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## Home-Coming

by Pastor Brad Froslee

Throughout Scripture we are met again with stories of going away and of coming home. Whether one begins with Genesis and humanity's home in the garden (the place of intimacy with God), the move away—or eviction—from the garden, and the return to the garden in the midst of the city in Revelation; or the journeys of the Hebrew people from the promised land to Egypt and back; the exile to Babylon and the return; or even the parables of Jesus which time and time again point to a return home, a large part of our narrative of faith is of coming home to God, to community, and to who God calls us to be in the world.



This spring and summer we are in a season of home-coming. For fifteen months (with a few months of outdoor worship, education, drive-through experiences, and gatherings) we have been away from our church home. During this time, we have strived to find new opportunities to worship, care for one another, gather, extend hospitality, and serve. We have learned a lot. There have been many successes, there have been bumps, and there are ways we wish we could have done more or different or better. We traveled an imperfect road with challenges along the way, yet worked to do so faithfully and as a community with deep care for one another.

This fall, if all continues to go well, we will be back in the sanctuary with two worship services; there will be children's, youth, and adult education; there will be Bible study (in-person); there will be book groups; there will be community events...the hope is that there are many ways it will feel "normal" or perhaps a better word is **familiar**.

However, we will also have been changed by the road we have been on for over the last year and a half. There are beloved members who have died, there are children who have been born, new members who have jumped in (even amidst the pandemic!), there are ways we have upgraded technology, there are staff we have blessed as they retired or moved onto other adventures, there are new staff who have arrived (or will soon be arriving), there have been hundreds of cards

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sent between members, there have been phone calls made to check in...we never quit being church, we simply experienced new ways to be church in the world and with each other.

Now we take both—the familiar and the new—and we weave them together to be God’s people in this time and place... as we come home to the sanctuary and much of what is familiar.

You will notice that this August we will be having the “St. Michael’s Get-Together.” This is a variation on the church picnic, but with food and ice cream trucks, yard games, Bingo, even Root beer & Hymns.

We will continue our summer worship schedule, and anticipate a return to our fall worship schedule after Labor Day, and we have learned how important our online worship and presence are. We have hired Max Gouette to serve as our Communications Associate, and he will be facilitating the recording of our Sunday morning services and making them available online.

Our Children’s, Youth, and Family Education programs may still require masks for some programs and opportunities, but we will be building new opportunities and looking at ways to enhance programing and staff, as we come back together.

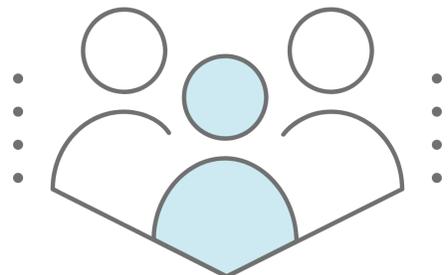
Many of the hallmarks of St. Michael’s—education, music, service, and generous giving—will be resuming with some changes and adjustments as we go.

Yet, what we know is that there is a gift of “coming home” and being community. We will continue to heed God’s call and create a space both in our building and in the world to live out our faith and be people who rest in the promise and the presence of our God.

Welcome home...to the familiar and the new!  
Pastor Brad

### **Life of the congregation updates:**

- June 26 we hosted the Quinceñera for Zasha Padilla
- July 12 we held the Memorial Service for Tom Clapp
- July 24 we had the Baptism for Margit Wynia, daughter of Adam Wynia and Megan Mathison-Wynia
- Over the last months we have been joined by new members and will be celebrating with them this fall
  - Yom and JoAnne Heyd
  - Nathan and Laura Tenut with Brynn and Finn
  - Josh Seeman

