

July 2018



From the Pastor's Desk

*To everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven.
(Ecclesiastes 3:1)*

Over a decade ago I was visiting with a friend, Jimmy. Jimmy had grown up in Texas, had spent several years in Boston, and had lived in Minnesota for just over a year. After his first year in Minnesota he explained to me that Minnesotans have two seasons. I half expected him to go into the long-standing joke about winter and road construction, but he commented that the two seasons he confronted were hibernation and hyper-activity. In his mind Minnesotans hid away in the winter and then as soon as spring arrived they went gang-busters until October or maybe November.

Looking outside the window as well as thinking about my own calendar I could see what Jimmy was pointing to—there were runners, cyclists, walkers, community festivals, fairs, camping trips, school and family reunions and the other things piled into the summer.

Yet, I am also keenly aware that during the time Jimmy saw as hibernation (November-March) a lot was going on—perhaps more hidden, but busy. There are the church meetings, social outings, school games and sports events, skiing, theater, music and dance competitions, board meetings, holiday gatherings that fill up schedules during those times that may seem more like the winter of hibernation.

So, in my mind hibernation and hyper-activity have less to do with the weather outside and more to do with our personal and familial well-being.

For this reason, I invite you to take your own pulse and the pulse of those who are connected to you either as family or close friends. In what season are you currently dwelling? Is now a time for rest, for engagement, or are you feeling a good balance?

A time for Sabbath Rest...

Early on in divinity school I took a class on the Jewish holy days. We started squarely with the concept of Sabbath and spent several weeks discussing the meanings, understandings, rituals, and power of *Shabbat* or the Sabbath. Through the conversations themes emerged: connection to God; connection to family and friends; restoring body, mind, soul; honoring labor; honoring the times we do not labor; honoring silence; the power of renewal.

It is my understanding that many at St. Michael's are looking for opportunities for Sabbath rest. I want to encourage this pursuit.

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It is good to experience rest and restoration and of honoring labor and justice (some of you heard Pastor Ali's sermon on sabbath this past month). It is my hope that this summer in worship, in nature, in travels and activities each of you will take time to deeply connect with the Divine Essence that is God, to connect with others, to find renewal and restoration, to honor times for work (your own and others) and times for relaxation, and to sit in silence.

There is a season to know and experience rest and restoration!

A Time for Renewed Engagement...

Just as there is a time for Sabbath-making and Sabbath-taking there is a time for renewed engagement. It is important to let the Sabbath touch us deeply so that we might then move into places where we will continue to make a difference in the life of community and the world.

There is much happening at St. Michael's as we move through the summer. Committees are reviewing what was done this past program year and preparing for 2018-2019, the Council and Committees continue the work of strategic planning. The Property Committee is getting the new boiler installed, the organ will have a "tune-up" in August, there are children and youth activities and weeks on the mission trip, camp, and day camp. The Social Ministry Committee has continued its work with Holy Hammers Habitat for Humanity and is gearing up for school supply collection. Several members are meeting regularly to prepare for a trip to our partner congregation in Guatemala in October.

Beyond our doors, we also know that there are local and national conversations and events raging around immigration, the death of another Black man here in the Twin Cities (please note that at the time of this printing details are not known). Others have been involved in Twin Cities Pride, local meal programs, Global Health Ministries, youth and chaperones have just returned from a full week of work and exploration on an NYC Mission Trip, our quilters continue to meet and stitch diligently...and so much more!

There are incredible people and gifts in this community that are involved with and will give shape to each of these. The challenge is to not let any one job or project become overwhelming. If we create plans for support, encouragement, job-sharing, and are honest about our time commitments and talents our engagement can be faith-filled and life-giving.

Then there can truly be a season for renewed engagement!

Bridging Rest and Engagement...

To be successful, we as a community must lift up the sense of renewed engagement alongside the commitment to Sabbath rest. It is my hope and prayer that each of us will look at ways in which we might effectively "re-fuel" and "re-engage."

