

October newsletter



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

CONNECT WITH PASTOR GOFF



It's good to be here! Laura and I thank you for the warm reception you've shown us so far and the wonderful celebration you hosted for my installation on September 25. We feel blessed to serve the Lord and his church here with you at St. Michael!

St. Michael Lutheran Church and School is obviously a vibrant ministry and is blessed with many incredible people. With everything that happens here on a daily basis, it will take a while for me to navigate all the various ministries (and putting names and faces together), so continue to be patient with me!

So now, where do I begin? It's probably not surprising for me as a pastor to say this, but I think the best place to begin is in God's Word. With that in mind, I want to introduce you to the sermon series I am beginning this month as well as the adult Bible class on Sunday morning.

First, the sermon series. I have come to believe how important it is for a congregation to be clear about who they are and where they are headed. One thing that guides that is a mission statement. A mission statement is not something to develop and never refer back to, but rather for everything we do to flow out of it. I don't mind saying that I think the mission statement of St. Michael is a clear and concise one. Why are we here? We are here to **connect people to Jesus**. Through the ministry of ESM, through the worship services, through visitations, through small groups, through music ministry, through Bible classes and Sunday school, through mission trips, through youth ministry, through senior ministry, and everything else – everything we do is about connecting people to Jesus.

With that in mind, I am beginning a sermon series this fall entitled, "Connecting People to Jesus." Each week we will unpack different examples of how Jesus connected with people, which serves as a model for us as well. When Jesus said, "I am the vine, you are the branches," (John 15:5) he was talking about connections between us and him. I look forward to exploring those connections with you this fall.

Secondly, I am beginning a Sunday morning Bible study on the book of Psalms that I'm calling, "Why the Psalms?" In addition to looking at why the Psalms still have meaning for our life today, we will explore the different kinds of Psalms, how to read them, how to pray the Psalms, where we see Jesus in the Psalms, etc. I pray you will be a part of that study as we connect with each other through God's Word.

Again, it's great to be here! I look forward to our relationship together, as together we connect people with Jesus.

Pastor Goff

CONNECT WITH PASTOR SHAWN

And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:19

God's Blessings Continue...

Last November (2021), as a congregation we voted to move forward with an application for a DCE Intern from Concordia University, Nebraska. We were blessed to turn in the application in a timely manner last January. Following, we had a visit from the DCE Intern Coordinator to speak with our Leadership Team and Lay Leaders, to get a feel for “who we are” in order to find a candidate that would fit well with our team. In February, the DCE Intern Coordinator informed St. Michael that we did not receive an intern from the students that were being sent out over the summer. Since then, we continued to have regular communication with the DCE Intern Coordinator regarding congregational updates.

On September 26, we received a phone call from the DCE Intern Coordinator with the amazing news that we are having a DCE Intern placed at St. Michael beginning in January 2023. She will be with us for a year as she learns about fulltime ministry and works with our youth ministry team and leadership team. Stay tuned to learn more and participate in welcoming her into our community. Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

BLESSING THE WORLD AROUND US

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever (Hebrews 13:8).

As we move into a new season of the year, fall, the air is crisp and leaves are turning. It is also an active season for our partners in ministry. As we look at ways to bless the community around us, we join our partners in ministry to have a greater impact on the world around us. Here are a few opportunities (keep an eye on Facebook and stmfw.org for more):

Redemption House

October 2 at 2:00p in Luther Hall



The Redemption House is endeavoring in a capital campaign for renovations and upgrades to the two existing houses, as well as new adventures. Come learn about ways to be a part! Check out page 15 for more news!

Shepherd's Hands Center

Trunk or Treat | Health Fair

October 22 from 11:00a -2:00p (Setup starts at 9:30a)



Ways to be involved: Set up chairs and canopies in the morning! Nurses are needed to do BS and BP checks. Come and decorate a trunk for the Trunk or Treat fun for kids of the neighborhood. For more information or to sign up to volunteer contact Susan Hein at heinsd01@frontier.com!

