

**Welcome to Gifts From the Heart at
St. Michael's Episcopal Church.**

*Support a favorite charity while buying for those on
your holiday list.*

**Sunday, November 11
Through
Sunday, December 16**

2040 McRae Road
Bon Air, VA 23235

The Rev. Jeunée Godsey, Rector
The Rev. Becki Dean, Deacon

www.stmichaelsbonair.org



**St. Michael's Episcopal Church
Bon Air, Virginia
November 11, 2018**

***"Celebrate God's Beauty,
Love God's People,***

Serve God's World!"

Faithfully,
The Rev. Jeunée Godsey, Rector



ST. MICHAEL'S
— episcopal church —
CELEBRATE. LOVE. SERVE.

St. Michael's is honored to be able to offer our sixth annual "Gifts from the Heart" alternative gift fair. Because of the generosity of holiday shoppers like you who understand the power of honoring your friends with gifts that make a difference in the lives of others, our past five fairs have raised over \$ for local, national, and international charitable organizations.

I love giving "Gifts from the Heart" and those on my gift list love them too. For one thing, it makes my holiday shopping so easy! Make a list of folks that you wish to purchase gifts for at Christmas. Then come to the fair and find just the right "gift" for them. Ten charities will be represented and each has "gifts" at varying price points. For example, \$10 will purchase 20 pounds of food for animals at Houlagan's Rest animal shelter, or the outdoor enthusiast on your list will be thrilled that your gift to them from the Blue Sky Fund will help transform the lives of urban youth.

"Gifts from the Heart" brings a triple joy: To you, the giver; to the person you honor with the gift; and to the organization and people you benefit through the gift.

"Gifts from the Heart" is an outreach ministry of St. Michael's Episcopal Church. It is one way we live out our mission to "Celebrate God's Beauty, Love God's People, Serve God's World."

Thank you for joining us in Celebrating, Loving and Serving!

Upcoming Parish Events

- **Sunday, November 18**– Pie Auction
11:30 a.m. Dundas-Hatcher Hall
- **Sunday, December 2** – Advent Lessons and Carols 4:30 p.m.
- **Monday, December 24** – Christmas Eve Children's Pageant 4:00 p.m.
- **Monday, December 24** – Carols, Candlelight and Communion 10:30 p.m.
- **Monday, January 7** – Good Book Club begins for Epiphany. 50 Days of reading Romans.
- **Sunday, February 14** – Choral Evensong for the Season of Epiphany 4:30 p.m.
- **Tuesday, March 5**– Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper 5:30 p.m. Dundas-Hatcher Hall
- **Wednesday, March 6** – Ash Wednesday Services at 7 a.m., noon & 7:00 p.m.
- **April 14** – Holy Week, Services Palm Sunday, Wed, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Vigil
Sunday, April 21 - Easter Services 8:15 & 10:30am

So, what is a gift fair?

We often wonder what to give to family and friends when they really do not need any more “things.” Consider giving a lovely gesture of human kindness this year! What about food for the hungry, medicine for the sick, help for impoverished children or animals in need?

Here’s how!

- Make your gift list (who you need to shop for).
- Think of ways in which each of these people inspire you. If you know of a cause close to their heart, make a donation to the nonprofit that supports their interest.
- Attend the Gift Fair on November 11th.
- Or.... browse the catalog, fill out your order form, and send it to the St. Michaels Gifts From the Heart at the address listed on the back. You may also drop it off at the church office.
- Choose charities and purchase gifts that honor your recipient and sing to your own soul.
- We will give you a lovely card describing the gift that you can give to each person that you honor.
- We will accept cash, credit card, and/or checks payable to St. Michael’s Episcopal Church

Presto!

You’ve succeeded in thinking outside the box this year and have purchased gifts that will be meaningful for you, those who receive your gift, and most importantly the intended charity that welcomes your support.

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Gifts from the Heart Information

If you wish to participate and cannot come to activities during the Gifts from the Heart weekend: Mail order form and check to:

**St. Michael's Episcopal Church
c/o Outreach Commission
2040 McRae Road
Bon Air, Virginia 23235**



Clinique Saint E'Sprit, Port-au-Prince, Haiti, sponsored by the Catholic Diocese of Memphis, TN, sees 200 patients per day including adult and pediatric consultations, prenatal care, dental and wound care. Approximately 800 vaccinations are given every year.

