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Join us for worship
Sunday morning
Online at
[www.stmichaels
elca.com](http://www.stmichaelselca.com)



From the Pastor's Desk

By Pastor Brad Froslee

Started in the early Christian church, the time leading up to Easter is often associated with being a time of learning and going deeper in faith and education. Many churches today continue the practice of highlighting significant Biblical stories and narratives and the catechism (formational groundings of faith) during the season of Lent with a culmination and celebration of the process at the Easter Vigil—where those who are new to the Christian faith are baptized, and where those who have already been baptized affirm the promises made in baptism.

Quarantine in Community

This Lenten season, St. Michael's is partnering with four other Lutheran congregations in Roseville (and the corner of Roseville and St. Paul): Galilee, Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, Prince of Peace, and St. Timothy's for Wednesday evening worship and connection. We are joining in a theme of "Quarantine in Community," recognizing that while this has been a time of isolation we are drawing together and finding ways to draw stronger.

Together we will be worshipping using *Holden Evening Prayer*, with each congregation creating one of the services to be viewed weekly



online. Each week we will hear a sermon from a pastor or members from one of the congregations.

We also realize that while we are five congregations that share similarities (we are all of the ELCA flavor of Christianity), we are each unique in who we are, some of our worship styles and traditions, and how we serve in the community and larger world. Yet, all of us are grounded in God's grace and incredible promises that flow forth from the waters of baptism. (See page 2)

Five commitments

This Lent, St. Michael's is partnering with four other Lutheran congregations for a series of worship opportunities called "Quarantine in Community."

This Lenten season alongside these friends and neighbors in congregations across Roseville, we will be focusing on the five commitments we make in our baptism.

We will be exploring the promises we proclaim in the baptismal liturgy when we are asked,

“Do you intend:

To [live](#) among God’s faithful people;

To [hear](#) the word of God and share in the Lord’s Supper;

To [proclaim](#) the good news of God in Christ through word and deed;

To [serve](#) all people following the example of Jesus; and

To [strive](#) for justice and peace in all the earth?”

And we respond, “We do, and ask God to help and guide us.”

I invite you to reflect on these promises, not only on Wednesdays as we join in online worship and conversation, but also in your day to day activities and living.

Community during isolation

Knowing both intellectually, as well as deep in our bones, that this has been nearly a year of more isolation than many of us have ever

experienced, we look to the ways that we can move into fuller community and a richer faith.

Reflect on ways that you might live among God’s faithful people even when we are physically apart. Does it mean each week calling and checking in on someone? Sending a card? Helping a neighbor?

Are there ways that you might take on the habit of reading the Bible as a daily devotion during Lent? Making a point of joining the online worship services? What would it mean to share the good news of God in Christ with others? Perhaps in making the sign of the cross on your own forehead or on the forehead of your children? To explore how faith gives you meaning and life?

Or maybe this Lenten season you take on one way to serve or work for justice in your life or corner of the world.

While we are not physically together, we can communally take this Lenten season as a way to learn and grow—just like Christians millennia ago. And we will strive to celebrate our baptismal promises and life together as we look to Easter.

Lenten blessings!

Pastor Brad

Holy Week: 2021

Throughout this month we will continue to look at options for Holy Week.

The current plan is to provide on-line worship services and to look at opportunities to gather in-person. Note that these in-person worship services will still likely look different than previous years.

We will continue to gauge what is possible as we look at weather, COVID-19 vaccinations, the effects of COVID-19 variants. Stay tuned to updates in the weeks ahead.

Worship Updates

Weekly Sunday Worship

Each week the worship service is posted online at www.stmichaelsca.com/onlineworship

Additionally, an email is sent out each week to virtual worship and educational opportunities, separately from the Friday eblast. If you have not been receiving these emails, please check your spam and promotions folders and any filtering setting you have. If you are still not receiving these emails, contact Pastor Ali. Thank you!

