

St. Michael's Shield

November 2009
Vol. 49 No. 11



ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH *Lansing, Michigan*

Margaret: *Queen of Scotland, 1093*



Shakespeare made familiar the names of Macbeth and Macduff, Duncan and Malcolm; but it is not always remembered that Malcolm married an English princess, Margaret, about 1070.

With considerable zeal, Margaret sought to change what she considered to be old-fashioned and careless practices among the Scottish clergy. She insisted that the observance of Lent, for example, was to begin on Ash Wednesday, rather than on the following Monday, and that the Mass should be celebrated according to the accepted Roman rite of the Church, and not in barbarous form and language. The Lord's Day was to be a day when, she said, "we apply ourselves only to prayers." She argued vigorously, though not always with success, against the exaggerated sense of unworthiness that made many of the pious Scots unwilling to receive Communion regularly.

Margaret's energies were not limited to reformation of formal Church practices. She encouraged the founding of schools, hospitals, and orphanages, and used her influence with King Malcolm to help her improve the quality of life among the isolated Scottish clans. Together, Margaret and her husband rebuilt the monastery of Iona and founded Dunfermline Abbey, under the direction of Benedictine monks.

In addition to her zeal for Church and people, Margaret was a conscientious wife and the mother of eight children. Malcolm, a strong-willed man, came to trust her judgment even in matters of State. She saw also to the spiritual welfare of her large household, providing servants with opportunity for regular worship and prayer.

Margaret was not as successful as she wished to be in creating greater unity in faith and works between her own native England and the Scots. She was unable, for example, to bring an end to the bloody warfare among the highland clans, and after her death in 1093, there was a brief return to the earlier isolation of Scotland from England. Nevertheless, her work among the people, and her reforms in the Church, made her Scotland's most beloved saint. She died on November 16, and was buried at Dunfermline Abbey.

From Lesser Feasts and Fasts, 2006

Notes from Fr. Dick+: At least some of the "old-fashioned" practices Margaret opposed are what we now know as elements of Celtic spirituality. Her grandfather was Edmund Ironsides, her uncle was St. Edward the Confessor, and her cousin was Harold, all Kings of England. She was born in exile in Hungary and her mother was German. Her family returned to England in 1057, but fled to Scotland after the Norman Conquest in 1066. Her son reigned as David of Scotland and her daughter, Matilda, was married to Henry I of England, making her an ancestor of the current royal family. During the Reformation, her remains were moved to Spain.

Collect: O God, you called your servant Margaret to an earthly throne that she might advance your heavenly kingdom, and gave her zeal for your Church and love for your people: Mercifully grant that we who commemorate her this day may be fruitful in good works, and attain to the glorious crown of your saints; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Psalm 146:4-9 or 112:1-9

Lessons Proverbs 31:10-11,20,26,28 Matthew 13:44-52

November Birthdays

6	Don Smith
7	Gene Wriggelsworth, Tim Carr
11	Tammy Garner
14	Evelyn Shelley, Zoe Beckett
15	Todd Yantz
16	Sarah Zandstra
18	Carmeleta Stanley, Ivy Perhne, Susan Carter
21	Milo Christensen
22	Debbie Hernandez
24	Pat Zandstra
27	Bailey Woodall
28	Robin Buysse, Kyle Lucas, Betty Milnarich

November Anniversaries

17	Moses & Alice Dangba
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ANNUAL FUNDRAISER FOR THE Housing Assistance Fund

The Fruit and Greens Sale is on hold this year. In its place will be direct mail requests, AND All Saints' is hosting a Christmas concert and donating the proceeds to the Housing Assistance Fund. The concert features Jamie-Sue Seal and John Latini doing favorite Christmas songs and originals. Don't miss it: Sunday, December 20 at 7:00 PM at All Saints' Episcopal Church in East Lansing. The suggested donation is \$8.00. Advanced tickets (cash/check) available from Steve Findley.

1. steve.findley@gmail.com, 517-332-6836.
(Tickets will also be available at the door.)



Don't Forget

The deadline for the November 2009 Shield will be Sunday, November 22nd 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.

You may e-mail your articles to:
archangel48911@Juno.com by Wednesday, November 18th or submit them on paper as in the past.

