

September 2020

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Join us for worship
Sunday morning
Online at
[www.stmichaels](http://www.stmichaelselca.com)
[elca.com](http://www.stmichaelselca.com)
and outdoors
Sundays at 10 am
&
Mondays at 7 pm

From the Pastor's Desk



Extra! Extra! Read all about it!

In London, when newspapers and print copy were the primary source of news, the vendors would cry out "Extra! Extra! Read all about it!" This was especially true if there was a story that broke during the day or early evening and they could get the word out before people headed home for the night.

Today there are many avenues for sharing news—Facebook, Instagram, e-blasts, video, Zoom, TV, radio, snapchat—and we need to use many of these platforms to get word out about what is happening. As we prepare for fall programming, we know that this copy of the *Messenger* is about getting news out to the congregation about what is happening in the coming weeks—the latest developments in a world with much changing. With the COVID-19 pandemic still going, we are needing to adjust our plans and programs for this fall. So, take a moment to read through how we are adjusting and preparing for the upcoming year (or at least the next couple of months!).

Worship:

This fall we will continue the current "summer" schedule for worship. We will have the St. Michael's **on-line worship service available** for every-

one each weekend. Also, there will be **one Sunday morning worship service at 10:00 a.m.;** and **one Monday evening worship service at 7:00 p.m.** Both in-person services will continue outdoors for the coming weeks (weather-permitting), and should there be rain or inclement weather we direct everyone to the church's on-line worship service. Having two services on different days allows for greater flexibility for staffing and children & youth education; it also minimizes the number of people on-site and in proximity to one another at any given time.

We hope to continue this framework for worship through the middle of October. We will be evaluating what mid-October through the end of the year will look like in the coming weeks. While we would love to simply "go back indoors" we know that we need to be mindful of both COVID-19 and the encroaching cold and flu season. Stay tuned as we continue to chart this new territory.

Adult Education: *Religion in Life:*

With the responses from the congregational survey, we realize that the preferred mode for Sunday Religion in Life classes is **on-line**. We will be

pre-recording the sessions with guest speakers (either from their home or at the church) and then having these classes online—available on our website or on Facebook each weekend and with an archive of past classes. These will begin on September 13.

Faith in Daily Life:

The Wednesday Faith in Daily Life lunch conversations, which meet from 12:00-1:00 p.m. will continue with options for on-line or in-person conversation. The current plan is for the First Wednesday of the Month group, and the Second Wednesday of the Month Group to be on-line using Zoom. The Third Wednesday of the Month group will meet on the patio at St. Michael's (outdoors, physically distanced) through October, in the case of rain we will move on-line with Zoom.

Thursday Morning Bible Study:

Thursday morning Bible study will plan to meet at St. Michael's on the patio (outdoors and physically distanced) at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday mornings. Should the weather not cooperate there will also be a Zoom option.

Monday Morning Ministry:

Paused for this fall.

Children & Youth Education:

Sunday School, Middle School and High School Education, 7th-9th grade confirmation, and youth activities.

There are some significant changes in how we carry out this programming this fall. Please see the information provided by Jon Bates, Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministries on the CYF pages inside this newsletter.

Music at St. Michael's:

Adult Choir: There will not be large-group singing at St. Michael's as we move into the fall program year. However, Karen Wilkerson is looking at options for solos, small groups, and social events. Karen will be sending out more information to those who are interested. Also, if you would like to join the choir Facebook page for up-to-date information, please let Karen know. Soloists and small groups will be sharing their music in worship this fall.

Adult Bell Choir:

The Adult Bell Choir will resume rehearsals this fall. All ringers will need to wear facial masks or shields and follow physical distancing protocols. We anticipate that the bells will be playing for various worship services during the fall.

Youth Bell Choir:

The Youth Bell Choir will resume rehearsals this fall. All ringers will need to wear facial masks or shields and follow physical distancing protocols. Youth ringers will also play for worship this fall.

Spirit Choir & Celebration Singers:

Cory Bock is creating ways to do small group and online rehearsals for those in 1st-8th grades. Small groups are looking at providing music for worship this fall. If you have a child who is interested in singing please connect with Cory.

Social Connections:

Women's Circles: The two Women's Circles are planning to meet in September outdoors and physically distanced. For more information about their upcoming gatherings please connect with Pastor Ali.

Men's Bible & Brew:

The Men's Bible & Brew group will be meeting in September and October. Plans are being finalized on dates and times and whether it will be on-line, outdoors, or have options for both. If you would like to connect and learn more about this group you can talk with Pastor Brad.

