some are preparing for graduation and new adventures in post-secondary education. There's a lot going on, and May is a busy time of year with much to distract us, even as we may need to focus.

As followers of Christ Jesus, we find a similar dynamic in the teaching of the church this time of year. The Apostles and we are counting down the days to the Ascension of Christ and then the Day of Pentecost, and yet there's still so much learn before Jesus ascends. In the weeks to come Jesus will be preparing us for a new paradigm – a world without his day-to-day in-person presence. In anticipation of this reality, Christ will remind us with metaphor and imagery of the virtual, spiritual and apostolic connections with which we have been blessed. Jesus will also pray for us before he leaves us, commending us to the care of his Father as we continue the work he has given us to do – to abide in his love, and to love one another.

Therefore, before we disperse to our varied summer pursuits, I invite you and your children to pause and join us on Sunday, May 9th for Youth Sunday when we will gather to commend a young group of disciples to the care of their Creator as they prepare for their own new paradigms, where they too are called to abide in Christ's love, and to love one another.

May they and all of us be sustained by Christ's abiding love.



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

VESTRY HIGHLIGHTS FROM APRIL

Among the discussions held in the monthly Vestry meeting was the online presence and support of the streaming of church services. Over the past few months, Mr. David Braun has put together a great platform for maintaining the service streaming, which permits parishioners who enjoy such participation to continue being active with the church, although remotely. The platform is being augmented and developed to make it an even more robust one, with multiple support personnel available, to sustain it long-term. If any parishioners are interested in joining the effort, please do not hesitate to reach out to Reverend Mays.

Additionally, the Vestry discussed the Saturday service that had a significant welcome from parishioners, and attendance included many who had not been to church in a very long time. As many desire variable options, the church is obliged to consider the repeated attendance rates, verbalized and documented desirability, safety in practices, and efficiency, in turn, over (among other factors) in decision making. As a Vestry, we are open to suggestions and hope to help our parish resume its vibrancy that we enjoyed prior to COVID.

The Vestry also addressed potential outdoor events as summer approaches, and the weather becomes more tolerant of such activities. The Vestry hopes to have some services outdoors, permitting potentially for more social engagement among the parishioners.

As COVID has been around for a year, our Common Grounds meeting the first Sunday in May will focus on how people have weathered the pandemic, what coping mechanisms they used to help them stay strong and healthy, as well as how to develop an attitude that helps heal and hone in on positivity in process. The meeting will be in the Fellowship hall in groups that are appropriately socially distanced. Please join this parish effort to discuss different ways of helping one another and sustaining our church community.

As the pandemic has impacted youth presence at church, their ministry is being formalized in hopes of re-engagement. Meanwhile, the church is setting up an activity within the next few weeks to reinvigorate youth involvement in the church ministry.

We would very much appreciate suggestions and input on how we can make social engagement better and church offerings more appealing to all generations of our church.

— *Dani Zoorob*, Sr. Warden

WEEKLY COMPLINE INVITATION

Every Wednesday at 6:00 pm

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.



MAY MUSIC NOTES

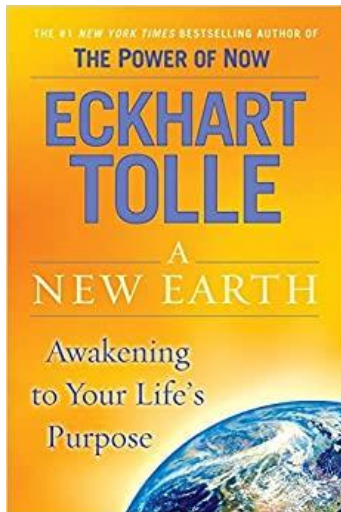
The month of May takes us into the heart of spring where new life has had ample time to take root. We have the pleasure of enjoying not only the natural beauty that surrounds us, but we have the opportunity to celebrate unique and traditional Holidays that are riddled throughout this entertaining month. Some of these events we are familiar with like May Day, Cinco de Mayo, and Mother's Day, while others might be new to us like Eat What You Want Day, Limerick Day, and Asparagus Day. May simply offers plenty of opportunities for you to show appreciation, celebrate your successes, and to be self-indulgent. I would like to present another day to look forward to during the month of May and that is May 23rd.

Not only is May 23rd World Turtle Day, but it will also be the day we have Dr. David Saunders returning to our church to play our beautiful organ. Dr. Saunders will be playing during our morning service starting at 8:45am. You might recall that Dr. David Saunders played an organ recital at St. Michael's in Hills on Christmas Eve and did a fabulous job. So be sure to come to church or join us via our Facebook Live stream on May 23rd at 8:45am to hear music that is worth celebrating!

—Justin Bays, Music Director



NEW BOOK IN THE CLAUDIA HANNAFORD LIBRARY



With his bestselling spiritual guide, “The Power of Now”, Eckhart Tolle inspired millions of readers to discover the freedom and joy of a life lived “in the now.” In “A New Earth”, Tolle expands on these powerful ideas to show how transcending our ego-based state of consciousness is not only essential to personal happiness, but also the key to ending conflict and suffering throughout the world. Tolle describes how our attachment to the ego creates the dysfunction that leads to anger, jealousy, and unhappiness, and shows readers how to awaken to a new state of consciousness and follow the path to a truly fulfilling existence. “The Power of Now” was a question-and-answer handbook. “A New Earth” has been written as a traditional narrative, offering anecdotes and philosophies in a way that is accessible to all. Illuminating, enlightening, and uplifting, “A New Earth” is a profoundly spiritual manifesto for a better way of life—and for building a better world. * Come check it out in our Library! *

