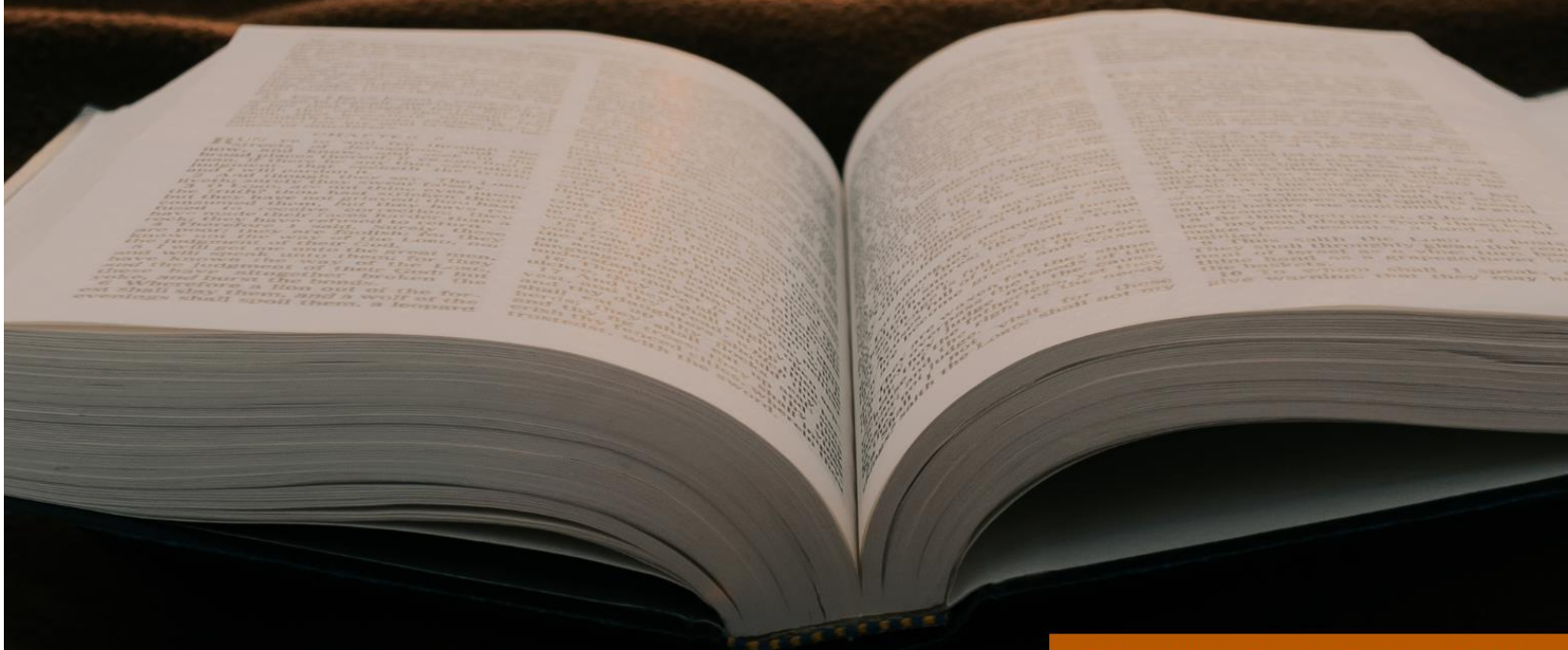


SEPTEMBER

st. michael newsletter

"You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has promised."

Hebrews 10:36



ELDER CONNECTION

We praise and thank God that Rev. Dr. Dennis Goff has accepted the divine call to serve as our Senior Pastor. Thank you to our Call Committee for their **“patient endurance”** and trust in God’s plan for St. Michael: Craig Patterson, Dee Dee Beights, Harry Jones, Jodi Hartman, Keri Latin, Linda Kraus, Luke Thompson, Mark Rose, Mark Muntzinger, Michael Kuhn, Paul Selking, Stephanie Maxson, Keith Miller, and former members Eric Lahey, and Dave Panning.

