



RECTOR'S CORNER DECEMBER 2018

As we enter the season of Advent and make preparations for Christmas, and our thoughts turn to the festivities of the season, the words of Matthew 5:3 are helpful for this preparation. *"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven."* The Lord tells us "I will bless the poor in spirit with My kingdom."

We live in an upside down Kingdom. 1 Corinthians 1:26-29 says that God has chosen the poor of this world to shame the rich, the weak to shame the strong, the foolish things of the world to shame the wise. I am thankful that God has chosen the poor, the weak and the foolish!

The Kingdom of God actually belongs to the poor in spirit. Being poor in spirit is just acknowledging that we need God to do for us what we can't do for ourselves. Being poor in spirit is to live a life of simple dependence on God's love and His life. If we were rich (spiritually, not materially) we would not think that we had any needs at all!

Being poor in spirit keeps us dependent on the one and only true source of life. Jesus speaks about such things in the book of Revelation in chapter 3:14-22 to the Laodicean church. When we think we are rich and in need of nothing, we tend to live independent, isolated and separated. God doesn't want us separate, but very close to God's heart.

So if you are feeling hungry today for His presence, dependent for God to be your very source of life, you are in the best place that you could possibly be! For blessed are the poor in spirit, for the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these!

Blessings, Fr. Lee

DOK MEETING:

The Daughters of The King will meet between services on Sunday. If you have a prayer request for the DOK, see any of the Daughters or leave your prayer request in the marked box on the literature table.



DECEMBER ECM: The next ECM meeting will be Thursday Dec. 6. A social starts at 6:30 and dinner is at 7:00. This month's meal will be chili and cornbread. Come early and join in the fellowship. The meal cost will be split among those attending. Please sign up so we know how much food to prepare.



Ladies you are invited
to the ECW
Annual Ornament
Exchange
Saturday, Dec. 1st
10:00a.m.
Plan to join in the fun and fellowship.
Bring a brunch dish to share and a
wrapped ornament valued at \$5.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER DEDICATIONS: Poinsettias will be used to decorate the sanctuary for our Christmas service. If you would like to dedicate a flower, please turn a form into the church office no later than December 16th. Forms will be inside Sunday's bulletin.



St. Michael's Christmas Eve Service 2018

7:00pm Christmas Eve Eucharist

No Service on Christmas Day

Office Closed 12/25 and 12/26

We hope you and your family can join us for our
Christmas Eve service.

SERVING SUNDAY

Celebrant: The Rev. Lee Dudley

Organist & Choirmaster: Nancy Owens

Altar Guild: Anita Valentin

Altar Flower: Richard & Dee Bradley

Eucharistic Minister: 8:30 Sarah Mikell 10:30 Marie Miller

Lector: 8:30 John Cleveland 10:30 Marjorie Schaefer

Acolyte: 8:30 Elaine Parnell 10:30 Jay Morrison

Greeters: 8:30 Mark Browder & Yvonne Williams

10:30 Marilyn Roberson & Sam Miller

Children's Church: John Dickey

Nursery: Anita Valentin

Coffee Hour: 8:30 No One 10:30 Mark & Sheree Chapman

December Vestry Lock-Up: Toby Capece



IT'S BEGINNING TO LOOK A LOT LIKE CHRISTMAS

Please be sure to thank Bill & Judi Earwaker, Bill & Barbara Marcy, Edie Smith, and Val & Anita Valentin for all their hard work decorating the tree and putting the wreaths up in the church for Christmas. It looks beautiful!



ADOPT A HIGHWAY CLEAN UP DATE CHANGE: We welcome all who would like to help in the cleaning of the Highway that St. M's has adopted on Saturday, Dec. 8 at 9am. We will meet at the church. Adults only please as we are working along a busy highway. Remember your work gloves. After the pickup, plan to join us for a late breakfast somewhere local! If you plan on participating, sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board so that John knows who to notify if the clean-up is postponed.

CHRISTMAS DINNER BOXES

St. Michael's is collecting the requested items for United Christian Ministries Christmas Dinner Boxes. Bags are located in the Narthex and we will collect them until Sunday, December 16th. If you prefer to make a financial donation, make checks payable to United Christian Ministries and leave with Shannon in the church office.

There has been a small change to the requested items. Please see the list below:

- 2 Boxes Macaroni and Cheese
- 1 Large Can of Green Beans
- 1 Large Can of Yams
- 1 Box of Jiffy Corn Muffin Mix
- 1 Boxed Cake Mix
- 1 Container of Frosting

**** To date we have taken 7 bags of food for Christmas Dinner boxes. ****



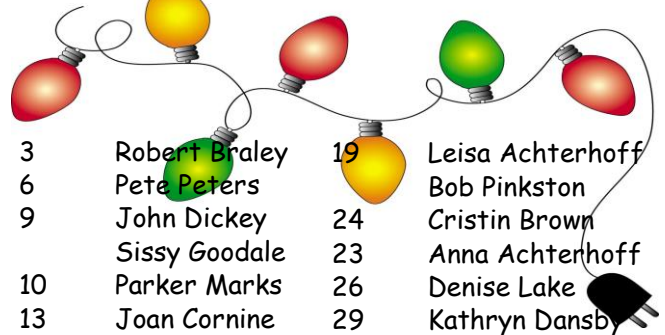
We are collecting new, unwrapped toys through mid-December for Toys for Tots to distribute to needy children in the community. A box has been placed in the Narthex for you to put toys in. See Mark Browder if you have any questions regarding the TFT.

ACOLYTE REHEARSAL: Tom McCabe will hold a rehearsal for acolytes to prepare for our Christmas Eve service on Sunday, December 23 at 9:30 in the sanctuary. If you are serving, please try to attend this rehearsal.

LOOKING AHEAD

Our Annual Parish Meeting will be Sunday, January 13, 2019. We will have one service at 10:00am with the parish meeting immediately following. We hope you will stay and join us for a potluck after the meeting.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS



3	Robert Braley	19	Leisa Achterhoff
6	Pete Peters		Bob Pinkston
9	John Dickey	24	Cristin Brown
	Sissy Goodale	23	Anna Achterhoff
10	Parker Marks	26	Denise Lake
13	Joan Cornine	29	Kathryn Dansby
	Ashley Keating	30	Julie Cleveland
14	Eric Earwaker		Jessica Zaher
17	Riley Zaleski		

God Bless You on Your Birthday!

CALENDAR

12/1	10:00	ECW Ornament Exchange
12/2	9:30	DOK Meeting
12/6	6:30	ECM Meeting
12/8	9:00	Adopt A Highway Clean Up Day
12/10	4:30	Shine Soup Kitchen
12/12	11:30	Midweek Eucharist
12/12	7:00	Choir Practice
12/16	11:30	Finance Meeting
12/19	11:30	Midweek Eucharist
12/19	7:00	Choir Practice
12/20	6:00	Vestry Meeting
12/23	9:30	Acolyte Rehearsal for Christmas Eve
12/24	7:00	Christmas Eve Eucharist
12/25		Office Closed
12/26		Office Closed
12/1		Office Closed

Welcoming all to a relationship with God through Christ; serving in our community



ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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