

November newsletter



St. Michael Lutheran Church / 432-2033 / stmfw.org

CONNECT WITH PASTOR GOFF

Why do you give? That's a rather bold question, I know. But if you will continue reading, I invite you to wrestle with that question for yourself and let me share with you one of Jesus' parables as I tell you why I give.

In Luke 19, we read about the parable of the "ten minas." Now there are some things in this parable that aren't a parallel for you and me (at least hopefully not). For instance, the "man of noble birth" went off "to a distant country to have himself appointed as king." Sounds rather arrogant if you ask me. Even worse when he returns, "his subjects hated him." Obviously, not the kind of relationship we want to model here 😊. But there is something here that gets to the point I want to make.

Before the man headed out, he gave each of his servants ten minas and said, "put this money to work." When he returned, he wanted to know what they did with it. Based on the responses from the servants, some invested their minas, and some didn't. With that, there are two things I invite you to consider.

One is that the man essentially gave each servant ten minas to "manage" for him. The minas didn't belong to the servants, they belonged to the man who gave them. In a similar manner, as Christians we believe that everything you and I have really doesn't belong to us. Instead, everything belongs to God. He simply gives it to us (through our various vocations where we receive an income) to "manage." And so maybe one of the questions for us to wrestle with in life is, "How well are we managing what God has entrusted to us?"

The second thing that stands out in this parable is this: when the man returns, he wants to find out what his servants gained with their minas. The first two servants reported what they did so their minas "earned more." In other words, they "invested" their minas to earn more. The third servant did not.

Now, there are several points to be gleaned from this parable related to our personal finances, but for the sake of why we give to the church, I think there are two critical takeaways here. First, everything I have...everything...is not really mine. I'm only managing what has been entrusted to me. So my financial giving is one way I'm managing what already belongs to God. In response to His multiple gifts He gives me (material, physical, spiritual, etc.), this is one way I respond with thanksgiving.

But also in managing my resources, it's important I invest them well. As I consider where I can put my financial resources, the work of the Lord through my local church is at the top of my list. I have become more and more convinced that if there is any hope for the mess I see in this world, it is through the work of God's Spirit in the lives of His people.

The answer to our problems isn't a better economy (although that would help). The answer to our problems isn't found in one political party over the other. The answer to our problems isn't ignoring it all and hoping things will get better. No, the answer is Jesus Christ. The answer is people returning to God. The answer is found in the one who created us in the first place. The answer is preparing future generations (i.e., ESM, Sunday school, Youth Ministry, etc.). The answer is the local church connecting people to Jesus. And if that is the case, then for me, I want to invest in the work and ministry of my church, St. Michael Lutheran Church. And likewise, it's St. Michael Lutheran Church, I'm inviting you to continue to invest in as well.

Why do you give? I hope you will think about that question especially considering what I've shared above. And in doing so, I invite you to join Laura and me in making a financial commitment to the work of the Lord at St. Michael Lutheran Church for 2023. Look for your pledge card in the mail soon!

Thank you for joining with me in this annual exercise of our Christian faith. In Christ's service and yours,

Rev. Dr. Dennis Goff

CONNECT WITH PASTOR SHAWN

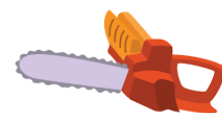
November has often been labeled as a month of giving, and we spend time talking about gratitude. We look for ways to serve our community, and we gather to give thanks on Thanksgiving. In Paul's letter to the Christians in Colossae (modern-day Turkey), he urges them: *So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness* (Colossians 2:6-7).

Our partners-in-ministry have been overflowing with thankfulness for the many hands and feet that have joined them in ministry over this past year. They also have opportunities to be a part of it in November. This is a great time to live our lives overflowing with thankfulness as we find unique ways to serve alongside each other and our partners.

OPPORTUNITIES

Camp Lutherhaven

Join in the fun of cleaning up debris around camp. Any extra hands are helpful, especially helpful if someone is a chainsaw operator! Contact Turbo, Caleb Krueger, at 636-7101 for more details and plan your visit.



Redemption House

Redemption House will hold a graduation for five residents on November 6 at 4:00p at St. Michael. Come encourage the women of the Redemption House and learn about the work that is being accomplished as we celebrate together. Check out more information on page 12.