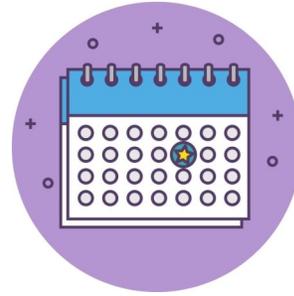


## Social Ministry

### Social Ministry calendar

Panera Bread Ministry Daily

- August 1-22** School Supply Drive
- August 2** Rezek House Meal
- August 8, 11am** Sandwich Making for Union Gospel Mission
- August 10** Mobile Food Distribution
- August 9-13** Habitat for Humanity, St. Michael's Work Week



### School Supply Drive

#### August 1-22

Summer is far from over, but it's time again to help students prepare for a return to school! We will be collecting supplies for students during the month of August. Supplies will be provided to Harambee School in Roseville and to Northern Voices. An updated list will be provided soon, but many items could be purchased now:



- Wide Ruled Spiral Notebooks
- Glue Sticks
- #2 Pencil
- Facial Tissues
- Notecards
- Black Sharpies
- Post-its
- Dry Erase Markers
- Colored Pencils
- 24-Crayon Boxes
- Backpacks
- Financial gifts may also be made with "school supplies" listed in the memo.

School supplies will be collected at St Michael's on **Sunday's and Mondays** now through August 22. A drop box will be available outside the narthex on Sundays and outside on Mondays.

**An extra bonus to give... When you bring school supplies and drop them in the box, you will receive a ticket for a chance to dunk a beloved staff member in the DUNK TANK at the Church Picnic on August 22!**

Thank you for your generosity!

### Refugee Resettlement Update

Preparations to resettle a refugee family with Minnesota Council of Churches are underway! Though we won't know when a family will arrive (we will get 1-3 weeks notice) or where the family is from (we will learn more once their travel is scheduled) our team is getting ready by organizing tasks and rounding up volunteers so we will be ready once we get the call from Minnesota Council of Churches.

In the coming weeks you may hear from us as we start collecting homegoods, planning for meals, and organizing volunteers. There will be many opportunities to get involved, so keep an eye out for future communications or contact Pastor Ali or a team member to learn more!

Refugee Resettlement Team:

- Jill Griffin & Mary Nosek - Team Coordinator s
- Irmeli Moran & Bettie Syverud - Social Activities
- Kathy Callinan & Deb Legan - Education
- Cathy Vanous - Health Care
- Sue and Ron Kuhn & Jennifer Mehmel - Housing and Resources
- Kathy and Rich Callinan - Transportation



## More Ways to Serve

### Habitat for Humanity 2021 build update:

This year we will be working on a renovation of an existing home in White Bear Lake. This house was acquired by Twin Cities Habitat for Humanity through purchase on the open market. The project will be mainly interior work including renovating the kitchen, gutting the basement, and adding a bathroom in the basement. There will also be some exterior site work.

We are looking for snack delivery volunteers for the Habitat build site. See the signup for more information.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f044dafad28aa8-holy6>

Learn more and sign up at

<https://www.stmichaelselca.com/habitat-for-humanity.html>



### *Habitat build at a glance:*

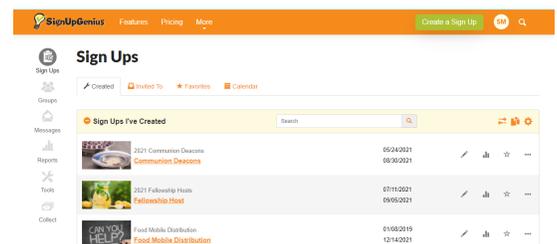
- Overall project dates: June 28-August 20
- St. Michael's focus week: August 9-13
- Work-day time: 8:30 a.m.- 3:30 p.m. Volunteers are asked to show up on time and stay the entire work-day. Split shifts are not allowed
- Location: 2431 Elm Dr., White Bear Lake

St. Michael's  
very own  
Laurie  
Krachmer  
wielding a  
jackhammer!