When the clinic was started in 2010, it depended on foreign therapy volunteers. Today it is managed by the Medical Director, Dr. Romel Dorsaint, and includes a staff of Haitian certified therapists. Currently 20-30 patients per day receive an hour of treatment. Common diagnosis are strokes and orthopedic injuries.

www.haitimedicalmissionsofmemphis.org

- \$10 – 1 week supply of vitamins, momba & milk for a malnourished baby
- \$20 – Purchase/modify adaptive equipment for handicapped children & adults
- \$30 – 1 day's salary for a physical/speech therapist



Access Now was created in 2008 by the Richmond Academy of Medicine at the request of 10 Richmond area safety net clinics. The mission of Access Now is to coordinate free specialty medical care for those who have no health insurance, are low income, and receive primary care at area safety net clinics so that no patient goes without care for want of a willing provider. Through our program, medical specialists in the community pledge to see a certain number of patients or provide a certain number of uncompensated visits each year. In 2016, Access Now:

- Received 3,798 referral requests
- Helped 2,425 unique patients
- Coordinated 10,687 specialist appointments
- Had over 880 specialists volunteering
- Received a total reported value of donated care of more than \$3.8 million

The community impact of Access Now is providing the opportunity to improve the health of thousands of individuals living in poverty, thereby providing for healthier families and productive lives.

www.accessnow.ramdocs.org

- **\$25 provides a hearing screen for a child**
- **\$50 provides a biopsy following a suspicious mammogram**
- **\$100 provides a yearly diabetic eye exam**



Hailed as one of Richmond's "most acclaimed musical exports," the **Greater Richmond Children's Choir**, under the leadership of founding artistic director Hope Armstrong Erb, has sung in over 40 languages on four continents. GRCC is dedicated to bringing together boys and girls from diverse backgrounds to experience the joy of making music through age-appropriate vocal training and sight singing, and ultimately, to create responsible and compassionate citizens of the world. Founded in 1997 by the VCU Music Department, GRCC became its own non-profit corporation in 2006 and provides need-based scholarships to over 30% of the children ages 8-18 in five ensembles representing over 35 schools in the city of Richmond and the surrounding counties.

GRCC is recognized as one of the best choirs in the USA having been selected to perform at the national and regional conventions of the American Choral Directors Association, and has won awards in festivals in Verona Italy, Niagara Falls, and Carnegie Hall. GRCC has performed for the American Ambassador in Ghana, on the "King Biscuit Time" American blues radio show, on China TV international English-speaking channel, and with Geena Davis on national ABC-TV.

www.grcchoir.org

- **\$10 Rhythm and sight reading materials for one**
- **\$25 Sheet music for one semester for one student**
- **\$50 A10% one-year tuition scholarship.**
- **\$75 Seed money for the GRCC tour fund.**



A rescue of last resort, started after Hurricane Katrina, **Houlagans' Rest** accepts dogs and puppies facing imminent euthanasia. Focused on the value of all life, Houlagans' Rest does not take puppies while leaving mothers to die, nor do we terminate pregnancies. A rescue facility and network of nurturing fosters and gracious medical fosters, Houlagans' relies on the help of many volunteers to transform homeless dogs into loving companions.

Houlagans' Rest receives no government funding and is supported entirely through donations, adoption fees, small events, and an occasional private grant. A cadre of dedicated volunteers and supporters provide facilities, food and care for over 100 dogs. It's our privilege to help each dog and puppy find a home for life. Thank you for considering the Houlagans.

www.houlagansrest.com

- **\$10 purchases 20 lbs of food**
- **\$25 pays for diagnostic tests**
- **\$50 helps spay or neuter a dog**



ST. MICHAEL'S
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St. Michaels Feeding Ministries

St. Michael's has several outreach ministries that help our community. Our food pantry is open every Saturday morning to provide groceries to those who are in need. Once a month it provides groceries to seniors living at Monarch Woods Apartments. Rise Against Hunger (formerly Stop Hunger Now) provides meal packets all over the world for third world countries.

