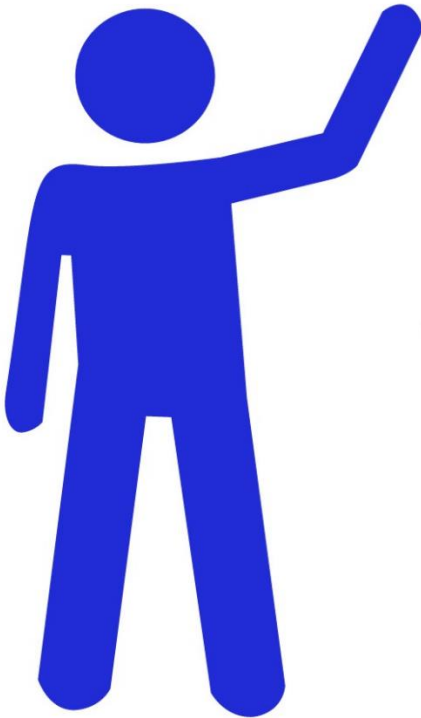


# ST. MICHAEL

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](http://stmfw.org/sermons).
- ❖ **ONLINE GIVING IS AVAILABLE** at [stmfw.org/giving](http://stmfw.org/giving).
- ❖ **WE VALUE YOUR ATTENDANCE:** Please complete a connect card or visit [stmfw.org/iamhere](http://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.

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
"COUNT ME IN! . . . TO LIVE BY LOVE"  
November 12, 2023

**WELCOME/OPPORTUNITIES/GREETING**

**Theme of the Day:** This week's New Testament reading covers James 5 – 1 Peter 4. As we continue our series of "Count Me In!" our focus this weekend is "To Live By Love."

**INVOCATION AND CALL TO WORSHIP**

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

C: **Amen.**

P: "So in Christ we who are many form one body,

C: **and each member belongs to all the others."** (Romans 12:5)

P: "If we live, we live to the Lord; and if we die, we die to the Lord.

C: **So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord."** (Romans 14:8)

P: "Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people,

C: **especially to those who belong to the family of believers."** (Galatians 6:10)

P: "Carry each other's burdens,

C: **and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ."** (Galatians 6:2)

P: The law that says, love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.

C: **And, love your neighbor as yourself.**

**HYMN**

Children of The Heavenly Father  
(stanzas 1-2)

**725**

**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** Children of The Heavenly Father **725**  
(stanzas 3-4)

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**P:** The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

**P:** Heavenly Father, all we possess is from Your loving hand. Give us insight and commitment that we may honor You with who we are and with what we receive from You, always remembering that the blessings we share are to reflect the blessings we receive through Jesus Christ our Lord, in whose name we pray.

**All: Amen.**

<b>FIRST READING</b>		<b>1 Peter 3:8-17</b>
<b>ANTHEM 8:00a</b> <b>10:45a</b>	Home on the Rock He Will Hold Me Fast	<b>Adult Choir/Jenny Fearnow</b> <b>Flute Choir</b>
<b>GOSPEL READING</b>		<b>Matthew 25:31-46</b>

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE/CHILDREN'S CHURCH 10:45a**

**HYMN** Blessed Assurance **WHM 416**  
(stanzas 1-3)

**SERMON** "Count Me In...To Live By Love" **Pastor Goff**  
1 Peter 3:8-17

**APOSTLES' CREED 8:00a/NICENE CREED 10:45a**

**OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY 8:00a**  
**10:45a**

Blessed Assurance  
Thy Strong Word

**Karen Manges**  
**Flute Choir**

**PRAYERS/THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**THE CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER 10:45a**

**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**

Christ the Word of God Incarnate (stanzas 1-3) **540**

I Am Jesus' Little Lamb **740**

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken **648**

Oh For a Thousand Tongues to Sing **528**

Now Thank We All Our God **895**

**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**

I Love Thy Kingdom Lord **651**  
(stanzas 1-5)

