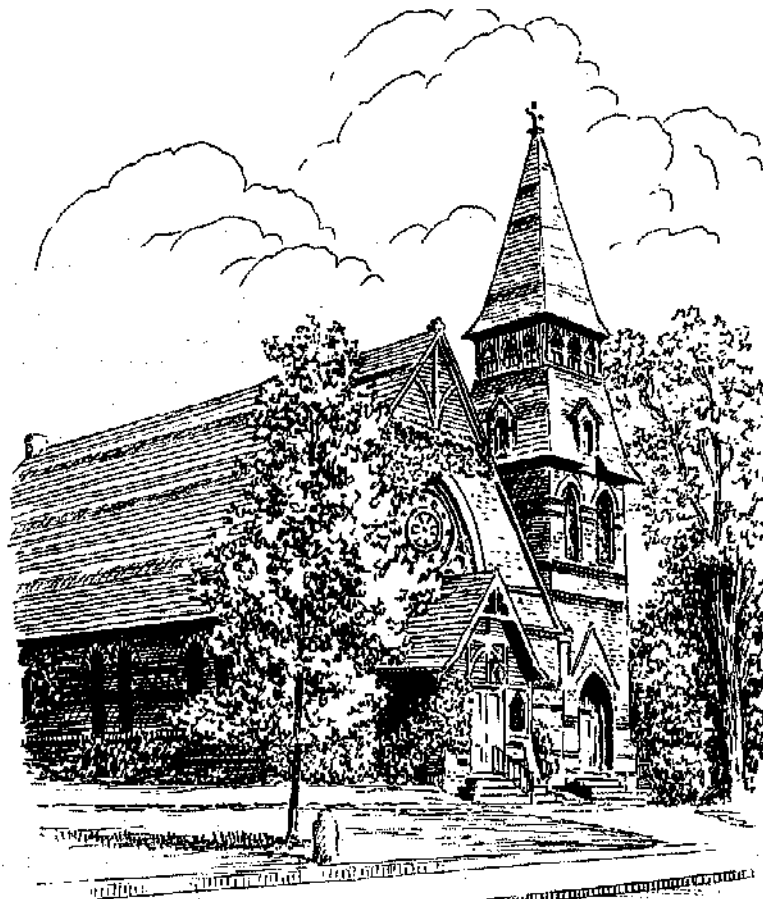


The Family

St. Michael's Episcopal Church
On the Green
Naugatuck, Connecticut

March & April
2009



St. Michael's Episcopal Church
Naugatuck - Connecticut

SENIOR WARDEN'S CORNER

As we proceed into our new church year, I am feeling very optimistic about where we, as a church family, stand. Despite the troubles of the world around us, the clear commitment and continued outpouring of love and faith demonstrated by all of you cannot but make me feel assured that we are on a journey together, that we recognize and accept the mission that God has set before us, and that we are clear and living examples of the lessons that Christ left for us. The road we travel is bumpy, but traveling it together makes this journey seem not so daunting.

When I see the pews filled each week with friends old and new, when I see the energy and love offering put into the recent NEON dinner, when I look at the (re)formation of our chapter of The Brotherhood of St. Andrew, when I watch the church school kids, young and old, share their gifts and messages about their own particular concerns and missions, when I smell (and taste!) the delicacies coming from the Lenten Bakeries, when I see people using their shopping cards to help bolster the financial condition of the parish, when I look at the messages shared on our new website, when I see people becoming part of the many fellowship and educational activities we offer, when I watch the latest practice of the Teen Theater, when I see the Scouts go cheerfully about their work, when I see people already talking about the 50th anniversary fair, when I see the newly convened Vestry anxiously and excitedly take on their leadership responsibilities, when we gather, two or three or more of us together, under the grace and watchful eye of God, I know, once again reminded, that we are a special faith community, a family, that we are truly making a difference in the world and to each other, and I remain confident, that together, all of us, with God's help, will keep this life and light and the Gospel of Jesus Christ alive here at St. Michael's. I am proud and excited to take on my new role as Senior Warden, and recognize that I have some pretty big shoes to fill there – I think that all of us owe a great big 'thank you' to Al Sagendorf for the tireless, dedicated and spiritual leadership that he has provided to the congregation for the past three years. I hope and pray that I may be as effective as I carry on in this role.