Committees & Teams:

Most committees and teams will continue to meet virtually over the coming months. Please refer to the online calendar or Friday eblasts for more information about various meetings.

Flexible...Adaptable...

Know that over the coming weeks and months plans will continue to evolve and change. There may be times that we will be able to gather in new (and bigger) ways; and there may be times we need to pause activities or events for the health and well-being of the community. We will do our best to keep everyone informed and connected.

This month we are sharing news for the community—operations, health, opportunities to gather. And what we trust in is that there is even bigger news—Good News—of one who holds us fast even when plans change, when church is done differently, when life is frustrating. In the midst of all that is going on around us we trust in that news and the promise of love and grace revealed in Christ.

Blessings as we move into this new and different program year!
Pastor Brad

Women's Circles

Due to the pandemic, the Sarah and Elisabeth Circles will not continue with a planned study this year. However, we will gather for a September social gathering **for those who feel comfortable** meeting in-person as weather permits.

The Sarah Circle will meet on September 15th at 9:30 a.m. on Ginny Roadfeldt's outdoor patio.

The Elisabeth Circle will meet on September 16th at 1:00 p.m. on the church patio outside of the fellowship hall.

If it is raining/storming, we will cancel the circle gathering.

Complete the following health screening checklist to determine if you should attend:

- Do you have a fever?
- Do you have the chills?
- Do you have a new cough?
- Do you have shortness of breath?
- Do you have any new muscle aches?
- Do you have a new headache?
- Do you have new loss of smell or taste?

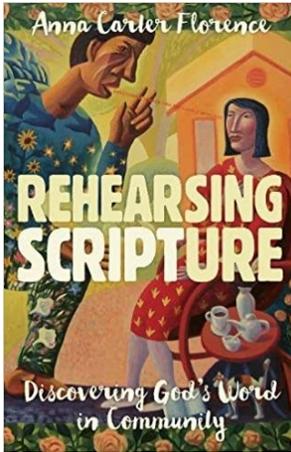
If you answered "yes" to any of these screening questions, please stay home and contact your health provider.

Participants who feel healthy should be prepared to follow the health protocols below:

- Use the bathroom at home before attending Circle gathering (building access will be permitted for emergencies)
- Wear a mask
- No buffet/shared food or beverages
- Stay 6 feet away from other participants
- Use hand sanitizer regularly

Thursday Morning Bible Study

9:30-10:30 a.m.



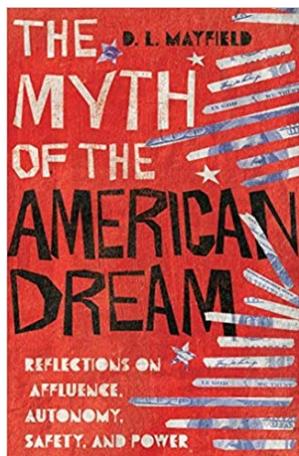
This fall we will be using a book by Anna Carter Florence, *Rehearsing Scripture: Discovering God's Word in Community*, as we delve into the Bible. We will begin by meeting in-person outdoors at St. Michael's on the patio on Thursday mornings at 9:30 a.m. Currently we anticipate moving to an online format in late October, but we may make adjustments.

Date	Location	Topic
September 17	St. Michael's Patio	Preface & Finding Something True
September 24	St. Michael's Patio	Setting the Stage
October 1	St. Michael's Patio	Reading the Verbs
October 8	St. Michael's Patio	Rehearsing a Text
<i>October 15</i>	<i>Break</i>	
October 22	Online/TBD	Playing Fair
October 29	Online/TBD	Saying Something True
November 5	Online/TBD	Asking New Questions
November 12	Online/TBD	Staying in the Scene
November 19	Online/TBD	Changing One Verb
<i>November 26</i>	<i>Thanksgiving Break</i>	
December 3	Online/TBD	A Truth for the World
December 10	Online/TBD	Fall Wrap-up
December 17-December 31	Christmas Break	

Anticipate resuming Thursday, January 7.

Faith in Daily Life

12:00-1:00 p.m., Wednesdays



Faith in Daily Life will be reading *The Myth of the American Dream: Reflections on Affluence, Autonomy, Safety, and Power*. As we reflect on the past six months with COVID-19, racism and injustice, and the call to be a new community, we ground ourselves in what it means to pay attention, to lament and grieve, to learn, and to change or be “converted.”