Forward Indiana | Community Pantries

Throughout Northeast Indiana, 31 Free Food Pantries have been placed to help those who are struggling to put food on the table. These pantries are stocked with non-perishable food items that anyone can stop and grab as needed. Throughout the year, we have been blessed to stock a few of the pantries. An easy way to bless someone in need is to get a couple extra non-perishable items in your next grocery order and drop it by a pantry. Find the pantry locations facebook.com search: @forwardindiana

Christmas Giving Tree—stay tuned for dates!

This year, we will once again bless families in our neighborhoods and community through the Christmas Giving Tree. We are following the trend of other non-profits, such as Lutheran Social Services, and desire to bless our families with the ability to purchase gifts for their family members. St. Michael will provide a devotional book and a gift card for groceries to each family. On the tree, we will post one to two family gifts (puzzles, books, games) and personal hygiene items (toilet paper, paper towels, soap, toothbrush, toothpaste). We will also hang tags for two \$25 gift cards to Target, Meijer, and Kohl's (stores with clothes and toys) per family member. If you have questions, contact Robin Kaiser at rrkaiser@hotmail.com.

CARING FOR THE CAREGIVER WORKSHOP—November 9

This interactive workshop (9:00a-12:00p in Luther Hall) will focus on how to best support *all* caregivers within your faith community--a caregiver of someone with a developmental disability, someone caring for an aging parent and children in the home, or a care partner of someone with Alzheimer's, cancer or mental illness. Light refreshments will be served. To register click on the image at stmfw.org/events or the use the link: <https://tinyurl.com/yt2hr7kv>

NEWS FROM STEPHANIE

THANKSGIVING SERVICES

St. Michael has two special Thanksgiving services: Wednesday, November 23, at 7:00p with instrumental music from the hand bell choirs and Thursday, November 24, at 10:00a with choral selections from the adult choir. Praise the Lord from whom all blessings flow!

HANGING OF THE GREENS SERVICE

Join us on Wednesday, November 30, at 7:00p for a special worship service of scripture, music, and explanation of the decorations in our sanctuary including the color on the altar, Chrismon ornaments, and the significance of the advent wreath. Our bell, choir and instrumental groups will provide special music to help set the tone for this season as we journey towards the celebration of Jesus' birth! See page 7 for a family activity prior to the service!

ESM VESPERS SERVICE

ESM school children in pre-K through third grade will present the Christmas message *To Us a Child is Born* at St. Michael on Wednesday, December 7, at 10:00a and 7:00p. Students in grades 4-8 will lead worship at Emmanuel on Wednesday, December 14, at 10:00a and 7:00p. What a blessing to have these students lead us in worship as we prepare to celebrate our Lord's birth!

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS SERVICE

Our Sunday School children, preschool – 5th grade, will share the Christmas story in worship on Saturday, December 17, at 5:00p. St. Michael Academy students will provide pre-service music. Special thanks to Ali Raney for directing the children this year!

LEARN THE SONGS OF ST. MICHAEL

Shout for joy in the Lord, O you righteous! Give thanks to the Lord with the lyre; make melody to him with the harp of ten strings! Sing to him a new song; play skillfully on the strings, with loud shouts (Psalm 33:3).

We are a singing church! Singing together is one of the joys of gathering together for worship! So what are the songs of St. Michael, and how can we learn them?

1. Check out St. Michael's Spotify play list on our web site to listen to the hymns/songs that are coming up in the month of November.
2. Come to our first ever "Sing the Songs of St. Michael" on Monday, November 7, at 7:00p in Luther Hall. We will sing through several of the hymns and songs that will be part of worship for the month of November.
3. Come to worship and sing out! The best way to learn the songs is to sing! As we make a joyful noise to the Lord together, we are no longer an individual voice, but a people unified in praise!

WORSHIP ANEW

St. Michael is blessed to partner with Worship Anew as they produce a weekly, 30-minute worship service that can be seen at Comcast channel 10, Direct TV channel 377 or DISH Network channel 63 and 7442. This month, the St. Michael Adult Choir and the ESM 5th graders will be part of the service on Sunday, November 6.