As a church, hibernation and hyper-activity, viewed as two separate seasons, can wear out even the best of people...or cause others to feel alienated. We must challenge ourselves to create and sustain a sense of balance as individuals and a community. And with the all that comes our way on a daily or monthly basis it can be difficult.

So, if you will, take some time this summer to relax and explore places of Sabbath. Next, explore ways that you would like to engage here at St. Michael's and in the world and pray about it. Finally, offer your gifts of time and talents in the ways you are most able to engage at this time.

Pastor Ali, Committee members, and I may very well be asking many of you to serve in a variety of capacities in the coming months and year. It will be important for all of us to know how we are being fed, where we are being called, and the boundaries needed to carry out effective ministry.

As we move through this summer it is my hope and prayer that we continue to nurture both the sense of Sabbath-taking and Renewed Engagement.

In peace,
Pastor Brad

Time for a Tune Up!

In 1987 St. Michael's Lutheran Church was blessed with the purchase and installation of a Van Daalen organ. Leaders in the congregation oversaw the project and fundraising, including Organ Committee Members: Janet Bardy, George Beebe, Joel Bergstrom, Ginny Gustafson, Roy Hallanger, Jim Hartsoe, Gary Langer, Vic Perman, Bill Stump, Dorothy Tostengard, and Donna Barnett (chair) and Finance Committee: Lee Barnett, Ken Egerston, Verner Gustafson, Erling Hallanger, Jim Hartsoe, Roland Hayes, Virgil Larson, and Vic Perman.



Time for a
Tune-up

Thirty-one years later, it is time for a Pipe Organ Tune-up! Several of the pipes are needing to be strengthened and refitted. We will be working with Dobson Organ Company from Lake City, Iowa, a leader in organ building, as they repair the exterior façade pipes, interior mitered pipes, and tune the organ.

St. Michael's has been blessed by this instrument and the musicians who have given life to music through it. It is now time for us to put time, energy, and dollars into its maintenance. This will keep our organ in excellent condition and protect our investment.

The work on the organ will take place the beginning of August 2018 and should not affect our Sunday morning service schedule. In the fall we will hold a special concert and celebration of the organ and music program at St. Michael's.


The Stewardship Committee is seeking to raise \$20,000 to cover the cost of the organ project. We invite you to be part of this effort to "tune up" the organ!

We are very excited about this work. We now seek your prayers and financial support in making this a success. Please consider making a special gift to support the organ appeal at St. Michael's. Contribution cards were sent out in June to friends and members of the congregation – you can also find the contribution card below if you'd like to make a donation to this project.

Thank you for your support for this project! We look forward to celebrating the organ and music this fall.

Blessings,
Carol Kriegler, Kathy Enzler, Howard Coleman
St. Michael's Stewardship Team

**Should funds exceed the \$20,000 goal for the organ any additional funds will go toward the on-going care and maintenance of the organ and sanctuary.*



Time for a
Tune-up

St. Michael's Organ Tune-up – Special Appeal

In celebration of the Organ and Musical Program at St. Michael's Lutheran Church, I/we offer \$_____ for the Organ Tune-up Appeal.

My/our gift is:

Enclosed

Will be a one-time gift made at a later date

Will be a monthly gift over the next _____ months

Your gift may be returned by mail to St. Michael's Lutheran Church in the envelope provided, returned to the church office, or placed in the offering plate.

This gift is tax-deductible for those who itemize tax deductions, as no goods or services are received in exchange for this gift, and will be noted as a special gift on St. Michael's Lutheran Church Financial Statements.

Staffing Updates



St. Michael's is hiring!

We are currently taking applications for the following positions:

- ◆ Nursery Care Provider
- ◆ Children's Choir Accompanist
- ◆ Church Custodian

If you or someone you know are interested in these positions, please contact the church office or view our church website for position descriptions.



