

Shield



ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Lansing, Michigan

Cyril and Methodius

Monk and Bishop, Missionaries to the Slavs, 869, 885

Cyril and Methodius, brothers born in Thessalonika, are honored as apostles to the southern Slavs and as the founders of Slavic literary culture. Cyril was a student of philosophy and a deacon, who eventually became a missionary monastic. Methodius was first the governor of a Slavic colony, then turned to the monastic life, and was later elected abbot of a monastery in Constantinople.

In 862, the King of Moravia asked for missionaries who would teach his people in their native language. Since both Cyril and Methodius knew Slavonic, and both were learned men—Cyril was known as “the Philosopher”—the Patriarch chose them to lead the mission.

As part of his task among the Moravians, Cyril invented an alphabet to transcribe the native tongue, probably the “glagolitic,” in which Slavo-Roman liturgical books in Russian and Serbian are still written. The so-called “cyrillic” alphabet is thought to have been originated by Cyril’s followers.

Pressures by the German clergy, who opposed the brothers’ teaching, preaching, and writing in Slavonic, and the lack of a bishop to ordain new priests for their people, caused the two brothers to seek foreign help. They found a warm welcome at Rome from Pope Adrian the Second, who determined to ordain both men bishops and approved the Slavonic liturgy. Cyril died in Rome and was buried there. Methodius, now a bishop, returned to Moravia as Metropolitan of Sirmium.

Methodius, still harassed by German bishops, was imprisoned at their behest. Eventually, he was released by Pope John the Eighth, on the condition that Slavonic, “a barbarous language,” be used only for preaching. Later, the enmity of the Moravian prince caused Methodius to be recalled to Rome on charges of heresy. Papal support again allowed him to return to Moravia and to use Slavonic in the liturgy.

Methodius completed a Slavonic translation of the Bible and of Byzantine ecclesiastical law, while continuing his missionary activities. At his funeral, celebrated in Greek, Latin, and Slavonic, “the people came together in huge numbers . . . for Methodius had been all things to all people that he might lead them all to heaven.”

[There is a Roman Catholic Seminary in Orchard Lake, MI dedicated to SS. Cyril and Methodius.]

Collect: Almighty and everlasting God, by the power of the Holy Spirit you moved your servant Cyril and his brother Methodius to bring the light of the Gospel to a hostile and divided people: Overcome all bitterness and strife among us by the love of Christ, and make us one united family under the banner of the Prince of Peace; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Lessons: Psalm 96:1-7; Ephesians 3:1-7; Mark 16:15-20

February Birthdays

1	John Wilson
2	Paul Davis
4	Magnus Campbell
6	Rocco Buisse
7	Carol Merritt
8	Tony Cline
9	Lauren Graham
11	Molly Boelio
17	Ian Graham
19	Sue Sopkovsky
23	Betty Boyd, Dean & Dylan Davidoski, Kimberly Frazier
25	Doris Ledyard
26	Leon Dombrowski
27	Ken Alfredson

February Anniversaries

10 Shannon & Milissa Kelley



Don't Forget

The deadline for the March 2010 Shield will be Sunday, February 21st by 12:00 noon. Please submit your articles in a timely fashion. If you are doing your articles on the computer, *PLEASE* use Garamond or New Times Roman font size 12. Also, please use Word programs NOT Word Perfect. You may e-mail your articles to: archangel48911@Juno.com by Wednesday, February 17th or submit them on paper .



Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

Tuesday, February 16, 2010

5:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Please come and bring your friends.

Menu includes pancakes, sausage, applesauce and a beverage.

Donations are:

\$3.00 Children

\$5.00 Adults

\$12.00 Families

PLEASE LET US KNOW

From time to time, we may know of someone who is ill, either at home or in the hospital, facing surgery, or who may want Communion brought to them because they are unable to get to church for some reason and neither Fr. Hamlin or the secretary may be aware of the situation. Sometimes they have not been made aware of a need and the member has been unhappy.

If you know of someone who you think Fr. Hamlin needs to contact, either in person or by telephone, PLEASE either leave a note on the secretary's desk, tell Fr. Hamlin directly, or leave a message on the church voice mail. Fr. Hamlin would rather be told several times about a need, than not be told at all.

