



St Michael's
LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Messenger

August 2023

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What we need is here. ~the Rev. Ali C. Ferin

One recent evening in July, my family was just finishing up dinner when a sudden gust of wind whipped through our backyard and knocked over our patio plants startling our dog and children alike. Minutes later, the power went out as a quick moving severe thunderstorm blew through our town. 60 mile per hour winds threw about patio furniture and large branches as we huddled onto a mattress in our basement. Our kids danced the beams of their flashlights across the ceiling, pausing to give their own faces a golden-red glow. After a few games of UNO, the wind had died down, the thunder resided, and we arouse out of the stairway to a dark, quiet home.

We looked at our yard to assess possible damage, and right away we noticed dozens of neighbors congregating outside, some going door to door to check on one another. The sounds of chainsaws began to echo in the streets to remove downed trees and people started marching down the road sharing what they were able to give; tarps, flashlights, food, and emotional support. A large oak fell on a home down the block from us, slicing through the roof and landing in



their living room as if it were all made of cardboard. Before the first emergency vehicles arrived, neighbors that were once strangers were there making sure the children were safe, that plans were made for them to have safe lodging, and assurance was given that they were not alone that night, or any night.

It was an incredible thing to behold; that in a time of crisis, our neighborhood that admittedly has little connection or communication between households showed up in tangible, meaningful ways for one another. It reminded me of those early weeks in the pandemic when we would share rolls of toilet paper, create street art for youth to enjoy, and make sure the homes with children had milk. We watched out for one another in those days, and again on this summer night when a storm ripped through our community.

As the sun set, the commotion eased into a quiet night. Without power in our home, Ben and I put away our computers and work. Apparently, God's commandment to rest is much easier to follow when the wifi is down and you know your neighbors are looking out for one another.

I wish it didn't take an emergency or such an unwelcomed disruption to recognize that what we need is already here. We have community to support us when we are overwhelmed or in need of care; nor are we as isolated and independent as we might convince ourselves. Likewise, we have the power to "power-down" our busyness even when it feels we are being tugged in every direction, too important to turn off our work. In his poem "The Wild Geese" Wendell Berry writes:

*in the ancient faith: what we need is here.
And we pray, not for new earth or heaven,
but to be quiet in heart, and in eye clear.
What we need is here.*

Episcopalian priest, the Rev. Amy McCreath, was inspired by the truth of Berry's words and wrote a simple song we taught the kids in worship during a children's sermon a few months back. The song is 5 simple words; "What we need is here." As they sang, we asked the children to place their hands on their chest to feel their hearts beating and reminded them that because Christ dwells among us, what we need is **here** – in our bodies, in the gift of life. Then, we instructed

them to stretch their arms and hands out toward the congregation because Christ lives in the gift of community, so what we need is **here** - among God's faithful people, the body of Christ.

When storms rage, (be it thunder storms, relational storms, spiritual storms, health storms...) it is difficult to see or trust that what we have is indeed already here. That God provides for us, though oftentimes in strange, unexpected ways. Because of this, we don't often see it. This is what I believe Berry is alluding to when he writes:

*And we pray....to be quiet in heart, and in eye clear.
What we need is here.*

As the summer continues on, I pray that we too might be "quiet in heart, and in eye clear" to know that in our community, in our God, **what we need is here.**

Life of the Congregation

Memorial

A memorial service was held for the brother of Joe Nosek, Reverend Dean Nosek, on July 11.

Wedding

Laura Rose Brand, daughter of Lornell and Ted Brand and Thomas Charles Gachet, son of Monique Amblard and Lionel Gachet announce their upcoming wedding nuptials on Sunday, the thirteenth of August at St. Michael's Lutheran Church at 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

- Your presence at the ceremony would be an honor to the couple. Laura Rose discovered the values that this event represents - music, community, and above all love - in this church.

New Members

New (or new-ish) to St. Michael's?

Save the date for a new member gathering on September 5th at 5:30 p.m. Dinner and childcare will be provided. Learn about St. Michael's ministries and get connected to others joining our congregation! RSVP to Pastor Ali (ali@stmichaelselca.com) and be sure to let her know of any dietary needs.