Shield Changes

Starting with this issue of the Shield, I will be editing it from my home computer. Articles will be due in the same manner as in the past. **Please** sign your articles so if there are any questions, you can be contacted. The Shield will then be transported by either CD or Flash Drive to the church computer.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Diana D. Keenan, Editor

Cookie Walk and Craft Bazaar

It is time once again for the Cookie Walk and Craft Bazaar. Save November 21, 2009 from 9 am to 4 pm. New vendors have been added. Also we'll be selling Fair Trade items on consignment from the Threads of Hope program, which is exciting. Women artisans from Peru create beautiful needle artwork on too many items to list here. In doing so, they provide a better life for their families. 90% of the proceeds go back into this program. Forest Outreach Foundation mentors the project. Please plan to attend and support our fund raiser for both the Threads of Hope and St. Michael's.

We will be seeking volunteers for cookies, items for the St. Michael's table, set-up and clean-up, signage, sales, and soup for the vendors. If you know any crafters or artists that might participate, please have them call Mary Weathers (517-321-7405) for more information.

Let's all pull together to make this bazaar a success and help St. Michael's flourish.

Listening for the Wingbeats



A Season of Abundance

November is an interesting month. It is a month of change—the falling leaves, elections, the first indications that winter truly is coming, and, in the Church, the beginning of Advent and a new Church year. And more recently, the month we return to Daylight Standard Time (Do remember to turn your clocks back an hour before you go to bed on Saturday, October 31!)

November is also the month when we celebrate Thanksgiving both in the society and in the Church. Have you ever considered how odd that is? There are not many holidays that we celebrate both culturally and religiously—and it could be argued that often the cultural and religious celebrations may share little more than a common name, for example Christmas and Easter. Thanksgiving is a day to celebrate the abundance of this nation and to give thanks for that abundance and for all the good things this nation has done and continues to do. In a culture that usually laments what we do not have and tries to convince us that we need more and more things, it is refreshing to see an acknowledgment and celebration of how much we do have! And we gather on Thanksgiving Eve to celebrate all of this in the Eucharist. Plan to join in our worship that evening.

Of course, not everyone shares in that abundance. Unemployment and under-employment have left many among us without enough. In some cases that may mean not enough to live as they had been, but for far too many it means not enough to meet basic needs. We have seen homelessness and hunger increase at alarming rates so that shelter and food programs are often pressed beyond what they can handle. Certainly our own food pantry is barer than it has been in a long time. Our Baptismal vows would suggest that we need to consider what we need to do both individually and collectively to help meet these needs.

In the midst of all of this, we are also asking each of you to consider your financial support of the mission and ministries of St. Michael's for 2010. As a parish, we have been richly blessed by the legacy of those who have gone before us in this parish and we are richly blessed by the skills, talents, generosity, and dedication of our current members. It would be wonderful if every individual and family were to make a pledge to St. Michael's for next year. Every pledge is a statement of thanksgiving for what this parish means to us and to our community and a commitment to see that our ministries continue (or even grow). How have you been blessed by God? By St. Michael's? Think about how you might express your thankfulness for these blessings in your commitment to our parish for the coming year.

As you think about Thanksgiving and as you think and pray about your 2010 pledge to St. Michael's, consider the words of the blessing we use at the end of our Thanksgiving service:

May the God of Abundance, who shows his love in Manna and the feeding of the 5000; in the beauty and harvests of earth and sky and sea; make your hearts thankful for the blessings showered upon you; and may the blessing of Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be

Blessings and Peace,
Fr. Dick+

Happening #5

for the Dioceses of Michigan and Eastern Michigan
November 13-15

Happening is a retreat weekend "for youth" "by youth" that allows young people to explore their relationships with Jesus, each other and the world. Concentrating closely on the person and teachings of Jesus Christ. Happening gives those who attend the desire to understand and serve the church. What's more, it provides a means to continue the Christian formation process, which is just begun in the three-day program. And it is lots of fun!!! The Dioceses of Michigan and Eastern Michigan share in this ministry to young people. Happening is for students in 9th-12th grades. Applications and more information can be found at edomiyaya.wordpress.com or by contacting Eric Travis, Missioner for Youth and Young Adults at etravis@edomi.org or 313/833-4418.

Jackie Womble and Fr. Hamlin are both strong advocates of Happening and, over the years, many young people from St. Michael's have benefitted from Happening, most recently, Zoe Beckett.

Thank You

Thank you to our Diocesan Convention Delegates: **Kris Beckett**, **Judith Ramsay**, and **Barry Baker** and to all those who volunteered to help with set-up, hospitality, and voting.

Thank you to those who served as hosts for our Cottage Meetings.