We have great appreciation for Pastor Karl Frincke and his dedication to St. Michael through this transition process. He has served us very well! Special thanks also to Pastor Shawn Davis for expanding his duties beyond his call these past two years. And we are grateful to our staff, who have worked diligently to continue the many ministries of our church.

Here is the letter of acceptance we received from Rev. Dr. Dennis Goff:

Dear St. Michael Members,

Thank you for the sacred trust you have extended to me in calling me to be the next Senior Pastor of St. Michael Lutheran Church. In so many ways, I recognize that I’m not worthy to assume such a role, and yet from the very beginning of our conversations I sensed this is how the Lord was leading in my life. As Laura and I have talked and prayed about this call, there have been several affirmations we have experienced over the last month or so. Having time to go through all this has been significant for us and I appreciate your patience with me over the last several weeks. With a spirit of peace, I can now say that I accept the call to be Senior Pastor of St. Michael Lutheran Church. Laura and I both look forward to joining in ministry with you as together we work to carry out the church’s mission of “connecting people to Jesus.”



Rev. Dr. Dennis Goff was born in Columbus, Ohio, the youngest of four children born to Loran and Miriam Goff. He graduated from Oviedo High School, Oviedo, Florida followed by a year at the University of Central Florida in Orlando. It was during his freshman year at college that he was led to go into the ministry and transferred to Concordia College, Ann Arbor, Michigan, before going on to Concordia Seminary, St. Louis MO. He was ordained at his home church, Ascension Lutheran Church, Casselberry, Florida.

Dennis’ first pastoral call was to St. Paul Lutheran Church, Hammond, Louisiana, followed by a call to St. Paul Lutheran Church, Lakeland, Florida, and then Family of Christ Lutheran Church, Ham Lake, Minnesota. He then received a call from Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) to serve as Vice President of Agency Services for the Capital Funding Services of LCEF before accepting the position as Director of Ministry Programs for The Lutheran Foundation here in Fort Wayne.

In addition to receiving a M.Div. degree from Concordia Seminary, he also holds a MA degree in English Literature from Southeastern Louisiana University in Hammond, Louisiana and a D.Min. degree from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis MO with a concentration in homiletics.

Dennis is married to his wife Laura. Laura works for Marriott Vacations Worldwide as Vice President of Global HR Services. They have two sons, Thad and Theo. Thad lives in Fort Wayne and works for Worship Anew and Summit City Sports. Theo is a pilot for Delta Airlines and is married to Elizabeth. Theo and Elizabeth live in Marietta GA with their 15-month-old daughter, Amelia.

Dennis and Laura enjoy traveling with family and friends, spending time with their granddaughter, and are always open to sharing a good meal and wine with old friends and new!

St. Michael will install Rev. Dr. Dennis Goff on Sunday, September 25, at 4:00p with a dinner to follow. Stay tuned!

BELONG BECOME BLESS

CONNECT WITH PASTOR KARL FRINCKE

Well, the news is out; it's widely and well-known by this point: led by God, Pastor Dennis Goff has accepted our Call to be Sr. Pastor here at St. Michael. Praise God...thankfully and often! Once again, his goodness has shown itself clearly.

The last couple of years have been doubly challenging—COVID and a time of transition. One could think that these two could, or did, hit the pause button on the ministry here. WRONG! Not at all. If that thought has crossed your mind, get rid of it. Think about it. COVID shut us down for a while, but it didn't altogether put a stop to:

Our Worship

- Our worship of God continued - with and without masks.
- Some people couldn't attend in-person for a while, but live streaming began and filled the void for many people.
- Many worshiped on their own - individually or with family and friends.
- We made worship materials available and they were used.
- Bible Study and Prayer took hold in more powerful ways.

Our Serving

- We became even more aware of family and friends' needs and we responded, helping each other in lots of different ways, individually and corporately.
- The Leadership Team and other Staff put extra effort into connecting with people and responding to needs of all sorts.