In closing, as we enter this holiest time of the year, I want to encourage all of you to know and use your Vestry – as points of information, as conduits of your needs, as the lay leaders of the congregation that you have elected all of them to be – they are here for your service as we all go about our missions. And, I wish all of you a reflective, thoughtful and prayerful Lent and all the joy and glory of the Easter that follows.

"And he departed from our sight that we might return to our heart, and there find Him. For He departed, and behold, He is here." (St. Augustine)

In God's Service,
Steve Sukovich, Senior Warden

JUNIOR WARDEN'S CORNER

Well Lent is here and the birds will be singing a happy tune soon enough. But we haven't left the heating season yet. For the church campus, we are saving fuel compared to the winter of 2007 / 2008. By the end of January we have used the same amount of fuel as last year, which is very good in my opinion because this winter (2008 / 2009) is running about 10 degrees colder per day. The insulation of the hall roof is complete. This will increase our comfort level year round. The heater in the hall kitchen is also going to be replaced. After many good years of service, the motor has burned out. The new heater will be installed just in time for the bread to rise during our Lenten bakeries. The flat roof above the hall kitchen has starting to leak when there is snow or ice on it. I have started to get bids for this job. I will keep you all up to date on this next project.

I would like to welcome your new St. Warden and all the new vestry members. If anyone would like to come to one of the vestry meetings, they are held the 1st Tuesday of the month at 7pm. All are welcome. If you are wondering what we are all about, please come down to the meetings. The new vestry members are just as committed to energy saving as the outgoing members. The very first motion we accepted was to install new fans in the church. The old ones are not working properly. The new ones should be installed very soon. They will have remote controlled motors which will allow us to reverse them in the winter months. This will improve the comfort level for all the seasons.

We had the very 1st dinner with NEON. We had a great turn out with a nice mix of churches from all over our area.

The new cleaning policy seems to be working well. If you see something that needs attention please see me our John Fenton. The Brotherhood of St. Andrew has been officially welcomed back to St. Mike's. We are a men's group that meets the first Sunday of the month right after the 10 o'clock service. If you would like to hear more about this ministry, please see me or Tim Kelly.

Your Jr. Warden,
Rick Brodeur

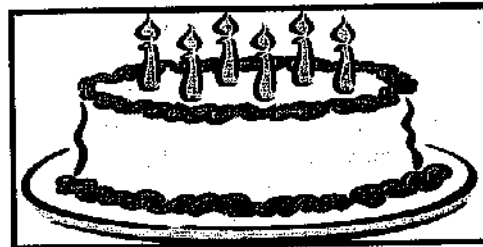
Special Occasions

March Birthdays...

- 1 Rose Harnick
- 3 Michael Nadhazi
- 2 Joann Rosikiewicz
- 5 Annabella Manners
- 6 William Edler
- 7 Sarah Euvino
Eric Hanley
- 8 Kimberlee Simko
- 10 Michael Angelicola
Roseann Krodel
- 12 Michael Lineweber
Paul Rentz
- 13 Alice MacDonald
- 14 Veronique Recile
Shelby Watson
- 17 Ethan Puc
- 18 Walter Hollister
- 19 Ashley Bearden-Pond
Janice McCollum
- 22 Diane Young
Sandra Gesner
- 24 Carolyn Schuster
- 26 George Krodel
- 27 Jeanne Hager
- 28 Donald McCollum
Jeffrey Plude
- 31 Audrey Buriette

April Birthdays...