## Worship Leaders and Volunteers Needed

Being back in the sanctuary or outdoors for worship again opens up some additional volunteer opportunities for St. Michael's members. Check SignUp Genius for opportunities to volunteer for:

- Providing sanctuary flowers
- Ushers
- Lectors
- Communion assistants for outdoor worship
- Fellowship Hosts for after services



Visit Sign-up Genius to see the opportunities awaiting you. The quickest way to get there is to visit

St. Michael's website: [stmichaelselca.com](http://stmichaelselca.com) and click on the *Volunteer Sign-up* icon.

**D**o you have a **youth** in your household that is 15 and is interested in working in the church's nursery this upcoming program year? If so, please have them sign-up for an interview with CYF Staff and a parent of our congregation by clicking : <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c084aaba72fa6fd0-high>

## Fellowship Opportunities

### It's the St. Michael's Summer Get-Together!

Sunday, August 22  
3:00-5:00 p.m.

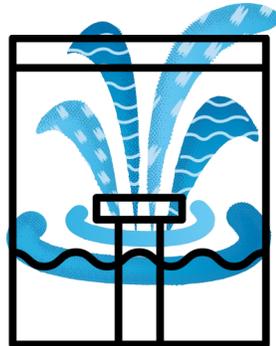
#### Food Trucks...and Bingo...and Dunk Tank...and more...

Join the community at St. Michael's for an afternoon of excitement and fun.

This year in place of the summer picnic we are hosting the St. Michael's Summer Get-Together. There will be food trucks, an ice cream truck, yard games, bingo, face painting, a root beer & hymn sing and more.



It's an opportunity to come together and celebrate the gifts of community and connection. There will also be opportunities to learn about programs and events for the coming year for folks of all ages.



AND...if you bring items for or make a financial donation to the Social Ministry's **Back to School Drive** you will receive a ticket that provides you with the opportunity to "dunk" some of your beloved staff or community members.



**We look forward to this time of fun and community connection.**

### Men's Bible and Brew

St. Mike's Men's Bible & Brew will gather on Thursday, August 12 at 7:30 p.m. (Note the adjusted date this month due to schedules).

Bring your favorite brew (and snacks, if you'd like) and meet on the Fellowship Hall patio.



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

..... 2020-2021 PROGRAM YEAR .....

### Service Weekend Reflection

#### July 10 & 11 Service weekend

In July, middle and high school youth helped out at a food shelf at Calvary Lutheran Church, toured George Floyd Square, fed some ducks, and helped with community gardens in the Powderhorn Neighborhood.

"My biggest take away from the Service Weekend was seeing how strong and resilient the Powderhorn Community is. We saw a community destroyed by a harrowing incident, but they came together. We served at a Food Shelf at Calvary Lutheran Church and saw a free clothing drop-off at George Floyd Square for those in need. We saw the community turn anger, destruction, and sadness into different forms of art. It was really beautiful to see and definitely an experience that will stick with me."

- Landon Brady, 10th Grader



#### August Service Weekend - 6th-12th Graders

Saturday, August 14, and Sunday, August 15 - Valley Fair and St. Paul.

In August, the youth will be enjoying a day of fun at Valley Fair and also have a day doing service projects in St. Paul.

It's not too late to sign-up, but please do so as soon as possible to ensure that you have a spot! Contact Brian Thompson at [brian@stmichaelselca.com](mailto:brian@stmichaelselca.com) for more information.

## Children, Youth, and Family Ministries, continued



### Friday Flock - Nursery - 5th graders

Friday, August 13

6:00-8:30pm

Children of the congregation are invited for an evening of fun, faith formation, and a dinner outside at the church. 3 & 4 Year Olds will spend time both indoors and outdoors as K-5th Graders will remain outside for the duration of the event. The summer's theme will be on our neighborhood and compassion. If you'd like to join in, please register on the CYF Website.

### CYF Volunteer & Leader Training

Wednesday, August 18

7:00-8:30pm

On Wednesday, August 18 in the Fellowship Hall, all Children, Youth, and Family Ministry Volunteers and also high school nursery attendants are asked to attend the CYF Volunteer & Leader Training. This will be led by staff of the congregation. If you're interested in being a volunteer for our CYF Ministries this upcoming year, please reach out to [youth@stmichaelselca.com](mailto:youth@stmichaelselca.com).