Camp Lutherhaven

Fall Work Day, October 8 starting at 8:45a

*Overnight October 7-8 is optional



Enjoy a day at camp working on a plethora of projects from raking leaves to painting buildings to repairing equipment in order to prepare for the winter months ahead. Learn more at <https://lutherhaven.org/event/fall-work-day/>

St. Michael

Worship in the gym at 5:00p on Saturday, October 29! Fall Family Fun Festival follows from 6:30p-8:30p in the gym and parking lot! Find out more on page 11!

INSTALLATION SERVICE OF PASTOR DENNIS GOFF



St. Michael is blessed to call Rev. Dr. Dennis Goff our new Senior Pastor! Over 385 of our St. Michael family and friends welcomed Pastor and Laura Goff on Sunday, September 25 with a 4:00p worship service.

Thank you to Stephanie Maxson, for organizing more than 60 musicians who participated in the Adult Choir, Orchestra and Worship Bands as we glorified God on this amazing and long-awaited occasion! Please find the recorded service on our YouTube channel or stmfw.org.

Pastor Shawn Davis participated as the officiant, Rev. Dan May as installer, and Rev. Dr. Tom Ahlersmeyer as preacher. Rev. Don Sandmann, Rev. Bill Mueller, Rev. Karl Frincke, Rev. Bob Bruckner, Rev. Roger Mullet, Rev. Dick Koehneke, Rev. Steve Ahlersmeyer, Rev. Herb Schumm, Rev. Dennis McFadden, Rev. Dan Sheafer, and Rev. Paul Dancy attended and each gave a personal blessing on Pastor Goff's ministry.



The Lord bless you and keep you



NEWS FROM STEPHANIE

LEARN AND SING THE SONGS OF ST. MICHAEL

Oh sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth! Sing to the Lord, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day. Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples! For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; He is to be feared above all gods (Psalm 96:1-4).

We are a singing church! Through hymns and songs, we praise and acknowledge who God is and give Him honor. Singing together is one of the joys of gathering together for worship! In Ephesians 5:19 Paul writes, "Address one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart." So what are the songs of St. Michael and how can we learn them? We need to do a better job of this! Here are a few ways to help.

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 October.
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 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!

JOIN US AT CHOIR PRACTICE!

Our SATB, Adult Choir will rehearse every Wednesday in October from 7:00p-8:15p. For those who are interested in singing with a smaller group, we have a *Women's Choir (October 5 & 19)* and a *Men's Choir (October 5 & 19)*. These two choirs will practice from 6:30p-7:00p on alternate weeks.

KIDS' BELL CHOIR STARTS THIS MONTH! (meet in the sanctuary)

Grace Notes is a beginning bell choir for students in grades 3-8 and begins Monday, October 3, from 3:30-4:45p. Students will learn about rhythm, reading music, working together, and following the director. The bell choir will play on Sunday, November 20, at 10:45a and Saturday, December 17, for the 5:00p service. Participating in Grace Notes is *free* and a wonderful way to praise the Lord with music!

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; October 6, 13, 20
Wednesday 7:00-8:00p with choir; October 26
Flute Choir: Sunday 9:00-9:30a in music room
Strings: practice as needed

If you are interested in singing or playing an instrument, please contact our Worship Director, Stephanie Maxson, at stephanie@stmfw.org for more information.

MUSIC NEWS CONTINUED

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 our Emmanuel-St. Michael Grade 4 Choir (2021-2022) will be part of the service on Sunday, October 2 and members of our Adult Choir will be on the program on Sunday, October 23.

SATURDAY BAND LINE-UP

October 1 King's Strings **October 8** Life Song **October 15** King's Strings
October 22 Life Song **October 29** Jubilant Fields

ACADEMY OF THE ARTS

"Music expresses that which cannot be put into words and that which cannot remain silent." **Victor Hugo**

There are so many benefits to learning an instrument at a young age, or any age! Here are a few:

1. **Teaches Patience.** Playing an instrument means persevering through practice, even on the days when it is not fun.
2. **Creates Responsibility.** Students learn how to care for their instrument and set aside time to practice.
3. **Boosts Self-esteem.** Learning an instrument provides kids an outlet to practice, receive feedback, make adjustments and see positive change. Students have a sense of accomplishment as they experience the positive results of hard work and perseverance.
4. **Enhances Coordination.** Playing an instrument improves hand-eye coordination as students concentrate on reading music and then converting the notes into the physical motion of playing.
5. **Promotes Math Skills.** Music and math are very connected! Kids learn how to divide measures into beats, understand time signature, and the intervals between notes.
6. **Increases Memory Capacity.** Music teaches kids to create, store, and retrieve memories; similar to a work out for the brain. Take learning the guitar as an example: students have to memorize which strings correspond with which notes and how to play chords with specific hand position.
7. **Aids Social Skills.** Kids learn that by putting instruments together they can create music they cannot play on their own. Students learn how to respect the gifts and skills of other musicians.
8. **Exposes New Cultures.** Music is a reflection of history. Students learn about the cultures that created different genres of music like jazz, blues, classical, and baroque.
9. **Improves Language Development.** As children learn how to distinguish different pitches, they also learn to distinguish differences between spoken words.
10. **Opportunity to Praise!** Music provides opportunity to give God honor and praise! Miriam, King David, and Mary are just a few examples of the people who used music as an offering to the Lord. Music helps us convey emotions in a way that words cannot.

We are excited that we have **39 students** currently registered for the fall session! Register today at <https://academy.stmfw.org/>. We continue to collaborate with Joyful Creations Kindermusik to offer classes for children age's birth through 5 years old. Register at <https://jcstudio.kindermusik.com/location/57472>

THOUGHTS FROM CELINE

I recently had a discussion with my counselor about making changes and putting the behaviors we want into practice. We talked about what it takes to be intentional about the change we are trying to achieve. The first step is becoming aware of the behavior we don't want. Frustratingly, this awareness often comes after the fact. We can look back and see what we *could* have done...what we *should* have done. It is easy to get discouraged. To be tempted to stop trying. Or even giving in and going to the extreme of pulling away and disengaging from the situation or even more drastic - from the people.

What is our response when we are aware of the wrong that has been done? Forgiveness.

Forgiveness is one of the most important; if not THE most important gift we have been given. And it is one of the most important gifts that we are to put into practice. "Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you." Ephesians 4:32

Why is forgiveness necessary? It allows for a way forward. Think of this - what way forward would we have if we were never given forgiveness through Christ? We would have to go back and correct every instance where we failed to be perfect. And we would have to repair the trust and brokenness in the relationship with God by continuing to be perfect. Otherwise the process would begin again. This is not just unlikely - it's impossible. So - God created another way forward. He forgave.

And that is what we are commanded to do as Christians. It is important to note that **forgiveness is letting go of the past things that are owed to us**. It does not mean that the relationship is instantly safe, whole, or that we have to immediately let someone who has hurt us back into our lives. That is the work of reconciliation (a whole other topic). Forgiveness provides a way for reconciliation to begin. Forgiveness is what allows for us to work towards connection instead of letting sin push us apart.

Like any discipline it is a "muscle" that we can exercise. The more we use it. The more easily we can forgive. And the more we forgive the closer we become to those in our lives because we are not letting the debts of the past get in our way. It will never be easy though. Forgiveness is a choice we make in the face of real hurt and brokenness. There are those who have damaged us in our childhood, those who have stolen our chance at opportunities for the life we have worked and hoped for. Those whose anger, envy, greed, distraction, ect. have caused seemingly reckless and careless loss. Those who seem to ignore the value of the people around them. There are also the deep destructive habits and choices we know in ourselves. The brokenness, damage, and loss that we have caused. Even as I write this I can feel the weight of it all.

So - first, hear these words. **You are forgiven. For every misstep you have taken. For the hurt you have caused. For every time you have failed to reach the ideal and it caused pain. You are forgiven.**

Next - think of something "small" that weighs on you. It may be that person who cut you off while driving, or the way someone spoke to you recently. And practice letting it go and giving it away to Jesus. And when the weight comes again, it likely will, give it away again. Actively choose a heart posture that *refuses* to hang onto those wrongs. As the "muscle" grows you will be able to make the choice in bigger and heavier situations. Working towards forgiveness in those deep wounds. Knowing that every step of the way the Spirit is with you, giving you all things necessary for forgiveness to be your way of life.

