

Joseph Genesis 45





St. Michael

Lutheran Church

CONNECTING PEOPLE TO JESUS

WELCOME!

- ❖ **INFORMATION CENTER:** Are you interested in Bible classes, Sunday School, youth activities or our J.O.Y. Group senior adult ministry? Stop by the Information Desk in the lobby—we want to meet and help you.
- ❖ **GUEST and HANDICAP PARKING:** For your convenience, parking is located across from the main church entrance and the west entrance door (4).
- ❖ **AUTOMATIC DOORS:** Two sets of automatic doors are available. One is located on the west entrance door (4) and the other is located on the main doors (2).
- ❖ **LISTENING DEVICES** for those who have difficulty hearing the service are available at the sound booth at the back of the sanctuary.
- ❖ **TODAY'S SERMON IS AVAILABLE ONLINE**, along with prior sermons and Bible studies, at stmfw.org/sermons.
- ❖ **ONLINE GIVING IS AVAILABLE** at stmfw.org/giving.
- ❖ **WE VALUE YOUR ATTENDANCE:** Please complete a connect card or visit stmfw.org/iamhere.

St. Michael loves new parents and small children!

- ❖ **WE WELCOME CHILDREN IN WORSHIP**, but if you need it, a nursery for children under age 5 is located in Room 24B. Please ask an usher for directions.
- ❖ **THE CRY ROOM** is our lobby. Please pull up a chair so that you may watch and listen to our worship service.
- ❖ **BUDDY BAGS** are available for small children in the lobby. You may pick one up prior to service and return on your way out. Enjoy!
- ❖ **CHANGING TABLES** are located in the family and women's restrooms adjacent to the lobby.
- ❖ **CHILDREN'S CHURCH** is for children 5 and under during the sermon at the 10:45a worship.

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT
March 3, 2024
THE YEAR OF JUBILEE: SET FREE TO TELL THE STORY

WELCOME

PRESCHOOL ANTHEM 10:45a

OPPORTUNITIES

Theme of the Day: The last Old Testament character we look at in Genesis is Joseph. Although Joseph experienced some trying times even within his own family, in the end he was blessed to be a blessing to his family and many others.

INVOCATION AND CALL TO WORSHIP – Psalm 32

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: A part of our relationship with God is one of confession and forgiveness between us and God.

C: **“Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.**

P: Blessed is the one whose sin the Lord does not count against them and in whose spirit is no deceit.

C: **When I kept silent, my bones wasted away.**

P: Then I acknowledged my sin to You and did not cover up my iniquity.

C: **Therefore, let all the faithful pray to You while You may be found;**

P: You are my hiding place.

C: **Therefore, rejoice in the Lord and be glad, sing all you who are upright in heart!**

HYMN

Lord of All Hopefulness
(stanzas 1-2)

738

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM 10:45a

Cooper James Lane

Date of Birth: October 27, 2023

Parents: Jonathan and Alexis Lane

Sponsors: David Lane, Erika MacDowell

DOXOLOGY

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: God calls us to confess our wrongs toward Him and toward one another.

C: Therefore, I confess that I often sin against God and others by thought, word, and action.

P: For having my mind set on earthly things and not on things above,

C: forgive me, O Lord.

P: For being slow to listen to God,

C: forgive me, O Lord.

P: For being envious of others,

C: forgive me, O Lord.

P: For being unforgiving or unloving toward others,

C: forgive me, O Lord.

P: For expressing pride and suppressing humility,

C: forgive me, O Lord.

P: For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on me, and forgive me, O Lord.