Lent 2021: Quarantine in Community

Virtual Worship & Fellowship

This Lent we join together with other Lutheran Churches in the Roseville Area for virtual midweek *Holden Evening Prayer* worship and conversation as we reflect together what it means to “be in this together” as the body of Christ. (See pages 1-2 of this *Messenger* for more detail.)

Each Wednesday in Lent, a recorded worship service will be made available along with the opportunity for fellowship and discussion between our congregations over Zoom on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m.

Join us for a Passion Walk on April 3

The day before Easter is known as Holy Saturday; a solemn day that provides space for us to pause and reflect. On this day between the crucifixion and the resurrection, we are typically busy with Easter preparations at church and in our homes. However, this year we know will be different. With our typical traditions on hold, we invite you to join us for a socially-distanced outdoor embodied devotional activity for all ages.

The Passion Walk is a roughly 2.6 mile walk that will recount the final hours of Jesus. With stops for scripture and reflection along the way, we will begin and end our walk at St. Michael's.

Why 2.6 miles? In Jesus' final hours he made various stops throughout Jerusalem - the Last Supper, the Mount of Olives, Herod's palace, etc. Though tracking the historical sites and distances in Jerusalem is difficult, there are “venerated” sites where pilgrims gather to remember the life of Jesus. These stops, from the final supper to the crucifixion at Golgotha, equal roughly 2.6 miles. We will let the context of our own neighborhood speak to us as we walk, reflect, and pray.



Congregational Connection & Learning

This month we begin opportunities for folks at St. Michael’s to explore **Congregational Connection & Learning**. This is a great time to see others in the congregation on Zoom, learn, and try new things (or share in an interest). Several members have offered to lead “courses.” So, whether you have an interest in conflict resolution, travel, woodworking, cooking, government, family history, or music, there are ways to engage.

Check out the options...then register on Sign-up Genius.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c084aaba72fa6fd0-community>

Peaceful Resolutions

led by Mike Gregory

Thursday, March 4, 6:30 -08:00 p.m. including discussion

Mike Gregory is a long-term member of St. Michael's, an expert in conflict resolution & mediation, and an author. This season there is the opportunity to join Mike for conversation on the topic of peaceful resolutions.

Items needed: Readings provided by Mike; computer/ipad/SMART phone

The Collaboration Effect: Overcoming Your Conflicts

Thursday, April 15, 6:30-8:00 p.m. Including discussion

Mike Gregory is a long-term member of St. Michael's, and skilled in working with individuals and teams to find avenues of working together and overcoming challenges. This season there is the opportunity to join Mike for conversation on collaboration.

Items needed: Readings provided by Mike; computer/ipad/SMART phone

Conversation on *Braiding Sweetgrass* by Robin Wall Kimmerer

facilitated by Wally Northrup

Tuesdays March 9, April 13, May 11

12:00-1:00 p.m.

The following essays from the book will be discussed for each week:

March 9: Skywoman Falling, The Council of Pecans, The Gift of Strawberries **April 13:** Allegiance to Gratitude, The Three Sisters **May 11:** The Teachings of Grass, Maple Nation Citizenship Guide

Braiding Sweetgrass is a book that invites us to explore indigenous culture, creation, and the bonds between all living things. This conversation is a great opportunity to contrast cultures, see how we might enhance and learn from Native culture, and imagine together what steps we might take to preserve our environment.

Supplies/items needed: the book *Braiding Sweetgrass*; computer/ipad/SMART phone

Time Commitment: Three one-hour sessions. This conversation will take place the second Tuesday of each month from 12:00-1:00 p.m. The first session on March 9. **(Catalogue continued on next page.)**

Gluten-free Cooking

with Barb Yarusso

Thursday, March 18, 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, March 25, 6:30 p.m.

Join Barb as she teaches about gluten-free cooking. In these sessions Barb will take people on a virtual tour of the grocery store (to choose gluten-free ingredients); share recipes and tips on cooking and baking. Barb has been cooking and eating gluten-free food for 12 years, and has experience in working for a food company as well as a chemistry background, which has allowed to her to adapt and create options that work well.

