



# THE MIGHTY MESSENGER

August 2021

Volume 61, Number 8

IS GOD OPENING  
A WINDOW? PAGE 3

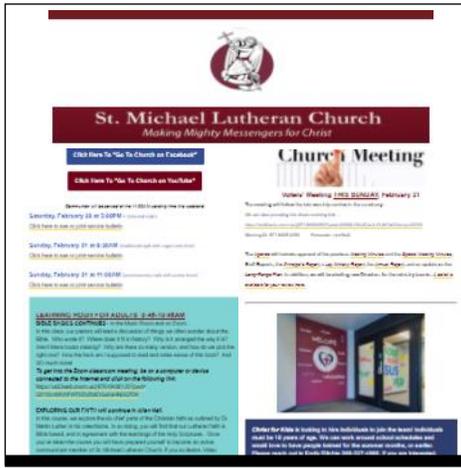
SUMMER LEARNING  
PAGE 12

JESUS LOVES  
KALAMAZOO PAGE 21

# WE ARE CALLED

to make disciples of *Jesus*

## STAY CONNECTED



### Email Updates

Sign up for regular email updates from St. Michael. We try to send something mid-day on Friday and when special services and events are happening.

### Office Contacts:

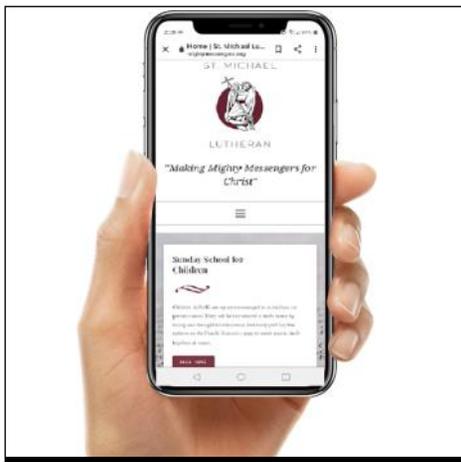
Church + 269-327-7832

School + 269-327-0512

Christ For Kids + 269-327-4889

### mightymessengers.org

St. Michael's website is full of helpful information. We are excited about the new design and support provided by **Computer Guild!**



The vision of St. Michael Lutheran is to be a growing congregation within our local community that is "Making Mighty Messengers for Christ" by helping people:

**DEVELOP**, by the power of the Holy Spirit working through His Word and Sacraments, a more vibrant and personal relationship with God through faith in Jesus Christ that expresses itself in consistent prayer and worship; and to

**GAIN** practical, relevant, biblical insights for faithful Christian living both through personal Bible study and through our various Christian educational offerings such as Sunday School, Bible class, St. Michael Lutheran School; and to

**BELONG** to a loving and caring family of faith with a solid doctrinal heritage through active membership, ministry involvement, and Small Group participation; and to

**GIVE** of ourselves to others in loving Christian service and evangelistic witness within the congregation and beyond it to our local community and world.

## CONFIRMATION ORIENTATION - INCOMING 6TH GRADERS & UP

We are fast approaching the start of another year of Confirmation classes in which we will, "grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ" (2 Peter 3:18).

Our first meeting will be on Wednesday, September 1, in the sanctuary from 6 - 7 pm. We will be discussing class expectations, materials, and scheduling. At least one parent/guardian from each family is required to attend with your student.

God bless you all as we look forward to another year of learning, growing, and trusting in our Lord who loves us!

*Alleluia! Christ is risen!*  
Pastor Maske

**Do you love to sing? Join the Choir!**

Rehearsals will begin Wednesday, August 18

at 7:00PM in the music room

# We VALUE...

## Is God Opening a Window?

While life is getting back to what feels more normal, it's still a new normal nonetheless. I've been able to make hospital visits again at both Borgess and Bronson, but not without some additional screening and restrictions. I've also been able to make private communion visits at assisted living facilities and even nursing homes. But again the access is limited in comparison to what it once was. There are still some places where I can't go and resume what I used to do. For example, for several decades the pastors from St. Michael and Zion Lutheran have conducted a weekly devotional worship service at the historic Kalamazoo Psychiatric Hospital, a service that originated with Pastor Louis Grother about sixty years ago. Since the pandemic restrictions began in early 2020 we have not been invited back to do so. Likewise, we have not been invited back yet to do a similar service at Medilodge of Portage nursing home (formerly known as Tendercare) behind the Portage Library. We hope to resume these services in the future, but at the moment the door is closed.

You know what they say, when God closes a door sometimes He opens a window. It appears we may have such a window of opportunity at the Crosstown Senior Apartments in Kalamazoo. On Monday of Jesus Loves Kalamazoo Catalyst week (July 12), my wife and I participated at the grill site that was there at that high rise apartment complex on the north side of Crosstown Parkway (going east it's just before you get to the old Paris Cleaners). They were so very grateful for our presence there, especially after all the isolation of the pandemic. In fact, they said that this was the only communal activity of any kind that they have had in recent memory. The manager was very friendly and welcoming of further ministry there, and she showed me the large community room that they have there, which even includes two pianos and an organ. It would be very turn-key to come in and put on a devotional worship service for them on a regular basis. I talked this over with the youth pastor from The Bridge church, who was also there putting on the JLK grill site, and he was quite excited about getting in on this project too. More recently, I've spoken with Pastor Couch at Zion Lutheran and he is interested and willing to be a part of it also. I'll let you know what comes of this, but in the meantime you can be assured that we're hearing their "Macedonian call" to come over and help them.

Of course, we also hosted the JLK grill site at Milham Meadows apartment complex the next day (July 13). Carol Eaton did a fine job recruiting helpers from St. Michael, so that we had a nice turnout of volunteers engaged in various aspects of the event. Some were with Carol doing children's activities, some were in the prayer tent, some were conducting recreational games with kids and teens, some were grilling and serving food, and some took the rolling coolers of bottled water and freeze pops out to the surrounding area inviting the neighbors to the cook-out and engaging with them in conversation and prayer. After not being able to do this kind of thing last summer at all, it was a great joy and blessing to be back at it again and in an even bigger way. One such very welcome addition this year was providing interested families with a virtual VBS that they could experience later on in their home. Tammy Songer, our Children's Ministry Coordinator, had a couple dozen leftover goodie buckets from the virtual VBS that we had done at St. Michael a couple weeks previously (which include the internet link to our video content), and she simply offered the very same thing to our new friends at Milham Meadows. But before any children could take a bucket, she had them go bring their parent(s) and have them formally sign up to do the VBS as a family. This sign up not only held the kids accountable to actually experience the virtual VBS, but it also gave us their contact information for further follow-up with them. So for now, a mailing has gone out to these folks from Pastor Maske and I, inviting them to worship and Sunday School at St. Michael, with the prayer that God would help us continue to go through the window of opportunity that He has given us to minister to this community that is just down the street from us.

Chances are some doors in your life have been closed as a result of the pandemic or other adverse circumstances. While that can be sad, frustrating, and hard to accept, could it be that God is opening for you a window? What windows of opportunity might God be giving you and your family to bless others with His Word and love. Be sure to look for them, and by His grace go through them to your joy and His greater glory.

In Christ,



# WORSHIP

Gathering around God's Word and Sacraments to receive His gifts & give Him glory.

*We value worship, as we gather around God's Word and Sacraments, that is meaningful and uplifting, including clear, relevant preaching. We appreciate both traditional liturgy and hymns as well as contemporary music and desire variety and quality in all our worship services so that we might have a meaningful experience of praising and glorifying God with the best that we have.*

*Colossians 3:16-17*

**“This is the Word of the Lord.**

**Thanks be to God!”**

**The Word of the Lord.** These words are so very familiar to us, and yet they deserve our full attention and devotion. The Lord Himself has spoken, and continues to speak through His Word in Holy Scripture. And He doesn't just speak into the void, He speaks directly to you.

We get to hear the Lord's own words on Saturday and Sunday here at St. Michael. Our St. Michael School students get to hear the Lord's Word every day during the school year (*which is such a special blessing*). But church is not the only place and time we hear and read God's Word... and thank God for that! God speaks to you and your family through His Word any and every time you read or listen to the Bible.

Take stock of how many Bibles you have in your home. If you have a computer, there are many websites that allow you to read the Word of God ([www.biblegateway.com](http://www.biblegateway.com), [www.esv.org](http://www.esv.org), etc). If you have a smartphone, there are countless apps that present God's Word for free! (ESV Bible, YouVersion, etc).

God says to you, **“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly”** (Colossians 3:16) – God is speaking to you, and He has promised to speak to you through His Word. Let God speak to you through His Word every day, whether it is on a printed page, a website, an app, or even right before bedtime with family devotions.