(silence for personal confession and self-reflection)

P: Almighty God, in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. Therefore, I announce to you the forgiveness of your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

HYMN

Lord of All Hopefulness

738

(stanzas 3-4)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: O Lord, our God, we acknowledge Your great goodness toward us and praise You for the mercy and grace that our eyes have seen, our ears have heard, and our hearts have known. Guard and protect us from all dangers to body and soul. Keep us this day under Your protective care and preserve us, securely trusting in Your everlasting goodness and love, for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All: **Amen.**

FIRST READING		Genesis 45:1-15
ANTHEM 8:00a	Everywhere I Go	Women’s Choir
10:45a	Great is Thy Faithfulness	Adult Choir
GOSPEL READING		Luke 6:27-36

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

HYMN Jesus Christ My Sure Defense **741**
(stanzas 1-3)

SERMON “Forgiveness is Our Business” **Pastor Goff**
Genesis 45:1-15

NICENE CREED 8:00a

OFFERING Shine Jesus Shine **Camp Lutherhaven**

OFFERTORY

EIGHTH GRADE CONFIRMATION TESTIMONY 10:45a
Emily Peters whose confirmation verses are Psalm 77:2-3

PRAYERS

THE LORD’S PRAYER

THE CELEBRATION OF THE LORD’S SUPPER 8:00a

*If you are visiting with us this weekend,
please see our communion explanation on page 11.*

PREFACE/PROPER PREFACE

SANCTUS

WORDS OF INSTITUTION/THE PEACE OF THE LORD

AGNUS DEI

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

Amazing Grace	744
How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds	524
Be Still My Soul	752
If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee	750

POST COMMUNION (Nunc Dimittis)

BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord turn His face toward you, and give you peace.

C: Amen.

HYMN	Go My Children with My Blessing (stanzas 1-4)	922
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SILENT PRAYER

Lord, forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Amen.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT

St. Michael Lutheran Church
2131 Getz Road 46804
STMFV.ORG | 432-2033
March 2/3



LENTEN WORSHIP—now through March 20

Please join us on Wednesdays at 11:00a or 7:00p as we explore the topic of darkness including denial, disconnection, doubt, despair and deception. The light of Easter is all the brighter when you come out of the darkness.

Maundy Thursday	March 28	11:00a and 7:00p
Good Friday	March 29	11:00a and 7:00p
Easter Sunday	March 31	7:00a, 9:00a and 11:00a 9:00a and 11:00a are livestreamed

ORDER EASTER FLOWERS—through Monday, March 25

Beautify our sanctuary on Easter with your flower order in the Lobby or online at stmfv.org.



EASTER BREAKFAST—March 31 from 8:00a-11:00a

Enjoy the community at St. Michael plus biscuits and gravy, baked French Toast, scrambled eggs and fruit, all prepared by Chef Terry Hammond. A free will offering will help to cover the cost of the event. Can you help with service or cleanup? We are looking for 20 volunteers between 7:00a-12:00p. Contact celine@stmfv.org.

PURCHASE AN EASTER PIE AND SUPPORT ST. MICHAEL YOUTH!

Purchase a strawberry, key lime, or peanut butter pie, as well as a Chocolate Torte for \$25 each. Proceeds from the sale will support the youth traveling to North Carolina this summer and the 2025 National Youth Gathering. Pies will be available to pick up on Saturday, March 30, from 12:00p-12:30p and Easter Sunday from 8:00a-11:00a in the gym. Please place your order by March 15. Thank you!



COME JOIN THE FIRST EVER ST. MICHAEL "GOSPEL" CHOIR!

This group of singers will help lead worship for the 11:00a Easter Contemporary Blended service. Our repertoire includes *Christ is Risen* (Matt Maher) *My Redeemer Lives* (Reuben Morgan), *Resurrection Power*, *God so Loved* (We the Kingdom) and *Praise* (Elevation Worship) as well as more traditional hymns like *Blessed Assurance* and *I Know that My Redeemer Lives*. **We will meet to rehearse:** Sunday, March 10 from 3:00p-4:30p and Sunday, March 24 from 1:30p-3:00p. We would love to have you join us! Contact our Worship Director, Stephanie at stephanie@stmfw.org if you have any questions.

EASTER JUBILEE CELEBRATION—join us Palm Sunday, March 24

All ages, join us for this fun-filled celebration of the Easter season with activities, games, and treats for the whole family. **We will need volunteers (Jen@stmfw.org) and donations of peanut-free candy for this special event. Please drop them under the lobby shelf outside the church office! Thank you!** Adult Bible study will meet in Luther Hall.

