



## Saint Michael & All Angels Episcopal Church

53720 Ironwood Road ✘ South Bend, Indiana 46635  
574.243.0632 ✘ [www.SaintMichaelSB.org](http://www.SaintMichaelSB.org)

*To Know, Live and Share the Love of Christ*

### “O God, make speed to save us...”

*The Rev. Matthew Cowden, Rector*

These first words get stuck on my lips these days. “O God, make speed to save us” are the opening words of our Daily Offices and the opening verse of Psalm 70. There’s more after this in the Daily Office and more in the Psalm, obviously, but these are hard days and long nights. Challenges abound for all of us. “God, where *are* you?! Come quickly!” is enough and I often stop right there. The physical (and often social) distancing we are doing is wearing on our patience and sanity as the novel Corona-virus continues to be a threat across our planet. Our increasing civil unrest, grief, anger, fear and discouragement as we stand starkly before the seemingly insurmountable challenge of systemic racism is leaving us more divided than ever. And we can’t even talk about politics. It doesn’t matter who you are planning to vote for or think should be in public office, I can safely say that in my lifetime public discourse on politics has never been this divisive and the lack of true civil discourse has never been more absent. O God, make speed to save us. While the arrival of your humble Saint Michael’s *Messenger* cannot live up to the task of solving all the anxieties that beset us, this newsletter can do what it’s name was meant to do, to *be* an *Angel* that brings the message of God. *Angel* is Greek for *messenger*. The angel messengers of God are often sent to remind us that God is never far away; that God has not forgotten us; and that when we call on the Holy One to save us, we find him already present with us.



May this brief publication from your home at Saint Michael’s greet you in the name of the One who is already near you. May you know how beloved you are by God, by me and by the Church. May you discover how close we are in Christ even while we remain apart. May the words of your prayers linger on the words you need most right now. Perhaps we get stuck on certain phrases when we ask for God’s presence because we look up to realize our request has been answered and we are not alone. I know I do.

### How, when, what does regathering look like.....?

**Both-And** is the short answer. Saint Michael’s will continue to offer the *Liturgy of the Word* online on Sunday mornings as we have been doing. We will continue to offer the readings, music, sermon and prayers on our website **SaintMichaelSB.org** and also on our Facebook page. (Stay tuned for a YouTube channel, as well.) **THEN**, when it is considered safe to gather for worship in St. Joseph County, we will have communion as the second part of the service, offering a *Liturgy of the Eucharist* in our parking lot on Sunday mornings, early enough before the heat of the day, close to 9 a.m. Vestry Member Bill Lewis has mapped out how we will enter on Turner’s Drive for traffic flow and how the grid of parking spaces will be staggered for each family. When we do this you may sit in your car but are encouraged to bring lawn chairs and sit in the space around you. Since infection rates change daily, we will be working with the diocese every week and making a determination as to whether we may gather for this second part of the service at the church. **This determination will be made every Friday.** If we are able to gather for the communion half of the service an email will go out to the whole parish, an announcement will be made on Facebook and phone calls to those not on email or Facebook. Again, especially for those who cannot or should not leave home, our online portion of Sunday worship will continue every week. All the Sacraments of the Church have been curtailed during this awful season but should you need to avail yourself of any particular rites of the Church please contact Fr. Matthew.





*The Messenger* is  
the monthly publication of  
Saint Michael and All Angels,  
South Bend,  
an Episcopal Church of the  
Diocese of Northern Indiana  
and a church of the  
Anglican Communion

