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The Reformation and "Good Trouble"

The late Senator John Lewis grew up in rural Alabama to a poor family of sharecroppers. He was raised witnessing segregation and violent racial discrimination, and when he would ask his parents that incessant question every child asks, "Why?" They would respond with; "That's the way it is. Don't get in the way, don't get in trouble."

In a 2013 interview with podcast host Krista Tippet, Senator Lewis reflected how he compared his parents' proclamation of "That's the way it is" to what he learned about in church and Sunday school, which he recalled as lessons of hope which instilled in him a faith that things could in fact, get better. That hope and faith is what fueled him to join the civil rights movement and it is what sustained him when he found himself jailed for his justice work alongside Martin Luther King, Jr., and other freedom fighters. After deliberately disobeying his parents' instruction to stay out of trouble time and time again, he would respond with; "I got into good trouble, necessary trouble." Many years later, in 2018, he encouraged the nation with similar sentiment in a viral tweet:



"Do not get lost in a sea of despair. Be hopeful, be optimistic. Our struggle is not the struggle of a day, a week, a month, or a year, it is the struggle of a lifetime. Never, ever be afraid to make some noise and get in good trouble, necessary trouble."

This October as we commemorate the Reformation, I think of our spiritual heritage as Lutherans, a movement that ignited the Protestant Reformation that was already underway across Europe. Our identity rests in those **protestants** who, **protested** corruption in the church as "good, necessary trouble" that changed the world. They did not drown in "a sea of despair" despite constant setbacks, threats, and sacrifices.

Reformation Sunday can often be misunderstood as a mere celebration of our Lutheran heritage, a time to pull in the brass and belt out our favorite Martin Luther hymns. While I believe there is much to celebrate about our history as Lutherans, I view it less as a celebration and more of a recommitment to the work that the reformers were dedicated to. We call upon their courage to continue the work Martin Luther and the other reformers set before us; to boldly reform the church and the world without fear of the inevitable necessary trouble we might find ourselves in. And to uphold the work of contemporary reformers around us.

What struck me in that Krista Tippet interview was how Senator Lewis detailed his political leadership as an extension of his faith. "Love in action" is what he called it. "When we were sitting in, it was love in action. When we went on the freedom ride, it was love in action. The march from Selma to Montgomery was love in action. We do it not simply because it's the right thing to do, but [because] it is love in action."

I think of all the work and suffering endured by the reformers of the church and the reformers of the world and believe it can all be summed up in those three words: **love in action**. At the end of this month on Reformation Sunday (Oct 29) I imagine how powerful it would be to focus our energy not on a single event in history, but instead on an ongoing movement, a legacy of good trouble, a mission of love in action. May it be so!

~ Pastor Ali Ferin

Life of the Community

Baptism

On September 17, Lillian Jade, beloved child of Erica & Bradley Melchoir, was baptized in worship.

New Members

On Sunday, September 17, St. Michael's welcomed the following new members: Alec & Chelsea and Maelyn Brandt; John & Mary Froiland (not pictured); Bev Holland; Jayne & Wayne Nelson; Dana Raabe; Pat Veatch (not pictured); Kyle & Stephanie, Aria and Marshall Warner.



Chelsea, Alec, & Maelyn Brandt



Beverly Holland



Larry & Amy Lane



Stephanie & Kyle,
Marshall & Aria Warner



Dana Raabe



Wayne & Jayne Nelson

We give thanks for the gift of their presence and celebrate the ways we are called to be community

October Worship & Education Schedule

October 1

- 8:45 a.m. Worship Livestreamed
- 10:00 a.m. Education Hour
- 11:00 a.m. Worship

October 8

- 8:45 a.m. Worship Livestreamed
- 10:00 a.m. Education Hour
- 11:00 a.m. Worship & Blessing of the Animals

October 15

- 8:45 a.m. Worship
- 10:00 a.m. Education Hour
- 11:00 a.m. Worship Livestreamed

October 22

- 8:45 a.m. Worship Livestreamed
- 10:00 a.m. Adult Education Only, No Sunday School
- 11:00 a.m. Worship

October 29

- 8:45 a.m. Worship
- 10:00 a.m. Education Hour
- 11:00 a.m. Worship Livestreamed

Blessing of the Animals

All God's Creatures are welcome to worship on **October 8th at the 11:00 a.m. worship service** for a special blessing. Worship will be held on the Fellowship Hall Lawn. Animals should come leashed, harnessed, or caged. *Stuffed animals are especially welcome! Please come prepared to clean up after your pet. In the case of inclement weather, we will reschedule the blessing of the animals and move to a more "typical" worship in the Sanctuary.