FOUNDATION AWARD PROPOSAL REQUESTS ARE OPEN!

Submit an application for a SMLC Foundation Award! Be creative in your thinking! Perhaps you seek funding for specific Youth Group activities, a Connect Group ministry, or a Men's Ministry project. Applications are due 5:00p on April 6. Submit an explanation letter to the St. Michael Foundation in care of Ron Menze, Foundation Advisor (menzeron@gmail.com) (341-5289) or into the Foundation mail slot at church.

ACADEMY DINNER—March 9 at 6:30p / register at stmfw.org/events

Menu: Bronze chicken, garlic smashed potatoes, oven roasted vegetables, garden salad and dinner roll

Cost: \$15/adult

\$10/children 12 and under

MARCH MILESTONE BIRTHDAYS

Phyllis Brockmann, 3/12, 82; Cassandra Hebermehl, 3/18, 81; Karen Werling, 3/26, 83; Darrell Jenkins, 3/29, 92; Roger Panning, 3/30, 82. God's blessings on your birthday!

LUTHERAN LAYMANS LEAGUE ANNUAL CONVENTION—March 16

Join us at St. Michael from 9:00a-2:30p to hear our guest speaker, Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler, speaker of the Lutheran Hour®. The cost is \$20 including lunch. Registration deadline is March 5. Register to attend here: <https://stmfw.org/register>. Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler will be our guest preacher throughout the weekend and teach Bible class on Sunday! Everyone is invited to learn and energize your spirit with ways to help others know Christ!

SAVE THE DATE for VBS! Breaker Rock Beach June 17-21

At *Breaker Rock Beach VBS*, kids will be challenged as they discover that God's truth never changes, everyone needs Jesus, and learn to speak the truth in love. Adventure awaits each day as kids explore tide pools, spot orcas, fly kites, and watch the mighty waves crash up against the immovable Breaker Rock! To get a sneak peek of the music, check out: <https://vbs.lifeway.com/breaker-rock-beach-resources/>

Check out our Amazon wish list for Breaker Rock Beach 2024 at <https://tinyclub.com/3dnxafy5> or follow the QR Code. Thank you!



UPCOMING YOUTH EVENTS!

MIDDLE (4:00p-6:00p) and HIGH SCHOOL (6:00p-8:00p) Join us this SUNDAY, MARCH 3 for Youth Night! We continue our new series of Identity: Beliefs and Practices! Over the next several weeks we will take a deep dive into how our identity is shaped by what we believe and what we practice. Future Youth Nights include March 17, April 7 and April 21.

High School Food and Fellowship at Electric Works – Join us March 19 from 6:00p-8:00p for amazing food, games, and a Lenten devotion.

"**Confirmation Connect**" is a time for 8th grade students and parents to meet with DCE Emma, play games, have snacks, and get to know one another. "Connect" is every Tuesday from 3:00p - 5:30p at Union Street Market at Electric Works.

ASK THE EXPERT WORKSHOP—Thursday, May 2 at 11:30a and 6:30p

Everyone is invited to ask questions about financial planning, estate planning, updating your will, guardianship issues and more. Save the date! Our panel includes Estate Attorney Mark Witmer, Certified Financial Planner Chip Olson, Foundation Advisor Ron Menze, and Pastor Dennis Goff. Look for more details and registration coming soon!

RESPONDING TO GOD'S LOVE

Saturday, February 24 **125** Sunday, February 25 **438** Livestream **134**

WE NEED PUPPETEERS!

Have you ever wanted to become involved with something fun and creative? Are you available to practice on Thursday's from 6:30p-8:00p? Are you available to perform for VBS from 8:30a-9:30a, June 17-25? The puppets and VBS need YOU!!! No experience needed, we will train you. We are in need of 4-8 people. Text or call Amy Crow at 459-9320.