***Our Bishop is***

The Rt. Rev. Douglas Sparks  
*VIII Bishop of Northern Indiana*

***Saint Michael's Clergy***

The Rev. Matthew Cowden, *Rector*  
The Rev. Cindy Van Parys, *Deacon*

***Vestry***

Julie Wilkins, *Senior Warden (2022)*  
Lynne Switalski, *Junior Warden (2022)*  
Linda Kroll, *Treasurer (2021)*  
Grayling Hawkins (2021)  
Dan Pfeifer (2021)  
Larry Putt (2021)  
Marcy Cortes (2022)  
Jenni Dunlap (2022)  
Sandra McCarthy (2022)  
Sharon Fiorella-Teves (2023)  
Bill Lewis (2023)  
Sandra Brown Stackhouse (2023)

***Staff***

Jen Foust, *Parish Secretary*  
Dr. Marvin Curtis, *Music Director*  
Alex Tungate, *Children's Chapel*  
Lori Jester, *Nursery*  
Michele Layher, *Finance Secretary*  
Andi Zavor, *Custodian*

Articles and Ministry Schedules  
for *The Messenger* are due on the  
Second Monday of each month and may be  
emailed directly to Jenni Dunlap at  
**[cjdunlap@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cjdunlap@sbcglobal.net)**

Office Hours:  
9 a.m.-12 p.m., Monday thru Friday



**To Know, Live and Share the Love of Christ**

**All public worship in the church building has been suspended until further notice due to the Coronavirus.**

**The Rector and Vestry will be following the Bishop's letter as it makes decisions about when and how we can return to in person worship.**

Until then, please join us at  
**SaintMichaelSB.org**  
**on Sunday mornings**  
and also on our Facebook page  
**For worship online**  
**At 10 a.m.**

Followed by Fellowship on Zoom at 11 a.m.  
Please text Fr Matthew for the link and password.

**Noonday Prayer on Zoom**  
**Wednesdays, 12 p.m.**

followed by lectionary Bible Study  
Please text Fr. Matthew for the Code to join us.

**Compline, Night Prayer of the Church**  
**Sunday-Thursdays, 9 p.m.**

Saint Michael's Facebook page  
And Fr Matthew's Facebook page  
And at [MatthewCowden.com/Live/](http://MatthewCowden.com/Live/)

**Need a prayer?**

**Need to add someone to our prayer list?**  
Message, call or text Fr Matthew at 574.309.1709  
Or Deacon Cindy at 574.286.9345

**Thank you gifts to Saint Michael's!**

Visit our home page  
**SaintMichaelSB.org**  
To make an online donation today!



Or please continue to send in your pledge by mail.  
Your ongoing generosity assists Saint Michael's  
in continuing to meet its ongoing bills and  
obligations as well as keeping our commitment  
to be the presence of Christ in the world.  
Thank you! God Bless You!

## Institutional Racism: Lessons from South Africa

*The Rev. Matthew Cowden, Rector*

In 2014 I had the privilege of traveling to South Africa with the Wabash Pastoral Leadership Program. It was a Pilgrimage of Pain and Hope. We went to learn about life in a post-Apartheid South Africa. Apartheid was government sanctioned racism with ethnic segregation institutionalized on a scale that makes us wonder how something so blatantly wrong could happen in such a “civilized” time as the twentieth century. We went as a group of praying, ecumenical pastors from Indiana to learn and to listen.

The lessons from that pilgrimage in 2014 continue to be strikingly relevant today; acutely so in 2020. At the popular level of news and information the ending of Apartheid had been a success. Equality was now available to the people of that country and Archbishop Desmond Tutu had led the historic Truth and Reconciliation Commission into heroic levels of reconciliation to heal the nation. The deeper truth we discovered was more complex, disappointing, and painful to take in. Yet, we arrived back in our own country with fresh eyes and lessons we need here, today. We saw firsthand that systemic, institutionalized racism doesn't end with a legislative vote. We heard the difficult truth that until those who have the power to opt *out* choose to opt *in*, come to the table to truly share power, and risk everything for the sake of the Gospel, nothing substantial changes and systems of oppression persevere.