Items needed: computer/ipad/SMART phone

Time Commitment: 2 one-hour sessions

Government: Who's in charge of what and how is it paid for?

with Barb Yarusso

Thursday, March 4, 6:30 p.m.

If you are interested in learning more about local, state, or national government, here is a great opportunity to learn from someone who is involved in this work. Join Barb for conversation surrounding how our different levels of government interact, how responsibilities for things like roads, services, and schools are divided up, and touch on how things are paid for.

Items needed: computer/ipad/SMART phone

Time Commitment: 1 one-hour session

Woodworking with Kids

with Dave Yarusso

Sunday, February 28, 4:00 p.m.

There will be video to watch in preparation

Join Dave as he teaches some simple techniques and woodworking projects that you can do with kids (or simply to work on your own skills). This will entail watching one pre-recorded video and following up with a Zoom session for conversation and discussion.

Supplies needed include: (no tools needed now. We will discuss tools needed in the class, but know that they will only be basic hand tools); computer/ipad/SMART phone

Time commitment: Approximately 2 hours (**Catalogue continued on next page.**)

Travel to Italy

with Dave Yarusso

Sunday, March 14, 4:00 p.m.

Whether you are planning a trip to Italy in the future, are longing to reminisce about a past trip, or simply want to learn a little more about this Mediterranean country, this is a great opportunity to take a virtual tour and learn from someone with a passion for the people, language, and places. Dave Yarusso will serve as tour guide on this trip around "Europe's boot."

Supplies needed: computer/ipad/SMART phone

Time commitment: 2 one-hour sessions

Intro to Genealogy

with Brad Froslee

Sunday, March 7, 4:00 p.m.

If you are someone who enjoys learning more about your family, who is feeling the nudge to get a little more information after seeing all of the Ancestry ads on TV, or is wanting to go more in depth in your research, feel free to join Brad for conversations and exploring genealogy.

Items needed: Brad will provide basic charts/information; computer/ipad/SMART phone

Time commitment: 1 hour-long session

Exploring Norwegian Genealogy

with Brad Froslee

Sunday, April 11, 4:00 p.m.

Many Minnesotans have ties to Norway. If you want to learn ways to explore Norwegian genealogy and connect with resources available to go further in your own family history, feel free to join the conversation.

Items needed: Brad will provide information; computer/ipad/SMART phone

Time commitment: 1 hour-long session

Brad is also willing to provide some assistance to individuals in following up after the session

Hymns & Holy Week

with Karen Wilkerson and Tom Bartsch

Sunday, March 21, 4:00 p.m.

Are you interested in music, singing, and the liturgy? Or maybe simply miss seeing our church musicians? Join Karen Wilkerson and Tom Bartsch on Sunday, March 21, as they share in conversation, music, and thoughts about hymns, holy week, and more!

Items needed: Computer/ipad/SMART phone

Time commitment: 1 hour-long session (Catalogue continued on next page.)

Math & Science Tutoring/ACT Prep

with Barb Yarusso

Sign-up; times will be set-up between Barb and individuals

If you are a high school or college student, or simply someone wanting to up your game in math or science, or prepare for the ACT, feel free to join Barb for tutoring and conversation. She is available for math (all levels through calculus) and science (1-12 except biology; college introductory chemistry and physics). She will meet with students over Zoom and collaborate using Google Docs and Jamboard (and possibly other platforms). Barb has a PhD in chemical Engineering; and a 9-12 teacher's license for chemistry and physics (prior to retirement).

Items needed: Items for learning/help; computer/ipad/SMART phone

Time commitment: Up to the individual learner (may be a one-time meeting, or something that continues more regularly)

Winter Fireside Series

Summer is long gone and patios are closed, but the Women's Patio series lives on! Join us for the Winter Fireside Series, a virtual small group community of women who will gather for five sessions of connection and conversation over the book, *"For All Who Hunger: Searching for Communion in a Scattered World"* written by Emily M.D. Scott.