**CHECK OUT THE COMMUNITY GROUPS
BULLETIN BOARD OUTSIDE
THE CHURCH OFFICE!**



FAMILY MINISTRY FROM CARRIE

Fall is here and with it come cooler weather, thoughts of warm apple cider, pumpkins, apples, and opportunities for fall family fun! We will be hosting a Fall Family Fun Festival on Saturday, October 29, from 6:30p-8:30p in the gym and parking lot. Worship is at 5:00p in the gym! Then join us for games, a story time, cider and hot chocolate, snacks, live music by Jubilant Fields, and trunk or treat! Tell your neighbors and friends and invite them to join us!

Some folks may ask why we hold this event. Don't kids get enough candy? Won't they trick or treat anyway? Are we encouraging the celebration of Halloween? Regardless of the answers to those questions, we do this event for a couple of reasons.

1. It's a chance for families to come out and have a good time together. Families need more opportunities for this!
2. We're hoping to build relationships with the families in our community and perhaps even become their church home.
3. We want to lead people to Christ and the first step in that journey is making connections. This is a way to do just that!

Volunteers and donations will be needed to make this event a success. If you're interested in helping in any of the listed ways, please contact Carrie at Carrie.gould1137@yahoo.com or at 937-641-9744.

Volunteers needed to:

1. Decorate your trunk and hand out candy
2. Man a game station/table inside the gym and hand out prizes
3. Help hand out apple cider, hot chocolate, and light snacks
4. Connection partners to meander around and provide assistance where needed, be a smiling face, etc.
5. Make light snacks for guests to enjoy

Donations needed:

1. Candy, candy, candy!
2. Other individually packaged snacks (pretzels, popcorn, fruit snacks, etc.)
3. Apple cider
4. Hot chocolate
5. Light snacks for the families that come to the festival (fruit, veggies, chips, cookies, anything that's easy to eat on the go)

A NOTE FROM PASTOR KARL FRINCKE

Dear Friends in Christ,

Thank you so much for your many expressions of gratitude, your best wishes and kind words as I finished our transition time together. You have been great to work with and I'm so happy that you now have a very good Senior Pastor to lead and care for you. Susan has very much enjoyed her contacts with you, too, and we both treasure our relationships with you. You are great people and, God-willing, we plan to visit from time to time. May God continue to lead you into His will.

I would like to thank Pastor Davis - and I hope you will, too, if you haven't already - for his generous work during the transition. He was not only a huge help to me by teaching me the ropes and assisting me in many ways. He took up extra duties and picked up the slack so that things would not slip through the cracks. All this willingly and well. Thank you Pastor Shawn!! And thanks to St. Michael's wonderfully talented staff for all they did, not only to keep the ship afloat, but went well beyond: Stephanie, Rhonda, Celine, Tina, Tammy and a number of part-time people. You can be grateful and very proud of them; I am! - May God continue to lead you into His will as your journey of faith continues. *Pastor Karl and Susan Frincke*



BELONG

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

Tuesday, October 4/18 at 1:00p in Luther Hall

Mark your calendars for the first and third Tuesdays of the month as Pastor Bob Bruckner leads us in Bible Study!

Thursday, October 13 at 12:00 in Luther Hall

Bring a sack lunch and enjoy drinks and dessert on us! BINGO w/prizes, euchre, or bring a game to share! **There will be a short presentation from a representative from Shepherd's House**, a faith based, non-profit residential/transitional housing center for many Veterans and others located on the northeast side of town.

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!** Watch for the deadline, online reservations and reservation forms at the information center in the lobby closer to the date of the program.

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 narthex closer to the date of the program.

PRAYING FOR OUR NATION—October 5/19

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—October 4/18



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.

COFFEE BREAK WOMEN'S STUDY—October 12/26

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, October 20 at 10:00a

Book club will meet the third Thursday of the month in the conference room. This month we are reading *Her Heart for a Compass* by Sarah Ferguson. Anyone who enjoys reading and a good discussion is always welcome!

