



WOMEN OF SAINT MICHAEL

2020-2021

Saint Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church

Working Together to Take Care of One Another

Women of Saint Michael
Board 2020-2021

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Mary Lessmann

*Let all that you do
be done in love*

— 1 Corinthians 16:14

2020-2021 SPEAKER SERIES

THREE EVENINGS AT ST. MICHAEL WOMAN'S EXCHANGE
MONDAY OCTOBER 12, TUESDAY OCTOBER 13, WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 14, 2020
5:00 p.m.

Enjoy an evening of fellowship and fun along with wine and cheese at St. Michael Woman's Exchange in Highland Park Village. The store will be decked out for Christmas and yes, you can shop! Reservations are required, as we each may attend one evening because of social distancing rules. So, wash your hands, don your mask, and come have a reunion with your fellow parishioners!

THE HISTORY OF SANTA CLAUS
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2020

Presented by Mary Robertson
Parish Hall 11:30 a.m.

One of the favorite traditions at Saint Michael is the annual St. Nick's Night. In preparation for that evening, Mary Roberson will enlighten us on the legend of Santa Claus who can be traced back hundreds of years to a monk named St. Nicholas. Mary is a charming speaker, and you will not want to miss this fun lunch.

SURPRISE BOOK REVIEW!
TUESDAY, JANUARY 12, 2021

Presented by Amy and Roy Heller
Big Church 5:30 p.m.

Known for their incredible talent in presenting thoughtful reviews, Amy and Roy have agreed to come out of retirement as presenters, just for us, as a special gift. In the past they have delighted audiences because of the way that they interact as a couple when discussing books. We are thrilled that they are using their summer to prepare a special evening. Bring your family and friends for a parish wide presentation. Roy is Professor of Old Testament, Altshuler Distinguished Teaching Professor, and the Director of the Graduate Program in Religious Studies at Perkins School of Theology. Amy serves as the Senior Chaplain at the Episcopal School of Dallas.

YOU'RE THE BEST!
WEDNESDAY APRIL 14, 2021

Presented by The Satellite Sisters
Parish Hall 11:30 a.m.

Julie, Liz, Sheila, Monica, and Lian Dolan are the Satellite Sisters. These real-life sisters believe that a sense of connection is what gives meaning to our lives. The Satellite Sisters first had a radio show and website in 2000 and then became podcast pioneers with a devoted national fan base as well as being recognized as best-selling authors. Having been scheduled for our cancelled May meeting last spring, we are so glad they have agreed to be with us this spring. They hold a special place in our hearts. Come welcome Julie, Liz, and Lian back to Dallas as they share their witty, affectionate, and timely style of interacting and connecting with each other.

ANNUAL SPRING LUNCHEON
WEDNESDAY, MAY 12, 2021

7500 PARK LANE 10:30 a.m.
Prudence MacIntosh

We are blessed that one of our own, Prudence MacIntosh, will be the speaker at our annual luncheon. Prudence is one of a circle of writers closely associated with Texas Monthly. A contributing editor from the magazine's inception in 1973, Prudence's work has continued to appear in its pages for four decades. She gained a loyal following through the years with her observations on social rites of passage for Texas women and her essays on the rearing of three boys. In 1976 she received a Penney-Missouri Award for excellence in lifestyle journalism. Her work has appeared in several national magazines and is frequently anthologized in college writing texts. She is the author of four books.

Women of Saint Michael Purpose Statement:

To be the extension of Christ's Kingdom by uniting the women of the parish in a program of worship, study, service, and fellowship; leading them into service for the Church, in the parish, the community, the diocese, the nation, and the world.

President's Message



Dear Friends,

Welcome to a most exciting year in the life of the Women of Saint Michael as we continue to adapt to ever changing circumstances caused by the coronavirus.

Our theme is *"working together to take care of one another"*. Our programming is designed to provide opportunities to gather again in person, and to continue to

reach out to the most vulnerable in our community.

We will gather safely in person.

We begin our programming the second week of October when we will have three evening events at St. Michael Woman's Exchange. Because of social distancing and limitations to the number of people who can be in the store at one time, we will each register for one evening, so that everyone will have the opportunity to attend. The store will be decked out for Christmas, and we will enjoy wine and cheese and, of course, have the chance to shop. This event and others are described in detail in this newsletter. All of these programs are designed for us to reconnect and be enriched by each other's company.

We will reach out to the most vulnerable.

Due to the postponement of the 75th Anniversary of Saint Michael and All Angels and consequent postponement of the Women of Saint Michael Parish Party and Auction until spring 2022, there is a need to find additional funds to fill the coffers for the annual distribution of grants to community nonprofits supported by the Women of Saint Michael. These funds are added to the annual gift made by the St. Michael Woman's Exchange and provide support for some of the neediest in our community. As you can imagine, this past year there were many urgent requests. This coming year we anticipate that the needs will only increase, so I am asking you to consider making a financial gift directly to the Gifts Committee.

