



ST MICHAEL'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

St. Michael's Weekly News & Updates



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FAMILY RESONANCES, FAMILY DISSONANCES , FAMILY INSIGHTS

Dear People of St. Michael's

I keep a collection of cameras and other photography equipment that my father acquired. He carried one of the cameras with him during his service in the Second World War. I remember his attempts to teach me how to set the lens aperture and the shutter speed. These were manual operations. It's a wonder how in God's realm these happy-poignant memories come to us.

Earlier this week my surviving sister sent me a text that includes a photo (black-and-white naturally) of my deceased sister and me standing in what might have been intended to be a sandcastle. I would have been about 5, she about 2 years old. I feel confident that Dad was the photographer. Dad passed 18 years ago. It's been more than 3 years since my sister passed.

In this phase of my lifetime, the Genesis accounts of the Abrahamic families (family, really) resonate deeply and colorfully. I wonder whether Jacob came to perceive how much like his grandfather Abraham he would be. Tents feature prominently in the accounts of each, for instance. Migration, too. Jacob dreams. So does his son, Joseph.

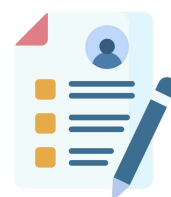
The author of Genesis spares nothing apparently in dishing about the rivalries, jealousies, and betrayals within all these growing segments of the Abrahamic family. Yet through all the events of upheaval, celebration, famine, migration, births and deaths, they perceive more and more deeply and tenderly how Yahweh, The Lord, keeps faith with them and they are prompted to keep faith with Yahweh, The Lord, and with their other family members. (Yes, Cain, you are indeed to care for sibling, spouse, parents, children, and neighbors. As God cares for us.)

After all these years, I know deeply how I was formed in relation to father, mother, grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, and especially siblings like my brother and sisters. And I perceive God's blessings and guidance like a rainbow of many hues. I feel regrets, too. Then when I encounter again an old photo . . . are these tears of sorrow or of happy recollection?

May you receive the blessing of growing-deepening insight into the scriptures through the lens of your family, and vice versa. And may sharing family stories serve to deepen, strengthen, and enlighten the parish community like a family, perhaps like the Abrahamic family.

Deacon Tim

TELL US ABOUT YOU AND YOUR FAMILY



Over the next two weeks, we will be distributing and collecting Directory Information Forms at both Sunday services. As a gift to our new rector and community, we are creating a new Parish Directory—and we cannot do it without you! If you are unable to make it to church, we will be sending a form through Constant Contact to collect your family information. Be on the lookout for it over the next several days.

Over the past several weeks, Father Ralph has been taking parishioners' photos. Now it's time for you to tell us a little about yourself and your family. Please pick up a form from the ushers as you enter the church on Sunday, complete it, and place it in the baskets as you leave. The directory is open to anyone who considers St. Michaels home.

Thank you for your help in creating this new directory. If you did not have an opportunity to have your photo taken, but you have a good-quality photo you would like included in the directory, please email it to jcisco@stmichaelsbarrington.org, preferably in high-resolution JPG format. Please include the names of all individuals appearing in the photo.

Minecraft Vacation Bible School Experience

August 3rd - 6th
9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Snack is included

St. Michael's Episcopal Church, 647 Dundee Ave. Barrington, IL

Vacation Bible School is open to
all children 4 years old - 5th grade
for the 2026-2027 school year

Click on QR Code to
Register or Volunteer



VBS is free to attend, a \$10 donation per child is
appreciated bring cash or check to first day of camp



Contact Kim Curtis
kcurtis@stmichaelsbarrington.org
for more information



THIS SUNDAY, JULY 19th IS STOCK THE SHELVES SUNDAY!

This month's "most needed" items are:

- Canned salmon/tuna/chicken/pork
- Cereal
- Coffee- **1 pound or smaller** - no K-cups, please!
- Liquid Laundry Detergent – **37 ounce or smaller** – no pods, please!
- Paper towels,
- Toilet paper
- Facial tissue
- Shampoo – **adult and baby**
- Razors
- Shaving cream
- Toothbrushes
- Toothpaste
- Bar soap/body wash
- Deodorant
- Diapers sizes 4, 5, 6

Special request: granola or snack bars for Snack Packing on July 26.

[Complete List of Needed Items](#)

SERVICE SUNDAY RETURNS JULY 26!

We need lots of snacks for the success of our event. If you are able, please drop off snacks to Ruth's Silver Wagon or Amazon ship some boxes of kid friendly snacks to the church. You can also donate



funds, and the Outreach Team will do the shopping. To donate online, click [Click to Donate](#). Select Outreach on the drop-down menu and type in snack packs in the notes.