Barry Baker
Senior Warden

Listening for the Wingbeats

We come to this month shocked and saddened by events both in Haiti and in our own parish. At one level of our consciousness, we know how fragile life is (even when we try to blunt the sting of that understanding by phrasing it as “we know how fragile life can be”), but events like the earthquake in Haiti and sudden and unexpected death in our parish family bring the reality of the fragility of life home to us with a new and greater urgency. It feels more like Lent than Epiphany.

Yet, even in the midst of the despair and grief, we can see glimmers of hope for the promised Kingdom of God in which there is no sorrow or death, but life everlasting. The outpouring of prayer, financial support, and human effort in the wake of the Haitian earthquake is a reminder that, for all our failings, shortcomings, and sins as human being, there still dwells within us the loving, caring and compassionate image of God. We see in the response to such disasters, the crumbling of the barriers we so often erect to wall us off from one another; in the relief efforts, nationality, race, language, religion, political orientation, social position, and all the rest fade to insignificance in the face of our common humanity. Similarly, in the shock and grief over the death of a single individual in our parish, we experience again the genuineness of the love and care we have for one another. Tragedy and death shake us up, they shove us out of our complacency and unexamined assumptions about the predictability of life. They make us face our own vulnerability. Perhaps because of that, they also help us realize the importance and power of community and of working together, supporting one another, truly loving one another. Part of the challenge before us is to learn how to make those positive elements in our response to death and disaster an integral part of how we live—and live in community—all the time.

Another way to look at our response is to ask ourselves what keeps us from being so genuinely concerned, so truly generous, so deeply compassionate in our day-to-day living. Why does it take tragedy and death for us to feel and act this way? I would suggest that those are good questions for us to consider as we prepare for Lent. Most of you have heard me say before that the purpose self-examination in preparation for Lent is not to make us suffer just as the purpose of our Lenten disciplines (or practices or whatever we choose to call them) is not to make us suffer. Rather, both are supposed to be directed to help us live more fully into the image of God. Examination of conscience helps us to see the ways in which we fail, or refuse, to live in conformity with our Baptismal vows; fail to follow Christ in all things. Those things which we give up or take on for Lent are intended to help us change the way we act and think and live in order to bring us closer to God and more like the person God creates us to be.

I suspect that one of the greatest difficulties we have with all of this is our failure to take the time to just be and to reflect on issues like this. Sabbath is the culmination of Creation—it is also deeply counter-cultural. We are suspicious of those who are not active and productive; we have innumerable aphorisms about the value and importance of making every moment count. What we often fail to realize is that Sabbath time can not only renew and refresh us, it can also make our work time more focused, intentional, and productive. It is the rhythm of work and Sabbath that helps us claim our heritage as daughters and sons of God. I encourage you to take time early this month to think about how you do want to use the season of Lent this year to strengthen and/or deepen your spiritual life. I also urge you to consider including—or increasing—Sabbath time as part of your Lenten observance. There is a wonderful prayer on page 825 of *The Book of Common Prayer* that may be a helpful tool in thinking about this:

O God, in the course of this busy life, give us times of refreshment and peace; and grant that we may so use our leisure to rebuild our bodies and renew our minds, that our spirits may be opened to the goodness of your creation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessings and Peace,
Fr. Dick +

Province V Annual ECW Gathering 2010

ALL women of the Episcopal faith are invited to attend the 2010 gathering at the Hyatt Hotel in Dearborn, MI. on April 9, 10, & 11. Reunite with long time friends and make new ones. Truly this will be exciting for females of ALL ages. JOIN US!

“Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation...”

Dr. Andrew Blume and the Episcopal Divinity School, Cambridge MA

THE SPIRIT OF ONE WOMAN

The theme of this year’s Province V ECW Annual Meeting is the “Spirit of One Woman.” This theme supports the previous two meetings, “The Heart of One Woman” and “The Power of One Woman.” Our spirits help us to sustain our relationship with the Creator of the Universe and with each other. The Spirit of Creation will radiate through us as we gather together to worship, to work and to play together.

Keynote Speakers:

The Rev. Stephanie Spellers is a young priest from Boston, who has an innovative program at the cathedral there, called “The Crossing.” The Rev. Stephanie Spellers is the author of the book, *Radical Welcome*. Her book will be available for sale at the conference. She speaks all over the country to church groups, especially those working with youth. She's also on the Episcopal Church’s Standing Commission on Domestic Mission and Evangelism.

