

Growing
Proclaiming
Serving
Caring
Praising

Issue 4

2010

ST. MICHAEL NEWS

2131 Getz Road
260-432-2033

Fort Wayne, IN 46804
www.stmichaellcms.org



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE



Maundy Thursday	April 1	7:00 PM Worship w/HC
Good Friday	April 2	1:00 PM Joint Worship at Emmanuel 7:00 PM Tenebrae Worship—Service of Darkness <i>No Worship Service</i>
Easter Sunday	April 4	Traditional: 7:00, 9:00, 11:00 AM (all w/HC) Praise: 9:09 AM w/HC
Easter Breakfast	April 4	7:45 – 10:00 am, served by our Senior Youth

Easter Services

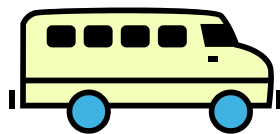


St. Michael offers four Easter morning services! The traditional Easter services will be in the Sanctuary at 7:00, 9:00, and 11:00 am, with music from the brass group, flutes, adult choir, and bells. A contemporary service will be held in Room 24 at 9:09 am, with music by St. Michael Praise Teams. What a wonderful day to invite friends and family as we celebrate Christ's victory over sin, death, and Satan.

Easter breakfast will be served from 7:45 – 10:00 AM by our Senior Youth

The Senior Youth will be hosting the Easter Breakfast again this year. The menu includes pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs, fruit, coffee, juice and milk. Please join us on Easter morning and enjoy a delicious breakfast from 7:45 – 10:00 am.

PARKING ON EASTER: To help with parking limitations, we have received permission to park in the northwest corner of the Meijer parking lot (by Steak-n-Shake). Shuttles will be available to transport members to church. This is not the most convenient solution, but we are hopeful that you will help us make room for visitors, families with young children, and senior citizens. Thank you.



SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE: There will not be Sunday School or adult Bible classes on April 4 (Easter) or April 11 (Spring Break). Classes will resume on April 18.



Thursday services will resume on April 8

"Today's women face unrealistic expectations, and then we're bombarded with unrealistic images every day, making us more and more insecure. We're insecure about everything from our looks to our worth as women, from our relationships to our futures, and everything else in between. You name it, and we're probably insecure about it. Let's be honest here. Insecurity makes us miserable. It cripples us. It makes us feel worthless. Insecurity has been a bad friend to us. It doesn't have to be this way. It's time to say "So long!" to insecurity. How? First we have to understand it, and the good news is that insecurity is understandable. The even better news is that insecurity is curable."



WOMEN—BUY YOUR TICKETS TODAY!

Beth Moore is a gifted Bible teacher. You will not want to miss the Beth Moore simulcast on April 24 from 10:00 – 3:30 pm. Doors open at 9:00 am. **ONLY 100 tickets are left out of 400!** Tickets are available for \$20 (lunch not included) at the Welcome Center before and after worship services or in the church office during the week. If you have any questions, please call the church office at 432-2033. Invite your friends, neighbors, co-workers, and relatives. Beth Moore's new book, *So Long, Insecurity*, is also available at the Welcome Center and church office for \$15.50. **Tickets will NOT be available for sale at the door. Please carpool if possible!**



Resurrection Day

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In His great mercy He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 1 Peter 1:3

The day after Jesus died must have been a horrific time for the disciples. Most of them had been up all night wondering and worrying about their spiritual leader of three years. They had seen His arrest firsthand and heard that both John and Peter followed Him closely during a trial of sorts in the courtyard. Some of the disciples might have tried to go home and rest, but likely couldn't. No one had heard or seen anything about Judas.

From a distance they saw their Lord being executed. John was close, providing support for Jesus' mother, Mary. No one else had the courage to get close after scattering away from Jesus the night before. It was dark at noon; by 3:00 pm, Jesus was dead. There was a rush to get Him buried before the Passover Sabbath began at 6:00 pm. A borrowed tomb from a rich man was secured, but there wasn't time for a traditional, spice-laden burial. The women would have to come back on Sunday for that. Absolutely exhausted, the disciples crawled into beds in various places Friday night and likely cried themselves to sleep.

As they awoke the next morning, they had no idea what to do. Scripture records none of what happened that Saturday. It was the Sabbath, which meant a time of worship. That was probably the last thing they wanted to do. If the religious leaders came after Jesus on Thursday night, certainly it would not be beyond them to search for Jesus' followers on Sunday. At least on Saturday they were safe.

I am grateful that we do not have to live in the tension between Jesus' death and His resurrection like the disciples did. We know the rest of the story and that Easter is coming. On the Saturday following Good Friday, we can reflect on the time of celebration and joy that is coming on Sunday. On the Saturday following Good Friday, the church is busy with egg hunts, music practice, and decorating committees.

Yet I would encourage you to think about what it must have been like for the disciples in that "middle time." The closest we get to that are a couple of followers of Jesus on Easter afternoon... *They stood still, their faces downcast...* "we had hoped that He was the One Who was going to redeem Israel..." (Luke 24:17, 21).

As we celebrate the Resurrection on April 4th and all of the meaning it has for us, I praise God that our reaction can be the exact opposite of these disciples. I am looking forward to digging into the implications of Jesus' resurrection throughout the month of April and how we do not need to stand still with downcast faces and hopes dashed. We are Easter people, who can GO and share His love with others, filled with joy and peace.

