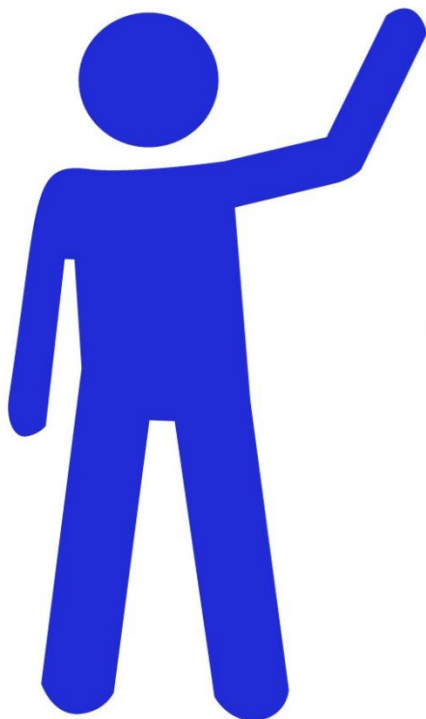


ST. MICHAEL

LUTHERAN CHURCH





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.

REFORMATION SUNDAY
“COUNT ME IN!” – WEEK ONE
October 29, 2023

WELCOME/OPPORTUNITIES/GREETING

Theme of the Day: Our New Testament reading this week covers Hebrews 8-12. Also this weekend we remember, together with the rest of the Christian church on earth, the historical event referred to as the Reformation (October 31, 1517). Here at St. Michael we are also beginning our annual stewardship focus that we are calling, “Count Me In!”

INVOCATION AND CALL TO WORSHIP – Psalm 46

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

C: Amen.

P: “God is our refuge and strength,

C: an ever-present help in times of trouble.

P: Therefore, we will not fear,

C: though the earth give way

P: and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea,

C: though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging.

P: The Lord Almighty is with us;

C: The God of Jacob is our fortress.

P: Be still and know that I am God.

C: The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.”

HYMN

Blessed Jesus, At Your Word
(stanzas 1-2)

904

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Jesus said, the most important commandment is this:

C: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength. And, love your neighbor as yourself.”

P: For the times I have failed to love You with all my heart, soul, mind, and strength,

C: forgive me, O Lord.

P: For the times I have failed to love my neighbor as myself,

C: forgive me, O Lord.

P: For the times I have not looked to You as my refuge and strength, my fortress and foundation,

C: forgive me, O Lord.

(silence for personal confession and self-reflection)

P: God has promised forgiveness of sins to those who repent and turn to Him. You are saved by God's gift of grace extended to you through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. Therefore, I announce to you today that your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

HYMN Blessed Jesus, At Your Word **904**
(stanzas 3-4)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Almighty and gracious Lord, pour out Your Holy Spirit on Your faithful people. Keep us firm and grounded in Your grace and truth, protect and deliver us in times of temptation, defend us against all enemies, and grant to Your Church Your saving peace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All: Amen.

FIRST READING		Hebrews 11:1-12, 39-40
ANTHEM 8:00a 10:45a	Steadfast Faith By Faith	Men's Choir Choir/Orchestra/Bells
GOSPEL READING		John 8:31-36

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN Before You Lord We Bow **966**
(stanzas 1-5)

SERMON "Count Me In! ... To Live by Faith"
Hebrews 11:1-12, 39-40 **Pastor Goff**

NICENE CREED

OFFERING

OFFERTORY 8:00a
10:45a

Rise Up O Men of God
O Word of God

Men's Choir
Adult Choir

PRAYERS/THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

If you are visiting, please see the explanation on page 11

PREFACE/PROPER PREFACE

SANCTUS (sung to the tune of *Ye Sons and Daughters*)

WORDS OF INSTITUTION/THE PEACE OF THE LORD

AGNUS DEI (sung to the tune of *Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus*)

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

Thy Strong Word 10:45a

Handbells

Immortal Invisible God Only Wise

802

In the Cross of Christ I Glory

427

Jesus Savior Pilot Me

715

Jesus Has Come and Brings Pleasure

533

You are the Way, through You Alone

526

POST COMMUNION (sung to the tune of *For All The Saints*)

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

A Mighty Fortress is Our God

656

SILENT PRAYER

Lord of the church, thank You for the message that flowed out of the Reformation, and ultimately from Your Word, to my life today – count me in as a part of Your church! Amen.