Jesus loves **you**. You can hear just how much He loves you as you listen to His own Words. **Today** read how much the Lord loves you by reading, even if it's for the millionth time, how Jesus lived, suffered, died, and rose again for you. It's true, it's powerful, and it is the Gospel for you!

Pastor Maske



# MAKING MIGHTY MESSENGERS FOR CHRIST

## August 1, 2021 – Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

PSALM 145:10-21; EXODUS 16:2-15; JOHN 6:22-35 “FULL FAITH” - SERMON TEXT: JOHN 6:22-35 - REV. WILLIAM MUELLER

In John 6 we read the amazing truth about Jesus: He is the Bread of Life! This discussion comes the day after He had miraculously fed the 5,000. The crowd ate until they were full. Now Jesus gets to the heart of the matter. He is the Bread of Life so that we can have FULL FAITH in Him!



## August 8, 2021 – Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

PSALM 34:1-8; 1 KINGS 19:1-8; JOHN 6:35, 41-51 “IT’S A WONDERFUL LIFE!” - SERMON TEXT: JOHN 6:35, 41-51 - REV. DR. THOMAS AHLERSMEYER

Have you lost your sense of wonder for this life? For eternal life? Jesus accomplishes extraordinary things in seemingly ordinary ways. Indeed, for the Christ-follower, *It’s A Wonderful Life!*

## August 15, 2021 – Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

PSALM 34:12-22; JOSHUA 24:1-2A, 14-18; JOHN 6:51-59 “OUR REDEDICATION PLEDGE” - SERMON TEXT: JOSHUA 24:1-2A, 14-18 - REV. DR. WALTER MAIER III  
It is always a good time to rededicate ourselves – to serving the Lord. Because of God’s gracious, saving activity in our lives we can indeed serve Him. Therefore we will pledge ourselves with renewed fervor to His service.

## August 22, 2021 – Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

PSALM 14; ISAIAH 29:11-19; MARK 7:1-13 “INSPECTING THE HOUSE” - SERMON TEXT: MARK 7:6 - REV. THOMAS EGGOLD  
God’s Word doesn’t exist to help us cover up our sins with good works and holy living. Its purpose is to expose our sins and break our hearts so that we can be built into a new house; one that is not based on keeping the Law, but on Christ who kept the Law for us so we can live with Him.

## August 29, 2021 – Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

PSALM 51:2, 7, 10-12; DEUTERONOMY 4:1-2, 6-9; MARK 7:14-23 “HEARTS MADE CLEAN” - SERMON TEXT: MARK 7:14-15 - REV. SHAYNE JONKER  
It is not what goes into us that makes us unclean, but it is what goes into us that makes us clean. Spiritual purity comes from outside of ourselves. It is found in the undeserved kindness and mercy of God in the death of His only begotten Son Jesus. Baptismal water poured on us; forgiving Words spoken into us; Christ’s Body and Blood fed to us. Those are what make the unclean clean. God alone can do it. God alone has done it.

## TV MINISTRY YOU CAN TRUST!

Spiritual Channel 189 AT&T U-Verse Channel 99

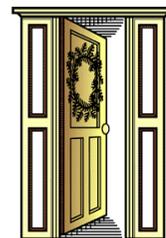
Access for Kalamazoo and Portage

WJPG-LD 26 (TCT)

Sunday 6 AM 12 Noon, 6PM 12 Midnight

Repeats on Wednesdays

- 30-Minute Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod worship service
- Produced by Lutherans for the homebound, hospitalized...
- Includes the Gospel, Epistle, and Sermon by LCMS pastors
- Music by choirs, soloists, and small groups



Remembering Our Shut-ins

Caroline Barkow  
Sally Beck  
Thelma Burrell  
Lotte Christoph  
Shirley Cosgrove  
Ellie Deibler  
Ginny Evans  
Dorothy Ferguson  
Nola Geissel  
Audrey Glover  
Virgil Harrison  
Nancy Heath  
Bob Johnson  
Flo Kangas\*  
Phyllis Kurlowicz  
Carol McCarty\*  
Nancy Miller  
Margery Selden  
Marilyn Sible  
Judi VanOrman  
\*non-members



**Great news!**

**St. Michael’s traditional 8:30 AM service will now be posted to the Spiritual TV Channel, according to this schedule.**

Monday	6AM
Tuesday	10:30 PM
Wednesday	5PM
Thursday	Midnight & 8AM
Friday	5AM & 1PM
Saturday	7AM & 8:30PM
Sunday	3:30 & 11:30 AM, 2PM

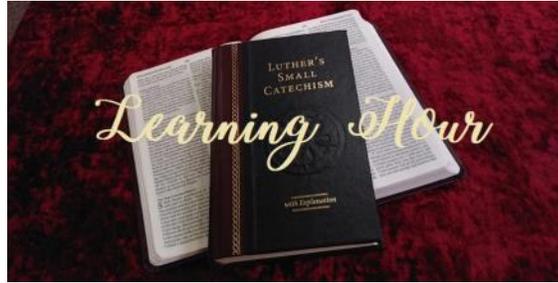
**Charter Spectrum Channel 189**

# DISCIPLESHIP

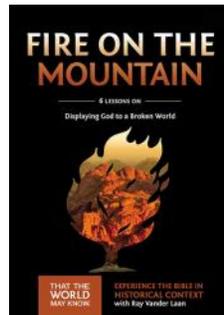
Christian education is vital to our Spiritual health and growth.

*We value discipleship through the Christian education of children and adults of all ages as essential and vital to our spiritual health and growth. While we highly value people of every age, we are especially excited about our population of young families, many of whom come into our congregation through our Christian education programs for children.*

*Luke 18:15-17*



## NEW ADULT STUDY TO START - AUGUST 1st



This six-session small group Bible study, *Fire On The Mountain*, by noted teacher and historian, Ray Vander Laan, is volume nine of the 12-part *That the World May Know* series. When the Israelites left Egypt, they were finally free. Free from persecution, free from oppression, and free to worship their God. But with that freedom comes a new challenge – learning how to live together the way God intends. In this ninth volume of *That the World May Know*, discover how God teaches the Israelites what it means to be part of a community that loves him and what that means for us today. Filmed on location in Israel, *Faith Lessons* is a unique video series that brings God's Word to life with astounding relevance. By weaving together the Bible's fascinating historical, cultural, religious, and geographical contexts, teacher and historian Ray Vander Laan reveals unique insights into the Scriptures' significance for modern believers.

Available by Zoom. See our Friday email announcements for the link.

The youth group will now be called

## OUTREACH

*"For you are a people holy to the Lord your God. The Lord your God has chosen you out of all the peoples on the face of the earth to be his people, his treasured possession." – Deuteronomy 7:6 and 14:2*



### Sunday Evening Upcoming Events:

- ◆ August 1 -Bike Ride 5-7
- ◆ August 8-Outdoor Game Night  
- Volleyball 5-7
- ◆ August 15- Pool Party  
- Jeff Burnett's house 5-7
- ◆ August 22- Hiking 5-7



KIDS IN CHRIST'S KINGDOM

## SUNDAY SCHOOL HAS RESUMED!!

JOIN FRIENDS IN ROOM 120

*Fear, Love and Trust: Following God's Commandments*

**YOUR HELP IS NEEDED:** We are looking for a few assistants that enjoy storytelling, music, games or crafts. Use your skills to do a small part in a rotation model. Training will be provided. There is a spot for YOU! *Do you have a teen or young adult that is needing some service hours, or has an interest in teaching?* This would be a great place to start serving!

Talk to Tammy or call the Church Office, if interested. 269-327-7832



### Staff Help Needed in

### Christ for Kids this Fall!

Christ for Kids is in need of new team members for the fall school year. We can be flexible in scheduling. Only requirement, because of licensing rules, is that applicants are 18 or older. If you are interested, please reach out to Emily Ritchie 269-327-4889 or [eritchie@mightymessengers.org](mailto:eritchie@mightymessengers.org)

### S-U-M-M-E-R LIFE SKILLS CLASS

#### - 1 More Session Available!

Children are invited to meet with Mrs. Mary Wright to learn valuable skills and enjoy some great projects. Meet for a special session on August 14. 9:00 am-1:00 pm in the Gym. The group will be limited to 10 students, so register now!

Send an email with your child's name, grade, parent name and contact info., and any allergy or medical concerns to [mary.wright65@gmail.com](mailto:mary.wright65@gmail.com).



Dear Congregation,

My name is Heather Bigelow. For those of you who do not know me, I serve as a member of the Youth Board. My husband, Ryan, and I have also taught high school Sunday school classes for 6 years.