The Rev. Faith Fowler is the senior pastor of Cass Community United Methodist Church in Detroit, where she ministers to the marginalized in the inner city. Both of these women will offer their inspirational stories as models for how we can all be Christ’s feet and hands and heart in this hurting world. The Rev. Faith Fowler has been recognized at the White House for her work in Detroit, and I sure you will enjoy hearing her talk. She has spoken to ECW groups here, including our ECW diocesan annual meeting a few years ago, and she is always dynamic.

Workshops: This year you will have the opportunity to choose two workshops from the following selections:

Faith-Booking Healing Body – Balanced Spirit Praying in Color

Prayer in Motion Picture Your Sacred Journey

An introduction to Education for Ministry (EFM)

Service Project: We have chosen Crossroads as the recipient of this year’s special collection. Crossroads serves a vital need to the disenfranchised and the mentally ill in the Detroit area. With the current downturn in the economy this ministry is serving more people than ever.

Note: We have allowed extra time on Saturday April 10th to enjoy lunch on your own. The Hyatt Hotel is located next to Town Center Mall where you can find many specialty shops and restaurants. The City of Dearborn offers a diverse collection of ethnic restaurants, such as: Mexican, Arabic, Chinese, Japanese, German and Italian, all within a 5 – 10 minute drive.

Registration Begins November 1, 2009 - Ends February 15, 2010. NO REFUNDS after February 15.

Conference Rates:	Single Rooms:	\$375.00
	Double Occupancy:	\$275.00 (per person)
	Commuter:	All Weekend \$175.00
		Friday and Saturday only \$150.00 (Reception, Dinner, Breakfast, Dinner)
		Sunday only \$25.00 (Breakfast)

Our Website: www.ecwdioceseofmichigan.com

There are registration forms on the table in the Narthex.

Condolences

We were all shocked by the death of Peg Maricle on January 15, 2010. We extend our deepest sympathy to Terry Maricle, Becky and Lou Velasquez, John Maricle and family and all of Peg's family.

*Into paradise may the angels lead you
At your coming may the martyrs receive you.*

We are saddened by the death of Helen Robinson on January 16, 2010. We extend our deepest sympathy to her sons, Tom, Jim, and John, and to all her family.

*Rest eternal grant to her , O Lord;
and let light perpetual shine upon her.*

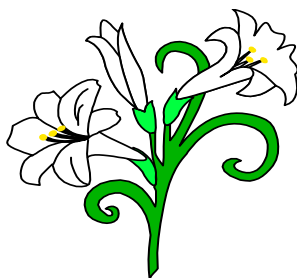
Each in her own way was a very special person, loving and deeply loved. Each was an important part of our parish and they are, and will be, greatly missed.

We also extend our sympathy to Evelyn Shelley on the death of her cousin and Jan Cobbs on the death of her brother-in-law.

*May their souls, and the souls of all the departed,
through the mery of God, rest in peace.*

Adult Education for Lent

The Sunday morning Adult Education offering for Lent will be the Trinity Institute Conference Video Series featuring a variety of different speakers and topics. Please join us at 9:15 for coffee and conversation.



Easter Flowers

Envelopes for the Easter Memorial flowers will be out early again due to the need to pre-pay for the flowers. If you would like to make a donation, please return the envelopes by March 10th and put them in the collection plate.

Thank You!

Vestry Meeting Synopsis

January 11, 2010

The Vestry meeting opened with prayer at 7 p.m. and opened with Vestry roundtable and correspondence. We received an invitation to the "Open Door Ministries breakfast on January 16th. It is a great opportunity for us to be involved with our community. Father Dick will plan to attend. We also discussed the need for a system of communication concerning the needs of our parish in terms of pastoral care.

The next item on the agenda was the Annual Meeting scheduled for January 24th with a soup and salad luncheon following the 10:30 service and the meeting will follow the luncheon. Sherie Wahlquist graciously agreed to be the clerk for the Annual Meeting. Nominees for Vestry for the Annual Meeting vote. There are two and we are in need of three Vestry members. Other items discussed were additional items for the agenda. New items to the agenda included our concerns about the need for a sexton or a system for doing the work ourselves and the alternative service.

Also, discussed in New Business items were some of the needs we have but are restricted by our budget. After discussion at the December meeting, it was decided that the kitchen is in need of some supplies and updating of some things. The idea of a kitchen shower was discussed. Sandy and Pam will be organizing a shower for the spring.

The following fundraisers were brought to the vestry meeting for approval...

