



# THE MIGHTY MESSENGER

SEPTEMBER 2022

Volume 61, Number 9

CONNECT WITH OUR CHURCH & SCHOOL FAMILY AT MIGHTYMESSENGERS.ORG, ON FACEBOOK AND YOUTUBE



# WE ARE CALLED

to make disciples of *Jesus*

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.

## STAY CONNECTED

### Email Updates

Sign up for regular email updates from St. Michael by going to our website: [mightymessengers.org](http://mightymessengers.org). 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

## BLESSINGS, PRAYERS & BIBLES FOR KIDS

Martin Luther was passionate about making the Bible accessible to every Christian - translating scripture into the language of everyday German. Each fall at St. Michael, third graders have received their own copy of the Faith Alive Bible. **We are inviting both 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students of our church and school to participate this year in our Bible Blessing & Workshop.**

We are excited to give Bibles to the students during worship services on September 11. All students and parents are also invited to take part in a celebration and workshop that day at 9:45am. Attend the service of your choice, but please register with the Church Office, so we will know to reserve a Bible for your child.

As their faith family, our prayer is that this gift will help them go deeper in their relationship with God. The Faith Alive Bible has been designed especially to introduce young readers to the promises of God's Word. Each section begins with information about the book, giving readers the big picture about the content including the author, dates, main themes, and significant events. This Bible contains colorful charts and informative articles, timelines and maps that aid students' understanding, a glossary to help explain difficult words, and a special 4U feature that helps students apply passages to their lives. Come to our Bible Blessing & Workshop to explore more!

## KALAMAZOO GEOLOGICAL & MINERAL SOCIETY TAILGATE SALE AND SWAP

**Sept 17, 2021      9am to 3pm** Food vendors expected onsite!

**St. Michael Parking Lot** Event to be held rain or shine.

***Jewelry, Rocks, Minerals, Lapidary, Equipment, Crafts and other nifty items!***

The Kalamazoo Geological and Mineral Society (KGMS) is a 501 (c)(3) educational organization whose main purpose is to further interest in gems, minerals, geology, paleontology, and lapidary arts. The KGMS also awards geology scholarships every year to student(s) attending Western Michigan University's Geological Sciences Department.

Open to anyone that wants to buy or sell jewelry, rocks, minerals, lapidary, equipment, crafts and other nifty items. All items sold must be rock or lapidary related. Vendors should bring their limit of 2 tables. KGMS will not require a booth cost, but a donation to the society would be appreciated. Contact Bruce at 269-303-5749 or e-mail [fireball9207@charter.net](mailto:fireball9207@charter.net)



# "Mighty Angels Matriculate!"

"Across the pond," this back-to-school time of the year is called Michaelmas. It gets that name from the fact that September 29 is the Feast of St. Michael and All Angels. Well, here at St. Michael Lutheran Church and School its certainly appropriate to welcome back our "Mighty Angels" with a word about St. Michael the Archangel. He is one of only two angels in the 66 books of the Bible that we know by name (the other one is Gabriel). He is also the only one in the Bible that is referred to as the "Archangel," leading us to believe that he is the highest ranking of the heavenly host and something like the general of the Lord's angelic army.

In the Old Testament, Michael is the defender of Israel (see Daniel 10-12), and according to Jude 9 Michael was in some sort of mysterious dispute with the devil for the body of Moses. But the chapter where Michael really shines is in Revelation 12, one of the cosmic visions that describes the primeval "war in heaven" in which Michael is used of the Lord to defeat the devil so that "the great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him" (v. 9). This is what Jesus was referring to when He said: "I saw Satan fall like lightening from heaven" (Luke 10:18).

So we thank God for our congregation's name sake, but we don't worship him or pray to him. As many of you know, over the years I've collected quite a number of St. Michael statues, icons, jewelry and the like. Many of them are especially suited for members of the military (note the picture of Pastor Maske in the chapel at Camp LeJuene, where he was serving our Marines training there), or those engaged in public safety. But one of the things I'm always careful to do is steer clear of those who address Michael directly in prayer saying something like "St. Michael defend us!" It would be far better to ask the Lord Himself to do that, and if we like, we could also ask Him to deploy Michael or any other angel that He chooses. This is what

Martin Luther does in both his morning and evening prayer as he asks his Heavenly Father to "let Your holy angel be with me that the evil foe may have no power over me" (LSB, page 266).

If you ever see an image of an angel that's armed with a weapon, it is no doubt a depiction of the arch angel Saint Michael. Case in point, the corporate logo of Saint Michael Lutheran Church has Michael slaying the devil with a spear. But we must hasten to point out that this does not mean that Christ's Church on earth should literally be equipped with munitions or should rely on military might to carry out its mission. To those who tried to defend Him with deadly force, Jesus said, "Put away your sword... Those who use the sword will die by the sword (Matthew 26:52). Instead, Jesus has given His Church "the sword of the Spirit which is the Word of God" (Ephesians 6:17), and Jesus demonstrated in His own disputes with the devil the power of "It is written!" (see Matthew 4 and Luke 4). Likewise, when Jesus' disciples continued the Kingdom work after Jesus' return to heaven they pointed out that "the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds" (2 Corinthians 10:4).

