

# The Messenger

**A LETTER FROM THE RECTOR** + + + + + *The Reverend Canon Mikayla Dunfee*

15 March, 2025

Feast of Vincent de Paul and Louise de Marillac

Saturday in the first week of Lent

Dear Sweet Angels,

Peaceful Lenten tidings to you all. I hope this letter finds you sufficiently buoyed by your chosen Lenten disciplines and at peace amid the changes and chances of this life.

My friends, I feel uncharacteristically at a loss for words. Forgive me, then, for following a sort of formulaic trope and begin my last letter to you with a few words from St. Paul; for he is a much more practiced orator, whose passage from Philippians (2:12-15) is assigned for today:

“Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for God’s good pleasure.

Do all things without murmuring and arguing, so that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, in which you shine like stars in the world.”

Now, let me say—I have never expected, nor wanted, your obedience (we save that for God ) but I do really appreciate the sentiment that you are the ones working out God’s will in the world, and in doing so, you shine like the stars.

I’d like to recall some of those shining moments:

- \* Baptizing little Remi at Easter 2024. It was such a joy to fill the sanctuary with people and voices.
- \* Giggling and sharing stories with the ladies at Tea and Talk.
- \* Our rummage sale angel, buying up all of our leftover inventory at the 2024 rummage sale.
- \* Celebrating Cannon’s graduation with a special party and sermon-ette by the graduate.
- \* Celebrating the life and ministry of two St. Michael and All Angel pillars: Carol Gibbons and Don Thompson. What a gift each was to our community and what a privilege to celebrate their time with us.
- \* Starting a small-but-mighty Sunday School program!



And on a more intangible way, I have enjoyed growing into a rector with you. I am so grateful for the many ways you all have formed me as a mother and a priest. It has been your constant support—both on a personal and spiritual level—that has kept me growing and evolving. I mean—I actually like Vestry meetings, and I think I’m the only priest in The Episcopal Church who does. ☺ I love the challenge of your theological questions, and meeting your formation interests. I have had the privilege of sitting by your side through conversations about incredibly personal and tender matters—illness, injury, grief, death, and worry. These are the moments that our faith is tested; to be invited into that space is the most tremendous honor I’ve ever received. Thank you.



I came to St. Michael as a newlywed, in the latter days of a global pandemic. (Our first Christmas in Montana, as Charlie and I prepared for outdoor Xmas Eve services, we bought a dozen pop-up fire pits, and decorated a dumpster with evergreens to help make the season bright.) A ton has changed since then... we have grown and adapted far beyond what I thought we were previously capable of.

In that spirit of transformation, I want to leave you with this last sentiment written about by Paul: y’all are shining like stars in this “crooked and perverse generation,” (and let’s be honest: all generations have had their own flavor of ‘crookedness and perversion’). You shine like stars: pinpricks of glittering light in the otherwise dark sky. If I’ve said it once... you all have something special to share and give to this world. It is rare. It is bright. It is beautiful. And it is good.

Going forward, I pray you keep your reconciling spirit, your heart-forward hospitality, and your service-oriented mission! These gifts have been honed for generations, and I pray you let them be your guide through times of uncertainty going forward.

Thank you for taking a chance on me and trusting me to lead your precious church. My time serving amongst you has been one of the best moments of my career. Without your tutelage and inquiries, I would never have had the courage to step up into my new role. Thank you for loving my family—especially Ana and her many antics—as though we were your own. We all will miss you, and I will treasure my time with you forever.



In Lakota, there is no word for “Goodbye,” for nothing is ever that final. Instead, the people of the Great Plains say, “tokša ake” (dohk-sha a’kay) which means something like, “until we see each other again,” but with a tone of gratitude. I like this—it captures all that which is in my heart. So whether we see each other again on this side of the veil, or the next, tokša ake.

With love,

Mikayla Dunfee+

### *St. Michael & All Angels Intercessory Prayers*

Amanda, Becky, Ben, Bonnie, Cam & family, Cannon, Claudia, Daria, Dave, Dee, Dennis, Garrett, Gary, Gibbons family, Gwen, Joe, John & Sharon, Jordana, Judy, Kay, Kellen, Lauren, Linda & family, Lynn, Mega & family, Michael, Mike, Mike & JoAn, Nicole, Paisley, Phaelyn, Rick, Ruby, Sabrina, Sam, Steve & Barbara, Steve, Stuart, Sue, Teresa, Terry, Tom, Tom & Sandi, Vicky, and Wayne.