Live-Streamed Services

Each Sunday, one of our services will be live-streamed. 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



Sunday Education & Fellowship Hour

Join us at 10:00 a.m. between worship services for a time of fellowship and education.

Religion in Life

Sunday Morning Adult Education Forum

Religion in Life is an adult education forum on Sunday mornings during the program year (September-May) held as part of the 10:00-11:00 a.m. education hour. This forum brings in a variety of guest speakers and presenters to address topics such as scripture and theology, ethics and faith in the public sphere, and health and wellness.

October 1

The Sabbath: More Than Blue Laws or a Day of Rest

Richard Nysse, *retired professor of Old Testament and pastor*

In an earlier time the Sabbath day was observed by conforming to restraints on our activities — for example, no stores were open. There were,

of course, exceptions — farmers milked their cows and nurses staffed health care facilities. Currently, the Sabbath is frequently reduced to time for leisure and recreation. Its perceived value is primarily therapeutic. This session will explore what the biblical Sabbath offers beyond these two views. Richard Nysse and his family joined St. Michael's Lutheran Church in the fall of 1978. He was a professor of Old Testament at Luther Seminary for 36 years.

October 8

Church Partnership & Global Collaboration

St. Michael's Guatemala Team

Join members of the St. Michael's Guatemala Team and past travelers to our partner congregation, Santa Cruz de la Esperanza, in Cimient, Guatemala. We will discuss our church's commitments in the partnership as well as share the benefits we receive from the partnership. Learn about the Iglesia Luterana Agustina de Guatemala (ILAG) and how the Saint Paul Area Synod partners with them in support of marginalized and indigenous people in Guatemala. This will also be a perfect time to ask questions about the planned trip to Guatemala for October 2024!

October 15

Nurturing a Generous Heart

James Moline, Ph.D., consultant, author

Minnesota is often listed among the “most generous states.” And we see in our own communities the impact of people sharing their time, their resources, and skills. But what does it mean to nurture a generous heart? Are there behaviors, attitudes, and ways that individuals and communities experience generosity as important and life-giving? Today we hear from Jim Moline, who has been coaching executives since 1987 in leadership development, team-building and organizational transformation. Jim also served Thrivent Financial as a vice president of new business development. As a licensed psychologist skilled in the use of individual and corporate psychometrics, team-profiling, competency-modeling and compatibility assessment. In this session he brings his professional experienced to bear on what it means to nurture a generous heart and ways of thinking outside ourselves.

October 22

Beyond Deep Gladness: Coming to Terms with Vocations we Didn't Choose

DeAnna Thompson, Director for the Lutheran Center for Faith, Values, and Community at St. Olaf College

Vocation comes from the Latin *vocare* and refers to a call or summons by God. Sixteenth century Protestant Reformer Martin Luther expanded the concept beyond a call to explicitly religious work. Luther insisted all aspects of life—our role as a friend, spouse, parent, student, citizen, colleague—all of it together is our vocation. Questions remain. How can we discern God’s voice amidst all the others? Author Fredrick Buechner noted that vocation is often 1) the work you need to do 2) the world most needs to be done and 3) the place your gladness meets the world’s deep hunger. Many quote this last sentence of Buechner’s definition, that our vocation is located at the intersection of our deep gladness and the world’s deep hunger. Still, the reality can be that our callings often also encompass sadness as well as gladness. Today DeAnna Thompson invites us to open up space for expanded visions of vocation that relate even more profoundly to the world’s deep need.

October 29 &

November 5

So, what have I learned about marriage? Part I & Part II

Roland Hayes, retired pastor

Roland’s answer to the question posed in the title is this: A healthy marriage relationship is not static-it is always evolving and for it to be healthy and life giving requires constant attention. To that end join Roland in considering what extensive research has shown are key components of a healthy marriage, what folks at the world-renowned Gottman institute have learned about strengthening these components, and what wisdom can be shared with each other that might be helpful to our marriages and partnerships.