The Transition

- None of the above things stopped altogether; ministry continued and still does.
- Bible Studies have continued during these months.
- Sunday School and Vacation Bible School didn't stop either.
- God found us a new, and another excellent School Principal, in Dr. Ben Stellwagen, who has moved us ahead as a growing and thriving school, as have all our teachers.
- Our Call Committee spent hours, weeks and months in searching, talking with Pastors, evaluating, praying and seeking God's will. (You can be very proud about their diligence and spiritual approach to the challenging task. - Thank them, please.)
- We added Celine Newman, our Director of Belonging to our Staff and she has not only filled in a number of gaps, but started new initiatives.
- Our other staff and Leadership Team willingly took on extra responsibilities and didn't just keep our heads above water, but moved ahead in ministry.
- When Pastor Sandmann retired, we found Pastor Mark Neubacher to pick up the ministry so that the sick, shut-in and homebound folks are still visited and communed.
- "Go and Serve" projects have continued.
- Confirmation classes are still held.
- Some 30 youth attended our LCMS National Youth Gathering this summer.

And even more! We all stepped up and grew! This doesn't mean that we don't need or want a Senior Pastor. We do want one, and we now have one; praise God! But our mission and ministry have never depended on the person in this position, or any other staff, for that matter. Pastor Goff will certainly help and enrich our efforts, as he guides ministry, encourages people, and takes the lead in many of our present and future mission and ministry endeavors.

And most of all, we've learned - perhaps as never before - that God is in charge. God always works. God always enables. God is always with us. God always teaches us. God always works to bring us closer to him. And more! We now look forward to more, even as we continue, as God leads. And we think afresh about the great opportunities that God provides, and rejoice that he makes us part of his great work!

Pastor Karl Frincke

CONNECT WITH PASTOR SHAWN

What is confirmation?

The book of Proverbs is an interesting book that helps us gain wisdom for everyday living by recording hundreds of small sayings of wisdom. In Proverbs 22:6, we read:

“ **Train up a child in the way he should go;
even when he is old he will not depart from it.** ”

During the 1500's Martin Luther began to help connect people to Jesus by giving them meaning to some of the routine elements that they heard repeatedly in Mass. The elements of the Apostles' Creed, the Lord's Prayer, the Means of Grace, along with other elements of teaching people about Jesus make up what Luther called the Chief Parts of Faith. That is the chief parts that help us know we are loved, we are forgiven, and we have hope because of Jesus.

Luther created the small catechism to help "heads of the household" to teach the chief parts. However, he did not stop there... with each statement he asked that question, "what does this mean?" The goal was to help people understand and live out the faith that was given to them.

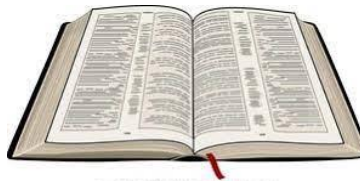
Over the last three of leading the confirmation program, this remains the goal. We systematically train up our children to help them understand and live out the faith that has been given to them. This is done through a three-year process that gets them to dive deeper into the Bible, understand elements of our worship through the lens of Luther's Small Catechism, and learn how to stay connected with Jesus.

In 6th and 7th grade, students are taught through our Sunday school program starting with an overview of the Bible one year and then dive a little deeper into the Small Catechism as it connects into the Words of God.

In 8th grade, we begin to put it all together. On Sunday mornings during our Sunday school class time we dive into how the Chief Parts help us stay connected to Jesus. We also gather via Zoom on the first and third Mondays of each month to learn how to process the information we learn on Sunday through Kairos moments and Experiential Learning questions.

Students also have other expectations throughout the 8th grade confirmation year, which include but are not limited to:

- Sermon Notes/Outlines
- Picking Confirmation Verses
- Confirmation Testimonies
- Conversations with Elders



Each of these elements are put into place to help train up our children to be connected to Jesus.

At the end of the school year, each year in May, we have a group of students that confirm the faith, which they have been brought in. They confess their connection to Jesus as something meaningful in their lives and they take their first common together as a community.

Please join in praying for our students as our next 6th, 7th, and 8th graders begin their confirmation journey this year. Our continuous prayer is that elements that are taught in this three-year process would help students remain connected to Jesus throughout their lives.

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) Monday 3:30p-4:45p; starts October 3
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 October 6
Flute Choir Sunday 9:00-9:30a in music room
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.

