



The Mike

The Newsletter of St. Michael & All Angels Episcopal Church, Studio City, CA
VOLUME 21, ISSUE 5 • July/August 2012

Faith in Action

By the Reverend Dan Justin

By now you have surely heard the news. St. Michael's has received a generous donation for the purpose of renovating our Parish Hall. The gift was given as a matching gift. If we raise \$60,000 we will receive \$120,000. The project will transform our existing Parish Hall into the St. Michael's Ministry Center. One might ask, "What do you mean by Ministry Center?" I thought I would take some time to answer that question in this article.

Why do we come to church? Obviously we come to worship God. Our Sunday morning liturgies provide us the opportunity to sing our praises, offer our prayers, to hear God's word read, to hear the good news of God in Christ proclaimed through preaching. We come to the table where we remember all Jesus has done for us, and where we receive a foretaste of the heavenly banquet. In worship God is revealed to us in both word and Sacrament. But the church is not just to be about the work of worship. We are called by God to be about the work of serving the world in Christ's name; we are to be about the work of building the Kingdom of Heaven in our world right here and now. That work is done by serving those in need. This means feeding the hungry, visiting the sick, caring for the poor, and standing for justice in the world. That work is done by finding ways to put other's needs before our own. There is a problem with that though. Living for others rather than ourselves is not our natural default setting. Just the opposite is true. Putting our own needs before others is much more common.

How can our default setting of living only for ourselves be changed? The answer is to grow spiritually in our Christian faith. We must cultivate a deep life of faith. We must learn about the life and example of Jesus. We must develop practices of prayer. We must read and understand the scriptures. We must build community and walk alongside others who are also on this same journey of faith. As we grow deeper in our faith our life of service in the world will grow as well. Our faith will begin to give life to our service in the world. We will be able to put our faith into action knowing that we are not left to try to build God's kingdom through our own strength. God is doing

something in us. God is changing us, molding us, making us into people who begin to live like Jesus lived—always giving; always loving.

The new St. Michael's Ministry Center will provide the atmosphere for both growing in our faith and serving others. The donation for the renovations of the Parish Hall was born during a conversation about the ministries



that are happening and could happen. The Ministry Center will be the location of ministries that help us grow in our faith. A new youth space will be created on the stage to help facilitate a ministry with teens. New Wednesday evening classes which include a family meal will be offered. These will both build community and provide learning opportunities. We plan to restart the Men's Ministry and Women's Spirituality groups. The Fireside Room will become a place much more conducive to small group meetings, prayer gatherings, and classes. Each of these will help us as we grow in our faith. The new Ministry Center will also help us as we serve the world in Christ's name. We will begin a program called Second Sunday Sack Lunches where the parish will make one hundred bagged lunches each month to be distributed through the North Hollywood Interfaith Food Pantry. We will be able to hold forums on Peace and Justice in a proposed program entitled Crucial Conversations. We will continue to hold our large outreach events planned by SMCOP.

Our hospitality ministries will also be enhanced. Sunday morning coffee hour will be better. We will provide both indoor and outdoor space for coffee hour. We will have a Welcome Desk to better provide information to visitors. And best of all—we will have new restrooms.

What will not change? We will still have a large, open room where we can gather for Coffee Hour as well as community events. The stage will still be able to function as a

stage when not being used by the youth ministry. The parish will still continue to welcome community groups providing space for AA and Al-Anon. The building will be even better suited to generate revenue as it will provide an excellent space for wedding receptions, conferences, lectures, and large group meetings.

I trust you are as excited as I am about all the possibilities. Please join me in praying for both the current and potential ministries of St. Michael's. And join with me in financially supporting this renovation through the Faith in Action Campaign. We are asking *each* member to prayerfully consider donating to this project. Your donation can be a one-time gift or you can indicate an amount and pay it over the course of this year and next. We are not asking for equal gifts, but we are hoping for equal participation. Every member of this parish will benefit from this Ministry Center. We are hoping every member will donate.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns. You will find a Faith in Action Campaign Giving Card on page 2 of this edition of The Mike. Feel free to print it, cut it out, and either mail it to the parish office or place it in an envelope and drop it in the offering plate on Sunday.

