



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.

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
October 1, 2023

PRESERVICE

WELCOME

OPPORTUNITIES AND GREETING

Theme of the Day: This week's reading takes us from 1 Timothy 2 through 1 Timothy 6. Today we will look at how Paul encourages Timothy, and us, to continue living out his faith by fighting the good fight.

INVOCATION AND CALL TO WORSHIP (taken from Romans 8:37-39)

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

C: **Amen.**

P: In all these things

C: **we have complete victory through him who loved us!**

P: For I am convinced that neither death, nor life,

C: **nor angels, nor heavenly rulers, nor things that are present, nor things to come,**

P: nor powers, nor height, nor depth,

All: **nor anything else in creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

HYMN

Come Thou Almighty King
(stanzas 1-2)

905

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C: **But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

(silence for personal confession and self-reflection)

P: Let us confess our sins to God our Father.

C: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P: Almighty God, in His mercy, has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. By the authority of Jesus Christ, 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

Come Thou Almighty King
(stanzas 3-4)

905

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lord God, you have called Your servants to ventures and vocations of which we cannot see the ending, by paths yet explored. Give us faith to go out with courage knowing that Your hand leads us and Your love supports us; through Jesus Christ our Lord who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

FIRST READING

1 Timothy 6:3-16

ANTHEM 8:00a
10:45a

Let Us Ever Walk With Jesus
Didn't My Lord Deliver Daniel

Resound
ESM Grade 5

GOSPEL READING

John 18:33-38

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN

Fight the Good Fight
(stanzas 1-4)

664

SERMON

Pastor Shawn

APOSTLES' CREED

OFFERING/OFFERTORY

PRAYERS/THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

PREFACE/PROPER PREFACE

SANCTUS

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE PEACE OF THE LORD

AGNUS DEI

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

Lord to You I Make Confession	608
Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness	849
Thine Forever, God of Love	687
Soul Adorn Thyself with Gladness	636
Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken	648

POST COMMUNION

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

Abide with Me
(stanzas 1-6)

878

SILENT PRAYER

Jesus, help us fight the good fight. Amen.

St. Michael Lutheran Church (LCMS)

Dennis Goff, Senior Pastor

Shawn Davis, Missional Pastor

Stephanie Maxson, Music Director

Rhonda Patterson, Communications Director

Celine Newman, Director of Belonging

Mark Neubacher, Visiting Pastor

Emma Deines, Youth Director

Tammy Bruns, Executive Director

Tina Hoover, Executive Assistant

(260) 432-2033 • www.stmfw.org

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT

St. Michael Lutheran Church
2131 Getz Road 46804
STMFW.ORG | 432-2033
September 30/October 1, 2023



IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO JOIN SUNDAY SCHOOL and ADULT BIBLE STUDY! visit the Information Center for more info

CHRISTIAN FOUNDATIONS CLASS (5 sessions)—Luther Hall

Sunday, October 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 from 9:30a-10:30a

CFC is a great class for current members as well as anyone who has not been a member at a LCMS Church and is desiring to join membership at St. Michael. Contact Celine at celine@stmfw.org to sign up.

FREED FROM DARKNESS MULTI-ARTS RETREAT—October 20/21

St. Michael is partnering with United Adoration to host a retreat designed for all creative types. At this retreat you will be given the space, the time, and spiritual care while dwelling in Christian community with others which is intended to bring you into collaboration and celebration of your gifts. You don't want to miss out on this powerful time of connection and renewal! If you or someone you know is often designing, crafting, making, writing, or imagining this retreat is for you. All ages and experience levels are encouraged to participate. See Stephanie Maxson for questions or register online at:

<https://unitedadoration.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1758970>

DISCIPLESHIP FOUNDATIONS CLASS (3 sessions)

Sunday, November 5, 12, 19 from 9:30a-10:30a

DFC is for anyone taking further steps connecting into the church. It includes current members and those joining in membership at St. Michael by transfer from another LCMS church. Join us for this three-week class where we learn more about how God uniquely designed us and how we can use those gifts and talents in His kingdom.