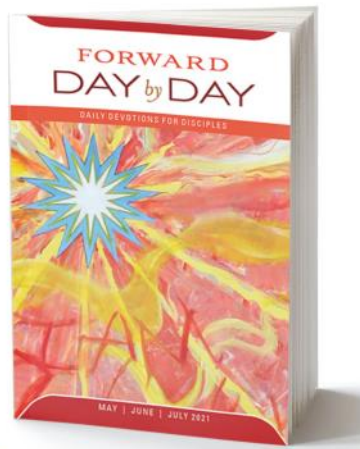
MEMORIAL GARDEN WORKDAYS

There will be Memorial Garden work days the 3rd Saturday of the month from 9-11 a.m. weather permitting. Come prepared for the weather and to do some weeding. Gloves and a water bottle are usually a good idea. Contact Dee Becker with any questions.

Scheduled days for 2021: May 15, June 19, July 17,
August 21, and September 18.



MONTHLY DEVOTIONAL AVAILABLE



Forward Day by Day is a booklet of daily inspirational meditations reflecting on a specific Bible passage, chosen from the daily lectionary readings as listed in the Revised Common Lectionary or the Daily Office from the Episcopal Church's *Book of Common Prayer*. They are published quarterly.

St. Michael's is happy to offer Forward Day by Day devotionals, in both regular and large print. We have copies of the May/June/July edition now available on the hall and narthex tables.

If you are not currently attending church in person and wish to receive a devotional, we are happy to send one in the mail! Simply call or email the office.

WELCOMING NEW BLESSINGS!



Dave, Angela, and Jacqueline Sturtz welcomed identical twin girls, Kaitlyn Myrtle and Evelyn Mae on February 3, 2021. The twins were delivered six weeks early, spent six weeks in the NICU, and are continuing to thrive at home. The family hopes to see everyone in person at church, soon. We look forward to the baptisms of Kaitlyn and Evelyn on June 6.

* * *

Ace Duffy Cobau was born to Daniel Cobau and Sara Mullins on March 14, 2021. Ace is the grandson of Jeff Smith and Penny Cobau-Smith and the nephew of Tommy Cobau!

ECW RETREAT

May 15th from 10 am—2 pm

The Diocese of Ohio Episcopal Church Women is extending an invitation to all women to attend their annual meeting and virtual retreat. The focus will be on re-centering ourselves by connecting to our communities, to nature and to our bodies. We are resilient!

EASTER OFFERING OUTREACH

We want to extend a heartfelt thank you to all who gave toward our Easter Offering! With your donations, in addition to a very generous gift, we were able to give \$1,574 to Feed Your Neighbor and \$7,574 to Sew Hope. Wow! Your kindness and generosity does not go unnoticed.



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATES!



Anna Becker is graduating in May from the University of Toledo with a degree in Geophysics.

William Becker is graduating from Ottawa Hills High School and will be going to the University of Toledo in the engineering program.

James Becker has been accepted to the BFA program at U.T. and has a project from this semester on display through October.

Sam Lathrop is graduating from St. Francis deSales School and is headed to Case Western Reserve University in the fall.



Sam Reszko is graduating from Keystone Online School. Sam will be attending the University of Toledo, majoring in Art History with a focus in Art Museum practices.

Meredith Randall is graduating from Ottawa Hills High School and will attend University of Cincinnati's College Conservatory of Music studying Theater Production and Design.



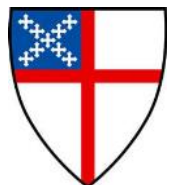
Carter Hagenbuch intends to pursue a Visual Communication Design degree at Kent State University in the fall.

SMALL GROUP OFFERINGS IN THE WEST MISSION AREA

Looking for more ways to get involved and go deeper in your faith?

The West Mission Area Churches have joined together to offer various weekly opportunities for fellowship and growth via Zoom.

Go to <https://westmissionarea.org/> for specific program information.



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.

**GIVE
PLUS+**

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

If you prefer to mail your weekly / monthly / quarterly pledges, please feel free to do so. *Thank you!*



Instagram

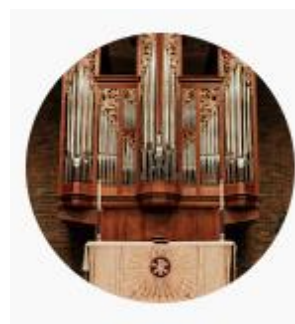
If you are on Instagram,
we invite you to follow our church account:
@stmichaelsinthehills

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://lovelearnserv.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/>

MAY BIRTHDAYS

2 Ginger Ryan Annette Boice	15 Mitchell Gomulinski
3 William Gerhardinger	16 Bob Nolette
4 Jim Lindeen	17 John Graham
6 Olivia Tuttle	18 Joe Gerhardinger
8 Dick Creekmore	21 Cheryl Volk
9 Dan Walker Jeff Smith	25 Lindsay Smith Irene Ehrmin
14 Anna Becker	30 Tom Crawford James Carlisle



WE HOLD IN OUR PRAYERS...

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

Parishioners: Dick Aldinger, Elmer and Letty Haigh, Carol and Dennis Kanfield, Gayle Kurrelmeier, Jackie Moore, John, Marilyn Palermo, Lindsay Smith, Lillian Spaulding, Ginger, Mark, Vivian, and Rod and Joan Durgin.

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

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

For those who have died:
Jack Christopher, Bob Butler

**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.lovelearnserve.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