Blessings,

Dan+

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

From the Rector	1
Birthdays & Anniversaries	2
Treasurer's Corner	2
From the Vestry	3
Meet Our Seminarian	4
Community Outreach	5
Calendar	6

Vacation

Summer is the time for vacations. I will be taking three weeks off to have a family vacation of my own. I will be traveling to St. Louis and then continuing on to Holland, Michigan, for some days by the lake. My parents, sister and brother-in-law, and my niece and nephew will all be together. I can't wait to spend time relaxing, reading, resting, feasting, and generally just having a good time with family. I then return to Los Angeles where I will be continuing my resting, reading, relaxing, feasting and having a generally good time with my close friends.

During my time away St. Michael's will welcome back two priests who have served at our altar before: The Rev. Jay Young and the Rev. Canon Mark Shier. Rev. Young is the Episcopal Chaplain at Harvard Westlake. He is excited to return to St. Michael's for one Sunday to preach and preside. Father Mark is certainly no stranger to St. Michael's. Having served as our supply priest during the rector search and transition time, he is excited to return for two Sundays.

I will look forward to returning to the parish after my vacation is complete refreshed and ready to begin the new program year!

Father Dan

Read the MIKE Online! All you do is go to the website, www.stmikessc.org, and click on "THE MIKE ONLINE." Back issues are available there as well.

July Birthdays

Day	Name
1	Kathryn Argall
3	Aidan McCarthy
5	Melissa Basta
9	Karen Andrews Peggy Cochrane Caleb Fox
10	Paris Carney Lillian Raesler
12	William Hendley
15	Milena Mooradian
16	Gabriel Diaz-Jones
20	Lakin Skillman Tate Skillman
23	Eileen Carhart Porter Roderiguez
30	Anne Stenquist Bailey Robertson
31	Sue Harris

August Birthdays

Day	Name
1	Daniel Justin
2	Alexa Roman
3	Alex Morales
4	DJ Fuller
9	Denise Schwartz
12	Rachel Albert-Hendley Rebecca Albert-Hendley
16	Elizabeth Bartolomea Bob Postma
17	Ethan Friedman
18	Jaida Adams
20	Preston Lucy
21	Harmony Roche
23	Max Jacob
27	Robin Prybil Clinton Leupp Monie Wright
28	Ryan Prybil
29	Len Thompson
31	Johan Agerbeek Betsy Hailey

July Anniversaries

Day	Name
6	Jack & Barbara Beckner
26	Nick & Sharon Renton
30	Rafael Arias & Clinton Leupp

August Anniversaries

Day	Name
14	Cliff & Joan Dektar

Should you be listed here? Or, if you wish to leave your birthday or anniversary unpublished, give the church office a call or e-mail (administrator@stmikessc.org) to let us know. *Please Note: Birthdays and Anniversaries will be celebrated on the last Sunday of each month.*

Treasurer's Corner

May 2012—Revenue and Expense Summary

	May Actual	May Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Total Revenue	\$ 29,386	\$ 30,173	\$ 142,093	\$ 141,981
Total Expense	24,399	29,174	161,414	165,474
Net	\$ 4,987	\$ 999	(\$ 19,321)	(\$ 23,493)

St. Michael & All Angels Faith in Action Campaign

Name _____

Trusting in God, I'm / we're putting my / our faith in action by donating

\$ _____

toward the St. Michael's Ministry Center.

Please complete one of the following:

_____ My/our donation will be made in one payment by December 31, 2012.

_____ My/our donation will be made in _____ payments by December 31, 2013.

Signed _____ Date _____

Thank you for your generous support of the St. Michael's Ministry Center!

Please return by August 15, 2012.



We're growing! That's the good news...something we have wanted and prayed for during the last several years.

We're growing spiritually through Father Dan's sermons, our worship services, Adult Ed classes, and through our involvement in community ministries. We're growing in numbers, with over 30 new people joining our worship in the past several months. We're growing in the clarity of our ministry vision through discussions with Father Dan and each other. We're growing in financial stability as we have reduced our annual deficit to almost zero, something that until recently we thought was almost impossible.

But growth involves change, and that's not always easy. Sometimes it's downright difficult. We like things the way they are; it's usually more comfortable that way. New people? New ideas? New programs? That's exciting, but it also may require that we rethink how we have done things, and maybe make some difficult choices.