SATURDAY BAND LINE-UP

September 3 Pauline Benner **September 10** Life Song **September 17** King's Strings **September 24** Life Song

THANK YOU ST. MICHAEL!

We want to express our deepest appreciation to the dear members of St. Michael for their prayers, assistance and provisions you extended to us after a recent surgery and other health issues. You have truly impacted our lives and made significant evidence of your love, a reflection of God's love for each of us. Thank you!

Pastor Jerry and Mary Nichols



Thank you for the cards, gifts and kind words we received as we celebrated 15 years of music ministry at St. Michael. We love and appreciate our St. Michael family!

Your sisters in Christ,
Karen Manges and Celine Newman

DATES TO REMEMBER

RALLY DAY IS SEPTEMBER 11!

St. Michael is blessed with an active Christian education program! Sunday school and adult Bible study begin at 9:30a. Our late worship service moves to 10:45a.

Emmanuel-St. Michael Weekend—September 17/18

We will celebrate this fantastic school ministry! All second graders will receive a Bible. All sixth graders will receive Luther's Small Catechism. Our dedicated ESM teachers will be introduced. And Emmanuel-St. Michael faculty and grades P-8 will sing in the 10:45a service.

St. Michael Weekend—September 24/25

During worship, celebrate the many ministries happening at St. Michael followed by fellowship with our church family.

Installation of Rev. Dr. Dennis Goff—September 25

Join us at 4:00p in the sanctuary for this special service. Dinner will follow. Stay tuned for more details!



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 **35 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

This season is the first in a long time where I have been around the hurried hustle and bustle of September. In my last job as a full-time summer camp director this was a season of rest and retreat. The campers were heading to school and the school systems, just starting, were not arriving for outdoor education just yet. So - I retreated and vacationed while it seemed so many others were just beginning to gear up for another "full year."



Now, I am joining in this rhythm. And I've got to say, it's a little crazy. There are so many new things to get into the calendar. And all the back to school sales! (On a side-note, I love office supplies. I don't need them though so it is taking a lot of self-control to not stock up for...something.) There are bright colors, energetic advertisements, and so many things that I just feel compelled to be a part of.

All of this can bring about a sense of falling behind, and not having enough. Or perhaps you are on the other side and have done all the shopping and preparing and are now beginning to feel the aftershock of all that just happened.

This is where I get to add to your list...only this item will hopefully call you in the opposite direction. I want to call us all to take up the discipline of simplicity.

You may first think that I am calling you to perhaps purge your possessions or choose fewer things to do. And these concrete actions do have their place. However, we will fill those spaces again and truthfully taking the time to live these out can have their own temptations.

I would like to offer a different focus for simplicity. Because simplicity needs a heart, and at its center that heart is having a clear purpose.



Yes, that's it. What are you going to be about in this season? **What is God calling you to be about this season?**

Once you know that you will be able to say "yes" and "no" to the many things that come your way. Maybe it is a season of plenty for you and you get to celebrate and practice generosity. Maybe it is a season of saving and preparation. Then you get to save with that purpose in mind. Are you hoping to have a great vacation this year? Do you need to save for house repairs? Are you planning for a mission trip?

Knowing what God is leading you to will help you to manage your resources and to cut away the messages around you that will entice you into the thoughts of "more" and keep you on the path that The One has set before you and your family.

This month we encourage you to take some time to be in prayer about what God has in store. You can ask for affirmation and blessings over something you are planning for or looking forward to. You can ask for help in an area that has a lot of burden for you. God is listening.

Then once you know those one, maybe two things that you get to be about - simplify. Take away the things that lead you elsewhere and confidently live into what God has called you to.

S I M P L I F Y

BELONG

J.O.Y. GROUP

September 8—noon in Luther Hall/cost is \$5.00

Join us for a luncheon and an interesting and educational seminar to help you understand the details of Medicare. Bring a friend! RSVP to Penny at 580-8730.

September 17/18 in the Lobby



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. Be looking for the trees in the Lobby and pick an apple for the teacher! Please return the item with the original apple by October 2. 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!

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—September 7/21

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).

MONDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY—September 12

Join us Monday nights as we closely examine the miracles performed by our Savior, Jesus Christ! This ten-week study is \$5 to cover the materials. Please contact Terry Butler by emailing tgbslb67@yahoo.com or by phoning or texting (260) 515-6356.

PURLS—September 6/20



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—September 14

New members welcome! We will meet from 9:15a-10:45a in Luther Hall. Questions? Contact Janet Olson at jmo11434@gmail.com.

BOOK CLUB—Thursday, September 15

Book club will meet the third Thursday of the month in the conference room. At our first meeting we will discuss the books we read this summer!

MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST

All men are invited to attend this group to share in breakfast, devotion, and prayer. We meet at 8:00a on the first 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.

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.

CAARE

Stephen Ministers...Create an Atmosphere of Acceptance, Reassurance (of God's love) and Encouragement

Testimonial by a care receiver...

"I felt guilty about being angry at God. But my Stephen Minister didn't think I was terrible. They were very patient and just listened and cared. They demonstrated Jesus' unconditional love and helped me to trust God again."

FAMILY MINISTRY FROM CARRIE

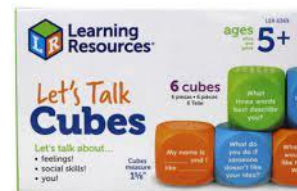


It's September and school is in full swing again! That means busy mornings, new routines, and evenings filled with homework. Time gathered around the table can be harder to come by with extra-curricular activities, and that means parents have to be more purposeful with the time they do spend with their children.

Do you know the three most important moments in your child's day? The first three minutes after they wake up, the first three minutes after school (or your first three minutes home from work), and the last three minutes before bed. Research has shown that these times are imperative for forming and strengthening the relationship you have with your children. The research also tells us that children who have a positive attachment also learn more quickly, are more cooperative, and develop the social and emotional skills they will need to thrive in life.

So even though school routines make life busy, **try to carve out these times with your child.** Here are some resources and ideas that may help!

- Jesus Calling: 365 Devotions for Kids
- Learning Resources Let's Talk Cubes
- Talking about your highs and lows from the day
- Bedtime stories and devotions
- A bedtime pillow fight!
- A bedtime snuggle and a song
- Prayer time



Whatever you choose to do with your family time, be sure to make sure they know how much they are loved by you, and by God! What a great way to start and end each day!

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday school begins on September 11 from 9:30a-10:30a! We have amazing teams of teachers ready to share God's love with your children! This year we are using the curriculum from Answers in Genesis. They describe the curriculum as one that "brings the Bible to life and addresses the real-life issues that confront Christians today. Teachers and students alike will get a thorough understanding of the teachings and relevance of Scripture. All ages are equipped to defend their faith, becoming conformed to the image of Christ, as they learn to apply God's Word in their everyday lives."

Be sure to bring your child to Sunday school each week to learn and grow in God's Word!

- PreK (ages 3 and 4) in Room 9 with Mrs. Clendenen and Mrs. Lyttle
- K and 1st grade in Room 12 with Mrs. Fahlsing and Miss Raney
- 2nd and 3rd in Room 11 with Mrs. Hargrove and Miss Grover
- 4th and 5th grade in Room 20 with Mr. Panning and Mr. Allyn
- 6th and 7th grade in Room 18 with Mr. Hahn and Mr. Hendrickson
- 8th grade in Room 16 with a team of teachers
- Senior High in The Youth Room with a team of teachers.

We are still in need of some additional Sunday school substitute teachers. If you're willing to fill in as needed, please contact Carrie at Carrie.Gould1137@yahoo.com.

EMMANUEL-ST. MICHAEL LUTHERAN SCHOOL

What a joy it has been to start this new school year! The days churn quickly, but we continue to give thanks for the partnership with you, the churches, and our faculty and staff in order to deliver a Christ-centered education to your children. What's happening in chapel, classrooms, cafeterias, and gyms is the good stuff! We love this ESM family and are thrilled to have you here.