### St. Michael's Summer Get-Together

Sunday, August 22

3-5pm

It's a picnic! Enjoy some time at St. Michael's with some games, food trucks, and bingo during the church picnic. Bring an item to the School Supply drive in August for a free ticket to the STAFF DUNK TANK. Don't miss your chance to dunk a pastor!

### Save the Dates:

Sunday, September 12 from 10-10:50am - CYF Fall Kick-off

Sunday, September 19 from 10-10:50am - First day of

Sunday School (In-Person and Indoors!)



Follow us on  
Instagram and  
Facebook!

## Faith Formation

### Confirmation Registration

Confirmation registration for incoming 7th-9th graders will be available soon. Head to [www.stmichaelselca.com/confirmation](http://www.stmichaelselca.com/confirmation) to learn more about the confirmation program.

### Sunday School Starts in September

Join us on Fall Kick-off, September 12, to register for Sunday School!

### Adult Education

Watch September's Messenger for details about return of Religion in Life and Bible Study groups.



## Our Guatemala Partnership

### Solidaridad con los Enfermos: Solidarity with the ill

While we in the United States are seeing vaccination rates climb and the positivity rates of COVID-19 decline, we are aware that this is not true the world over.

In fact, just this week we received hard and difficult news that COVID-19 has made its way into several of the indigenous communities that are part of Iglesia Luterana Agustina de Guatemala (ILAG). Currently they are aware of at least two children who are hospitalized as well as teachers at the school who have been affected by the disease.

Two staff members, Diego and Marcos, will be going out to the villages in Guatemala this week to deliver health kits (10 to each community) that can be used by people affected by COVID-19.

We as a congregation have sent funds to assist with COVID-19 relief in Guatemala and will continue to offer financial support. Additionally, we ask members at St. Michael's to hold our siblings in faith in prayer during this difficult time.

Responding quickly, our Guatemala Team prepared videos of care and support to be shared with our friends in Guatemala. The videos share brief updates on our church, communities, gardens, and lives, but also share with them what it has meant to continue to follow COVID-19 protocols and to move forward with vaccinations (especially when so much mis-information has been distributed in many places).

As people of faith we stand in solidarity with the sick. Together we extend our hands in care and prayer for our partners in Guatemala.



## Some things we think you'd like to know...

### Desserters II Continues in September

In September Desserters II will begin its 42<sup>nd</sup> year of conversations about interesting books. All are welcome to join the discussions held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of the months listed below. You may want to get a head start on reading these titles that got the most votes from the group this year.



- Sept 28, 2021 *The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek* by Kim Michele Richardson  
Describes a “New Deal-funded Pack Horse Library Project”
- Oct 26, 2021 *Daughters of Kobani* by Gayle Zemach Lemmon  
Focuses on “the contributions of women in wartime Syria”
- Nov 23, 2021 *Anxious People* by Fredrik Backman  
Features “the world’s most hapless bank robber”
- Jan 25, 2022 *The Yellow House* by Sarah Broom  
Demonstrates “how enduring drives of clan, pride, and familial love resist and defy erasure”
- Feb 22, 2022 *His Truth is Marching On* by John Meacham  
tells the story of John Lewis, the recently deceased civil rights leader
- Mar 22, 2022 *How Much of These Hills is Gold* by C. Pam Zhang  
Questions how an Asian family can survive the gold rush of the American West
- Apr 26, 2022 *The Midnight Library* by Matt Haig  
Asks, “if you could live your life over again, would you make the same choices?”
- May 24, 2022 *Redhead By the Side of the Road* by Anne Tyler “  
Dramatizes the absurdities of flawed perception and the risks of rigidity.”

### An Update to *Recipes for Disaster*

Maxine Kornmann would like to share her favorite frosting for her Pumpkin Cake recipe on page 102 in the cookbook.