I wanted to take a minute to write a letter to you on behalf of all of our children here at St. Michael. Youth ministry is struggling in the LCMS churches. The competition with sports, school, extracurricular activities, and work is strong. These things, while super important, seem at times to hold a higher place in our lives than the spirituality of our children. Teen anxiety and depression are on the rise. The need for antidepressants and therapy have skyrocketed amongst our youth in the past 2 years. COVID and politics have taken their toll to be sure, and the ones that feel it the most are our teens. Don't get me wrong, I do understand the need for medication and therapy at times, but I also see them as a symptom of a larger issue.

The larger issue is spiritual. It is so easy to read Bible stories to our children when they are little. They automatically want to hear stories about Jesus. They are little sponges. But, this sponge stage only lasts for a few short years sadly. I am a mother of 3 girls, two teens and one preteen, and I know that Bible studies become more difficult as kids age into the teenage years. There can be resistance to study God's Word because of time constraints or attitudes, however that doesn't mean we stop; this is the time when they need us the most. So, this brings me to youth group, another way to really cement solid teachings into our teens. We need to get to them before the world gets to them. Satan seeks to kill, steal and destroy the faith of our teens because they are the future of our church.

Teen ministry is quickly becoming a mission field. We need to be on that field helping to equip them for battle. This year it is the desire of the Youth Board to strengthen the Youth Group and to help it grow. Through assisting parents in



**3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> GRADERS AND PARENTS RSVP FOR:**

**BLESSINGS,  
PRAYERS &  
BIBLES  
FOR KIDS**

**SEPTEMBER 12**  
**Early or Late Worship Service**  
**+ a Learning Hour Workshop**

## MAKING MIGHTY MESSENGERS FOR CHRIST

the discipling of their teens and equipping them with correct teachings, so when our teens are faced with lies, they can stand strong for the truth. There is a challenge however, WE the Board cannot do it alone. We NEED parents to commit to become involved by sending your teens to Sunday Bible study (Sunday School) and we need parents to commit to send their teens to Youth Group. The more kids the more fun we can have. The kicker in all of this, is that they will complain at first and they will not want to come in the beginning, but that's OK they are teens, and they complain about everything they don't want to do. However, if they needed lifesaving medicine, as parents we would provide for them regardless of the arguments. So it is the same with their faith too, it is lifesaving. Faith is really the only thing that matters in the big picture -- not football, not tennis, not music lessons, not even art (*gasp*) .... our teen's relationship with Jesus Christ is EVERYTHING and as my grandmother always said to put it bluntly, "Eternity is a long, long time."

So how can you help? First Volunteer, I know this is hard because life is busy but if we have several parents committed to once-a-month it helps. I too have a full-time job as a public-school teacher. I know how busy things can get, but a little help goes a long way. Second, send your teens and send their friends along with them. We need to reach out to others as well. In fact, the youth group will now be called OUTREACH.

OUTREACH meets once a week on Sunday evenings from 5-7pm. Pastor Maske will do a short devotional for the youth on a relevant topic through a Biblical world-view. Then, it's time for food and games or if they choose a safe place to just hang out and connect. We will also once a month plan an outing, as well.

I ask that you prayerfully consider helping out by possibly chaperoning one of the Sunday evenings, and I ask that you also commit to sending your teens. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Pastor Maske. Together we can make a difference in the lives of our teens. Parenting is the MOST important job we can have.

*"All your children shall be taught by the Lord, and great shall be the peace of your children" -Isaiah 54:13*



**American  
Red Cross**

Community of Giving

**The American Red Cross is experiencing a blood emergency!** The Red Cross is working around the clock to meet the extraordinary blood needs of hospitals and patients but can't do it alone.

**REGISTER TODAY FOR THE NEXT DRIVE AT ST. MICHAEL ON FRIDAY, AUGUST 13.**

## PRAYER CAN CHANGE EVERYTHING

*“As I grow older, the more my heart yearns for stability. I long for what will never change, all that’s constant in Jesus, promises that never fail, fellowship that will carry on for as long as forever. In a world of ceaseless change and dissenting opinions, how grounding it is to know that we can “know”. Especially when social spheres, media, and culture tirelessly seek to persuade us to question our faith, to doubt God’s truth, to adhere to His Word selectively” – “What Love Is” by Kelly Minter*

The quote is from a Bible study I am involved with every week. What a blessing to have dear friends sharing the good news and their personal feelings about their faith. It helps build my own faith, and I certainly need more and increasingly stronger faith for life this side of Heaven.

These past couples of weeks have been an absolute roller coaster, as I celebrated my 70<sup>th</sup> birthday and the first anniversary of the death of my husband, Bud, within days of each other. I realize that I have been totally blessed with family and friends who truly care about me. Being grounded in Jesus and his Bride, the church, have given me strength and hope to look forward to the future and know that God still has work for me to do.

It isn’t just about me, though. I am beginning to understand that I need to step outside of myself, as we all do, and realize that other people are going through similar situations. A close friend lost her mother a few months ago and just had the memorial service for her. I knew what my friend was going through and felt it was important she receive the same support that I received during my trials.

I have also realized that as I am feeling sorry for myself, there are many other people who are enduring the anniversary of Bud’s death, just as I am enduring it myself. I visited with a couple of Bud’s brothers recently and was ashamed for not realizing how much they were hurting. I also realized that many people had a special relationship with Bud that was different from mine, but just as strong and they are still grieving, too.

Although we often feel so alone, we need to think about others going through similar situations or perhaps even worse ones. We can help each other through hard times and even help ourselves by sharing Jesus’ love. Each person has a story to tell.

*“There is no agony like bearing an untold story inside of you.” Maya Angelou*

We can talk about his promises as we fellowship together and encourage one another to stay grounded in the unchanging word of God. Prayer can, indeed, change everything.

*Virginia Heltrich*

Prayer Coordinator



# MAKING MIGHTY MESSENGERS FOR CHRIST



**Your library book is a few clicks away.  
Try our new online VISUAL SEARCH**

*Church library is open 9:30 to 11 a.m. Sundays*

MAKING MIGHTY MESSENGERS FOR CHRIST



**SUMMER**  
**ADVENTURES**  
IN  
**Learning**

**Christ For Kids Childcare Center**



# Luther Hostel



**Here I Stand  
Conscience and Confession  
500 Years after the Diet of Worms**  
November 3–5, 2021

**ACTSFW**  
CONCORDIA THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY  
FORT WAYNE, INDIANA

## Schedule

*All sessions take place in the Wayne and Barbara Kroemer Library Meinders Learning Commons*

### Wednesday, November 3

- 7:00–8:15 a.m. Breakfast (Dining Hall)
- 7:45–8:15 a.m. Registration (Luther Hall)
- 8:20 a.m. Welcome—Dr. Gifford A. Grobien
- 8:30–9:55 a.m. Session I—Dr. Cameron A. MacKenzie “From Luther to Lutheranism: From the Diet of Worms to the Diet of Augsburg” Part I
- 10:00–10:45 a.m. Morning Worship with Holy Communion (Kramer Chapel)
- 10:45–10:55 a.m. Coffee with Students (Student Commons)
- 11:00–11:55 a.m. Session II—Dr. MacKenzie “From Luther to Lutheranism: From the Diet of Worms to the Diet of Augsburg” Part II
- 12:00–1:00 p.m. Lunch (Dining Hall)
- 1:00–2:00 p.m. Attend Class, Visit Bookstore, Free Time
- 2:15–3:15 p.m. Session III—Dr. Grobien “The Restoration of the Conscience in the Reformation”
- 3:30–4:30 p.m. Session IV—Dr. Naomichi Masaki “The Church as the Place to Receive Peace in the Conscience, According to *Luther’s Large Catechism*”
- 5:00–5:30 p.m. Welcome Reception (Luther Hall)
- 5:30 p.m. Dinner (Dining Hall)

### Thursday, November 4

- 7:00–8:15 a.m. Breakfast (Dining Hall)
- 8:30–9:55 a.m. Session V—Dr. Benjamin T. G. Mayes “Lend, Hoping for Nothing in Return: Luther and Gerhard on Financial Ethics”
- 10:00–10:30 a.m. Morning Worship (Kramer Chapel)
- 10:30–10:55 a.m. Coffee with Students (Student Commons)