As the Vestry considers the issues presented to us by our growth opportunities, we want to pledge to you that the decisions we make will be a result of:

- Prayerful reflection
- Significant discussion about the pros and cons
- Input from the parish, and

- A commitment to our primary values: radical inclusiveness and Christ-centeredness.

As we grow, we continue to solicit your prayerful support. Through the past several years of change, our parish has been united and strong. The Vestry has placed great emphasis on clear and constant communication with the parish about what was happening, the issues we faced and the reasons behind decisions that were made. The parish responded with understanding, support and their prayers on our behalf.

God has blessed us abundantly and continues to do so. We continue to trust in God's goodness and look to him to guide and lead us in the way we should go.

Acolytes

By the Reverend Dan Justin

Have you ever thought about getting more involved on Sunday mornings? Ever wondered what you would look like in a white robe? Well now might be the time. St. Michael's is recruiting more acolytes. The ministry of acolytes has always been an important part of the liturgy. The first mention of this role in the worship of the church dates all the way back to the third century in 251. Until 1972, according the *Oxford Dictionary of the Christian Church*, acolytes were the second rank of four Minor Orders of ministry. The others being doorkeepers, lectors, and—interestingly enough—exorcists.

Today the ministry of acolytes is often completed by younger members of the church. It is a wonderful way for teens to be involved in the life of the church and to learn more about the worship of the church. But the ministry of acolyte is not restricted to young people. When I joined the Episcopal Church at the age of thirty-three I immediately began serving as an acolyte in my parish.

Acolytes serve during worship in a variety of ways. They assist the priest in both preparing and clearing the

altar during the Eucharist. At 10:30 am services acolytes carry the cross, the torches (candles), they participate in the Gospel Procession, and assist with preparing the altar rail for people to be able come forward and kneel at communion.

We have a wonderful group of young people serving as acolytes. But we do not have enough to cover all our services without wearing them out! I would love to see the acolyte ministry here at St. Michael's begin to grow and include both youth and adult volunteers. Ideally we should have three acolytes at each 10:30 am service and one acolyte at each 8:00 am service. Most people prefer to make a commitment to serve one Sunday per month. If any of this sounds exciting or interesting to you I invite you to contact me at 818.763.9193 or at rector@stmikessc.org to talk about getting you robed up! You may also see Ron Schwartz after church. And don't worry—we will provide all the training you need so you know exactly what to do! (Please note, adult acolytes may need to purchase an appropriately-fitting alb. Approximate Cost = \$130.)



Meet Our Seminarian

The new person you have been seeing up around the altar on Sundays is Katie Cadigan who just finished her first year at Yale Divinity School, and who will be helping us during worship through July.

Katie is a postulant for Holy Orders in the Diocese of Los Angeles, heading towards ordination in 2014, and ultimately hoping to be “bi-vocational”—part time priest and part time documentary filmmaker. She comes from All Saints’ Parish in Beverly Hills where she was an MC and Verger. As passionate about adult formation as she is about liturgy, Katie has been an EFM mentor (Education for Ministry) for many years and she led All Saints’ intensive catechumenate and mystagogy programs.

Since the mid-1990s Katie has been producing and directing non-fiction media. Her credits include two award-winning features on severe mental illness: *When Medicine Got it Wrong* (PBS) about parents rebelling against being blamed for causing schizophrenia and *People Say I’m Crazy* (HBO) about her brother’s struggle to recover from the disease. This summer Katie is working on a third for PBS on how America’s jails and prisons have become the largest psychiatric treatment facilities in the nation. Before moving to Los Angeles, Katie taught documentary film production part-time at Stanford University.

At Yale Katie is on a dual track, studying with the Episcopal seminary there (Berkeley Divinity School) and Yale’s Institute of Sacred Music, Worship and the Arts. For the upcoming academic year, Katie will serve as one of four interdenominational student ministers for Yale’s Marquand Chapel, charged with creating an ecumenical, contemporary liturgy each week for the school’s daily worship. The Episcopal student body also just elected her to the Berkeley Board of Trustees through 2014.

The Episcopal Church runs in Katie’s veins: her father is a priest, as was her grandfather; and her great uncle was Bishop of Missouri. She spent her early childhood in South Africa, where her parents lived out their call to social justice activism around civil rights by joining the fight against apartheid. Now, when she is not in school, Katie lives in Marina del Rey with her husband, Mark Vickers.