So let us enter into this new school year fully suited up with Spiritual armor (see Ephesians 6), but also shining brightly with God's love and freely sharing and embodying the good news of the Gospel. Jesus warned us that He was sending us out "as sheep in the midst of wolves," but at the same time He encouraged us in the midst of an increasingly hostile world to be "wise as serpents and innocent as doves" (Matthew 10:16). May the Lord bless the new school year ahead, for students, families, and faculty alike, and for both public and parochial schools. And may our loving Lord especially bless our St. Michael Lutheran School with its record enrollment, that we would continue to provide "Education with Christ at the Heart," and always be making mighty messengers for Him to the glory of His holy name.



# 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*

**Who is the Altar Guild?** Those dedicated to providing a reverent worship space that demonstrates love and respect for God and His people gathered in His name. There is training and they work in teams.

**What do they do?**

- displaying, cleaning, and storing paraments and linens appropriately
- caring for sacramental vessels and vestments
- keeps candles, communion wine, wicks, cups, etc. in adequate supply
- preparing for and cleaning up after worship services

*Pastor Maske*



You're Invited  
To the Annual Altar Guild Brunch and Meeting



Saturday, October 1 - 10AM

St. Michael Lutheran Church - Allan Hall

A great opportunity to learn more about  
the role of Altar Guild

*We will sign up for serving in 2023*

RSVP please to Kristi Rudowske

Home 269-324-5792 Text 269-532-5043

Email [kspitz2001@yahoo.com](mailto:kspitz2001@yahoo.com)

## MAKING MIGHTY MESSENGERS FOR CHRIST

### September 4, 2022 - 13th Sunday after Pentecost

PSALM 1; DEUTERONOMY 30:15-20; LUKE 14:25-35

"GOD'S PEOPLE OF SALT" - SERMON TEXT LUKE 14:34A - REV. WALTER MAIER III

The combination of two elements, sodium and chlorine, results in sodium chloride – common table salt. One use of salt is as a preservative to prevent the spoiling or corrupting of food. We, as believers, are God's people of salt, whom he uses to counteract corrupting influences of the unbelieving world. God has made us spiritual salt by a combination of two elements.



### September 11, 2022 - 14th Sunday after Pentecost

PSALM 119:169-176; EZEKIEL 34:11-24; LUKE 15:1-10

"THE SEEKING OF THE SHEPHERD" - SERMON TEXT: LUKE 15:4-5 - REV. THOMAS A. EGGOLD

The words of this parable are words of joy. They are the words of a Shepherd who searches out the lost; they are the words of a Savior who seeks sinners; they are the words of a God who wants nothing more than to bring His people home and who died to do it.

### September 18, 2022 - 15th Sunday after Pentecost

PSALM 113; AMOS 8:4-7; LUKE 16:1-15

"SHREWD FAITH" - SERMON TEXT: LUKE 16:15B - REV. SHAYNE M. JONKER

In the end, when the wealth of this world fails, when the global economy collapses under the weight of its own greed, when the idol of wealth is finally exposed as the worthless fraud that it is, when you have lost everything including your own life, there at the end is only Jesus who will not fail you, welcoming you into an eternal dwelling that He won for you by trading out His life for your life.

### September 25, 2022 - 16th Sunday after Pentecost

PSALM 146; AMOS 6:1-7; LUKE 16:19-31

"FOCUS ON CHRIST" - SERMON TEXT: LUKE 16:19-31 - REV. PAUL E. SHOEMAKER

The rich man focused on the things of this world to give meaning and pleasure to life. True meaning and pleasure is to be found in Christ and in Him alone. Through Scripture alone (God's Word alone), He brings us to faith and keeps us in the faith.



### 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	

### 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*

DISH Network Channel 54 Sunday 11:30 AM

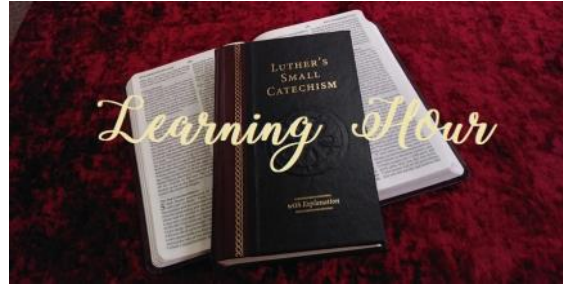
- 30-Minute Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod worship service
- Produced by Lutherans for the homebound, hospitalized...
- Includes the Gospel, Epistle, and Sermon by LCMS pastors
- Music by choirs, soloists, and small groups

# 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*



## PLANS FOR THE FALL SEMESTER

Back to school time is here, which means it's also time to kick off our Adult Learning Hour classes! There might be

some shuffling around with the youth classes, so we plan to start off this fall with just two adult classes – see below for details. We may add a third class later this fall, we'll certainly let you know if that happens! Adult classes will start on September 11.