BELONG

MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST—October 15

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 at various locations. For the location of our meeting and more information, contact Dennis Brink at 260-238-4046 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. For more information, contact Dennis Brink at 238-4046 or Dennis.Brink@att.net.



A reminder, if you are interested, here is an activity before our October 4 monthly life team meeting:

- Sunday October 2, 2:00p—annual Memorial for the Unborn (Catholic Cemetery, 3500 Lake Avenue)
<https://www.ichooselife.org/resources/events/upcoming-events/memorial-for-the-unborn>

And, please contact me if you would like to sign up for these, which are shortly after the October 4 meeting:

- Thursday October 6, noon to 8:00p—St. Michael's scheduled participation in 40 Days for Life
<https://www.ichooselife.org/resources/events/upcoming-events/40-days-for-life>
- Monday October 10, 6:30p— The RLNI annual fundraising banquet – Tim Tebow is the keynote speaker.
<https://www.ichooselife.org/resources/events/upcoming-events/uniting-our-county-for-life-banquet>

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.

Why Lay Ministry?

Stephen Ministry is based on the idea that all Christians are ministers. The responsibility for passing on God's love is for all Christians, not just for a chosen few. God has given us all gifts for ministry and called us to put those gifts to use. Stephen Ministry is a place where people with special gifts for caring can use those gifts to Christ's love to people in need. If you or someone you know (man or woman) has a need for anything they may be going thru contact Linda Kraus at 446-4347.

And this is love: that we walk in obedience to his commands.

2 John 1:6a

EMMANUEL-ST. MICHAEL LUTHERAN SCHOOL

GRANDPARENT'S DAY 2022

What a great day we had celebrating our preschool grandparents on Thursday and our K - 8 grandparents on Friday! We had 125 grandparents that visited with our preschoolers, over 250 grandparents that visited the Getz Road Campus and almost 300 grandparents that visited the Union Street Campus. It was so exciting to be able to share our ministry once again after a 2-year hiatus.



Our students love to read and we so appreciate the generosity of all those grandparents that purchased books for our libraries. Those books will be well-read and well-loved for years to come! A big thank you to all those parents that donated items for the continental breakfast at Getz Road and to our great kitchen staff for the delicious meal that was prepared at Union Street. We surely appreciate our PTL and all the parents that helped to organize, set up and then clean up! This is one of our favorite events of the year and our students love to share this day with our special guests.

A charm bracelet was found at Getz after grandparent's day! If your grandparent misplaced a charm bracelet, please have them contact the Getz Road office at 459.1616.

Welcome our New Faculty and Staff! We are highlighting those that have joined our ESM community! We are excited to have them with us!

Courtney McMeen has been teaching for nearly 10 years and is excited to be working at ESM for the first time. She has worked at Fort Wayne Community Schools for two years, and has done English as a Second Language work in the United States and overseas in Shenzhen, China. Miss McMeen is also in the process of finishing her Master's Degree in Education from The University of Saint Francis. When she is not in the classroom or working on her own schooling, she is practicing her photography, drawing and sewing skills. She lives with a grumpy old cat named Pushkin.

Liz Bejot, the 6M Religion teacher, is new to ESM this year having just moved from Maryland where she and her family had lived for the past 11 years. She grew up in Fort Wayne where she attended Unity Lutheran (now LSUS) for grade school and is a South Side High School graduate. Mrs. Bejot earned her Middle School Education degree in 2008 from Concordia University in Seward, Nebraska where she met her husband Brent - a computer programmer/mathematician. She taught in 4th and 5th grade classrooms for 6 years before being blessed by her two boys - Braeden (2nd grade) and Oliver (Kindergarten). After having her boys, she was called to serve in children's ministry. Mrs. Bejot looks forward to what God has in store for her and her family here in Fort Wayne.

THANK YOU!

Thank you so much for the many cards, gifts, and expressions of support from our St. Michael family upon the loss of our mother, Joyce Harrison. Resting on his promises in Christ's love, The Cheryl Corajod and Dave Harrison families

Redemption House sends special thanks to Julie Rhinehart, Jo Sienk, Monica Donaghy, Heidi Dancy and Linda Chapman for your help on the gardening project in September!