On September 17th, new members to be celebrated and received in worship on September 17th!

Summer Worship Schedule

Sunday mornings at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary, worship is led by organ.

Monday evenings at 7:00 p.m., worship is led by keyboard.

Monday evening worship will be outside on the East Lawn outside the Fellowship Hall. We will move into the Courtyard Room for inclement weather or on particular weeks when the pastor or staff are unavailable for outdoor setup.

August Worship Services

August 6 --- 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

August 7 --- 7:00 p.m. on the Fellowship Hall Lawn

August 13 --- 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

August 14--- 7:00 p.m. on the Fellowship Hall Lawn

August 20 --- 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

August 21 --- 7:00 p.m. on the Fellowship Hall Lawn

August 27--- 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary *Come Y'all Choir Sings!*

August 28 --- 7:00 p.m. on the Fellowship Hall Lawn *Come Y'all Choir Sings!*



Live-Streamed Services

Over the summer, our Sunday worship service at 10:00 a.m. will be live-streamed and available for later viewing at your leisure. Subscribe to the St. Michael's YouTube Channel to watch worship live on Sunday mornings if you are not able to come in person. Scan this QR Code to go to the St. Michael's Channel:



Watch your Friday Flyer for a copy of the Bulletin to download and follow along, as well as the link to the live service. Streamed services will also be recorded and posted on Sunday evening on our website <https://www.stmichaelselca.com/> for viewing at your convenience

Summer Worship Volunteers Are Needed!

Help make worship possible this summer! Volunteers are needed to serve as ushers, lectors, communion deacons, and fellowship hosts. These are great opportunities for folks of all ages - families are encouraged to sign up together! Head to www.stmichaelselca.com and click "Volunteer" to access signups.

Office Hours

Need to swing by the church office? Give us a call first, or schedule a visit with a staff person – Summer staff schedules are varied due to youth trips, camp, etc. and we don't want to miss you! Thank you!

Pastor Brad will be on Sabbatical until August 21st

Staff Retreat is August 22 & 23, the office will be closed.

Music News

Join the *Come Y'all Choir* for summer worship services!

All ages welcome! We will practice prior to the service with whoever walks through the door, but it would be great to let me know if you are interested by a quick email which services you can attend: kkw.sings@gmail.com. Please bring your kids, friends, neighbors, brothers and sisters!

Sunday Aug. 27. 9:00am rehearsal for a 10:00am service

Monday Aug. 28 6:00pm rehearsal for a 7:00pm service

Sing (and Ring) to the Lord a New Song

Cory Bock, Director of Children's Music

It is almost that time of year again. Summer will soon be winding down and another school year is approaching. At St. Michael's, children's music will continue as we sing (and ring) to the Lord new songs.

All students in **Kindergarten through 8th grade** are welcome to join in the children's music groups. Each group will be involved in worship services by providing music or leading some part of our services. In **Youth Bells** (grades 5-8), ringers will be introduced to ringing and learn various bell techniques. This group typically rings at both services on the 1st Sunday of each month. The **Children's Choir** will work on vocal technique, learn about Lutheran worship and hymnody, and will also be introduced to drumming and play Orff instruments. This group will sing and/or assist in worship leadership at least once each month as well as at special services (Reformation, Thanksgiving, the 4th Sunday of Advent/Christmas Eve, Ash Wednesday, Palm Sunday and Easter).

Rehearsals begin Wednesday, September 13

Youth Bells 5:30-6:00 p.m.

Children's Choir 6:15-7:00 p.m.

In addition to choirs, I am excited to work with Sunday School students in preschool through 5th grade on Sunday mornings. We will sing, play instruments and much more each week. Students will also have the opportunity to sing every month at the 11:00 worship service as well as participate in the Sunday School Christmas Pageant.

If you have any questions or would like to be added to the children's music email list, please contact me via email (cory@stmichaelselca.com).