Worship Volunteers Are Needed!



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.

Donate Worship Flowers

Did you know that you can donate toward the fresh flowers at the altar each week? We welcome you to celebrate a special occasion or honor a loved one with a dedication that will be printed in the bulletin. After services are done on Sunday, you are welcome to take the flowers home with you to enjoy. (We ask that you return the arrangement can so they can be reused!)

Use the Flower Signup on the bulletin board, call the church office, or sign up online with the above QR code or through the church website www.stmichaelselca.com and click “Volunteer” to access signups.



Music News

Children's Music

Rehearsals Wednesdays

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

Youth Choir 6:15 - 7:00 p.m.

If you have any questions or would like to be added to the children's music email list, please contact **Cory Bock, Director of Children's Music**

Save the Dates: Youth & Children's Music Ministry

DATES BELOW ARE WHEN EACH GROUP WILL BE IN WORSHIP

YOUTH BELLS:

OCTOBER 1ST (BOTH SERVICES)

NOVEMBER 5TH (BOTH SERVICES)

CHILDREN & YOUTH CHOIR:

OCTOBER 29TH (BOTH SERVICES)

NOVEMBER 12TH @ 8:45AM

NOVEMBER 22ND @ 7PM

SUNDAY SCHOOL:

OCTOBER 8TH @ 11AM

NOVEMBER 12TH @ 11AM

DECEMBER 17TH @ 11AM (PAGEANT)



Adult Choir: St. Michael's Singers

Rehearsals Wednesdays

6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

For more information please contact Karen Wilkerson, St. Michael's Singers Director.

Adult Bells: St. Michael's Chapel Ringers

Rehearsals Thursdays

6:00 - 7:15 p.m.

For more information please contact Charlie Preis, Chapel Ringers Director.

Band of Angels

The Band will be back and playing at the services on **November 12th**.

You've heard us before, now be a part of it. We take all ages from Middle school on up. Where else can you have a band that has both kids and adults playing together? So, if you haven't played your band or orchestra instrument in years, then it's time to oil up those valves, put on a new reed, tighten up those strings and PLAY!

Contact Charlie Preis at preisdogs@gmail.com or 651-485-3924



During worship, I often will watch our children at the Playground interact with parents, each other, different books provided or new toys they've discovered. One Sunday, I watched a 3-year-old realize that the back baptismal font and fountain had running water. I watched as he slowly dipped his finger in and out of the steady stream. I watched an usher engage and demonstrate using the water to make the sign of the cross. The child's smile made his eyes close, and his teeth stick out from pure joy. He then did the same to himself and then to his dad. He had a twinkle in his eye. He ran over and put his whole hand into the stream of water and started splashing and flicking water on himself and his dad. He then went up to a member and splashed it onto them, his joy completely exuding. He went to another pew and flicked and splashed water to another member. Both times, these members matched his energy and joy. It was clear they weren't sure what he was doing, but he was just so happy and cute. As I watched him, I started to pray that my faith -- our faith -- be as contagious as this child's excitement to touch and feel the baptismal waters and to spread that joy and excitement. I felt my cynical-self creeping in, thinking, "It's not that deep. This little boy has no clue how he is spreading God's joy, God's love, God's promises, our baptismal promises." But I then stopped myself and posed the question, "but isn't it?" Who best reminds us of the mystery of faith, than a 3-year-old little boy? A child who is so excited to share the joy he experienced when he felt the stream of water; when he felt the water touch his forehead in the shape of a cross.

I ask that the next time you enter the sanctuary, you put your hand in the baptismal stream and think of what excites you about your faith. What excites you that you would want to share and "splash" someone else with that same excitement? I also ask, that if you see a child tippy-toe up to the baptismal font/fountain, you invite them to splash, touch, see, feel the mystery of that grace filled water.

~ Natalie Romero, CYF Director

Our 2023-2024 Sunday School theme is BOUNDLESS!

Our focus will be "God's love is immeasurably more than we can ask or imagine." Students will explore this theme through music, crafts, games, conversations and many other activities.

Reminder! Sunday School Registration is open all year. Friends are welcome to join us at any time. Feel free to use the QR Code here to register!