## Lent and Easter

# Easter

**Palm Sunday** – April 13 at 10:30 a.m.

Lenten Play will be presented

**Good Friday** – April 18<sup>th</sup> at noon

**Easter** – April 20 at 10:30 a.m.

The Rev. Pattiann Bennett will be officiating

## Easter Flowers



Potted plants for the windows in memory of, in honor of, or in celebration of a family member(s) or friends will decorate the windows for Easter. (Lilies will be on the altar.) The plants are \$10 each. Since it will be time to plant outside, plants can be taken home after services for your garden. Contact JoAnn Bristol at 254 / 722-2444 or sign-up at church. We will be putting an insert in the bulletin with the names.

## Lenten Drama

Since Lent 2020, St. Michael & All Angels has enjoyed Lenten Dramas presented by our parishioners. The first year, three Lenten Dramas taken from Six Faces of Lent by W.A. Poovey. Lent 2022, a fourth play was presented. In 2023, *Messy Messiah* was presented. In 2024, “*Barabbas – The Haunted Man*” was performed (see picture).

For 2025, another play from Six Faces has been chosen: “*Judas – The Blind Man*”. At the time of this writing, we still need one male actor. There will be only two rehearsals and no memorization. This drama will be given during the service as a reader’s theatre (scripts in hand). Please talk to John or Sharon LaBonty if you would like to be involved. Please plan to attend Palm Sunday and enjoy the play.

## Lenten Prayer

Fast from criticism, and feast on praise.  
Fast from self-pity, and feast on joy.  
Fast from ill-temper, and feast on peace.  
Fast from resentment, and feast on contentment.  
Fast from jealousy, and feast on love.  
Fast from pride, and feast on humility.  
Fast from selfishness, and feast on service.  
Fast from fear, and feast on faith.



## *A View from the Pew* – Editorial

I was impressed by Bishop Budde's sermon during the Inauguration Church Service, but after I read the attached, I became a big fan. For those of you who don't know, in a former lifetime, I was presented a Certificate of Recognition for Outstanding HIV Prevention Work in December 1995 by then Governor Marc Racicot. I did many presentations in schools, churches, and to community groups. (You might ask me how I got over my fear of public speaking during this time.) I was also elected the first hetro community chair of the Montana State Planning Group for HIV Prevention.

In case you don't remember: Matthew Shepard was a young man who was murdered in Wyoming just because he was gay. Which brings me to note that June is PRIDE MONTH.

St. Michael & All Angels proudly proclaims, "All Are Welcome – No Exceptions". To me, that is one of the best reasons to be an Angel and Episcopalian.



## *Op Ed* – Kathy Hawkins



### Christmas Wreaths 2024 – New Bows

I had decided to make new bows for the wreaths, the old ones were well worn. I usually jump in and get my creative endeavors done long before needed. I had finished two bows the color them Gold and Red with some sparkles and bling done with the wired ribbon. They had been set aside and finishing the last two bows was on my "to do" list. As it turned out I had not started the last two Christmas bows when Carol Gibbons passed. Her daughters Lois and Laurel had created breathtakingly beautiful vases of tall white silk flowers with delicate gold bows for Carol's funeral. The bows were also on the pew ends. I overheard them as I was taking care of Altar Guild duties that they hoped that the church would put the ribbons to good use. Pictured are two of the four ribbons. Marked are the delicate gold ribbons that I added red sparkle to. I hope the Gibbons family approve of the bows and know they will honor Carol on future Christmas wreaths.

*Op Ed* – Becky Gray

After church service on Sunday March 2nd, we had our first class on Death. I thought it would be a very matter of fact detail-oriented discussion or very sad. But it was neither of those.

Instead, it was a lively discussion, filled with lots of ideas and interest. It felt to me like a way to release those who have gone on before me, and also ideas of ways to help my family to let go of me, when my time comes, that is indeed a very hopeful goal.

Thanks Mikayla

## Death By Becky Gray

And so two friends must part  
It seems so sad to be.  
For one must give up all  
For the other to be free.  
While the two are together  
Although, they are seen as one.  
There is a constant battle,  
But I know the war was won.  
Before there was a beginning  
And after the two must part,  
The side that will be gaining  
is the deeply feeling heart.

