



**St Michael's**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

# The Messenger

June 2018

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## The Pastors' Picks!

### Summer Reading & Listening Recommendations

Summer is upon us, which means it's the perfect time to engage in some summer reading and podcast listening! Whether you are looking for a good book to enjoy on the patio, or wondering how you will pass the time in your long car ride to the cabin, we've got you covered. Pick up your pastors' favorite titles or tune in to their most-listened to podcasts!

#### Books:

**Everything Happens for a Reason: And Other Lies That I've Loved** by Kate Bowler. Young mother and seminary professor with Stage IV cancer shares her perspectives on friendships, family, faith, and death. Using humor and vulnerability, Bowler's inspiring story challenges feel good platitudes often quoted to those who are experiencing hardship (such as "Everything happens for a reason!").

**Holy Rover: Journeys in Search of Mystery, Miracles, and God** by Lori Erickson. As a travel writer and spiritual dabbler, Lori Erickson shares her adventures to the world's most popular spiritual pilgrimages. Born a Lutheran in Iowa, Erickson reflects on her upbringing and admiration for other world religions that ultimately sent her around the world in search for her own sense of meaning and spirituality.

**Designing Our Way to a Better World**, by Thomas Fisher. Fisher is the former dean of the College of Design at the U of M. In this book he looks at current topics through the eyes of a designer. Are there ways to view and address education, public health, politics, economics, and even our beliefs with an eye towards creativity and aesthetics as well as planning and design?

**God: A Human History** by Reza Aslan. In his previous book, *Zealot*, Aslan went into the life of Jesus. Now he explores God and the ways we as humanity have "anthropomorphized" God (a fancy way of saying we have made God like us or given God human qualities). In this way he invites the reader to ponder not only the Holy, but also the history of humanity. Between the book and the extended footnotes there are insights and information to be gleaned.

### Podcasts:

To access these podcasts, search them on the iTunes podcast app, android podcast apps, or simply google the title of each podcast!

**Parent Cue Live** "Whether you're dealing with a teething baby who won't stop crying or a high schooler who won't say a single word, you can identify with the challenges of parenthood." Parent Cue Live is a podcast that interviews experts on a variety of topics to help families through the various stages of parenting. Recent episodes feature "How to Recognize Signs of Depression and Suicide," "How to Parent in a World of Social Media," and "How to Talk to Your Kids About Crisis."

#### TED Talk Radio Hour

TED stands for "Technology, Education, Design" and is a nonprofit organization devoted to spreading world-changing ideas. What started as a 4-day conference is now a global platform for the world's most creative and inspiring thinkers. The podcast features short journeys through "astonishing inventions" and "fresh approaches to old problems." Recent episodes include, "How Close Are We to Finding Life On Another Planet?" "How Can you Restore Trust in Government?" and "How Can We Instill Bravery in Girls?"

**Sound Exploder** is an award winning podcast where musicians take apart their songs, piece by piece, and tell the story of how they were made. This podcast lives at the intersection of creativity, storytelling, and music. Recent episodes feature Jack Johnson, The Roots, Lin-Manuel Miranda, and artists from the soundtracks of Black Panther and Stranger Things.

Remember to stop by our church library for more summer reading ideas.

## Children's, Youth, and Family Update

Over the course of the last four months Amy McGrew, with InterServe ministries, has stepped into the role of interim staff person for Children's, Youth, and Family ministries.

Throughout this period she has learned much about the ministry history of the congregation and its culture; started assessing current programming—areas of strength and areas in need of support; and looking at current volunteer involvement and needs. Amy has worked alongside Brian Thompson and many volunteers as she has learned and experienced St. Michael's.

The Education and Youth Committees have worked with Amy to create a Transition Task Force of eight individuals, plus another staff from InterServe. As part of the interim process they have reviewed "44 Faith Assets" for children, youth, and family ministry; created a congregational timeline going back to the 1960s naming successes and challenges; reviewed St. Michael's Vision, Mission, and Values and how it informs current ministry; and now are starting to draft a congregational survey that will go out to the whole congregation in August (in order to do a S.W.O.T analysis—strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats).

Over the course of the next three months Amy will facilitate a special "pray-ground" and learning experiences for children around worship, lead on-going programming with Brian Thompson and the pastoral staff, prepare for the 2018-2019 program year, and engage the congregation in the congregational survey. In the fall, the Transition Task Force will conclude its work and a Search Team will be formed. Amy will continue with us through this work and then hand over programs to the new staff person when that person begins.

Throughout the summer and fall you can expect updates in the *Messenger* and e-blasts as we move through the interim process.