FALL FAMILY FUN FESTIVAL—Saturday, October 28, 6:30p-8:30p

You are invited to join us from **6:30p-8:30p in the gym and parking lot** for a night of autumn-inspired activities. Come early for worship at 5:00p and stay for the festivities! With games, hot chocolate bar, dinner, trunk or treat, and plenty of fellowship, this event promises to be a fun-filled evening for all ages. We encourage you to spread the word and invite your friends and neighbors to join us. This is a great opportunity for church members to come together and build relationships with families in our community.

Volunteers and donations will be needed to make this event a success. Contact Jen Clendenen at Jen@stmfw.org or (260)492-2996 to volunteer to decorate your trunk, help out with a game, or serve the meal. Donations needed: candy, individually packaged snacks (pretzels, popcorn, fruit snacks), apple cider, hot chocolate, hot dogs and buns, desserts.

TRUNKS NEEDED AT SHEPHERD'S HAND—October 28, 10:00a-1:00p

We also need people to set-up a trunk for a trunk-or-treat event with Shepherd's Hand. This is a great opportunity to be a part of helping Shepherd's Hand reach out in the city of Fort Wayne especially if you are providing a trunk for St. Michael's FALL FAMILY FUN FESTIVAL later that evening. To get connected or ask questions, contact Susan Hein at heinsd01@frontier.com.

GRACE NOTES HANDBELL CHOIR—STARTS October 2 from 3:45-4:45p

We have a beginning handbell choir for children from 3rd - 5th grade. There is no cost and all abilities are welcome. This is a great way to get your child started with a musical instrument. Contact Celine Newman at celine@stmfw.org for more information.

THE SHEPHERD'S HAND COMMUNITY OUTREACH CENTER

As a St. Michael partner in ministry, Shepherd's Hand is reaching out in the city by caring for the Shepherd's people, daring to be the Shepherd's hands, and sharing the Shepherd's love. To volunteer, please contact Susan Hein at heinsd01@frontier.com or 418-0725.

MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH—Sunday, October 1

We are looking forward to seeing the middle school youth (4:00-6:00p) and high school youth (6:00-8:00p) to *"Find Your Identity."* We need donations by 5:30p to fill our walking taco bar filled. If you can donate please, sign up using the QR code.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS—1st, 3rd, and 5th Sundays of the month

Middle school youth from 4:00-6:00p

High school youth from 6:00-8:00p

PARENTS OF YOUTH SEMINARS—October 1, 5:00p-6:00p in Luther Hall **"Is it too late to talk to my kid about their faith?"**

Join Celine Newman on the first Sundays of the month this fall for a Parent Seminar for those with middle school and high school youth. Celine will talk about a variety of subjects focusing on sharing faith with your students. Middle School and High

LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICES OF INDIANA (LSSI)

(The Sunday School offerings for the remainder of 2023 are going toward LSSI.)

The Cup of Kindness program offers support that keeps individuals moving toward their goals, providing a connection to the hope that lies in Christ. Through referrals from social-service agencies and Lutheran congregations, Lutheran Social Services of Indiana (LSSI) offers supportive services through case management, financial-literacy education and/or financial assistance to help families move toward financial stability. Call LSSI Works at 426-3347.

BIBLE STUDY FELLOWSHIP (BSF) FOR YOUNG ADULTS 18-35

St. Michael is hosting Young Adult BSF on Monday evenings from 6:45p-8:15p in Luther Hall. Join us for contemporary Christian music and small group discussion. Discover that the wisdom of the Bible is relevant to every age. BSF is a place to go deeper—to grow in your relationship with God as you navigate the early years of adulthood. Visit join.bsfindernational.org.

REDEMPTION HOUSE UPDATE

We will provide a meal at Wayne Street on October 1 and Fairfield Avenue on October 15. Contact Candi Luchnenko to provide a dish at 422-2061.

