



*St. Michael's Episcopal Church
Grosse Pointe Woods, MI*

*Weekly Newsletter
June 18, 2017*



**Interim Rector - Father Ed Hunt
Safety in Numbers**

These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him. (Matthew 10:2-4)

Notice anything about this list? Aside from giving Peter "first place" and Judas "last place", two important things. First, 3/4 of the disciples are related to each other, and all are named in pairs. Most came from the same town, and all were Galileans. This isn't a random group of guys set out on the road. They are related or at least known to each other. These are twelve best friends from high school. Their parents know each other, they had sleep overs and got into mischief together. They were bound together before they followed Jesus.

In His "Apostolic" commission (apostelo means "to send" in Greek), Jesus paints a grim scene: persecution, inhospitable towns, violence, vulnerability, and danger. They aren't even allowed to take "extras" along the way to protect themselves when times get tough. All this is to illustrate the central truth of the passage: relationships and the trust that those relationships are built on will get you through the tough times more than extra money and underwear. (Matthew 10:9-10)

Peter and Andrew are brothers. So are James and John. And James and Andrew, Thaddeus and Matthew. That strong bond will carry them through as they do their ministry amongst the wolves. (Matthew 10: 16-17) It is impossible to say what the basis for the other pairings were. Perhaps Jesus saw how they interacted and decided to pair them up on the basis of friendship and compatibility, kind of the way our teachers did for field trips. Sort of an Apostolic BFF.

My conjecture does ring true for the last pair: the "bad boy" apostles: Judas Iscariot and Simon the Zealot. Both were looking forward to the Messiah, to rid their birthright from Roman filth, and restoring the fortunes of Israel. Instead of separating them, Jesus pairs them up, thereby concentrating their mission. With a shared vision and a common purpose, they could count on each other in times of crisis.

This Apostolic wisdom is relevant for us today. Ministry, especially pastoral ministry, is best done in pairs. One will pick up on what another has missed. Mutual support takes some of the burden of "doing it alone" off. Relationships are the best resources, more than budget funding. The stronger the relationship, the stronger the ministry. Material resources will get wasted if there is no shared and deeply held vision and purpose. In times of crisis, friendships can literally save you. Friends offer protection. You can't go it alone. If we hold these Apostolic teachings and do them, we can change the world into the Kingdom of God.

Summer Study Series

A summer series, led by Richard Simonds, will explore **Christianity and World Religions**.

This course will look at comparing Christianity to Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam and Judaism. Here are some of the questions we will explore: How should Christians view other religions? How is God at work in other religions?

We will meet in the Lounge from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., every other Thursday on June 22nd, July 6th, July 20th, August 3rd, and August 17th. The cost of the book, Christianity and World Religions is \$6.

Please sign up in Yeoman Hall. Any questions can be directed to Richard Simonds or Elaine Backhurst. EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

The Little Thrift Shop News

The Thrift Shop still has plenty of Willow Tree figurines. They are boxed and ideal for gift giving!

The Little Thrift Shop is accepting summer merchandise through July 14th. The Shop will also be open the fourth Sunday of each month: June 25th, July 23rd, August 27th, and September 24th.

Sign-up for Altar Flowers

Do you have a special person or celebration you would like to dedicate altar flowers to? You can now sign up for any Sunday. The cost is \$37.50 for one vase or \$75.00 for both vases.

Prayer for New Rector

Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a rector for this parish, that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Prayer List

Mike Bamford	Star Gilezan	Don Kalso	Dottie Steiger
Barbara Bangs	Peter Gilezan	Jack Manko	Pam Stanley
Sterling Berry	Jan Graham	Dianne Pegg	Frederick Stringer
Ed Binder	Peter Groschner	Eileen Schmitt-Matzen	James Sutton
Chris Christopoulos	Vic Harper	Ronald Shulze	Margaret Taylor
Kathie Crook	Ruth & Beverly Hatcher	Scott Simon	Jim Thompson
Deacon John Fitzgerald	Jack Huckins	Jan Smith	Deacon Jack Trembath

Sign-up sheet is in the Office, or call 313-884-4820 or email stmichaelsgpw@gmail.com.