1. The Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner on Feb. 16th, with profits going to the General Fund. The motion was made and seconded to approve the dinner date.
2. Rummage sales, scheduled for May 15th, 2010 and October 23rd, 2010, with the profits to be split evenly between the general fund of the parish and the Outreach committee for grants. A motion was made and seconded to approve the dates for the sales.
3. Arts and Crafts Bazaar and Cookie Walk will be scheduled for Saturday, November 13th with profits going to the General Fund of the parish. The motion was made and seconded to approve the date for the Bazaar/Cookie Walk.

Other fundraisers to be discussed later, the Parade of Homes dates and the dates of the football games for the MSU concession booth.

Submitted by,
Pam Wilson

Rummage Sales: May 15 and October 23

Camp Chickagami July 26-August 1

Arts & Crafts Bazaar & Cookie Walk November 13



“The Year of Living Like Jesus” by Ed Dobson: A Book Review by Pat Zandstra

My daughter Sarah called me about a month ago to ask if I had heard of the book titled “The Year of Living Like Jesus” by Ed Dobson published in 2009. Ed Dobson served as the pastor of the very large and well known Calvary Church in Grand Rapids, MI for 18 years. He has an interesting pedigree and a winsome way with words, especially words about a personal faith in Christ. Nine years ago he was diagnosed with a slow developing form of ALS, also known as Lou Gehrig’s Disease. I told her that I hadn’t heard about this book.

As it turns out Ed Dobson read the book by the Jewish author A.J. Jacobs published in 2008 titled “The Year of Living Biblically” that was reviewed in “Christianity Today.” After reading Jacobs’ book, Ed was inspired as a Christian to try to dedicate a year of his life to try to live like Jesus. I went on my computer to the CADL website and placed this library book on “hold.” I became the 8th of 8 holds and waited for my turn to read it. Three days ago I was notified that the book was ready to be picked up at the counter of the Holt Library. I just finished reading it this afternoon. I thought it was a great book. It made me laugh. It made me think. It made me wonder.

During Ed’s year of trying to live like Jesus he crossed his own traditional barriers and visited bars, grew out his beard, attended Jewish Feasts & Festivals, read through the Gospels more times than you could imagine, tried to keep the Sabbath, ate Kosher foods, and as a politically conservative Republican party member he did the unimaginable by voting for Obama. He did all of these things in his attempt to try to live like Jesus for a year. This is a book worth reading. I recommend it to you with gladness of heart. If any of you go to the trouble of reading it, I want to hear what you think.

Patricia J. Zandstra
3734 Bayou Place
Holt, MI 48842
517 394-7234

*Congratulations!
(But we will miss you!!!)*

Mo. Susan Carter has accepted a call from the Bishop and St. John’s, Howell, to serve as Priest in Charge, beginning February 1, 2010. We are thankful for her time with us as seminarian, Deacon and Priest. She has been a blessing to us all and we will miss her presence and her preaching.



February 17

Holy Eucharist and Imposition of Ashes
7:00 a.m. Noon 6:00 p.m.

We will mark the beginning of Lent with the Liturgy for Ash Wednesday. Ashes will be offered at all three services for those who desire them. The evening service will include the choir and hymns.

Lenten Wednesdays

Come for the entire evening or for only a portion.

6:00 p.m.	Holy Eucharist
6:45 p.m.	Simple Supper of Soup, Bread, Cheese, and Fruit
7:15 p.m.	Discussion of <i>In Praise of Doubt: How to Have Convictions Without Becoming a Fanatic</i> by Peter Berger and Anton Zijderveld

Our Eucharists this year will be taken from a variety of Anglican prayer books from around the world:

The Bombay Liturgy (1948)	on February 24
The Church of the Province of West Africa: Ghana (1960)	on March 3
Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui (1965)	on March 10
The Scottish Episcopal Church (1982)	on March 17
The Church in the Province of the West Indies (1995)	on March 24

Judith Ramsay is once again coordinating soups for supper. Those not bringing soup are asked to bring bread, cheese, or fruit to share.

The book we will be discussing contains chapters on several topics including relativism, fundamentalism, and the politics of moderation. You may purchase your own copy of the book, or we have copies available for \$16.50. (The Discretionary Fund does have limited scholarship aide available for the books.) Please read the Acknowledgments and Chapter 1 for the discussion on February 24. The evening will end by 8:15 p.m.