J.O.Y. GROUP—Thursday, October 12, Noon in Luther Hall

Join us for lunch and a guest speaker for a presentation on the history of Lutheranism in America with particular focus on the Fort Wayne area. Enjoy a luncheon prepared by members of the J.O.Y. committee that will include brats, baked beans, potato salad and topped off with an ice cream bar with favorite toppings. **RESERVE YOUR SPOT by calling Penny Pequignot at 260-580-8730 BY OCTOBER 5.** \$5 at the door, and compliments to the chefs are required.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Children 5 and under are invited to a brief, age-appropriate lesson, song, and craft during the sermon in the 10:45a service. Contact emma@stmfw.org to share interest and ask any questions.

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.

RESPONDING TO GOD'S LOVE

Attendance:	Saturday, September 23	124
	Sunday, September 24	379
	Sunday Livestream	127

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.

- **September Milestone Birthdays:** Nila Goshert, 9/8, 93; Bette Kendall, 9/8, 98; Helen McDowell, 9/14, 80; Sandy Dent, 9/16, 80; Dorothy Ecenbarger, 9/18, 95; Carol Hilkey, 9/18, 80; Belva Patterson, 9/20, 82; Bob Zinn, 9/20, 85; Bill Barlow, 9/29, 86.
- Pray for...
 - Valerie Hensley who will have testing today; pray for positive results
 - Carsyn Bruns, who is hospitalized with breathing issues
 - Audrey Meyer, recovering from pneumonia
 - Caroline Britt, who is undergoing testing in Indy for a kidney transplant. Pray for successful test results.
 - Those whose employment has been disrupted by striking. Ask that God eases the tension between employer and employee and a satisfactory agreement is reached.
 - Eden Sinak, pre-school student, recovering at home from surgery (tonsils removed). Also, pray that her anxiety lessens as she returns to school.
 - The upcoming LWML fall event, October 14, and the mite collection that weekend. Pray for many to attend and learn more about the Comfort Dog Ministry.

SERVING AT ST. MICHAEL this weekend

Are you able to join a worship service team contact Celine at Celine@stmfw.org.

Greeters:	John and Sue Baker, Mary Bear, Gloria Fahlsing (5p) Ross Fredrickson and Heather Moloney (8a) Mark and Erin Bains, Ron and Kendra Nieman(10:45a)
Lay Readers:	Mary Nichols (5p) Norma Endersby (8a) Jessica Krauter (10:45a)
Ushers:	Dave and Myra Atkins (5p) Dave Crow, Greg Caudill (8a) Dennis Brink (10:45a)
Children's Church:	Jen and Kira Clendenen (10:45a)
Acolytes:	Avery Meeks (5p) Jaden Hoover (8a) Maggie Evans (10:45a)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR THIS WEEK

Monday

3:45p Grace Notes (beginning Oct 2)

6:00p Harmony Ringers Rehearsal (8th grade to adult)

6:45p BSF Young Adults

7:00p Parables of Jesus Adult Bible Study

7:00p Resound Rehearsal (Advanced 8th grade to adult)

Tuesday

6:30p Trustee Team Meeting

7:00p Praise Teams Rehearsal

Wednesday

6:30p Men's/Women's Choir

7:00p Elders Meeting

7:00p Adult Choir

Thursday

6:00p Orchestra Practice

6:15p Puppet Practice

6:30p Men's Bible Study-John Hein

7:00p Jubilant Fields Rehearsal

Friday

5:00p ESM School Carnival

6:00p Wedding Rehearsal

8:00p Men's Basketball



Reading through the New Testament—Week 39

October 1-7

Becoming more like Jesus—growing in His Word

Luther's outline of 1 Timothy from the Lutheran Study Bible:

In chapter 1, [Paul] charges that the bishop keep true faith and love and resist the false preachers of the law who, beside Christ and the gospel, would also insist on the works of the law. In a brief summary, he comprehends the entire Christian doctrine concerning the purpose of the law and the nature of the gospel. He offers himself as an example to comfort all sinners and those with troubled conscience

In chapter 2, he charges that prayer be made for all stations of life.

In chapter 3, he describes the kind of person that bishops (Church leaders), or priests (pastors), and their wives ought to be, and also the deacons (lay leaders) and their wives. He praises those who desire to be bishops of this kind.