Children, Youth, & Family Ministries

love out loud

Service Trip 2023

As we finished our week in San Francisco, we asked students to reflect on their experiences. In the next months, we will be sharing these reflections in the messenger. These are amazing testaments of how important these service trips are, and we greatly appreciate St. Michael's generosity. We are also extremely grateful for the adults who volunteered their time to chaperone and walk alongside these amazing youth: Alisa Grewe, Owen Hamer & Sam Koland.

~ Natalie Romero, CYF Director





Marissa B.- 10th Grade

I had a lot of fun in San Francisco. I learned a lot from the activities and volunteering we did, especially when we went to St. Anthony's, and helped with the clothing. We sorted the clothes, to make sure they were in good condition and put them in a thrift storeroom where they could pick clothes out to keep for free. This made me think a lot about everything we take advantage of or think of as normal, but there are people who have nothing and are grateful when someone acknowledges their existence. I'm glad we went on this trip, and I am thankful for everything we learned.

Nat W.-11th Grade

A good experience I had was getting to see how things worked at Saint Anthony's and how they served everyone and had meals open for everyone to eat together, like a real dinner table and the people who visited were guests. I liked how Saint Anthony's didn't heavily push their beliefs on their guests or require them to go to church service to receive help like other places may, instead they live out their values like community to help others with limited regulations.



Ian G- 12th Grade

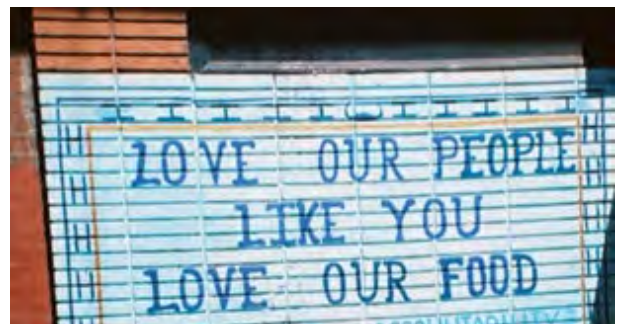
Whenever I go on service trips I am always excited to serve those in need. This time it was different with serving because the people had a different theology than the Lutheran church. However, I still pushed through because I was still doing something good.

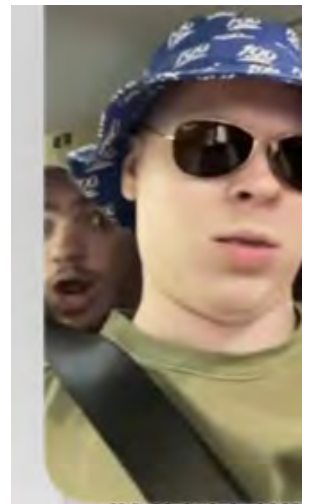
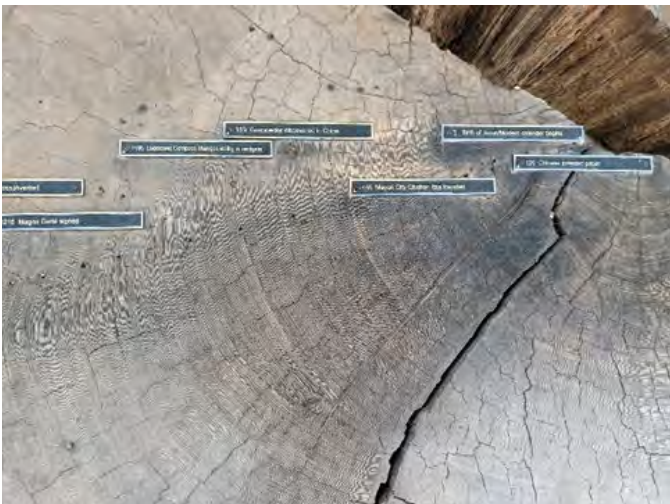












Friday Flock

Friday Flock has been a great success! In June, we watched Sing and enjoyed dinner together. In July, we packed Grace Bags, had some karaoke and played games!



Friday Flock
SING!

AUGUST 4TH



Drop off will be in the Fellowship Hall (Door 2). Grown ups will need to come in to sign in.