## Dinner Church - Picnic Worship July 23<sup>rd</sup>

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!

## Summer Worship Schedule Begins May 27



**Sunday,** 10:00 a.m. in the sanctuary

**Monday,** 7:00 p.m. in the Courtyard Room

### **Please Note:**

There will be no Monday evening service:

Monday, May 28, Memorial Day

Monday, September 3, Labor Day

*The office will be closed these two Mondays.*



## Celebrating & Honoring St. Michael's 2018 High School Graduates Sunday, June 3 – 10:00 a.m.

**Bri Cline** is graduating from Mounds View High School. Her plans and dreams following graduation include attending University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire to major in nursing.



**Emma Wermager** is graduating from Moundsvew High School. Following graduation, her dreams and plans involve majoring in chemistry at St. Cloud State University.

**Grant Dunne** is graduating from Roseville Area High School. Following graduation, he plans to take a gap year to travel and work before going to college.



**Nicholas Guiang** is graduating from Mounds Park Academy. He will be attending Northwestern University to study Journalism, and hopes to play more soccer in college and continue his love for writing. He hopes to find a church he enjoys as much as St. Michaels, and a community just as welcoming.

**Owen Carlson** is graduating from Lionsgate Academy. He will be attending the Lionsgate AIM transition program where he will learn job skills and independent living skills.



**Graduates, at this exciting time of transition  
along your journey of life and faith,  
St Michael's offers you our love and blessing.**

## Simply Giving®

Would you find it helpful to have your offerings taken from your bank account as you do other weekly, bi-monthly or monthly drafts? Many of you already participate in this program called Simply Giving®. For those who travel, this is particularly helpful in keeping up with your intended offerings. Contact the church office for more details or click on the link on the church's website.

## Thank You

Dear friends,

Your support allows more families to open the door to a safe, affordable home—a home that means kids can sleep and study in safety, parents can start saving for their kids' futures, and families can build lasting connections with their communities. Supporters like our are making our big, bold dreams for the future a reality. Here are just a few things your gift will do through our new four-year strategic plan:

- ◇ More than double the homebuyers over four years, up to **500 families**
- ◇ Partner with **320 low-income homeowners** on paint and repair work
- ◇ Recruit volunteers to fill **120,000 work days**

Thank you for St. Michael's Lutheran Church's gift of \$11,500. You are investing in the strength, stability, and self-reliance of the families who partner with Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity. For that, we are so grateful.

*Jackie Peak*

Faith Relations Sr. Associate  
Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity



## Benefits of Volunteering

Ric Soderstrom recently received the Distinguished Volunteer Leadership Award from the North Suburban Gavel Association. He shared advice he received upon retiring, which he noted can be applied to volunteering.

1. Get out of the house
2. Get some fresh air—enjoy the outdoors
3. Get some exercise—every day!
4. Socialize—it is important to be in contact with people
5. Eat sensibly

You get to fulfill almost the entire list just by doing volunteer work. (Maybe a little weak on the eating part— but donuts and cookies are usually included in volunteering!)

Volunteer—it's good for you! Be like Ric!

## Attention Thrivent Members!

If you are a Thrivent member and are interested in doing your Thrivent Action Team through St. Michael's, let us know. There are always opportunities from the Food shelf to Panera, to Global Health Ministry and service trips. Simply call or email the church office to learn more.



**THRIVENT®**  
Be Wise With Money™

## 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 4/30/18)	\$281,887	\$275,758



## Social Ministry

### Social Ministry June Calendar of Events

Rezek House Meal	Monday, June 4
Panera Bread Ministry	Weekly
Sandwich Making for Union Gospel Mission	Sunday, June 10
Habitat for Humanity Holy Hammers	June 14-15—Women's Build Week
Global Health Ministry	Monday, June 11 & June 25
Keystone Food Mobile Distribution	2nd Tuesday— June 12
Quilting and Bandage Rolling	2nd and 4th Wednesday— June 13 & June 27
Loaves & Fishes Book Drop Off	Week of June 18

### Rezek House Meal

The first Monday of each month, St. Michael's volunteers provide a community meal for the 15 residents at Rezek House, a transitional shelter for homeless youth. If you'd like to provide a meal for the youth, please sign up by contacting the church office at 651-631-1510 or going to the online sign up here: <http://stmichaelsca.com/volunteer.html> This



### 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 to 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>

### Life of the Congregation

- ~ Gabriel Ferin was baptized on Sunday, May 27<sup>th</sup>.  
His parents are Pastor Ali and Ben.
- ~ Lloyd Mart's sister, Margaret Gene Umble died on May 2<sup>nd</sup> in Iowa. Her funeral service was held on May 5<sup>th</sup>.
- ~ Dan Grewe's brother, Darren, died on May 5<sup>th</sup>.  
His funeral service was held on May 18<sup>th</sup> in New Ulm.
- ~ Janet Hanafin's mother, Jane Lunder, passed away on April 24<sup>th</sup>. Her funeral service was held on April 29<sup>th</sup> in Canton, SD.
- ~ Judy Herrick's brother and Kim Chapman's uncle passed away on May 19<sup>th</sup>.