In a dark autumn forest  
There is a gathering of eyes.  
They look upon the one  
As in the still coldness he lies.  
The gathering crowd believes

They are seeing two.  
But I am far up in the trees  
I'm looking down at you.  
And still I am , as I watch,  
The crowd, they turn their heads,  
In silence they all walk  
Believing I am dead.

I am free from all

For the first time , alive with only thoughts,  
And the part of me that held me down

Is forever lost.

I know some day, you'll understand  
What I'm telling you.

That you and yourself are friends as one  
But only free when two.

## *State of the Diocese and/or National Church*

*Reprinted from an article on Episcopal Diocese of Montana on Facebook, written by Gary Waddingham.  
March 15, 2025.*

At the regular meeting yesterday of the Bishop Fox Company we voted to send \$20,000 to Episcopal Relief and Development. It is to be split between the Diocese of Jerusalem and the Anglican Church in the Sudan. The old guy running the meeting reminded the able and generous board members that when the Apostle to the Gentiles, St. Paul, negotiated with St. Peter and others for the entry of gentiles into the church, Peter asked for help for the needy brothers and sisters in Jerusalem. It seems appropriate to keep doing that.

The Christians of the Sudan have been systematically murdered by the Muslim government (which pains a liberal like me in particular to even say) and they have asked us “not to be forgotten.” Once at General Convention I went to hear the Primate of the Sudan but I was late. I saw him come across the lobby and he saw me. He bowed to me and of course I bowed back. I don't know whether he thought me a bishop or something but I have never forgotten that.

The current government wants us to forget helping the rest of the world through USAID. We refuse.



## Public Policy and Witness Weekly Prayers – Prayers for the week of March 16-22

If the Lord had not been my help,  
my soul would soon have lived in the land of silence.  
When I thought, “My foot is slipping,”  
your steadfast love, O Lord, held me up.  
When the cares of my heart are many,  
your consolations cheer my soul. (Psalm 94:17-19)

We invite you to join us as we share new prayers each week for the vulnerable among us facing challenges, fears, and threats. We will name many of the harms unfolding around us and acknowledge what is being erased, lost, and threatened.

We are one church united in prayer, naming reality in the face of lies, creating space for grief in the face of denial, and freeing space in our souls for hope. We gather to be the body of Christ for one another – bearing one another’s burdens – and pointing the world to the cross and its redemptive power already at work through our witness (even when it may not feel like it).

These prayers are not a replacement for action; they offer grounding and space to discern what actions each of us feel compelled to take. We may feel called to meet with or contact our elected officials, participate in community organizing, provide services to those in our communities, or join in protests or acts of civil disobedience.

As a church, our advocacy continues, and we invite you to join us. The Episcopal Public Policy Network has weekly action alerts, resources, webinars, and trainings.

### **Prayer for Peace in the Holy Land**

Most merciful God, we mourn the renewed violence in the Israel-Hamas war, where more than 400 men, women, and children were killed this week in Gaza by Israeli airstrikes. We lament the demise of hope that the ceasefire would hold. We weep with those who weep and mourn with those who mourn in the face of renewed death and destruction. We pray for the fearless people working at the al-Ahli Hospital. Send your comforting presence to be among your children in the Holy Land, and send your spirit of wisdom and courage to those there and around the world who continue to push for a just, lasting peace. Amen

### **Prayer for Good Governance**

Rock of our salvation, we raise to you our concerns that the foundations of our democratic republic are being attacked and disregarded. We pray for the safety of judges, and we pray for all in government to respect the rule of law, a foundation of our democracy. Help us remember that fundamental principles like government checks and balances bolster the human rights of all. May all those in power remember their duty to uphold the principles that contribute to the pursuit of justice, equity, and protection from harm. Amen.

### **Prayer for the Most Vulnerable in Schools**

God, Source of all wisdom, we pray for your blessing over our nation’s schools. Be with students who have disabilities and with low-income students as we lament the additional challenges they will face resulting from the weakening of the Department of Education. Strengthen and comfort them, their teachers, and their caregivers. Amen

### Prayer for United States Institute of Peace

Heavenly God, we lament the trauma and fear in which many civil servants are living. Today, we especially name the U.S. Institute of Peace, whose office space was forcefully entered by the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE). We pray for their mission to prevent and resolve violence conflicts, promote post-conflict stability and development, and increase peacebuilding capacity, tools, and intellectual capital worldwide. Help your church be a source of comfort and support for them. Amen