3RD GRADE STUDENTS RECEIVE THEIR BIBLES

OCTOBER 1ST
DURING WORSHIP

Please RSVP by using
the QR Code
Contact Natalie at
youth@stmichaelselca.com



GRACE BAGS



Grace Bags are a simple way to provide practical help to a person experiencing homelessness. Keep some of these kits in your car so you're prepared to offer one to a person in need.

Grace Bags will be available after October 1st-while kits last.

SUNDAY SCHOOL REMINDER

There is NO
Sunday School on
October 22nd
due to MEA

Deep Dive

10th - 12th grade students are welcome to join us for our monthly "Deep Dive".

Every month we will explore a new topic.

October 4th--6:30pm-7:30pm

Join us in the Youth Room

Topic: Martin Luther--The Complicated Reality

Check out the Youth Room for more details & any prereading details.

Contact Natalie Romero at youth@stmichaelselca.com with any questions.



BONFIRE & GAMES

OCTOBER 15TH
6:30PM-8:30PM

SIGN UP USING
THE QR CODE OR
CLICK HERE!



ALL MIDDLE
SCHOOL & HIGH
SCHOOL STUDENTS
WELCOME

DRESS FOR
WEATHER!



Bonfire Hangout

Open to all 3rd-5th Grade
Students

October 15th
5:30pm-6:45pm



Sign up
using the QR
Code



INVOLVED IN EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES?

WE WANT TO SUPPORT
YOU!

UTILIZE THE CALENDARS IN
THE YOUTH ROOM FOR YOUR
PEERS, CHURCH STAFF AND
VOLUNTEERS TO SEE.

PLEASE BE SURE TO TEXT
NATALIE AT (631)339-2502
WHEN YOU ADD AN EVENT!



IT'S A NURSERY SHOWER!

AS WE LAUNCH NURSERY WE ARE IN NEED OF GENTLY USED OR
NEW ITEMS. PLEASE SEE THE LIST BELOW. IF YOU WOULD LIKE
TO DONATE ANY OF THESE ITEMS, PLEASE REACH OUT TO
NATALIE ROMERO OR CARRIE BOCK.
(YOUTH@STMICHAELSELCA.COM)

- *BABY WIPES
- *BABY TOYS/RATTLES
- *NOAH'S ARK TOY (FISHER PRICE)
- *CHILD NATIVITY (FISHER PRICE)
- *DIXIE CUPS
- *HAND SANITIZER WIPES
- *BABYGATE
- *INFANT BOUNCER
- *CD PLAYER
- *NURSERY SONG CDS
- *SMALL PACK N' PLAY

Preparation for 10th Grade Confirmation

Affirmation of Faith | Important Dates for Fall 2023

Please make note of these Confirmation Capstone Experiences:

Sunday, October 1

12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Courtyard Room

Capstone II: Dependable Strengths Workshop

Confirmation robe and photography forms due

Sunday, October 8

12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. Sanctuary

Capstone Experience III: Confirmation Worship Planning & Rehearsal

Faith Project progress check-in

Wednesday, October 25

6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Capstone Experience IV: Faith Project Party

Present projects to 7th-9th grade students

Dinner served by 7th-9th grade students



Sunday, October 29

11:00 a.m. Worship

Affirmation of Faith (Rite of Confirmation) at 11:00 a.m. worship service in Sanctuary

- Arrive at the Library at 10:00 a.m. with robes for pictures

Questions? Contact Pastor Ali

7th – 9th Grade Confirmation

7th – 9th Grade Confirmation Class Reminders:

Oct 4 6:30 p.m. Class in Fellowship Hall

Oct 11 6:30 p.m. Class in Fellowship Hall

Oct 18 **NO CONFIRMATION**

Oct 25 **6:00 p.m. Confirmation Faith Project Party + Dinner**

On October 25th, the 7th – 9th grade confirmation class will prepare dinner for the 10th grade students. Students should arrive by 6pm to the church kitchen to help cook. 10th grade students will then present their faith projects.



