St Michael's
LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Messenger

May 2023

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New Life & Spirit-Filled Days

~Pastor Brad Froslee

The past several weeks have been filled with connection and a deep sense of the Holy in the midst of community as we moved through Lent, Holy Week, and into Easter. From Wednesday soup suppers to guest preachers and musicians at mid-week services, from the incredible music of the St. Michael's Singers, Ringers and youth, to the Minnesota Boychoir and St. Olaf Chamber choir, from the emotional depth of Maundy Thursday and Good Friday to the joy and hallelujahs of Easter, from Earl Schwartz and Roland Hayes packing the coutyard room for Religion in Life, we have journeyed together in faith and in promise.

Over the course of this month of May, we continue to move through the Easter season. We look to the ways that new life in Christ continues to be made known among us; we continue to celebrate the ways community is renewed and hope is restored. We lean into the witness that our world and we can be made new.

At the end of May, we celebrate Pentecost. As Christians, this holiday marks the coming of the Holy Spirit and the followers of Jesus moving from locked rooms and old ways of doing things into a world of bolding living faith and an openness to God's new possibilities unfolding.

In many ways this whole month—and the months to come—feel like Pentecost moments at St. Michael's. We are taking the incredible gifts that have been passed on to us and are dreaming about what is next. We are watching new life unfold and a breath of God blow over us.

- From Monday, May 1st-Saturday, May 6th, two members of St. Michael's travel to Guatemala to reaffirm our congregational partnership with the congregation in Cimiento after the pause on travel due to COVID-19. They will also participate in the dedication of the community's new church building.
- Saturday, May 6th, the community at St. Michael's celebrates a long-standing tradition of the Progressive Dinner. Adults meet at the church for appetizers, break into small groups of 8-12 people at various homes for a meal, then return to the church for Café Latte desserts and coffee. This always proves to be a great point of connection or re-connection.
- Then, On May 7th, there is a congregational meeting to vote on Pastor Ali and myself moving from a senior and associate pastor model to a co-pastor model. We are imagining how we at St. Michael's continue to be called into shared ministry. This change highlights one way we live this out in the congregation and larger church.
- On May 14th we have full worship services as we join in our Commitment Sunday for the Capital Campaign, celebrate a baptism, and provide a short blessing as I move into sabbatical.
- May 21st concludes the program year at St. Michael's and we give thank for teachers, mentors, and all who have helped to shape our children's and youth programming over the year.
- Then on Sunday, May 28th, the congregation celebrates Pentecost at one 10:00 a.m. service in the sanctuary.

Throughout this month may the witness of resurrection bear each of us up in the promise of new life, and may the Spirit of Life guide us with holy imagination and wonder!

Blessings! *~Pastor Brad*

April Worship & Education Schedule

May Worship Services

Worship at 8:45 a.m. is led by piano.
Worship at 11:00 a.m. is led by organ.

Sunday, May 7: **8:45 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.**
Sunday, May 14: **8:45 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.**
Sunday, May 21: **8:45 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.**
Sunday, May 28**:** **10:00 a.m.**
*one worship service this holiday weekend

Live-Streamed Services

Each Sunday, one of the worship services will be live-streamed and available for later viewing at your leisure. Subscribe to the St. Michael's You Tube Channel to watch worship live on Sunday mornings if you are not able to come in-person.

Our current schedule for Live Streaming worship is:

Sunday, May 7: **8:45 a.m.**
Sunday, May 14: **11:00 a.m.**
Sunday, May 21**:** **8:45 a.m.**
Sunday, May 28: **10:00 a.m.**

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 Hour

Religion in Life @ 10:00 a.m. in the Courtyard Room

Sunday, May 7: Women's Rights & Abortion through Jewish Text, *Rabbi Justin Held*

In this session, Rabbi Justin will use ancient texts and current thought to demonstrate how Judaism interacts with the modern world. Through the prism of women's rights and abortion, Rabbi Justin will discuss various approaches Judaism brings to a difficult and fraught current conversation.

