

AUGUST

ST. MICHAEL NEWSLETTER

God is on the move! At our Voters' assembly on Sunday, July 24, St. Michael called Rev. Dr. Dennis Goff to be our next Senior Pastor. Thank you to all who participated in our excellent discussion and voted. With over 320 people attending, we had a quorum and were able to move forward with the call process. Pastor Goff received a telephone call that Sunday afternoon to notify him of our decision. Please pray for Pastor Goff, his wife Laura, and our St. Michael family!



CONNECT WITH PASTOR KARL FRINCKE

Dear Friends in Christ,

You've heard the word "transition" a lot these past couple years, especially regarding the transition from this time period to the next chapter of St. Michael's story. And, no doubt, you've been anxious to get through it and move on. That's totally understandable.

Now we're at another important step in this particular transition. We've issued a Call to Rev. Dr. Dennis Goff as St. Michael's next Senior Pastor. It's an exciting move, and our prayers (as well as our hopes) take another step. We pray that we have discovered God's will and that Pastor Goff will find it as well, and that all three of us agree!

In this midst of all this 2+ years, we have reached an important conclusion, or five...

First, life is full of transitions. Every day we move from one thing to another and that's a transition. "Change" is another way to express it. And while we sometimes don't like or appreciate transitions or changes, they're inevitable. Living things change ... constantly; dead things don't. And we are alive ... alive in Christ!

Secondly, we've learned a lot about living with transitions, not by just talking about them, but by living in them. Each of us has learned somethings in common and other things individually.

We've also learned more about how to seek God's will and accept it through all this. We've learned it especially as a congregation. Welcomed or not, it is a life lesson and it has become an opportunity that I trust will make an impact and be a lasting one.

Patience. That's another thing we've learned more about. This is a tough one and it takes practice to master. We may not have mastered it, but we've learned more as we've experienced things.

We've also learned (and will again learn) that God is good; His ways are best. That's an ongoing truth that dawns on us more and more on our life's journey.

And there's more - no doubt, much more - that we've learned. In and through it all, in faith we see God at work. Sometimes in retrospect as we look back at things, but hopefully as we move along, we can see God today in what's happening. God's point in all this is to make us stronger, more reliant in our relationships with other and with Him. And so we await the outcome of the Call.

Continue to pray with me:

Lord God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, though perils known. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Pastor Karl Frincke

CONNECT WITH PASTOR SHAWN

FELLOWSHIP

As we move into a new season, we move into more and more stuff. Life continues, and we fill our calendars with meetings, sports, and family time. Through it all, God strengthens our faith as we spend time in fellowship with people who hold onto our same values. This month, St. Michael will once again hear the bustle of children in the hallway, the ramping up of meetings; we eagerly await the reply to another call, and everything else that happens at the church. In the busyness, it is important not to lose the purpose of fellowship with other Christians—both within the building and within our community. Fellowship helps us "*be strong and courageous*" (Joshua 1:9) as we tackle whatever the world brings our way.

Here are few ways to join me as we help each other be strong and courageous:

CONFIRMATION INFORMATION MEETING

- WHEN:** Monday, September 12 at 7:00p
WHERE: St. Michael in Luther Hall
WHAT: Come learn about what is in store for the next year in 8th-grade confirmation.
FYI: Eighth graders will have Sunday School on September 11.

YOUNG ADULT/FAMILY GAME NIGHT

- WHAT:** Join us with your favorite game or come learn a new game as we enjoy fellowship and connection. RSVP to Pastor Shawn at pastordavis@stmfw.org
WHEN: Friday, August 19 at 6:00p
WHERE: Luther Hall

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH SWIM PARTY

- WHEN:** Sunday, August 14 from 4:00p-6:00p with fun food
WHERE: Patterson Pool – 6424 Post Road



SERVICE OPPORTUNITY | PARTNERS IN MINISTRY

Watch your email for several opportunities to help our partners-in-ministry throughout the community as they gear up for the start of school.

YOUNG ADULTS | JUNK DITCH FELLOWSHIP

- WHEN:** Mondays, 8:30p
WHERE: Junk Ditch Brewing Co

Find out about other opportunities by emailing me: pastordavis@stmfw.org

Or if you would like to connect one-on-one, you can make an meeting on my calendar by going to calendly.com/pastor_shawn

NEWS FROM STEPHANIE

MUSIC PRACTICES BEGIN!

We'd love to have you join us as we begin a new season of singing God's praises and playing to His glory...and encouraging one another!

We will begin **choir practices** again on Wednesday, September 14! Our Adult Choir meets weekly from 7:00p-8:15p "ish". For those who are interested in singing with a smaller group, or less of a time commitment, our *Women's Choir* and *Men's Choir* practice from 6:30p-7:00p on alternate weeks.