At the end of South Africa's Apartheid in the 1990's the countries which had engaged in the boycotts and sanctions for ending it began to move on with a “mission accomplished” attitude. In contrast, during our pilgrimage, we Wabash pastors witnessed the ongoing ravages of Apartheid's institutionalized racism and the continued economic disparity still painfully present along racial lines. Before arriving in South Africa we had heard successful soundbites from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) which had brought us tears of pain and redemption as we witnessed recorded confessions from white oppressors, murderers being forgiven by those families they had hurt. On our pilgrimage, however, we heard of the sadness and disappointment that the TRC had only scratched the surface in the healing of the country. Only those who might have been brought up on criminal charges had an incentive to testify. They could tell the whole, painful truth and receive amnesty. There was, yes, true, Christ-like redemption for those who entered the process. But the TRC fell short of its goal to heal the nation, as ground breaking as it was, because those in power who could escape charges chose to stay away. Reconciliation fell short because those who had the power to opt *out* chose to do so.

Our pilgrimage gave me a lens for understanding the systemic, generational racism and oppression we have here in the United States. Our racism has not been as overt as in South Africa, we never instituted the “pencil test” for determining Passport classifications. (The pencil test was when a government official would place a pencil in the hair of the applicant and if it stayed in you could not be classified as white, losing all the rights and privileges associated with white-ness.) Like the crucified body of Christ, racist oppression in South Africa was held up on the cross of Apartheid and became an agonizing witness to the world and to us in 2020.

Legislation is necessary but we must always go farther than the letter of the law allows, if we are to be truly free, all of us. Hearts, minds and the way we give and spend money must change to reflect the Spirit such laws are meant to lead us to. The Spirit gives life abundant for all of us and is ever inviting us to risk deeper engagement and transformation for God's life among us, beyond what we vote on. But for those of us in the dominant, white culture, we are being called upon to not opt out.

Healing for all of us only comes when those who have the power and privilege to opt out of these changes in practice choose to opt in. Those in power cannot choose opt out and still expect to keep our souls (Mark 8:35).

Those in power who opt out of these transformational engagements are like trees that bear poor fruit (Matthew 7:19). As pastors in South Africa we were acutely aware of the role the Church in South Africa played in supporting Apartheid. We saw how possible it was for privileged Christians to assume they were doing the right thing.

These are the hardest lessons, especially for Christians of conscience. South Africa still has a long way to go. And so do we.





## Dream and Destiny

Dr. Marvin Curtis, Music Director

History reminds us that 1680's Virginia; an enslaved African American could not travel off the plantation without a "pass" and was subject to questioning by any White person. The 1702 New York Provincial Assembly enacted two laws. The first prohibited Africans from testifying against Whites. The second prohibited gathering of Africans in groups larger than three on public streets. The Commonwealth of Virginia passed a law in 1705, stating that if a master happened to kill a slave who was undergoing "correction," it was not a crime. In 1737, The New York City Common Council enacted an ordinance stating no Black man shall appear in the streets an hour after sunset. America while not enforcing these archaic laws today have woven them consciously or subconsciously into the cultural fabric of our justice and policing system. The very idea that a Black person has to be constantly under surveillance is an abhorrent concept but we see it today and have witnessed it recently in the murder of Ahmaud Aubrey as he was out jogging.



The recent murders of Breonna Taylor in St. Louis and George Floyd in Minneapolis are examples of police brutality that is all too familiar to African Americans. The total disregard for a human life because Black lives do not matter has come to the forefront in the demonstrations and civil unrest in our nation. The time for talking and waiting is over. If America is going to survive, she must remember the words of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr as he sat in a Birmingham Jail in 1963.