Rabbi Justin Held currently serves as the Director of Jewish Education at Minnesota Hillel and Herzl Camp, a role he has been in since 2020. Rabbi Held is originally from the Twin Cities, and graduated from the University of Kansas with a degree in Religious Studies, and from The Rabbinical School of Hebrew College with rabbinic ordination and a master's degree in Jewish education. Rabbi Justin and his wife Sarah live in St. Louis park with their dogs Reuben and Jerry. Rabbi Justin loves to chat about KU basketball, Seinfeld and the latest Minnesota sports disappointment.

Sunday, May 14: Make it OK: Removing the stigma about mental health, *Kay King, NAMI MN*

Mental health struggles can affect anyone, regardless of age, race, gender, religion or income. Yet, people are still not comfortable talking about mental illnesses and may even delay seeking treatment or support because of stigma. Learn about NAMI MN, an advocacy organization that has resources to support individuals with mental illness and mental health challenges, and resources for the people who surround them.

Sabbatical

The Saint Paul Area Synod, highly recommends that congregations provide for clergy to take sabbatical after every six years of service. This offers a time of renewal, learning, and stepping back from the day-to-day tasks of ministry.

This summer, Pastor Brad will be taking sabbatical from May 15 to August 20. During this time Pr. Jeanne Hartfield (St. Michael's member) and Pr. Sara Henrich will be assisting with preaching and congregational life. We are excited about this time of renewal.

CHILDREN, YOUTH, & FAMILY MINISTRIES

Thank You!

Our Easter Breakfast was a success. Thank you to all who came out to support our Youth and their work towards their service trip. This year they will be traveling to San Francisco, CA to serve at various shelters, feeding ministries, and community centers. Both the Easter Breakfast and the Annual Service trip have been long traditions at St. Michael's. It is a blessing to serve a congregation that is generous in so many ways.

Save the date! Our students will be leading worship on June 25th at 10 a.m. and June 26th at 7 p.m. They will share their stories and experiences from San Francisco along with leading worship.

~ Natalie Romero, CYF Director

For Our Friends in Guatemala!

Our Kindergarten through 5th graders have been working on special gifts to send to peers in Guatemala. They are sending down Mayday baskets with butterflies, flowers and a piece of candy. Pictured are students making their butterflies. We can't wait to show you the final project!

Confirmation Classes

Confirmation Updates

May 3 - Mentor Night
May 10 - Last Confirmation Class

Current 9th grade families (rising 10th graders) - Save the date for October 29th, Reformation Sunday, where we will celebrate the Rite of Confirmation for 10th graders. More information to come this summer.

SARDINES!!!!!

Join us for the largest game of Sardines EVER!
Never played Sardines?
No worries! We'll teach you!
Join us on May 7th from noon-2pm
Lunch will be provided.
Sign up using the QR Code!

Open to all Kindergarten through 12th graders
Friends are welcome
Cost is $5.00 at drop off

Music @ St. Michael's

St. Michael's Singers, Adult Choir	
Rehearsal Schedule	**Worship Schedule**
Choir Room - Wednesdays 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.	May 7, 8:45 a.m. May 14, 11:00 a.m. May 21, 8:45 a.m. May 28, 10:00 a.m.
The Chapel Ringers, Adult Bells	
Rehearsal Schedule	**Worship Schedule**
Choir Room - Thursdays 6:00 p.m.	May 21, both services
Youth Choirs	
Rehearsal Schedule	**Worship Schedule**
Upstairs - Wednesdays Celebration Singers (K-4) 6:30 p.m. Spirit Choir (5-8): 7:30 p.m.	May 14, both services
Youth Bells	
Rehearsal Schedule	**Worship Schedule**
Choir Room - Wednesdays 5:30 – 6:00 p.m.	May 7, both services

Social Ministry Activities

Social Ministry Calendar

May 1:	**Rezek House Meal**
May 9:	**Keystone Mobile Food Distribution** 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. *in Circle Drive*
May 10 & 24:	**Quilting and Bandage** Rolling 9:00 a.m. *Fellowship Hall*
May 12 & 26:	**Every Meal Distribution** 10:00 a.m. Parkview School
May 14:	**Sandwich Making for Union Gospel Mission** 10:00 a.m. *Serving Area & Kitchen*
May 15:	**Loaves & Fishes** Holy Rosary Catholic Church
Daily:	**Panera Bread Ministry** Evening pick up at Rosedale Panera, Morning Bagging in Kitchen

The Bread Rescue Ministry Needs You!