Office News

The church offices will be closed on Wednesday, July 4th for the Holiday.

Pastor Brad will be out of the office on vacation July 1–8.

Pastors Brad and Ali will be leading the trip to Holden Village from July 27–August 3.

Pastor Brad will be out of the office July 24–August 3.

Pastor Ali will be out of the office from July 27–August 9.

Pastor Jay Carlson will be on call for pastoral needs from July 27–August 3.

You can contact the church office to reach Pastor Jay.

Mary Gail will be on vacation July 20, 23, & 24. The church offices will be closed July 20.



Save the Dates!

- ⇒ Faith in Daily Life schedule resumes September 5
- ⇒ Rally Sunday—September 9
- ⇒ Monday Morning Ministries—September 10
- ⇒ God's Work Our Hands and B-B-Q—September 16
- ⇒ Annual Bazaar—October 13

Newsletter Deadline Date

The deadline for submitting articles for the August *Messenger* is **Wednesday, July 18.**

Thank you!

Dear St. Michael's family—

Thank you so very much for your prayers, hugs, cards, and tender expressions of sympathy to us at the recent death of my mother.

She loved being a part of our extended church family through occasional visits and would rejoice to know that we are cared for by loving friends.

Sincerely,

Janet Hanafin



Become a Confirmation Mentor!

Are you passionate about youth, curious about faith, and wanting to make a difference in the life of a young person? Become a Confirmation Mentor!

8th Grade Confirmation Students are looking for adult mentors for this upcoming program year for monthly gatherings of learning, service projects, and fun! *Male Confirmation Mentors are especially needed this year!*

Confirmation mentoring is a 2-year commitment as mentors will walk alongside their student partners throughout their 8th & 9th grade years. There are approximately six mentor meeting nights a year.



Interested? Contact Pastor Ali to learn more. ali@stmichaelselca.com

Giving Made Easy

You can now setup online giving through our church website!

To set up a one-time or recurring gift, just head to <http://www.stmichaelselca.com/giving-methods.html>.

If you are already using electronic giving, you can access your account by using your email address and creating a password. You can make additional gifts through this giving portal or track your giving history!

Electronic giving can keep you on track with stewardship and guarantees uninterrupted support for our church. With electronic giving you can:

- ⇒ Give anytime, anywhere by using our online giving portal on our church website
- ⇒ Schedule and manage recurring donations
- ⇒ Make one-time payments to special appeals or events, such as youth activities or the altar flower fund
- ⇒ Track your giving history

If you have questions about making an electronic gift to St. Michael's, please contact the church office!

Budget Update from the Finance Committee

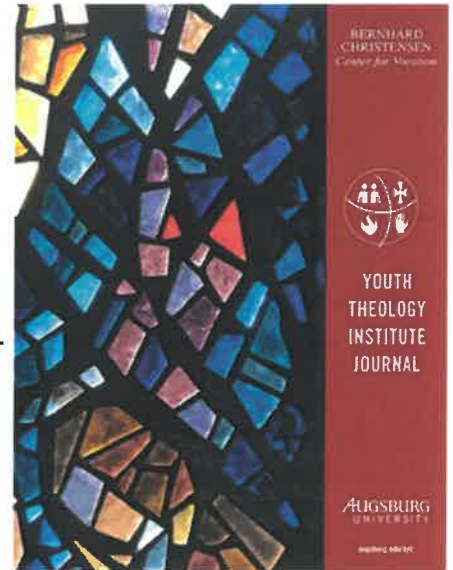
	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>
Annual Approved Budget	\$821,457	\$821,457
Year-to-Date Actual (as of 5/31/18)	\$341,359	\$336,330



Life of our Congregation

St. Michael's Youth at Augsburg Youth Theology Institute

Nicholas Guiang, a St. Michael's youth, will be attending the Augsburg Youth Theology Institute at Augsburg University in Minneapolis, MN this July! This is a week-long immersion experience where high school students get to study theological questions relevant in today's world while also learning more about community leadership for the common good. Following every Youth Theology Institute, students share about their experience through essays they construct related to the particular theme. The essays are compiled into journals to be resources for the wider community. Stay tuned for opportunities to hear about Nick's learning when he gets back!