Small groups meet on Wednesday, Thursday, or Sunday evenings via Zoom. Learn more here:

www.stmichaelselca.com/firesideseries

"This is a story about how bread, broken and passed from hand to hand, rescued me from my aloneness. Perhaps you've been alone as well, and need to be reminded that, despite all evidence to the contrary, your aloneness will not last forever."

—EMILY M. D. SCOTT,
author of *FOR ALL WHO HUNGER*



April *Messenger* newsletter
article submission deadline
Friday, March 19, at 9:00 a.m.

Go Green

Did you know that currently 292 *Messengers* are mailed each month? In addition, 55 people receive their copy via direct email. Others opt to read it on the church's website.



If you want to change your method of delivery, just let the church office know your preference.

ST. MICHAEL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILY MINISTRIES

..... 2020-2021 PROGRAM YEAR

Faith at home ministries

Weekly Gatherings for Children & Youth

Join in with your peers on Sundays on Zoom.

Children and Company

Sunday Mornings—10:00-10:45 p.m.

Kindergarten through 5th graders are invited to gather virtually together and with company from the church. We'll join together for a check-in and an activity.

Middle School Youth Group

Sunday Mornings —11:00-11:50ish

Middle Schoolers (6th-8th graders) are invited to gather weekly on Zoom for a point of connection and an activity or lesson. This year, we're covering both the Old and New Testament.

High School Youth Group

Sunday Evenings —7:00-7:50ish

On Sunday evenings high school youth (9th-12th graders) are invited to gather weekly on Zoom for a point of connection. We'll have a time of connection, prayer, and a virtual activity.

Movie night with St. Michael's (Online)

Friday, March 19

7:00—9:00 p.m. (Wider congregation)

6:45 p.m. —For children

There was a lot of joyful feedback from the Virtual Slumber Party about doing a movie night. So we're revisiting it for the entire congregation. Children can also sign up for a Movie Kit by going to the link on the bottom of the next page.

At 6:45 p.m. the children of the congregation will vote for the movie and open up their kits.

Children & Company Calendar		
Date	Focus	Item(s) needed
March 7	TBD	TBD
March 14	Craft day	Paper and string (contact Jon if you'd like to receive some string beforehand)
March 21	Game Day	Nothing!
March 28	Palm Sunday	TBD

Youth Group Calendar		
Date	Focus	Item(s) needed
March 7	Craft Day	Piece of paper
March 14	Bob Ross Day	Text or Email Jon if
March 21	Game Day	Nothing!
March 28	Palm Sunday	TBD

**All of our online ministries are password protected.
Passwords are shared through the CYF Newsletter or E-Blast**

IN-PERSON MINISTRIES

Online ministries will still take place—but we will offer outdoor and physically distanced opportunities again.

Please review the CYF expectations through the link below.

Summer CYF Ministry Plan Conversation (Online)

Wednesday, March 3, at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom

We'll join together online with the help of Zoom to discuss what ministry might look like this summer. We will discuss possibilities and plans for children, youth, and family ministries. Please register for this conversation through the link at the bottom of the page or by connecting with Jon Bates.

Snow and Winter Fun at St. Michael's

Sunday, March 7

1:00—3:00 p.m.

Children and their families are invited to join in for an art activity at St. Michael's that includes the snow! Due to COVID-19 precautions, you are asked to participate as a family unit. You can come at any point of the event for a time of community. We are hoping that we are able to provide a warm beverage such as hot chocolate for folks.

Middle School Opportunity—during Snow and Winter Fun on March 7, 12:30-3:00 p.m.

We'd like your help and to test some activities before everyone arrives! If there are any middle school students that are able to help with prep beginning at 12:30 pm, please connect with Jon Bates!