I'm thrilled to be here, too. Thank you, again, for all the goodwill and generosity you've shown my family as we got settled in Fort Wayne. What an awesome welcome! Thanks to everyone who contributed to the housewarming gifts and fun activities for us to explore in Fort Wayne. We're blessed to be here with you, are humbled by your kindness, and thank God for your support!

This year we celebrate making disciples for life by baptizing and teaching them to observe what Jesus commands. His command to love God and neighbor guides our life and community at ESM. Blessed by it daily: let's go!!!

Dr. Ben Stellwagen

SAVE THE DATE FOR GRANDPARENTS DAY!

Please be sure that all grandparents or your child's favorite adult marks their calendars for Grandparents Day! The preschool at both campuses will celebrate with their grandparents on Thursday, September 15. The preschool program at both campuses will be from 10:15a to noon.

Students in K - 8 will celebrate on Friday, September 16. The program for students in grades K - 3 at the Getz Road Campus begin at 8:35a and the program for students in grades 4 - 8 at the Union Street Campus begins at 11:30a and will include lunch. A reservation for the luncheon MUST be made and you can do so by clicking [HERE](#). Please note that there is a \$7.00 charge per lunch and the total due will be billed through your Sycamore account. Please watch for more information in your child's classroom newsletter, special emails that are sent out or in next week's Eagle Eye Newsletter.

FIFTH THROUGH EIGHTH GRADERS ARE INVITED TO FUTURE CADET NIGHT!

CLHS is inviting our Future Cadets to Future Cadet Night! All 5th-8th graders get in free to our football game on September 16. Tickets are now in the mail! Watch for your postcard (which is your ticket). If you do not receive a postcard and would like to attend, [please register here](#).

CLHS

ALUMNI WEEKEND SEPTEMBER 15-18

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

CLHS Golf Invitational
Chestnut Hills Golf Course
www.golf4cadets.com

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

Homecoming Festivities
Zollner Stadium 5:30p

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

Class Reunions www.clhscadets.com/class-reunion
Johnny Appleseed Festival—JROTC & Band Booths

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

Light Brunch 10:00a
Worship 10:30a
Tours available following Worship

EMMANUEL-ST. MICHAEL LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL

Preschool is off to a great start! Here are some of the upcoming events in September:

- September 5 Labor Day - NO SCHOOL!
- September 7 9:30a Union Campus Preschool Chapel
- September 8 9:30a Getz Campus Preschool Chapel
- September 11 10:30a Education Sunday @ Emmanuel (PS-8th grade students sing)
- September 15 Preschool Grandparents Day (10:15a-12:00p @ both campuses)
- September 18 10:45a Education Sunday @ St. Michael (PS-8th grade students sing)
- September 29 Eagles in Motion Fundraiser @ Union Campus
- September 30 Eagles in Motion Fundraiser @ Getz Campus

Visit the new Outdoor Learning space at the Getz Road Campus!

If you haven't recently looked into the fenced in space on the west side of the building, we encourage you to do so. The grassy area has been transformed into a space where all sorts of building and imaginative play is happening. What a blessing to be outdoors in God's creation as the children learn more about the world He created. This is a work in progress, but the space is already well-used and well-loved. Many people helped make this dream a reality and we are grateful for all the donations.

- Thank you to St. Michael Foundation for the generous grant that provided the funds necessary for the ground coverings. What a blessing!
- Thank you to Ted Raney and his crew for unloading, laying and spreading the materials in that space. Ted has also offered to build a garden box and install a rain barrel. Thank you for sharing your time and talents!
- Thank you to numerous members who donated a variety of items for use in the learning area. The children are playing in such creative and imaginative ways with your donations!

There are still a few items we could use, so if you have any of these things at home that you would like to donate, please contact Jennifer Ackmann at jackmann@esmeagles.com to arrange a time for drop off. Thank you in advance for your support!

Items requested:

- Birdseed
- Old kitchen pots, pans, flatware, colanders, etc.
- Kid-sized gardening gloves
- Pine cones
- Clean, empty plastic peanut butter jars
- Dried corn
- Plastic funnels
- Cow bells
- Clay pots/saucers
- Washboard
- Old metal oven or refrigerator grates

YOUTH



Join us Sunday, September 18 as kick off Youth Group for the year!
We'll have games, food, and learn about being connected to each other and Jesus!