### Prayer for South Sudan

Holy God, we lament the harm caused to siblings across the globe by the disruptions and cancellations of U.S. foreign aid spending. This week, we especially name South Sudan, where violence and hunger threaten millions. While we may not be able to resolve conflicts alone, we lament the pain and hardship in those countries caused by U.S. policy decisions. We pray for you to work through our hands and those of others to provide for those in need. Amen

### Bible Cryptogram by Dee Nance

*In these puzzles one letter stands for another. In this sample BIBLE, X stands for B, T for I, P for L and B for E (XTXPB). Single letters, apostrophes, and length of word are all hints. Code letters are different in each puzzle.*

Clue: X = A

OH CUMPP XEB QEAV UKXU M XM LAB

- DCXPY 46:10

### *Vestry Views* – Jim Pettit

As we all know, Mikayla's last day with us was the next to last Sunday in March, also potluck. She and Ana and Charlie will be moving to Ohio, where each of them will lead their own church (not yet for Ana, though). The vestry has been discussing options for the future. We all think that Mikayla's presence with us was a onetime thing. The fact that she and Charlie lived in Whitefish and that she had a three-quarter time position with the Diocese as the Canon to the Ordinary allowed her to come to be with us as a quarter time priest. The new Canon to the Ordinary, I think, lives in Helena. Except for All Saints Episcopal Church, which will soon have a vacancy, it seems that the other churches in the Flathead have found priests of a more permanent nature. That means that there may be priests available to do supply work for us here at Saint Michael's. We will be working with the diocese to see what opportunities may present themselves. That leaves a lot of opportunity for Morning Prayer to be led by laypeople. Many thanks to Nikki Meyer, Lisa Priller, Becky Gray, Jed McCurry, and JoAnn Bristol for stepping up and being prepared to lead Morning Prayer. And thank you to all of you in the congregation who will continue to come to Saint Michael and support our fellow parishioners while we find our way forward.

*Note from the Editor: After I got this article, I sent a note to Jim with the following question: When you say "we all think that Mikayla's presence with us was a one-time thing", what do you mean? I was confused. Do you mean it's not something we can count on having again since Whitefish will probably not hire married priests again? Jim's response was, "I guess I was saying that the likelihood of the Canon to the Ordinary being located so close to us is unlikely in the future. So ¾ time with the diocese and ¼ time with us was just a gift."*

## St. Michael & All Angels Episcopal Church Vestry

Senior Warden: Jim Pettit  
 Junior Warden: Art Walters  
 Treasurer: JoAn Cuffe  
 Secretary: Becky Grey  
 Members at Large:  
 John LaBonty and Lisa Priller  
 Priest-in-Charge:  
 The Rev. Canon Mikayla Dunfee



Everyone welcome to attend Vestry meetings.

### *Treasurer's Report* – JoAn H. Cuffe

#### FINANCIAL SUMMARY FOR YEAR 2024 January 26, 2025

INCOME FOR OPERATION: \$ 26,354.22

EXPENSES:

Wages	\$ 17,152.26	
Assessment	\$ 4,407.00	
Utilities	\$ 4,474.78	(water, electric, phone, propane)
Insurance	\$ 1,658.75	
Convention	No Cost*	
Advertising	\$ 675.25	
Printed Material	\$ 667.14	(Forward, bulletins)
Newsletter	No Cost**	
Supplies	\$ 699.41	(Montana Market, palms, binders, Sunday School)
Taxes	\$ 258.00	(sidewalks, city lights, etc. Makayla's W2)
License	\$ 165.00	(copyright)

TOTAL EXPENSES: \$ 30,139.00

ACCOUNT BALANCES (as of 12/31/2024):

Operating	\$ 2,799.28	
Savings	\$ 7,085.57	(\$2,500.00 transferred to operating account)
Building	\$ 5,595.65	(used \$1,674.55 plumbing; \$4,800 sidewalk repair)
Discretionary	\$ 271.04	
ERD	\$ 578.00	
Wood Bank	\$ 4,029.09	
Raymond James	\$ 7,773.25	

\*Delegates paid all their expenses and fees. \*\* Printing and postage were paid by two parishioners.



## Update from the Tobacco Valley Food Pantry – Ethel White



John LaBonty, Eureka Community Players' President presents Ethel White, Tobacco Valley Food Pantry Chair a check from the Fall play's Sunday box office intake which was matched by Town Pump.