SATURDAY BAND LINE-UP

November 5 King's Strings November 12 Life Song November 19 King's Strings November 26 Life Song

BELONG BECOME BLESS

MUSIC NEWS CONTINUED

THANKSGIVING AND CHRISTMAS REHEARSALS

Vocal Groups (meet in the sanctuary)

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

Bell Groups (meet in the sanctuary)

Harmony Ringers (high school-adult)	Monday	6:00-7:00p
Resound (high school-adult)	Monday	7:00-8:00p
Grace Notes (3-8 grade)	Monday	3:30-4:45p

Instrumental Groups

Orchestra:	Thursday	6:30-7:30p in Sanctuary
Flute Choir:	Sunday	9:00-9:30a in music room
Strings:		practice as needed



ACADEMY OF THE ARTS

How can you support the St. Michael Academy of the Arts?

- Attend the annual Christmas Recital on Sunday, December 4, at 3:00p in the sanctuary
- Gift music lessons to someone this Christmas! Our winter semester begins January 10, and you can register for classes at <https://academy.stmfw.org/>.
- Give to the Academy Scholarship Fund! We currently have two students receiving scholarships during Semester 1 and would like to offer scholarships for Semester 2. Your gift helps make this possible!

THANKSGIVING ART CLASS—November 13, 2:00p-4:00p

Enjoy Christian fellowship and learn how to paint a Thanksgiving collage using canvas and acrylic paints! Space is limited in Luther Hall so sign up today at stmfw.org/events. Cost is \$10.



COMMUNITY AWARENESS

Are you aware that November is National Family Caregivers Month, Military Family Month, and National Gratitude Month? St. Michael is celebrating these things! Check out the *Caring for the Caregiver* seminar on page 3, and the Veterans' Day Luncheon on page 8.



The Concordia Lutheran Church Men's Club will once again be selling Christmas trees and wreaths to help fund the church and school. The tree lot is located at the Church-School, 4245 Lake Avenue. Christmas tree sales will begin on Saturday, November 19. The lot will be open 2:00p to 8:00p weekdays, 9:00a to 8:00p on Saturdays, and 12:00p to 8:00p on Sundays. The proceeds from this fundraiser are used to support various projects and functions of the Concordia Church and school. A selection can be made from Scotch Pine, Douglas Fir, Fraser Fir, and Blue Spruce. Decorated wreaths are also available. Your patronage is greatly appreciated!

THOUGHTS FROM CELINE

NOVEMBER SPIRITUAL PRACTICE - GENEROSITY

I've mentioned this several times before, but it is worth repeating often when we are talking about spiritual disciplines. These are practices that you will strengthen as you use them more and more. It's like an exercise routine for your spiritual life. These are practices that are just as valuable as doing 30 push-ups a day (or in my case 3), eating vegetables and whole grains, or keeping a balanced personal budget. You do not have to do these to receive salvation. That is already yours. But these help us grow in connection with Christ and secondarily, in connection with others.

This month, I want us to ponder and practice generosity. In the upcoming season you will hear about generosity - A LOT. There is a good reason for that. The act of generosity is something that even those who do not follow Christ can identify.

In an article titled "What Is Generosity?" the author explains that:

"Generosity is a good thing for our mental health and well-being because when we give to someone we care about, we make it more likely for them to give to us, making us more likely to give to them, and so on. As a result, regions of our brain associated with pleasure, social connection, and trust light up, making us feel all warm and gooey inside."

I believe in the truth of this statement. Mainly because it is in God's design that we are made to share and give. I also believe that the *real truth* is much deeper than social connection and warm gooey insides. Developing generosity in ourselves is crucial to developing a heart like God.

Think of it...God was alone, so he created the world. For God's own joy and pleasure? No, for the people he would be able to **share** eternity with. Adam was alone and had all the riches of the earth *and* God. Yet, having Eve to **share** it with was a good thing, a fulfilling thing. This is, again, more than warm and gooey feelings. It's about completion. The heart of God is bent on loving others. And as people designed after God's heart - we too are full when we can love God and love others.