- 11:00–11:55 a.m. Session VI—Dr. Mayes “Luther on Exodus”
- 12:00–1:00 p.m. Lunch (Dining Hall)
- 1:00–2:55 p.m. Attend Class, Visit Bookstore, Library & Architectural Tour, Free Time
- 3:00–3:55 p.m. Session VII—Dr. Mayes “How to Improve Your Personal Bible Study”
- 4:00–5:00 p.m. Session VIII—Dr. David P. Scaer “What the Gospels Say About the Resurrection”
- 5:15 p.m. Dinner and Table Talk with Dr. Jeffrey H. Pulse (Dining Hall and Student Commons)

### Friday, November 5

- 7:00–9:00 a.m. Breakfast (Dining Hall)
- 8:00–8:55 a.m. Attend Class
- 9:00–9:55 a.m. Session IX—Dr. Peter J. Scaer “Conscience and the Cancel Culture” Part I
- 10:00–10:30 a.m. Morning Worship (Kramer Chapel)
- 10:30–10:55 a.m. Coffee with Students (Student Commons)
- 11:00–11:55 a.m. Session X—Dr. Peter Scaer “Conscience and the Cancel Culture” Part II
- 12:00–1:00 p.m. Lunch (Dining Hall)
- 1:15–2:30 p.m. Session XI—Dr. William C. Weinrich “My Conscience is Bound: Early Christian Martyrs as Examples” Part I
- 2:45–4:00 p.m. Session XII—Dr. Weinrich “My Conscience is Bound: Early Christian Martyrs as Examples” Part II
- 4:15–4:45 p.m. Closing Thoughts and Reflection with Dr. Grobien
- 5:00–6:00 p.m. Dinner (Dining Hall)
- 7:00 p.m. Depart

## Luther Hostel Highlights

- Presentations by CTSFW faculty
- Attend classes with current students.
- Check out the CTSFW Bookstore.
- Tours of the Wayne and Barbara Kroemer Library and CTSFW Architecture.

## Class Options

### Wednesday, November 3, 2021, 1:00–1:55 p.m.

- 1 Corinthians—Dr. Peter Scaer (Wyneken 3)
- Liturgics II—Dr. Paul Grime (Wyneken 5)
- History of Office of Deaconess—Dr. James Bushur (Loche 9)

### Thursday, November 4, 2021, 1:00–1:55 p.m.

- Dogmatics I—Dr. David P. Scaer (Wyneken 4)
- Homiletics II—Dr. Carl Fickenscher (Loche 10)

### Friday, November 5, 2021, 8:00–8:55 a.m.

- Homiletics III—Dr. Carl Fickenscher (Wyneken 3)
- Pastor’s Devotional Life—Prof. John Pless (Wyneken 4)

## Lodging Options

### On-Campus Housing

Limited on-campus housing is available at a cost of \$30.00/night. Please call (260) 452-2204 to check for availability and to make reservations.

### Local Lodging

The following are a couple of hotel options near the Seminary that also offer shuttle service. Be sure to ask about such discounts as AAA, AARP, Senior Citizen, and Seminary.

### Hotel Name, Address, and Phone Number

**Holiday Inn Purdue—Fort Wayne**  
4111 Paul Shaffer Drive  
(260) 482-3800

**Sonesta Select**  
111 W. Washington Center Rd.  
(260) 471-8522

## Registration and Fees

**Online** [www.ctsfw.edu/LutherHostel](http://www.ctsfw.edu/LutherHostel)

**Email** [Retreats@ctsfw.edu](mailto:Retreats@ctsfw.edu)

**Phone** (260) 452-2204

**Cost for Retreat**  
\$200.00 (includes all meals)

## MAKING MIGHTY MESSENGERS FOR CHRIST



As some of you may know, Wednesday Night Prayer time is being held off-site for the summer.

We have been meeting in our homes and enjoying the comfort and sometimes the fresh air on our patios. We still meet from 6:00 to 7:00 every Wednesday.

We will be back in the Prayer Room when Confirmation starts in September. Although, our main focus is on the Confirmands and their families, our prayers are personal, church-wide, community-wide and world-wide.

Please join us!! Call Barbara Schubert 563-580-8975 or Virginia Hetrick 269-744-0944 to join us for what is left of the summer.

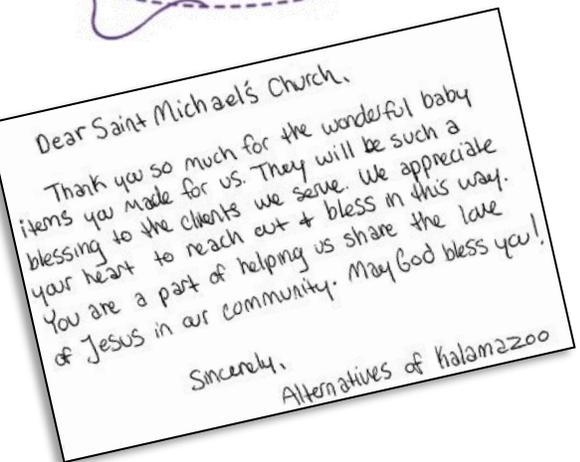


We serve the children by supporting the educational needs of students, parents, teachers; fostering fellowship among school and church families; and contributing to the physical resources of the school.

If you're interested in volunteering for PTL or school events please email to: [PTL@mightymessengers.com](mailto:PTL@mightymessengers.com) to be added to our volunteer list.

Thanks for your continued support of the quilting group! Your donations of clean, queen and king sized flat sheets are always greatly appreciated.

The quilters have been busy, meeting every Friday from 9:30 - 2. Pack a lunch and join us! Or come for the time you have if you can't stay for the day. We just finished over 50 pillowcases to be taken to Children & Family Services, have continued with our monthly donations of blankets, burp cloths and hand mitts for the little ones at Alternatives of Kalamazoo and are finishing up large size quilts for the Lutheran World Relief collection in the Fall. Be sure to check them out on Quilt Sunday, coming up soon!



### Ballet Ministry

### Fall Classes Beginning Soon

Meets in Music Room

**Saturdays, September 11th through December 18th**

*(with November 27th off for Thanksgiving)*

Classes are \$5 each. We accept payment made out to SMLC in our donation box each week. Payment can be made weekly, monthly, or once for the entire session.

Register by emailing Sue at [pointdancestudio@gmail.com](mailto:pointdancestudio@gmail.com) or calling 734-765-5324

9:30-10:00 Little Dancers ages 2-3  
10:00-10:30 Pre Ballet ages 4-5  
10:30-11:00 Primary Ballet ages 6-8  
11:00-11:30 Lyrical and Jazz ages 6-12  
11:30-12:00 Ballet and Praise ages 8-12

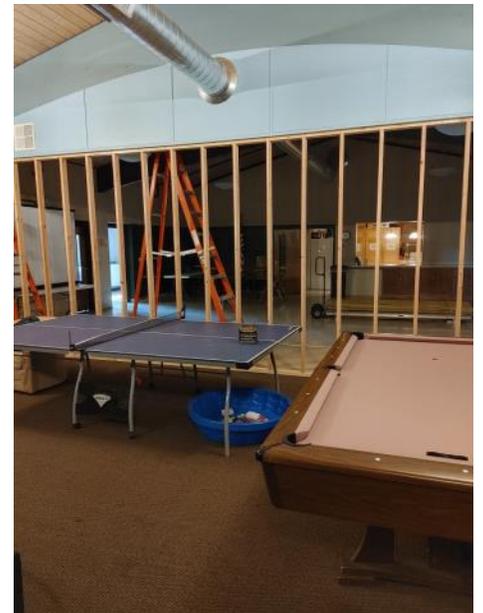
<https://www.facebook.com/SMLCBallet/>

## MAKING MIGHTY MESSENGERS FOR CHRIST

You might notice some improvements, next time you visit Allan Hall or the Youth Room ...



*We are very thankful to everyone involved in the planning process, financing and construction!*



### Exploring Our Faith

#### NEW CLASS BEGINS OCTOBER 3

*What does it mean to have Christian faith? What do Lutherans believe? How is this similar and/or different from the doctrines taught by other denominations and religions?*

In this course we will explore the six chief parts of the Christian faith as outlined by Dr. Martin Luther in his catechisms. In so doing, you will find that our Lutheran faith is Bible

based, and in agreement with the teachings of the Holy Scriptures. Once you've taken the course you will have prepared yourself to become an active communicant member of St. Michael Lutheran Church, if you so desire.

**SUNDAY MORNINGS 9:45-10:45**

Call the Church Office to Register +++ 269-327-7832



# FELLOWSHIP

Reconciled through Christ, actively loving and caring for one another.