The Outreach Team invites you to a Snack Pack and Spice Bag Assembly Line Party after the 10 a.m. service on Sunday, July 26. Your hands become God's hands as we bag up spices for Ravenswood Community Services food pantry, and snack packs for kids. The Humboldt Community Free Store will be distributing the snack packs we create to help combat food insecurity for 75-100 children who don't receive school meals during the summer.

Fellowship for all and we mean ALL ages! Please bring a summer salad or dessert to share and the Outreach team will roast up spice bag chicken.

*Please drop off boxed snacks in Ruth's Summer Wagon
we're shooting for another 500 Snack bags!*

NEIGHBOR APPRECIATION OPEN HOUSE WITH ICE CREAM

Saturday August 8th

Noon - 3pm

Show hospitality to our neighbors!

11am - noon Set up

Noon - 2pm Greet neighbors, serve ice cream, direct traffic

2-3pm Greet St Michael's parishioners and friends, serve ice cream, direct traffic

3-4 pm clean up

A volunteer sign-up sheet is in the Narthex with more details about the help needed. To volunteer via email/ask questions email Pat Okonek for more details. Patokonek1@gmail.com.

AND ALL THE ANGELS GIFT SHOP

Angels and Crosses and Stars, Oh My!

A new shipment of olive wood products from the Holy Land has arrived in the And All the Angels gift shop. Unique, handcrafted angels, Bethlehem stars and nativities differ in design due to natural variations in olive wood and the individuality of the artisans.



Visit our shop on Wednesdays from 11 am to 5 pm, and Saturdays and Sundays from 9 am until noon.

For more information, contact Kathi Frelk kfrelk4@gmail.com or Cindy Osborne cosborne46@gmail.com.



**VENEZUELA EARTHQUAKE RESPONSE
VIA EPISCOPAL RELIEF &
DEVELOPMENT**

In the wake of recent earthquakes in Venezuela, Episcopal Relief & Development is ready to respond. Disaster response is a primary pillar of the ministry of Episcopal Relief & Development. If you wish to support the people of Venezuela, a financial donation to Episcopal Relief & Development is an excellent option. There is a diocese of Episcopalians in Venezuela, part of Province IX.

Donations in any amount will be greatly appreciated. Donations can be made through St. Michael's by check or online. *Please make payment to St. Michael's Church, and on the "memo" line note "ER&D – Venezuela relief."*

You may alternatively give directly to Episcopal Relief & Development through its website. When you visit their website, you will also find some prayer prompts for your consideration.

Episcopal Relief

Summer Supper Symposium

July 29th, 6 - 8 PM

Megan Wells

Portraying Helen Keller



Presentation at:
Holy Apostles Episcopal Church
26238 N. HWY 59 Wauconda, IL

August 26th, 6 - 8 PM

Fiedler and Weadick Families

Signing of the Declaration of Independence



Presentation at:
Federated Church of Wauconda
200 Barrington Rd. Wauconda, IL

Join us for a light meal followed by a Historic Storyteller

Presented by: Federated Church of Wauconda and Holy Apostles Episcopal Church

RSVP and Registration are encouraged. Questions are welcome, 847-526-8471.



Federated Church of Wauconda federatedchurchofwauconda.org 847-526-8471

Prayer Requests

The Angel family, George, Jackie, Bob, Gina, Maryann, Katie and Jim, the Zukowski family, Megan, Heather, Bonnie, Mitzi, Paul, Braelyn, Kimberlie, Kathy, Doug, Sally, Mary, John, Teresa, Liam and family, Nancy, Caden, Dave, Brian, Barb and Steve, and Patty, and for all whom you alone know.

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Birthdays

7/19 Dave Buckley, Jr.
7/21 John Mucci

Anniversaries

7/24 Libby and Todd Rieke

In Loving Memory

7/20 Genevieve Capstaff

7/24 Max Brett

7/22 Colin Noble
7/22 Alexander Paris
7/23 James Tammi
7/23 Sharon Veenker
7/24 Robert Keller
Tami Zukowski
Deb Angel

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St. Michael's Episcopal Church
647 Dundee Avenue, Barrington, IL 60010
The Parish Office is open 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.
website: www.stmichaelsbarrington.org

The Sword
The Sword is published each Thursday. The deadline to submit items to be included is Wednesday at 12:00 p.m.
Any questions or comments regarding this publication should be sent to sword@stmichaelsbarrington.org

St. Michael's Episcopal Church | 647 Dundee Avenue | Barrington, IL 60010 US

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