The Augsburg Youth Theology Institute is a program run by the Christensen Center for Vocation at Augsburg University that creates a space for high school aged youth to explore theological questions, action and community, and their own senses of calling and vocation. It is a week-long program where students stay on campus at Augsburg in Minneapolis, MN. Students spend time in the classroom learning from experienced University faculty and experts in many different fields. Students also get to learn from different community members in experience based learning and get to explore the community through visiting nearby restaurants and businesses. This year students, will dive deep into the topic of leadership and what it looks like to be a public Christian leader in today's world. They will do this by learning from experienced peer ministry leaders, cross-cultural advocates, and community organizers. Students will also learn about the theology behind these efforts and be urged to put their learning into practice when they get home.

Births

~ Neal Lawrence Cihacek,
son of Amelia & Brian Cihacek,
was born on June 12th



~ Henry Benjamin Martin,
son of Casey & Jonathan Martin,
was born on June 13th

Social Ministry

July Calendar of Events

Rezek House Meal	Monday, July 2
Panera Bread Ministry	Daily
Sandwich Making for Union Gospel Mission	Sunday, July 8
Global Health Ministry	2nd and 4th Monday- July 9 & July 23
Keystone Food Mobile Distribution	2nd Tuesday— July 10
Quilting and Bandage Rolling	2nd and 4th Wednesday- July 11 & July 25
Loaves & Fishes Book Drop Off	Week of July 16
Loaves & Fishes Meal	July 16

Children's Books for Loaves & Fishes



St. Michael's is looking for new or used children's books in good condition for the guests at Loaves & Fishes community meal. We are particularly looking for board books or books for young readers. Used books should be clean and in good condition. Religious books or Bibles are not accepted. Books can be brought to the church office during weekly office hours or before worship. Questions? Want to learn more? Contact Pastor Ali!

FoodMobile Distribution!

Each month, St. Michael's is a site for the Keystone Mobile Food Shelf. The Mobile Food Shelf makes the Keystone Food Shelf more accessible for those who need to access to food. Volunteers are needed to welcome clients and help the Keystone staff on the food truck.



If you would like to volunteer with the Mobile Food Shelf while it is at St. Michael's, call the church office or head to the sign up genius to learn more!

<http://www.stmichaelsca.com/volunteer-opportunities.html>



Back to School Supplies Drive

Even though it feels like summer just got started, shortly after our July 4th celebrations the sales for 'Back to School' will be starting!

Social Ministry will be collecting needed school supplies, including packaged snacks, for our Roseville School District during the month of August. Specific lists of needs will be supplied later in the month and a drop-off area will be marked in the entrance of the sanctuary.

Thank you for your help in this important service to our community. Your generosity has allowed many students to have a good start to the school year!

Dinner Church - Picnic Worship July 23rd

The earliest meetings of Jesus' followers were not centered around a pulpit in a sanctuary but around a table with food – a shared meal together. Join us in this exciting new worship opportunity centered around God's presence in community, conversation, and food!



Gathering time will begin outside (weather permitting) at 5:30 pm with the liturgy and meal to begin at 6:00 pm. Communion will be served as a part of our gathering. Hamburgers, veggie burgers, and hotdogs will be served. Bring a side, salad, or dessert to share!

Location: Outside (Fellowship Hall if raining)

Time: Liturgy begins at 6:00 pm, gathering time begins at 5:30 pm

Bring: A side, salad, snack, or dessert to share!

Come: As you are. Children and families are especially welcome!

Holden Evening Prayer and Fellowship

During the month of July, Monday evening worship will feature **Holden Evening Prayer**, a special musical liturgy written at Holden Village, a Lutheran Retreat Center in Washington State.