- 4 Trenton Hager
- 5 Tina O'Connor
- 6 Heather Echevarria
- 9 Elaine Connelly
- 10 Marcia Puc
- 13 Barbara Kellar
Al Sagendorf
- 17 Ivana Rodriques
Stanley Lichaj
- 23 Wendy Kozlowski
Audrey Sukovich
- 25 Katelyn Deptula
- 28 Tessa Arcovio



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Helen & Donald Kirk will be celebrating their 69th wedding anniversary. They were married in St. Michael's Church on February 24, 1940. A family celebration will be held in their honor.

Helen & Donald have four children Beverly Krayeski, Joyce Alegi, Donald Jr. & Ross also the enjoyment of six granddaughters, seven great-grandchildren and they're looking forward to the arrival of their new great-grandchild in July.

Stewardship Corner.....

JOHN 13:34 "A NEW COMMANDMENT I GIVE UNTO YOU. THAT YE LOVE ONE ANOTHER; AS I HAVE LOVED YOU, THAT YE ALSO LOVE ONE ANOTHER.

As the Lenten season begins we should reflect on the wonderful and successful efforts that this congregation has put forth in the past couple months. From the thoughtful pledge response to the maintaining of the physical buildings that is St. Michael's Parish, to the many, many projects and activities that the many, many people have begun, maintained and planned, to the efforts of all our congregation to lend a hand....our continuing stewardship is alive and well!

There is still, always and forever work to be done. Pledging can begin at any time, new projects to further spread the word of God and suggestions are a "good thing"....if you have an idea or comment, contact a Vestry member and attend a Vestry meeting (meetings are always open to our Family).

Lent is a perfect time to understand the love that has been given to us. Take time to give some love to yourself too...be quiet with a prayer, listen to a hymn on the victrola (or iPod), give a smile, handshake or hug, start a conversation...

St. Michael's Parish began two hundred twenty three years ago. We will continue our love and praise to God and we will continue our stewardship of God's blessings and help spread those blessings to our neighbors.

Have a wonderful Lenten season and a very happy and safe Easter!

Chuck Wingard, Vestry-Stewardship Committec

JOHN 13:35 BY THIS EVERYONE WILL KNOW THAT YOU ARE MY DISCIPLES, IF YOU HAVE LOVE FOR ONE ANOTHER.

Did you know that you can pay your pledge through your on line banking? It is very simple: set us up as a payee just the same as you would your electric or phone company Your "account" number will be your envelope offering number. Now you can send off scheduled payments or send off a payment if you miss a Sunday. We have many parishioners who are doing this and it is very successful!

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF MEMORIES

Dear Members of St. Michael's Church:

My name is Katie Speer. I am 13 years old and an honor student in the gifted program at North End Middle School in Waterbury. As an enthusiastic member of the church family, I loved being a part of the fair last year. This year I am creating a booklet to sell at the Church Fair filled with memories from young and old in our church community. Throughout the months of January and February I will be visiting the various church groups and the Sunday School classes to give an opportunity for everyone to be a part of this wonderful memory book for our church members. I would welcome your vital contribution as we all gather to celebrate our 50th anniversary as a church family at St. Michael's. If you have already received a survey and have completed it, I ask you to please return it to me personally or put it in Mrs. Sharon Betts' (the Church School director's) mailbox. Thank you! God bless you all.

Sincerely, Katie Speer

NEON Community Dinner

On Feb.21, NEON (Naugatuck Ecumenical Outreach Network) sponsored a free community dinner. This was the first in a series of dinners we plan to sponsor, on our way to establishing a soup kitchen. Volunteers came from all over Naugatuck and surrounding communities. Workers represented 7 different churches and we had Boy Scouts from Beacon Falls and Girl Scouts from Bethany. The fruits of our labors were that 70 people were fed, and an amazing spirit of fellowship infused the event. We plan to hold another dinner after Easter. Please help spread the word about this exciting ministry. Check out the photo gallery at saintmichaelsnaugatuck.com to see pictures of some of the workers. For more info on NEON see Audrey Sukovich.