**SILENT PRAYER**

Lord, help me to remember that part of belonging to You is loving others. To live by love, "count me in!" 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

## **Our Leadership**

**President**

Dan Smith

dpsmith51@icloud.com

**Vice-President**

Matt Lennington

lenningtonml@gmail.com

**Treasurer**

Brent Panning

brentpanning@yahoo.com

**Financial Secretary**

Joe Lee

jmllee3@gmail.com

**Recording Secretary**

Holly Raney

raney@tincaps.com

**Elder Chair**

Craig Patterson

cpatterson@beckmanlawson.com

**Trustee Chair**

Peter Clendenen

peter@techcommcx.com

**Worship Chair**

Connie Mitchell

connieshome@hotmail.com

**Stewardship Chair**

Tim Thoms

thomstim@gmail.com

**Education Chair**

DeeDee Beights

denicebeights@gmail.com

# WHAT'S HAPPENING AT

St. Michael Lutheran Church  
2131 Getz Road 46804  
STMFV.ORG | 432-2033  
November 11/12, 2023



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## COUNT ME IN!

“Count Me In!” is our sermon series this month and our stewardship focus for 2024. You should have received a letter in the mail that included a financial pledge card. Additional cards are available in the Lobby if needed. After prayerfully considering your financial giving to the Lord through the ministry of St. Michael for 2024, please place your card (envelopes are available) in the box at the display. Also, **everyone** is asked to complete any of the other cards at the display to indicate additional ways you can connect with others as a part of St. Michael’s ministry. As you fill out the cards, place them in the box also. Let’s see the box fill up as we see the people of God at St. Michael say to each other, “Count Me In!”

## 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! We will also receive a recommendation to extend a call to Emma Deines as Director of Youth Ministry. 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](mailto:celine@stmfv.org) or 450-7916.

## **JOIN THE ST. MICHAEL FAMILY FOR THANKSGIVING!**

St. Michael has two special Thanksgiving services: **Wednesday, November 22, at 7:00p** with instrumental music from the hand bell choirs and **Thursday, November 23, at 10:00a** with choral selections from the adult choir. Praise the Lord from whom all blessings flow!

## **HANGING OF THE GREENS CELEBRATION—Wednesday, November 29**

Join us at 5:30p in Luther Hall to make an ornament for your tree and one for St. Michael's tree! Pizza and drinks will be provided! Following at 7:00p is a special worship service which includes scripture, music, and explanation of the decorations in our sanctuary. There will also be a time during worship for kids to bring up one of their ornaments to place on the tree.

## **CAMP LUTERHAVEN WOMEN'S RETREAT—January 26-28**

You are invited to join with other women as they kick off 2024 together on January 26-28 to experience the theme "Faith on Fire," coming from Luke 1:45. Dive into what it means to live on fire for Christ in life today with speaker Sara Scheiwe. This New Year's retreat promises to be an intentional, fun, and encouraging time with others and with Jesus. For more information and to register, please visit [www.lutherhaven.org](http://www.lutherhaven.org).

## **GO AND SERVE THANK YOU!**

More than 150 people packed meals, gave blood and participated in the Super Shot Clinic! Thank you for your time and service in the name of our Savior!

## **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. You can write a check directly to Shepherd's Hand (or cash) and use the provided envelope. We are blessed by your generosity! Deadline for donations is November 15.



## REDEMPTION HOUSE UPDATE

We will provide a meal at Wayne Street on December 17 and Fairfield Avenue on November 12/December 17. Contact Candi Luchnenko to provide a dish at 422-2061. Please join us for our Holiday Open House on November 30 from 5:00p-8:00p at our Wayne Street House! You are also welcome to 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!**

## MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH—next weekend!

Youth's Giving on Sunday, November 19 for both High School and Middle School from 4:00p-6:00p. Due to the Congregational meeting we are combining forces and doing the 1<sup>st</sup> annual Family Feud: high school vs middle school. High School team please wear Black and Middle School team wear Red. Everyone please bring a tasty appetizer or dessert to share and we will have a feast of a time together; please use the QR code so we have a variety of treats.