If the amounts listed below seem low, it is because we utilize all of our resources to serve the hungry including food from Central Virginia Food Bank, donations and volunteer labor. You can be assured your gift will stretch a long way to feed the hungry.

www.stmichaelsbonair.org

- **\$15 provides food for Monarch Woods.**
- **\$25 provides food for Friends of the Homeless.**
- **\$40 Episcopal Relief and Development for hurricane relief.**



Comfort Zone Camp, founded in Goochland, VA provides children that have experienced the death of a parent, sibling, or guardian with peer and mentor support, professional therapeutic services, and healthy coping skills in a fun and safe environment. Camp and family programs are offered **at no cost to the child or family** and are held year-round.

Comfort Zone's programs include confidence-building activities that break the emotional isolation that grief often brings.

Our mission is to empower children experiencing grief to fully realize their capacity to heal, grow, and lead more fulfilling lives. Comfort Zone is fund solely on the generosity of the community and we thank you for considering supporting our cause.

www.comfortzonecamp.org

- **\$17 provides shirts, bags, pins and more for 1 camper**
- **\$25 provides supplies for a licensed therapist to lead 8 children**
- **\$50 will create a wall of remembrance during a camp weekend**



Blue Sky Fund is a youth development non-profit that provides transformational experiences for urban youth through outdoor education. We support academic success by providing school field trips focused on the environmental sciences, and we build resiliency and character through outdoor adventure programming.

- School-based, after-school, weekend and summer programs.
- Explore the great outdoors with elementary school students, engaging them in core science requirements through field trip experiences in nature.
- Build character in middle and high school students by coaching them in outdoor adventure skills.
- Develop young leaders by bringing together a diverse set of high school students for a weeklong wilderness trip and year-round community service opportunities.
- Engage hundreds of neighborhood kids through one day expeditions providing exposure to new experiences.
- Connect urban children of all ages to the natural environments in our region.

www.blueskyfund.org

- **\$10 provides a bathing suit for a middle schooler learning to kayak**
- **\$35 provides a semester of field trips for one 3rd grader**
- **\$50 provides food for one young leader on a 5 day**



ACTS--Area Congregations Together in Service provides funds, support, and other resources to our neighbors in financial crisis, enabling them to live sustainable, self-sufficient and dignified lives. ACTS provides rent, mortgage and utility assistance and offers referrals to other appropriate agencies.

Now in its 12th year of service, ACTS has offered financial assistance to over 6,000 individuals allowing them to remain stably housed. ACTS does not offer handouts or band-aid solutions, but instead provides the appropriate amount of funding to ensure our neighbors overcome their immediate financial crisis. Each household that is referred by one of the 60 partners, including St. Michael's Episcopal Church, is fully assessed by trained staff that review budgets to ensure sustainability going forward. In 2017, ACTS assisted 310 households and offered resources to 756 others. ACTS is a channel for the compassion and generosity of individuals and faith communities that offers dignity and hope to households by preventing homelessness before it can take hold.

www.actsrva.org

- **\$5 provides hope and dignity to those in need.**
- **\$18 buys a GRTC 7 Day Pass. (\$60 provides a 30 day unlimited pass.)**
- **\$35 provides a week of gas, water or electricity**
- **\$75 provides a half-week of stable housing.**



Change the World RVA is the only organization in Richmond specifically supporting homeless high school and college students. Over 2000 students in Richmond Public Schools face housing instability and homelessness every year. In addition to helping students succeed in high school, we also support any of our students who choose to attend college, providing transportation to and from school, housing over breaks, financial support, and most importantly - encouragement.

We offer:

- Food and hygiene pantries in 3 Richmond high schools;
- Host homes and other housing support;
- After Hours, a two-day a week after school program;
- Birthday Card Brigade;
- A student lounge and food pantry at Boulevard UMC
- Field trips and college visits;
- Individual mentoring;
- Emergency transportation, bus passes, clothing, and cell phones;
- Support for the transition from high school to college and careers; and support through the college years.

www.changetheworldrva.org

- **\$10 Bus pass to school or work**
- **\$25 One month of cell phone service**
- **\$50 School clothes, athletic gear, other school expenses**
- **\$100 Stock our food pantry for 2 weeks**