



Dear Saint Michael's Community,

We are incredibly grateful for the warm welcome the Purple Knight community has extended to Dr. Richard Plumb, our 18<sup>th</sup> President. The celebration of President Plumb's Inauguration was a resounding success. From Friday's recital featuring world-renowned opera singer Sean Michael Plumb, son of President and Mary Plumb, through the ceremony and reception, the weekend was everything we had hoped it would be and more. The excitement on campus was palpable, and in the words of President Plumb, "it underscored our community's shared commitment to the transformative power of a liberal arts education rooted in values, inclusivity, and purpose." [Check out a recap video here.](#)

Together, we surpassed every goal we had for our Inauguration Challenge fundraiser:

- A member of the Class of 1983 matched \$250,000 to the Saint Michael's Fund.
- 500+ "new donors" gave, unlocking \$50,000 for the College from an anonymous donor.
- Don Dion, Jr. '76 matched 20 gifts of \$10,000 from former and current trustees above their annual giving to support enrollment and marketing efforts. Don has extended his match to 25, with the extra five gifts supporting the new outdoor track program.

We have already raised an impressive \$1.8 million in new gifts and pledges -- our highest total this early in the fiscal year in five years! This remarkable achievement reflects the community's confidence in Dr. Plumb and his vision for the College.

The future of Saint Michael's College is bright thanks to the generosity of so many. If you would like to make a gift, please visit: [engage.smcvt.edu/give](https://engage.smcvt.edu/give).

With much gratitude,

Ellen Kane  
Vice President for Institutional Advancement

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## Inauguration Recap

The Saint Michael's College Board of Trustees officially conferred the title of President upon [Richard Plumb, PhD](#), during a memorable inauguration ceremony on Saturday, October 26. Dr. Plumb began his role as the 18th President in January and formally accepted the title and symbols of office in October in front of a large audience at the McCarthy Arts Center Recital Hall. The evening before the Inauguration ceremony, President Plumb's son, Sean Michael Plumb, led an opera recital accompanied by fellow vocalist Yunga Webb, who works in the Saint Michael's Human Resources Department, and pianist Dr. Samantha Angstman. Photos and a video recap of the weekend are embedded in this [news story](#). Additional photos and videos can also be found on our [inauguration website](#).

Thank you to our corporate event sponsors making this weekend of celebration possible.



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## Last Call for SMC Legacy Families!

Multiple generations of your family have attended St. Mike's, and we want to ensure every branch of your St. Mike's family tree is recognized.

Please take a moment to fill out our [legacy family member survey](#) so we can acknowledge all the Purple Knights in your family! Questions? Email [events@smcvt.edu](mailto:events@smcvt.edu).

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## "Small School, Big Heart"

7D Brand Studio recently sat down with students, alumni, and members of the Saint Michael's campus to see how the close-knit community at St. Mike's makes a real difference in students' lives. From supportive professors to lifelong friendships, it's all about lifting each other up. Dive in and celebrate the heart of Saint Mike's with us! [Read the full piece on Seven Days here.](#)

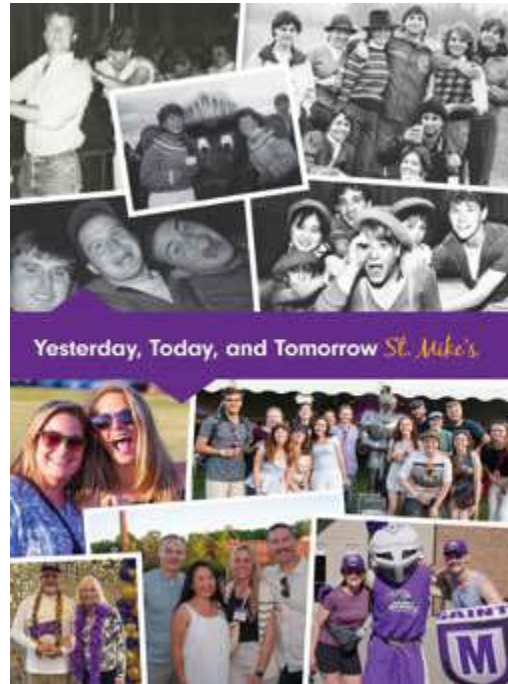
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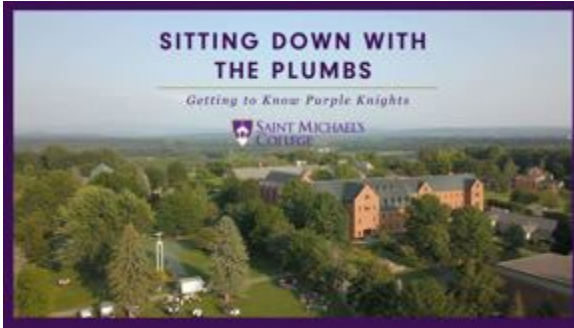
## Mark Your Calendars for Reunion 2025, June 6-8!

This year we are celebrating those classes ending in 0s and 5s. Don't miss the opportunity to revisit your best St. Mike's memories, make new ones, and catch up with classmates and the entire SMC community. Class reunion chairs will be reaching out shortly (if you haven't heard from them already) to join the committee, discuss your class gift, and help all make plans to return home for Reunion.

Additionally, Alumni of the Year Awards are presented each year at Reunion to recognize those graduates who have distinguished themselves in years of faithful service to the College to both promote SMC and live its mission. This year we are pleased to introduce a new [Alumni of the Year submission form](#) to capture nominees from reunion classes to celebrate next June and ensure that all classmates have a chance to nominate. The Alumni Board of Directors will review all nominated Purple Knights and vote on the award winners. Awardee submissions must be received by February 28, 2025.