*We value fellowship and want a friendly church that is like a loving family that actively cares for one another in times of need. When inevitable conflicts arise among us, we desire to be reconciled to one another, to communicate honestly and lovingly with each other, and to worship, work, and play together in peace and harmony.*

*Acts 2:42-47*



## Marriage Encounter Update – *Is it Over Yet?*

The pandemic, not your marriage, of course! As the pandemic drags on month after month, our resilience suffers, and relationships continue to be strained. I know we have good days and bad days in our marriage, and the tools we have gained through Marriage Encounter help us communicate more effectively to keep our relationship as strong as possible through it all. Marriage Encounter helps married husbands and wives celebrate their special relationship - and provides them with unique insights and tools to improve their communication for the long haul. A Marriage Encounter Experience is an opportunity to celebrate your love, learn a delightful new method of communication, and reap joyful long-term rewards for yourself, your family, and your faith journey as husband and wife. Even great marriages can become even stronger with these tools!

I am excited to report that we have a couple Marriage Encounter Experience options coming up soon, to meet a variety of attendance needs! For those who prefer to participate privately from your home or anywhere that affords you privacy as a couple, there will be a VIRTUAL Lutheran Marriage Encounter Experience on August 27 - 29. Check out the [GodLovesMarriage.org](http://GodLovesMarriage.org) website for information or to register, or contact Dale & Ruth Mortensen at [d.r.mortensen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:d.r.mortensen@sbcglobal.net) • 440-734-6312 if you have questions. Pre-registration is required to send your encounter materials to you via snail mail, so be sure to register early. If an in-person experience would be more ideal for you, we also have a “live” weekend coming up in Battle Creek on October 1-3. The weekend will be hosted by our local community, and we would love to see you there! The registration link is already available at [GodLovesMarriage.org](http://GodLovesMarriage.org). Please check out the Marriage Encounter display in Communication Central, come talk to us, or visit the website for more information. Please register early so we can appropriately prepare for the weekend! Note that financial assistance is available for those in need – information on assistance can also be found on the website.

For those couples who have already been blessed by a Marriage Encounter experience, the 32<sup>nd</sup> annual Veterans’ Renewal weekend at the Shack is right around the corner, the first weekend in November! The theme this year will be “A Variety Show” and will be coordinated by members of our local community. This is always a fun and relaxing weekend (with banana splits each night!), and I have no doubt that this year will be the same! If you’ve never been to The Shack, it’s just west of White Cloud, so not too far away. You can check out their website at [www.shackcountryinn.com](http://www.shackcountryinn.com). You can already call The Shack at (231) 924-6683 to book your reservation.

Jesse and Shannon Hogue



**FOUR-PERSON SCRAMBLE WITH CARTS**

**9:00 AM SHOTGUN START**

**\$100 per person**

- 8:00 a.m. - Light Breakfast / Registration begins
- 8-9:00 a.m. FREE Driving Range Warm-Up
- 2:00 p.m. Luncheon (with cash bar), Awards and Prizes
- Longest Drive / Closest to Pin / Putting Contests (3 tries for \$5)
- Hole-in-One Prizes / Mulligans for sale (\$5 each)
- Event & Hole Sponsorships Available

**Registration Deadline: September 20**

**\$600 EAGLE SPONSOR:** INCLUDES A GOLF FOURSOME, SPONSOR SIGNAGE AT THE TEE, SPECIAL RECOGNITION IN THE PROGRAM, AND AT THE LUNCHEON CEREMONIES.

**\$300 BIRDIE SPONSOR:** INCLUDES A GOLFER SPONSOR, SPONSOR SIGNAGE AT THE TEE, SPECIAL RECOGNITION IN THE PROGRAM, AND AT THE LUNCHEON CEREMONIES.

**\$100 HOLE SPONSOR:** YOUR BUSINESS OR INDIVIDUAL NAME WILL BE PROMINENTLY DISPLAYED ON A SIGN AT A TEE AND ALSO LISTED IN THE PROGRAM.

**\$100 GOLFER SPONSOR:** SPONSOR SOMEONE TO PLAY GOLF IN THE EVENT AS YOUR SUBSTITUTE OR AS YOUR GUEST.

**ST. MICHAEL LUTHERAN SCHOOL**

**Karl Mueller Memorial Open**

**“MIGHTY ANGELS”**

**GOLF OUTING**

**All Proceeds Support The SMLS  
Tuition-Assistance Fund**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

List Additional Team Members Below:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



**MONDAY, SEPT. 27, 2021**

**Questions?**

**Contact Pastor Naumann**

**naumann@mightymessengers.org**

**Please return registration to:**

**St. Michael Lutheran Church & School  
7211 Oakland Drive  
Portage, MI 49024**

Church Phone: 269-327-7832

School Phone: 269-327-0512

Tax ID - #38 - 6176071

_____	\$ 600	Eagle Sponsor
_____	\$ 300	Birdie Sponsor
_____	\$ 100	Player (with lunch)
_____	\$ 25	Luncheon only
_____	\$ 100	Hole sponsorship
_____	\$ 100	Golfer Sponsor
_____	Total	

**Make check payable to: St. Michael Lutheran School  
Or register online at: [mightymessengers.org](http://mightymessengers.org) !**

# 2022 PASSION PLAY OBERAMMERGAU

Come along and experience with us the land of Martin Luther and enjoy some of the most important historical sights of the Reformation: Wittenberg, Eisleben, Erfurt, Wartburg, Heidelberg and more. Discover the impact this era has on who we are today. Follow in the footsteps of the courageous Christian men and women from the past and see why they were willing to take an uncompromising stand for the truth of God's Word.

Our tour will also take us back much further than the Reformation era, as we witness one of the most phenomenal presentations of the saving work of Jesus in the entire world, the Passion Play in Oberammergau. Performed once every ten years (since 1634), this open-air spectacle will move you deeply and keep you enthralled for five hours (including a break for dinner).

Throughout the journey we will travel together aboard a luxury motor coach, along with our professional tour guide, and overnight in first-class accommodations. Join us for this once-in-a-lifetime adventure in 2022.

*In Christ,*

## Saint Michael

### Lutheran Church & School

7211 Oakland Drive . Portage, MI 49024

Cell (269) 491-7832

naumann@mightymessengers.org



## GERMANY- PASSION PLAY AND LUTHER LANDS: MOUNTAINTOP EXPERIENCE FROM CALVARY TO COBURG; SEPTEMBER 19- OCTOBER 1, 2022

### TOUR ITINERARY B- Breakfast, D- Dinner

- Day 1, Depart USA to Frankfurt, Germany**
- Day 2, Herzlich Willkommen in Deutschland! Mainz (B, D)**
- Day 3, Rhine Cruise, Worms (B)**
- Day 4, Heidelberg, Wine Tasting (B, D)**
- Day 5, Stuttgart (B, D)**
- Day 6, Neuschwanstein, Andechs Klosterbrauerei, Munich (B)**
- Day 7, 42nd Passion Play Oberammergau, Bavarian Alps (B, D)**
- Day 8, Regensburg, Beer Brewery Visit and Tastings (B, D)**
- Day 9, Veste Coburg, Erfurt (B, D)**
- Day 10, Wartburg Castle, Eisenach (B)**
- Day 11, Lutherstadt Eisleben, Lutherstadt Wittenberg (B)**
- Day 12, Lutherstadt Wittenberg, O.L.S. Chapel Worship Service (B, D)**
- Day 13, End of tour (B)**

Group transfer from the hotel to the Berlin Airport.

*Itinerary subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances.*

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

### TRAVEL DOCUMENTS

All travelers must travel with a valid passport, valid for at least 6-months beyond the return travel date. Non US passport holders contact LT for credentials required to travel to the countries included in this tour.

### TOUR LEVEL - MODERATE ACTIVE TRAVELER, WALKING SIGHTSEEING TOUR

Most sightseeing tours are walking tours (approx. 3-4 miles per day) and the historic sites you will visit date back hundreds of years and may not provide such amenities as elevators and ramps for the physically challenged. If you or you will be traveling with someone who has special needs (use a wheelchair, walker), hearing or visually impaired please contact LutherTours.



## TOUR INCLUDES

- Relaxed pace- time for reflection and spiritual inspiration
- Group airport transfers in Germany
- Luxury air-conditioned motor coach will transport you in comfort
- Services of our professional English-speaking Tour Manager
- 11 nights First-Class 4-star accommodations with private bathroom
- Hotel taxes

- Breakfast daily, 7-Dinners
- Gratuities for included meals
- Life Enriching Activities- spiritual, cultural and educational experiences daily
- Professional local guides
- Worship service at the churches where Martin Luther worshipped
- Regensburg Brewery visit and beer-tastings
- Winery visit and tastings
- Rhine River sightseeing cruise
- 2022 Passion Play Performance reserved seat and accommodation in the Bavarian Alps
- All sightseeing and admissions as indicated in the itinerary
- Baggage handling throughout the tour for 1-bag each

## PRICE\* is per person based on double occupancy

- \$4190 with 25 travelers
- \$4390 with 21 travelers
- \$650 Additional for Single Occupancy
- \*Tour price subject to currency fluctuation.