Vocal Groups (meet in the sanctuary)

Men's Choir (TTBB) Wednesday 6:30-7:00p starts September 14
Women's Choir (SSA) Wednesday 6:30-7:00p starts September 21
Adult Choir (SATB) Wednesday 7:00-8:00p starts September 14



Bell Groups (meet in the sanctuary)

Grace Notes (grades 3-8) TBD - Please contact Celine Newman for questions and information
Harmony Ringers (high school-adult) Monday 6:00-7:00p; starts September 12
Resound (high school-adult) Monday 7:00-8:00p; starts September 12

Instrumental Groups

Orchestra Thursday 6:10-7:00p in Sanctuary; starts September 22
Middle School Band Thursday 7:15-8:00p in Sanctuary; starts September 22
Flute Choir Sunday 9:00-9:30a in music room
Jubilant Fields Thursday 7:00-8:30p in music room (on going)
Strings practice as needed



If you are interested in singing or playing and have questions, please feel free to contact our Worship Director, Stephanie Maxson, at stephanie@stmfw.org for more information.

ST. MICHAEL ACADEMY NEWS

The St. Michael Academy is now accepting registrations for our Fall Semester. Lessons will begin the week of August 15. Register at <https://academy.stmfw.org/>

- Half Hour Group lessons are \$45/month + one time \$35 registration fee
- Half Hour Private lessons are \$80/month + one time \$35 registration fee
- Need an instrument?? We have one you can borrow! Send a message to academy@stmfw.org to learn more!
- Scholarships are available for those with a financial need. Applications are on our website.
- Kindermusik classes are available at St. Michael for children ages 1-4 through our partnership with Joyful Creations Studio. Register through the link on our website or at <https://jcstudio.kindermusik.com/location/57472>.

SATURDAY BAND LINE-UP

August 6 Life Song **August 13** King's Strings **August 20** Life Song **August 27** King's Strings

THOUGHTS FROM CELINE

CHOOSING TO BE THANKFUL

I am a cold weather person. I love the snow and I love wearing sweatshirts. I enjoy gathering around a fire and I look forward to walks where you see your breath and feel the frost nipping at you. I also prefer dry climates. I am sure that this stems from growing up in NM, where the humidity level usually sits somewhere between 5 - 30%. Clothes don't get as sticky and most things dry a lot quicker. There are fewer flying and biting insects. The sunshine tends to feel more inviting and the cold doesn't bite quite as much.



So, as you can imagine, living in a more humid and warmer climate here in northern Indiana gives me plenty of reasons to complain. Until we spent a week in Houston at the LCMS Youth Gathering. While we were there, Houston had some record highs and we were able to experience a whole new level of heat and humidity that made me long for our nice and "temperate" Ft. Wayne summer. I am not sure I will be choosing to return to Houston in the summer in the near future.

As I have traveled through various climates I have learned to begin to prepare my mentality by saying, "This is how it's going to be. No need to complain. Just enjoy it for what it is. **Be thankful.**"

That mental shift and choice makes a huge difference. Instead of focusing on the uncomfortable things, I can be thankful for lightning bugs and the hum of cicadas. Appreciate the unique lighting and jewel tones of an overcast day. Sing-a-long with the thunder, and get outside for walks on snowy nights. I can appreciate the brilliance of a starry night in crisp mountain air and I can be thankful for the ability to wear sandals as well as clomp around in snowshoes.

I believe that the effects of choosing thankfulness is not something exclusive to me. I think this happens to everyone. And I believe that the positive effects of thankfulness happen because God has written it into our DNA. **When we choose to be thankful, we open up to the goodness of God.** Connections with the people and creation around us are able to form and become stronger. As that happens, we are more apt to be thankful which opens us more and more. It is a really cool design that God has made.

THANKFULNESS IS A CHOICE. It's important that we don't hear that happiness or enjoyment is a choice. Sometimes we are happy and we don't enjoy, and sometimes it is appropriate and healthy for us to feel angry, scared, unsettled, or anxious. Yet, at all times we can choose thankfulness. It can start with being thankful for the life we have been giving in Christ, that will never be taken away from us. Then as you grow this "muscle" you will likely find that being thankful becomes easier and easier. Also, it just so happens that thankfulness is a fruit of the Spirit, which means that the Spirit of God, dwelling in us, will enable us to be thankful. So, when you find it hard, please remember that this choice doesn't have to be on your strength. You've got someone who will help you.