Social Ministry Activities

Social Ministry Calendar

- October 9: **Rezek House Meal**
Volunteers still needed, you can sign up on SignUp Genius or contact the church office
- October 8: **Sandwich Making for Union Gospel Mission**
Gather between 9:45-10:00 a.m. in the Serving Area & Kitchen
- October 10: **Keystone Mobile Food Distribution**
2:00 – 4:00 p.m. in Circle Drive (west side of the church)
- October 11 & 25: **Quilting and Bandage Rolling**
9:00 a.m. Fellowship Hall
- Daily: **Panera Bread Ministry**
Evening pick up at Rosedale Panera; Morning Bagging at St. Michael's kitchen
- Fridays: **Every Meal Food Distribution** (*Volunteers still needed*)
Parkview School Center
Friday, October 6
Friday, October 13
Wednesday, October 18 (date change due to MEA)
Friday, October 27



Thank You!

A word of thanks to all the volunteers who assisted with Social Ministry programs this past month.

- 17 volunteers shopped, prepared & served over 500 meals at Loaves & Fishes on September 18
- 2 volunteers assisted serving 23 households at the Keystone Food Mobile on September 12
- 3 volunteers kicked off our partnership with Parkview Center School for the Every Meal program
- Dozens contributed backpacks and school supplies for our partnership with Roseville Area Schools that are now being distributed to families and teachers by the school social workers.
- 15 volunteers assisted with Panera Bread pick-up, bagging, and delivery.
- A great team (exact number not known) turned out on Sunday morning, September 10, to make sandwiches for Union Gospel Mission
- The Quilting & Bandage rolling crew was at work every other Wednesday this month
- A team of volunteers with the Refugee Resettlement team continues to walk with families from Afghanistan by providing rides, presence at doctor appoints, and connection.

For all the ways that people are showing up, sharing, and volunteering to help meet the needs of neighbors near and far, a word of thanks!

Mark Your Calendars!

Upcoming Drives to Support our Neighbors

November—Winter Clothing Drive for area Schools

Beginning November 1 through November 26 St. Michael's will be collecting winter-wear items for children and youth in the Roseville Area Schools. The school social workers have requested new and slightly used snow pants and snow boots—envision little ones from pre-k to middle school who go out for recess, or high schoolers walking to school who could use wind pants and water-proof boots. The drive is open to receiving new hats, gloves, mittens, but the greatest need is for snow pants and boots.

December—Christmas Gift Drive

December 3-December 19 St. Michael's will be doing an annual Christmas gift drive for families in the community who need a little extra assistance around the holidays. Information will be available in the narthex beginning the end of November.

Getting to know Alphonsine Mutumbo

Over the last year and a half a number of people in the congregation have had the opportunity to get to know Alphonsine Mutumbo, a regular in worship and at community events. Alphonsine has agreed to share a bit of her story in order for people to learn a little bit more about her and her journey.

Alphonsine's (very simplified) story: Alphonsine is a wife, mother, care-giver to her siblings' children, and sister. She has always had a deep sense of responsibility and a desire to help others. Alphonsine served in the lower levels of government in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Doing her civic duty she agreed to be an election judge. In this process Alphonsine became aware of voter intimidation and fraud, and immediately her life was put in danger. At one point she was arrested and placed in prison where she was abused and nearly beaten to death. She was able to be released but then had to go into hiding. Ultimately her husband was able to get her a ticket to the US with the prospect of attending a conference. She arrived in New York and traveled to Boston where they had a family connection—she had under \$100 to her name.

Alphonsine, through her husband, was able to connect with the Center for Victims of Torture and moved to Minnesota. Over the last 10 years she has worked hard to overcome all she has experienced and to begin building a life in Minnesota. She works at a rental car company at the MSP airport, often taking on double shifts so that she can support herself and her family. For the last nine years her husband and children have been residing in Dubai because of the violence inflicted on them in DRC—they are not able to work there due to the visa stipulations, so Alphonsine supports them.

Alphonsine was finally granted asylum status in the US this past August. She is now working towards family reunification. As Alphonsine lives next door to St. Michael's, the church has become a place of support and care for her...and we continue to walk with her on her journey.



Alphonsine volunteering with Habitat for Humanity through her work.

Education & Fellowship Opportunities

St. Michael's Parent Group

Press "pause" on the chaos and gather with other St. Michael's parents for a time of connection and reflection on Sunday mornings over a book or shared experiences/topics. Led by parents and for parents, this time is for meaningful conversation and building community.