Generosity is also a strong antidote to idolatry. I realize that you have probably heard plenty of teaching on how we can make false gods out of almost anything. One concrete way to see what is taking the top spot in our hearts is to look at where we are putting our time and money. Is it on entertainment? Food? Nice new things? It's not wrong to put time and money towards these things. The reality is that your rent, mortgage, gas bill, food bills, and saving for vacation or other big purchases will likely take up most of your income. But take a look at the remaining funds. Where do those go? Even if it is just \$20 you can do something for yourself...or you can practice sharing with others. It has never been and never will be about how much. It's about giving from what you have. Like the widow in Mark 12:41-44. (Take a peek if you don't remember the story.) And if the lies of Satan begin to creep in and whisper that you will not have enough for yourself - turn to God and remember He is with you and He provides what is sufficient for His children.

So this month, let's take the next steps in practicing generosity. For some of us it will mean being intentional about the act. For others it may be forgoing something you need so that others can benefit from the time or money you would have spent. You will know where you are and how you can push a little more in this area.

Some ideas:

- Pay for someone's meal.
- Make time for a conversation with someone who may be lonely.
- Take time to pick up leaves in someone else's yard.
- Let someone go before you in line.
- Be intentional about your tithing
- Find an additional ministry to support
- Tip your server extra this month

Acts 20:35

In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

FAMILY MINISTRY FROM CARRIE

Thank you, thank you, thank you to everyone who donated candy, ran a game station, decorated their car, served food, or donated food to our Fall Family Fun Festival! We could not have done the event without you! The families that attended had a great time trick or treating, playing games, eating hot dogs and chili, and hearing a story of how a pumpkin relates to the Gospel!



Thanksgiving

It's November and that means Thanksgiving, which is a wonderful time to talk with your family about being thankful for all the things God has given us. Check out the "shoppe" at visualefaithmin.org for some free resources to help your family with their thankfulness journey this month. There are scripture verses to color, cards and postcard to share with others and lots of other things you can download!

FAMILY ADVENT ACTIVITY—November 30 at 5:30p

What does the thought of Christmas time bring to your mind? Shopping, gift lists, parties, ugly sweaters? Santa, Elf on the Shelf, stockings, decorating your home, traveling "home" to see loved ones? What about the coming of Christ? The birth of our Savior and Lord? Advent wreaths and calendars? How would your children answer that same question?

St. Michael wants to equip parents to meaningfully celebrate the Advent season with your children so we can walk through this season together, intentionally engaging the real reason for this season with each other. Advent means "coming" and it's a season for us to anticipate the coming of our Lord and prepare our hearts for him. One of the ways St. Michael has traditionally done this is through the "Hanging of the Greens" service on the first Wednesday in Advent (November 30). Just as we prepare our homes for Christmas, we want to prepare God's home, but this year we need your help to do it!

Join us in Luther Hall for dinner and ornament making, and then move with us into the Sanctuary at 7:00p for the Hanging of the Greens service. The ornaments that your family makes that evening will be used to decorate an evergreen tree during the service. You will also go home with an additional ornament for your own tree as well as an Advent calendar for your family to use throughout the season. Please sign up at stmfw.org/events so we can get an accurate head count for food and supplies.

Each Sunday during Advent, your child will be given an ornament making kit during the children's message. We invite you to create the ornament together as a family and either keep it for your own tree or bring it back to church and add it to the tree from the Hanging of the Greens service. We would like you to share pictures or short videos (in landscape orientation) with us so that we can share them during preservice, the offering, or our announcement time to see what your family has created each week. The weekly ornament kits will tie into the week's Advent wreath theme, adding another layer of teaching about Advent to your family time.

We hope you will join us this Advent season in making God's house feel like our very home, a place where our children know they are loved, cared for, and seen. A place where you know you are loved, cared for, and seen. In the "Hanging of the Greens" service, we repeat the phrase, "Make this place glad." We hope you will join us that evening to do just that!

LOOKING AHEAD

Practices for our Children's Christmas Program will begin during the Sunday school hour on November 13. Look for details to come home soon!

BELONG BECOME BLESS

BELONG

CONGREGATIONAL DINNER AND MEETING

Sunday, November 20, at 5:00p

Join us for Christian fellowship, food and a brief meeting on the business of the church! Childcare will be provided during the meeting!

A-F bring a dessert

M-S bring a main dish

G-L bring a side

T-Z bring a salad

J.O.Y. GROUP (Just Older Youth 55 and older!)