Grandparent's Day Recap

ESM celebrated Preschool Grandparent's Day at both campuses on Thursday, September 15. We welcomed over 125 grandparents to enjoy some special time with their grandchild at school. In addition to a snack, craft and engaging in preschool activities, families were also able to worship together during chapel. The day was a blessing for everyone.

Outdoor Learning Space - Donations Requested

Thank you to all who have donated to the ESM Outdoor Learning Space. There are still a few items we could use to enhance the space. If you have any of the things listed below that you would like to donate, please contact Jennifer Ackmann at jackmann@esmeagles.com to arrange a time for drop off. Items can also be left in the church office. Thank you in advance for your support!

Items requested:

- Old kitchen pots, pans, flatware, colanders, etc.
- Kid-sized gardening gloves
- Plastic funnels
- Cow bells
- Washboard
- Old metal oven or refrigerator grates



October Excitement

Lots of learning, growth and excitement is anticipated for the month of October. Here are some of the highlights:

- Field Trip: Pumpkin Patch
- Special Activity: All School Carnival, October 21
- Bible Stories: Joseph, Moses
- Buddy Time: Pumpkin Activities with 8th grade and 3rd grade buddies
- Science: Pumpkins, Leaves, Apples, Seasons
- Fall Party and Costume Parade!



Interested in your child experiencing the hands-on learning that preschool at Emmanuel-St. Michael offers? It's not too early to be placed on the mailing list for the 2023-2024 school year! For more information, please contact Jennifer Ackmann at jackmann@esmeagles.com.

PRESCHOOL PARENTS - SAVE THE DATE!

Cocoa, Coffee and Conversation returns! Join other preschool families on the dates below for an opportunity to meet and visit after morning drop off. Parents with children enrolled in preschool at ESM and parents who are looking for a preschool are both invited.

What: Cocoa, Coffee, Conversation

Who: Parents of Preschoolers

Where and When:

Getz Campus (in the church lobby) October 10 - 8:30a-9:30a

Union Campus (in Ebenezer) October 11 - 8:30a-9:30a

Questions? Contact Jennifer Ackmann at 459-1616 or jackmann@esmeagles.com

YOUTH

St. Michael is pleased to welcome Lisa Schaefer as our Youth Communications Coordinator! Lisa and her family have been members here for five years. She is a wife of 22 years to Loren, and a mother of two step-children ages 28, 26 and two daughters 19 and 17. Her daughter Mallory is in the Senior High School Youth program. Lisa has a passion for youth having served in Big Brothers Big Sister, Court-Appointed Special Advocate, and Girl Scout Leader. She's been teaching for 17 years and I currently teach FWCS high schoolers to be certified medical assistants. Lisa looks forward to engaging members and families through communication and volunteerism!



St. Michael welcomes Beth Ann Hargrove as our Youth Director! She has been a member of the St. Michael family for five years. She teaches Art to middle school and high school students at South Adams High School. Before she started teaching, Beth Ann was in the U.S. Army and then spent several years working in various departments at Parkview as a tech. Her daughter, Mollie Grover, is a senior at Homestead and was a part of ESM from preschool to 8th grade. She is so excited to work with the youth at St. Michael and share God's love with them. She looks forward to planning some exciting events with our youth!

YOUTH NIGHT—SAVE THE DATES

High School: October 2, 16, and 30 from 6:00p-8:00p

Middle School: October 30 from 4:00p-6:00p

FEEDING THE YOUTH!

We would like each family to contribute an entrée throughout this season of Youth Group! To assist you in planning which entrée, here is what we are looking for October:

October 2 High School: Will you donate a crockpot of mac n cheese & crockpot of warm hotdogs to feed 15-20?

October 15 High School: We would like two pans of lasagna and two salads to feed 15-20

October 30 Middle School Youth Night 4:00-6:00p & High School 6:00p-8:00p: Will you donate a walking taco bar?

Please check out our SignUp Genius for donations!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F094FAFAF2AA4FE3-jrsr>

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.



CONNECT WITH PASTOR MARK AND COMFORT DOGS!