Date	Location	Topic
September 9	Online (Group 2)	Part I: Affluence
September 16	In-person (Group 3)	Part I: Affluence
September 23*	Online (Group 1)	Part I: Affluence
October 7	Online (Group 1)	Part II: Autonomy
October 21	In-person (Group 3)	Part II: Autonomy
October 28**	Online (Group 2)	Part II: Autonomy
November 4	Online (Group 1)	Part III: Safety
November 11	Online (Group 2)	Part III: Safety
November 18	Online/TBD (Group 3)	Part III: Safety
December 2	Online (Group 1)	Part IV: Power
December 9	Online (Group 2)	Part IV: Power
December 16	Online (Group 3)	Part IV: Power

*Note change for Group 1 due to Labor Day Week. (moved to last Wed. of the month of September)

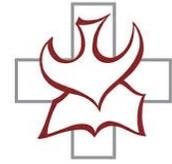
**Note change for Group 2 due to MEA Break (moved to last Wed. of the month of October)

Over the course of the fall we will continue to gauge what is happening with COVID-19 and the comfort level of members of each group for in-person gatherings, dining out, and online conversations.

Confirmation News

Mentor Update

Because of limitations on large group gatherings, we will be pausing the in-person mentor program and creating opportunities for students to be supported by caring adults in the church virtually and through written communications. More information on this will be available in October.



10th Grade Confirmation Updates

The Rite of Confirmation will take place on Sunday, September 27 at the 10:00am Outdoor Worship Service. If there is inclement weather, the back-up date will be Sunday, October 11.

7th-9th Grade Confirmation Class

We plan to host outdoor socially distanced confirmation class on the following dates from 11:30am-1:00pm; each youth to bring a bagged lunch from home on these days:

Sunday, September 13

Sunday, September 20

Sunday, September 27

Sunday, October 4

Sunday, October 11

After October 11 we will pause confirmation classes. Students are invited to participate in middle school or high school ministries offered in-person and outdoors and also online. We then expect to return to some type of in-person gathering time in the late winter/spring. The winter/spring options for 2021 will be evaluated this fall and we hope to provide more details before we head into Christmas.

If you are not comfortable with in-person outdoor confirmation class, please contact one of the pastors to learn more about online learning options.

Desserts II Book Discussion Group

This fall Desserters II, the St. Michael's book discussion group, will desert the usual meeting place at church and gather together via Zoom.

The group will meet on the fourth Tuesdays of the month at 7:00 pm. More details about connecting to the Zoom meetings will be announced in September. Welcome to all! Send questions to [verena.larson\[at\]comcast.net](mailto:verena.larson[at]comcast.net).

September 22, 2020	<i>At the Wolf's Table</i> by Rosella Postorino, Leah Janeczko (Translator)
October 27, 2020	<i>The Women of Copper Country</i> by Mary Doria Russell
November 24, 2020	<i>Where the Crawdads Sing</i> by Delia Owens
January 27, 2021	<i>The Night Watchman</i> by Louise Erdrich
February 23, 2021	<i>Hidden Figures</i> by Margot Lee Shetterly
March 24, 2021	<i>Olive, Again</i> by Elizabeth Strout
April 28, 2021	<i>The Giver of Stars</i> by Jojo Moyes
May 18, 2021	<i>The Fire Is Upon Us</i> by Nicholas Buccola

2020 Budget Overview from the Finance Committee



	July Actual as of 7/31/20	July Budget as of 7/31/20	Annual Actual as of 7/31/20	Annual Approved Budget
Income	\$ 40,185	\$ 58,941	\$ 482,103	\$ 814,918
Expenses	\$ 53,166	\$ 66,484	\$ 382,675	\$ 814,918
Net Balance	\$ -12,981	\$ -7,543	\$ 99,428	\$ 0

¹ At the Annual Meeting on January 26, 2020, the congregation approved use of reserve funds of \$48,910, if needed to meet the budget at the end of the year. This is included in the Annual Approved Budget of \$814,918.

CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILY MINISTRY NEWS

ONLINE CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRIES

CYF Director 2020-2021 Program Year Update

Hi everyone,

It has been an exciting and also daunting task of doing Children, Youth, and Family Ministries at St. Michael's in the midst of a pandemic. When the building closed so did all of the in-person programming for children, youth, and family ministries. We gathered together online, which of course isn't the same being next to each other, but we stuck with it!

Thank you for connecting by text, phone call, and completing surveys and also sharing your feedback in other ways throughout this summer. With help from the CDC, the Minnesota Department of Health, and your feedback, we will be able to have in-person CYF programming again!