#### Frosting for Pumpkin Cake

*Contributed by Maxine Kornmann*

#### Ingredients

8oz CoolWhip  
3tbsp brown sugar  
1/2tsp cinnamon (or to taste)

#### Directions

Stir brown sugar and cinnamon into CoolWhip.  
Spread on cooled cake.  
Keep cake refrigerated after frosting.



### Busses in the Parking Lot

A local business is not able to park their busses in their home lot over the time of the State Fair so they contacted St. Michael's to rent out part of our parking lot between August 24—September 7. About 30 busses will be tightly parked and not used over that time. The departure of the busses on September 7th may cause some temporary congestion in our lot as drivers are transported to their busses.

## Church Council Corner

The church continues its incredible ministry as we move through summer. Here are some Council highlights.

### Church Council Deep Listening Training

During the month of July, the St. Michael's council received training from Lutheran Social Service and City House on Deep Listening - a practice in listening with empathy to the experiences and needs of others. This training was offered as a way to live out our church value of Authentic Relationships and we are excited for how the council will use these skills at St. Michael's and in the world!

Thank you to the church council for all of your work in leading our congregation!

## News about St. Michael's Staff

### Welcome Max Gouette

Join us in welcoming our newest staff member! Max will serve as our Communications Associate and will be responsible for creating online worship opportunities. Though you will mostly see him on Sunday mornings recording worship content, be sure to greet Max and welcome him into the congregation!



### New AV Equipment

You may notice some new cameras and microphones in the sanctuary. We are currently installing items and trying things out.

Special thanks to Dennis Skovsted for his work on the new desk at the back of the sanctuary where Max can view the service and make changes to the video and sound recordings on Sunday mornings.

### CYF Hiring Update

Over the course of the last three months we have been diligently searching for the next Director of the Children, Youth, & Family Ministries program. We had 8 candidates apply for the position and a member of the Personnel Committee and Pastor Ali reviewed each candidate's information for initial screening. Four of those candidates interviewed with the CYF Search Team consisting of members of the Education & Youth Committee - Pastor Ali, Kate Stahl, Tara Rogness, and Aleksy Moran, as well as a youth representative. After the first round of interviews, three candidates progressed into a second interview with members of the Personnel & Administration Committee, Pastor Brad, Pastor Ali, and Brian Thompson. We had delightful conversations with these individuals, but after much discernment we have decided to re-open the position to new candidates. We know families have been anxiously waiting to hear who the next staff person will be, especially after Jon's departure. In the coming weeks, we plan to welcome an interim Director to help lead the program this fall as we continue to work to fill this position. We ask for your patience and prayers as we expand our search to find the next leader of this vital church ministry!

If you have any questions about this process, feel free to contact Pastor Ali ([ali@stmichaelselca.com](mailto:ali@stmichaelselca.com)). In the meantime, Pastor Ali, Brian Thompson, and the Education & Youth committee are dedicated to continuing the vibrant CYF ministry at St. Michael's and welcome your support and participation as we minister to our youngest community members!

## 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!

## Notes about the Messenger

### Got something for the September Messenger?

The August *Messenger* submission deadline is Friday, August 20.

### Making the Messenger 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.



## St. Michael's Staff Directory

**St. Michael's Lutheran**  
www.stmichaelselca.com  
651-631-1510

**Brad Froslee**  
Pastor  
brad@stmichaelselca.com

**Ali Ferin**  
Pastor  
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**Lisa Koland**  
Church Administrator  
office@stmichaelselca.com

**Max Gouette**  
Communications Associate  
Communication@stmichaelselca.com

**Brian Thompson**  
Children & Youth Ministries Associate  
brian@stmichaelselca.com

**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

**Wenshuai Zhang**  
Children's Choir Accompanist

**Kaia Zeigler**  
Nursery Care Provider

**Elliot Polzin**  
Custodian



**St Michael's**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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