The Board has appointed 4 new members and changed the meetings to every other month on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday at 2:30, held at the community room at Ksanka Apartments. The meetings are open to anyone interested.

We have served more households with food insecurity. Traditionally, our households consist of 1 or 2 individuals. Since the first of this year, households have increased to 5, 6, 7 – all with children and one person working. That indicates the increase in the cost of living for our friends and neighbors in our area.

We are very thankful for the proceeds from the Tobacco Valley Thrift Store because that money is used to purchase the food we distribute. We are grateful for donations of gently used donated items and the customers shopping at the Thrift Store. If you would like a tour of the food pantry, contact me. Thank you.

### Thank You

- Everyone who submitted articles and/or photos to make this newsletter possible: Dee, Kathy, Jim, Ethel, Jeanne, Shari, Pattiann, Margaret, JoAn, and Mikayla. Thank you so much!

**WEBSITE**  
stmichaeleureka.com

### Purpose Statement

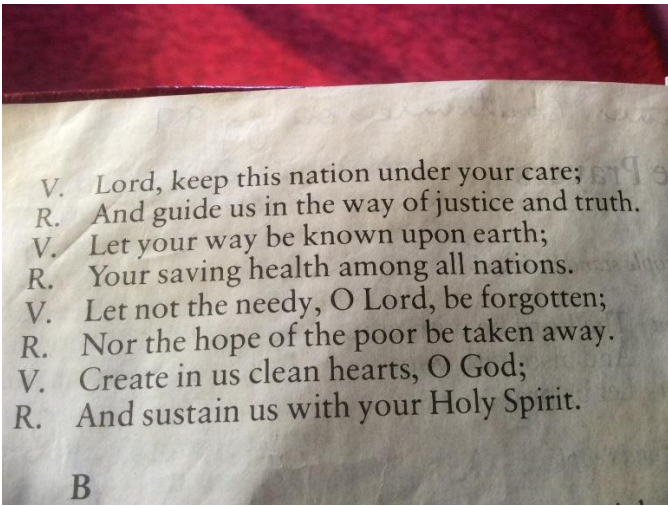
*The purpose of "The Messenger" is to be in contact with all the members and friends of St. Michael & All Angels, near and far. That they may be involved and informed about the ministry, services, activities and opportunities.*

#### Staff

Sharon LaBonty – Editor  
 Rev. Canon Mikayla Dunfee      Rev. Pattiann Bennett  
 Jenny Bartlett      Jeanne Jankovsky  
 JoAnn Bristol      Jim Pettit  
 Dee Nance – Proof Reader

### Birthdays / Anniversaries

April		May		June	
Holly Clark	3	Jedidiah McCurry	6	Garrett Graves	2
Charlie Knuth	11	Jacu Barnes	9	Jeremy & Nikkie Meyer	5
Leslie Graves	12	Sam McCurry	16	Michael & Jackie Beyer	5
Larry Mullany	14	Margaret Lambie	18	Derek Trotter	14
Elizabeth Ness	15	Bruce Bennett	23	Jeremy Meyer	21
Rick Owens	16	John Ness	28	Pattiann & Bruce Bennett	30
John Cleveland	30				



Happy 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary. June 25, 2016 – Mikayla’s Ordination to the Priesthood in Eagle Butte, SD

## Upcoming Events



<- Bishop Marty Stebbins preaches during her 2024 annual visit to St. Michael & All Angels.

### Bishop’s Annual Visit

April 27, 2025

Sunday after Easter

Including a celebratory coffee hour and meeting with the Vestry.



**Good Friday** – April 18<sup>th</sup> at noon



**Easter** – April 20 at 10:30 a.m. with Rev. Pattiann

# Since Last We Met



Mikayla's final sermon: "Bravery is not the absence of fear, but rather the assessment that something else is more important than fear." (FDR) Center picture: looking at a photo album put together by Dee and Shari. Right: Mikayla models a gift at farewell party.



The occasion of Vivian's 9<sup>th</sup> birthday on February 9<sup>th</sup>. Remi helps ring the bell nine times. Then the birthday girl went on a trek. The second picture is a rainy day on Camino de Santiago de Compostela. Spain and a section of the Camino Portugues. Vivian, along with mom (Nikki) and Margaret earned a certificate for trekking 101 miles! Third picture: It's great having Dee and her violin back.