Thursday, November 10: Veteran's Day Program at Noon in Luther Hall \$10.00



Representatives from Honor Flight will join us, along with a special visit from our ESM school choir. This is a special time for us to honor our Veterans, and we encourage each one attending to bring memorabilia to share, and of course a few stories! Please feel free to bring family members; or if someone in your family served we would love for them to share as well! Mission BBQ is providing lunch. **RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED!** Sign up online at <https://tinyurl.com/47zrifev> or fill out the form at the Information Desk in the lobby.

Thursday, December 8: Annual Christmas Dinner at Noon in the Lobby

"Christmas in July" was only a make-up Christmas...our annual luncheon will be catered by Goeglein's and is the real thing! (Santa must be so confused!) Enjoy the ESM children along with Jubilant Fields and of course our traditional time of singing Christmas carols. **RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED!** Watch for the deadline, online reservations and reservation forms at the information center in the lobby closer to the date of the program.

PRAYING FOR OUR NATION—November 2/16

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).

PURLS—November 1/17



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. A supply of shawls is available in the lobby for members to take and present to someone in need. Direct your questions to Pat Armstrong through the church office.

COFFEE BREAK WOMEN'S STUDY—November 9/23

New members welcome! We will meet from 9:15a-10:45a in Luther Hall over coffee and God's Word as we study *Rediscover Jesus*. Questions? Contact Janet Olson at jmo11434@gmail.com.



BOOK CLUB—Thursday, November 17, at 10:00a

Book club will meet the third Thursday of the month in the conference room. This month we are reading *Sunflower Sisters* by Martha Hall Kelly. Anyone who enjoys reading and a good discussion is always welcome!

BELONG

CONNECT GROUPS

This season, St. Michael will be developing connect groups. Our prayer is that all members find and engage with a connect group on a regular basis. These groups will be a great way for all of us to find connection and belonging in the St. Michael community. If you are willing to lead a group or have questions, please contact our Director of Belonging, Celine Newman. If you would like to get connected to a group go to <https://stmfw.org/connect>.

DISCIPLESHIP FOUNDATIONS CLASS—November 6-20

Join us for this three-week class in Luther Hall where we learn more about how God uniquely designed us and how we can use those gifts in His kingdom. DFC is for anyone wanting to take further steps in being connected and those seeking to join membership at St. Michael.

MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST—November 19 in Luther Hall

All men are invited to attend this group to share in breakfast, devotion, and prayer. We meet at 8:00a on the third Saturday of each month. For more information, contact Dennis Brink at 238-4046 or Dennis.Brink@att.net.

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. The November meeting location is the youth room at the east end of the gym, from 6:00p-8:00p. Agenda: What is the best way for St. Michael to communicate our life-affirming message? For more information, contact Dennis Brink at 238-4046 or Dennis.Brink@att.net.



STEPHEN MINISTRY

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.

WHO BENEFITS FROM STEPHEN MINISTRY?

Everybody benefits from Stephen Ministry. Those receiving care from Stephen Ministers benefit because they receive prayer and support throughout the crisis they face. Stephen Ministers benefit through the spiritual growth they experience from being involved in meaningful ministry. Our pastors benefit because caring ministry at St. Michael is expanded, and fewer people will slip through the cracks. Most of all you benefit from the knowledge that special care is available to you should you need it. In addition, you now have a place where you can refer a friend, neighbor, coworker, relative, or anyone else you know who is going through a difficult time so that they can receive special care when they need it most. Stephen Ministry makes St. Michael a much more caring place! Call Linda Kraus for more information at 446-4347.

EMMANUEL-ST. MICHAEL LUTHERAN SCHOOL

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Pastor John H.C. Fritz authored an essay under the title “Why a Christian School for My Children” more than 60 years ago. The paragraph below captures the essence of his thesis.

“Our Lutheran Church has never underestimated the great value of a good all-around education. Of the right kind of knowledge, we cannot acquire too much. The foundation of a man’s life is laid in his youth. The years of childhood make up the formative period of life. Our boys and girls are our men and women of the coming years. Our future generation will be what our children are today: physically, mentally, morally, spiritually. The purpose of the Christian parochial school in our Lutheran Church is to provide our children with a proper and well-balanced “diet,” to give them what they need for a proper healthy development of the intellect and the soul. To fit them for life.”