*When you take a cross-country drive and find it necessary to sleep night after night in the uncomfortable corners of your automobile because no motel will accept you; when you are humiliated day in and day out by nagging signs reading "white" and "colored"; when your first name becomes "nigger" and your middle name becomes "boy" (however old you are) and your last name becomes "John," and when your wife and mother are never given the respected title "Mrs.;" when you are harried by day and haunted by night by the fact that you are a Negro, living constantly at tiptoe stance, never knowing what to expect next, and plagued with inner fears and outer resentments; when you are forever fighting a degenerating sense of "nobodiness" -- then you will understand why we find it difficult to wait. There comes a time when the cup of endurance runs over and men are no longer willing to be plunged into an abyss of injustice where they experience the bleakness of corroding despair.*

Fifty-seven years have passed since I have been called the "n" word. But my credentials and talent have been questioned because "how could a Black man do all of this." I have been treated with disrespect by white people because "I should not be in this job." I stand in fear, when reaching for my registration in my glove compart-



ment by the police and or being thrown to the ground and handcuffed for asking why I am being stopped of being killed. I have been accused by White women, not only in public settings but also in academia of being "big and scary and causing them to be in fear". I am labeled "confrontational and difficult" when I use my voice to give concern but my White counterpart is labeled "passionate."

There are no easy solutions. The DNA of America has made my African American life difficult going back to when my ancestors came to these shores in chains. The laws of my servitude were designed to keep me fearful and without hope. Education became the key to unlock those doors but

America's educational system has been an indoctrination of falsehoods, half-truths, and distortions. The academy is complicit in this indoctrination and it is time for a reality check and get her house in order.

When people value the history of others, they begin to value people differently. Universities and cultural institutions must stop once a year art and cultural celebrations about Black people to ease their conscience. They must teach the historical facts, not as a specialty course, but as part of the main curriculum. As a student, I was required to study the history and works of European composers and some American composers, but never the history or music of African or African American composers or artists. I never discussed George Bridgetower,

Paul Robeson, Sissieretta Jones, James Reese Europe, William Grant Still, Florence Price, and the list continues.. I learned on my own and discoverer the rich heritage of my people. I made it my business to expose all as I was not exposed.

I arrived on this campus as the first African American dean in the history of IU South Bend in 2008. I saw the need to expose my student and faculty many had never studied. Thus the creation of *Lift Every Voice...Celebrating the African American Spirit Concerts* bringing African American artists to perform on the campus. Our production of *A Raisin in the Sun* with a guest African American director Walter Allen Bennett, Jr. Other African American guest artists and the collaboration with the South Bend Symphony Orchestra in the creation of The Dr. Martin Luther King Jr Concerts. However, these programs are just the surface. Unless the canon of education changes, unless the faculty dig deeper, unless there is a real presence of African American faculty on the campus, students and community will never hear our voices. Without the inclusion on a sincere and serious level, the stereotypes that have developed, that there is only ONE culture, will continue. The arts have a unique place to help change the tide, but not as a “specialty” course but within the course itself. The academy is complicit in the racial stereotyping when the required work does not include the study of anything but White people. The University is complicit in racial stereotyping when search committees overlook qualified African American candidates because they do not look like them. The academy is complicit when it sees the inequities of education yet places obstacles to “weed” out those they feel are inadequate. . We have to change what we do and teach the truth... all the truth. George Washington was the “Father of our Country” but George Washington also owned 340 enslaved African Americans.

We must do better. The days of talking about diversity and inclusion are over. I will soon depart as the first African American dean in the over 100 year history of Indiana University South Bend. I was joined by The School of Education dean, Dr. Marvin Lynn, an African American, for a few years. When he took a new position, I became the only one. My presence and passion helped create the programs that are in place and brought an African American presence to the campus but what happens when my voice is not on campus. As our campus becomes more diverse, will Black and Brown students only be taught one story? Will the campus resort to the safety net of teaching and performing what is easy or teaching what can be a difficult past? The university, like the country, is at a crossroad. We must heed the words Paul Robeson “ To be free...to walk the good American earth as equal citizens, to live without fear, to enjoy the fruits of our toil to give our children every opportunity in life—that dream which we have held so long in our hearts is today the destiny that we hold in our hands.