FALL REMINDER: Turn your clock back on Saturday, November 4!

St. Michael Lutheran Church (LCMS)

Dennis Goff, Senior Pastor

Shawn Davis, Missional Pastor

Mark Neubacher, Visiting Pastor

Stephanie Maxson, Music Director

Emma Deines, Youth Director

Rhonda Patterson, Communications Director

Tammy Bruns, Executive Director

Celine Newman, Director of Belonging

Tina Hoover, Executive Assistant



Go and Serve | Sign Up Today! November 4 at St. Michael from 9:00a-11:00a

“You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” Acts 1:8 As we look at serving the world around us and being witnesses to Christ’s compassion, we have three unique opportunities to *Bless His World* as we gather at St. Michael on November 4.



Blessing The World | Globally

Project 216 | Packing Meals

Signup at stmfw.org/goandserve

Project 216 is a non-profit humanitarian food aid organization with the mission to show God’s love by empowering our community to provide highly nutritious food to people suffering from hunger around the world. Our meals are packaged by local volunteers and delivered to those in need with the help of worldwide partners. **We need a minimum of 50 volunteers and currently have 25 sign up.**



Blessing the World | Nationally

Red Cross | Blood Drive - Sponsored by the Clendenen family

Sign up from 8:00a-1:00p at stmfw.org and click on the banner (or redcross.org or call 1-800-red-cross)



Blessing the World | Locally

Super Shots Flu Clinic (other adult immunizations available)

No appointment necessary, located in the St. Michael Conference Room

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT

St. Michael Lutheran Church
2131 Getz Road 46804
STMFV.ORG | 432-2033
October 28/29, 2023



ALL SAINTS WEEKEND

November 4/5

If you have Christian friends or relatives who died in the faith in this past year, we would like to honor them. Please email their full name and date of death to Tina@stmfv.org.

NEW MEMBER WELCOME

Sunday, November 19, at 10:45a

Please welcome our new members as they formally join the family of St. Michael. If you have been visiting and plan to transfer your membership, please contact the church office at 432-2033.

CONGREGATIONAL POTLUCK AND MEETING

Sunday, November 19 at 5:00p in the gym

Please join us for this opportunity to fellowship and participate in the business of your church including our budget review and approval! Childcare is provided. Dinner is at 5:00p and the meeting will follow.

A-F bring a main dish **G-L** bring a side

M-S bring a salad

T-Z bring a dessert

SEND US YOUR VIDEOS!

This month we would like to capture how The Church has made a difference in your life and how you, as The Church, are making a difference in the world around us. To be a part of this, please email or text a picture or short video (10 seconds or less) to Celine Newman at celine@stmfv.org or 450-7916.

SHEPHERD'S HAND BLESSING OPPORTUNITY

Shepherd's Hand will once again be hosting a Thanksgiving meal on Sunday, November 19. Instead of food donations this year, we are asking people to consider a monetary gift of \$25 to provide a blessing bag with the makings of a Thanksgiving meal for a family of 4. Please place your donations in the white Shepherd's Hand box in the lobby. We are blessed by your generosity! Deadline for donations is November 15.

MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH—October 29 and November 5

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

Middle school youth from 4:00-6:00p and High school youth from 6:00-8:00p

Join us for a Fall Party with costumes welcome! Can you provide hamburgers or a fruit tray? Sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F094FAFAF2AA4FE3-stmichaels>

Calling all 8th grade students and parents: "Connect" is a time for 8th grade students and parents to meet with DCE Intern Emma, play games, have some snacks and get to know one another. **"Connect" will be every Tuesday beginning October 31 from 3:00p-5:30p at Union Street Market at Electric Works.** Whether you are there for the whole time or just for 30 minutes, this time is set aside to build a connection and community between students, parents, and to get to know DCE Intern Emma.

