

# THE MESSENGER

*St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church*

## Invite Welcome Connect Summit - June 10-12

FR. DAVID COX

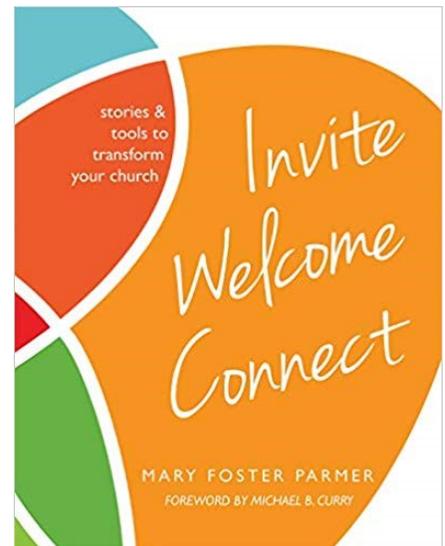
Invite Welcome Connect (IWC) is a ministry of cultural change within a parish. It helps us to be intentional about our interaction with our communities, our hospitality to guests, and our ability to empower people in ministry. IWC is not a program, but a collaborative way of doing ministry that highlights best practices and the insight of other churches who have given themselves over to this intentional cultural change. There is no one way to live out the goals and practices of IWC, so each parish must learn about themselves in order realize the cultural change they seek. St. Michael's is a wonderful and faithful parish. IWC gives us tools to let others know about us and to help others find a meaningful place among us in the body of Christ.

We want to invite people in our communities to be a part of a community of faith where people are constantly growing closer to God and more like Jesus. We want to make sure that every person who visits St. Michael's feels the welcoming embrace of the Spirit. And we want to help every person who joins us to find their own place in the body of Christ.

We are on the threshold of something new at St. Michael's. You, dear reader, have an opportunity to take the next step in your discipleship by becoming a leader in the IWC ministry. I encourage you to pray and reflect on whether God might be calling you to help us realize this ministry here at St. Michael's.

As I shared at the Annual Meeting, the annual Invite Welcome Connect summit is **June 10-12** at the University of the South in Sewanee, Tennessee (a beautiful spot in the Appalachian mountains). The summit consists of an assortment of workshops and presentations designed to educate and inspire. Archdeacon Monte Giddings and I attended last year and were impressed. A small group from St. Michael's will be attending the summit this June. We will fly to Nashville and carpool from there to Sewanee. If you feel God calling you to be a leader of this ministry, we want you to be a part of this year's summit. I have a few scholarships left for the summit, which includes meals. Your personal cost would be a roundtrip ticket to Nashville. This ministry needs leaders. Might that be you? Contact me or Monte if you have interest. Click [here](#) to go to the IWC website for more details.

Peace,  
Fr. David



### IN THIS ISSUE:

Ministry Focus .....	2
Connecting With .....	3
Children's Corner .....	4
Guess What Gail Found Out ..	4
Deacon's Den .....	5
Learning More about Lent ....	5
New Vestry Members.....	6-7
Celebrating St. Michael's ...	8-9
Upcoming Events .....	10

# Focus on Ministry: “Lift Up Your Hearts”

## Music Ministry at St. Michael’s

CYD ALLOWAY

If you turn and look up and back in the nave, you will notice a new addition to the choir loft: the words “Lift Up Your Hearts.” This addition is a specific tribute to the music ministry of Dr. Kenneth Walker, who this past fall, celebrated 30 years of ministry at St. Michael’s.

During Ken’s 25th anniversary at St. Michael’s in October 2014, the parish commemorated that milestone with a commitment to name the choir loft name after Ken. Ken was not comfortable with naming it after himself but rather suggested the name “Lift Up Your Hearts”, explaining “I wanted something out of our liturgy and this phrase is often used in our music.”