### Exploring Our Faith, led by Pastor Naumann, in the Naumann Room

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? You may be asking yourself these questions, especially if you are new to the Lutheran church. What makes Saint Michael Lutheran Church special? How do we care for one another and become involved in what God is doing among us? These and other questions may be yours if you are thinking about joining our congregation, even by transfer from another LCMS church. Or perhaps you have these questions despite being a long time member! This course will address these questions and, if you are a prospective member, prepare you to join. In this course you will find that our faith is Bible based, and you will get to know some of the existing ministry leaders in our congregation. All in all, it will help prepare you to be an active communicant member of St. Michael Lutheran Church.

### The Path to the Cross - Embracing Obedience and Sacrifice, led by David Groll and Jesse Hogue, in the Music Room

This eleventh volume of Ray Vander Laan's *That the World May Know*® series will be a good follow-up to our study of the book of Mathew. In this volume, God's story culminates with the intense devotion of his people. We will see how their passionate faith prepared the way for Jesus and his ultimate act of obedience and sacrifice at the cross. Ray will challenge us in our own lives to live as they did – by every word that comes from the mouth of God.

# SUNDAY SCHOOL

## FALL CLASSES BEGIN SEPTEMBER 11

***It's more than a story—it's good news!*** We are here on Sunday mornings and beyond to assist your family with this important message.

The Gospel Project is a weekly age-appropriate Bible study curriculum that helps kids dive deep into the big story of the Bible – God's plan to rescue His people through His Son, Jesus Christ.



## MAKING MIGHTY MESSENGERS FOR CHRIST



*Then children were brought to him that he might lay his hands on them and pray. The disciples rebuked the people, but Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven." And he laid his hands on them and went away.*

-- Matthew 19:13-15

Jesus's own followers were the first roadblocks to children's ministry. Was it simply an effort at crowd control? Maybe the Teacher was on a tight schedule. Regardless, parents bringing their children to Jesus were met by disciples saying, "NO." Imagine the parent's relief at hearing Jesus's command: "Let the little children come to me; do not hinder them."

Here at St. Michael Lutheran Church, Jesus' words also motivate us to bring children and youth closer to Him through ministries such as weekly Sunday school, Life Skills class, offering the Children's Message in worship, Vacation Bible School, Confirmation class, or the Junior and Senior High Youth Group activities.

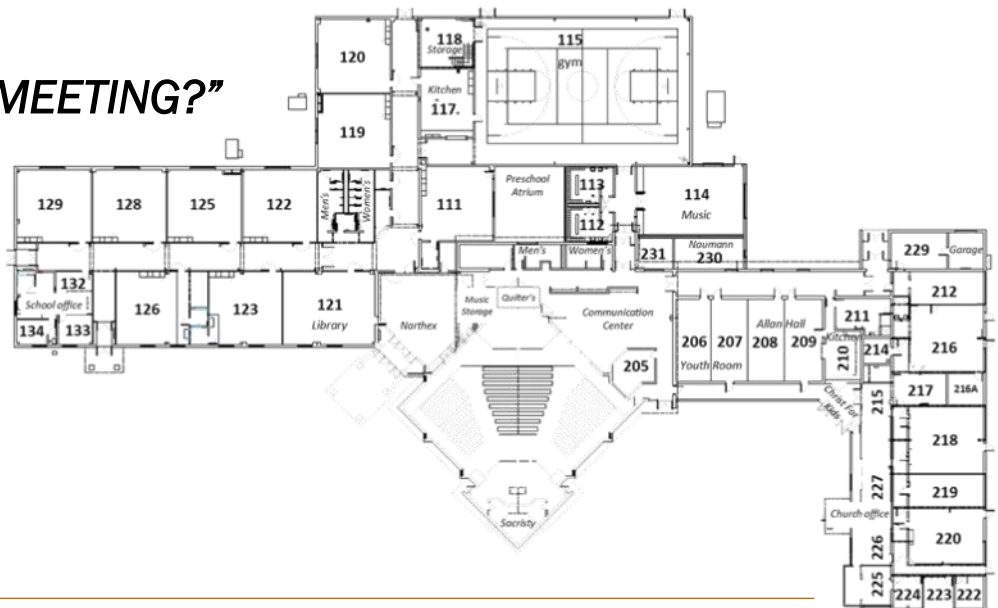
We also struggle to overcome hindrances in ministry – particularly, from a need for additional faithful volunteers. We confess that busy schedules, misplaced priorities and other distractions can prompt any of us to say "NO" to our kids' participation or our own willingness to serve. In prayer, let us determine not to make the disciples' mistake. Let us not stand between Jesus and His desire to bless our young ones. Would you give a little of your time – monthly or even weekly – to help our kids grow in their faith?