Remi is a newly minted 2-year-old. ANGELS ON STAGE: Center: John Priller in "Who Can Work on a Farm" written by Becky Grey and directed by Lisa Priller. Right picture is Ethel White starring in "Sunflower Seeds". Other Angels involved were John and Sharon LaBonty who wrote and directed scenes.

An Ana Retrospective – We are going to miss this beautiful little girl!



And, her mother!

*Solution:* Be still and know that I am God. – Psalm 46:10

# What's Happening?

## Prayer Shawl Ministry



The occasion? Mary Ann Schuler and Sharon LaBonty's birthday celebration. Left to right around the table: Heather Hill (Linda's daughter-in-law) – visitor; JoAnn Bristol; Linda Hill; Becky Gray; Mary Ann; Dee Nance; Shari Nance; Jeanne Jankovsky; Stephanie Mullany; Jenny Bartlett; and Sharon.

## Soup Café – Jim Pettit

*If you can't feed a hundred, just feed one – Mother Theresa*



There's actually not much good to say about Soup Café, other than we feed the Happy Hookers very well, and the Bright Skies Daycare gets a free meal once a week for about 10 children under the age of five and two grown-ups. I've really been disappointed about the low turnout from the community this year, because I had such high hopes. We switched our day to Thursday from Wednesday so we wouldn't compete with the Senior Center, we advertised regularly in the Tobacco Valley News, placed posters on every bulletin board in town that we could find, and talked it up with people we saw on the street. Yet over the course of this winter, we only averaged about three people weekly not associated with the church who came to eat soup with us. If anyone who reads this has some advice about how we might serve the community better, please let me know. As it stands now, Soup Café for next year is unlikely.

## Wood Bank – Rev. Pattiann Bennett



### February 14<sup>th</sup> - Firewood Bank Assistance Program Freeze

The new administration has frozen payments on many federal programs, including the Firewood Bank Assistance Program. At the moment, we do not know if it will restart, or if there will be another cycle of grants for firewood banks, as Congress stipulated in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. The program was supposed to go for five years and is currently finishing its third year.

### Work Day - February 22

We've come to the end of another Wood Bank season...260+ loads (pickups and trailers) out this year... serving 95 households..

There are only a few work days left to finish sawing and splitting green logs and stack for next year...(no more loads to go out...) 😊

If you need wood and are able, or know someone who is, check out the pole yard north of town...there are tons of easy to handle, dry and green lengths 2-4' and hundreds of stove length rounds @ very very low cost...Steve wants it to go...please check out this best place to get firewood for now and all you need for next year...call Steve there @ 406 291 1540)

Thank you to the best group of volunteers in the world...every single Saturday, beginning Oct 12 to now, a hardworking, hot shot, hosting, hustling, husky, hurtling, habitual, hushed, hungry, hurling, harmonious, humble, hospitable, hooked, humorous, honoring, honest, holy, holding, hoisting, hip, high-spirited, high-minded, high end, his & hers, helpful, heaving, heated, heavy duty, hearty, healing, harvesting, heartfelt, handsome, humming, handful of humanity happily hanging out together to help keep our neighbors warm....You're the BEST...

Thank you Rick, Pat, Bruce, John, Sheila, Bill, Kim, Joel, John, Conner, Chris, Irv, Jim, Mike, Dave, Roger, Bob, Dale, Tom, Chrysalis crew, Cy, Siri, Alice, Kathie, Nancy, Martin, Anna, Steffin, Mary, Katie, Jonathan, Lara, Louis, Amy, Kevin, Dean, John, Hunter, Travis, Hunter, Annie....All volunteer sawyers, splitters, stackers & loaders.

Thank you, Billy & Lorena, Beth, Terry, Ethel, Beth's sister :), Bob, Chris & Irv and Marshall for making deliveries...

Thank you Ben for plowing..

Thank you Flanagan Family for sharing this little corner of the world with us..

Thank you, Ben P., for delivering all those logs, Marty for processing so many of them, Hwy 93 Rental for getting the excavator there and Dexter for operating it, Brandon & Josh for sawing the rest...12+ log truck loads...

Thank you to Alliance for Greenheat and the Forest Service for grants totaling \$44,475 that made so much of this possible this and last year...Thank you for each individual financial donation..