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## Saint Michael's May Financial Report

“Where your treasure is there the desires of your heart will also be.” *Matthew 6:21*

### For May, 2020

Income - \$17,228 vs budget \$22,125

Expense - \$20,643 vs budget \$22,125

Net - (\$3,415 ) unfavorable

### For Year to Date Jan 1 – May 31 2020:

Income - \$92,484 vs budget \$110,625

Expense - \$107,162 vs budget \$110,625

Net - (\$14,678) unfavorable

Thank you for continuing your pledge. The Payroll Protection Plan loan we received is helping right now but the Finance Committee is predicting some very difficult months ahead, especially beginning in the third quarter.

Please consider a special gift to assist Saint Michael's during this pandemic.

We plan to come back strong in faith and rich in relationships.  
We will get through this. We will return to in person worship in due time  
but we need your ongoing support to do so. Thank you.



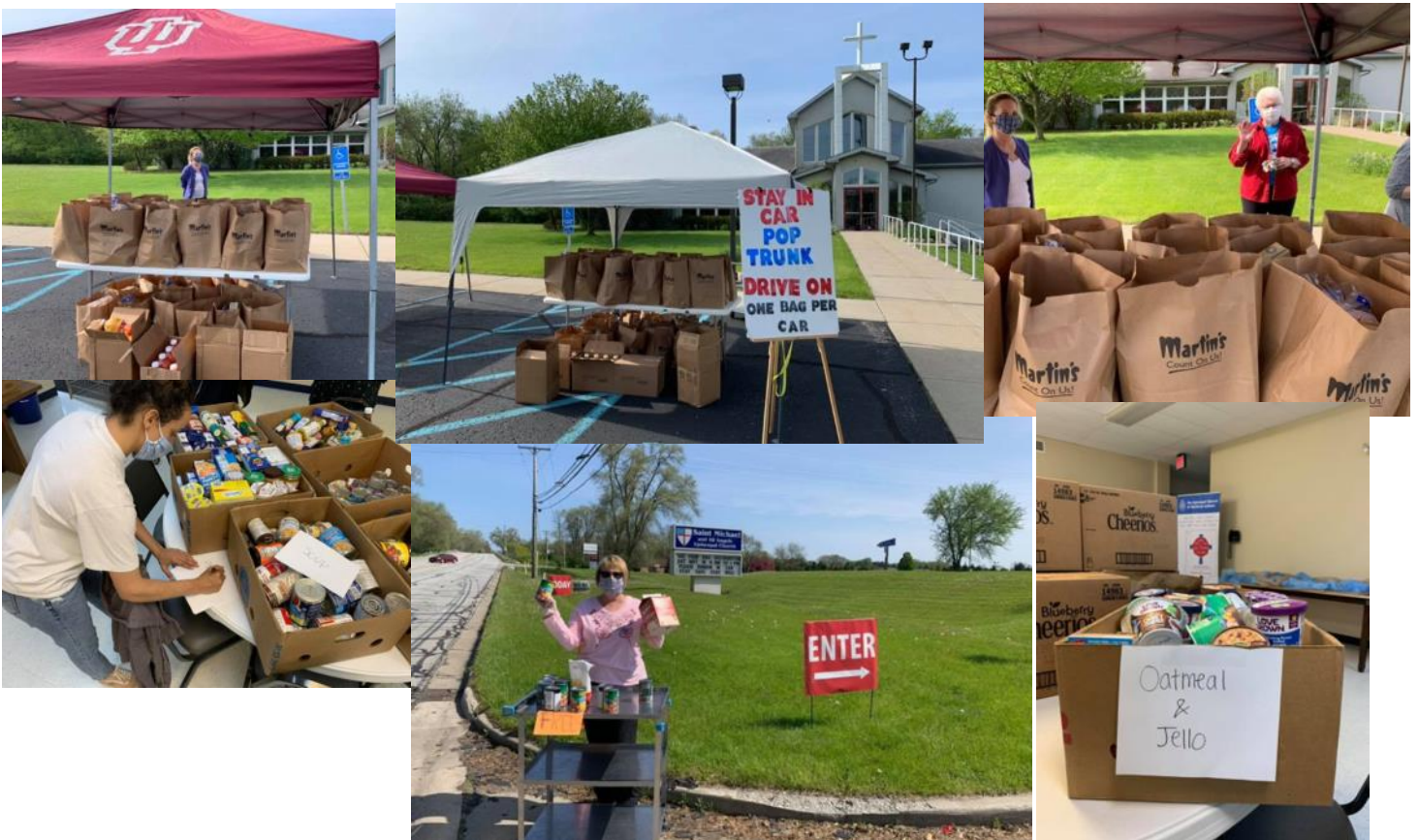
## The Rev. Dr. Deacon Nathaniel Warne: Ordained Priest, June 27, 2020