Pastor Fritz articulates a mission that helped establish the LCMS as a leader in parochial education decades ago. Today, that same purpose exists. A Lutheran education is one that establishes Christ firmly in the center of life and seeks to connect children and families to the grace freely offered by our Savior. This is done within the context of excellent academic instruction.

Families may identify many and varied reasons for their participation in our school. However, regardless of their reason for attendance, we must not be varied in our purpose for existing. More than at any other time in our nation’s history we need Christian leaders who confidently and consistently are able to go into the world fulfilling the commission of Matthew 28:16-20. This requires a unified commitment to the mission and ministry of ESM and to that end Lutheran education must not water-down, compromise, or waver in our teaching of Christ crucified at all times.

Dr. Ben Stellwagen

EMMANUEL-ST. MICHAEL LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL

As November begins, thankfulness will be a predominant theme in our classrooms as the children are reminded of the many blessings God showers on them each day. Preschoolers will meet with their buddies to read a story and create a Kindness Quilt filled with ideas of ways the children can show kindness to those around them. Students will be challenged to perform “acts of kindness” throughout the month of November and beyond. ESM preschool classrooms provide opportunities for children to explore, discover, learn and grow in the knowledge of God’s world and hear about and experience the great love of Jesus! For more information on our classes, to schedule a tour, or to be placed on our mailing list for the 2023-2024 school year, please contact Jennifer Ackmann at jackmann@esmeagles.com or 459-1616.

November Excitement

- Special Activity: November 6 - Union Preschoolers sing at Emmanuel in 10:30a service
- Buddy Time: Kindness Quilt Activity with 8th grade and 3rd grade buddies
- Science: Changing Seasons, Exploring Magnets
- Bible: 10 Commandments, David, Ruth
- Memory Verse: Give thanks to the Lord for He is good. Psalm 136:1
- ESM Vespers Practice Begins!



YOUTH

High School Youth will meet on November 13 (sloppy joes) and 20 from 6:00p-8:00p. Middle School Youth will meet in Luther Hall on November 20 from 4:00p-6:00p and enjoy a combo meal with the high school youth of soups and salads. If you can help with these either of these meals, please text Lisa Schaefer at 409-5662.

We also are in need of adult volunteers to help with the Middle School Youth Nights! We are blessed to have a good number of Middle School Youth and for safety we need adults to show them support! Please text Lisa at 409-5662 if you can donate a few hours from 4:00p-6:00p.



CLHS

JOIN US FOR CLHS CADETS IN CADENCE DINNER AUCTION—December 3

It's time to get your tickets for Concordia Lutheran High School's Cadets in Cadence USO Big Band Christmas Gala! Please check out www.CadetsInCadence.com for more information, to buy your tickets and for sponsorships!

TRIVIA NIGHT TO SUPPORT CLHS—November 5 at 7:00p

You're invited to CLHS Trivia Night in the CLHS Cafeteria. Enjoy an evening out to celebrate with other Concordia parents, alumni, and friends, and gather gifts for the USO Big Band Christmas Dinner Auction. Get ready to have a blast with our Emcee, Mr. Tim Reinking! Tables of 8 will compete against each other. Don't have a table of 8? Don't worry, we will make sure you have a team! There will be 10 categories with 10 questions per category. **Please complete the online registration at: <https://www.clhscadets.com/apps/form/TriviaNight> by October 25.** Please bring a gift, gift card, or cash donation with a value of \$50 or more for us to use for the upcoming Cadets in Cadence silent auction. Our goal is to collect as many great items for our Dinner Auction as possible and have a lot of fun! Adults only. Snacks, beer, and wine are provided. Prizes for the best-themed table and for the first-place team!

CONCORDIA DAY AND DISCOVER CONCORDIA NIGHT—November 11/16

Our Preview Day is a great way for 8th graders to experience high school for a day. Students will tour classes, see our various programs, and get a good taste of high school life. Students need to arrive at the high school by 8:50a. The day will end by 12:30p. A free lunch is provided or you may bring your lunch. Casual dress attire. If your student is not already attending with their school, please register. Any 8th grader from any school is welcome! Register now at www.CometoConcordiaDay.com. This is for students only.

On November 16, we will host our annual Discover Concordia Night at 6:30p. This night is open to any parent and student who would like to learn more about attending Concordia Lutheran High School. The evening includes a program and a tour of the high school. Please register at www.CometoConcordiaDay.com and arrive a few minutes early for check-in.