[Learn more by speaking to a member of the Parish Education Board, or call the Church Office!](#)

### "WHERE ARE WE MEETING?"

- 205 Nursery for infant care
- 122 Preschool-Kindergarten
- 123 1st, 2nd, 3rd Grades
- 123 4-5-6-7 Grades
- 207 8th-High School
- 114 Adult Study
- 230 Exploring Our Faith



## MAKING MIGHTY MESSENGERS FOR CHRIST



### MIGHTY MESSENGER

## SMALL GROUPS

**St. Michael Small Groups are caring communities in which God forms us through His Word.**

**As we explore the Bible together, the Spirit deepens our faith and our bonds of Christian love.**

**Small Groups are places of study, prayer, service, and care.**

*The Word of God is a Christian's source of spiritual nourishment. As Small Groups meet and encounter the grace and truth of God in the Bible, God develops their grasp of the Gospel and ability to apply it. (John 6:68)*

### MEN'S SMALL GROUPS

Leader: **Jay Koski**

jkoski@mightymessengers.org (269-567-8290)

Kind of Group: Young Men

When: **Mondays**, every 3 weeks 7:00 pm

Leader: **Jesse Hogue**

hoguesjesse@gmail.com (269-744-1187)

Kind of Group: Men (Breakfast)

When: **Tuesdays**, 7:00 am

Where: Michelle's Restaurant on Sprinkle Road

Leader: **Jerry Lentz** (269-329-3299)

Kind of Group: Men

When: **Every Other Saturday**, 8-10 am

Where: St. Michael Lutheran Church, Room 230

### MIXED SMALL GROUPS

Leader: **Pastor Paul & Dana Naumann**

Kind of Group: Mixed (269-491-7832)

When: **One Sunday a month**, 12:30 pm *(with food)*

Where: St. Michael Lutheran Church, Allan Hall

Leader: **Dave Johnson** (269-599-2195)

Kind of Group: Mixed

When: **2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays**, 7 pm

Where: Rotating location

Leader: **Arlan & Lynne Wendzel**

(269-279-9196)

When: **3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays**

Where: Three Rivers - Not January-March

Kind of Group: Mixed

### WOMEN'S SMALL GROUPS

Leader: **Angie Heimlich** (616-403-7342)

Kind of Group: Momma Bears

When: **2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays**, 7:30 pm *Oct. to May*

Where: St. Michael Lutheran Church, Room 114

Leader: **Barbara Schubert** (563-580-8975)

Kind of Group: Women of all ages

When: **Tuesdays**, 6:30 pm

Where: St. Michael Lutheran Church, Library

Leader: **Connie Chadderdon** (269-327-7220)

Kind of Group: Mature Women

When: **Thursdays**, 9:30-11am *mid-Sept. to May*

Where: St. Michael Lutheran Church, Allan Hall

Leader: **Jan Chilcott** (269-324-9539)

Kind of Group: Women of all ages

When: **Thursdays**, 9:30 am *mid-Sept. to May*

Where: St. Michael Lutheran Church, Room 230

Leader: **Angie Heimlich** (616-403-7342)

Kind of Group: Moms – children welcome

When: **1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays**, 10 am *mid-Sept. to May*

Where: St. Michael Lutheran Church, Allan Hall





### Top 10 Reasons to Take Stephen Minister Training

10.) Do you desire to deepen your faith, learn new skills, or improve your relationships? Our Stephen Ministry training class, which begins September 29, complements such goals.

9.) As a unique learning experience, the classes create a special bond of Christian community and camaraderie among its participants; by training's end, you will have made new friends.

8.) You will learn principles and practical skills allowing you to provide distinctively Christian care to those who are going through life challenges such as grief, illness, job loss or divorce.

7.) The training will help you relate better to family, friends, neighbors – everyone in your life – because you will be able to listen, have empathy, and be at peace in difficult situations.

6.) You will receive a two-volume training manual and other resources filled with timeless biblical truths to guide you in ministering with Christ's love.

5.) You won't be bored! Classes include lecture, video, group discussion, skill practice and spiritual growth activities. The 20 sessions will conclude in January after a holiday break.

4.) You will join more than 600,000 people who have been equipped, since Stephen Ministry's founding in 1975, to provide care and support to millions of people worldwide.

3.) You will learn that it's not about you; it's about God. You will be able to provide care while relying on God to bring healing.

2.) Stephen Minister training is interactive, energizing, and a lot of fun!

1.) You can receive this valuable training, conveniently at St. Michael and led by our own Stephen Leaders, regardless of whether you decide to become a Stephen Minister.

*Stop in the Communications Center **after any church service through Sept. 18** to talk with a Stephen Minister or Stephen Leader about potentially signing up for this training class.*



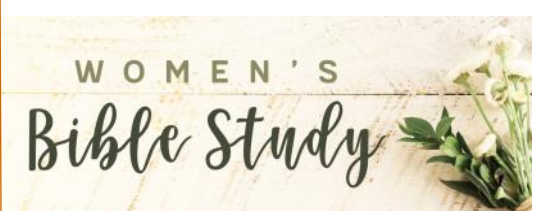
To Our St. Michael Family,

We would like to thank everyone for the prayers, cards, phone calls, visits, GrubHub gift cards and meals. The outpouring of love and support has been amazing.

Our family is truly blessed and appreciate the continued prayers as Monika will have some more tests and procedures.

God's Blessings,

Chad, Monika, Allison, Catherine and Elizabeth Doubblestein



Tuesday evening Bible Class will watch *Focus on the Family* Videos "Responding with Grace on Divisive Issues." After the short video there will be discussion and prayer.

We will meet in the library at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday evenings. Our first class will be Tuesday, September 13. There is always room for more ladies!