Please register for the 2020-2021 Program Year and re view our In-Person Guidelines on the link below before attending.

For CYF Ministries, please wear two face masks, or wear a tight and snug mask.

Easter Prep at St. Michael's

Saturday, April 3

10:30 a.m. —12:30 p.m.

We'll have a couple projects to do at the church to get ready for Easter! Projects may look like cinnamon roll baking, doing some prep for the Youth Room Project, and more. We'll talk more details during Youth Group!



ACCESS OUR FAITH AT HOME MINISTRIES AT:
STMICHAELSELCA.COM/cyf



Recipes for Disaster!

A St. Michael's Cookbook for 2020-2021

We asked for your recipes and you responded! Thank you so much.



Right now, the Community Life Committee is assembling, proof-reading, and getting recipes ready to send off to print. We hope to have our recipe booklet ready for you by early spring. Watch for new ideas, gluten-free and vegetarian offerings, and some old favorites from the days of the our annual Advent buffet cookbooks!

There will not be a set fee for the books, but we will gladly accept donations to help defray printing costs.

Special thanks to Barb Yarusso for all her editing and formatting skills, to everyone on the Community Life Committee for their work on this project, and especially to all our contributors.

Here's a sample

Lemon Cream Chicken

Contributed by Grete Hanson

Preheat oven to 350°F

Ingredients

8 boneless, skinless chicken breast - halved

¼ c flour

salt and pepper to taste

2 eggs - beaten

¼ c butter (½ stick)

juice from one lemon

1 pint heavy cream

3 tbsp Worcestershire sauce

½ tsp paprika

2 tbsp ground dry mustard



Directions

Mix salt and pepper into flour. Dip the chicken breasts in the flour mixture. Then dip the flour-coated chicken in the beaten eggs. Arrange the chicken in a 2-quart baking dish and dot with pieces of the ½ stick of butter. Pour the lemon juice over the top of the chicken. The dish can be prepared to this point and refrigerated. Just before baking, combine the heavy cream, Worcestershire sauce, paprika, and dry mustard in medium bowl. Pour over chicken and bake about one hour in a 350°F oven.

Notes

This was a Progressive Dinner favorite.

Men's Bible & Brew

Our next St. Michael's Men's Bible & Brew will be on Tuesday, March 16, at 7:30 p.m.

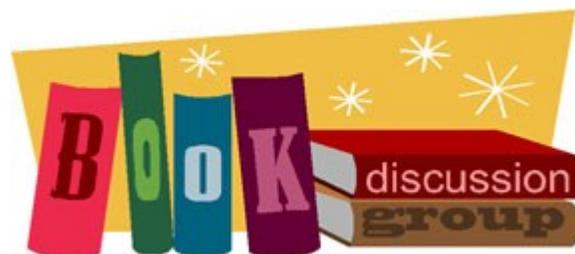
As we gather during this season of Lent, we will share our experiences of the wilderness literally and metaphorically.

- Times the wilderness has brought renewal and possibilities
- Times the wilderness has brought challenge and/or strength
- Times the wilderness has provided respite
- Times when the wilderness has been overwhelming



Desserters II Book Discussion Group

For this year, the Desserters II, the St. Michael's book discussion group members, have deserted the usual meeting place at church and gather together via Zoom.



Our next meeting:

Tuesday, March 23 at 7:00 p.m.

Title: *Olive, Again* by Elizabeth Strout

Sessions coming up:

- Tuesday, April 27: *Giver of the Stars* by Jojo Moyes
- Tuesday, May 18: *The Fire is Upon Us* by Nicholas Buccola

Welcome to all! Watch for the Zoom link in the Friday email.

Send question to verena.larson@comcast.net.

Mask Up, St. Michael's



Here's a friendly reminder: EVERYONE entering the church building is required to wear a mask covering both their nose and mouth.

This includes walking in the hallway, even if it's "just for a quick errand." Thank you!