HELP! We need six youth who like donuts, cookies, and service! On Saturday, November 25 at 8:30a, youth are needed to move totes with Christmas decorations, undecorate for fall, and help decorate the church for Christmas. Plan for any portion of 3 hours. To schedule, text Lisa Schaefer 409-5662 or email emma@stmfw.org. This event can be used as service hours.

PARENTS OF YOUTH FALL SEMINARS – 1ST SUNDAYS OF THE MONTH

Join Celine Newman on the first Sundays of the month this Fall (November 5, December 3) for a parent seminar. Celine will be talking about a variety of subjects focusing on sharing faith with your students. Middle School and High School parents join us from 5:00p-6:00p in Luther Hall.

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. Discover that the wisdom of the Bible is relevant to every age.

REDEMPTION HOUSE UPDATE

We will provide a meal at Wayne Street on November 5/December 17 and Fairfield Avenue on November 12/December 17. Contact Candi Luchnenko to provide a dish at 422-2061. Please join us at St. Michael on Sunday, December 3 at 4:00p, as we host the graduation for three ladies from the Redemption House. **Come and be a part of this celebration!**

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. Contact celine@stmfw.org.

HANDBELL CHOIRS

We have a beginning handbell choir for children from 3rd - 5th grade. There is no cost. All abilities are welcome in our adult handbell choirs! Contact Celine Newman at celine@stmfw.org with questions.

BOOK CLUB—Thursday, November 16 at 10:00a

Book club will meet the third Thursday of the month in the conference room. This month we are reading *West with Giraffes* by James Read. Contact Camille Blake at 409-9196 with questions.

LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICES OF INDIANA (LSSI)

Our Sunday School and Bible study offerings for the remainder of 2023 benefit LSSI. The Cup of Kindness Program, through referrals from social-service agencies and Lutheran congregations, 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.

COUNT ME IN!

Saturday, October 21	124	Sunday, October 22	515
Sunday Livestream	98		

J.O.Y. GROUP—Thursday, November 9, Noon in Luther Hall

We will be celebrating Veteran's Day with Rev. Frese, a military chaplain who serves the church at large as the Deputy Director for Church Relations for the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod. Rev. Frese will talk about his time as a chaplain in Afghanistan, and now in Fort Wayne. We will enjoy a lunch from Mission BBQ. RESERVATION DEADLINE IS NOVEMBER 2! Please note lunch is \$10.00. Reserve your spot by completing the form at the information desk and returning it to the office with your CHECK made out to St. Michael Lutheran Church referencing "JOY VETERANS". **QUESTIONS?** Call Janet Maxson at 438-7442 or Penny Pequignot at 580-8730. **SAVE THE DATE for our annual Christmas Dinner, Thursday, December 14 at noon!**

DO YOU LIKE FOOD AND REFRESHMENT?

We are looking to gather all people who are interested in helping to support and further develop St. Michael's service groups that provide food and refreshments in early November. If you would like to be a part of this conversation, please contact Celine Newman at celine@stmfw.org.

ESM UPDATE

In the coming weeks, the renovation of the school building will be complete. We will thank God for this great blessing on the weekend of November 4 and 5, with a dedication of the renovated school building in a ceremony on Sunday, November 5, at 9:15a in the sanctuary at Emmanuel. This special weekend will also include celebration meals and tours of our improved facilities. Please call the Emmanuel church office or simply click [HERE](#) to register your family for one of the celebration meals. Please register by Monday, October 30.