**Food and Fellowship at Electric Works** —Wednesday, November 15  
St. Michael's Youth will provide some snacks to share.

Calling all 8<sup>th</sup> 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 from 3:00p - 5:30p at Union Street Market at Electric Works;** next date is Tuesday, 11/14. 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.

**Calling all youth:** do you like donuts, cookies, and service? On Saturday, November 25 at 8:30a, youth are needed to help move totes with Christmas decorations, undecorate for fall, and help decorate the church for Christmas. Plan for any portion of 3 hours, more hands make light work. To schedule text Lisa Schaefer 409-5662 or email [emma@stmfw.org](mailto:emma@stmfw.org). This event can be used as service hours.

## PARENTS OF YOUTH FALL SEMINARS – December 3

Join Celine Newman as she talks 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.

## **COUNT ME IN! . . . TO WORSHIP**

Saturday, November 4 **132** Sunday, November 5 **326** Sunday Livestream **96**

## **J.O.Y. GROUP—Thursday, December 14 at 12:00p**

Begin your Christmas festivities with enjoying Christian fellowship, a catered Christmas buffet by Goeglein's, songs by our ESM children's choir and special music by Jubilant Fields. All that and a Christmas carol sing-a-long! RESERVATIONS REQUIRED by November 30. Cost: \$20.00. Reserve your spot by completing the form in the lobby and returning it to the office with your CHECK made out to St. Michael Lutheran Church (reference JOY Christmas on the memo line). Questions - call Penny Pequignot at 580-8730 or Janet Maxson at 438-7442.

## **DISCIPLESHIP FOUNDATIONS CLASS (3 sessions)**

*Sunday, November 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 by transfer. Contact [celine@stmfw.org](mailto:celine@stmfw.org).

## **HANDBELL CHOIRS**

All abilities are welcome in our handbell choirs! Contact Celine Newman at [celine@stmfw.org](mailto:celine@stmfw.org) with questions.

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

This month we are reading *West with Giraffes* by Lynda Rutledge. Contact Camille Blake at 409-9196 with questions.

## **LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICES OF INDIANA (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.

## ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS WORSHIP

**Wednesday, December 6** 7:00p\*

Advent Service at St. Michael

**Wednesday, December 13** 7:00p

All are welcome to attend the Vespers Service, presented by ESM preschool-eighth grade students, at University of St. Francis Performing Arts Center at 431 W. Berry St.

**Saturday, December 16** 5:00p\*

Sunday School Christmas Service

**Wednesday, December 20/No Service**

**Saturday, December 23/No Service**

**Sunday, December 24 / Christmas Eve Services**

Worship with lessons and carols 10:00a

Family Candlelight Worship with carols and puppets 5:00p

Candlelight Worship with choir, bells and orchestra 7:00p\*

Candlelight Worship with choir, bells and orchestra  
and Holy Communion 11:00p

**Monday, December 25 / Christmas Day**

Festival Worship with Holy Communion 10:00a\*

**Saturday, December 30** 5:00p

**Sunday, December 31 / New Year's Eve** 10:00a\*

\* Also available via livestream

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR THIS WEEK November 13-19

### **Monday, November 13**

3:45p Grace Notes

6:00p Harmony Ringers

6:45p BSF Young Adults

7:00p Parables of Jesus Bible Study

7:00p Men's Bible Study/Jones

7:00p Resound Rehearsal

(Advanced Grade 8-adult)