HOLY COMMUNION IN THE PEW

Would you like to receive Holy Communion in the pew? Please contact the church office, as we try to keep a running list for the Elders. Also, please mention your desire each Communion service to an usher or Elder.

ADULT BIBLE CLASSES

- **A Hebrew Perspective for Understanding the Bible** This study will examine Hebrew culture, tradition and language exploring Scripture and further understanding its meaning. Topics will include, but are not limited to, the impact of the Ancient New East practice of foot washing, the effective teaching methodology employed by Jesus, and exploration of "authority" in both the Old and New Testaments, and the people of Jesus' time (i.e., Sadducees, Orthodox Jews, Gentiles, Zealots). Location – Gym.
- **Thrive: Living Resilient and Renewed** Using the Thrive workbook, this class is designed for helping anyone have strength, recovery and resilience from any mental health difficulty or disorder.
Location – Library
- **Money and Marriage God's Way** This class is a video based Bible study from Compass Ministries. It provides insights for your marriage and your finances. Together, you will explore what God's Word says about earning, spending, giving, debt reduction, and investing. You'll also discover how to communicate more effectively and resolve conflict. Location – Conference Room
- **Creative Faith** with Jen Clendenen and Anna Davis Location – Room 13

BRIDGE MINISTRY NEWS!

The Bridge Ministry is working towards helping young adults connect deeper into God's Word and to each other. One of those ways is by setting up a monthly time, place, and space to gather young adults from St. Michael, Emmanuel, and the community. We were blessed to find the Upper Room at Electric Works' GE Club that we were able to rent at a discounted rate. This past Sunday we had 17 people who gathered as we talked about Kairos moments, John 5, and played games. We are hoping to have these gatherings monthly in the Upper Room (at the GE Club). The next one will be Sunday, March 25 from 4:00p-6:00p. If you know someone who might be interested, feel free to pass along the information or let Pastor Shawn know and he will personally invite them.

CHRISTIAN FOUNDATIONS (5 WEEKS) – BEGINNING THIS SUNDAY!

This class is designed for those who are new to the Christian faith, new to the Lutheran church, or anyone who would like to renew some basic and foundational topics we confess and practice in the Christian faith. Location – Luther Hall

GRIEFSHARE (13 weeks) – BEGINNING MARCH 5

You will learn helpful ways of coping with grief, in all its unpredictability—and gain solid support each step of the way. Join us Tuesday evenings, March 5-May 28 from 6:30p-8:30p in Luther Hall. Contact Robert and Rebecca Boyd with questions at (863) 409-4520 or bb4bboyd@gmail.com.

PLAN TO JOIN US AT A TOWN HALL MEETING!

We want all members of St. Michael to have opportunities to come and learn more about the proposed changes, ask questions, and connect with one another at “town hall” style meetings. We look forward to seeing you there!

- **March 3 12:00p in Luther Hall March 12 6:30p online via Zoom**
- **March 16 6:15p in Luther Hall**

JUBILEE HISTORY DISPLAY

Check out the lobby display celebrating the inception of St. Michael with pictures, personal accounts, and items from the church's archives!

ST. MICHAEL LUTHERAN CHURCH/AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Join us in Luther Hall on Saturday March 16 from 8:00a-1:00p! The need for blood is constant and only volunteer donors can fulfill that need for patients in our community. Nationwide, someone needs a unit of blood every 2 to 3 seconds and most of us will need blood in our lifetime! [Click here to make an appointment](#) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and search sponsor code STMICFW or call 1-800-REDCROSS. Thank you for supporting this important organization!

THE CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Jesus instituted the Lord's Supper for the forgiveness of our sins and the strengthening of our faith. Our Lord invites to His table those who have been baptized, who repent of their sin, who believe Jesus Christ is their Savior, and who believe the body and blood of Jesus is really present together with the bread and wine. Anyone who is not yet instructed in the Christian faith or who has a differing belief are asked to first speak with one of the pastors. If you need communion delivered to where you are sitting, please notify an usher or elder before the service begins. Gluten free communion wafers are available by raising your index finger as communion is distributed signaling to the elder that you wish to receive a prewrapped gluten free wafer. Grape juice is available in the purple tinted cups located in the center of the tray of individual cups. Children or adults who have not yet been confirmed or instructed in the Lord's Supper are welcomed to come forward for a blessing placing their arms over their chest.