## AIRFARE\* is addition to the tour price

Group Airfare to be confirmed 11-months prior to travel dates. Additional departures available from most cities, contact LutherTours for flight schedules and price.

## PAYMENT

### Nonrefundable Deposit

**\$350 per person.**

Second Payment \$650 due by April 30, 2021 (a reminder will be sent to travelers)

Balance due 120 days prior to departure (a reminder will be sent to travelers)

## TERMS and CONDITIONS

Itinerary subject to change. Tour price subject to change due to currency fluctuation. Please be aware of the LutherTours complete Terms and Conditions of Travel and Cancellation policy, up to 100% CANCELLATION FEES WILL APPLY. A copy is available by contacting our office directly or online at [www.LUTHERTOURS.com](http://www.LUTHERTOURS.com) and click **CONTACT** to view Terms and Conditions of Travel policy.

To review the Terms and Conditions of Travel for cancellation and change policy, call 1.844.777.1517 to request a copy. LT and its travel partners reserve the right to alter the itinerary if necessary.

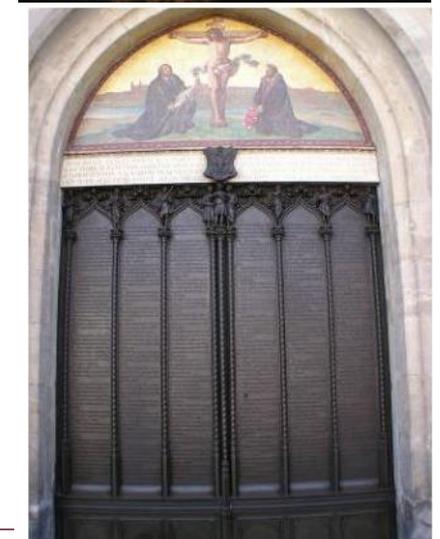


## NOT INCLUDED

Meals/beverages not listed, Passport and Visa fee, Gratuities for tour manager, coach driver, hotel housekeepers, personal items such as internet Wi-Fi charges and phone calls

## TRIP INSURANCE

Cancellation, Interruption and Medical Insurance is available- learn more about the benefits, coverage and limitations of purchasing a Travel Guard travel insurance plan.



# EVANGELISM

Reaching out with the saving Gospel and proclaiming His truth to all people.

*We value evangelism and believe that the good news of the forgiveness of sins and eternal salvation through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ is the main message of the church. We care about meeting all human needs but recognize that the most important need people have is for a love relationship with God through Jesus Christ, and so we reach out with this saving Gospel and proclaim the truth of God's Word to all people without compromise. Acts 1:8*



## **May God's Word Be Heard Around The World!**

As our Vacation Bible School program has wrapped up for this year, we wanted to share the results of our missionary offering. Gifts of \$665 will go to each of the four recipients we selected. We praise God for the blessings that were provided and ask His continued favor on the ministries of each mission team. We had 45 home sites for the initial week of the 2021 VBS program. Later, supplies were picked up for four additional sites.

To finalize the project, at the JLK Milham Meadows Grill Site, we disbursed about 50 buckets of supplies with information on how families could reach our website and videos. We received contact information from 18 adults that accompanied their children receiving buckets. They are looking forward to hearing from our SMLC family about future events that they might be able to participate in.

After the JLK team followed up on the list, we have recently been asked to meet with two of the guests to offer a Bible for a mother and her 4 year old, as well as, to tell someone that missed out on our grill site activities a little more about our church. We hope to see them here soon! **May God's Word Be Heard Around The World!**

A photograph of Michael W. Smith speaking at a podium during the 2021 Fall Gala.

**2021 Fall Gala**  
**An Evening with Michael W. Smith**  
Friday, Sept. 17, 2021  
5:30 VIP Reception ✦ 6:30 Dinner  
Radisson Plaza Hotel  
Downtown Kalamazoo  
An Event to Benefit

**Park Village Pines**  
FAITH ■ FAMILY ■ FRIENDS  
Go to [www.FallGala.com](http://www.FallGala.com) to Purchase Tickets

# JESUS LOVES KALAMAZOO CATALYST WEEK 2021



## MAKING MIGHTY MESSENGERS FOR CHRIST



### LAMP Teams Sponsoring the Donut Hour – Sunday, August 8

Team members from the various teams over the past ten years will be gathering and available to share their experiences and share about the ministry in Lac Brochet. There will be picture boards set up to display numerous years of trips.

The people in Lac Brochet still need us...they need our prayers and our encouragement that God loves them and is with them. Team members continue to reach out to the adults and children in Lac Brochet as they battle with all the extra isolation that the pandemic has brought. Lord willing we will be planning to return to Lac Brochet next summer. There will be opportunities to join the 2022 team.

In the meantime LAMP has provided a way for us to bless Lac Brochet. They have produced a booklet that tells Vacation Bible School Stories and put it in a backpack. We have selected items – crafts and snacks to go into the backpack too and had them mailed to Winnipeg where they are being assembled. They should be delivered to Lac Brochet in the next few weeks. So they will arrive around the time of our normal visit.

We are looking forward to seeing you on August 8 and sharing more about God's work in Lac Brochet and how He continues to use St. Michael.



*Donate to help others and plan to assist in assembly project at the end of August.*

We are gearing up for sending items to Lutheran World Relief in the fall, with plans to fill bags with school supplies. If you are shopping and see the sales, here are the **EXACT** items needed:

- FOUR **70-sheet notebooks** of wide- or college-ruled paper - *approximately 8" x 10 ½"*; no loose leaf paper
- ONE **ruler**, with centimeters on one side and inches on the other
- ONE **pencil sharpener**
- ONE pair of **blunt scissors**
- FIVE unsharpened **#2 pencils with erasers**
- FIVE black or blue **ballpoint pens** (no gel ink)
- ONE box of 16 or 24 **crayons**
- ONE 2 ½" **eraser**

Items can be left in or near the wooden chest in the Communication Center.

THANK YOU!



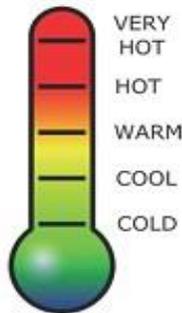


## It's time to take your "training temperature" for Stephen Ministry!

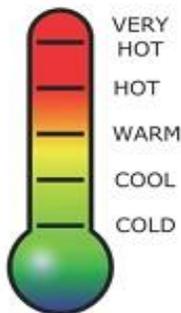
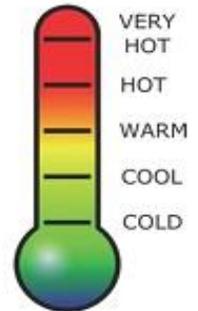
It's August, and the weather in Michigan is (hopefully) sunny with blue skies and hot. What does the thermometer read outside your window today?

Inspired by summer, here's an opportunity for you to take a different sort of temperature. It's for your potential to attend Stephen Minister training! Please respond to these statements by rating your agreement on a scale of COLD to VERY HOT:

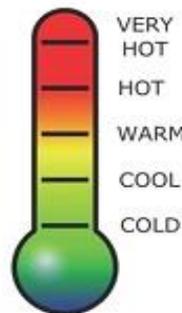
1. I would like to deepen my faith, learn new skills, or improve my relationships.



2. I would enjoy developing new friendships sharing Christian community and camaraderie.



3. I could benefit from knowing how to provide distinctively Christian care to hurting people.



4. I would like to improve my ability to listen, have empathy, and be at peace in difficult situations.

If you rated high on these thermometers, then don't turn a cold shoulder to ***participating in classes beginning in September.*** You can attend these sessions, conveniently provided at St. Michael by our own Stephen Leaders, regardless of whether you decide to become a Stephen Minister. *Watch for more information soon about how to benefit from this valuable training!*

Stephen Ministers provide distinctively Christian care to people who are going through life challenges such as grief, illness, job loss or divorce. For more information, visit:

<https://www.stephenministries.org/stephenministry/default.cfm/default.cfm/1759>

# SERVICE

Good stewardship of time, talents and treasure for the work of ministry.