As we ease into this new program year our opportunities to grow in faith together will look different. The plan listed here includes opportunities to gather together in-person, online, or connect together spiritually at home. Some information laid out here may change from the moment I type these words to even the dates reflected here. Through the joys and challenges, I am looking forward to the ways that we will be able to connect with each other in faith. Whether that be on the lawn of St. Michael's, through an art project, a service project, through a screen, or through a letter.

All in all, know that whoever you are...whatever your comfort level...wherever we connect throughout this upcoming program year...we are St. Michael's. Together.

Godspeed,
Jon Bates

youth@stmichaelselca.com / 651-631-1510

Communications this Program Year

To stay most up to date with the happenings of Children, Youth, and Family Ministries please subscribe to the CYF Newsletter. It is a weekly newsletter that has the most up to date information on CYF ministries.

Furthermore, stay connected with us on social media.

You can find us on Instagram, TikTok, and Facebook searching for @stmichaelsELCA



ACCESS OUR ONLINE MINISTRIES AT:
[STMICHAELSELCA.COM/faithathome-cyf](https://stmichaelselca.com/faithathome-cyf)



CYF Registration 2020-2021

This upcoming year, Sunday School will be offered both in-person and outdoors beginning on Sunday, September 13. The year will look different as we will have groups of no larger than 25 at a time. Registration is even more important this year in order to follow COVID-19 protocols, have the most updated contact information, and to know what you are most interested in for our CYF Ministries.

Please register your children and youth at the following

CYF and Education Ministries

This upcoming year, we will offer
in-person and outdoor
Sunday School **AND** faith formation
opportunities online.

Outdoor & In-Person Sunday School - through October 25

Sunday, September 13 | 9:00am and 11:00am

This upcoming year's Sunday School experience is still being formed. But, we do know that as long as weather cooperates we will gather outside and in-person on Sunday, September 13. To abide by Minnesota Department of Health's guidance,* our Sunday School experience will be kept no higher than 25 people. Registered families will be assigned a certain time and potentially a weekend for their faith formation.

*COVID-19 Prevention Guidance for Youth and Student Programs / July 25, 2020

Weekly & Online Faith Formation - Zoom

Beginning on September 16 and on a biweekly basis we will offer live-time and online opportunities for our children and youth to have community together online using Zoom. This will be our online faith formation for our students, especially if the weather gets uncooperative on a Sunday morning.

Week A: (Starting September 13—every other week)

K-5th Grade - Wednesdays at 6:00pm | Middle School - Wednesdays at 7:00pm

Week B: (starting September 20—every other week)

High School - Wednesdays at 7:00pm

Weekly & Online Faith Formation Videos

For **ALL** children that appreciate a 5-8 minute video. Hear a Spark Story Bible read by someone at St. Michael's, see an activity, and receive a blessing. These will be posted on our website at stmichaelselca.com/cyf beginning Sunday, September 13. Please contact Jon for the password!

Physically Distant & Occasional Ministries (better name pending)

Throughout this program year, watch out for opportunities to engage with your peers in outdoor, socially distant, and in-person ways. The ministries will be for our Children (K-5th grade), Middle School, and High School students. It may look like enjoying a bonfire together, a hike, a bike ride, sledding, or raking some leaves. Please let Jon know if you are interested in volunteering as an adult leader or if you have any additional ideas!

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 Ministries Calendar—September

School Supply Drive	September 1-8	
Foodmobile Distribution	September 8	3:00-5:00pm Sanctuary Entrance Doors
Sandwich Making	September 13	10:00 am Courtyard Room
Loaves & Fishes Meal	September 21	
Panera Bread Delivery	Daily	

Help us Address Food Scarcity in Our Community!

1 in 11 households in Minnesota are affected by hunger. Hunger is an urban, suburban and rural problem. There is no corner of the state where hunger does not exist. Be a part of the solution and get involved in our food ministry today!

Ways you can help...

- Join the Panera bread rescue ministry! Sign up to pick up bread before the Rosedale Panera closes and bring it to church for it to be repackaged for the food shelf. Volunteers are needed to pick up the bread, and repackaged it in the morning!
- Head to the Courtyard Room the second Sunday of each month to make sandwiches for the Union Gospel Mission in St. Paul. Volunteers are also needed to pick up the donated sandwich meat from the Har Mar Subway on Saturday, and to deliver the sandwiches to the Union Gospel Mission on Sunday.
- Help serve a free community meal at Loaves and Fishes on the third Monday of “odd” months. The next meal is on September 21!
- Volunteer at the Keystone Mobile Food Shelf at St. Michael’s! Each month, the food shelf comes to church, allowing our neighbors greater access to food shelf resources.
- Get your friends together and make a meal for the 15 residents of Rezek House, a youth shelter in the midway neighborhood of St. Paul. The first Monday of each month we provide a meal for the residents so they can enjoy a family style meal together.