Ken, while a doctoral student at KU, came to St. Michael’s as an assistant to Dr. James Higdon, then STMAA’s Director of Music and Ken’s organ professor. When Dr. Higdon left STMAA, Ken assumed the full responsibility for the music program which includes:

- Music at the 10:45 service. Besides playing the organ at this service, Ken directs the St. Gregory Choir. This choir sings year round at the 10:45 service and rehearses Wednesday evenings at 7:30 for approximately 90 minutes. Its repertoire is generally choral music in the Anglican tradition. The choir also leads the congregation in the singing of the psalms and responses, many of which have been written by Ken. This choir also sings for special services such as the All Saints Day Requiem and during some of the Holy Week services.
- Music at the 8:30 service. This music, keeping with the more contemporary and casual genre of this service, consists of electronic keyboard

and a group of guitar, percussion and woodwind musicians. “I liken the difference in styles to comparing opera versus musical theatre. Opera is more historical in nature while musical theatre is more in the present.” He also leads the St. Michael’s Singers, a more casual ad hoc group that sings weekly without required rehearsals. The singers, which Ken describes as “a really distinguished group” come up front during the passing of the peace to lead the congregation in music from that point in the service forward.

- Musicians for Feast Services. Working with Dr. Steve Leisring, professor of trumpet at KU, they coordinate the various brass and percussion musicians (usually KU faculty and/or graduate students) for services such as Christmas, Palm Sunday, Easter and the Feast of St. Michael.
- Children’s Choir. This choir, under the direction of Diana Mullin, rehearses for 15 minutes during the children’s chapel time and sings several times a year at services.
- Horizons Arts Ministry. Founded in 1991, this ministry is designed to provide access to the unique and diverse talents both inside and outside the parish. Events include special concerts, speakers, art exhibits, hosting part of the KU Osher Lecture Series and the St. Michael’s Arts Camp held each summer for school age children.

Participating in any of these ministries is open; those interested should contact Ken at [ken@stmaa.com](mailto:ken@stmaa.com) or through the church office.



# Connecting With... Our New Junior Warden, Dick LeClaire

Cyd Alloway

At St. Michael's Annual Meeting this January we elected a new Junior Warden, Dick LeClaire. The position of Junior Warden is traditionally defined as "the people's warden"; at STMAA we have focused the charge of this position to overseeing the church's physical plant – our substantial building and grounds. Dick is well-qualified for this role, having spent over 40 years with Marley Cooling Company (now known as SPX Cooling Technologies), retiring a few years ago as Chief Technical Advisor.



Dick grew up a "local boy" attending St. Ann's Catholic Church and elementary school in Prairie Village, Shawnee Mission East High School and KU. He married his wife Susan, a cradle Episcopalian, at St. Andrews Episcopal Church in Kansas City in 1973. After trying different denominations, they came to St. Michael's in 1981, where raised their two daughters, Stephanie and Nicole. Their family has expanded to include their two sons-in-law and four grandchildren, two in Overland Park and two in Colorado.

**Why St. Michael's:** "We just immediately felt at home. We liked that the Episcopal Church values the individual and allows people to find one's own way."

Hobbies: Woodworking, his grandchildren, yardwork. "I enjoy looking at the "design phase" of a situation, figuring out how things work, don't work, then finding a solution."

**Ministries:** Dick's first ministry was as a lay reader in the 1980's (a ministry he continues today), which he says turned into a career boost. "At that point I had been afraid of public speaking and my job was going to require more of that. Being a lay reader helped me to overcome the fear." He is also active in Carpenter Ants, has been a Vestry member and was a member of the most recent Rector Search Committee. He has also worked with Hope Builders, Habitat for Humanity, and served as an usher.

Advice for a newcomer: "Get involved. It helps to develop a sense of belonging." He cited Carpenter Ants in particular as an illustration of a group that

builds a strong sense of St. Michael's community spirit.

**Favorite St. Michael's memory:** "Certainly family events such as the baptisms and confirmations of our girls as well as Stephanie's wedding and the baptisms of our grandchildren." He also cited a former men's activity, He Cooks, where the men of the church planned, prepared and served an elegant meal for the parish.

**Favorite Liturgical Season:** "Easter. It is such a powerful time. Being a lay-reader for this service really brings out to me the significance of what Christ did for us."