Word of the Month	Compasión (kohm-pah-syohn): Compassion
	We have compasión for the people of Guatemala as they continue to recover from fall 2020 hurricanes Eta and Iota. Catastrophic rains and landslides swept through Guatemala. Many families lost everything.

New Year Updates

- After the 2020 storms passed, ILAG staff were able to deliver emergency supplies of food, hygiene products, and solar lights/charging stations. Lutheran Disaster Relief, ELCA, and partner congregation donations funded this delivery.
- Due to the high elevation of Cimiento and the parcelas (farming plots) where the farmers grow their crops, Cimiento was spared from the loss of their harvest and from massive flooding. The congregation turned down food assistance so it could go to others in greater need.
- Repairs were completed to the new elementary school building, Colegio Luterano Agustino de Guatemala, and students were welcomed to the new building as the school year started in January. Unfortunately, a COVID spike mandated the students all return to online learning once again. The school stands ready for a safe return to classes.
- Over the break, the MILAGRO girls returned to their homes and shared what they learned over the past year by teaching baking, sewing, and Sunday School classes. 14 girls from various villages are attending MILAGRO now in 2021.
- Improved nutrition by sustainable farming practices and kitchen gardens continues to be a focus of ILAG. Nutrition classes have been taught to MILAGRO over Zoom, and Diego has put the lessons into practice on a successful farm plot of tomatoes!
- ILAG has applied for a grant in order to fund tablets for each rural congregation. Tablets would allow pastoral visits, leadership training, and partner congregation virtual visits to occur despite COVID restrictions, dangerous weather, or road closures. The tablets will use cellular data for connectivity.

Virtual Easter Greetings

Help us record Easter greetings to send to our partner congregation, Santa Cruz de la Esperanza in Cimiento. Share the peace, send a wave or smile, say a blessing, or sing a song! We will be editing a video together in March to send in time for Easter.

To learn more and upload a video, go to <http://stmichaelselca.com/greeting> . Or, contact Lisa Koland for more information.

Where to Learn More

Website of ILAG: <https://iglesialuteranaagustina.org/>

Facebook for Iglesia Luterana Agustina de Guatemala (ILAG): [@iladeguatemala](https://www.facebook.com/iladeguatemala)

Social Ministries

There are a variety of ways for folks of all ages to make a positive impact in our community! Check out the Social Ministry Calendar and learn how you can get involved!

Social Ministry Calendar - March

Panera Bread	Daily
Food Mobile Distribution	March 9
Sandwich Making for Union Gospel Mission	March 14
Loaves and Fishes	March 15

Sandwich Making Volunteers

We are looking for one additional volunteer/household to help with monthly sandwich making for the Union Gospel Mission. Sandwiches are distributed to our hungry neighbors at the St. Paul Union Gospel Mission. Volunteering happens on the second Sunday of every month. Due to the pandemic, we have had to limit the number of volunteers to ensure we can keep distanced. Volunteers will be spread out between the kitchen and serving area, and face masks and gloves are required. Head to <https://www.stmichaelselca.com/local> or contact Joe Nosek or Pastor Ali to learn more.

Need Support?



Reaching out for support or help can be the most difficult step in getting care, especially during this season of isolation. The BeFriender team is here to help and provide a caring (virtual) presence to accompany you, no matter what journey of life you are on. If you'd like to learn more about what it means to have a BeFriender, contact one of the pastors to learn more. You are worthy of love and deserve support through this difficult season.

Want to help with our Loaves and Fishes ministry?

Six times each year, a crew from St. Michael's prepares a hot, hearty meal for the guests at the Loaves and Fishes site at Holy Rosary Catholic Church in South Minneapolis. Volunteering is a wonderful way to help your neighbors and to spend time in community with St. Michael's friends.

During COVID, Loaves and fishes has employed procedures to keep both workers and guests safe.