# 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*



I would like to thank everyone for their support and prayers for my European outreach. God is on the move in Europe!!

I am in a missionary program/school called Youth with a Mission (YWAM). I have been in Hawaii for a year total. I will be going back to Hawaii in September to do a two month schooling, teaching about the realities of being a missionary, and how to move and adapt to another country "long term" (1-3 years)!

Thank you and God Bless,  
Mariah Chilcott :)

Amazing opportunities are coming up, so my next steps will be where God is leading me. Keep praying!

*Register today!*

**Monday, September 26**

Karl Mueller Memorial Open

**"MIGHTY ANGELS" GOLF OUTING**



**FOUR-PERSON SCRAMBLE  
WITH CARTS**

**9:00 AM SHOTGUN START**

**LUNCH & AWARDS 2PM**

**\$100 per person**

Registration Deadline: September 19

**ALL PROCEEDS SUPPORT THE  
ST. MICHAEL LUTHERAN SCHOOL  
TUITION-ASSISTANCE FUND**

**REGISTER AT:  
MIGHTYMESSENGERS.ORG**

# MAKING MIGHTY MESSENGERS FOR CHRIST



## CONVENTION NEWS

As the Battle Creek Zone President I was privileged to attend the 2022 Michigan District LWML Convention and I would like to share some things with you from that Convention.

Thank You, Sandy Maya, LWML Zone President

First, you need to know that we met our mite goal for the '20-'22 biennium thanks to everyone who contributed their change (and bills) in those little mite boxes.

Second, we have a fantastic **"NEW MITE GOAL"** of **\$360,000.00** for the '22-'24 biennium.

25% or \$90,000 of this goes to National LWML. *The current National Mite Goal is \$2,100,000.*

There were 14 Michigan District grant proposals and it was voted to fund all 14 in full totaling **\$289,500.**

1. "I Was Naked and You Clothed Me – Orphan Grain Train – Michigan - \$18,000
2. Enriching Lives of Children and Families in Michigan Urban Communities - \$25,000 (Acts 2 Enterprise, Michigan District, LCMS)
3. Scholarships for Deaf Students - \$25,000.00 (St. Martin Lutheran School for the Deaf)
4. Financial Assistance for Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Indiana, Food and Clothing Co-op to Purchase Food - \$10,000
5. God's Word for Teenagers Around the World - \$16,500 (Lutheran Heritage Foundation)
6. Clark Park Street Ministry - \$5,000 (Family of God Lutheran Church, Detroit)
7. Scholarships for Female Students Studying to be a Deaconess or Professional Church Worker - \$20,000 (Michigan women in Concordia University system)
8. A Rising Need, a Spiritual Opportunity - \$20,000 (Lutheran Special Education Ministries in Michigan) New Grants Chosen for 2022-2024 Biennium How Mites Are Handled
9. Sharing the Light of Christ's Love - \$25,000 (Lutheran Braille Workers)
10. "Shepherding the Sheep" – Congregational Grant - \$25,000 (MOST Ministries)
11. Gifts for All God's Children YearRound Program Replication to Additional Churches - \$25,000 (Detroit LCMS area)
12. Expanding Christ's Love with the Aging and Unchurched in MI through Weekly Television on Worship Anew - \$25,000
13. Multi-Ethnic and Multi-Generational Church, Cross Point Church, LCMS, Ministry and Missions Cost - \$25,000 (POBLO International – Macomb County)
14. 15 Passenger Van Outreach for St. Paul Community Lutheran Church, Pontiac - \$25,000

### CONVENTION OFFERINGS:

Opening Worship Service  
\$4,214.35 for Mites

Closing Worship Service  
\$4,659.00 to be divided between  
Camp Restores Detroit Mt. Calvary  
Detroit and International Student  
Ministry, St. John, Jenison, MI

WALK/RUN FOR  
LYDIA'S LEGACY raised \$1,457.00

Ingathering for the Orphan Grain Train -  
Total of 3,419 items

- Infant Clothing - 853 items
- Young Children's Clothing - 526 items
- Older Children's Clothing - 1,089 items
- Teen Clothing - 519 items

Gift cards for Concordia Theological  
Seminary at Ft. Wayne totaled \$4,565

**PICK UP A MITE BOX TODAY, WHEN FULL  
RETURN, EMPTY AND REPEAT!!!**

### Newly Elected Officers are:

Ann Campbell VP Special Focus Ministries

Rev. David Winningham Pastoral Counselor

Denise Mosey (*candidate declined position and per LWML Michigan District by-laws, the Executive Committee appointed Cheri Fish to fill the vacant position of Recording Secretary*)

Laura Boeberitz VP Christian Outreach

Lynette Luksan Treasurer

## LWML FALL RALLY

**For ladies of all ages. Come and see what's happening with the Lutheran Women's Missionary League**

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2022**

9:30 am – 2:00 pm (registration 9:00-9:30) *There will be a lite lunch served.*

St. Paul Lutheran Church - 349 Capital Ave., NE in Battle Creek, MI

If you've never attended an LWML function before don't miss this one. You will have two service events to choose from: sewing eye glass cases for Most Ministries or cutting stamps. Find a Prayer Partner and make new friends as we join together to praise the Lord with our hands and voices.