### **Tuesday, November 14**

7:00p Bible Study Group/Smith

7:00p Praise Teams Rehearsal

### **Wednesday, November 15**

10:30a Men's Bible Study/Wickert

1:30p Praying for Our Nation

6:00p High School Youth/Electric Works

6:30p Men's/Women's/Brass Rehearsal

7:00p Adult Choir

7:00p Dart Ball

### **Thursday, November 16**

10:00a Book Club

7:00p Jubilant Fields Rehearsal

### **Friday, November 17**

8:00p Men's Basketball

### **Saturday, November 18**

8:00a Men's Prayer Breakfast/Cracker Barrel

5:00p Worship

### **Sunday, November 19**

8:00a and 10:45a Worship

5:00p Congregation Potluck & Meeting

## 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.

- **November Milestone Birthdays:** Connie Easterday, 11/7, 81; Martha Seidel, 11/7, 89; Jerry Pieper, 11/12, 82; Pat Armstrong, 11/19, 83; Willie Biddle, 11/19, 83; Carol Sims, 11/20, 82; Annie Eckrich, 11/24, 88; and Edie Bearman, 11/28, 89.
- **Altar Flowers:** Our altar flowers are given this weekend by Dorothy Smith in honor of her husband Glen, a submariner, and all service men and women.
- **Pray for:**
  - Thanksgiving for favorable test results and medical procedures for Virgil Brockmann.
  - Andy and Joyce Stede for guidance from the Holy Spirit as to when to move.
  - Pray for Happi or her struggles.
  - Ross and his family, friends of Mary and Rich Busch, as he faces some medical procedures.
  - Carleen Inmann, Jami Hahn's friend, who lost her father last week. Pray for comfort and peace in the months ahead.
  - Young man in the congregation of Pastor Paul Dancy. Ask God to grant the young man mercy, justice and that the truth is revealed and he is released.
  - Continued prayers for Mason, Jacob (nephew of Dennis and Lynnette Brink), Randy Hoover, Dennis Brink, Sharon Marks, Otis Vincent, Stephanie Weaver, Beth Ann Hargrove, Gary Gotsch, Amber Afarin, Kendra Nieman, Don and Kathy Magner

## SERVING AT ST. MICHAEL this weekend

Are you able to join a worship service team? Contact Tina Hoover at [tina@stmfw.org](mailto:tina@stmfw.org) or 432-2033.

- Greeters:** Mary and Rich Busch; Mary Bear (5p); Tim, Marilyn Crum; Dave, Christine Harrison (8a)  
Jerry and Mary Nichols (10:45a)
- Lay Readers:** Bruce Schroeder (5p); Ross Fredrickson (8a); Brian Judt (10:45a)
- Children's Church:** Vaughn and Macy Hendrickson (10:45a)
- Acolytes:** Madelyn Biggs (5p); Isabelle Johnson (8a); Adam Ruch (10:45a)
- Information Desk:** Gloria Fahlsing (5p); Celine Newman (8a)  
Terry Hammond (10:45a)
- Ushers:** Mary and Rich Busch; Dave and Myra Atkinson (5p); Lynn Sackschewsky, John Gerken (8a)  
Dave Crow (10:45a)



## Reading through the New Testament—Week 45

November 12-18

### ***Becoming*** more like Jesus—growing in His Word

This week we will begin reading in 1 Peter. Both 1 and 2 Peter are written by the apostle Simon Peter (1 Peter 1:1; 2 Peter 1:1, 16, 18). He is one of the best known figures in the early church, mentioned over 150 times in the New Testament. He grew up in Bethsaida along the coast of the Sea of Galilee, where he and his brother Andrew were fishermen (John 1:44).






Peter was introduced to Jesus by his brother Andrew and given a new name (Jn 1:40-42). His original name was Simon, but Jesus renamed him Peter – *Petros*, meaning “rock.” Later, Peter was called by Jesus (Mark 1:16-18) and appointed as one of the original twelve disciples (Mark 3:13-16). He became part of an inner circle (along with James and John) that surrounded Jesus in His ministry.