Volunteers are needed to cook the meal, prepare the take-out meal boxes for guests, and clean up. We will be serving in March and in May. If you would like to know more, contact one of the pastors, Pastor Ali (ali@stmichaelselca.com) or Pastor Brad (brad@stmichaelselca.com) Check out the Loaves and Fishes sign up at SignUp Genius:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/?go=c.SignUpSearch&eid=08C6CED8F4C9FB65&cs=09CBBAD98FB88B6D7B0B640E5BB49BCB>



DEI Matters

We welcome you to participate in a new group to explore Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Matters using books, movies, and more. The topics are geared toward adults and young adults. Reading and watching will be done individually, using thought-provoking questions as a guide. Group discussion, via Zoom, will allow us to consider how and why these matters matter. The purpose of this program is to broaden our worldview, learn more about ourselves and others, and make progress on our journey toward inclusion and equity for all. Meetings will be at 4 p.m. and last an hour or longer, if the group needs more time.

The group will be facilitated by Laurie Krachmer, founder of DEI Matters LLC and a member of St. Michael's who has been engaged in diversity and inclusion work for the past six years and is a trained facilitator.

(All meetings begin at 4 p.m.)

March 28 Topic: LGBTQ+ (Note: Sexual and violent content)

Note: Movie – *Milk* (2009)

March 28
is Palm Sunday

April 18 Topic: LGBTQ+

Book – *She's Not There: A Life in Two Genders*, Jennifer Finney Boylan

May 16 Topic: Caste (note change of book)

Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents, Isabel Wilkerson

Instructions for March 28 DEI Matters Pre-work and Zoom Meeting

Each month, participants will read, watch, and complete activities and reflect on the questions prior to the Zoom meeting. Use the Zoom link below (also in the weekly e-blast) to log into the meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86946206857?pwd=Ui9QOGp4dURmdG45dXZyV2RSc0djQT09>

Meeting ID: 869 4620 6857

Passcode: 821130

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kbhxcxkIK1>

DEI Matters—continued

Topic	LGBTQ+
Pre-work	<p>Watch <i>Milk</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may be able to view this film on YouTube, iTunes, Google Play, or Amazon.
	<p>Reflect on these questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider the impact of hundreds of any “different” group coming every week into your community. What similarities and/or differences did you see in this movement for civil rights and the Black movements for civil rights? What was your understanding of homosexuality and Christianity in the 1970s? What’s your response to, “They vote for us 2 to 1 if they know one of us.”?
	<p>General Reflection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What do you understand better or differently? What do you understand less well? What do you want to DO as a result of watching and/or discussion?

Thank you for your generosity!

In recent weeks we have received thank you notes and letters from several organizations for our donations to their efforts. They included:

- ELM
- Reconciling Works
- The Roseville Area Schools—winter clothing contribution, Senior Programs
- ELCA—Lutheran Disaster Response
- World Citizen—peace education
- International Institute of Minnesota
- Extraordinary Lutheran Ministries
- Lutheran Mideast Development
- Luther Crest Bible Camp
- Interfaith Action



Thank you for your support for St. Michael’s. Your gifts allow us to support the work of our incredible community partners.

Thursday Morning Bible Study

Winter/Spring 2021

Having read Anna Carter Florence's book, *Rehearsing Scripture*, in the fall, we will jump into reading lectionary texts for the upcoming Sunday as we engage the texts and practice reading, rehearsing, and discussing scripture together. Here are the texts and the meeting dates for the spring. Note: we will be using a new Zoom link for the spring—it can be found in the Friday eblast.

The study group meets at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday mornings via Zoom.

March 4

Exodus 20:1-17

The commandments are given at Sinai

Psalm 19

The commandment of the LORD gives light to the eyes.

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

Christ crucified, the wisdom of God

John 2:13-22

Jesus cleansing the temple

March 11

Numbers 21:4-9

The lifting up of the serpent

Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

God delivers people from their distress.