Now, here is our task this month. **Find ways to concretely be thankful.** Maybe sit with your family each day and share something for which you are thankful. You can begin a thankfulness list or journal. Ask those around you at work or even in the grocery line what they are thankful for and be ready to share what your thoughts. When you notice yourself beginning to focus on the negative—do a thankfulness intervention and aim for at least 10 things for which you can be thankful. Read Psalm 100, Psalm 107, Colossians 3:1-17, or Philippians 4:4-9 every day. The heart and mind changing power of thankfulness is a gift and I am excited to see how your month will look different because of it!

BELONG

J.O.Y. GROUP

WHAT: Handbell Workshop with Subway sandwich lunch and desserts from your J.O.Y. Committee
WHEN: Thursday, August 11 at Noon
WHERE: Luther Hall



Come and join us for a BELL WORKSHOP. We'll definitely have fun as we learn and experience handbells with St. Michael's Handbell Director, Celine Newman! The instrument goes back to the 1700's and has a beautiful musical history. Today the handbells have developed into an instrument played by 1-100's of ringers at a time and are used to play both secular and sacred music alike. During our time together, we will learn about the history of handbells, learn about the many different sounds created to make music, hear solos, and even get a chance to play the instrument. Grab a friend or two and come enjoy this time together!

SPECIAL REQUEST FROM J.O.Y

Our world has been and still is in a season of constant change, especially in the last two years. We have been impacted by losses both in our own families and those close to us, not to mention our world. As a result, the J.O.Y. ministry is facing significant issues that need your help.

In the past, we have been a very active group that facilitated group trips, meals, entertainment, education, Bible studies, service projects, and just plain socialization with old and new friends. We have had several of our committee members over the last two years step down because of health issues. Yet we are excited to continue this ministry and have worked diligently to engage our seniors (anyone 55 or older) post COVID.

Here is where YOU come in! The average age of our current committee is roughly 77 years young. We need some new "younger" people to join the leadership team to help coordinate and be hands on at activities. Please consider this opportunity to serve on our committee!

Contact Penny Pequignot or Jim Maxson with questions about the J.O.Y. ministry and how you can help.

Thank you for your prayerful consideration,

Penny Pequignot (580-8730)

Jim Maxson (466-4171)

PRAYING FOR OUR NATION—August 3/17

Join us at 1:30p in the Lobby as we pray for our leaders and our nation. We will meet regularly on the first and third Wednesday of the month. Please connect with Christine Harrison for more information and to engage in this ministry (charrison75@comcast.net).

SUMMER BIBLE STUDY through August 29

We're excited to continue the Bible Study series based on *The Chosen*, a television drama based on the life of Jesus of Nazareth. Each Monday this summer from 6:00p until approximately 7:30p, we are singing, watching an episode and then discussing the topics covered. Join us! It's never too late!

PURLS—August 2/16



This fun group meets from 1:00p-3:00p on the first and third Tuesday of each month. Everyone who knits, crochets or wants to learn is welcome to join! The St. Michael PURLS knit and crochet shawls that are available to give to a person who is ill, suffering a loss, or in the midst of a life crisis. What a great way to reach out to those hurting or in need of a special blessing of God's warmth and comfort when you are not physically present. A supply of shawls is available in the narthex for members to take and present to someone in need. Direct your questions to Pat Armstrong through the church office.

STEPHEN MINISTRY

It's YOUR Ministry!

Stephen Ministry is YOUR ministry. It is an important way we at St Michael care for one another. If you are going through a difficult time, consider having a Stephen Minister. If you know someone else who is facing difficulties, suggest that they request a Stephen Minister. Make use of it...Stephen Ministry belongs to you! Call Linda Kraus for more information at 446-4347.

May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other and for everyone else, just as ours does for you. 1 Thessalonians 3:12

Stephen Ministry equips members of a congregation with the skills, knowledge, and spiritual support to provide distinctively Christian care to those who are hurting. Are Stephen Ministers Counselors? No, they are trained lay caregivers. Their role is to listen and care--not to give advice or counsel. Stephen Ministers are also trained to recognize when a care receiver's need exceeds what they can provide. When that happens, they work with care receivers to help them receive the level of care they really need. To request care from a Stephen Minister or find out more about Stephen Ministry at St. Michael, contact Linda Kraus at 446-4347.



**Friday, August 26
In Luther Hall**

Three Ways to Register!

Call 1-800-679-5192

Online: LLSA.SOCIAL/HS

Text: the word CIRCLE to 797979

FAMILY MINISTRY FROM CARRIE

VBS SHOUT OUT!

Wow! What a Food Truck Party we had! Thank you, thank you, thank you to every person who signed up to volunteer, made a monetary donation, donated supplies, helped make or hang decorations, helped tear down, helped at our Saturday celebration....I could go on and on! Over 100 people helped with VBS in one way or another and it could not have happened without YOU!