Saint Michael's gave our former clergy intern the gift of a chasuble set for his new ministry. Fr. Warne will be the Priest-in-Charge of St. Paul's, Mishawaka beginning at the end of this month. Congratulations to Fr. Nate and family!



## Service on Saturday Continues to Serve the Community on Third Saturdays

From sit down service to meal bags for those driving by.





## *Prayers of the People at Saint Michael's*

*Those prayed for here will remain listed for thirty days and may be renewed upon request.*

*Don't see your birthday or anniversary here? Want to add a section for prayers?*

*Please contact Deacon Cindy or call the office to have it added.*

### **For Healing, Guidance and Strength:**

Lucy Vellner  
Rob Auer  
Victoria  
Tracy  
Julie Hixon  
Mary Jane Willoughby  
Tony & Beryl Cockram  
Jake and Family  
Ed Truswell  
Nora Arnold  
Barb Coddens

Marie  
"Red"  
Craig



### **July Birthdays**

2 Finda Kamanda	23 Charles Henkel
3 Kwinam Jeong	23 Beth Hurst
8 Hunter Papai	27 Grace Liberatore
9 Frankie Badur	27 Leo Liberatore
10 Osinachi Ezenekwe	27 Marie Liberatore
10 Daniel Pfeifer	27 Dominic Manu
18 Sandra Konrath	27 Jack Mueller
19 Neva Hargreaves	27 Rick Switalski
22 Irene Singleton	27 Bobbie Thompson
22 Jolene Tungate	28 Rick Wilson
22 Cynthia VanParys	

### **For members who are unable to join us for Sunday worship:**

Marjorie Deahl  
Brian Knipple  
Neva Hargreaves  
Rob Auer

### **July Anniversaries:**

7 Ned & Beth North	
12 Spencer & Amy Hixon	
14 Daniel & Sheila Davis	
14 Gary Rigley & Kwinam Jeong	

### **July Anniversaries of Our Beloved Departed:**

Martha Wheeler  
June Wiltfong  
Donald Takacs  
John Kallenberg  
The Rev. Robert Bollman  
Charles Riewe  
Lisa Wilcox-Coonan  
Mary Mast  
Julie Mertz  
Thomas Cassady  
Robert Canary  
Shane  
Eugenia Lockhart  
R.D.Thimlar  
Bettimarie Miller  
Anne Raymer  
Samuel Penland



### **For Protection for our Armed Forces and those in Foreign Service:**

Erin Ford	Morgan Severeid
D.W. North	Alexander Sasha Petkova
Casey North	Cecily and Adam Teach
Nathan Ratliff	Peter Kristl
John Zendt	Trevor Miller
Ashlee Zendt	Matthew Monrie

### **For our elected leaders:**

President Donald Trump  
Vice President Mike Pence  
Governor Eric Holcomb  
Mayor James Mueller (South Bend)  
Mayor Dave Wood (Mishawaka)



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