The fall 2023 session will meet for 6 Sundays, beginning on October 1st - November 12th for conversation over the book *"The Sandbox Revolution: Raising Kids for a Just World"*

After dropping off your kids at Sunday school or the nursery, head over to the Caribou Coffee by church (2111 Snelling Ave N) with your book.

Coffee is on us!

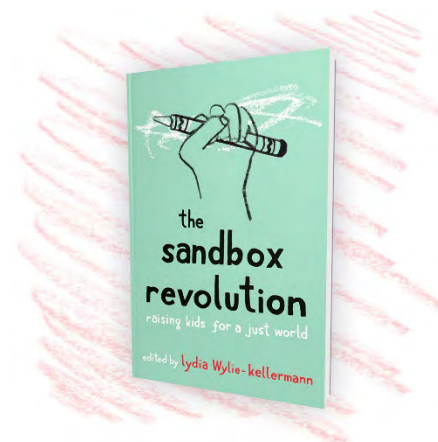
Sundays Oct 1 - Nov 12

10:05 - 10:45 a.m.

The following book sections will be discussed on the below dates:

- Oct 1, Intro + Chapter 1-3
- Oct 8, Chapter 4-6
- Oct 15, Chapter 7-9
- Oct 29, Chapter 10-12
- Nov 5, Chapter 13-15
- Nov 12, *We turned out human - Guiding Values*

Learn more at <https://www.stmichaelselca.com/parent-book-group.html>



End of Life and Funeral Planning Workshop

November 11, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Join Pastor Brad & Pastor Ali for a morning of informative and reflective work regarding end of life care options and funeral planning.

Feel free to bring a family member or friend as you consider options for end of life, learn about what happens after death, and receive information and declare your own wishes regarding a funeral/memorial service.

- 9:00 a.m. “Estate Planning Basics & Health Care Directives” with Erich Hartmann, esq.
- 10:00 a.m. “What Happens After Death? Your Options” with Funeral Director Anne Christ
- 11:00 a.m. “Funeral/Memorial Service Planning” with Pastor Brad & Pastor Ali

This is an important opportunity for people of all ages and stages of life to begin these crucial conversations and make important plans. St. Michael’s can store copies of these plans on your behalf.



Register by calling the church office (651-442-5792)
or online at <https://tinyurl.com/4hzmtdu>
or scan code

Refreshments included. Suggested donation of \$5 per participant

Fall Faith in Daily Life

In October Faith in Daily Life is meeting on Wednesday, **October 11, 12:00-1:00 p.m.** in the Courtyard room at St. Michael’s. The group is reading *The Church Cracked Open: Disruption, Decline, and New Hope for Beloved Community* by Stephanie Spellers and will be focused on pp. 71-136 (chapter 5 to the end).

In November and December we will be jumping into a new book, *The Gravity of Joy: A Story of Being Lost and Found* by Angela Williams Gorrell. Likely in November and December we will be meeting in two groups—one at St. Michael’s and one at Chianti Grill. Stay tuned to the November *Messenger* and Friday eblasts for more information.

Community Life Committee

The Community Life Committee plans events for fellowship and connection throughout the year. Some of their events include Lunch on the Lawn, New Member Gathering, Progressive Dinner, and Summer Saints Game outing, to name a few! Their next meeting is on **October 15th after the 11:00 a.m. worship. (12:30pm in the Library)**

Interested in getting involved? Stop by the meeting or contact Pastor Ali!



Thursday Morning Bible Study

Thursdays, 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Courtyard Room or Classroom 1 @ St. Michael's

The Thursday morning Bible Study meets weekly as we explore Scriptural texts for the coming Sunday, themes throughout the Bible, and ways texts intersect with our daily lives and experiences. This month we will be meeting October 5, 12, and 26; taking off the Thursday of MEA break.