ECUMENICAL FOOD BANK

As families are facing hard times, the Food Bank is in real need of cereals, juices, grape jelly, canned meats, rice (bag or instant), can fruits. Donations can be placed in the shopping cart in the Wing or in the basket located at the door at the Church Street entrance.

Check It Out! We made it onto The Web!!!

Our web site is live! St. Michael's can now be found on the internet. If you get a minute, visit the site at www.saintmichaelsnaugatuck.com. You will find general information about our parish and our ministries as well as information on our 2009 pledge campaign. In the future the site will include a calendar of upcoming events, photo gallery and links to other spiritual sites. Many thanks go to Massimo and Sandy Audi for their expertise in getting this site up and running! If you are interested in helping out with this project in the future, please call Marcia Puc at 720-2055 or email at marciapuc@sbcglobal.net.

INQUIRERS / CONFIRMATION CLASSES 2009

Have you ever wondered why we Episcopalians do the things we do?

Or have you thought of why we think the way we do? Here is the program for you. Marston, our rector will lead a 6 week course designed to help answer your questions.

For adults: This class can lead to your being received into the Episcopal Church or confirmed if you have not been so.

For youth in grades nine and above: This is the third and final part of your requirements for confirmation. The other requirements were: 1.) Regular church attendance AND regular attendance at Teen Talk. 2.) Participation in an Emmaus Weekend (either at the past one in Fall of '08 or the one coming up on April 24-26 at Shelton Emmaus Methodist Church).

Classes for both adults and youth start on April 27th at 7 p.m. in the office conference room. Classes will continue on the following dates May 4, May 11, May 18, May 26 (Tuesday) and June 1.

Confirmation will be held on Saturday June 6th at St. Johns in Waterbury.

ST MICHAEL'S SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Our Church school teachers would like to thank "all the parents" for their efforts in ensuring their children receive a strong Christian Foundation through learning about our Savior Jesus Christ. It is through your efforts at bringing your children to school at 9 a.m. each Sunday morning in spite of being tired and after having a full week of work chores and taxiing to after school activities. You should be proud to know that your efforts will be well worth it as you watch your child grow into a strong Christian and in the future they will carry on with the same efforts as you to maintain generation after generation keeping your family close to Christ. In a world full of secular distractions church family often keeps us on the right path with God.

Lent is now an even stronger time to help your children grow in their knowledge of God's sacrifices for us. We ask that you take a few minutes each day to prayer with your child and help them to give thanks to God for all they have been given and also encourage them to personally offer whatever they can to help others in need, even if it simple acts of kindness. Ask them as your praying together, did you do anything kind for someone today?

The Lord will Bless You for your efforts!

Grace and Love be yours during this Lenten and Easter Season,
Saint Michaels Teachers

Just a Reminder!!! The Griesbachs' are continuing the "Ribbon Gift Album" program through the heating season to benefit the fuel fund. Fuel prices have dropped but St Michael's "CONTRACTED" fuel price did not!!! Therefore we need all the help we can get. If you need a customer number OR have forgotten yours just call us and we'll help you get one. Good for wedding, new baby, birthday, anniversary or any other present you may be thinking of purchasing.

Please consider this option. The Gift Album purchase helps you and your church. Please call Ed or Judy at 729-2537

St. Michael's Spotlight...is on Roseann Krodel

Everyone has a place that they call home...whether it be a summer home, a winter home, a getaway home or a place just called "home". Ever since I got married in St. Michael's 37 years ago, I can actually say St. Michael's is a second home to me. Even if I stay away from this home at times, when I do go back it is always comfortable, safe, satisfying, friendly, warm and peaceful. My family grew up in St. Michael's. I was on the Vestry, President of the Thursday Nighter's (when it existed at the time); helped with St. Michael's Fairs and summer children's programs when my children were small. Now that I am in the choir my second home has new family members...people in the choir. "Sing to the Lord all ye gladness." Be thankful for not being homeless.