**Biggest challenges he sees facing the Junior**

**Warden:** "HVAC systems are our most immediate issue. We currently have 17 systems plus two boilers. Eleven of those cooling systems are 20+ years old." He also cited air quality, efficient utilization of systems to contain costs and window upgrades other than in the nave. "Stained glass is repairable and we are fortunate to have received a generous gift from Greg and Vickie Peterson to repair the stained and leaded glass in Spencer Hall and the Office Conference Room." Dick also stated there are numerous water issues (e.g. leaking roofs and various drainage issues) that need to be addressed. "The whole Building and Grounds committee (which includes, among others, sexton Jerry Kirkwood, an architect and an interior designer) is so strong, each member has a vested interest in the property."

# Children's Corner

## LENT 2020

### 10 LENTEN DISCIPLINES TO PRACTICE AS A FAMILY

1. Give something up: a favorite food or beverage, television, video games, or other entertainment
2. Take something on: family walks/exercise, eat more vegetables, devote time to prayer, volunteer
3. Memorize a prayer or bible passage
4. Bury your Hallelujahs: write "Hallelujah" on pieces of paper and put in a jar/box until Easter
5. Read the story of the last supper
6. Fill bags with clothes and/or household items to donate
7. Cover the crosses in your house with fabric until Easter
8. Make a daily prayer chain (40 links/prayers )
9. Pick a day each week to Carbon Fast: walk or bike instead of using vehicles
10. Love your neighbor(s): help with yardwork, shovel driveway, bake treats, make cards

GUESS  
WHAT GAIL  
FOUND OUT!



Hey! I'm relatively new to this beautiful church. But through Carpenter Ants, I've learned of so many interesting and unique features to St. Michael's.

For example...

#### What makes "the Kneelers" so special?

Our beautiful kneeling cushions at the altar took a full 10 years to complete from the design concept to the finished upholstery. Judy Gerling was in charge of this amazing project. Those interested in participating first needed to submit a sample of their needlework skills and then be approved.

There are 72,000 stitches in each kneeler. The Altar Guild has been instructed in the method of their care.

The hand-held vacuum cleaner must go at 45 degree angles when used to clean the pads .....never in straight lines across the stitches.

Questions? Speak with someone from the Altar Guild or Ken Walker. They all know their stuff!



# DEACON'S DEN

## Deacon Don's Doings

DON WILLIAMS



Did you know that there are at least eleven different and complicated living options available to seniors in the KC area? I didn't.

A few years ago, Pat and I were at a dinner birthday party for a friend. I was sitting next to one of the

honoree's relatives when the conversation turned to aging, downsizing, moving etc. He told me he was going stay in his home for the rest of his life, the most common answer to that question. It is usually given without thinking of, or even being aware of the myriad of potential issues and opportunities related to growing older. I became curious and began asking friends and acquaintances and found that most of us have no idea of the plethora of options that people have today.

Hmm, could this be a ministry of interest to me?

I am involved with a group of retired professionals from the fields of finance, medicine, and social work with the aging. Our group provides information on the aging process, pros and cons of moving/downsizing, and lastly, providing information on the myriad of housing and cost and/or options available. In addition, most of us are available to provide individual assistance if requested.

The joy of meeting other elderly people and providing assistance, is a joy and blessing to each of us who participate. We have been told by participants that we have expanded their knowledge, giving them the ability to make wiser and more informed decisions on living safely and comfortably through the aging process.

---

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT LENT AND WAYS TO OBSERVE IT,  
CHECK OUT THE ARTICLES LINKED BELOW**

[Central Themes of Ash Wednesday](#)

[Giving Something Up for Lent](#)

[Or, Taking Something On for Lent](#)

[Devotional Resources for Lent](#)

[Creating a Lenten Prayer Space at Home \(great for families\)](#)

## Meet Our New Vestry Members Class of 2020



### **Cathy Jackson - 3 year term**

I am a longtime member of St. Michael's. I look back to 1993 as the beginning of my involvement in parish life, worship, service, and fun. I count Penny's Place and the Sunday School classrooms as my first calls to the red door. My children were little then; Schuyler, Elizabeth and Paul were all baptized and confirmed at St. Michael's. They saw their mom saying yes to many years of teaching followed by stints on the Stewardship and Outreach committees. These days I'm kept busy tending to a new home and working for Children's Mercy within the Children's Mercy Research Institute as the Sr. Manager of Operations and Project Management.



