

THE MESSENGER

ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

A CELEBRATION OF SERVICE

Ken Walker, the beloved director of music, was surprised with a special celebration to mark his 35th anniversary at the church. The choir loft has been named in his honor, with a plaque to be installed.

The event, which was held in Spencer Hall, was packed full of people, including parishioners, fellow musicians, and friends. Many shared stories about Ken's kindness, talent, and dedication to his work.

The Kitchen Angels put together a beautiful brunch for the occasion.

Ken was visibly moved by the outpouring of love and support. There were tears and laughter shared as everyone celebrated Ken's remarkable contribution to the church and the wider community.



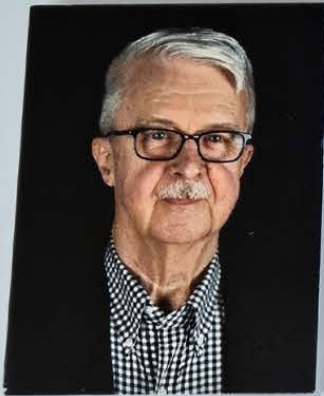
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A SPECIAL CELEBRATION OF KEN WALKER

In his remarks, Ken thanked everyone for their support and shared some of his own memories. He said that he was grateful for the opportunity to have served as director of music and that he looked forward to continuing to make music with the church community for many years to come.

The celebration was a fitting tribute to a man who has dedicated his life to sharing his love of music with others.



This choir loft is proudly named and dedicated to:

Dr. Kenneth Walker

Organist · Choirmaster · Champion of the Arts

“Lift Up Your Hearts”

Since his arrival in the summer of 1989, Dr. Ken Walker has served the people of St. Michael and All Angels through his immense talent, gentle leadership, sincere friendship, and deep faith. With humble devotion, Dr. Walker nurtures meaningful encounters with God through his direction of music in worship and his cultivation of the arts in our common life. We are blessed by Dr. Walker’s ministry among us.



LENTEN SUPPERS

LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS--THE NICENE CREED

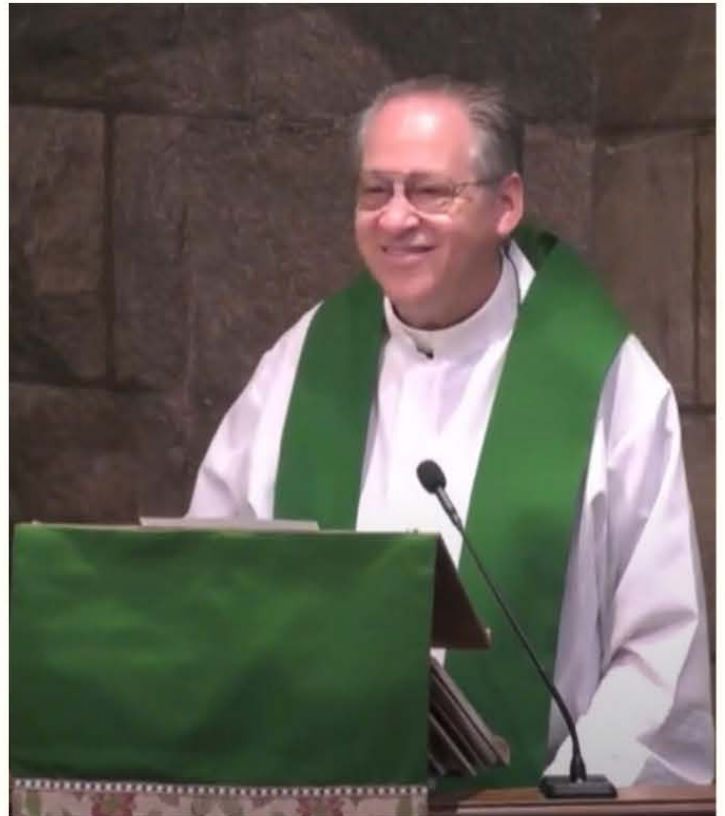
Join The Very Rev. Dr. Don H. Compier, Dean Emeritus of the Bishop Kemper School for Ministry, in exploring the history and meaning of this statement of our faith.

This year we commemorate the 1700th anniversary of the Council of Nicaea. The resulting creed, finalized at Constantinople in 381, is authoritative in denominations representing the vast majority of the world's Christians. It is recited at least once a week at Eucharist in churches including our own Episcopal branch of the Jesus movement.

Yet in our modern world its language is often incomprehensible or even offensive. It needs "translation" to permit a proper assessment.