Ephesians 2:1-10

Saved by grace through faith called onto good works

John 3:14-21

The lifting up of the Son of Man

March 18

Jeremiah 31:31-34

A new covenant written on the heart

Psalm 51:1-12

Create in me a clean heart, O God.

Hebrews 5:5-10

Through suffering Christ becomes the source of salvation

John 12:20-33

The grain of wheat dying in the earth

March 25

Isaiah 50:4-9a

The servant of the LORD submits to suffering

Psalm 31:9-16

Into your hands, O LORD, I commend my spirit.

Philippians 2:5-11

Humbled to the point of death on a cross

Mark 14:1--15:47

The passion of the Lord

April 1

(No Text Study: Maundy Thursday)

Faith in Daily Life

Winter Spring 2021

Faith in Daily Life Spring 2021

Over the course of the last 100 years we have seen the movement of White Evangelicals as a significant faction in the United States and the development and mobilization into a voting bloc in politics. There are roots in anti-intellectualism, anti-elitism, and push back against the social gospel movement of the late 1800s and early 1900s. In *Jesus and John Wayne: How White Evangelicals Corrupted a Faith and Fractured a Nation*, Kristin Kobes Du Mez explores the ideas and movement that have propelled this phenomenon in American civil, religious, and political life. Join in conversation as we discuss this book and how we can learn, converse, and strive to heal a fractured nation.

We will have two Faith in Daily Life groups meet online this spring (***the first and third Wednesdays of the month at noon***). Feel free to join either group for conversation. The hope is to be able to begin gathering in person later this winter/spring, if possible.

March 3	Chapters 9-12
March 17	Chapters 9-12
April 7	Chapters 13-16
April 21	Chapters 13-16
May 5	Conclusion & Next steps
May 19	Conclusion & Next steps

2021 Budget Overview

<u>Budget</u>	<u>January Actual</u>	<u>January Budget</u>	<u>Annual Actual</u>	<u>Annual</u>
Income	\$116,118.49	\$67,726.12	\$116,118.49	\$812,713.44*
Expenses	\$57,616.74	\$67,726.23	\$57,616.74	\$812,713.44
Net Balance	\$58,501.75	\$0.00	\$58,501.75	\$0.00

*At the Annual Meeting on January 24, 2021, the congregation approved use of the reserve funds of \$46,409.00, if needed, to meet the budget at the end of the year. This is included in the Annual Approved budget of \$812,713.44.

The Congregation, Council, and Finance Committee felt comfortable with this due to the consistent giving of the congregation, the stewardship of expenses by staff and committees, and being able to transfer funds into the reserve fund at the end of 2020.

Growing Through Loss

– Support for Those Experiencing Loss in their Lives

Growing Through Loss is a grief and loss support ministry jointly sponsored by the North Suburban Grief Support Coalition, of which 18 churches and organizations in our area are members. The coalition hosts two six-week series each year at various locations that address both the educational as well as support aspects of a variety of loss and grief issues.

The spring series will be held on Tuesday evenings, April 6 through May 11 from 6:45 – 9:00 p.m. at Abiding Savior Lutheran Church, 8211 Red Oak Dr, Mounds View, MN 55112. Each session offers an educational presentation by a professional from the community, followed by peer support groups facilitated by leaders who understand the grieving process. Each session is complete in itself, so you may attend any or all sessions. Registration takes place the evening before each session.

There is no cost, although donations are welcome. We will be following Abiding Savior Lutheran Church's facility use policy during this pandemic. Child care will not be provided for safety reasons. You are required to wear a face mask.

You may call 763-755-5335 or visit www.growingthroughloss.org for more information.

Growing through Loss details:

The spring series of Growing through Loss is:

- *From April 6-May 11 at 6:45 p.m.*
- *At Abiding Savior Lutheran Church, 8211 Red Oak Drive, Mounds View.*
- *There is no cost, but donations are welcome.*
- *Call 763-755-5335 or visit growingthroughloss.org for more information .*



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