In chapter 4, he prophesies of false bishops and the spiritual estate which is opposed to that spoken of above, who will not be persons of that kind, but instead will forbid marriage and foods, and with their doctrines of men inculcate the very opposite of the things Paul has described.






In chapter 5, he gives orders as to how widows and young women should be looked after, and which widows are to be supported from the common funds; also how godly bishops or priests are to be held in honor, and blameworthy ones punished.

In chapter 6, he exhorts the bishops to hold fast to the pure gospel and to promulgate it by their preaching and living. They are to avoid senseless and meddlesome controversies which on raised for gaining worldly reputation and riches.

See more: Luther, Martin. *Luther's Works*. "Lectures on 1 Timothy" Volume 28. Pages 215-384. American Edition.

New Testament in a Year—September 24-30

1 Timothy 2-6

Chapter 2  3  4  6  6 

Additional Reflections from this week's reading

This week as you read, take note of the narratives or stories that stand out to you from each chapter. As you notice these stories, ask the question: What from this scripture connects with my life? Then pray: God, what are you speaking into my life through this reading?

1 Timothy 2

What connects?

Prayer:

1 Timothy 3

What connects?

Prayer:

1 Timothy 4

What connects?

Prayer:

1 Timothy 5

What connects?

Prayer:

1 Timothy 6 | See Sermon Notes

What connects?

Prayer:

Blessing the World

Part of fighting the good fight of faith is being a good neighbor (see Mark 12:28-34). But often times we aren't sure where to start or how to define our neighbors/neighborhoods because of the commuting nature of our lives—living in one community, working in another, going to school in another, and so on.

I was recently introduced to an initiative from Lutheran Hour Ministries called Hopeful Neighborhood (hopefulneighborhood.org) where the concept of narrowing your focus on who is your neighbor was connected to these definitions (knowing that we consider everyone around us our neighbors but also knowing at times we need a little more focus).

Community: the geographically localized area that is characterized by a ZIP code

Neighborhood: a geographically localized area characterized by a shared sense of boundaries among its residents where face-to-face interactions occur regularly

Thinking about who you consider neighbors, how would you define your neighborhood? Grab a piece of paper and draw out the boundaries of your neighborhood and spend time in prayer for your neighbors.

Belonging in Community

Connect Groups are a group of Christians who meet together regularly where we intentionally share in our faith walk. Connection is created through commitment and presence in fellowship, discussion, and prayer.

- Begin your time together by following up on anything that was shared during your last time together.
- Take some time to share any reflections of aha's you had from your reading.

Today, we are going to take a look at contentment. The concept of living in contentment is very countercultural. A quick internet search reveals a lot about the secular view of contentment.

Discuss which of these ideas about finding contentment seems appealing or even true to you:

Do what you love

Serve others

Be positive

Meditate

Don't compare

Live in the present

Focus on the essentials

Enjoy the simple things

Accept yourself

Be your own best friend

Set goals

Forgive yourself

Accept things you can't change

We are not meant to be content.

Some of these ideas run very close to what God's Word teaches. Many are a byproduct of being in relationship with God. Yet, on their own, they do not give the same quality of contentedness as what Christ offers to us. Perhaps you have even heard that God doesn't intend for us to be content until we are with Him in eternity. Yet, scripture points to contentedness in the here and now as key to living as Christ teaches us to live.

Read these verses. What can we learn about being content from them? Which one(s) can become a verse for you to remind yourself of when you are not in a place of contentment?

Luke 3:17-14

John 14:8

2 Corinthians 9:6-8

2 Corinthians 12:9-10

Philippians 4:4-13

1 Timothy 6:3-16

Hebrews 13:5-6

Close in prayer.

This Weekend's Sermon Outline
FIGHT THE GOOD FIGHT
1 Timothy 6:12

TRAINING SESSIONS:

~~Flee These Things:~~
1 Timothy 6:3-10

PURSUE:
1 Timothy 6:11-13

Good Confession

Jesus
John 18:37

Us
1 Timothy 6:12-16

Word

Commandments

Creeds