Have you ever mad something that you were proud of?
Match the following people to the things that they made.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Ark, Genesis 6:13-14 | A. Maachah |
| 2. House on a rock, Matthew 7:24 | B. Abraham |
| 3. Barns, Luke 12:16-18 | C. Eliashib |
| 4. Temple, 1 Kings 6:14-17 | D. Solomon |
| 5. Tower, Genesis 11:4-9 | E. Wise man |
| 6. Gates, Nehemiah 3:1 | F. Noah |
| 7. Wells, Genesis 26:18 | G. A fool |
| 8. Sacrifice altar, Genesis 22:9 | H. People of Babel |
| 9. Gallows, Esther 5:14 | I. Isaac |
| 10. Idol in a grove, 1 Kings 15:13 | J. Haman |
| 11. A coat, 1 Samuel 2:19 | K. Hannah |

SAVE THE DATE!!!

8th Annual Bishop's 5K for Kids

Saturday, May 16, 2009

Webster Hill School School area

West Hartford CT

Advance registration: \$20 for adults/\$10 for children

We are looking for a St. Michael's Team Leader to promote the race/oversee our registrations/coordinate the pledges that come in for the race and make arrangements for a possible bus. Call Kathy in the office if you can take this on.

OUR LITTLE MIRACLE

As some of you know, our son Matthew was born January 30th, 8^w weeks early. We have been on several prayer lists, including that of St. Michael's parish since even before he was born since there were complications with the pregnancy. While I was in the hospital, my friend Debi Anderson brought me a prayer blanket that she, Sharon Betts, and the rest of the prayer blanket ministry had made for me. I thanked her and placed it on the foot of my bed, wondering where it would be of best use.

Later that day, I was visited by friends from our church in West Haven who came to visit and pray with me for our family. While in prayer, one of the women relayed a story of how she had been lead by the Lord to place a praying beanie baby anointed with holy oil in the isolet of a premature baby who was a friend of her family. That baby made a quick recovery and is in good health today. Maybe I could find something to anoint with holy oil and place it in Matthew's crib so that the presence of God was all around him 24 hours a day.

After we were finished, I went back towards my bed and my eyes immediately fell on the blanket, rolled up at the foot of my bed. I gasped and said, "Thank you Lord for providing us with something to place in Matthew's isolet!" I brought it down to the NICU and asked the nurse to place this blanket in Matthew's isolet. She actually had him lay on it. My husband and I were thrilled. At that time he was under the lights for photo therapy due to being jaundiced at birth.

Since that time he has been taken off of photo therapy since his billirubin levels have gone down to within normal limits. Everything else seems to have stabilized as well, although they are still watching his liver function for other enzymes. Now all he needs to do is learn to eat by mouth and get off of the support of the nasal canula, which provides him with a little extra air flow when he breathes. We had to anoint the blanket because it got washed, and replaced the blanket in his isolet. One day when I came into the nursery, the nurse told me that Matthew had done something interesting. He was faced to the right and the blanket was behind him, giving him support at his back. When the nurse returned to his area she noticed that Matthew had rolled to the left and had his face in the blanket!! She moved him away from the blanket so he wouldn't suffocate in it, and he immediately started screaming. He wanted to be very close to that blanket!!

The Lord's hand has been on our son since his conception. We praise and thank Him for being there throughout this difficult time as we are separated from our little guy so he can grow and get stronger to come home to us. We are grateful for all of the prayers and support that everyone, including the St. Michael's community, has shown us. "Thank you" doesn't seem to be nearly enough. We do not know all of you, but, believe me, you are remembered fondly in our thoughts and prayers for the love you have shown us. Also, thank you to the prayer blanket ministry for providing what we needed to wrap our little guy in the presence of our Lord in our absence.

Love,

Lou and Sheri (Constantino) Camputaro and children



**READY...
SET
BAKE!!**



The Lenten bakeries have started!!!