Thursday, October 5

Isaiah 5:1-7 The song of the vineyard
Psalm 80:7-15 Look down from heaven, O God; behold and tend this vine.
Philippians 3:4b-14 Nothing surpasses the value of knowing Christ
Matthew 21:33-46 The parable of the vineyard owner's son

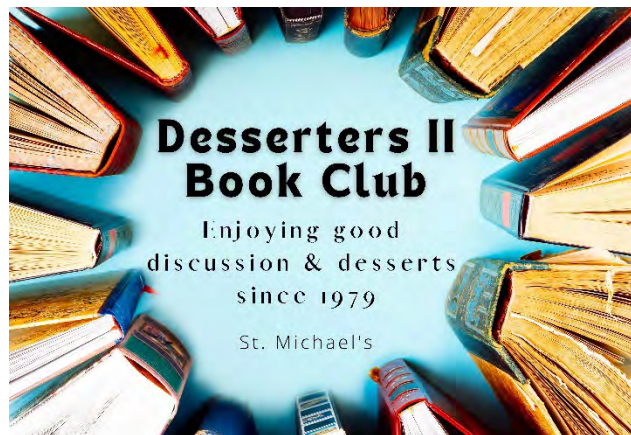
Thursday, October 12

Isaiah 25:1-9 The feast of victory
Psalm 23 You prepare a table before me, and my cup is running over.
Philippians 4:1-9 Rejoice in the Lord always
Matthew 22:1-14 The parable of the unwelcome guest at the wedding feast

Thursday, October 19 *No class due to MEA*

Thursday, October 26

Jeremiah 31:31-34 I will write my law in their hearts, says the Lord
Psalm 46 The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.
Romans 3:19-28 Justified by God's grace as a gift
John 8:31-36 Jesus says, Continue in my word and you will know the truth



Desserters II: the St. Michael's Book Club

Enjoying good discussion and desserts since 1979!

Oct 24, 2023 *Swede Hollow* by Ola Larsmo
Deeply researched and full of memorable moments, *Swede Hollow* is the powerful story of a family who makes the long journey to St. Paul from Sweden in the 1890s and struggles to create new lives for themselves in a hidden quarter of the city.

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.

Esther Circle

The Esther Circle is a community of women who gather for connection, conversation, and fun! The group meets monthly on the first Tuesday of the month at 10:00 a.m.

The Esther Circle will meet on October 3rd at 10:00 a.m. at church.

This year we will be focusing on church hymnody and the gifts of music in worship! Join us!



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 **October 11 & 25**, everyone is welcome!

Thank you!

On behalf of the Residents of the Minneapolis Veterans Home I would like to Thank you for all the lovely Quilts and the Wheelchair Bags that you have made and donated. Not to mention the Calendars and Greeting Cards. The Residents really appreciate these items and please know they are needed and greatly appreciated.

Thank you,
Sandy Gibson

Representative to the Mpls. Veterans Home

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.

Bible and Brew

Thursday, October 26, 7:30 p.m.

St. Michael's Men's Bible and Brew will be meeting Thursday, October 26, 7:30-9:00 p.m., at **Malcom Yards**.

The address is 501 30th Ave SE, Minneapolis, 55414.

This is a great place to grab a beverage, a bite to eat, or a little dessert.

As we prepare for Reformation Sunday we will be testing our knowledge of Martin Luther and the reformers and also thinking about ways that the Church is called to reform/change today.





Yoga Devotion

The fall Yoga Devotion 8 week session runs September 11 – October 30
The class starts at 6:30 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:



SimpleGifts with Billy McLaughlin Concert



Friday, December 15, St. Michael’s will welcome back *SimpleGifts with Billy McLaughlin* as part of their 20th Anniversary Christmas Tour. The concert will take place at 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

Tickets are \$40 in advance and \$50 at the door.
Tickets will be available at St. Michael’s in November
or Online now at:



A Church at Work

Property Team Update

It has already been a busy fall around the church! Finalizing the sanctuary wall construction and completing a roof replacement have been significant projects our committee has accomplished on top of the daily work to maintain our facility.

The Property Committee has been seeing to it that all our various heating systems are tuned up and ready for the coming cold weather. This summer we discovered that the courtyard and choir room air conditioners had trouble keeping the rooms at a comfortable temperature in the hot weather, especially when fully occupied. Keeping those rooms warm in winter, however, should not be a problem.

The new Fellowship Hall heat pump is fully installed and working beautifully. Thanks to a generous donation from a member we now have a reliable and energy efficient source of air conditioning in the summer and heating in the winter. All of the above air handlers as well as the sanctuary now have the capability of bringing outside air into the building in the early morning summer hours when the outside air temperature is cool. This in essence gives us “free” air conditioning! These same devices, called economizers, can also mix in outside air to reduce the carbon dioxide levels that normally occur when the rooms are occupied. This feature works both summer and winter to not only make the rooms feel less “stuffy” but to provide healthier air for the occupants.