SERVING AT ST. MICHAEL this weekend

Are you able to join a worship service team? Contact Tina Hoover at 432-2033 or tina@stmfw.org.

Greeters: Damien and Valerie Hensley; Gloria Fahlsing (5p); Heather Moloney (8a);
TBD (10:45a)

Lay Readers: Adam Hahn (5p); Keith Peters (8a); Keith Peters (10:45a)

Children's Church: Kira Clendenen (10:45a)

Acolytes: James Cunningham (5p); Jacob Schult (8a); Adam Ruch (10:45a)

Information Desk: Liz Edwards (5p); Rich and Linda Kraus (8a); TBD (10:45a)

Elders: Ryan Meyer (5p); John Hein (8a); Paul Selking (10:45a)

Nursery: Emma Latin and Lexi Panning

Fellowship: Alan Geyer; Jon and Cristie Gerken

Altar Guild: Sue Baker

JOIN THE CREATIVE TEAM!

Did you enjoy the psalms and poetry that we used during our midweek Lenten services? Do you enjoy creating art, journaling, or arranging music? Do you have ideas about what we could visually display in our building or on our website to connect people to God's Word? We would love to have you join us in creative brainstorming! We will meet next on **Thursday, March 7 and March 21 at 6:00p** in the St. Michael lobby to discuss the theme of *Identity!* Please come!

PLEASE WELCOME CAMP LUTHERHAVEN, OUR PARTNER IN MINISTRY

Registration for summer camp is now open! It may feel chilly and cold right now, but the summer sun will be here before you know it! Camp Lutherhaven has so many fun activities, including boating, hiking, making crafts, and of course... Capture the Flag! These activities and so much more are available for those of all ages—from kindergarten through High School, even some for the whole family! Register online today at www.lutherhaven.org, or call for more information at 260-636-7101.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR THIS WEEK March 4-10

Monday, March 4

3:45p Grace Notes
6:00p Harmony Ringers
6:45p BSF Young Adults
7:00p Resound Rehearsal

Tuesday, March 5

1:00p Purls
1:00p J.O.Y. Bible Study
5:15p Life Team
6:30p Trustee Team Meeting
6:30p Griefshare
7:00p Praise Teams Rehearsal

Wednesday, March 6

10:30p Men's Bible Study/Wickert
11:00a Lenten Worship
1:30p Praying for Our Nation
6:30p Men/Women's Choir
7:00p Lenten Worship
8:15p Adult Choir

Thursday, March 7

10:00a J.O.Y. Board Meeting
6:00p Orchestra Rehearsal
6:16p Puppets Practice
6:30p Lower Rowers Men's Bible Study
7:00p Jubilant Fields Rehearsal

Friday, March 8

8:00p Men's Basketball

Saturday, March 9

5:00p Worship
6:30p Academy Fund Raiser

Sunday, March 10

8:00a Worship
9:30a Sunday School/Adult Bible Study
10:45a Worship with Holy Communion
2:00p Visual Faith Gathering

PRAYERS THIS WEEK

We are privileged to pray for each other. Please notify the staff on your connect card or by email if you would like your prayer needs kept private. Otherwise, we will print them in this publication on a weekly basis.

Please pray for...

- Eric Olson recovering from hip surgery.
- The family of Larry Roemer, Mike's brother, who died this week.
- Melody Schlie, godmother of Jaden Hoover, surgery on her rotator cuff.
- Katie, daughter of Paul and Darleen Buuck, hospitalized.
- Brad Benner hospitalized with a blood clot.
- Cyndi, relative of the Gould family, whose baby was stillborn.
- Audrey Meyers struggling with breathing.
- Christine Huber, friend of Candy Briney, who has pancreatic cancer.
- Doreen Muntzinger who will have cataract surgery on March 6. Pray for the doctors and nurses who will treat her.
- Our law enforcement officers and those who serve and protect us daily.
- Young families that they bring their children to church to learn and know Jesus.
- Older family members who are entering assisted living or a nursing home.