Volunteers are needed for our Panera Bread Ministry, a program that rescues unsold bakery items from the Rosedale Panera Bakery and then redistributes them to the Keystone Food Shelf and other nearby organizations. Morning and Evening Volunteers are needed – contact Dave Yarusso to learn more, or head to www.stmichaelselca.com and click the "Volunteer" button on the homepage. Scroll down to the Panera sign ups to learn more and volunteer!
Thank you!

Guatemala Partnership

Passports are ready and preparations are being finalized for our first partner delegation trip back to Guatemala in over 4 years. We are anxious to greet friends and see how much the children have grown. We are excited to bear witness to the vitality of the Santa Cruz congregation and celebrate with them by dedicating their new church building.

continued

We have had many discussions about what gifts we could bring them to celebrate their new sanctuary and show our support of their congregation, however, we discovered we just had to listen to our friends. They have asked us if we could help them raise money for the windows and doors needed to complete and secure the new building.

It is an honor that they have shared this request with us; a sign that our partners trust us. As we all know personally, asking for help to complete a task can expose our vulnerabilities and the risk of rejection. This was a good reminder that often, the love and respect we carry with us is more important than the gifts our suitcases can hold.

How Our Capital Campaign can help Santa Cruz de la Esperanza build their church too!
Just as we are raising funds for our church building, our friends in Guatemala are raising funds to finish their building also. They have asked us if we can help them raise funds for windows and doors in their new building.

Built into our Capital Campaign are plans for benevolences, including contributions to ILAG and Santa Cruz de la Esperanza. By giving to **Building in Faith, Serving in Grace** you can help the congregation in Cimiento reach their goal for windows and doors in their new sanctuary.

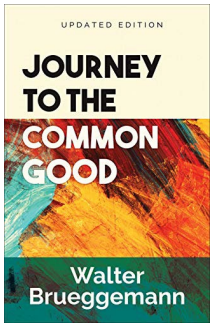
Thank you for giving today!

Study & Fellowship Opportunities

Thursday Morning Bible Study

Thursday Morning Bible Study meets in the Courtyard Room at 9:30 a.m. This month we continue exploring the weekly lectionary texts.

Thursday, May 4	
Acts 7:55-60	The martyrdom of Stephen
Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16	Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit. (Ps. 31:5)
1 Peter 2:2-10	God's people chosen to proclaim God's mighty acts
John 14:1-14	Christ the way, truth, and life
Thursday, May 11	*This will be the final Bible Study for this program year*
Acts 17:22-31	Paul's message to the Athenians
Psalm 66:8-20	Bless our God, you peoples; let the sound of praise be heard.
1 Peter 3:13-22	The days of Noah, a sign of baptism
John 14:15-21	Christ our advocate



Faith in Daily Life

May 3	*Journey to the Common Good*, by Walter Brueggemann through Chapter 3
May 10	*Journey to the Common Good*, by Walter Brueggemann through Chapter 3

Quilting and Bandage Rolling

Quilting and bandage rolling will meet twice a month over the program year on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 9:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Join us as we turn scraps into beautiful comfort items!