We are so blessed to be part of a wonderful church community. The efforts made by the priests, staff, and parishioners to keep us connected have been amazing and thoughtful. Even during this period of social distancing caused by the COVID Pandemic, I have seen such acts of generosity, an abundance of positive attitudes, and yes, a great deal of affection and love. We are reminded daily of how fortunate we are and have become even more grateful for our blessings. At the same time, we have contributed generously to the welfare of others whose needs are greater than our own.

In that regard, I feel confident that we can do more and provide much needed support to each other and to our community.

The Women of Saint Michael are a force for good, and I look forward to serving as president.

Faithfully,

Jeff Rice

Let all that you do be done in love 1 Corinthians 16:14

Rector's Bible Study

We are scheduled to resume the Rector's Bible Study on Wednesday, September 9, 2020 at 10:30am. We will be studying the apocalyptic books: Daniel and Revelation. Even if we are allowed to bring people back together physically, we will continue offering the Bible study live on Facebook and You-Tube every week. If you would like more information or to be added to the Bible study email list, email Monica Rosser at mrosser@saintmichael.org.

Chaplain's Letter



Friends,

As I sit down to write this, our situation has changed dramatically from when I wrote last year's Chaplain letter for the WOSM Newsletter. We continue to find ourselves in the midst of a global pandemic, living under best practices for protecting our health and the health of others. This health crisis has caused an economic crisis, where millions of folks – especially in the hospitality and travel sectors – have been furloughed or lost their jobs. And incidents of violence by law enforcement on people of color have sparked nationwide – and worldwide - demonstrations and calls for change.

These events have had a significant impact on our ability to gather and worship as this particular people of God. We are in the very beginning stages of moving from virtual worship and meetings to allowing staff and parishioners back on the church campus. But limits on our ability to gather physically – for worship, weddings, and all-parish events – will continue through at least the end of the year. Accordingly, we have had to postpone our long awaited SMAA 75th Anniversary celebration for another year.

In the midst of all this adversity and change, the people of Saint Michael have modeled patience, acceptance and ingenuity. I'm awed at the imaginative ways our folks have found to gather for virtual worship on Sundays, to celebrate Holy Days such as Palm Sunday and Pentecost, and to participate in outreach opportunities to serve those in our community most impacted by these events. And no where has that grace, flexibility and resourcefulness been demonstrated more than among the Women of Saint Michael.

Our WOSM scripture passage for this year comes from 1 Corinthians – "Let all that you do be done in love" (16:14) and our theme is "Working together to take care of one another." This spring, as it became apparent that this pandemic would be affecting our lives for far longer than we initially imagined, your WOSM leadership pivoted. The great programming that had been planned for our 75th Anniversary year has been pushed back one year...and new programs for the upcoming year have been planned. Our first event at the Saint Michael Woman's Exchange will be a 'socially distanced' opportunity to gather together *physically* – something we've sorely missed since the pandemic began. Remaining WOSM events for the year will be firmed up as we make our way into fall, in accordance with current health guidelines. Will they be live? Will they be virtual? Who can tell! We will stay flexible, working together to take care of one another and doing all we do in love.

I am always so proud of the Women of Saint Michael. I think we can safely say that we have had more curve balls thrown at us this year than in my memory, and yet our ladies always embody grace under pressure, a 'what can we do for others' focus, and a gallows sense of humor! Our current realities have the potential to bring out our fear, frustrations and impatience. But it is in our witness to love, kindness and patience – even in our unpredictable and scary situation – that we embody Christ's love for one another and for the world.

"Let all that you do be done in love"...and fasten your seatbelts; this year will be quite the ride!

Peace,

The Rev. Mary Lessmann, Chaplain

Chaplain's Bible Study

Tuesday Ladies' Bible Study Led by Rev. Mary Lessmann

In this group we enter our study of the Bible with a view toward reflecting on how scripture is speaking into our lives, ever changing as they are. While the group is comprised primarily of women in the 'empty nester' phase of life, all women are welcome.

This weekly class will resume on **Tuesday, September 15 at 3:00pm** in the Coke Room. Our Fall study will be the **Book of Judges**. As a study companion, we will be using Roy Heller's *Conversations with Scripture: The Book of Judges*. While the pandemic means that all decisions are tentative, the plan is for this to be a hybrid class - meeting physically (socially distanced) AND recording for those who, for whatever reason, cannot be physically present. If you have any questions or would like to be added to email distribution for this class, please contact Mary at mlessmann@saintmichael.org.

WOMEN OF SAINT MICHAEL

Jubilee Park Mother Daughter Tea

Saturday, March 6, 2021 Noon to 2:00 p.m.

Celebrate Women's History month with the women and girls of Jubilee Park and Community Center at the annual Mother-Daughter-Granddaughter Tea. The event activities will include lunch, an inspirational speaker, and arts and crafts. Volunteers are needed to donate food, set up the event, serve lunch, cleanup, and mostly, have fun! Please contact Debbie Shuey (214-789-5015; debshuey@mac.com) or Susan Boldrick (214-883-1081; sbboldrick@yahoo.com) if you would like to help.