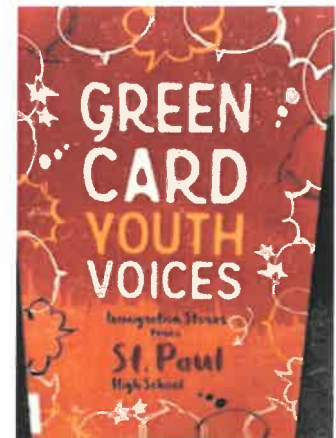
Stick around after worship on July 30th for a special time of fellowship with ice cream treats in the Courtyard!

Worship begins each week at 7:00 p.m. in the Courtyard Room. All are welcome.

Library News

With the recent discussion of immigrants and refugees in the news, we encourage you to check out the book, *Green Card Youth Voices: Immigration Stories from a St. Paul High School*, available in the church library. This book was written by high school students in a local high school in 2017, and captures the first-person perspectives and experiences of youth who immigrated to Minnesota.

You can find the book under the category "Faith Engaging the World: Racial Justice."



Bike Trip Update

After receiving feedback from the congregation, the bike trip organizers decided not to plan a trip for this summer. We hope to reassess this opportunity for future summers, but plan to keep the tradition of building meaningful relationships alive through a variety of other fellowship opportunities this year. Thank you for your interest!

Youth Mission Trip

Seventeen Senior High youth from St. Michael's spent a week in June learning and serving in New York City! Thank you to our adult chaperones and those who made special donations to make their trip possible.



children's & youth ministry events

JULY 8-13 | SUMMER CAMP for grades 3-12

AUGUST 12-16 DAY CAMP (VBS) for ages 3-17

The **REGISTRATION Brochure** is online at www.stmichaelselca.com/3rd---5th-grade with the **HEALTH FORM**, and is available on the bulletin board outside the church office. Financial assistance available.

IN ORDER FOR US TO CONTINUING OFFERING DAY CAMP, WE NEED ADULTS! Day Camp needs 6-12 adults to volunteer with elements of Day Camp like camp snacks and meals for Luther Crest staff as well as serving with 3-5 years olds and K-5th grades.

SAVE THE DATES

Tuesday, August 28 | Youth and Children's Ministry Volunteer Training for Sunday School teachers, nursery workers, and Confirmation Mentors will be from 6:00–8:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Sunday, September 9 | Kick-Off Sunday will be a church-wide event and include registration for Sunday School.

Worship with your Family this Summer

Sunday Mornings | 10 am

This summer the regular nursery is closed, and a "summer nursery" is set up in the Children's Library at the back of the Sanctuary.

We are experimenting with **Pray-Ground space for ages 3-9 in the back of the Sanctuary**. Pray-Ground is a space designed for parents to sit near their children without worrying about keeping children "still" during worship. As we welcome children as integral participants in worship, we welcome the sounds and activity that accompany them. We encourage children to be supervised by parents while in the prayground, except during the sermon when volunteers, called Faith Friends, help kids more fully experience the worship service in age-appropriate ways by focusing their energy on quiet activities connected to the scripture used in the sermon.

Monday Nights | 7 pm

This interactive and diverse worship experience meets in the Courtyard Room. The **casual and shorter worship service** ends at 7:45 pm and includes communion. It will also have a designated **Pray-Ground space for ages 3-9** (see above) which will expand later in the summer to include direct ways kids can participate in the worship service.