Walk-ins are welcome but we encourage you to fill out a registration form by using the QR code by Sunday, July 30th to help us plan.



Blessing of Backpacks

- August 20th at 10am •

Bring your backpack to worship for a blessing as you prepare for the new school year! We will also bless the donated items from our school supply drive.



Contact Natalie at youth@stmichaelselca.com for questions.

SAVE THE DATE

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10TH
SUNDAY SCHOOL FALL KICK OFF
LUNCH ON THE LAWN

Social Ministry Activities

Social Ministry Calendar

- August 7: **Rezek House Meal**
- August 8: **Keystone Mobile Food Distribution**
2:00 – 4:00 p.m. *in Circle Drive*
- August 9 & 23: **Quilting and Bandage Rolling**
9:00 a.m. *Fellowship Hall*
- August 13: **Sandwich Making for Union Gospel Mission**
9:00 a.m. *Serving Area & Kitchen*
- Daily: **Panera Bread Ministry**
Evening pick up at Rosedale Panera, Morning Bagging in Kitchen



Guatemala Partnership

The Presidential election in Guatemala has brought numerous protests after claims of corruption and fraud. A run-off election is scheduled for August 20th. Please keep the people of Guatemala and our partner congregation in your prayers.

A Word of Thanks from Lutheran Social Service

“We are so thankful for the amazing teamwork of the St. Michael’s crew getting the sand play area made at Families Together Therapeutic Preschool in St. Paul. This project has left a bunch of kids very happy.... There was one little boy who actually climbed right in the first day and appeared to be swimming his way through the sand! The kids have the space to move around, the safety to take off their shoes, and the feeling of having a really terrific playground. We are very grateful to Joe and team!”

-Lisa Kiesel, Program Director for LSS Families Together Program



Summer Study & Fellowship Opportunities

Save the date for Lunch on the Lawn! September 10th, 12:00 p.m.

Don't miss this kick-off to the program year with food trucks, yard games, and more!

Bible Study

Come when you can and join us for Bible Study. Right through August 17th, we'll meet on Thursday mornings at 9:30 for about an hour. Our study for each Thursday will be the readings for the coming Sunday with a focus on the Old Testament reading and the reading from Matthew. Each session is stand-alone, though it is exciting to make the connections from week to week. Here's a list of the texts we'll be reading by date, just in case you want to check them out ahead of time. **Absolutely NO PREPARATION REQUIRED!**

August 3	Genesis 32:22-31 and Matthew 14:13-21
August 10	Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28 and Matthew 14:22-33
August 17	Genesis 45:1-15 and Matthew 15 (10-20) 21-28

One warning: we talk about anything and everything, so bring your questions and ideas and be ready to share really stimulating conversation!

Quilting and Bandage Rolling

Quilting and bandage rolling will meet twice a month on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 9:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Quilts are made for High School graduation, the Veterans Home, and new babies. We also make tote bags for wheelchair and walker handles. Come join the fun on **August 9 & 23**, everyone is welcome!

Mahjongg

Are you looking for a group to play with or do you want to learn? Join the group that plays at 1:00 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays each month. Contact Sue Kuhn or Jane Doyle with any questions.

Summer Patio Series

The summer patio series is underway! If you'd like to learn more about this small group summer or join a small group, head to www.stmichaelselca.com/patioseries to learn more!

Bible and Brew

St. Michael's Men's Bible & Brew is a group of men of all ages who gather for conversation, learning, and connection over a beverage and snacks. Sometimes the group meets at a local pub/brewery, a home, or at St. Michael's.



The next St. Michael's Men's Bible & Brew will be meeting in August.

Thursday, August 17, 7:00 p.m.

Hosted at chuck Hanson's home.