We will pursue this task by considering the composing of the Nicene Creed in its historical context. Then we will consider some key interpretations of its meaning by subsequent theological and spiritual writers.

All are welcome and no reading is assumed. Those wanting to delve deeper may wish to consult the work of Frances Young. Her "The Making of the Creeds" (SCM) is a concise treatment. Her "From Nicea to Chalcedon" (Baker Academic) is an in-depth exploration of the debates about the creed in ancient Christian literature.



Wednesdays from March 12 through April 9th
Potluck soup supper at 6:00 PM
Program at 6:30 PM



SPECIAL EVENT- CRECHE EXHIBITION

IMAGES OF CHRISTMAS AT ST. MICHAELS AND ALL ANGELS

BY MARY WEBER

This recent season brought a confluence of studies and celebrations at St. Michael's and All Angels. Spearheaded by three main groups, Horizons Arts Ministry, the Experiencing God group, and the Altar Guild, a series of events was held which celebrated the Nativity.

Beginning in October, Horizons Arts Ministry appealed to the congregation to loan them a nativity for an exhibit. The only descriptor was that it be meaningful to the lender or the lender's family. Nativities were gathered during November with the promise that the exhibit would be opened for Advent and be kept on display in the Garden Room through Epiphany.

The response was enthusiastic with over forty sets being loaned for display. The mediums varied from paper to tin to wood to porcelain to clay. They represented a wide variety of sources including dime store purchases, treasured family heirlooms, artist-created sets and souvenirs brought back from travel. The largest set was ceramic which was expertly painted by a parishioner's mother and sister. Several had been in the family more than fifty years. Eleven countries were represented and included the USA, Germany, Haiti, Italy, Israel, Korea, Spain, Guatemala, Ireland, Mexico, and Kenya. There were even two sets from Native American tribes: the Navajo and the Pima-Maricopa Indian Community.

The exhibit included a child-friendly nativity placed on a low table in the middle of the room that invited children to play.

On Dec. 5th, a lecture was offered by the EG group titled "The Birth of Jesus in Crèches, Nativities, and Art" Parishioners Sue Pingleton and Linda Brown provided a history of the nativity, highlighted various stories and contradictions, discussed the characters of the story and gave many examples of artistic interpretation of the Holy Family and the story of the birth. In addition, they showed how it is celebrated in many cultures across the globe.



SPECIAL EVENT- CRECHE EXHIBITION



They concluded with “The story of the Holy Family, told in different cultures and using various media and material, has the power to unite the human family amidst war, conflict, and political division. Their story is our story and their hope is our hope.”



Last, but far from least, was the project to replace the altar nativity. The set that had been used for thirty some years was falling apart and had been mended countless times. The set was dutifully placed in front of the altar by Helen Richards each year. The Altar Guild and parishioner Lydia Dreher, after she was physically unable to do altar guild work, spent many hours on the phone looking for a new set to purchase at a reasonable cost. Initially, the search was not successful.



Discussions continued after Lydia’s passing. The Altar Guild then decided to approach a sculptor in the congregation about a commission. Marty Pyle, primarily a sculptor of bronze portraiture who is known for his work for several professional athletes and sports teams as well private and institutional commissions, was contacted. He also serves on the Board of Directors for Arts in Prisons, Inc. which provides arts education and creative opportunities for inmates in the Kansas state prisons. Despite his busy calendar, Marty accepted the commission and began to work on a new set made of wood. The project took two years. Substantial donations were made by the husbands of Helen Richards and Lydia Dreher. Altar Guild members also contributed. Jerry Kirkwood researched and built storage containers for the three-piece nativity. The new altar nativity set was dedicated on Sunday, December 8th. It is a beautiful addition to the church and our worship, and we thank everyone involved.



SPECIAL EVENT- CRECHE EXHIBITION



BINGO NIGHT and CHILI COOKOFF 2025



Annual Chili Cookoff & Bingo Night



BINGO NIGHT and CHILI COOKOFF 2025



BAPTISM SUNDAY



ALWAYS A JOY TO
CELEBRATE TOGETHER
Baptism Sunday



A SPECIAL CELEBRATION

*Congratulations to the
Rev. Ryan Bloyd-Wiseman.
Newly ordained January 11th at
Grace Cathedral in Topeka.*



HAPPY BOTTOMS MINISTRY AT WORK



not having a
clean diaper
can really
stink



Education for Ministry Class Reunites for Dinner

One of our parish EfM classes recently gathered for dinner when Susan Britton was visiting. They toasted Larry Bingham, Cal Cormack, Paul Thomas, Grace Lewin, Davi Schlomer, and Terry Hoyland, their late classmates who have gone to greater glory

Pictured are Annette Thomas and Bob Skaggs (seated) and Roxie Drautz, Scott Schaefer, Susan Britton, Brenda Skaggs, Ronda Barker, and Diana Patterson (standing, left to right).