CHRISTMAS AT THE EMBASSY



Join us for our annual Christmas at the Embassy concert at 4:00p on Sunday, December 11 at the Historic Embassy Theatre. Kick off the Christmas season with sounds from our bands, choirs and orchestra students. It's a tradition that you won't want to miss! Tickets are \$12 for students/seniors and \$18 for general admission. They will be available for sale at the Embassy Box Office around mid-November.

ST. MICHAEL FINANCIAL UPDATE

	September 2022	January – September 2022	September 2021
Offerings & Other Income	\$103,418	\$1,116,791	\$114,182
Ministry Expenses	\$136,705	\$1,152,690	\$113,287
Income over Expenses	(\$33,287)	(\$35,899)	\$895

Automated Giving

St. Michael offers electronic giving for members. Visit our website and click on “Giving”.

THANK YOU to our Kroger shoppers!

St. Michael has 55 households that donated \$168 last quarter!

BELONG BECOME BLESS

REDEMPTION HOUSE

Redemption House celebrated 10 years of helping women come close to God and live a life pleasing to Him. So far, in 2022 alone, 46 women have been served, 92% have become employed, 89% report a closer relationship with God, 62% have increased contact with their children & family, and 46% continue education or specialized training. St. Michael will host a meal at the Wayne Street home on December 4, and the Fairfield Avenue home on November 13 and December 18. Contact Linda Chapman at 417-3052 if you can help with this valuable ministry!

GAP MINISTRY—November 19/20

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.

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

AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

November 5

St. Michael is pleased to host the American Red Cross from 8:00a-1:00p. By donating 45 minutes of time and one pint of blood, you are impacting the lives of up to THREE patients in need! Please schedule an appointment at RedCrossBlood.org with sponsor code STMICFW or: <https://tinyurl.com/3fdaseau>

LWML NEWS

For those saving their “mites”, we will be collecting in early 2023. Please stay tuned for details!



Camp Lutherhaven

IMPACT is a High School Winter Retreat, held January 13-15, planned and led by the Leadership Impact Team (LIT) of High School aged individuals that are selected by Camp Lutherhaven for the event. In other words, Impact is by High Schoolers for High Schoolers. Under the direction of Lutherhaven, this will be an event that focuses on connecting in relevant and authentic ways with participants. Because the leadership team is intentionally made up of peers and role models their own age, participants experience a ministry impact carefully and prayerfully crafted from those immersed in the uniqueness of teenagers growing with Jesus in a complicated world.

ELDERS



Thank you to everyone for expressing your appreciation for our church workers at St. Michael. It was so nice to take a month and appreciate everything they do for our church and its ministry.

WHO IS YOUR ELDER?

If you are not sure who your elder is, 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 Muntzingermark@marksbodyshopincftw.com
Michael Kuhnmdkuhn8214@gmail.com
Nathan Nix.....nathananix@gmail.com
Paul Selking.....pselking1@gmail.com
Zach Evanszdevans@hotmail.com
Tom Latin..... thomasjlatin@hotmail.com
Jeremy Allyn.....energymanallyn@gmail.com
Bob Cole.....bob51cole@aol.com

STEWARDSHIP

*The more you get, the more you want...*the phrase is pretty common. I’ve come to realize that this is the case for just about anyone who may not have the right perspective of money and possessions. Here is what the Bible says about the dangers of loving money: “Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.” 1 Timothy 6:9-10

It’s clear that the love of money has a lure that not even many of us who have more than enough can resist. I’d go so far to say: the more you get, the more you want to keep to yourself. So, how can we resist being greedy and loving money?

1. Focus on loving Christ. If you love the Lord, you cannot love money, stuff, or anything else at the same time (Matthew 6:24). Because when you love Him, you will be devoted to Him only.
2. Give from your money and possessions. The more you become a giver, the less you’ll be a keeper—and the easier it is to relinquish your love of these things. As I was researching how common “the more you get, the more you want” is, I came across a quote from the late architect and author Norton Juster: “The more you want, the less you get, and the less you get, the more you have.” It’s a beautiful reality that even the Bible promises many times over. “Give, and it shall be given unto you, good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over” (Luke 6:38).
3. Flee—and pursue what is good. But you, man of God, flee from all this, and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance and gentleness. (1 Timothy 6:11). Learning to love the Lord, to give and to pursue what is really good doesn’t come overnight. As financial disciples, guess what... You’ll be tempted on a regular basis (maybe even several times a day). But that’s what the Holy Spirit is here for: to correct, guide and protect us. The riches on earth are temporary, but the true riches are eternal. Let us set our eyes on these things.