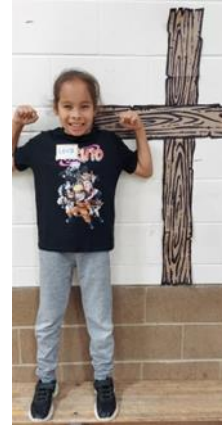
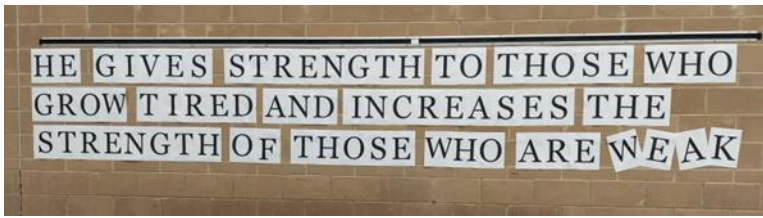
**We will be co-hosting the 2024 District Convention in Grand Rapids and will be looking for lots of helping hands to assist in having a successful and amazing Convention.** For more information contact Sandy Maya, Zone President at 269-330-9100.





**St. Michael LAMP Team in Lac Brochet, Manitoba  
August 4 – 13, 2022**

*The Team put on a VBS, Men's & Women's Bible Study, Teen Night, and played with the children.*



At the Bible School we sang songs, performed skits, did games and crafts, and ate snacks. One day the power went out as soon as the first child came through the door, but we played games as best we could for an hour and sent the kids home (only to have the lights come back on at that very moment!). The adults and children all wanted to know, "Will you come back?" Our response, "Lord willing we will come back next year." Keep Lac Brochet in your prayers! They are isolated and they struggle with many emotional, physical, and spiritual problems. We have the chance to tell them again how much Jesus loves them.





Our VBS Helpers!

The photo on the left was taken in 2016. Charlotte asked if we could reenact the photo again!



Father Stephen was so gracious to us. He is a Catholic priest from India who lives in the rectory when he is in Lac Brochet. He blessed us with his Indian cooking – from breakfast to fish.



# 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*



## Ballet Ministry Fall Classes Beginning Soon

Meets in Music Room

**Saturdays, September 10 - November 12**

(No classes on 9/24 or 10/8)

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

9:30-10:00 Little Dancers ages 2-3

10:00 am Primary Ballet ages 4-7

10:30 Ballet and Praise ages 8 and up



Summer is almost over and OUTREACH is gearing up for the fall. OUTREACH is St. Michael's youth group and is now open to middle school through high school students. We will be having a big kickoff Sunday, September 11, after the late service (12-3 pm).

Please bring the family and enjoy fun events such as Spike ball, foursquare in the air, give a prayer request take a prayer request, ice cream social, as well as making care packages for the homeless. Youth, if you bring a friend, you will get a special treat from Chic-fil-A. It's time to get your kids middle school on up involved! Youth group is a great way for kids to make long-lasting relationships in a Christ-centered safe environment. Please consider fitting OUTREACH into your schedules. Come Sunday, September 11 and learn more about the activities you can expect from OUTREACH.



## LUTHER HOSTEL

**November 2-4, 2022**

**Concordia Theological Seminary - Fort Wayne, Indiana**

The topic for discussion : *Christian Worship - The faithful Reception of God's Gifts.* Need more details?

Check out the Registration Flyer at this link: <https://www.ctsfw.edu/ctsfw-events/event-luther-hostel-2022/> or on the bulletin board.



# PARKING LOT PARTY!

The air will be filled with conversation, music, and the smell of good food. Purchase some tasty grub from the onsite food truck or bring your favorite meal. Park in a spot to hang out with fellow school families and play your favorite outdoor games.

St. Michael Lutheran  
School Parking Lot

September 16<sup>th</sup>

5:00 – 7:00pm



This event is organized by the Parent Teacher League (PTL)  
We need your help to make these events great!

## Exploring Our Faith



### NEW CLASS BEGINS SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

*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? ...ASK THE PASTOR!*

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

## Dojos of the Risen Son

The art of self-defense & awareness



Learn:  
Self-Discipline  
Self-Confidence  
Self-Defense  
Self-Control

Join the family:  
visit - [www.dojosoftherisenon.com](http://www.dojosoftherisenon.com)  
call - 269-323-4124  
or email: [dojosoftherisenon@gmail.com](mailto:dojosoftherisenon@gmail.com)  
for more info.



TUESDAYS  
6-7:15 PM

Self-defense taught from a Biblical perspective  
Show this ad to an instructor and get your first month FREE!

Find us:

## MAKING MIGHTY MESSENGERS FOR CHRIST

---



**2022-23 Orientation**  
**5:45 PM in the Sanctuary**  
**Wednesday, September 21**

Confirmation is a distinctive opportunity for young people to grow in faith as they begin to face the complex issues of an adult world, and are making decisions that will impact their lives.

The Confirmation Curriculum spans three years (grades 6-7-8) and is designed to cover the chief parts of the catechism.