Launched in August 2008, the Lutheran Church Charities K-9 Comfort Dog Ministry is a national human-care ministry embracing the unique, calming nature and skills of purebred Golden Retrievers. The LCC K-9 Comfort Dogs are a bridge for compassionate ministry, opening doors for conversation about faith and creating opportunities to share the mercy, compassion, presence and proclamation of Jesus Christ. LCC K-9 Comfort Dogs are working animals, trained to interact with people of all ages and circumstances who are suffering and in need. The dogs participate in scheduled and special events. Dogs are permanently placed with churches, schools and other ministries involved in Christian human care by LCC. Permanent placement includes full training for handlers and caregivers along with ongoing support, coaching and training. LCC K-9 Comfort Dogs live in the homes of assigned caregivers. The LCC K-9 Comfort Dogs serve every day in the community in which they are

placed and are dispatched in times of disaster and crisis to bring comfort to all those affected, including first responders and the volunteers who serve them.

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! Early bird tickets are available now through October 31.

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.

ST. MICHAEL FINANCIAL UPDATE

	August 2022	January – August 2022	August 2021
Offerings & Other Income	\$173,908	\$1,009,482	\$111,677
Ministry Expenses	\$119,484	\$1,012,187	\$122,346
Income over Expenses	\$54,424	(\$2,705)	(\$10,669)

THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

- To all of you who responded financially to our special request to reduce/eliminate our accumulated year-to-date deficit, thank you! As you can see by the numbers above, at the end of August, our deficit was decreased drastically! You are a blessing to the ministries of St. Michael!

Automated Giving

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

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. To God be the glory. **St. Michael is hosting a Redemption House Graduation on November 6 at 4:00p.** Please come!

St. Michael will support the residents with meals at Wayne St. on October 2, and Fairfield Ave. on October 16 and November 13. Contact Linda Chapman at 417-3052 to help with this important ministry!

LWML NEWS

Women of all ages are invited to the **Fort Wayne North Zone LWML Fall Rally on October 15.** We will meet at Our Hope Lutheran Church, 1826 Trinity Drive, Huntertown. Registration and breakfast begin at 8:30a with the program starting at 9:00a. The theme will be "Ending the Stigma, a Personal Journey" using the verse Isaiah 61:3. For more information contact Linda Chapman, 417-3052, before October 9. The cost is \$6.00.

GAP MINISTRY October 15/16

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



Camp Lutherhaven

Fall Work Day—October 8

Similar to the Memorial Family Work Weekend, Camp sets aside a Saturday in October for families, youth groups, men's/women's groups, and any other servant workers! For those here for the optional Friday overnight, we start at 7:30p. After a hearty breakfast on Saturday, we welcome additional day helpers and everyone gets started. All meals, cabin lodging, and children programs are FREE as a thank you for your time and hard work.

ELDERS

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 and year-end giving

CASH GIFTS

A cash gift in any amount is a convenient and popular way to show your faithful support for the church or other ministries. If you itemize, the full amount of your gift qualifies for a 2022 charitable income tax deduction. Make certain your check is dated 2022 and received or postmarked no later than December 31, 2022, to receive a deduction this year.

GIVING APPRECIATED PROPERTY

If you own investments that have increased in value (stocks, bonds, real estate, or mutual funds), you can donate them to a church or charity and take a charitable income tax deduction for the full fair market value and avoid declaring the capital gain of the assets as income. Many people consider this the equivalent of a “double deduction.”

GIVING & RETAINING INCOME FOR LIFE

Did you know you can give to a charity while retaining income from the gift for the rest of your life? A charitable gift annuity or charitable remainder trust enables you to receive flexible or guaranteed income.

GIVING UNNEEDED LIFE INSURANCE

Do you own an old life insurance policy that is no longer needed? Consider giving the policy to the church or a charity and receive a charitable income tax deduction for the lesser of your cost basis or the replacement value. This is a great way to benefit a cause you support without reducing your checking account.