Generally speaking, 1 Peter was written to comfort and encourage believers. Peter himself was facing imminent death as were many others to whom he was writing. For their suffering and persecution, Peter encouraged them to “rejoice” (1:6; 4:13). He reminded them that Christ also suffered and they were participating in the very sufferings of Christ. Most of us would want to avoid suffering and persecution at all costs. However, the apostle Paul reminds us, “Everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted” (2 Timothy 3:12), so it should not surprise Christ’s followers if the world seeks to bring insult and injury to us. After all, we are “aliens and strangers in this world” (1:1; 2:11) and our true home is elsewhere.

Peter also provides some practical things to say about living the Christian life in a fallen and hostile world. In some places, Peter has specific instruction for specific people: husbands and wives (3:1-7), elders in the church (5:1-4), and young people (5:5). Peter acknowledges here that in our own strength it would be impossible as he describes. It is only the grace of God Himself and the power of Christ within that can make believers strong, firm, and steadfast (5:10).

## New Testament in a Year—November 12-18

James/1Peter

Chapter 5  1  2  3  4 

### **Additional Reflections** from this week's reading

**James 5** | Patience is often something many of us don't do well with. What does James say about patience in this chapter? What are we to be patient for? What is our posture to be while we wait (5:8-9)?

**1 Peter 1** | Look closely at the five commands Peter mentions in vv. 13-15. What reason does Peter give for these commands (vv. 17-21)?

**1 Peter 2** | If you were a war correspondent reporting from the front lines, how would you describe the war going on within yourself (v. 11)? Take a moment and bring that struggle to God right now in prayer and commit your struggle to Him. After you do that, reread the words of 2:9-10.

**1 Peter 3** | As you read vv. 15-16, what do you have to say about "giving the reason for the hope that you have"? As you have opportunity to share that with others, remember always the directive of v. 16.

**1 Peter 4** | As you read vv. 12-19, what form does your suffering for Christ take? How has such suffering impacted your life, and especially your life of faith?

## ***Blessing*** the World

Jesus said: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself." Mark 12:30-31

Oftentimes we take for granted that we know who are neighbors are but do you know your neighbors or the gifts that are in your neighborhood? One of the ways to start getting to know (or getting better insights) your neighbors is by going for a walk. Spend three days this week going for a walk in your neighborhood and see how many people you can greet and if you can find two places that are blessings to have in your neighborhood (ie, parks, grocery stores, libraries). Spend time after each walk writing down your observations and who you meant on your walk. To learn more about getting to know your neighborhood, ask Pastor Shawn for a Hopeful Neighborhood Project journal.

## ***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.

Love as defined by scripture is often very different than how we use the word in everyday life and how we see it defined in the media.

When you tell someone you love them what does that mean?

Take some time to discuss the actions and heart postures that define love in 1 Corinthians 13, John 15:13, John 14:23.

How does the scriptures picture of love compare to what you mean when you say you love someone?

Compare the scriptures picture of love to when God says He loves us in Deuteronomy 7:7-9, Isaiah 61:8, Mark 10:21, John 14:31. What do you notice?

What small steps can you continue to make to love like God has shown and instructed us to love?

Close in prayer

**THIS WEEKEND'S SERMON OUTLINE**  
**"Count Me In! . . . To Live by Love"**

1 Peter 3:8-17

Ryan's audacious love

G \_\_\_\_\_ Approach

**<sup>8</sup>"Finally, all of you, be like-minded, be sympathetic, love one another, be compassionate and humble."**

1. l \_\_\_\_\_ -m \_\_\_\_\_
2. s \_\_\_\_\_
3. l \_\_\_\_\_ o \_\_\_\_\_ a \_\_\_\_\_
4. c \_\_\_\_\_
5. h \_\_\_\_\_

G \_\_\_\_\_ Response

**<sup>9</sup>"Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult. On the contrary, repay evil with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing."**

**<sup>15</sup>". . . Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, <sup>16</sup>keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander."**

G \_\_\_\_\_ Motivation

**<sup>12</sup>"For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous . . ."**

"Count Me In!"