### **Rolland Exon - 3 year term**

My wife, Debby, and I have been members of St. Michael and All Angels since 1989. We have two daughters, Sara and Andrea. I am an attorney, recently retired. I have previously been a member of the Adult Formation Committee.



### **Crystal Danko - 3 year term**

My husband Patrick and I have two wonderful boys, Channing and Lincoln. We've been members of St. Michael and All Angels for the past seven years. You'll find us ushering the 8:30 service and you might catch the boys singing in the children's choir. Most recently, I was a member of the search committee and am excited to continue to serve Christ and STMAA.

continued on page 7

## Meet Our New Vestry Members Class of 2020 (continued)



### **Rustin Dutcher - 3 year term**

I am born and raised in Kansas City and am a cradle to grave Episcopalian. As a kid, I attended St Mathews in Raytown and St Andrews in Brookside. I went to college at Nebraska & Central Missouri and was married to Melissa 23 years ago. We have two daughters, Ragan 16 & Finley 9. I work for Kiewit Engineering. I love travel, old cars, architecture and the outdoors.



### **Susan Pingleton - 1 year Term**

Susan K. Pingleton has been a member of St Michaels and All Angels for over 30 years. She currently participates and occasionally facilitates the Experiencing God group Thursday mornings. She is a Eucharistic Visitor and for many years served as Eucharistic Minister for the 7:30 Rite 1 service. She also served on the recent Rector Search Committee. In the past year she, in conjunction with Father David and Deacon Drury developed and delivered 3 seminars on Advance Care Planning to over 60 St Michaels parishioners. The project's conclusions will be published in a major medical journal this spring Dr. Pingleton is a graduate of the University of Kansas Medical Center and served as a clinical faculty member for almost 40 years. She currently is a Professor Emerita of Internal Medicine at KU.

# Celebrating St. Michael's January 2020



## **Chili Cook Off and Bingo Night** **01/26/2020**

We had several chilis entered, but there was only one winner...



Congratulations to the Ordonez Family for being voted best chili and taking home the coveted "Chili Cook Off Trophy."

Thank you to all who participated in this very fun event. An extra special "thank you" to the Keltner Family and our Youth Group for all their hard work and planning. Once again, a great time was had by all!



Celebrating St. Michael's  
January 2020



**2020 Annual Meeting,  
01/26/2020**

Many thanks to our presenters, the Kitchen Angels, our Vestry, Father David and everyone who made this year's Annual Meeting a huge success!

**A Heartfelt Thank You  
from Lorraine Tonjes:**

“As 2020 begins and 2019 comes to an end, I want to say thank you to the special friends at St. Michael and All Angels. What a blessing to have these special friends when it seems that nothing will ever be right again. Bob and I want to say thank you for all the phone calls, cards, croquet shawls, prayers, and personal visits during those long days of 2019. I hope 2010 is full of God's blessings for all.”

# Upcoming Events

## **Café Concert Series: Fools Gold Country & Western Revue**

Saturday, February 22 at 7:30 p.m. in Spencer Hall  
Tickets available at the door

## **Bishop Cathleen Visit & Confirmation Service**

Sunday, February 23 at 10 a.m. in the Nave  
Cake & Coffee Reception following in Spencer Hall

## **Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner**

Tuesday, February 25 from 5:30-7 p.m. in Spencer Hall  
Hosted by the Youth Group & all proceeds will benefit Australian Wildfire Relief

## **Ash Wednesday**

February 26  
Services at 7 a.m., noon, and 7 p.m.

## **Human Trafficking Presentation**

by Attorney General Derek Schmidt  
Saturday, February 29 from 9-11 a.m. in Spencer Hall  
Attendance is Free

## **Lenten Program & Supper**

Wednesday, March, 4, 11, 18, 25, & April 1  
6:00 p.m. Soup Dinner, 6:30-8:00 p.m. Program

# Save the Date

## **St. Michael's Day School Auction Fundraiser and Dinner**

Friday, April 3 at 6:30 p.m. in Spencer Hall

## **Osher Lecture Series: (Mostly) Forgotten Humorists of the 20th Century**

by Karl Menninger  
Thursday, April 16, 23 & 30 from 2-4 p.m. in Spencer Hall

## **New Member Lunch**

Sunday, April 19 at 12:15 p.m. in the South Classroom