Annual Meeting

Thank you to everyone who attended our Annual Meeting on January 24. Thanks to all those who prepared reports for the meeting and special thanks to Pam Wilson for the wonderful soup and salad for lunch.

Our thanks and congratulations to Tara Dombroske, Judith Ramsay, and Mary Weathers who were elected to three year terms on the Vestry. We also thank and congratulate Kris Beckett, elected to a three year term representing us to Lansing Area Episcopal Projects; Lyn Counsellor, elected to the Columbarium Committee; and Barry Baker, Jackie Womble, and Carol Baker, elected as Delegates to the 2010 Diocesan Convention and Paul Dombroske elected as Alternate Delegate.

We heard reports on budgets for 2009 and 2010 and on various parish ministries and opportunities for service; we discussed a variety of issues, possible changes in what have been assumed as standard operating procedures. Watch the bulletins and future issues of *The Shield* for more information on these. Copies of the Annual Meeting booklet are available on the table in the Narthex.

ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

6500 Amwood Drive + Lansing, MI 48911

Telephone 517-882-9733 Email: Archangel48911@juno.com

February 2010

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
	1 <i>Rector's Sabbath</i>	2	3 11:00 Women's Bible Study @ Great Lakes 6:00 Holy Eucharist	4 7:00 Choir Practice	5	6 Food Bank # 3
7 8:00 Holy Eucharist 9:15 Education for All 10:30 Holy Eucharist 1:15 EfM 4:15 Educ. Committee	8 <i>Rector's Sabbath</i>	9 7:00 Vestry	10 11:00 Women's Bible Study @ Great Lakes 6:00 Holy Eucharist	11 7:00 Choir Practice	12	13 Food Bank # 4
14 8:00 Holy Eucharist 9:15 Education for All 10:30 Holy Eucharist 6:00 EfM	15 <i>Rector's Sabbath</i>	16	17 Ash Wed. Holy Eucharist w/Imposition of Ashes: 7 am, Noon, 6 pm. 11:00 Women's Bible Study @ Great Lakes	18 7:00 Choir Practice	19	20 Food Bank # 5
21 8:00 Holy Eucharist 9:15 Education for All 10:30 Holy Eucharist 11:30 Parish Potluck 1:15 EfM	22 <i>Rector's Sabbath</i>	23	24 11:00 Women's Bible Study @ Great Lakes 6:00 Holy Eucharist Dinner + Lenten Program	25 7:00 Choir Practice	26	27 Food Bank # 1
28 8:00 Holy Eucharist 9:00 Wardens' Meeting 9:15 Education for All 10:30 Holy Eucharist Noisy Offering - Snow Removal 6:00 EFM						

St. Michael's Episcopal Church

A member of the worldwide Anglican Communion

St. Michael's Shield

6500 Amwood Drive

Lansing, MI 48911

Email: archangel48911@juno.com

Website: www.saintmichaellansing.org

St. Michael's Episcopal Church

*Our Mission is to nourish God's People
that Christ may be known.*

Rector: The Rev. W. Richard Hamlin, Ph.D.

Office Hours Tuesday 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Wednesday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

and by appointment

Associate Priest: Susan Carter

Minister of Music: Julia Walton

Senior Warden: Barry Baker

Junior Warden: Magnus Campbell

Secretary: Nancy Case

Office hours: Tuesday -Thursday 9:00 a.m. -1:00 p.m.

Director of Christian Education: Jackie Womble

Shield Editor: Diana D. Keenan

Telephone: 517/882-9733

FAX: 517/882-1733

Bus Route: CATA Route #8

Holy Eucharist: Sundays - 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Education for all: Sundays- 9:15 a.m. -10:15 a.m.

Choir Warm-up: 10:15 a.m.

Holy Eucharist: Wednesdays - 6:00 p.m.

*A Celebration of the Holy Eucharist
Commemorating the Life and Ministry of
The Rev. Absalom Jones
Prophet, Priest and Pastor
&*

*A Celebration of the
Tenth Anniversary of the Consecration of*

*The Rt. Rev. Wendell N. Gibbs, Jr.
as a Bishop in the Church of God*

*Sunday, February 14, 2010
3:00 p.m.*

*Cathedral Church of St. Paul
4800 Woodward Avenue
Detroit, Michigan*

Reception to follow in Barth Hall

Clergy attire: cassock, surplice and tippet