North Hollywood Interfaith Food Pantry

By the Reverend Dan Justin

St. Michael and All Angels has always been a church that places a strong emphasis on serving others. One of our primary outreach partners is the North Hollywood Interfaith Food Pantry (NHIFP). Our parish is one of the five founders of this organization. We have worked with NHIFP since the very beginning. Each Sunday we collect food, bringing it forward to the altar as a part of our offerings and oblations we give to God, we bless that food, and send it out. Each week faithful volunteers bag the food you bring and deliver it to NHIFP. We also collect cash donations each week and send those on to the pantry as well. This is important work. But like anything we do on a weekly basis, we can get used to it. We bring food to the altar every week. It has become part of what we expect to see on Sunday morning. For that reason I wanted to focus on it a little to remind us of just how important this ministry really is.

Did you know that the NHIFP fed 1,878 people in month of May? Since January of 2012 NHIFP has fed 9,587 people. The need for food assistance in our community is tremendous. And one might think that we are primarily feeding unhoused people. But that assumption is actually incorrect. The majority of people coming to the NHIFP for food assistance are not unhoused but rather unemployed people who cannot provide food for their families. The second largest group of people needing food assistance is senior citizens who do not receive enough income to pay for food. The third largest group needing help is the unhoused members of our community. Here are the numbers of people served in each category for the month of May and for the year so far:

Category Served	May	Year to Date
Unemployed	834	4,140
Senior Citizens	267	1,331
Homeless Adults	208	1,191
Food Stamps	131	593
Public Assistance	103	431
Underemployed	86	490
Homeless Children	19	87
Disabled	3	46

I provide these numbers as a way to bring before you the great need that exists right here in the San Fernando Valley. And as a reminder that St. Michael and All Angels can make a tangible difference in our community by providing food for people from all walks of life who need help. Jesus calls us to the ministry of feeding the hungry. How can we not give more? I once again invite you to bring food on Sunday mornings to be delivered to the NHIFP. It is such an easy thing to do. Thank you for your generosity.



Summer Potluck Pool Parties

We're happy to announce that we have two potluck pool parties planned this year:

Sunday, August 5th, from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m.
Home of Peter Juzwiak and Don DeRose
4109 Shadyglade Avenue
Studio City, CA 91604

Sunday, September 16th, from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m.
Home of Betsy Hailey
11747 Canton Place
Studio City, CA 91604

Please mark your calendars and join us for some fun in the sun. Invite a friend. Bring your favorite potluck dish for everyone to share.

We look forward to seeing you there!

St. Michael's Community Outreach Projects presents



Saturday
JULY 14
8:00 pm

A benefit for
**Somaly Mam
Foundation**



Featuring performances by
Nancy Pimental
Michael X. Ferraro
Betsy Meiman
John Henson
Anna Lotto
Jon Kinnally
Laura House
Jimmy Dore
Michael Oosteram
Zachary Barton
Emily Cutler
Valerie Watson
Jane Edith Wilson
plus more surprises!

Proceeds from our
farewell show go to
support this great group
combating the scourge
of international sex
trafficking.



St. Michael's & All Angels Church
3646 Coldwater Canyon Blvd
Studio City, CA 91406
Just south of Ventura Blvd.

\$10
Donation

Helping Our Sponsored Family

By Jane Wilson

St. Michael's Community Outreach Projects has been sponsoring a family, a single mom and six kids, for the past 20 months. They came to us because three of the children in the family were being treated for PTSD/trauma survival at Children's Hospital, Los Angeles. Their case worker noted that the kids all needed new shoes and maybe some groceries. That was the beginning of our relationship with this wonderful family. As time has worn on we have fallen in love with this special mom and her family.

In the past few months it became clear that where they were living in South Central was not just cramped, filthy (a one-bedroom with no heat or hot water for seven people!), inconvenient, and not conducive to finding meaningful employment for the mom, but also very dangerous to this entire family... too many gangs and too much crime. Anyway, we resolved to find them a new place to live and thus give these kids who have been through so much a place to thrive and also increase mom's employment opportunities. We accomplished this, moving them on June 1 into a very nice apartment in Van Nuys.