4:00p-6:00p Middle School Youth
6:00p-8:00p High School Youth

BELONG BECOME BLESS

ST. MICHAEL FINANCIAL UPDATE

	July 2022	January – July 2022	July 2021
Offerings & Other Income	\$97,517	\$835,575	\$112,561
Ministry Expenses	\$125,735	\$892,703	\$114,614
Income over Expenses	(\$28,218)	(\$57,128)	(\$2,003)

Our year-to-date ministry expenses exceed our ministry receipts resulting in a deficit as shown in the financial summary above. Together we can reverse this trend, continue to fund the ministries of St. Michael and fulfill our mission of Connecting People to Jesus. THANK YOU!

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 will support the residents with meals at Wayne St. on September 11 and October 2, and Fairfield Ave. on September 18 and October 18. Contact Linda Chapman at 417-3052 to help with this important ministry!

SPECIAL HOUSE PROJECT

We will be helping with gardening at the Fairfield House on the morning of **Saturday, September 10**, starting around 9:30a. We will be weeding and helping clean up flowerbeds with the residents. Let Linda know if you can help with that at 417-3052!

LWML NEWS

We will be collecting the Mite Box offerings this fall! The International grants goal for 2021-2023 is \$2,150,000. The Indiana District grants include these local commitments to CLHS Study Center Expansion and Renovation, Concordia Theological Seminary Food Co-op, Cross Connections Counseling and Worship Anew. Your contributions make a big difference in many lives.

GAP MINISTRY September 18/19

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 7:30 pm. 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

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?

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 Muntzinger mark@marksbodyshopincftw.com
- Michael Kuhn mdkuhn8214@gmail.com
- Nathan Nix..... nathananix@gmail.com
- Paul Selking..... pselking1@gmail.com
- Zach Evans zdevans@hotmail.com
- Tom Latin thomasjlatin@hotmail.com
- Jeremy Allyn..... energymanallyn@gmail.com
- Bob Cole..... bob51cole@aol.com

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.



- **September 24**—Cross planting on St. Michael lawn – we need your help!
- **October 6**—St. Michael afternoon at 40 days for life – <https://www.40daysforlife.com/en/fort-wayne> - Contact Dennis to sign up! Note: You can also participate any day September 28 to November 8
- **October 10**—RLNI banquet with Tim Tebow presentation – You’re invited! Contact Dennis to sign up!

BELONG BECOME BLESS

LEAVING A LEGACY

Dave Ramsey's Seven Baby Steps will show you how to save for emergencies, pay off all your debt for good, and build wealth. (ramseysolutions.com)

BABY STEP 1

Save \$1,000 for your starter emergency fund.

In this first step, your goal is to save \$1,000 as fast as you can. Your emergency fund will cover those unexpected life events you can't plan for. And there are plenty of them. You don't want to dig a deeper hole while you're trying to work your way out of debt!

BABY STEP 2

Pay off all debt (except the house) using the debt snowball.

Next, it's time to pay off the cars, the credit cards and the student loans. Start by listing all of your debts except for your mortgage. Put them in order by balance from smallest to largest—regardless of interest rate. Pay minimum payments on everything but the little one. Attack that one with a vengeance. Once it's gone, take that payment and put it toward the second-smallest debt, making minimum payments on the rest. That's what's called the debt snowball method, and you'll use it to [knock out your debts](#) one by one.

BABY STEP 3

Save 3–6 months of expenses in a fully funded emergency fund.

You've paid off your debt! Don't slow down now. Take that money you were throwing at your debt and build a fully funded emergency fund that covers 3–6 months of your expenses. This will protect you against life's bigger surprises, like the loss of a job or your car breaking down, without slipping back into debt.

BABY STEP 4

Invest 15% of your household income in retirement.

Now you can shift your focus off debts and what-ifs and start looking up the road. This is where you begin regularly investing 15% of your gross income for retirement. Because if you're still working at 67, it should be because you *want* to, not because you *have* to. An investing pro can help you build a solid strategy.

BABY STEP 5

Save for your children's college fund.