We often take the appearance of our building and grounds for granted. However, they don't stay that way by themselves. Many people help care for our building and grounds, but there are three that work consistently in ways most of us don't see: **Mitch Bailhe** who has kept the corner lot mowed all summer, **Don Smith** who mows the lawn, and **Chuck Case** who paints and changes lightbulbs and does a variety of other tasks as well. We thank them for their work and dedication.

Pledges for 2010 to be Blessed

We have heard many positive reports on the Cottage Meetings this Fall. The pledge cards for 2010 were distributed at the end of those meetings. If you were unable to attend, you should have received a letter with a pledge card enclosed. We hope everyone will join us in supporting the mission and ministries of St. Michael's in 2010. (If you have not received a pledge card, please let the office know at 882-9733.) We will offer our the pledge cards at both services on November 8. The pledges will be blessed as part of our worship that day.

Fr. Dick+, the Vestry, and the Stewardship Committee



Wednesday, November 25

6:00 p.m.

Come and give thanks for all of God's blessings. We will sing the familiar Thanksgiving hymns and celebrate the Eucharist. This is a great service to invite your family, friends, and neighbors to join you.

What should our Diocese be doing? Why do we exist?



These are some of the questions being asked by the Revitalization and Strategic Visioning Project (RSVP). Mother Susan is on the planning committee for RSVP and Fr. Dick, Kris Beckett, and Magnus Campbell were among those invited to two workshops to draft a mission statement for the Diocese of Michigan and to identify the core values of the Diocese. Beginning on Saturday, December 5, everyone in the diocese can take part in a series of monthly VISION EVENTS at which Episcopalians will discuss the future direction and ministry priorities of the Diocese of Michigan. There will be 5 identical workshops—plan to attend at least one!

RSVP Vision Events 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.; a light, lunch provided
December 5 - St. John's, Plymouth *
January 23 - St. Andrew's, Waterford
February 6 - The Cathedral, Detroit
March 27 - All Saints', East Lansing
April 17 - St. Paul's, Jackson

*please RSVP for hospitality purposes by November 30. E-mail to rsvp4rsvp@earthlink.net

Outreach

Proceeds from the Fall Rummage Sale were \$2050.00, half of which went to the Outreach Committee. The committee voted to distribute \$300.00 to the City Rescue Mission, \$200.00 to the Boys & Girls Club of Lansing, \$200.00 to Loaves & Fishes, and \$200.00 to the Open Door Ministry. **THANK YOU TO EVERYONE THAT HELPED MAKE THE SALE A SUCCESS.** The sale is our main source of money. Jay Graham is the chairman of next year's rummage sales. We will need your help and support in the spring. New members are needed and would be extremely welcome to join our committee to help plan the sales and share input for the distribution of money. If interested please talk to a committee member: Shirley Schwartz, Fred Smith, Mitch Skory, Beth Graham, Jerry Kelley or Charlotte Byers.

Parish Directory Update

Bill & Kitty Lucas
439 Yew Wood Dr.
Shady Cove, OR 97539
541-878-9998
cell 517-927-3515
Bill1Kit1@sbcglobal.net
Brandon Lucas 517-763-3354

Julian & Debbie Hernandez
4022 Elk Ridge Dr.
Eaton Rapids, MI 48827
517-663-6020

Vestry Synopsis

October 13, 2009

A

small organ, valued at approximately \$1,000.00, has not sold at recent rummage sales and will be donated to Goodwill or offered on the web site Freecycle.

Heating & Air Conditioning and Snow Removal are two large expenses in the St. Michael's budget. Several parishioners have offered suggestions for reducing these costs and the Property Committee will be looking seriously at how to save money in those areas.

The evaluation of our parish secretary and parish bookkeeper was discussed. Both reviews were very positive and a recommendation for Nancy Case continuing in both positions was accepted.

Gamaliel is a grass roots, church-based organization, active in Lansing at Cristo Rey, Mt. Hope Church, and several others. Much like A.C.T.I.O.N. of Greater Lansing, Gamaliel attempts to work with local government bodies for positive community change. Father Dick has been attending their meetings and says the premise is that together we can accomplish more than we can alone. The next meeting is Oct. 27 at 1:30—let Father Dick know if you are interested in more information.

Vestry is currently attempting to fill the vacancy left by Bill Lucas when he and his family moved to Oregon. That position is active until January of 2011. This January at the Annual Meeting, we will vote to fill three positions on Vestry when Kris Beckett, Barb Burns-Briggs and Charlotte Byers end their three-year terms. If you feel called to this ministry, please speak to anyone on the Vestry.