This mom was brought here from Mexico when she was 14 (meaning she can now take advantage of President Obama's new proposal for the Dreamers!). At 14 she was put straight to work (even though she begged to go to school) and within a year she had been pawned off to an older, very abusive man and was having kids and living in terror. When she made her escape from him, she lived in a car for six months... all the while getting her older kids to school each and every day, while watching two toddlers and a newborn and cleaning houses. I tell her all the time she is my hero.

Her new rent is \$1,250. She can make \$700 of this rent until she gets her housecleaning business up to speed. So, Gary and I resolved to augment \$7,200 over the next year, plus a deposit and a few incidentals. So, we are looking to come up with about \$9,000 total. A year from now she will take over the entire rent. Thus far we have raised \$4,500 so we are halfway to our goal. These kids are on their way—enrolled in better schools, visiting parks, and engaged in sports and the arts. This family has survived so much, let's give them that final leg-up to a truly better life. The daughter who is ten grabbed my hand the day they moved in and said, "I cannot believe this is my home!"

We cannot raise the funds through St. Michael's as U.S. tax laws prohibit the giving

of money to a church with the intent that it be given to a specific individual, and the canons of the national Episcopal Church prohibit individual parishes from co-signing on a lease. These laws are tricky, but we need to help this family in the most expedient and effectual way possible! She is in the process of opening her first bank account so I personally co-signed her lease and have been paying the rent and bills. By the middle of July checks can go directly to her, but for the time being here is how you can donate money to her.

1. Go to this page and make a donation: www.gofundme.com/ky8h8.
2. Mail a check payable to Jane Wilson and send to 5132 White Oak Avenue, Apartment #202, Encino, CA 91316.

Other ways you can help:

1. Hire the mom to clean your house! She has excellent references: she charges \$20 per hour w a three-hour minimum. Casa Hermosa Cleaning Services, 323.915.3626, ask for MC; 323.799.5295 (en español), ask for Rosalva. Texting is also fine. Located in the Valley but she can travel!
2. Buy a gift cards to the following places: Ralphps, Target, McDonald's, Visa or metro rail/bus passes.

3. Drop off a grocery delivery for the family (their new place is near Victory and Van Nuys).

For more info/questions please call Jane Wilson, SMCOP team member at 818.267.4058 or email superqueerjane@yahoo.com.

Get on the Bus Thanks

By Nancy Woods

A big thank you to St. Michael's for supporting Get On The Bus again this year for the children's trip to visit their dads at the men's prison in Soledad on June 16th - the day before Father's Day. It was so special for the children to reunite and spend time with their dads. All in the parish supported this outreach program by prayers and participation. The many that brought food for breakfast, activities for the long ride, greeted the children very early Saturday morning and contributed in other ways include Alex and David, Ulysses. Kenneth, Ging and Amador, Betty, Janet, Louisa and Andre, Fr. Dan, Rocky, Michael, Mary Ann, Karen, Linda and Bea, Alexa, Bruce, Norma, Ricki, Nancy, Nicholas, Sarah, Lise, Meredith and Paul, Rebecca, Kristen, Anne, Betty, Julie, Sharell, Ron and Denise, Ed, plus Jane who made the trip on the bus with the children—just to name a few.

SoldierCare Update

by David Rosenberg

SoldierCare, one of the community outreach projects at Saint Michael's, will be hosting six to eight severely wounded Marines and soldiers for a VIP weekend in Los Angeles July 14-16.

Participants, many of them multiple amputees, are coming from all over the country, including Walter Reed Hospital, Balboa Naval Hospital, and Camp Pendleton.

Activities will include a lunch reception with Band of Brothers actors, the Dodger game first pitch and a private skybox, and a Marina harbor cruise.

We are still in need of volunteers for potential airport pickups and other last minute needs during the weekend. In addition, the project is in dire need of funds to continue the outreach beyond this year.

Anyone interested in further information, please contact David Rosenberg, SoldierCare director, at inkdrone@gmail.com.