Yoga Devotion

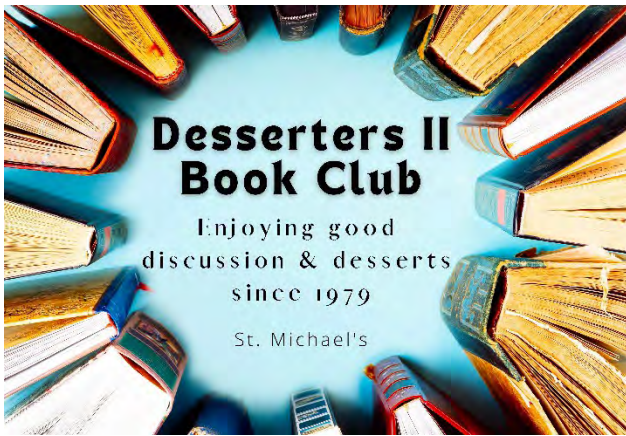
The current Yoga Devotion session goes through August 28. The class starts at 6:00 p.m.

Cost \$72.00

Beginners are always welcome! If you would like to try a free class to learn more about yoga, please contact Mary Drache for the zoom link and join us.



Register & pay with this link:



Welcome to Desserters II, the St. Michael's Book Club

Enjoying good discussion and desserts since 1979!

- Sept 26, 2023 *Demon Copperhead* by Barbara Kingsolver
This modern-day *David Copperfield* is set in Appalachia.
- Oct 24, 2023 *Swede Hollow* by Ola Larsmo
A Swedish author envisions immigrants of the 1890s living in what is now a St. Paul landmark.
- Nov 28, 2023 *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus
A woman in the 1950s finds more than one way to succeed as a chemist.

- Jan 23, 2024 *The Sentence* by Louise Erdrich
A ghost in an independent bookstore in Minneapolis haunts the Ojibwe woman who works there.
- Feb 23, 2024 *Give a Girl a Knife* by Amy Thielen
This memoir moves from Minnesota to Manhattan and back to reclaim and redeem Midwestern cooking.
- Mar 26, 2024 *The Double Helix* by James Watson
The story of one of history's most significant scientific findings.
- Apr 23, 2024 *Fox Creek* by William Kent Krueger
Ojibwe culture is featured in this Cork O'Conner adventure in northeast Minnesota and Wisconsin.
- May 21*, 2024 *Hannah Coulter* by Wendell Berry
Hannah Coulter looks back on her childhood, her loves and loss, her children, and Kentucky farm life.

Meetings on the 4th Tuesdays, as listed above. *The May date is one week early.
The group meets in Classroom 1 at the church, with Zoom by request.

A Church at Work

Property Team Update

As you can see now, the exterior stucco finish system is mostly completed. The north, east, and south walls are the finished color selected by the congregation. The west wall now also has the dark bronze finish to match the building trim color.

The colored windows are mostly replaced. The contractor is working on the clear glass windows.

After a somewhat late start this spring, the project is on schedule to be substantially completed in August.

The cross on the west wall will be one of the last elements to be installed. The contractors have been preparing the electrical connections for the cross lighting.

Thanks for your patience and the stewardship offered by Fernando and the St Michaels staff.
Respectfully submitted, Brad Koland





Peace Pole Installation

Stop by the Courtyard to check out the new peace pole and benches, installed by Coen Breuch for his Eagle Scout project!

The peace pole was funded by Lowell Erdahl's memorial fund in honor of his legacy of peace advocacy, and serves as a reminder of our call to live out God's peace in our daily living.



Building in Faith Serving in Grace

St. Michael's Capital Campaign

Foundational Goal Surpassed!

Over the past month, the number of households pledging to our Capital Campaign has increased from 112 to 120.

Thank You to everyone contributing to the campaign, not only monetarily, but with your time and energy!

79 households have already contributed toward their pledge, allowing us to designate those funds toward our goals:

- Sanctuary Wall project completion
- Additional deferred maintenance
- Benevolences

Thank you for the generosity and dedication you have shown to help our home and our community thrive for future generations.

We anticipate many more pledges as we look forward to our next level Building Goal of \$1.5M, which will improve our hospitality and accessibility.

If you haven't yet made your pledge, you can place it in the offering plate, mail it in the return envelope, drop it by the church office, or go online www.stmichaelselca.com/capitalcampaign,

Church Council Corner

The church council took a July hiatus from their regular meetings. They will resume meeting at their next on August 8th at 7:00 p.m. in Classroom 1.