Following the last Monday of the month, **your family is invited to be part of the community eating and gathering** in the Courtyard for:

Ice-Cream & Popsicles on July 30 | Root Beer Floats on August 27

Questions? Contact Amy McGrew, Children, Youth & Family Interim Director, at youth@stmichaelselca.com

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10:00 AM Worship	2 Rezek Meal 10:30 AM Staff Meeting 7:00 PM Monday evening Worship Service	3 9:00 AM Quilting 7:00 PM Adult Children of Alcoholics	4 Office Closed	5 9:00 AM Quilting 6:30 PM Yoga Devotion 7:10 PM Vox Nova Rehearsal	6	7
8 Luther Crest Youth Bible Camp Summer Patio Series Sunday Small Group 10:00 AM Worship 11:00 AM Sandwich Making 12:30 PM Armenian Dance Ensemble rehearsal	9 Luther Crest Youth Bible Camp 7:30 AM Northern Voices Summer School Classes 8:30 AM Global Health Ministries 10:30 AM Staff Meeting 4:30 PM Worship Committee Meeting 5:30 PM Holden Trip Gathering 7:00 PM Monday evening Worship Service 7:10 PM Vox Nova Rehearsal	10 Luther Crest Youth Bible Camp 7:00 AM P & A Committee Meeting 7:30 AM Northern Voices Summer School Classes 9:00 AM Quilting 3:00 PM Food Mobile Distribution 4:00 PM Stewardship Committee 6:00 PM Property Committee 6:00 PM Social Ministry Committee 7:00 PM Adult Children of Alcoholics 8:15 PM Church Council Meeting	11 Luther Crest Youth Bible Camp Summer Patio Series Wednesday Small Group 7:30 AM Northern Voices Summer School Classes 9:00 AM Quilting & Bandage Rolling	12 Luther Crest Youth Bible Camp 7:30 AM Northern Voices Summer School Classes 9:00 AM Quilting 6:30 PM Guatemala Trip Meeting 6:30 PM Yoga Devotion 7:10 PM Vox Nova Rehearsal	13 Luther Crest Youth Bible Camp	14
15 10:00 AM Worship with the baptism of Elsa Schreiber	16 Loaves and Fishes 7:30 AM Northern Voices Summer School Classes 10:30 AM Staff Meeting 5:30 PM Finance Committee Meeting 7:00 PM Monday evening Worship Service 7:10 PM Vox Nova Rehearsal	17 7:30 AM Northern Voices Summer School Classes 9:00 AM Quilting 7:00 PM Adult Children of Alcoholics	18 7:30 AM Northern Voices Summer School Classes 9:00 AM Deadline for Messenger Newsletter Submissions	19 7:30 AM Northern Voices Summer School Classes 9:00 AM Quilting 6:30 PM Yoga Devotion 7:10 PM Vox Nova Rehearsal	20 Church Offices Closed	21
22 Summer Patio Series Sunday Small Group 10:00 AM Worship 12:30 PM Armenian Dance Ensemble rehearsal	23 7:30 AM Northern Voices Summer School Classes 8:30 AM Global Health Ministries 10:30 AM Staff Meeting 5:30 PM Monday evening Dinner Church / Worship 7:10 PM Vox Nova Rehearsal	24 7:30 AM Northern Voices Summer School Classes 9:00 AM Quilting 5:30 PM Executive Committee Meeting 7:00 PM Adult Children of Alcoholics	25 Summer Patio Series Wednesday Small Group 7:30 AM Northern Voices Summer School Classes 9:00 AM Quilting & Bandage Rolling	26 Summer Patio Series Thursday Small Group 7:30 AM Northern Voices Summer School Classes 9:00 AM Messenger Assembly 9:00 AM Quilting 7:10 PM Vox Nova Rehearsal	27 Holden Village Trip	28 Holden Village Trip
29 Holden Village Trip 10:00 AM Worship 6:30 PM St. Paul Vocal Forum - fundraising event	30 Holden Village Trip 7:30 AM Northern Voices Summer School Classes 10:30 AM Staff Meeting 7:00 PM Monday evening Worship Service & Ice Cream Fellowship Following Worship 7:10 PM Vox Nova Rehearsal	31 Holden Village Trip 7:30 AM Northern Voices Summer School Classes 9:00 AM Quilting 7:00 PM Adult Children of Alcoholics				



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