Please continue to keep Lloyd, Dan, Janet, Judy and Kim and their families in your prayers as they grieve.

### Women's Circles

The Sarah and Elisabeth Circles will gather together for a lunch on Wednesday, June 6<sup>th</sup> at Axel's Restaurant at 11:45 a.m.

If you want to carpool, please meet at the church at 11:30 a.m.

Axel's is located at 2540 Cleveland Avenue North in Roseville.

# children's & youth ministry events

**JUNE 16-23 | NY MISSION TRIP** for grades 9-12

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

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

## DAY CAMP REGISTRATION DUE JUNE 30

\*New\* this year, Luther Crest Bible Camp is facilitating the program alongside our adult volunteers and student leaders. The theme is "This Changes Everything" based on Ephesians 2:8.

The **REGISTRATION Brochure** is online at [www.stmichaelselca.com/3rd---5th-grade](http://www.stmichaelselca.com/3rd---5th-grade) with the HEALTH FORM, and is available on the bulletin board outside the church office. Ages 3-5 and grades K-5 prices for half-day are \$45 and full-day for K-5 is \$85. Financial assistance available.

We are setting up a free **student leadership track** for grades 6-12 as part of Day Camp. Students receive both experience with, and specific training on, leadership and skills needed for ministry with kids. Capacity for 15 students.

**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 driving or serving with 3-5 years olds and K-5<sup>th</sup> grades.



## Worship as a Family this Summer



### Sunday Mornings | 10 am

This summer we will close the regular nursery, and set-up a "summer nursery" in the **Children's Library** at the back of the Sanctuary for Sundays.

We will also experiment 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 pray-ground, 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 to include direct ways kids can participate in the worship service.

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

S'mores on June 25 | 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](mailto:youth@stmichaelselca.com)**

## Community Life Events

### St. Paul Saints Baseball Game & BBQ Wednesday, June 27<sup>th</sup>

An invitation to all baseball fans at St. Michael's: We have 50 tickets to a Saints baseball game on June 27 with a tasty tailgate BBQ provided by the Saints front office. This is a summer baseball event that you don't want to miss. The Saints have promised a great tailgate meal to be served in the left field of the ball-park. They assured us that nobody will leave still hungry!



BBQ—5:30 p.m. in left field  
Game time: 7:05 p.m.  
Price: \$35 per person  
Tickets will be available soon.  
Check the Sign-Up Sheet on the bulletin board across from the church office to check availability.

### Women's Events

#### Join the St. Michael's Women's Summer Patio Series

Summer is here! Join the St. Michael's women for the Summer Patio Series--- a time for connection under the summer sun! Over the course of the summer, small groups will read *Bread & Wine*:



*A Love Letter to Life Around the Table* by Shauna Niequist. Our large group kickoff party is June 7<sup>th</sup>! More information on the kick off party and small groups is available on the bulletin board outside the office, the church website

([www.stmichaelselca.com/summer-patio-series.html](http://www.stmichaelselca.com/summer-patio-series.html)) or by contacting Pastor Ali.

### Yoga Devotion News

We are having an 8-week summer session on Thursday nights! The one-hour class starts May 31 and will run through July 19. The class begins at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. (On June 7<sup>th</sup> we will meet in the Courtyard Room.) Beginners are welcome. Bring a yoga mat and wear comfortable clothing.

The cost is \$64 and can be paid at the first class. Make checks payable to St. Michael's. Contact Kathy Nockleby if you have any questions at [kathynockleby@gmail.com](mailto:kathynockleby@gmail.com).

### St. Mike's August Bike Trip

A tradition for many years has been our bike trip to Lanesboro (or Sparta WI in past years) the first weekend in August. Participation has declined in recent years, although those involved have thoroughly enjoyed the time together.

Some big questions:

Is there any interest in scheduling a trip this year?

Would there be any interest in going someplace different (i.e. Northern Minnesota or Decorah, Iowa)?