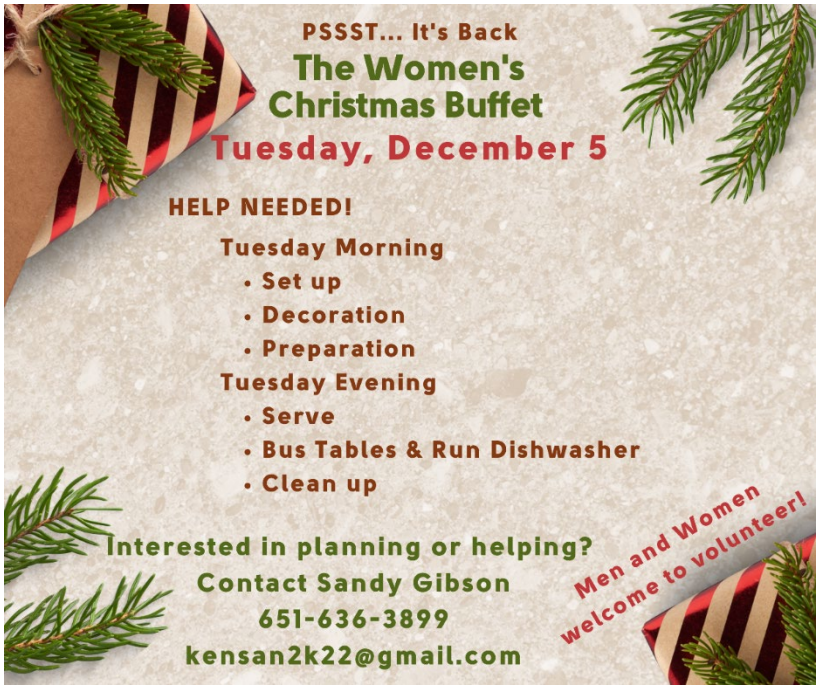
Come join the fun on **May 10 & 24.**

Mahjongg

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

Esther Circle

The Esther Circle will meet on Tuesday, May 2, at 10:00 a.m. in the Courtyard Room. Please contact Pastor Ali if you have any questions.



Summer Patio Series

Who's ready for summer?! Get ready for the summer patio series, a small group experience to connect with others and grow in your faith. More information to come.

Golf League

The season will begin on **Tuesday, May 2** and end on Tuesday, August 29, with no play July 4th.

Tee times start at 5:04 p.m.
We have 20 spots.

If you are interested in joining the league from St. Michael's, please bring a check the first night you play, payable to Como Golf Course.

The total cost for a full season (17 weeks) is $340
and for a half season (10 weeks) is $200.

If you have questions, please contact Chuck Hanson.

Desserters II Book Club

All are welcome! The Desserters II book discussion group will meet next on **Tuesday, May 23** at 7:00 pm in Classroom 1. Masks are encouraged.

A Zoom connection is available by request. Contact Verena Larson

The book this month is: *The Old Woman with the Knife* by Gu Byeong-mo

A sensation in South Korea, and now translated into English for the first time by Chi-Young Kim. This is an electrifying, singular, mordantly funny novel about the expectations imposed on aging bodies and the dramatic ways in which one woman chooses to reclaim her agency.

Men's Bible and Brew

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

This summer St. Michael's Men's Bible & Brew will be meeting twice.
Wednesday, June 21 at 7:00 p.m.
Thursday, August 17, 7:00 p.m.
Mark your calendars. More details on locations and topics will be shared in the June newsletter.

Yoga Devotion

All are welcome.
The Yoga Devotion 8 week session is, May 1 through June 19.
Class on Mondays starts 6:30 p.m.
Cost $72.00

Register & pay with this link:

Contact Mary Drache with questions.
Note: participants will determine day/time adjustments for summer Monday evening worship.

DEI Matters

We welcome you to participate in a group to explore Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Matters, using movies, article, books and open, authentic conversations in a brave space. The focus this year is on colonialism and indigenous people. These topics are geared toward adults and young adults. Watching and reading will be done individually, prior to meetings, where group discussion will allow us to consider how and why these matters matter. The purpose of this program is to broaden our self-understanding through deep self-reflection and sharing our learnings with each other. Meetings take place over Zoom.

The group is facilitated by Laurie Krachmer, a member of St Michael's who has been engaged in diversity and inclusion work for the past 8 years and is a trained facilitator.

Meetings are on the third Sundays of January through May at 4:00pm and last 60-90 minutes, depending on the need of the group.

May 21 Pre-work and Zoom Meeting
We will use the Land Acknowledgment Guidebook, from the MN Hopeful EarthKeepers of the United Methodist Church, to continue our discussion about indigenous people and the church in the US. Contact Laurie Krachmer for a copy of the guidebook. Specific items to be read, watched, and reflected on are highlighted in yellow.