Todd Simpson Love, left, and Tyler Southern, below



The Calendar

July 2012

Sunday Schedule

- Sunday Services are 8:00 am (no choir) and 10:30 am (with choir) in the Sanctuary.
- Adult Forum begins at 9:30 am.
- Sunday School begins at 10:30 and the children are brought into Eucharist for the Peace.
- Coffee Hour immediately follows the 10:30 am service unless otherwise noted.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Pentecost 5	2	3	4 Independence Day Parish Office closed	5	6 12:00 Fourth Quarter Luncheon	7
<i>The 77th General Convention of the Episcopal Church meets in Indianapolis July 5-12</i>						
8 Pentecost 6 12:15 PM SMCOP (YL)	9	10	11 7:00 PM Finance Committee (CO)	12	13	14 8:00 PM Lit.Up! (PH)
<i>The 77th General Convention of the Episcopal Church meets in Indianapolis July 5-12</i>						
15 Pentecost 7	16	17 7:00 PM Vestry	18	19	20	21
22 Pentecost 8	23 St. Mary Magdalene	24	25 St. James the Apostle	26	27	28
29 Pentecost 9 9:15 AM Pastoral Care Committee (FR)	30	31				

Locations:
 CO: Church Office
 CR: Choir Room
 MR: Music Room
 FR: Fireside Room
 PH: Parish Hall
 UR: Upper Room
 YL: Youth Lounge
 S: Sanctuary



The Calendar

August 2012

Sunday Schedule • *Sunday Services are 8:00 am (no choir) and 10:30 am (with choir) in the Sanctuary.*
 • *Adult Forum begins at 9:30 am.*
 • *Sunday School begins at 10:30 and the children are brought into Eucharist for the Peace.*
 • *Coffee Hour immediately follows the 10:30 am service unless otherwise noted.*

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Locations:
 CO: Church Office
 CR: Choir Room
 MR: Music Room
 FR: Fireside Room
 PH: Parish Hall
 UR: Upper Room
 YL: Youth Lounge
 S: Sanctuary

1

2

3

12:00 Fourth
 Quarter
 Luncheon

4

5 Pentecost 10

12:15 PM SMCOP (YL)
 3:00 PM Potluck Pool
 Party (Juzwiak-DeRose
 Home)

6 The
 Transfiguration

7

8

9

10

11

12 Pentecost 11

13

14

15 St. Mary
 the Virgin

7:00 PM Finance
 Committee (CO)

16

17

18

19 Pentecost 12

20

21

7:00 PM Vestry

22

23

24 St. Bartholomew
 Parish Office closed

25

26 Pentecost 13

9:15 AM Pastoral Care
 Committee (FR)

27

28

29

30

31 Parish Office closed

St. Michael and All Angels Church

3646 Coldwater Canyon Ave., Studio City, CA 91604

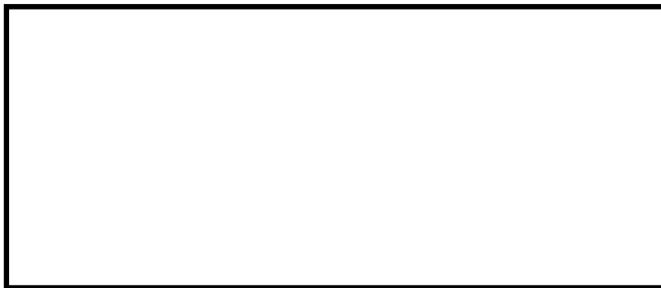
phone • 818.763.9193

fax • 818.763.2172

general e-mail • mail@stmikessc.org

web address • www.stmikessc.org

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



VESTRY

Anne Kelly, Senior Warden

David Connors, Junior Warden

Peter Juzwiak, Treasurer

Alex Morales, Clerk

Diane Collins

Sarah Cook

Betsy Hailey

Mary Ann Jacobson

Hank Meiman

Meredith Reese

Amador Rondilla

Ron Schwartz

PARISH STAFF

Rector

The Rev. Dan Justin (rector@stmikessc.org)

Parish Administrator

Duane Steadman (administrator@stmikessc.org)

Director of Music

Kristen Toedtman (kristentoedtman@gmail.com)

Organist

Emil Iliev (emil_iliev@yahoo.com)

THE MIKE STAFF

Publisher

Duane Steadman

Editor Emerita

Soni Wright

Vision Statement

We are a welcoming and evolving community of conscience engaged in the renewal of our faith by embracing diversity and encouraging growth through prayer, scholarship, social action, and artistic endeavor.

Our Mission Priority

Our mission priority is to focus on the United Nations' First Millennium Goal: To eradicate extreme hunger and poverty.