Diocesan Convention is October 23-25 at the Causeway Bay Hotel in Lansing. Two of our delegates are unable to attend. Our delegate, Kris Beckett, will attend, and two others, Judith Ramsay and Barry Baker, agreed to be substitute delegates. Thank you to all of them for stepping up.

A survey is being developed for parish input regarding a fourth weekly service at St. Michael's. The possibility of an additional service is being explored in order to “nourish God's people” and to attract new and former members.

Cottage Meetings have been scheduled and those attending are reporting that they are learning new things about old friends and that they are enjoying themselves at the brief gatherings.

The Pastoral Care committee is working to establish a policy regarding meals taken to those members who are temporarily incapacitated. Also, there will be an effort to determine which members of St. Michael's are not receiving monthly Vestry phone calls and how we can keep in touch by other means. In addition, it was reported that the pantry shelves are nearly bare!! Ideas to re-fill them were brainstormed. Bring your non-perishable items each time you come to church!

St. Michael's T-shirts will again be available. Order forms will be in mailboxes soon.

Fall Church Clean up will be October 31st from 9 AM-1 PM.

The Christmas Bazaar and Cookie Cafe will be November 21st.

The monthly budget report shows that expenses were more than income again. Savings are dwindling. The 2010 Budget Committee will meet early in December and welcomes suggestions.

Respectfully submitted by Barb Burns-Briggs.

St. Michael's Episcopal Church

6500 Amwood Drive + Lansing, MI 48911

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

www.saintmichaellansing.org

NOVEMBER 2009

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
<p>1 8:00 Holy Eucharist 9:00 Wardens' meeting 9:15 Education 10:30 Holy Eucharist</p> <p>6:00 EfM</p>	<p>2 <i>Rector's Sabbath</i></p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4 11:00 Women's Bible Study @ Great Lakes 6:00 Holy Eucharist</p>	<p>5 7:00 Choir Practice</p>	<p>6 Sacramental Theology class using Emrich Rm 9:00 - 4:00</p>	<p>7 Food Bank # 3</p>
<p>8 8:00 Holy Eucharist 9:15 Education 10:30 Holy Eucharist</p> <p>6:00 EfM</p>	<p>9 <i>Rector's Sabbath</i></p>	<p>10 Christian Services in Emrich Rm. 6:30-8:00 7:00 Vestry in Vestry Rm.</p>	<p>11 11:00 Women's Bible Study @ Great Lakes 6:00 Holy Eucharist 7:00 Worship Comm.</p>	<p>12 7:00 Choir Practice</p>	<p>13 Sacramental Theology class using Emrich Rm 9:00 - 4:00</p>	<p>14 Food Bank # 4 General Conv. reports 10-Noon St. John's, Howell 9-4 Crafts, St. Aug., Mason</p>
<p>15 8:00 Holy Eucharist 9:15 Education 10:30 Holy Eucharist 11:30 Parish Potluck</p> <p>6:00 EfM</p>	<p>16 <i>Rector's Sabbath</i></p>	<p>17 Gamaliel 1:30 Cristo Rey</p>	<p>18 11:00 Women's Bible Study @ Great Lakes 6:00 Holy Eucharist</p>	<p>19 7:00 Choir Practice</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21 Food Bank # 5 10:00 Altar Guild</p>  <p><i>Bake Sale</i> Christmas Bazaar</p>
<p>22 8:00 Holy Eucharist 9:15 Education 10:30 Holy Eucharist Noisy Offering-Christmas Decorations</p> <p>1:00-7:00 EfM</p>	<p>23 <i>Rector's Sabbath</i></p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25 11:00 Women's Bible Study @ Great Lakes 6:00 Holy Eucharist</p>  <p>THANKSGIVING SERVICE</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 Food Bank # 1 9:00 Breakfast @ Flap-jacks</p>  <p>Meet for Breakfast</p>
<p>29 8:00 Holy Eucharist 9:00 Wardens' meeting 9:15 Education 10:30 Holy Eucharist</p> <p>6:00 EfM</p>	<p>30 <i>Rector's Sabbath</i></p>					

St. Michael's Episcopal Church

A member of the worldwide Anglican Communion

St. Michael's Shield

6500 Amwood Drive

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 9:00a.m. -1:00p.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.



Heads Up!!!

Don't forget to set your clocks back one hour before you go to bed October 31st.