We will be going to Camp Arcadia for retreat this year. The dates are at the end of October, and more information will be shared soon.

***Please  
consider  
joining the  
conversation  
with God!***



### PRAYER GROUPS MEET

Tuesday Mornings  
9:00-10:00 AM  
Jan Chilcott, leader

Wednesday Afternoons  
3:30-5:30 PM  
Virginia Hetrick, Leader



**Church Extension Fund**

Bill.burmeister@mi-cef.org  
800-242-3944

### **FOLLOW THE LEADER**

We've all played the game follow the leader. Whatever the leader does, the rest of the players imitate. Jump on one foot. Swing your arms in circles.

Even little babies do it naturally. As they develop, they mimic the actions of their parents. You may have experienced the play back mode of a small child that repeats something they have heard you say. Oops, did I say that?

Good role models and mentors can be a huge blessing in our lives. They can help shape the people we become. Poor role models can also impact us greatly. Without even thinking, we may join the chorus of decenterers if we hear people and get caught up in the moment.

We need to be grounded in the Word, able to discern the things we hear and sift through all the information at our disposal, before we jump to conclusions.

Psalms 1:1-2: Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked or stand in the way of sinners or sit in the seat of mockers. But his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on His Law, he meditates day and night.

Jesus led the perfect life, died on the cross and rose from the dead. Through the Holy Spirit we have the power to make a difference in our world. We can serve others and share the redeeming power of the Gospel.

Be a leader in your congregation. Partner with Church Extension Fund to help Build the Kingdom, as an investor.

## thrivent<sup>®</sup>

Make a difference in your community through St. Michael. It is easy with Thrivent Action Teams. Submit an application by logging into your Thrivent account. Members are offered two opportunities to receive up to \$250 in support of a project each calendar year. Be sure not to miss out on using them! [Here is a link to the application page.](#)

*Don't have an account?* You can be an associate with a \$20 annual member sign up. Which gives you one opportunity for a \$250 grant to support a project.

Once your project application is approved, you'll receive a package of customized resources and tools to kick-start the project.

*Not sure what to do?* Contact the church office for details. We have several things within our church calendar that could benefit from your support.

# GENERAL INFORMATION

## FAITH FORMATION

CHILDREN - Sunday Morning Classes are available during the 9:45 AM Learning Hour

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 5:00 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 3 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/>

## JUNE FINANCIALS 8 Months

11/1/2021-7/31/2022

Church Revenue	\$ 614,845
School Revenue	\$ <u>928,587</u>
Total Revenue	\$ 1,543,433
Total Expenses	\$ <u>1,508,313</u>
Net Surplus (deficit)	\$ 35,119
Expense Budget	\$ 1,509,195
Under/(Over) Budget	\$ 34,238
Working Cash Balance	\$ 59,432
Mortgage Balance	\$ 723,317

### Designated Fund Balances

Endowment Fund	\$567,880
Building Contingency	\$ 33,675
Parking Lot Fund	\$ 15,000
Technology Refresh	\$ 7,257
Sunday School	\$ 1,034
Youth Donations	\$ 18,229
Youth Accounts	\$ 11,237
Good Samaritan	\$ 1,737
Memorials	\$ 7,992
L.A.M.P. Mission Trip	\$ 5,581
Quilting	\$ 1,111
Church Worker Scholarship	\$ 235
School Improvements	\$ 56,447
Tuition Assistance	\$ 56,031
School Music	\$ 54
Flower Fund	\$ 4,679
CFK Mission Expansion	\$ 90,000
Women's Fellowship/LWML	\$ 1,999
Faith Budget	\$ 54,151

## WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

June Avg. ....	250
July Avg. ....	246
Aug. Avg. ....	249

Annual Avg. 2019 .....	347
Annual Avg. 2020 .....	197
( + uncounted online viewers )	
Annual Avg. 2021 .....	265
Annual Avg. 2022 .....	286



# SERVICE

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



Mighty Messengers for Christ

*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*



**CHRIST FOR KIDS CHILDCARE**

*Education with Christ at the Heart*

**Christ for Kids is looking for fun, energetic, trustworthy people to join our team.**

We can work around high school and college schedules and can be very flexible with hours. Please contact Emily Ritchie at 269-327-4889, or [eritchie@mightymessengers.org](mailto:eritchie@mightymessengers.org) for more information or to apply.

Recently the State of Michigan Childcare Licensing approved Daycares and Preschools to hire 16 and 17 year olds. So if you know a high schooler, or anyone 16 years of age and older, looking for a part time job, we have a spot for them! Thank you for considering!

**Want to see the most current St. Michael Servant Schedule, and think about where you might serve?**

**It can be found on our website at:**

<http://www.mightymessengers.org/servantschedule>

**See something you might enjoy doing? Then reach out to the coordinator of that ministry group. A list of leaders is always on the back of the Mighty Messenger Newsletter, or can be found on the bulletin board in the Communication Center.**

**Is there additional volunteer ministry schedules that should be included here? Contact the Church Office.**

**HELP US PACK KITS THIS MONTH!!**



**Thursday, October 13  
ASSEMBLING KITS**

**Saturday, October 15  
9:00 AM-Noon Loading Truck**



## MAKING MIGHTY MESSENGERS FOR CHRIST

# God Loves MARRIAGE

**Married couples:** It is time to make the decision to attend a Marriage Encounter weekend coming up in Battle Creek, MI on September 30 to October 2, 2022. This weekend provides an opportunity to move from a marriage based on a contract commitment to a covenant commitment. Couples gather from Friday night to Sunday afternoon to learn and practice new communication techniques taught by Presenter Couples. The leaders share their marriage experiences and instruction in inspiring and relatable talks.