Watch your Friday Flyer for the link to join the Zoom meetings

St. Michael's Progressive Dinner

April 30 Registration Deadline

Menu

Appetizers, salad, Dinner Rolls, Garlic Lime Chicken*, Rice, Beverages & Café Latte Desserts

*Vegetarian option available

*Recipes will be posted on the bulletin board for review for allergy concerns

The Evening's Schedule

5:00 p.m. Meet in the Fellowship Hall for appetizers and drinks

6:00 p.m. Split into groups for the main course at people's homes

8:00 p.m. Return to St. Michael's for a delicious dessert from Cafe Latte

We need many people to Help! Can you...

...host the main course in your home?

...prepare the food at church on Saturday morning from 9am to 10:30 a.m.?

...provide non-alcoholic punch and punch with alcohol?

...cut and serve the desserts?

Child Care

If there is adequate interest, we will provide child care, including a pizza dinner and a movie at the church while parents are at dinner.

Cost per person is $20*

*If you are new to St. Michael's or this is your first time attending the Progressive Dinner, the cost is covered.

Ministry Spotlight

Social Ministry

What brings your committee together?

We all share the same value of serving the community! It's fulfilling to see the broader impact of the many programs and projects that we support as a congregation, and organizing and supporting the many people who volunteer with the outreach ministries of St. Michael's.

What makes your work rewarding?

We all find deep fulfillment in the 1-1 connections we make with those we serve, whether that is through the monthly Food Mobile Distribution, working with refugee families from Afghanistan, or seeing families move into the Habitat for Humanity homes we build. We also learn by serving others; there are many barriers placed around vital resources in our community such as access to food, health care, and affordable housing. Accompanying our neighbors in need has expanded our awareness of these difficult realities and deepened our commitment to building a more just world.

Tell us a story of your committee at work!

Committee member Deb Legan, who is the Lead Nurse for Roseville Area Schools, reflected on what it was like to witness students receive the boots and winter clothing that St. Michael's collected during the winter months. "Seeing the faces of children and families who receive much needed winter clothing and school supplies is incredible." Our

team gets to share the abundance of our congregation directly with the community and witness the immediate positive impact it makes.

How can others join you?

Well, of course we'd love for you to join our committee or try a new volunteer opportunity! It can be overwhelming to know where to jump in: just remember you don't have to do it all. Pick one area that you are interested in or passionate about, and dig in! There are opportunities for behind the scenes work such as Panera Bread Ministry (which rescued over 10,000 pounds of food to be redistributed to the community!) or ways to support our community directly, such as our new partnership with Every Meal which delivers groceries directly to students' backpacks at Parkview Center Elementary School on Fridays. Getting kids and youth involved in our frequent collection drives is a great way to share this work across generations. Ask one of us and we'd love to help you get involved!

Deb Legan, Cathy Vanous, Mary Nosek, Bettie Syverud
Lisa Koland, Dave Yarusso, Pr. Ali Ferin, Joe Nosek. Not pictured: Kathy Callinan

A Church at Work

Co-Pastor Update

Congregational Meeting, May 7, 9:45 a.m.

After a year of study, the St. Michael's congregation approved at the 2022 annual meeting constitutional changes supportive of transitioning to a co-pastor model. At its March 14 meeting, the Church Council approved the establishment of a call committee to advance this effort. On Thursday, April 13, the St. Michael's Call Committee interviewed Pastor Ali Ferin, Associate Pastor at St. Michael's, and Pastor Brad Froslee, Senior Pastor at St. Michael's in both individual and joint formats. After the interview process the Call Committee voted unanimously to recommend moving forward with Calls to Pastors Ferin and Froslee in Co-Pastor positions at St. Michael's Lutheran Church. A special congregational meeting will be held at 9:45 a.m. between services on Sunday, May 7, in the sanctuary at St. Michael's to vote on the approval of each pastor for the new Co-Pastor role. Should each ballot be approved, the call would go into effect at the conclusion of the meeting.

We hope you can join us for this special congregational meeting!