We were able to share God's Word with over 170 kids and sent them home with lasting memories, some great keepsake crafts, and a truckload of table prayers set to familiar tunes to share with their family and friends! We decorated brown paper sacks for the community food pantries around town, raised funds to support the NINE ministry's community backpack program, and celebrated meeting our goal with the Whip n Chill Food Truck! Most importantly, seed of God's word were planted in the hearts of the kids and we will continue to pray that those seeds grow into a lifetime of faith!

VBS 2023 TEAM FORMING!

Believe it or not, we are already looking for a team of people to help plan next year's VBS! If you'd like to assist Carrie in putting together a plan for snacks, crafts, games, or decorating, please let her know at Carrie.Gould1137@yahoo.com! Next year's theme will be Spark Studios, where children will learn that they are created in Christ and designed for God's purpose.



SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS NEEDED

Did you know that nearly half of all Americans who accept Jesus Christ as their Savior do so before reaching the age of 13? Do you want to play a vital role in making sure the children of our church are exposed to God's Word on a regular basis? Do you want to be a part of making sure that the children who walk through our doors every Sunday morning are brought up in God's Word? Do you want to be blessed and see your own faith grow? If you answered yes to these questions, then Sunday school is the place for you!

Some of last year's teachers had some thoughts to share about their own experiences:

"I continue to be blessed with the Sunday school lesson for myself. I know it's meant for the kids, but God's Word is God's Word! There's still so much in there I need to learn myself."

"The teaching team is a blessing. Hearing what God plugged into their hearts to emphasize to the class about a lesson we all studied for the week is a blessing to me too!"

"It was so fun to get to know the kids and have them get so excited to see me outside of the classroom!"

"I really enjoyed teaching Sunday school this year and really getting to know the kids around church"

Our teachers work in groups of two so grab a friend and sign up together! A curriculum with weekly lessons and activities as well as all supplies will be provided for you. We need you to help build a strong faith foundation in the lives of our kids!

Contact Carrie at Carrie.Gould1137@yahoo.com if you're interested in learning more or are ready to sign up!

EMMANUEL-ST. MICHAEL LUTHERAN SCHOOL



A new year is here! Emmanuel - St. Michael Lutheran School is excited for students to return and fill the halls and classrooms with energy, love, and grace! August ushers in registration, meet-and-greets with teachers, back-to-school events, opening worship, and all the joys of another year providing education for life and nurturing faith for eternity. **We thank God for the opportunity to serve over 420 students** this year in PK-8 and thank the families for entrusting us with their children's care. As an extension of education in the home and an auxiliary of the church's ministry to youth, ESM rejoices in the partnership between our dedicated staff, families, and parishes in delivering a Christ-centered education!

This year's theme comes from the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20) as we focus on making Disciples for Life! Prior to ascending in glory, Jesus provided the disciples with a roadmap for growing His kingdom on earth: make disciples and make them stronger. We do so by baptizing (gift the Spirit) and teaching (observe His commands). And we have the great comfort and promise that Jesus is with us wherever we go! This calling beautifully reflects the life of a Christian school as a community of faith and learning. Thank you for going with us joyfully!

Check out some new faces and new roles!

Dr. Ben Stellwagen began as principal in June and has been thrilled to join the community, start building relationships, and begin team ministry here.

Mrs. Keri Latin returns as the Assistant Principal for Getz Campus after serving as Interim Principal last year. Mrs. Jennifer Ackmann is now Assistant Principal for the Preschool and continues to direct that entry point of ESM's PK-8 school ministry. We trust they can look back in humble awe at all that God accomplished through them last year and can look forward eagerly for all He has in store. We thank God for sustaining them through the transition--what a blessing to have their ongoing leadership at ESM!

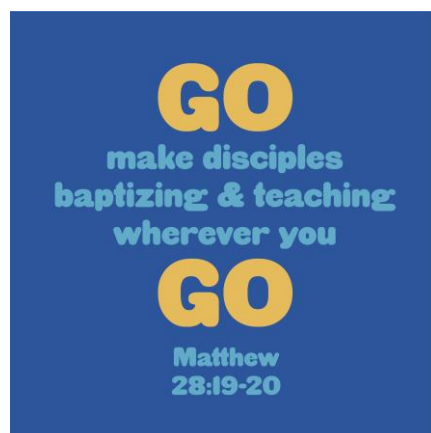
God has provided laborers for the harvest throughout the school! Mrs. Sarah Smith grew up in Lutheran schools, graduating from St. Peter's and then CLHS, and will teach 2nd grade after previously teaching 1st grade at St. Joseph Elementary and most recently at Holy Cross.