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## Sitting Down with the Plumbs

Join us as we sit down once again with the 18th President of Saint Michael's College, Richard Plumb, and his wife, Mary, to chat about how they are connecting with Purple Knights. This is the second video in a three-part series, each set to appear in the following two PK Pulse editions.

[To view the full interview>](#)

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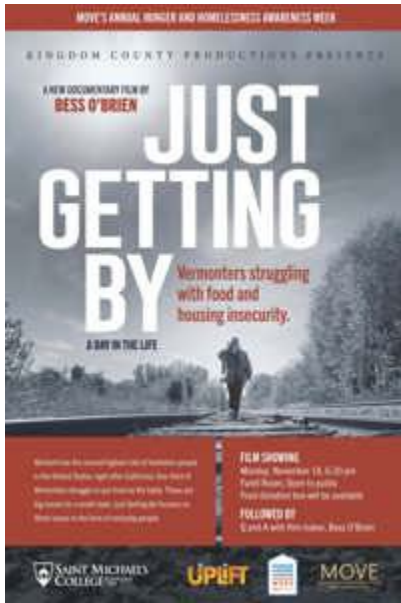
### Looking to get more involved? Consider joining the Alumni Board of Directors!

The Saint Michael's Alumni Board of Directors (ABOD) is excited to announce a rolling application process for new board members! We invite all alumni to apply for a position on the board through the following link: <https://bit.ly/SMCABOD>.

Several members complete their terms each June, allowing us to welcome new members to the team. Applications received by February 28, 2025, will be reviewed for board positions beginning with the 2025-2026 term. Interested in applying? For more details on board roles, responsibilities, bylaws, recent meeting minutes, and a list of current members, please visit the [Alumni Board of Directors | Saint Michael's College page](#). For any questions, feel free to reach out to [Stephanie Snell](#).







## MOVE News

The National Hunger & Homelessness Awareness Week is a week of programming and advocacy where people come together across the country to draw attention to the problems of hunger and homelessness. Join MOVE Monday, November 18 at 6:30pm in Farrell Room, St. Edmund's Hall, for *Just Getting By*. This “new documentary film by Bess O’Brien is a sweeping, and yet intimate look at the lives of Vermonters who are struggling with food and housing insecurity.” The film shares the stories of local Vermonters and explores the day to day challenges within our state. For more information about the film and film writer, please visit [Kingdom County Productions](http://Kingdom County Productions). We hope you’ll join us to witness this important part of Vermont.

## SMC Athletics

Three teams have highlighted a successful fall for Saint Michael's Athletics, as men's and women's soccer and women's volleyball all qualified for the Northeast-10 Conference postseason. Women's volleyball begins tournament play on Tuesday with a road match. Women's cross country sophomore Fran Peterson and first-year Jersey Miller added standout performances with top-seven finishes at the NE10 Championship and all-region honors at the NCAA East Regional Championship. Follow us online at [SMCAthletics.com](http://SMCAthletics.com)!



## Schedule of Events

In addition to the events highlighted below, we have plans in the works in a city near you! Keep an eye on our [events calendar](#) as details are confirmed. Interested in planning an event in your area? Email [events@smcvt.edu](mailto:events@smcvt.edu).

**December 4th:** Come one come all to celebrate our beloved mascot Mike the Knight's 77th birthday on December 4th in Alliot. The party will go from 12-1 pm; at 12:30, cheer on the parade that starts in Alliot and leads out to the library steps for a group picture. All are welcome and encouraged to join in on the fun and celebrate 77 of MTK!

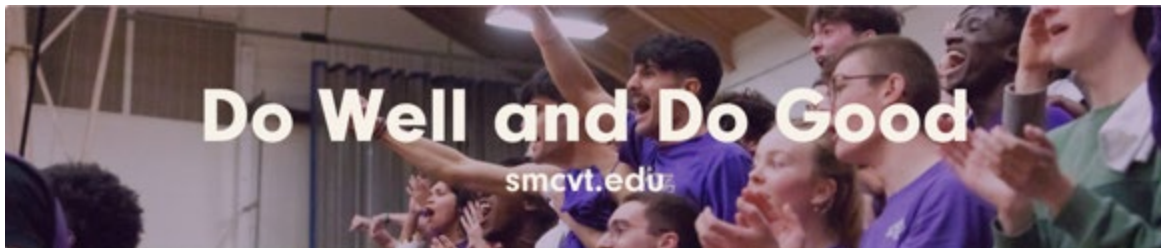
**December 5th:** Celebrate the holiday season with your North Carolina club at ZincHouse in Durham. [RSVP here!](#)

**December 7th:** SMC local alums, it's time once again for the Children's Christmas Party! Bring the kiddos for holiday crafts, refreshments, and special guests Santa and Mrs. Claus! [Register here before November 30th.](#)

**December 11th:** Join your Western Massachusetts Purple Knights at Hot Plate Brewery in Pittsfield for drinks and camaraderie! [RSVP here!](#)

**December 14th:** New Jersey Knights! Join your fellow alumni and SMC Men's Basketball team for a post-game gathering after their matchup at Georgian Court University. More details to come.

**January 5th:** It's that time of year again; St. Mike's at the Boston Bruins! Join your fellow Purple Knights as the Bruins take on the Islanders at 6pm; gathering at the Greatest Bar before the game. [Buy your tickets here!](#)



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