Those who continue to recover from surgery or other medical procedures

- o George Lutz – heart surgery
- o Lynnette Brink - illness
- o Julie Boze - concussion
- o Alan Claus – health issues
- o Arlene Lasley – breathing and oxygen levels
- o Rita Russell – knee replacement
- o Simone, niece of Amy Stir – rods to straighten spine
- o Noah Lee – cracked collarbone

Those who continue to struggle with cancer

- o Misty Hernandez – surgery
- o Brian Seiy
- o And all others we know suffering with cancer or treatments

Continued prayers for Derrick Minnick, Marjorie Grace and Madison Leininger, Britt and unborn child (daughter-in-law of Debbie Waldick), Wayne Scrogam, Erin Drummond (daughter of Adam and Jami Jo Hahn), John Ribar, Margaret Jones, Mike Rohrbach, Kristen Wetzell, Judy Pieper, Don and Kathy Magner, Brian Wielosinski and Mason Leininger

WEEKLY READING PLAN for MARCH 3-9, 2024

Genesis 37-50

Becoming more like Jesus – growing in His Word

This week's sermon on Joseph concluded our Old Testament characters from the book of Genesis. Our Old Testament reading covered Genesis 45:1-15, but if you want to read the whole story about the life of Joseph, read this week (or over the next few weeks) Genesis 37-50. Below are a few notes and questions to consider.

Chapter 37 | In reading this chapter, how would you describe Joseph to someone who had never met him? Why do you think Joseph behaves the way he does? Would you want him for a brother? Why or why not? If you were Jacob, why play favorites?

Chapter 39 | Not that it justifies the actions of his brothers, but quite a turn of events for Joseph since we last saw him in chapter 37 (see 39:1-2). Does Potiphar "buy" his wife's story about Joseph? Why or why not? If so, why doesn't Joseph receive the prescribed death penalty for adulterers?

Chapter 42 | No doubt Joseph was wronged years earlier by his brothers. What do you make of how he treats them when they come to him, not recognizing him as their brother – when he accuses them of being spies? When he puts them in jail? When he forces Simeon to remain in Egypt as a hostage? When he puts all their money in their sack?

Chapter 44 | In the grand scheme of things, why does Joseph place the silver cup in Benjamin's sack? Why the suspenseful delay in sending the steward after them? When accused by the steward (vv. 4-6), how do the brothers respond (vv.7-9)?

Chapter 45 | After hearing the sermon this weekend, can you relate a situation in your life to what happened to Joseph or can you relate to what the brothers did to him?

Chapter 49 | As you read through these verses, note what is said to each of Jacob's sons. What surprises you?

Chapter 50 | What impact does Jacob's death have on Joseph? On his family? What do you make of the brother's fear now that their father is gone? Did Jacob really instruct them to say what they did to Joseph?

TODAY'S SERMON OUTLINE

"Forgiveness is Our Business"

Genesis 45:1-15

Two questions to consider:

1. If someone wronged you, never apologized for it, never came back and admitted they were wrong, and you never heard from them again until many years later they unexpectedly show up, how would you handle that?"

Or,

2. What if you were the one who wronged someone else? You never apologized. You never admitted you did wrong. But, many years later, you unexpectedly run into the person you wronged. How would you handle that?

(Be sure to read the whole story of Joseph recorded in chapters 37-50.)

Different perspectives to look at this story:

- _____, who was wronged by his brothers.
- The _____ who were guilty of doing wrong to Joseph.
- Joseph's relationship with _____ which led him to say to his brothers, "You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives." (50:20)

"Everyone says forgiveness is a lovely idea, until they have something to forgive." C. S. Lewis

Consider your own personal confession and self-reflection in your relationship with _____.

Of all the things we do as a church, "Forgiveness is our _____."