Miss Courtney McMeen will teach 6th grade Language, Social Studies, and Science while finishing her Master's degree in Primary Education at University of Saint Francis. She has a variety of professional experiences, including teaching four years of ESL in China and two years of fine arts at Abbett Elementary in Fort Wayne.

Mrs. Janelle Davis returns to her Fort Wayne hometown to teach 8th Grade ELA and History. She is a graduate of Concordia St. Paul in secondary literature and communication arts and has taught in multiple settings while her husband, Jeremy, went to seminary and then served as a military chaplain.

Mrs. Kristen Labahn graciously agreed to teach full-time, adding 6th grade Literature to her 7th grade homeroom and ELA responsibilities.

They join the incredible team of returning teachers as well as all the support staff that make this ministry possible. Welcome, and what a joy to serve together!



CLHS WELCOMES MATT KONOW

We are excited to welcome Matthew Konow, a 1991 alumnus of the high school, as the new Chief Advancement Officer. As Chief Advancement Officer, Mr. Konow will be responsible for the design and implementation of the high school's program of advancement including fundraising, marketing, communications, and admissions.

"We are blessed to have Matt join our leadership team," said Head of School Jacob Pennekamp. "His character, gifts, and experience will help advance the mission and ministry of CLHS. I'm excited to work alongside him as we form stronger partnerships in the community for the sake of raising the next generation of Christian leaders."

EMMANUEL-ST. MICHAEL LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL

ESM is excited to welcome 56 preschoolers to school on August 17. These little learners will be challenged to grow in a variety of ways as they play, explore and engage in exciting activities throughout the school year. In ESM Preschool classrooms, children are nurtured in the same way Jesus modeled for us in Matthew 19:14, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." A few openings remain! If you are interested in learning more about ESM's quality, Christ-centered preschool program, please contact Jennifer Ackmann at (260) 422-6712 or jackmann@esmeagles.com.

OUTDOOR LEARNING SPACE SUPPLIES

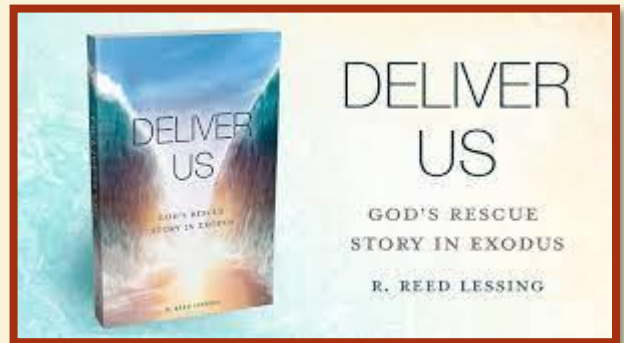
THANK YOU to the St. Michael Foundation for the generous grant that will help us begin purchasing materials to enhance the learning experiences of our youngest students. We are seeking a number of donations that can be used in this space. If you have any of the items below that you would be willing to donate, please contact Jennifer Ackmann at jackmann@esmeagles.com to arrange a time for drop off.

Items needed:

- Sticks (all sizes), logs, stones/rocks, tree cookies
- Bird feeders
- Birdseed
- Pallets
- Leftover landscaping bricks, pavers, rocks, etc.
- Old kitchen pots, pans, flatware, colanders, etc.
- Plastic table cloths or tarps
- Outdoor blankets
- Kid-sized gardening gloves
- Shells
- Corks
- Clean, empty plastic peanut butter jars
- Dried corn
- Plastic funnels
- Cow bells
- Clay pots/saucers
- Washboard
- Large wooden spools (used to hold electrical wiring)
- Old oven grates



God's Song of Deliverance is your song, too. Dive into Exodus with author Reed Lessing to discover the beat, rhythm, and cadence of Exodus—of your story and your song. Learn how Exodus expounds on Genesis, continuing the never-ending song while telling the riveting story of the Israelites being delivered out of Egypt, out of slavery, and into God's care through the wilderness. Be encouraged by reminders of God's presence and His actions in your life through His delivering of the Israelites from slavery. Find Christ in the Old Testament through His presence, predictions, and patterns. See how God reveals His name and character to His people throughout Exodus. <https://www.cph.org/p-35323-deliver-us-gods-rescue-story-in-exodus.aspx>



YOUTH

HOUSTON YOUTH GATHERING 2022: WHAT AN AMAZING TRIP!

First a **HUGE** thank you to our wonderful congregation who has supported us financially and through prayer over the past 15 months. Because of your generosity, we were able to allow **THIRTY** youth and **SEVEN** adults to learn, grow, and be part of the 20,000 other youth and adults that made the trip to Houston.

Here are ten of the things we are thankful for as we look back on our trip:

10. Our bus! This may seem strange, but we loved all of our drivers from **Eagles Wings**, which is a ministry owned company. Plus the 36 hours (18 hours each way) allowed us to grow closer as a group.