Some members are going to Holden Village this summer. This would not overlap with the bike trip, but is it too much for people?

We have had fewer youth involved. Are they too busy? Or is there a better time to schedule the trip?

If we do the trip this year with a smaller group (12 adults participated last year), would we want to stay in a B & B or nicer hotel rather than the Country Trails in Preston?

Would a local, one-day ride ending with dinner at a local restaurant be of more interest?



We would appreciate receiving your comments and suggestions as soon as possible. Please contact Ron Kuhn at 651-483-9147 or by email at [ronaldkuhn44@gmail.com](mailto:ronaldkuhn44@gmail.com).



# St Michael's

LUTHERAN CHURCH

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*651-631-1510*

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Amy McGrew  
Brian Thompson  
Thomas Bartsch  
Jill Schendel  
Karen Wilkerson  
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Cory Bock  
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*Pastor  
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Interim Dir. Children, Youth, & Family  
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## JUNE 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>27</b> 10:00 AM Worship with baptism of Gabriel Ferin 6:00 PM St. Paul Vocal Forum - rehearse & hold auditions	<b>28</b> Northern Voices Closed - No Classes Offices closed - Memorial Day Holiday	<b>29</b> 7:30 AM Northern Voices Classes 9:00 AM Quilting 5:30 PM Executive Committee Meeting 7:00 PM Adult Children of Alcoholics	<b>30</b> 7:30 AM Northern Voices Classes	<b>31</b> 7:00 PM Befrienders	<b>1</b> 7:30 AM Northern Voices Classes	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b> 10:00 AM Worship - Honoring High School Graduates 6:00 PM St. Paul Vocal Forum - rehearse & hold auditions	<b>4</b> Rezek House Meal 7:30 AM Northern Voices Classes 10:30 AM Staff Meeting 7:00 PM Monday evening Worship Service	<b>5</b> 7:30 AM Northern Voices Classes 9:00 AM Quilting 4:00 PM Stewardship Committee 7:00 PM Adult Children of Alcoholics	<b>6</b> 7:30 AM Northern Voices Classes 11:30 AM Circles Lunch Out	<b>7</b> 7:30 AM Northern Voices Classes 3:30 PM Worship & Music Committee Meeting 6:00 PM Summer Patio Series Kickoff Party 6:30 PM St. Paul Vocal Forum	<b>8</b> Northern Voices Teachers Work Days - No School	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> 10:00 AM Worship 11:00 AM Sandwich Making	<b>11</b> 8:30 AM Global Health Ministries 10:30 AM Staff Meeting 7:00 PM Monday evening Worship Service	<b>12</b> 9:00 AM Quilting 11:00 AM Befrienders Brunch 3:00 PM Food Mobile Distribution 6:00 PM Property Committee 6:30 PM Education & Youth Committees Meeting 7:00 PM Adult Children of Alcoholics 7:00 PM Church Council Meeting	<b>13</b> 7:00 AM P & A Committee Meeting 9:00 AM Quilting & Bandage Rolling	<b>14</b> Holy Hammers construction - Women's Build Week	<b>15</b> Holy Hammers construction - Women's Build Week	<b>16</b> Youth Mission Trip to NYC 9:30 AM Vox Nova rehearsal
<b>17</b> Youth Mission Trip to NYC 10:00 AM Worship	<b>18</b> Youth Mission Trip to NYC 10:30 AM Staff Meeting 5:30 PM Finance Committee Meeting 7:00 PM Monday evening Worship Service	<b>19</b> Youth Mission Trip to NYC 9:00 AM Quilting 7:00 PM Adult Children of Alcoholics	<b>20</b> Summer Patio Series Wednesday Small Group Youth Mission Trip to NYC	<b>21</b> Summer Patio Series Thursday Small Group Youth Mission Trip to NYC 7:10 PM Vox Nova Rehearsal	<b>22</b> Youth Mission Trip to NYC 9:00 AM Deadline for Messenger Newsletter Submissions	<b>23</b> Youth Mission Trip to NYC
<b>24</b> Summer Patio Series Sunday Small Group 10:00 AM Worship	<b>25</b> 8:30 AM Global Health Ministries 10:30 AM Staff Meeting 7:00 PM Monday evening Worship Service	<b>26</b> 9:00 AM Quilting 5:30 PM Executive Committee Meeting 7:00 PM Adult Children of Alcoholics	<b>27</b> 9:00 AM Messenger Assembly 9:00 AM Quilting & Bandage Rolling 5:00 PM St. Michael's to the Saints Ball Game	<b>28</b> 7:10 PM Vox Nova Rehearsal	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>