Learn more about all of these activities and sign up to volunteer on our website or by calling the church office! <http://www.stmichaelselca.com/local.html>

Roseville Keystone Food Shelf Update

We will continue to serve as a Foodmobile site where the food shelf comes to us so our neighbors have access to healthy food.



Learn more about volunteering with the Foodmobile by contacting Pastor Ali.

Winter is coming... (the clothing drive that is!)

During the month of October we will be collecting warm outerwear for **all ages** which will be distributed at the Fairview Community Center just down the road from St. Michael's. We welcome new or gently used coats, hats, mittens, scarves, boots, and snow pants. Items in all sizes are needed! Help us care for our neighbors by cleaning out your closets and hitting up the sales!

School Supply Drive—Ends September 8

Families are preparing for an unprecedented school year – many students will be attending school online or in a hybrid model of education. While this is less than ideal for many, it is especially troublesome for families who lack access to proper technology, internet, school supplies, and food.

We want to help.

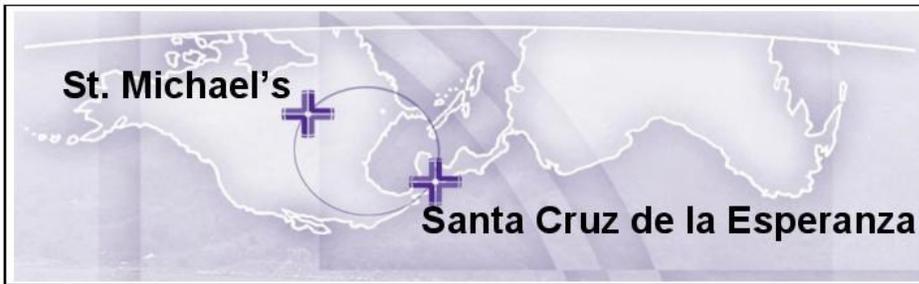
In the next two weeks we will be collecting funds to purchase school supplies and technology for students in the Roseville school district.



The social ministry committee has been working closely with school social workers over the summer and we are committed to helping fill the needs of students in our community to help them have the best school year possible.

You can mail or drop off a donation at church... simply indicate "school supply drive" on your gift. (If you plan to drop off a gift, please let one of the pastors know when you will be dropping by and we can work out details for how to safely receive your donation.)

Thank you for your generosity and support of our community!



**Our
Guatemala
Partnership**

Word of the Month	Esperanza (espe'ransa): Hope
	We have esperanza that we can safely visit with our friends in Guatemala again sometime soon.

COVID Update

Excerpts from a recent letter from Iglesia Luterana Agustina de Guatemala (ILAG):
 Dear Bishops, Pastors, sister and brothers:
 We want to ask for your prayers for the ILAG communities. Members of communities are in quarantine and they are concerned.
 Our trust is in God, and we ask you to pray for the families in Guatemala.
 Our prayers are with you. Many blessings to all of you,
 Revda. Karen Castillo Echeverria

News from Santa Cruz de la Esperanza

This month, we have sad news to share from Cimiento, Revda. Karen Castillo Echeverria let us know that Leonardo Chamán Baj had passed away. In the last several years of visits, Leonardo was most often seen at the front of the church, lighting the incense and making sure the incense smoke was filling the church and lifting with the prayers we offered.
 We remember Leonardo as a fellow child of God, we celebrate the times we were able to worship with him, and we take comfort in knowing he is now among the Saints in heaven.
 In your prayers this month, please keep Leonardo's family and Santa Cruz de la Eperanza as they morn the loss of an elder in their congregation.



Sing (and Ring) to the Lord a new song... In a New Way

It is that time of year again. Summer has come to an end and another school year is beginning. I hope, that despite all of what is going on around us, you were able to enjoy the summer. In the last several months much has changed, and we have become used to doing things in new ways. At St. Michael's, children's music will continue as we sing (and ring) to the Lord new songs in a new way.