WISE TAX PLANNING

Making extra gifts or accelerating future gifts into the 2022 tax year can enable an itemized income tax deduction. The standard deduction threshold for 2022 is \$25,900 for joint filers, \$19,400 for heads of households and \$12,950 for singles (\$1750/person 65+, \$2800 if joint return, \$1,750 if unmarried). If your total deductions are less than those amounts, you won't be able to deduct any charitable gifts. An extra year-end gift may add just enough to allow you to take advantage of your full itemized deduction. Many tax-wise donors accelerate contributions for the coming year to enable itemization at least every other year.

Serving in October 2022

	Dates	Saturday	Sunday	
			8:00	10:45a
Altar Guild	Carla Jennings, Mary Prange, Sharon McGlothlin			
Elders	October	Multiple elders	Michael Kuhn	Harry Jones
Acolytes	1/2	Caroline Bartel	Gracelyn Sprunger	Jack Benner, Maggie Evans
	8/9		Jaden Hoover, Aaron Lyttle	Riley McNamara
	15/16	Jack Benner, Avery Meeks	Matteo Passoni, James Sprunger	Henry Mueller, Emily Peters
	22/23	Kain Sprunger, Kingston Sprunger	Naomi Hendrickson, Ashlyn Reiter	Adam Ruch
	29/30	Will Biggs, Savannah Bostwick	Adelaide Davis, Ben Fowls, Jordyn Setser	Jacob Schult, Caroline Stamm, Emilia Yoder

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

God's blessings to...	Day	Years	God's blessings to...	Day	Years
Bryan and Jody Foos	1	11	Robert and Linda Hansen	15	39
Don and Kerri Mueller	1	17	Eric and Sarah Lahey	15	28
Robert and Martha Roehm	2	18	Greg and Jill Caudill	16	23
Dan and Sharon Smith	2	46	Jacob and Jen Clendenen	16	23
Bruce and Cori Cable	3	13	Gregory and Lynda McGehee	16	40
Jonathan and Alexis Lane	3	2	Ed and Vonda Treace	17	7
David and Lisa Lorenz	3	25	Kevin and Denise Scholz	18	25
Wyatt and Hillary Larkin	5	3	Phil and Sarah Sponseller	18	8
Kaelyn Richardson	5	3	Brian and Angie Judt	20	32
Adam and Jami Jo Hahn	7	33	Dean and Molly Kiefer	20	32
Phil and Ivy Gray	10	51	Steve and Nancy Wallace	20	44
Lance and Cassie Moquin	10	5	Nathan and Jennifer Nix	23	23
Travis and Allison Runyan	10	8	Jay and Susan Jones	25	19
Nicholas and Danielle Hetrick	11	14	Joe and Casey Lee	25	13
Pastor Dennis and Laura Goff	13	38	Brett and Jayda Butler	26	20
Mark and Shelly Witmer	13	29	David and Catherine Rosine	26	59
Dave and Myra Atkinson	14	16	Moe and Mindi Schoeph	26	20
Virgil and Phyllis Brockmann	15	62	Emory and Susan Craver	28	50
Michael and Melissa Carsten	15	17	Neil and Cassie Swartz	29	34

BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS—October 15/16

Please pray for Jaden Newton, Maddux Bohnke, Kennedy Cable, Hayes and Jase Clinkenbeard, Harper Henry, William Mueller, William Stir, Maverick Taylor, Carson Meyer, Estelle Urban, Theodore Weinrich, and Charlotte and Annabelle Fredrickson.

WORSHIP ANEW MINISTRY

The Worship Anew mission is to share Christ's love through ministry and media. Our 30-minute Lutheran broadcast worship service includes music, scripture readings, prayers, and a pastor delivering a message that is designed to feel one-on-one to the viewer. Each program is closed-captioned for the hearing impaired.

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!

PLEASE NOTE!



TEACHER'S APPLE WISHING TREE DATE EXTENDED!

J.O.Y. is pleased to sponsor the "Teacher's Apple Wishing Tree" which gives our ESM teachers the opportunity to request items they need for their classrooms. Pick an apple for the teacher and return the item with the original apple **by October 9**. Monetary donations should be made out to St. Michael Lutheran Church and placed in the designated box near the trees. Thank you for blessing ESM!