We Honor/Celebrate Today

In loving memory of Michael Skaff from Carolyn Skaff and Family.



St. Michael's Calendar

Just a friendly reminder, please call the office to schedule any and all events in the church.

Grosse Pointe Crop Walk

The results of the GP Crop Walk donations from St. Michael's was \$1,343.00. A grand total of donations were \$13,457.00. Thank you to all walkers and sponsors.

Pastoral Care or Emergencies

Father Ed may be reached by phone or text at 315-335-2912 for any pastoral care or emergencies and his email address is frhunt2002@gmail.com. Also the Church's voicemail and website have been updated and will have Father Ed's information as well.

Upcoming Events at St. Michael's Save the Date!

Thursdays	Summer Study Series (until Aug 17 th)
July 2 nd	Crossroads Soup Kitchen (Hot Dog Lunch)
Sept. 24 th	St. Michael's Feast Day

**Assisting at our Services
Interim Reverend Edward Hunt**

8:00 AM	June 18	June 25	July 2	July 9	July 16	July 23	July 30
Acolyte	J. Zink	W. Rogers +R. Rhein	J. Zink	R. Rhein	J. Zink	W. Rogers	W. Rogers
Altar Guild	E. Backhurst K. McLeod D. Pegg	E. Backhurst K. McLeod D. Pegg	E. Backhurst K. McLeod D. Pegg	E. Backhurst K. McLeod D. Pegg	E. Backhurst K. McLeod D. Pegg	E. Backhurst K. McLeod D. Pegg	E. Backhurst K. McLeod D. Pegg
Chalice Bearer	L. Schmitt-Matzen	C. MacDonald	J. Zink	J. Rhein	L. Schmitt-Matzen	C. MacDonald	J. Zink
Lector	G. McQueen	Dianne Pegg	G. Gilezan +C. MacDonald	J. Rhein	G. McQueen	Dianne Pegg	L. Schmitt-Matzen
Ushers	W. Rogers A. Grayr	D. Pegg, D. Pegg	D. Schmitt-Matzen L. Schmitt-Matzen	P. Gibson D. Backhurst	W. Rogers A. Grayr	D. Pegg, D. Pegg	C. MacDonald M. Miller

10:30 am	June 18	June 25	July 2	July 9	July 16	July 23	July 30
Acolytes							
Altar Guild	M. Isenberg G. Davenport	L. Wood P. Wood	J. Graham K. Johnson	L. Wood P. Wood	M. Isenberg G. Davenport	L. Wood P. Wood	L. Wood P. Wood
Chalice Bearer	D. Lockhart M. Miller	C. MacDonald B. Davenport	S. Graham D. Ludlow	D. Ludlow B. Davenport	D. Lockhart B. Davenport	J. Zink C. MacDonald	S. Graham B. Davenport
Counters	D Scrace J Patee	K O'Connor	G McQueen D Lockhart	J Graham B Pappas	F Twiddy B Barringer	L S-Matzen M Krawczek	D Scrace J Patee
Greeters	E. Garzel M. Isenberg	B. Sheehy J. Sheehy	B. Thompson J. Thompson	J. Graham K. Johnson	G. Davenport B. Davenport	E. Garzel M. Isenberg	B. Sheehy J. Sheehy
Lector	M. Miller	B. Payton	M Krawczyk	F. Twiddy	R. Simonds	J. Zink	B. Davenport
Prayers	B. Payton	L. Gaskin	F. Twiddy	B. Davenport	E. Garzel	C. MacDonald	C. Hakim
Ushers	N. Hahn K. Hahn E. Garzel B. Greening	D. Scrace J. Graham K. Johnson	D.Zmyslowski S. Graham J. Sheehy B. Sheehy F. Stringer	B. Payton J. Payton G. Morketter J. Zink G. Peller	P. Dyble P. Groschner C. Skaff J. Saunders N. Saunders	N. Hahn K. Hahn E. Garzel B. Greening	D. Scrace J. Graham K. Johnson



*I am the True Vine
Abide in me...
He who abides in me,
and I in him,
brings forth much fruit.
Abide in my Love.
John 15:1-9*