This fall, children's music at St. Michael's will take on a new look. Due to current Covid-19 guidelines, we will be limited to small groups (5-10 people) for in-person singing/ringing. I will periodically rehearse with small groups on Wednesday nights. These small groups will then sing/ring at our outdoor services on Sunday mornings/Monday nights as well as record for the online services. Students will also be invited to gather on Wednesday nights (when there are not small group rehearsals) on Zoom. This will be a time to get together to talk, pray and sing. I will also begin a series of short worship opportunities and teach about Lutheran worship and hymnody.

All students in grades 1-8 are welcome to join me for our Wednesday night Zoom music meetings and small group singing/ringing. Watch for more information, including starting date and schedule, coming soon in the church's Friday emails. If you would like to be added to the children's music email list, please contact me via email (cory@stmichaelselca.com).

~ Cory Bock, Director of Children's Music

Cookies for Lutheran Campus Ministry—Twin Cities

Lutheran Campus Ministry-Twin Cities is getting ready to welcome students back to campus, and is looking for cookie makers to help! LCM's main project will be to deliver homemade cookies to freshmen in their dorms after the first day of school, but if there are enough cookies, they will include them in worship boxes (small groups receive worship boxes with supplies for 2-3 weeks of worship, the cookies would be for hospitality), and also in quarantine care packages. You can drop the cookies off at St. Michael's on or before Thursday, September 3--we will then have an individual deliver all of them to Lutheran Campus Ministry at Grace University Lutheran Church.

PS - You can make all kinds of cookies. However, if you can provide a list of ingredients you used, that assists with allergies.

THANK YOU!



Life of the Community



St. Michael's has been invited to help Lloyd "Korny" Kornmann celebrate his 90th birthday on September 8th.

Please send Korny a birthday card to help make his celebration special and let him know that we miss seeing him and Maxine each Sunday.



St. Michael member, Lloyd Mart, passed away on Wednesday, August 19. Please remember his family and friends in your prayers as they grieve, remember, and honor his life.



On Saturday August 8, 2020 we attended the dedication of the Dr. L. Daniel Frenzel, Jr. and Virginia Frenzel State Wildlife Management Area. This new Wildlife Management Area is 240 acres, in southeastern Stearns County, of former farm land acquired to promote wildlife habitat. The WMA was named after Dan and Virginia Frenzel for their outstanding contribution to wildlife conservation.

Dan and Virginia worked as a team to inspire many students to realize their career dreams in natural resource management. Many of Dan's students from Macalester College and the U of M moved on to leadership positions with conservation agencies, universities and medical facilities around the USA. Bald eagle research, conducted by Dan and his students, helped in the recovery of eagle populations in the 1970s and 1980s. Dan and Virginia both cherished wild places and this Wildlife Management Area stands as a lasting tribute to their contributions. Dan's contributions were highlighted by the many former students who attended the dedication.



Dan and Virginia were long time members of St Michael's Church.

*Joel and Rose Ann Bergstrom
George and Donna Beebe*

Thank you!

Pastor Brad & the congregation
at St. Michael's –

I just received an email from the Rev. Julie Wright here at LSS of Minnesota letting me know about the donation you have sent! I cannot thank you enough! Her email said you were moving your regular December donation up to now– because it is needed now– and you are absolutely right. There is so much that this money will allow us to do for the youth. We are all deeply grateful for your caring and generosity.

Be well,

Sean Mosuan Sinclair
Rezek Resource Hub
Program Coordinator

We would like to thank everyone who prayed for Karley after she was diagnosed with COVID-19. Those prayers were answered as Karley is now COVID-free.

The Nickelsen family

Dear St. Michael's,

Thank you so much for the outpouring of love and support last month on hearing the news of the death of Brad's mom, Jane.

Your cards and kind words, your calls and emails, and the blessing of a small service touched us deeply and connected us back to our loving and beloved community.

Our healing hearts thank you,
The Kolands

Go Green

If you prefer to read your upcoming issues of St. Michael's monthly *Messenger* newsletter on our church website instead of having a paper copy mailed to you, please notify the church office. Another option is to receive the *Messenger* via e-mail. Just let the church office know your preference.



October *Messenger* newsletter article
submission deadline

Friday, September 18 at 9:00 a.m.



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Pianist

Karen Wilkerson

Adult Choir Director

Charles Preis

Adult Bell Choir Director

Cory Bock

Youth Choir Director

cory@stmichaelselca.com

Wenshuai Zhang

Children's Choir Accompanist

Kaia Zeigler

Nursery Care Provider

Elliot Polzin

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