9. Food! We got to enjoy Texas bar-b-que, seafood, a 31" pizza, loaded baked potatoes, subs, Cracker Barrel, and PBJ's!! Plus plenty of snacks and water to keep us going during the very HOT and long days.

8. Dolphins, and rhino's and gorilla's! We were able to stop at the St. Louis zoo on our way to Texas (which is FREE) and also saw dolphins in the gulf by Galveston, Texas. Wow! God is definitely creative!

7. St. Louis Bell Tower. We had a wonderful tour at the St. Louis Seminary and even got to climb the Bell Tower for a bird's eye view of the city. Did you know that at least **three** of the kids who went on the trip are considering careers in ministry?!?!?

6. Ocean. We all got to swim—some got to swim in the ocean for the first time! This was another awesome bonding time for our group.

5. Devotions. Each day started with a **devotion led by our youth** and ended with a guys and girls check in. Our guys ended their time each night by singing the doxology and by the end of the week we had other groups joining in!

4. Sessions. Each person that went attended at least two sessions a day with topics that ranged from tough subjects like human trafficking and porn to testimonies from astronauts, professional baseball players and comedians. Our favorite session was led by our very own Celine Newman who spoke to a packed room on the topic of Friendship with God.

3. Worship. Each night we got to worship with 20,000 other youth at Minute Maid Park! The band was playing, we were singing, and there were even fireworks! We also enjoyed a concert by **King and Country**. All of this excitement was focused on praising our amazing GOD.

2. St. Michael youth. Another wow. Our youth are respectful. Our youth are engaged. Our youth are connected to each other. Our youth are connecting to Christ's Word and promises. Our youth have amazing **leaders** - seven great adults who were willing to spend two nights in a bus so they could invest in our kids!

1. CHRIST. He is truly **IN ALL THINGS!!!** *For by Him all things were created, in heaven and on earth.....all things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. Colossians 1:15-17.* This is the powerful, life changing message we heard over and over again. We move forward knowing that Christ goes with us IN ALL THINGS!



HIGH SCHOOL SWIM PARTY

WHEN: Sunday, August 14 from 4:00p-6:00p with fun food following!

WHERE: Patterson Pool – 6424 Post Road

BELONG BECOME BLESS

ST. MICHAEL FINANCIAL UPDATE

	June 2022	January – June 2022	June 2021
Offerings & Other Income	\$101,106	\$736,599	\$115,523
Ministry Expenses	\$130,289	\$768,218	\$133,991
Income over Expenses	(\$20,183)	(\$31,619)	(\$18,468)

Automated Giving in the summertime!

As vacations and schedules change our worship habits, St. Michael offers electronic giving for members who want to have offerings transferred electronically to the church's account. Visit our website and click on "Giving." See page 14 for a great article from Art Ranier, [Home | Art Rainer](#)



The Kroger Co. Family of Stores is committed to bringing hope and help to the local neighborhoods we call home. Our stores are on a mission to not just part of, but to help create a stronger community. We recognize that every community has unique causes that need support. Thank you for being such an important organization in our community. In the second quarter, St. Michael received \$175 from 54 households!

BELONG BECOME BLESS

REDEMPTION HOUSE

St. Michael will support the residents with meals at Wayne St. on August 7 and September 11 and Fairfield Ave. on August 21 and September 18. Contact Linda Chapman at 417-3052 to help with this important ministry!

GAP MINISTRY— August 20/21

St. Michael believes in the importance of prayer. God Answers Prayer members want to pray for you and with you. A G.A.P. member will be available after the worship services in the conference room. **Join us for lunch at 11:00a on August 21 to hear more about our program and how you can help or benefit!**

ST. MICHAEL MISSION

Connecting People to Jesus!



OUR MANDATE

"I appeal to you, by the mercies of God...be transformed." Romans 12:1-2

OUR MOTIVES

We are to be Christ Centered, Discipleship Directed, Family Focused and Mission Minded



Camp Lutherhaven

MOOSE MULLIGAN & PAW PAW PUTT

On August 6, from 8:00a-12:30p, Camp Lutherhaven invites you to their first ever, family friendly, Disc Golf Fundraiser called the Moose Mulligan and Paw Paw Putt!

The Moose Mulligan will be 22 holes (baskets) using Camp's new Disc Golf Course. The format will be 'best shot doubles' with shotgun start. The Paw Paw Putt is for children ages 5-12. It will include a clinic with instructional time followed by playing their own mini course.