This is your invitation to make a positive difference in your relationship in an atmosphere of GOD's love and mutual trust and understanding.

Please consider this opportunity to have a new beginning in your relationship. Couples who have attended in the past may want to schedule an Anniversary Weekend. Note that any couple that is clergy or church staff will qualify for a complimentary weekend.

A discount code for those couples will be added at the website when you register.

For information and to register: [www.GodLovesMarriage.org](http://www.GodLovesMarriage.org)

Or contact Registration Couple: Mark & Jan Chilcott at 269-998-6147; [mchilcotME@gmail.com](mailto:mchilcotME@gmail.com)

Veterans who have attended Marriage Encounter in the past, should consider joining other vets for a Renewal Weekend at The Shack in Jugville, Michigan on November 4-6, 2022. Call 231-924-6683 to reserve a room at the inn. After you register, email Brian and Donna Zelner at [dwzsearch@gmail.com](mailto:dwzsearch@gmail.com) and let them know, so they can put you on the list of participants. Rooms are filling up fast, so call soon to register.

*Lynne & Arlan Wendzel*

*Two inspiring days to help you  
build your spiritual legacy*



## Legacy Grandparenting Summit • 2022

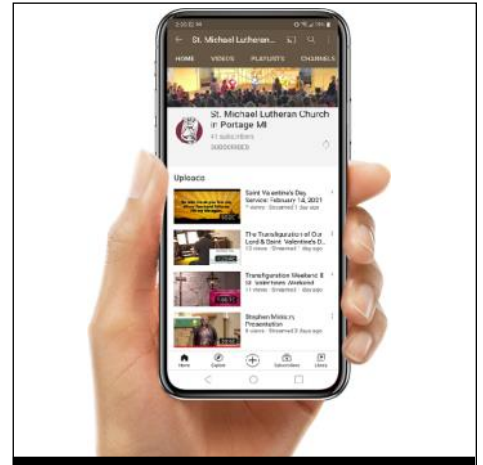
LEARN MORE HERE - <https://legacycoalition.com/summit/>

**Local Simulcast October 20-21, 2022 \$59/person**  
**Family Church** 9530 Woodbridge Street Zeeland, MI 49464

REGISTER AT - <https://legacycoalition.brushfire.com/simulcast/534110>

***For you if...***

- You want to influence generations of your family for Christ
- You desire to leave a lasting legacy of love
- You want to see your grandchildren follow Christ



## STAY CONNECTED

### YouTube

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



School lessons. Find us at:

St. Michael Lutheran Church in Portage MI

### Facebook

Find worship service videos, devotions, special event announcements and more:  
[@StMichaelLutheranChurchPortageMI](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**

Bryan Chandler  
Matthew Wright

## **VOLUNTEERS:**

### **PRESIDENT**

Jack Spenner

### **VICE PRESIDENT**

Rob Kuhlmann

### **RECORDING SECRETARY**

Tammy Songer

### **TREASURER**

Jan Jett

## **BOARD OF CHURCH PROPERTIES**

Steve Bell, Director  
Mark Vickery, Assistant Director

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

Mike Grotelueschen, Director  
Matt Colby, Assistant Director

## **BOARD OF SMALL GROUP MINISTRY**

Angie Heimlich, Director  
Lindsey Luma, Assistant Director

## **BOARD OF STEWARDSHIP DIRECTOR**

Vacant, Director

### **VOLUNTEER MINISTRY COMMITTEE**

Dar Swift

### **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Lisa Robert

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

Heather Bigelow, Director  
Chad Doubblestein, Assistant Director

### **YOUTH GROUP LEADERS**

Jerry Kuss, Jeff Burnett,  
Ryan & Heather Bigelow

## **BOARD OF LAY MINISTRY**

Matt Heintz, Director  
Greg Wedel, Assistant Director

### **ALTAR GUILD**

Kristi Rudowske, Linda Fry

### **LECTORS**

Virginia Hetrick, 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 Rea, Karen Shuler

### **STEPHEN MINISTERS**

Lane Bertrand, Mandi Cerqua, Virginia Hetrick  
Jackie Michels, Zoe Miller, Peter Robert,  
Bill Semrau, Kathy Zakarias

## **BOARD OF EVANGELISM & MISSIONS**

Valerian Kwigizile, Director  
Kathie Seufert, 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  
Judy Schroeder, Assistant Director

### **WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP**

June Kucks

### **LWML**

Sandy Maya

### **SOFTBALL**

Shannon Miskovich

## **ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE**

Todd Foster, Dave Johnson, Julie Vickery,  
Brad Hunter, Rick Jacobs