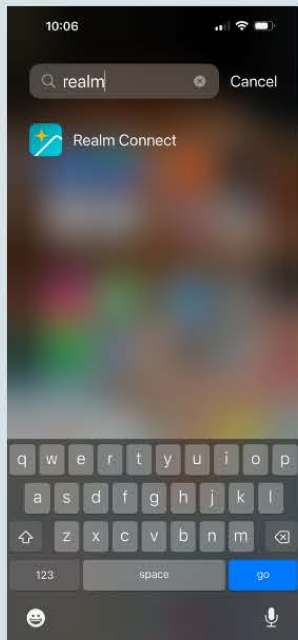
*share your photos
with us.
we love seeing
our community in
the world.*

LET'S CONNECT... THROUGH REALM

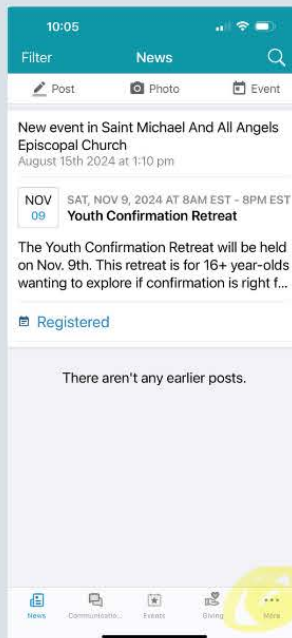
GET TO KNOW REALM: DO YOU WANT TO BE AN ACCESSIBLE PART OF OUR ONLINE DIRECTORY? IF SO, MAKE SURE YOU ARE FOLLOWING THESE STEPS.

Realm makes it easy to keep your contact information up-to-date, ensuring fellow parishioners can always reach you.

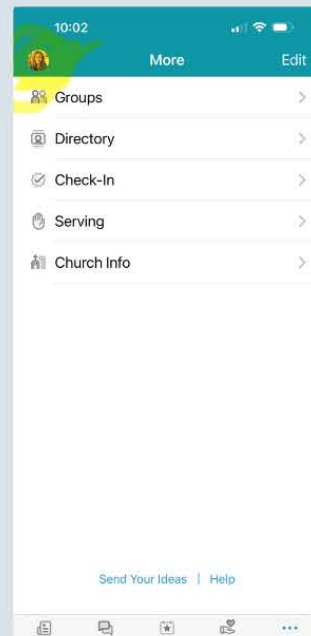
By following a few simple steps you can make your information accessible to others in the church.



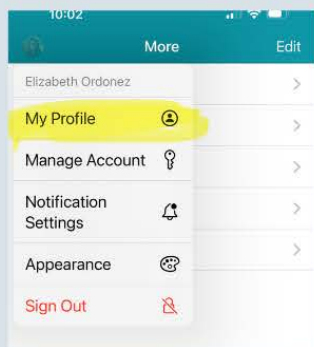
STEP 1:
CLICK ON
REALM APP



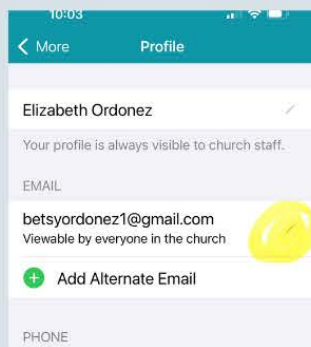
STEP 2:
CLICK ON ... (3
DOTS IN
BOTTOM RIGHT
CORNER)



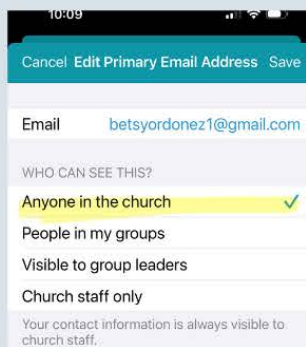
STEP 3:
CLICK ON YOUR
IMAGE IN THE
TOP LEFT
CORNER



STEP 4:
CLICK ON MY
PROFILE



STEP 5:
CLICK ON THE
PENCIL ICON
NEXT TO YOUR
EMAIL



STEP 6:
CLICK ON
ANYONE IN THE
CHURCH



STEP 7:
REPEAT THIS
PROCESS FOR
PHONE
NUMBER &
ADDRESS