We continue to work at adjusting the air temperatures to find that sweet spot where comfort and energy efficiency meet. If you find a room to be uncomfortable feel free to let Barry Eliason, Lisa Koland, or one of the pastors know. If you manually adjust a thermostat when using the building please remember to re-set it again when you are done.

One ongoing maintenance item is tree care. We provide regular treatment of the many gorgeous trees on our property. In November, we have scheduled tree removal around the church yard, including the trees in the courtyard. While these mature trees are beautiful, they have become diseased and are dying, which is a hazard.

Some of these trees were generously given as memorial trees, and we are committed to carrying out the legacy of those individuals. After landscaping, we plan to rededicate our courtyard as a memorial garden for those individuals, as well as other who would like to contribute to the garden on behalf of loved ones or their own legacy.

Thank you to the many dedicated members and volunteers of the property committee for their stewardship of our church home!



Building in Faith Serving in Grace

St. Michael's Capital Campaign

Generosity at Work

Capital Campaign Impact Report, September, 2023

Building

As we near the end of September a number of the building projects scheduled for this year are nearing completion.

- The exterior sanctuary walls are completed
- The roofs on two sections of the church near the sanctuary have been replaced
- The new cross has been installed
- New dampers have been installed for the sanctuary air handling system
- The air-conditioning system and heat pump for the fellowship hall were replaced in early June
- ...and more!

The Property Committee is now preparing the work of the next two years.

- The plan is to upgrade the sound system in the sanctuary next summer (2024) for better sound in worship, as well as adding ambient microphones to enhance on-line streaming
- And in summer of 2025, the interior plaster in the sanctuary will be redone and the sanctuary painted, as well as any additional enhancement of the worship space

Benevolence

As part of the capital campaign, St. Michael's is committed to tithing (giving 10%) to work in the larger world.

- This past spring we provided \$3000 to our partner congregation in Cimiento, Guatemala, to assist with their building of a new church
- This fall we provided an additional \$2000 to the Lutheran Church in Guatemala as part of the St. Paul Area Synod's partnership work
- The St. Michael's Church Council also approved release of \$25,000 to the St. Paul Area Synod for the Planting Hope Campaign, with the plan to give \$75,000 over three years. This year \$12,500 of St. Michael's gift is earmarked to assist with the young adult ministry and global travel and \$12,500 generally toward the Planting Hope campaign.

All of this is made possible by YOU! The Building in Faith Campaign has pledged commitments of \$1,063,997.83 over the three years, and we have already received \$322,627.96. Thank you for your commitment to the work at St. Michael's and in the world.

Church Council Corner

The church council met virtually on September 12th. Committee updates were provided and two benevolence motions passed at the council meeting including:

- As instructed in the church constitution, a statistical update of the membership rolls has begun.
- Approval of benevolence out of the capital campaign fund:
 - A three-year commitment to the St. Paul Synod's Planting Hope Campaign of \$75,000 in disbursements of \$25,000 each year. This year, the \$25,000 donation was designated as \$12,500 for the general campaign and \$12,500 for global travel scholarships.
- Approval of \$9,000 benevolence out of St. Michael's Disaster Response funds to ELCA Disaster Response supporting those impacted by recent global events.

The next council meeting will be held on October 10th at 7:00 p.m.

2023 Budget Overview and Financial Update

	August Actual	August Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Annual Budget
Income	\$46,033	\$60,066	\$535,726	\$518,725	\$868,882*
Expenses	\$72,357	\$69,862	\$554,409	\$592,104	\$868,882
Net Balance	-\$26,324	-\$9,796	-\$18,683	-\$73,379	\$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

The program year has started and there are still a wide variety of OPEN Worship Leader spots! 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 November *Messenger*?

The *Messenger* submission deadline is Friday, October 20, 2023.



St Michael's

LUTHERAN CHURCH

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St. Michael's Staff Directory

St. Michael's Lutheran

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Hannah & Carrie Bock

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Fernando Garcia

Custodian

Grace Berndt & Marissa Breneman

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