Thank you, Toni, Lorraine, Sue and Caroline, for soup and cookies...!! Thank you, Kim, for hundreds of dozens of individually wrapped cookies...!!!! Thank you, John & Sheila, for the first donuts of the days!!

The Bank wouldn't be what it is without every one of you...

The premise of the Wood Bank are Jesus' words: "Whatever you do for one of the least of these you do for me" Mt25:40...We've been in highest company all along the way...

The Wood Bank is a shining example of all that is right and good and true in the world...we are honored to be part of this...

God Bless Us Every One

March 6

From Alliance for Green Heat Newsletter

### **Trump Administration may end firewood bank funding**

Future firewood bank funding remains uncertain as the government froze payments on existing contracts, ignoring Congressionally approved funding of firewood banks. Congress voted on \$8 million over five years, in the 2021 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL). This funding is entirely consistent with using domestic energy sources and supporting a core goal of the Forest Service. AGH [Alliance for Green Heat] met with members of Congress to secure their support and help in continuing the program.

Contact your member of Congress to support firewood banks!

We urge everyone who cares about firewood banks to identify your members of congress and write to them or call them through the Capital Switchboard at (202) 224-3121.

Make sure you mention:

- Ask that funds for the US Forest Service's Firewood Bank Assistance Program be restored,
- Explain that firewood banks provide critical service to rural, low-income people,
- If you are affiliated with a firewood bank, describe what it's importance in your community is.

Thank you

### *St. Michael's Book Corner* – Jeanne Jankovsky

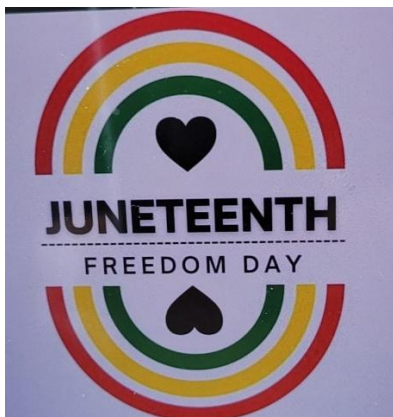
#### A Year of Biblical Womanhood by Rachel Held Evans

“How a liberated woman found herself sitting on her roof, covering her head, and calling her husband ‘master’”. She had me at the cover of her book! I could not resist exploring further; so along with Sharon, Dee, and Becky, once a week we held an informal study group led by Mikayla.

In 2010, the author decided to spend one year in the pursuit of true biblical womanhood virtues. Proverbs 31 describes the virtues of women in Old Testament times. How very different a challenge to present day Christian women. Rachel planned to spend each month trying to live out each special virtue. With her husband's support, as well as having her publisher's contract to fulfill, she writes her progress with great honesty and humor.

Her story reflects many biblical concepts, but for me, personally, it reflects the author, Rachel Held Evans, as a woman of exceptional valor.

A copy of this book might still be found in our church, kiosk or online new or used.



June 19<sup>th</sup>

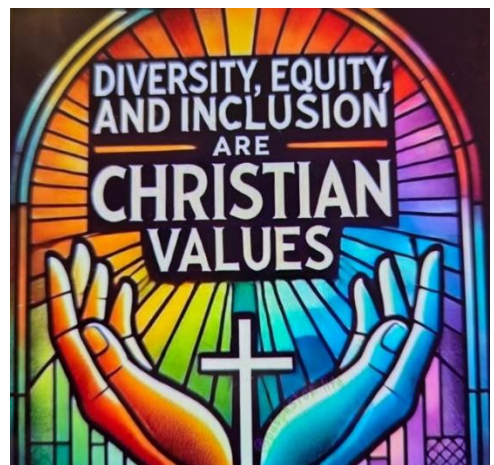
#### *Estate Planning?*

Consider including St. Michael & All Angels in your will.

#### *The Messenger Deadline*

The deadline for the next issue of *The Messenger* is June 15<sup>th</sup>. Please send any news or happenings at St. Michael or an Op Ed to Sharon or hand it to her at church. E-mail: [sharonlabonty@gmail.com](mailto:sharonlabonty@gmail.com)

**St. Michael & All Angels Episcopal  
P.O. Box 342  
Eureka, MT 59917**



FOR SALE: \$5.00 at St. Michael & All Angels

### *Ongoing Dates to Remember*

**Coffee Hour** – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday

**Vestry** – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of each month; all are welcome to attend

**Pot Luck** – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month



**Angel (Soup) Café**

Every Thursday, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.