The next council meeting is scheduled for August 8th at 7:00 p.m.

2023 Budget Overview and Financial Update

	June Actual	June Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Annual Budget
Income	\$52,054	\$60,066	\$452,125	\$398,594	\$868,882*
Expenses	\$62,234	\$72,370	\$424,533	\$452,180	\$868,882
Net Balance	\$-10,180	\$-12,305	\$37,797	\$-53,5862	\$0

*At the Annual Meeting on January 29, 2023, the congregation approved use of Reserve Funds to balance the budget, if needed at the end of the year. This is included in the Annual Approved budget of \$868,882.

Online Giving & Mobile Giving



Did you know that you can pay for an event or set up a recurring automatic gift to support the work of St. Michael's? Authorization forms are available from the church office or follow this link:

<https://www.stmichaelselca.com/givenow.html>

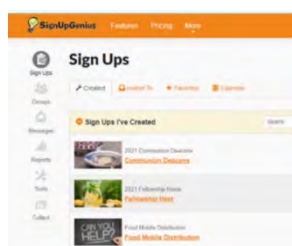
Vanco also has a mobile App as another method to set up a payment or a recurring automatic gift to support the work of St. Michael's. Download the Vanco Mobile App from the App Store and search for "St. Michael's Lutheran Church".

The above QR code takes you to our Donate Now page on our website.

Worship Leaders and Volunteers Needed

Looking ahead at 2023, there are a wide variety of OPEN Worship Leader spot! Check SignUp Genius for opportunities to volunteer for: **Ushers, Lectors, Communion Deacons, Worship Flowers, and Fellowship Hosts.**

Visit Sign-up Genius to see the opportunities awaiting you. The quickest way to get there is to visit St. Michael's website: www.stmichaelselca.com and click on the Volunteer Sign-up icon



St. Michael's is a Reconciling in Christ Congregation



St. Michael's Lutheran Church lives out God's grace and love for all people. Faithful to the Gospel of Jesus Christ, we welcome those who have been part of church communities, those who have no previous church experience, and those who have felt excluded by the Church because of their race or ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, physical or mental capabilities, financial resources, or family circumstances. In this witness we seek reconciliation, healing, and wholeness. As a diverse people we are then empowered by the Holy Spirit to live and work together for God's promised day of justice, peace, and mercy.

Land Acknowledgement

The ELCA has published “A Declaration of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America to American Indian and Alaska Native People,” in which the church confesses its sins toward Indigenous peoples and lists the commitments it will begin working toward as it responds to its original “Repudiation of the Doctrine of Discovery” from 2016.



St. Michael’s Lutheran Church is located on the original and ancestral homeland of the Dakota people, and we give thanks for their presence here since time immemorial. We also wish to recognize and honor all our indigenous siblings who have and continue to call this land their home.

Not getting your *Friday Flyer*?

Are you having a problem with our weekly e-newsletter, the *Friday Flyer* not showing up in your primary inbox? First check your other inbox folders—it often shows up in a spot called the *Promotions* folder. Or it could be in your *Spam* folder. If a search of those yields nothing, then contact Lisa Koland at office@stmichaelselca.com, and we’ll find a way to make sure the newsletter gets to you!

Making the *Messenger Green*

If you prefer to read your upcoming issues of St. Michael’s monthly *Messenger* newsletter in your email or on our church website instead of having a paper copy mailed to you, please notify the church office.

Got something for the September *Messenger*?

The *Messenger* submission deadline is Friday, August 18, 2023.

St. Michael’s Staff Directory

St. Michael’s Lutheran

www.stmichaelselca.com

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Jill Schendel

Pianist

Karen Wilkerson

Adult Choir Director

Charles Preis

Adult Bell Choir Director

Cory Bock

Youth Choir Director

cory@stmichaelselca.com

Fernando Garcia

Custodian

Emma Koland

Weekend Custodian



St Michael's

LUTHERAN CHURCH

1660 County Road B West
Roseville, Minnesota 55113



Join us for worship

Sunday at 10:00 a.m.

Monday at 7:00 p.m.

online at www.stmichaelselca.com