*We value service and good stewardship of our time, talents, and treasure within our congregation and community. We put a high premium on the volunteer ministry of our members, believing that the primary role of our professional church workers is not to do all the ministry themselves but to equip the saints for the work of ministry.*

*Ephesians 4:12  
Romans 12:4-8*

## LCMS MICHIGAN DISTRICT NEWS...

### FLOOD BUCKET/DISASTER RELIEF

The Michigan District LERT teams have been busy delivering flood buckets to areas affected by the recent rain and storms. If you would like to assemble more flood buckets for current use or to replenish stock, please download the instructions for assembling.



[Flood Buckets and Hygiene Kits.](#)

If you have questions, email: Bruce Collins at [bscollins27@gmail.com](mailto:bscollins27@gmail.com) or Travis Grulke at [travis.grulke@michigandistrict.org](mailto:travis.grulke@michigandistrict.org)



### Will You Join Us For Here We Ride 2021?

This summer's *Here We Ride* event, hosted by Immanuel and Zion Lutheran churches in Bay City, is an opportunity to go for a bike ride with brothers and sisters in Christ for the benefit of your local congregation, future church workers, and the Body of Christ across the world. There are two options: you can ride in your community on August 7 or 8 or join the in person event on Saturday, August 7, 2021 on the Bay City Trail System. This is not a race; riders of all skill levels can participate. So come along for the ride! Be sure to watch and share this video, and sign up today at: [michigandistrict.org/hereweride](http://michigandistrict.org/hereweride).

## KEEP FILLING YOUR MITE BOXES!!

Michigan District ladies co-hosted the Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) national convention as they welcomed nearly 3,000 people. Including 586 first-time participants, in Lexington, Kentucky, June 24-27, under the theme "Running the Race ... Looking to Jesus." The convention theme was based on Hebrews 12:1-2. Rev. Dr. David P.E. Maier, LCMS Michigan District President served as the proclaimer for the opening worship service.



The LWML voting body adopted a \$2,150,000 mission goal for the 2021-2023 biennium. This goal, by the grace of God, will fund 28 mission grants as women and men respond in prayer, offerings, and Mite Box donations during the next two years. Attendees worshiped together and intently listened to Mites in Action speakers sharing how, as past mission grant recipients, God is working in their organizations.



# 75<sup>TH</sup> LLL MEN'S RETREAT AT CAMP ARCADIA SEPTEMBER 9-12, 2021 REMEMBER, REJOICE, RENEW

LUKE 23:42

PHILIPPIANS 4:4-7

2 CORINTHIANS 4:16

CAMP ARCADIA · 3046 OAK ST, ARCADIA, MI 49613 · (231) 889-4361

Since 1946, laymen of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod have gathered annually on the shores of the Lake Michigan at Camp Arcadia for fellowship, recreation, relaxation, and most importantly praising God and growing their faith. Whether you are a first timer or returning, you are invited to this multigenerational men's retreat taking place September 9-12, 2021. Dr. Michael Zeigler, Speaker of The Lutheran Hour, will be the featured presenter, with Pastor Evan Gaertner, Our Shepherd Lutheran Church, Birmingham MI, and Pastor Daniel Eggold, Grace Lutheran Church, Lafayette IN, serving as retreat chaplains. Remember, Rejoice, and Renew is the theme for this year's 75<sup>th</sup> edition of the LLL Men's Retreat. Camp Arcadia is located at 3046 Oak St, Arcadia, MI. Register at [www.camp-arcadia.com/register](http://www.camp-arcadia.com/register), or by calling the camp office directly.

## LCMS Foundation

TODAY | TOMORROW | FOREVER

A grand solar minimum is predicted to be happening with the sun over the next decades. That means that solar energy could be reduced by as much as 7%. For an object in our sky that often depicts permanence, that kind of fluctuation can be a bit unsettling. (It happens about every 200 years.) Whenever our sense of permanence is challenged, it is really a good thing, as God's word speaks to the things that are forever and the things that are not. Most things come and go, shift and change. Yet the only things that remain permanent are God and His Word, and His plan to redeem us through the resurrection and introduce us into His new creation for all eternity, all prepared by Jesus.

So what does that have to do with the present time? Time and the things in time are opportunities to do God's bidding, to share the Gospel of Jesus, to love God and love our neighbor, all with the goal of God's Spirit calling people to faith so that they may be part of God's permanent inheritance that He has prepared for us. We look at something like our estate plans and we make our plans, but always with an eye to eternity. Your LCMS Foundation Gift Planning Counselor can help you get your eternally focused plan together. Contact...

Julie Burgess, Gift Planning Counselor Church Extension Fund

[Julie.burgess@lfnd.org](mailto:Julie.burgess@lfnd.org) | 713-822-5284



"It is more blessed to give than to receive." – Jesus, in Acts 20:35

### Different ways to donate to the ministry at St. Michael Lutheran Church and School :

- 1) <https://www.mightymessengers.org/donate/>
- 2) Mail or bring your donation envelopes to the church.
- 3) Fill out this [electronic giving form](#) and bring it into the church office.
- 4) Download the Give+ App from the [Google Play](#) or [Apple Store](#).
- 5) Text to give 269-338-8196 with the amount of your donation.

# GENERAL INFORMATION

## SHEPHERD GROUPS

Lay Minister	Family Names Start with	Family Names & include
<b>Geoff Bohren</b> 231-679-4927	A	Boelman
<b>Rich Conklin</b> 616-889-0201	Bohren	Chenevare
<b>Dan Bryer</b> 269-323-7416	Chilcott	D
<b>Mel Schroeder</b> 734-646-9652	E	Franzen
<b>Mark Gady</b> 616-250-3730	Frommann	G
<b>John Engelmann</b> 269-544-1542	H	June
<b>Cory Luma</b> 269-365-8281	Jung	Lapekas
<b>Ernie VanOrman</b> 269-548-5714	Lausman	McNees
<b>Eric VanOrman</b> 269-249-7915	Messing	Nelson
<b>Jeff Burnett</b> 269-491-3700	Nieto	P
<b>Andy Allan</b> 269-370-7052	Q	Shook
<b>Greg Wedel</b> 312-961-4636	Sible	Stolsky
<b>Matt Heintz</b> 269-290-8507	Sullivan	T
<b>Arlan Wendzel</b> 269-816-5632	U	Z

We, as a church, are all better together.  
If someone is in need, please reach out to your assigned Lay Minister for assistance.

## WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

May Avg . . . . .	317
June Avg. . . . .	277
July Avg . . . . .	256
Annual Avg. 2019 . . . . .	347
Annual Avg. 2020 . . . . .	197
	(+ uncounted online viewers)
Annual Avg. 2021 . . . . .	233

## FAITH FORMATION

CHILDREN - Sunday Morning Classes will be available during the 9:45 AM Learning Hour following July 4.

TEENS - Classes are available during the 9:45 AM learning hour on Sunday mornings; Confirmation studies for 6-8th grade are on Wednesday evenings during the school year at 5:45 PM; Youth Group meets on Sunday evenings at 6:00 PM

ADULTS - Topical studies are available during the 9:45 AM learning hour on Sunday mornings; various Bible study groups, prayer groups, and activity groups meet during the week. Exploring Our Faith is for those that are interested in learning more about being Lutheran, and especially being a member of St. Michael. This course is taught in the fall and winter.

## NURSERY

Childcare is available for infants up to 4 years old on Sunday mornings during classes and worship times in Room #205 located off the Communication Center.

## BAPTISM

Anyone desiring baptism should visit with a pastor who will set up a meeting and schedule an appropriate time.

## WEDDINGS

We believe that marriage is a sacred union of one man and one woman (Gen. 2:24-25), and that God gave marriage as a picture of the relationship between Christ and His bride the Church (Eph. 5:32). A Wedding in the church is an act of worship. The purpose of a church wedding is to thank and praise God and to petition His blessings upon the couple who solemnize their marriage before Him.

## ENEWS DEADLINE

Please consider items you might need to submit to the Church Office for the next email newsletter, as you read the current one. Items need to be submitted by 4:00 PM on Thursdays.

## NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

To insure a quality product is available for the membership, please consider items you might need to submit to the Church Office for the next monthly newsletter, as you read the current one. Deadline is the 20th of each month.