Our bakers are looking for donations of flour, sugar, dark brown sugar, margarine, Crisco shortening, canned pumpkin, raisins (dark and golden), currants, walnuts, eggs, frozen blueberries and frozen strawberries. (We have plenty confectionary sugar.) Last year, there was little cost due to all of the donations, therefore the profit was great! We are also looking for empty, clean coffee cans in the 13-16 oz. size, these are what we use to make that delicious pumpkin bread!

The baking for the Bakeries is done on Thursday and Friday mornings. The actual selling of these wonderful baked goods start at 10:30 a.m. on Friday mornings. If you cannot come down and help with the actual baking, please consider baking at home and bring it down to be sold.

Please see Fran Jenkins or call her at 729-6259 if you have any questions.

Lenten Adult Forums

Come join with me for a special journey.

We meet in the lower level of parish hall with the Sunday school at 9:00 a.m.

It will be 5 weeks bible study during Lent.

The first week we will discuss the history of Lent.

Second week we will share our thoughts about how we prepare ourselves for choosing a Lenten goal and how we manage our fast base on our physical abilities.

Third week we will practice some meditations and prayer based on the Gospel readings.

Forth we will discuss about our experience and questions

Last week we share what we will get form those exercises.

Rev. Esmail Shahrokh Dezhbod

Lenten Adult Program

Come join us for a special journey this Lent. We will use our usual format of the five Wednesday evenings in Lent starting March 4th. We will start with a potluck supper at 6:30 followed by our program at seven to 8:30 and closing with the service of Compline by 9pm.

This year we will be reading the novel *The Shack*.

I urge you to come share in this powerful story of transformation and redemption.



"SOUPER" BOWL COLLECTION: Thank you to everyone who donated to the "Souper" Bowl Collection. We were able to send off 280.50 to the Ecumenical Food Bank.

Naugatuck Teen Theater

Upcoming events:

**On Friday, March 13 & Saturday, March 14,
the Naugatuck Teen Theater will be holding their**

Annual Spring Dinner Cabaret

featuring alumni from over the past years (Sat. evening).

This year a traditional corned beef and cabbage dinner will be served.

Friday Dinner is at 6:00 and the Show is at 7:30

Saturday Dinner is at 5:00 and the Show is at 6:30

Cost is \$15 for adults

\$10 for children 10 and under (hot dogs also available)

Tickets available after services on Sunday and at the door.

**This year, the proceeds will be divided between St. Michael's and the
Bishop's Fund for Children.**

Come celebrate 15 years with us!

CHILDREN OF EDEN

By Stephen Schwartz (lyricist of *Godspell*, *Wicked*, *Pippin*)

Children of Eden tells the story of Genesis for the first act, following Adam, Eve and their progeny through the expulsion from the garden. The musical's second act picks up with Noah and the flood, centering on the themes of parents, children, faith and perseverance.

Show dates: May 1, 2, 8 & 9 at 8:00 p.m.

3 & 10 at 2:00 p.m.

On Saturday, May 2, we will be holding a 15 year gala celebration.

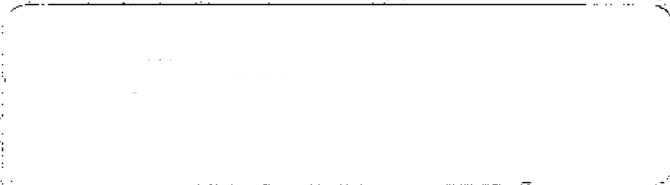
There will be a wine and cheese reception prior to the show.

**More information will be available in the bulletin
or by calling Ollie at 203-217-0120**

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| | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|
| Rev. Marston Price, Minister..... | 720-1844 |
| Rev. Esmail Shahrokh Dezhbod..... | Deacon |
| Steven Sukovich | Vestry Senior Warden |
| Rick Brodeur | Vestry Junior Warden |
| Katherine Carter..... | Parish Administrator |
| Vesna Mehinovic..... | Organist, Choirmaster |
| Sharon Betts..... | Church School Director |
| John Fenton..... | Sexton |

The Family newsletter is published by St. Michael's Episcopal Church,
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