Grandparents Day - November 3! ESM is ONE school on TWO campuses. Our Getz Road Campus is home to Getz Preschool and Grades K-3. As we celebrate being connected to Christ (John 15:5), we give thanks for the many connections students have across generations. Grandparents Day is a chance for fun and fellowship with the extended ESM family who loves and supports these kids! Note that this year we will be welcoming **ALL grandparents of PS-8 students on the same day!**

Getz Road Campus: We will host grandparents from 9:00a-11:15a for Getz Preschool and Grades K-3. Doors open at the sanctuary at 8:35a. Coffee, juice, and a light snack will be served at the Getz Road event.

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.

- **October Milestone Birthdays:** Harry Jones, 10/2, 81; Ron Nieman, 10/2, 82; Lynn Scroggum, 10/5, 82; Mary Nichols, 10/7, 87; Linda Lewis, 10/13, 81; Otis Vincent, 10/18, 89; Ken Springer, 10/20, 81; Frank Helfrich, 10/25, 81; Tom Risk, 10/26, 81.
- **Altar Flowers:** Thank you to Emory and Susan Craver for our altar flowers! Congratulations on your 51st wedding anniversary!
- **Pray for:**
 - Stephanie Weaver who has a cancerous tumor on her appendix. Pray for those who are caring/treating her and her family.
 - Jerry Nichols who is hospitalized; pray for conclusive test results and satisfactory solutions.
 - Beth Ann Hargrove who will have foot surgery on Thursday, pray also for those who will care for her
 - Casey Lee, who received a flu shot that became toxic to her since her cancer treatment
 - Thanksgiving for Gary Gotsch's successful surgery and continued recovery
 - Israel and the people struggling to survive; the Christian martyrs in Gaza
 - God's promises to be fulfilled and his great glory to shine
 - God's blessings for Olivia and Shawn
 - Amber Afarin who recently lost her job and struggles with health issues
 - Continued prayers for Kendra Nieman, Don and Kathy Magner and Mason Leininger

SERVING AT ST. MICHAEL this weekend

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

Greeters:	Liz Edwards, Gloria Fahlsing (5p); Gary Endersby (8a) Matt and Melyssa Lennington, Beck Lutz (10:45a)
Lay Readers:	Mary Leininger (5p); Ross Fredrickson (8a); Linda Chapman (10:45a)
Ushers:	Dave and Myra Atkinson, Andrea Tarbet (5p); Dave Crow (8a) Dennis Brink, Karen Hall (10:45a) Caitlyn and Emma Stir (10:45a)
Children's Church:	
Acolytes:	Owen Bostwick (5p); Macy Hendrickson (8a); Emily Peters (10:45a)
Information Desk:	Celine Newman (5p); Rick Bruns (8a) Jan Fillmore (10:45a)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR THIS WEEK October 30-November 5

Monday, October 30

3:45p Grace Notes
6:00p Harmony Ringers
6:45p BSF Young Adults
7:00p Parables of Jesus Bible Study
7:00p Resound Rehearsal
(Advanced Grade 8-adult)

Tuesday, October 31

7:00p Praise Teams Rehearsal

Wednesday, November 1

10:30a Men's Bible Study
1:30p Praying for our Nation
6:30p Men's/Women's Choir
7:00p Adult Choir
7:00p Elders Meeting

Thursday, November 2

6:30p Orchestra Practice
7:00p ESM PTL
7:00p Faith and Friends Bible Study

Friday, November 3

9:00a ESM Grandparent's Day
8:00p Men's Basketball

Saturday, November 4

8:00a Blood Drive
9:00a Project 216 Meal Packing
9:00a Super Shot Clinic
5:00p Worship

Sunday, November 5

8:00a and 10:45a Worship
4:00p-8:00p Youth

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.



Reading through the New Testament—Week 43

October 29–November 4

Becoming more like Jesus—growing in His Word

This week's reading continues in the letter to the Hebrews. As you continue your reading of Hebrews, it should be noted that Hebrews' obvious criticisms of certain attitudes and practices of Old Testament characters do not constitute a dismissal of Old Testament faith. Instead, Hebrews attacks a false conception of faith in God that too often prevailed in Old Testament times, not the Old Testament or its message itself.