(This article is adapted from *How to Live a Life without Greed* by Melody Stampley)

BELONG BECOME BLESS

Serving in November 2022

	Dates	Saturday	Sunday	
			8:00	10:45a
Altar Guild	Carol Olry, Judy Pieper, Arlyn Farber			
Elders	November	Nathan Nix	John Hein	John Hendrickson
Acolytes	5/6	Aaron Lyttle, Adam Ruch	Ben Fowls, Isabelle Johnson	Henry Mueller, Austin Wagner
	12/13	Jack Benner	Caroline Bartel, Emily Peters	Naomi Hendrickson, Emilia Yoder
	19/20	Aaron and Reid McDonald	Jaden Hoover	Gracelyn Sprunger, Ethan Loggins
	23/24	Ashlyn Reiter (23) Adelaide Davis (24) Elizabeth Johnson (24)		
	26/27	Jordyn Setser	Kain and Kingston Sprunger	Maggie Evans, Riley McNamara
	30	Avery Meeks		

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

God's blessings to...	Day	Years	God's blessings to...	Day	Years
Lynn and Nancy Sackschewsky	1	60	Jake and Leslie Miller	11	25
Paul and Mary Leininger	1	32	Charles and Katie Henry	13	12
Jim and Kelly Lohman	4	44	Loren and Lisa Schaefer	13	23
John and Dee Mortimer	4	44	Stan and Sally Scheumann	13	40
Damian and Valerie Hensley	5	23	Al and Cynthia Claus	14	57
John and Ida Kaiser	5	17	Wayne and Barbara Augenstein	15	47
Paul and Amie Leslie	5	11	Mike and DeeDee Beights	16	20
Joe and Erica Mutton	5	7	Donald and Kathyne Magner	18	3
Ron and Kendra Nieman	5	56	Ted and Holly Raney	26	25
Amos and Karen Werling	5	56	Josh and Krisanne Clinkenbeard	27	9
Randy and Tina Hoover	7	13	Matt and Christine Hendrickson	27	18

BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS—November 19/20

Please pray for Veda Coe; Henry Daseler; Everett Fillmore; Killian Foes; Mikey Fulcher; Mason Gould; Blake Hathaway; Christian Hope; Faith Lee; Elliot Lyons; Riya Manck; Erica Meyer; Charlie Mutton; Nyle Roehm; James Scare; Tatum Scherer; Brooklyn Schroeder; Sawyer Sponseller; Emily, Leland and Ethan White.

ATTENTION BUSINESS DONORS: DISCOVER THE JOY OF GIVING THROUGH THE SGO PROGRAM!

Starting October 1, any gift from a new donor with a business, including sole proprietorships, LLCs, and incorporated businesses, to one of the 22 schools in our family of schools in Northeast Indiana would be matched \$1 for \$1 up to \$10,000 per business for an accumulated total of \$100,000. Gifts from lapsed donors (3 or more years since their last gift) will also be considered for this match. Challenge ends December 31!

LIFE LINE SCREENING—Friday, November 18

Life Line Screening, the nation's leading provider of preventive health screenings, will offer affordable, non-invasive and painless health screenings in Luther Hall. Choose from screenings to identify risk for stroke, heart disease and other chronic conditions:

- Carotid artery ultrasound to identify plaque buildup in the carotid arteries, a major risk factor for stroke
- Abdominal aortic aneurysm ultrasound to identify presence of an enlargement in the largest blood vessel
- EKG to identify the presence of atrial fibrillation, which increases the risk for stroke
- Ultrasound of the lower legs to look for plaque buildup known as peripheral arterial disease
- Ultrasound of the shin bone to identify risk for osteoporosis

These 5 screenings are offered for only \$159 and take 60-90 minutes to complete. If you register today, you will receive a \$10 member discount. Register by calling toll free 1-888-653-6450, or text the word "circle" to 797979.

BELONG BECOME BLESS