The cost for the event is \$25 for the Moose Mulligan and \$12 for the Paw Paw Putt. Awards will also be given for top scores in their categories as well as prizes for a Closest to the Pin (CTP) contest. Bring your own discs or borrow some from Camp Lutherhaven who will have several on hand.

Bring your family, friends, church, or group. Proceeds will go towards Lutherhaven's Campership Fund, which fulfills an ongoing, annual need providing assistance to families who do not have the financial resources to experience a summer camp program at Lutherhaven.

ELDERS

RECONNECTING WITH YOU!

Greetings! The Elders are undertaking a “Reconnecting with You” campaign this summer and fall. You should expect to receive a phone call from an elder. This will be a friendly call caring for you as a cherished member of St. Michael and exploring the ways in which you are connected to your church. As you welcome this call, please pray about what you may say or ask. We value you and the opportunity to reconnect. God’s blessings and peace to you!



WHO IS YOUR ELDER?

Your elder is listed in your profile in F1Go, or you may call the church office at 432-2033. You are encouraged to contact your elder any time you feel a spiritual need or concern! Find their email below, and phone number in F1Go. They are also listed on the church bulletin board!

Craig Patterson	cpatterson@beckmanlawson.com
Ryan Meyer	ryanlmeyer68@gmail.com
Adam Hahn	jjandak@cinergymetro.net
John Baker	jdbake22@gmail.com
Bob Kaiser	bobrkaiser@live.com
Harry Jones	hmejones71@aol.com
John Hein	JHein@brotherhoodmutual.com
John Hendrickson	jlh1051@gmail.com
Keith Miller	keithcherimiller@frontier.com
Mark Muntzinger	mark@marksbodyshopincftw.com
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LUTHERANS FOR LIFE

The mission of St. Michael’s Lutherans for Life (LFL) Team is to equip our Church to be a gospel-driven champion of life from conception to natural death. For more information, contact Dennis Brink at 238-4046 or Dennis.Brink@att.net. Next meeting: Tuesday, August 2 at 7:00p in room 13



STEWARDSHIP article for August from Art Rainer

God has designed us for generosity. When we give, we reflect God's generosity toward us. Giving demonstrates our trust in God's promises and provision. The goal of this article is not to minimize life's challenges. Life can be difficult. The goal of this article is to encourage you and others not to set aside God's design for you, causing you to miss out on His promises and provisions. Regardless of your life situation, God's design is never something to run from but always something to run toward.

I've run into many individuals and couples who decided to stop giving. Most of the time, the reason is not from a total loss of income, but some other pressure or desire. Most of the time, their total ceasing of generosity was the wrong decision. The Bible tells us we are to make giving a priority, to give proportionally, to give sacrificially, and to give cheerfully. The generosity principles are woven through Scripture. What do you not see? Reasons to stop giving. So, if you are considering eliminating your giving, let me note three wrong times to stop giving.



1. When your income decreases.

Maybe you go from a dual income household to a single income household. Maybe you don't make as many commissions as you did the prior year. Maybe your company reduces salaries. Maybe you just took a lesser-paying job. Whatever the reason, your income has been decreased.

When this occurs, households must make several budgetary adjustments. And there can be a temptation to eliminate generosity, even for a short time. During these times, it is important to remember that the Bible doesn't tell us to maintain a certain level of giving, only to give proportionally, giving according to what God has given us. Instead of eliminating generosity, adjust your generosity to reflect your new income.



2. When you decide to pay off debt.

Debt is a generosity killer. Are you wanting to pay off your debt? Let's do this. I am in your corner. Many who are on their debt-elimination journey are very aggressive. They put anything and everything toward their burdensome debts. Unfortunately, sometimes the "anything and everything" includes their generosity. They reason that they will restart their generosity once their debts are paid.

This is a mistake. We must not let one bad decision (getting into a bunch of debt) lead us to make another bad decision (ignoring biblical generosity). Even during times of aggressive debt elimination, make proportional generosity the priority.



3. When you feel like your generosity cannot make a difference.

Some individuals will look at the amount they give and wonder whether their generosity really matters. If this is you, let me assure you—it matters. First, God is a God of multiplication. He is the one who used a few fish and loaves of bread to feed thousands (Matthew 14:13-21). And He can multiply the impact of your generosity.

Second, the story of the Widow's Mite (Luke 21:1-4) teaches us that, in God's economy, amount sacrificed supersedes amount giving. God is more concerned about what's left at home than what's placed in the offering plate. Giving is not about a certain dollar amount. Giving is about the heart. Having little is not a time to withhold giving. It is a time to demonstrate sacrificial generosity.

When life throws challenges at you, keep giving. God is using your generosity, even during difficult times, to impact lives and to mold your heart to look more like His heart. Don't run from God's design for you and your money. Chase after it.