By this step, you've paid off all debts (except the house) and started saving for retirement. Next, it's time to save for your children's college expenses (that is, if they make it through Algebra II and Chemistry unscathed). We recommend 529 college savings plans or ESAs (Education Savings Accounts).

BABY STEP 6

Pay off your home early.

Now, bring it all home. Baby Step 6 is the big dog! Your mortgage is the only thing between you and complete freedom from debt. Can you imagine your life with no house payment? Any extra money you can put toward your [mortgage](#) could save you tens (or even hundreds) of thousands of dollars in interest.

BABY STEP 7

Build wealth and give.

You know what people with no debt can do? Anything they want! The last step is the most fun. You can live and give like no one else. Keep [building wealth](#) and become outrageously generous, all while leaving an inheritance for your kids and their kids. Now that's what we call leaving a legacy!

Serving in September 2022

	Dates	Saturday	Sunday	
			8:00	10:45a
Altar Guild	Karen Martin, Jane Grose, Cathy Reinking			
Elders	September	Nathan Nix	Mark Muntzinger	Bob Kaiser
Acolytes	3/4	Aaron and Reid McDonald	Jaden Hoover, Emila Yoder	Henry Mueller, Adam Ruch
	10/11	Matteo Passoni, Caroline Stamm	Savannah Bostwick, Ashlyn Reiter	Adelaide Davis, Jacob Schult
	17/18	Caroline Bartel, Austin Wagner	Will Biggs, Ben Fowls	Gracelyn Hensley, James Hensley
	24/25	Aaron Lyttle	Adriana Briney, Naomi Hendrickson	Jack Benner, Elizabeth Johnson

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

God's blessings to...	Day	Years	God's blessings to...	Day	Years
Phillip and Sharon McGlothlin	9/1	55	Karen and Daniel Stir	9/15	49
Daniel and Michelle Wonderly	9/1	15	Mike and Deb Oetting	9/18	46
Donald and Jill Bollheimer	9/2	61	Paul and Kimberly Smith	9/18	23
Scott and Lara Stuteville	9/2	27	Dennis and Lynette Brink	9/20	53
Randy and Silvia Grote	9/3	34	Randy and Jan Fillmore	9/22	38
Rick and Kathleen Wilson	9/3	45	Steve and Jane Henschen	9/23	27
Stacey and Justin Castleman	9/5	2	Scott and Jada Sackschewsky	9/24	23
Seth and Kim Ziegel	9/7	15	Brian and Cheryl Corajod	9/26	35
David and Machel Thomas	9/8	32	Sean and Monica LaLonde	9/26	24
Melvin and Charlotte Kiessling	9/11	57	Spencer and Bailey Straessle	9/26	2
Kris and Rachel Sprunger	9/13	8	Randy and Eileen Witzigreuter	9/26	42
Bruce and Jennifer Slazyk	9/14	20	Daire and Heather Moloney	9/27	14
Gary and Sandra Fredrickson	9/15	49	Aaron and Melissa Cecil	9/29	15
Jim and Kathy Mutton	9/15	41	Darren and Julie Stoody	9/30	22
Chad and Heather Pieper	9/15	21			

BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS—September 24/25

Anya Benner, Sydney Berger, Brenden Butler, Leah Daseler, Carter Derr, Ross Fieldhouse, Alexis Harrison, Connor Hathaway, Samantha Hetrick, Brooke Moeller, Knox Roehm, Decker Scherer, Ryleigh Stiffler, and Ella Wren.



CHECK OUT THE FALL MINISTRY CATALOG!

Pick up your copy in the lobby! This is a complete and comprehensive look at our ministries and how we can Become, Belong and Bless!

WORSHIP ANEW MINISTRY AND GOLF OUTING

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. Mark your calendars to join friends of Worship Anew for the 2022 Elsie Rossman Memorial Golf Outing on Thursday, September 22, at Autumn Ridge Golf Club. Sponsorship opportunities are available. Registration begins at 10:00a, lunch at 11:00a, and golf at noon. For questions and event details visit www.worshipanew.org/golf or call Cheryl Gilliom at (260) 471-5683.