Family Day of Service at Jubilee Park

**Saturday, April 10, 2021
9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**

Join the Parent Ministry of Saint Michael for a family service project at Jubilee Park and Community Center. This is an opportunity for all ages to participate in the annual health fair conducted each spring at Jubilee. Volunteers are needed to assist with all kinds of age appropriate activities from playing sports to working with crafts, and serving snacks and food. Please contact Tiffany Davis (214-514-7061; tiffanyhdavis@gmail.com) to volunteer.

Community Outreach Opportunities

Austin Street Center

Each month parishioners at Saint Michael prepare and serve food for 400 people experiencing homelessness staying at Austin Street Center. On the first Tuesday of each month, 12 to 15 parishioners cook and prepare a full-course homemade meatloaf dinner. On Wednesday, the food is delivered to the shelter and later that day, another 15 to 20 parishioners serve the dinner. To begin the evening, Saint Michael and All Angels offers Evening Prayer in the Austin Street Chapel.

Ministry Leaders:

Cooking: Randy Rekerdres, randy@rek-ins.com or George Baldwin, gbinvest@swbell.net
Serving at Austin Street Center: Dick and Rita Davis
rdavis14@aol.com

Jubilee Park and Community Center

The Jubilee Park Community is a 62-block area in the shadow of Fair Park in southeast Dallas. The community had one of the highest crime rates in the city and its elementary school was one of the worst-performing in the Dallas Independent School District. In 1997, in recognition of its 50th anniversary, Saint Michael launched a community revitalization project targeted at education, housing, and community involvement. The project has received local and national recognition for the impact it has had on the community and its residents.

Many volunteer opportunities exist at Jubilee Park, from regular weekly assignments to special events; there is a job for almost everyone!

Ministry Leaders: Jeff & Darrel Rice rice1070@gmail.com

St. Philip's Coat Drive

Saint Michael is committed to collecting new and gently used coats for the St. Philip's Christmas store. Our Lent and Eastertide *spring cleaning* coat collection was cut short by the pandemic and so Saint Michael will continue to collect coats through October. There will be a cardboard collection box in the south entrance of the church. Please clean your coats if they are gently used before donating. Our greatest need are coats for children and teens of all ages.

VNA Meals on Wheels

Join the 125 members of the Saint Michael Meals on Wheels team and deliver nutritious hot meals to 4,000 Dallas County residents who are homebound and unable to cook for themselves. SMAA volunteers drive 16 weekly routes during the year, delivering meals and providing social support. Potential volunteers may contact one of our ministry leaders to accompany them on a route at any time.

Ministry Leaders: Janie Richard, Ruthie Garrett, Byrd Teague

WOSM Gifts Committee

For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.

Matthew 25:35-36

During the last 60 years, the WOSM has returned nearly \$10 million to Dallas County and beyond through its fundraising activities and profits from the St. Michael's Woman's Exchange. This year the WOSM Gifts Committee awarded grants to 72 agencies:

Beneficiaries of the 2020 WOSM Gifts Committee

2nd Saturday CDC	Legacy Counseling Center
Aberg Center for Literacy	LIFT
Access & Information Network	Magdalen House
Achieve	Mosaic Family Services
AIDS Services of Dallas	Network of Community
Association for Independent Living	Ministries
Attitudes & Attire	New Friends New Life
AVANCE	One Man's Treasure
Behind Every Door	Open Door Multilingual
Brighter Tomorrows	Preschool
Brother Bill's Helping Hand	Our Friends Place
Bryan's House	OurCalling
Catch Up & Read	Project Transformation North
CitySquare	Texas
Cornerstone Crossroads Academy	Promise House
Crossroads Community Services	Rainbow Days
Dallas Bethlehem Center	Restored Hope Ministries
Dallas CASA	Shared Housing Center
Dallas Christian Women's	Turtle Creek Manor/Recovery
Job Corps	Center
Dwell With Dignity	Under 1 Roof
East Dallas Community	Well Community
Organization	Wesley-Rankin Community
Exodus Ministries	Center
Family Compass	White Rock Center of Hope
Family Place	Wilkinson Center
Focus on Teens	Youth Believing in Change
Gateway of Grace	Youth With Faces
Heart House	Austin Street Center
Hope Cottage (formerly	Creativity for Peace
Alley's House)	Genesis Women's Shelter
Hope Supply Co.	Honduras Threads
Housing Crisis Center	Jubilee Park & Community
Human Rights Initiative of North	Center
Texas, Inc.	North Dallas Shared Ministries
Hunger Busters	North Texas Food Bank
Incarnation House	SMAA Austin Street Cooks
Interfaith Family Services	St. Philip's School
Irving Cares	& Community Center
Jonathan's Place	Visiting Nurses Association

**For more information please contact
WOSM Gifts Committee Chair, Bliss Smith,
at bliss4@sbcglobal.net.**