It is a false understanding of the Old Testament that the writer of Hebrews criticizes. He exposes misuse of Old Testament institutions in order to point to Christ and His ministry, which was foreshadowed in the Old Testament. Obviously, the days of animal sacrifice and high priestly ritual are things of the past now. But, while not setting the Old Testament aside, the writer of Hebrews calls his readers to ponder its message in light of God's dramatic revelation of Jesus Christ.

At the time it was written, there were Jewish Christians facing the temptation to turn away from Christianity and back to their Jewish religion. Furthermore, Christianity had been outlawed when Nero began his religious persecution. The pressure to revert to the safety of Judaism was very real and grew even more so as the persecution heated up.

Over the years since then, some have shied away from the book of Hebrews seeing it as one of the most difficult in the New Testament to comprehend. But its beauty is that it demonstrates the supremacy of Christ and presents Him as God's perfect word to man and man's perfect representative with God.

New Testament in a Year—October 29–November 4

Hebrews

Chapter 8  9  10  11  12 

Additional Reflections from this week's reading

Hebrews 8 Reflecting on vv. 7-13, what characterized the old covenant administered by the priests? How does the new covenant mediated by Jesus differ?

Hebrews 9 As you read vv. 1-10, look also at Exodus 25-31 and 35-40.

Hebrews 10 Notice the four “let us” statements in vv. 22-25. What does each one mean?

Hebrews 11 Looking at vv. 1 and 6, what verbs describe “faith”? What is the object of these verbs? Write your own definition of faith. How does v. 3 illustrate an understanding of faith?

Hebrews 12 Reflecting on vv. 1-12, what does hardship show about a person's relationship to God? How should a person respond to God when disciplined? How does Christ's discipline differ from human discipline? What benefits does discipline bring?

Blessing the World

Now faith is being sure of what we hope for, being convinced of what we do not see.
Hebrews 11:1

On November 4 we have several opportunities to share our faith with the world around us by being Christ hands and feet. Join us as we seek to connect people to Jesus in our community, nation and world by participating in our Go and Serve Event! See page 5 for all the details and sign up today!

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.

This month we will be diving into the stewardship idea of "Count Me In." As we continue our way through Hebrews we encounter chapters 10-12. These chapters talk about the reassurance and confidence we have because of Christ (Ch 10). Help us to remember those whose faith lives are shared in the Bible to give us examples of what it looks like to live lives by faith ourselves (Ch 11). And from this gives a rousing call to action that is focused on and grounded in Christ (Ch 12).

- Take a moment to look at these chapters through the lens of being called to living in faith. Share the sections are inspiring to you?

Living by faith is intended to be a call to boldness and greatness. When you hear the phrase "be bold" what comes to mind? Is it comfortable, nerve racking, burdensome, exciting?

This call to live boldly is not for ourselves, but to the Glory of Christ. It is also not meant to be an initiative or one time act. It is meant to be a part of the character of a life in Christ. How do you already do this, or what can you adjust in your life so that when people interact with you they leave impacted by the love and truth of Christ?

As you close - talk about how you can hold each other accountable to the things you talked about today and then close in prayer for each other.

THIS WEEKEND'S SERMON OUTLINE

"Count Me In! . . . To Live by Faith"

Hebrews 11:1-12, 39-40

Our ancestors . . .

D_____ of Faith

"Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see."

(11:1)

Faith is not:

1. _____ feelings
2. _____ optimism
3. _____ thinking
4. _____ belief

D_____ of Faith

- R_____

"By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going." (11:8)

"By faith Abraham, when God tested him, offered Isaac as a sacrifice. He who had embraced the promises was about to sacrifice his one and only son." (11:13)

- P_____

"By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God." (11:9-10)

"By faith these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance, admitting that they were foreigners and strangers on earth." (11:13)

Faith Makes a D_____

"Count Me In!"