## CHANGE OF NAME / ADDRESS / PHONE / EMAIL

You can always call the Church Office or use the form on the website to reach out and share a message with us!  
<https://www.mightymessengers.org/contact-us/>

# MAKING MIGHTY MESSENGERS FOR CHRIST

## JUNE FINANCIALS 8 months

11/1/2020-6/30/2021

Church Revenue	\$ 588,942
School Revenue	\$ <u>648,931</u>
Total Revenue	\$ 1,237,873
Total Expenses	\$ 1,151,486
Net Surplus (deficit)	\$ 86,387
Expense Budget	\$ 1,156,580
Under/(Over) Budget	\$ 81,293
Working Cash Balance	\$ 140,033
Mortgage Balance	\$ 773,819

### Designated Fund Balances

Endowment Fund	\$ 614,057
Building Contingency	\$ 47,551
Technology Refresh	\$ 12,683
Sunday School	\$ 278
Youth Donations	\$ 11,329
Youth Accounts	\$ 10,625
Good Samaritan	\$ 6,725
Memorials	\$ 5,490
L.A.M.P. Mission Trip	\$ 8,227
Quilting	\$ 1,045
Church Worker Scholarship	\$ 235
School Improvements	\$ 23,357
Tuition Assistance	\$ 47,659
School Music	\$ 580
Flower Fund	\$ 1,204
CFK Grant Fund	\$ 14,441
Women's Fellowship/LWML	\$ 3,743



## SCHOOL SUPPLIES DRIVE

Langeland Family Funeral Homes will be collecting school supplies to donate to the children of the Kalamazoo community, for the upcoming 2021-2022 school year.

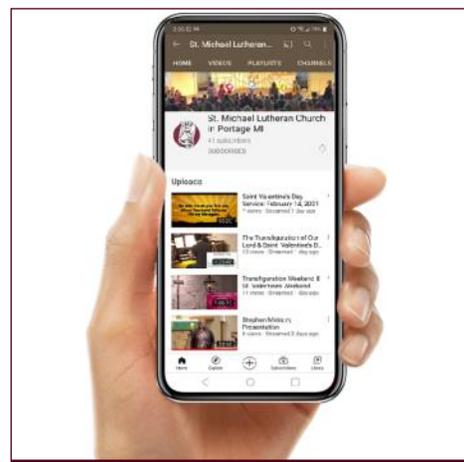
Items can be dropped off at either of our Kalamazoo locations:

622 S. Burdick Street or 3926 S. 9th Street – between the hours of 9:00am-5:00pm, Monday through Friday, from Wednesday, July 21st through Wednesday, August 18th.

### ITEMS NEEDED INCLUDE:

- **NEW OR GENTLY USED BACKPACKS**
- **NEW PENCILS, COLORED PENCILS, MARKERS OR CRAYONS**
- **NEW ERASERS AND RULERS**
- **PENCIL SHARPENERS**
- **NEW PAPER NOTEBOOKS**
- **NEW FOLDERS**
- **PENCIL CASES**
- **NEW PENS AND HIGHLIGHTERS**
- **CHILDREN'S SAFETY SCISSORS**
- **GLUE STICKS**
- **TRAVEL SIZE PACKS OF KLEENEX AND HAND SANITIZER**

We will be hosting a community giveaway of the supplies donated by the public, and the funeral home, on Saturday, August 21 between 11:00am-1:00pm at the Burdick Street Chapel. Prize drawings – need not be present to win.



## STAY CONNECTED

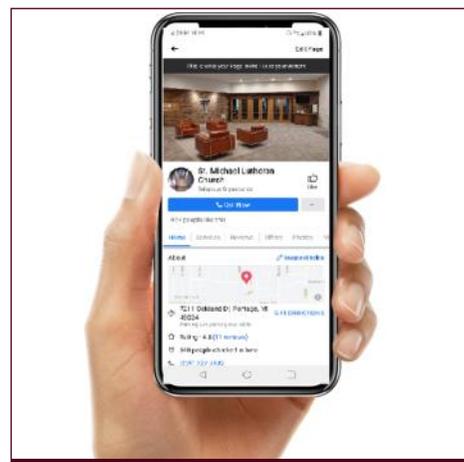
### YouTube

On the St. Michael  YouTube page, You can find sermon videos, Bible classes, guest speakers, children's devotions and Vacation Bible School lessons.

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLGVSDNVzjBcEyBthV7\\_NOg](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLGVSDNVzjBcEyBthV7_NOg)

### Facebook

Find worship service videos, devotions, special event announcements and more at  <https://www.facebook.com/StMichaelLutheranChurchPortageMI>



# Welcome!

We believe that the more you study the Bible and encounter God in prayer, the more you learn to trust Him with all you have. Carve out time in your day to nurture your relationship with God and spend time encouraging others.

We believe the best way to follow Jesus is through forming community and sharing our faith with a heart of generosity, not just with money and time, but with our love, appreciation, praise and encouragement.



## **STAFF:**

### **SENIOR PASTOR**

Rev. Dr. Paul R. Naumann  
naumann@mightymessengers.org

### **ASSOCIATE PASTOR**

Rev. Daniel Maske  
dmaske@mightymessengers.org

### **ASSISTANT PASTOR**

Rev. Jason Toman  
jtoman@mightymessengers.org

### **BUSINESS & FINANCE MANAGER**

Jay Koski  
jkoski@mightymessengers.org

### **CHURCH ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT AND CHILD MINISTRY COORDINATOR**

Tammy Songer  
tsonger@mightymessengers.org

### **SCHOOL PRINCIPAL**

Greg Johnson  
gjohnson@mightymessengers.org

### **SCHOOL SECRETARY**

Sharon Robinson

### **KINDERGARTEN TEACHER**

Brenda Heintz

### **FIRST GRADE TEACHER**

Maralyse Worm

### **SECOND GRADE TEACHER**

Annie Hecht

### **THIRD GRADE TEACHER**

Kim Ruesch

### **FOURTH GRADE TEACHER**

Dawn Heid

### **FIFTH GRADE TEACHER**

Emily Lauterbach

### **SIXTH GRADE TEACHER**

Julie Prentice

### **SEVENTH/EIGHTH GRADE TEACHER**

Lisa Lam

### **CHRIST FOR KIDS CHILDCARE DIRECTOR**

Emily Ritchie  
eritchie@mightymessengers.org

### **PRESCHOOL TEACHERS**

Becky Mohler  
Cheryl Julian  
Jessica Lonc

### **WORSHIP MEDIA SPECIALIST**

Lorraine Dudash

### **CHOIR DIRECTOR**

Carolyn Bertrand

### **ORGANIST**

Keith Eiser

### **MORNING SONG DIRECTOR**

Jane Connon

### **SEXTONS**

Brian Chapman  
Matthew Wright

## **VOLUNTEERS:**

### **PRESIDENT**

Jack Spenner

### **VICE PRESIDENT**

Peter Robert

### **RECORDING SECRETARY**

Tammy Songer

### **TREASURER**

Jan Jett

### **BOARD OF CHURCH PROPERTIES**

Steve Bell, Director  
Peter Robert, Assistant Director

### **BOARD OF EARLY CHILDHOOD & SCHOOL DIRECTOR**

Mike Grotelueschen

### **BOARD OF SMALL GROUP MINISTRY**

Angie Heimlich, Director  
Lindsey Luma, Assistant Director

### **BOARD OF STEWARDSHIP DIRECTOR**

Linda West

### **VOLUNTEER MINISTRY COMMITTEE**

Dar Swift

### **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Lisa Robert

### **BOARD OF YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT**

Heather Bigelow, Director  
Chad Doublestein, Assistant Director

### **YOUTH GROUP LEADERS**

Jerry Kuss, Jeff Burnett,  
Ryan & Heather Bigelow

### **BOARD OF LAY MINISTRY DIRECTOR**

Matt Heintz, Director  
Greg Wedel, Assistant Director

### **ALTAR GUILD**

Kristi Rudowske, Linda Fry

### **LECTORS**

Meg Bess, Jan Chilcott

### **PRAYER MINISTRY COORDINATORS**

Barbara Schubert, Virginia Hetrick

### **USHERS**

Mike Minger - Early Service  
Jesse Hogue - Late Service

### **STEPHEN MINISTRY LEADERS**

Pastor & Dana Naumann  
Heather Crampton, Lynda Rae

### **STEPHEN MINISTERS**

Zoe Miller, Kelley McNeese, Ann Gribbin  
Linda Rae, Peter Robert, Jackie Michels

### **BOARD OF EVANGELISM & MISSIONS DIRECTOR**

Valerian Kwigizile, Director  
Matt Quardokus, Assistant Director

### **GREETERS**

Arlene Groll, Mark & Jan Chilcott

### **BOARD OF PARISH EDUCATION**

David Groll, Director  
Kristin Shook, Assistant Director

### **ADULT EDUCATION COORDINATOR**

Jesse Hogue

### **CRADLE ROLL**

Peggy Makowski

### **BOARD OF PARISH FELLOWSHIP**

Vacant, Director  
Diane Gibson, Assistant Director

### **WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP**

June Kucks

### **LWML**

Sandy Maya

### **SOFTBALL**

Shannon Miskovich