-St. Michael's Call Committee
Patty Bales, Jane Doyle, Sandra Eliason, Chuck Hanson,
Bill Lindquist, Ruth Petersen, Tara Rogness

Building in Faith Serving in Grace

St. Michael's Capital Campaign

Capital Campaign Updates

As we celebrate our congregation's 70th anniversary, we aim to further build on our mission of **Gather, Nurture, Send** with a capital campaign with a special focus on caring for our church home in order to strengthen our ability to gather as a community and live out our expansive welcome. As we build on the values and ministry of the last 70 years, we are preparing to serve in God's grace for the next 70!

This three year campaign, over and above regular giving, has a three-tiered goal:

- Foundational Goal: $1 Million
- Building Goal: $1.5 Million
- Legacy Goal: $2 Million +

April 23rd was **Generosity Sunday**, a milestone in our three-year Capital Campaign. The Capital Cabinet has been selected, the Advance Team and Phone Callers have been trained and at the time of this publication, 24 households have already turned in pledge cards. Generosity Sunday was the kickoff event for the entire congregation to receive their Campaign materials and begin their consideration of giving.

Head to www.stmichaelselca.com/capitalcampaign to learn more and sign up to meet with a member of the Advance Team!

Church Council Corner

St. Michael's Church Council met on Tuesday, April 11.

There were not major decisions before the council this month, but the council received updates on a number of items that have been in the works over the last year:

- Personnel & Administration provided updates on the co-pastorate and next steps as well as Pastor Brad's sabbatical
- The Finance Committee provided updates on monthly financials and the Building in Faith, Serving in Grace Capital Campaign
- The Property Committee provided updates on the Sanctuary Wall Project (set to begin shortly), and items the committee has been working on.

Each committee shared monthly reports.

The next council meeting is scheduled for May 9 at 8:15 p.m.

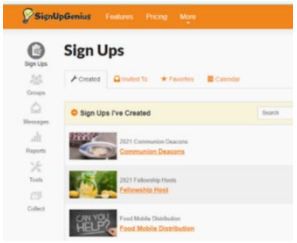
2023 Budget Overview and Financial Update

	March Actual	March Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Annual Budget
Income	$74,543	$63,066	$272,666	$215,397	$868,882*
Expenses	$97,174	$100,428	$219,942	$241,278	$868,882
Net Balance	$-22,631	$-37,362	$54,724	$-25,881	$0

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

Note: March is a heavier expense month as we pay our full annual insurance, Habitat for Humanity, construction, and significant utilities and snow removal.

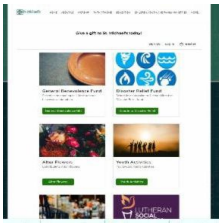
Worship Leaders and Volunteers Needed



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

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

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".

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*?

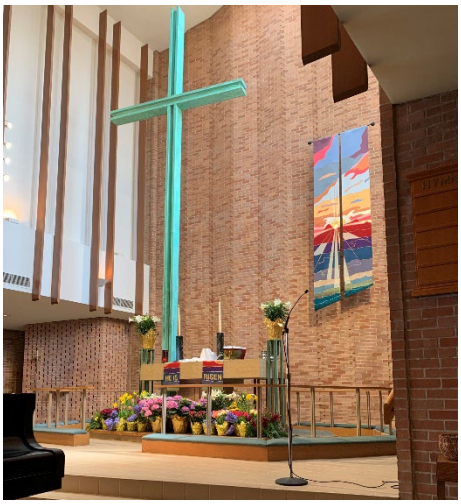
Are you having a problem with our weekly e-newsletter, the *Friday Flyer* not showing up in your primary inbox? First check your other inbox folders—it often shows up in a spot called the *Promotions* folder. Or it could be in your *Spam* folder. If a search of those yields nothing, then contact Lisa 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 June *Messenger*?

The *Messenger* submission deadline is Friday, May 19, 2022.



St Michael's
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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St. Michael's Staff Directory

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Thomas Bartsch
Organist

Jill Schendel
Pianist

Karen Wilkerson
Adult Choir Director

Charles Preis
Adult Bell Choir Director

Cory Bock
Youth Choir Director
cory@stmichaelselca.com

Fernando Garcia
Custodian

Emma Koland
Weekend Custodian