Lutheran Senior Care Ministry was started in 1924 to provide a Word and Worship ministry to people living in nursing homes, assisted living centers, and adult day services in the greater Fort Wayne area. Currently over 38 facilities are being served by 20 Lutheran chaplains who are active or retired pastors or deaconesses. Chaplains also provide additional ministry to residents and facility employees as requested.

In addition to the chaplain, many of the services have volunteers, including pianists and helpers who bring residents to the worship locations, aid them in finding hymns in the song books, and assist the residents and chaplains in other ways.

LSCM also distributes mid-sized, large-print Hopeful Living devotional booklets (prepared by Worship ,A,nei.v) to the residents 'Nho desire them.

A brief, 5-minute video is available here: <https://lutheranseniorcareministry.org>. An icon to start the video is on the home page to the right of the seniors who are singing God's praises.



Serving in August 2022

	Dates	Saturday	Sunday	
			8:00	10:00a
Altar Guild	Sue Baker, Mary Bear, Arlyn Farber			
Elders	August	Evans/Baker/Miller	John Hein	Michael Kuhn
Acolytes	6/7	Avery Meeks	Emily Peters	Ben Fowls, Jacob Schult
	13/14	Adelaide Davis, Caroline Stamm	Caroline Bartel, Addison Peterson	Will Biggs, Aaron Lyttle
	20/21	Savannah Bostwick	Kain and Kingston Sprunger	Adriana Briney, Matteo Passoni
	27/28	Elizabeth and Isabelle Johnson	Jack Benner, Austin Wagner	Maggie Evans, Jordyn Setser

GOD'S BLESSINGS ON THESE AUGUST WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Mark and Erin Bains	8/1	13 years	Patrick and Lisa Wetzel	8/14	40 years
Jerry and Susie Egly	8/1	41 years	David and Judy Bauer	8/15	52 years
Jim and Jan Luepke	8/1	46 years	Ken and Susan Thieme	8/15	41 years
Jacob and Jayne Schroeder	8/1	7 years	Duane and Carol Miller	8/16	36 years
Michael and Lindsey Kuhn	8/2	8 years	Michael and Dianne Snider	8/16	25 years
Mike and Julie Rohrback	8/2	53 years	Andrew and Elissabeth White	8/16	14 years
Scott and Heather Twomey	8/2	25 years	Jim and Christy Mowrey	8/17	36 years
Larry and Linda Eckerley	8/3	54 years	Philip and Cheryl Wiehe	8/17	54 years
Justin and Jenn Durnell	8/4	15 years	John and Sue Baker	8/18	38 years
Scott and Jaime McNamara	8/4	15 years	Stephen and Tammy Bickel	8/18	32 years
John and Linda Saurer	8/4	49 years	Ken and Edith Springer	8/18	54 years
Rich and Mary Busch	8/5	11 years	Shawn and Anna Davis	8/19	16 years
Kevin and Kari Peeper	8/5	5 years	Mike and Jean Bristol	8/20	56 years
Quinn and Angie Cunningham	8/8	14 years	Paul and Lynette Selking	8/20	28 years
Steve and Mary Easterday	8/8	35 years	Greg and Renee Starke	8/20	34 years
Dan and Arlyn Farber	8/8	17 years	Colin and Kelly Daseler	8/21	12 years
Bruce and Marty Schroeder	8/9	31 years	Keith and Wendi Powers	8/21	29 years
Lynn and Joann Auman	8/11	49 years	Jon and Jodi Hartman	8/22	24 years
Tyler and Kelsey Bly	8/11	4 years	Larry and Amy Dahl	8/25	38 years
Chuck and Linda Chapman	8/11	48 years	Wayne and Jean Panning	8/27	56 years
Tim and Judy Thoms	8/11	38 years	Paul and Heidi Dancy	8/28	46 years
Joe and Pam Franklin	8/12	33 years	Ron and Donna Hern	8/29	47 years
Brad and Beth Gough	8/12	44 years	Craig and Rhonda Patterson	8/29	30 years
Jim and Janet Maxson	8/12	55 years	John and Belva Patterson	8/29	58 years
Mary and Jerry Nichols	8/13	62 years	John and LauraMarie Carmody	8/31	31 years
James and Beth Brackmann	8/14	41 years	Jonathan and Dawn Derr	8/31	20 years
Shawn and Kim Patterson	8/14	29 years	Brian and Dawn Seiy	8/31	32 years

BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS—August 20/21

God bless Tom Collins; Denver Engle; Andrew Heilman; Benton Hetrick; Kylie Meyer; Kylie Peeper; Nash Roehm; Macy Scherer; Maddox Stiffler; Jason Sult; Tess Wolfe; and Makaela Wonderly.