Resurrection Joy to you, *Pastor Matt*

If you are not in a small group yet, I have just the thing for you!



Coming this fall...an entirely new approach to small groups! We are very excited about this system, referred to as "Activate." Growth Groups will meet weekly, offering the following advantages:

- ✓ More group options
- ✓ New topics offered on a semester basis
- ✓ Everyone will be starting at the same time
- ✓ Leaders will have shorter time commitments
- ✓ You will make friends faster

More information to come, but if you can't wait, give Karen Kuehnert a call or shoot her an email!



Get Out of the Boat! 3rd Annual St. Michael Summer Picnic & Family Retreat Register NOW!

The 3rd Annual Summer Picnic & Family Retreat will be held on **June 27th** at Kramer Park. Everyone is invited to attend the worship service on Sunday at 11:00 am, which will be followed by a potluck at noon and games, fishing, boating, and lots of fun. Families may also sign up to camp on Saturday, June 26, for a small fee of \$25 per family. Everyone will enjoy the many activities planned for children and adults, gourmet food (yes, cooked over a fire), devotions, singing, and fellowship. You may come for the entire weekend or just parts of it. Look for the boat and sign up! Packets with additional information will be sent to everyone interested in attending.



...the Lord Jesus Christ, Who by the power that enables Him to bring everything under His control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like His glorious body. Philippians 3:21

What kind of body will you have in eternity? Because of the resurrection of Jesus, we will be raised up on the Last Day as well. *Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep* (1 Corinthians 15:20).

- Some believe that when a person dies, his soul goes to sleep forever. *Not true.*
- Some believe that when a person dies, he becomes extinct. *Not true.*
- Some believe that when a person dies, he is reincarnated (or as I prefer to call it, recycled). *Not true.*

When you die, your soul will be in the presence of God, awaiting the resurrection of your body.

Will the same body that you have now be resurrected? Apparently so. *For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed* (1 Corinthians 15:52). It seems that our bodies will be raised and perfected. I am guessing we will all have the body of a 21 year old! (That would be about half my current age.)

But what about bodies that have been decomposed...or cremated? How will God raise them?

Let me tell you a fascinating story. In the laboratory of a famous scientist named Faraday, a highly prized silver cup was dropped by a careless workman into a vat of acid. Immediately, the acid attacked the silver, eating it away until it completely disappeared in the solution. Now Faraday knew that although the cup was no longer visible, its form had only been changed. So he poured the right chemicals into the solution, and the silver quickly reappeared and was removed from the vat. It was sent to a silversmith, and a few days later the cup was back in place!

Now if a scientist can gather the atoms of a scattered silver cup...don't you think God can gather the elements that once made up a human being? In fact, God will do this on the Last Day! And your old body will be transformed into a more wonderful body! *And so will it be with the resurrection of the dead. The body that is...sown in dishonor...is raised in glory* (1 Corinthians 15:43).

Jesus is risen! And we will be raised up too! With lots of God's Love, *Pastor Bob*



FOLD Ministry News...

Our days can become so busy that by the time our head hits the pillow, we realize that we haven't taken the time to check in with God. As we continue our journey on examining spiritual health, we reflect on God and our yearning for Him in our daily lives:

So comparing five years ago to today, have I grown thirsty for God more than ever before?

Psalms 42:1-2 (NIV) helps us understand what "growing thirsty" for God might look like:

*As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for You, O God.
My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When can I go and meet with God?*

The life of a deer depends upon water. His thirst creates a desire for a drink, and he seeks out a water source to satisfy that thirst. Have you ever been so "**thirsty**" that you thought you were going to die if you didn't get something to drink? Your thirst has created a "**desire**" for a drink. So you seek out a source to "**satisfy**" that desire.

One indication of spiritual growth is a **thirst** for God's Word. This thirst creates a **desire** to study God's Word, and we seek out God's Word (our source) and become **satisfied**. This thirst creates a desire to know what He says about everything...our families, relationships, ministries, careers, politics, etc. Are you thirsty? How much time do you spend reading the Word of God compared to watching television, reading magazines, playing the Wii, or surfing the Web? I must confess God is convicting me of too much Law and Order!

When I am experiencing a "spiritual" growth spurt, I can't put the Bible down. I was so caught up in my Beth Moore Bible study, I finished a week's lesson in one sitting. Are you experiencing a yearning, a thirst, to dig deeper with God? If not, ask Him for it!

Let's keep growing in our faith! Many blessings, *Karen Kuehnert*
FOLD Small Group Director, 432-2033 x210, karen.kuehnert@stmichaellcms.org

*I know that my Redeemer lives,
and in the end He will stand upon the earth.*
Job 19:25



*The death He died, He died to sin once for all;
but the life He lives, He lives to God.*
Romans 6:10

What makes Easter such a joyous celebration? Easter is filled with HOPE! *I Know That My Redeemer Lives*, one of our traditional Easter hymns of triumph, is based on the words of Job. In a time when even his closest friends are beginning to doubt God’s love for him, Job holds on to the promise that a Redeemer will come. The promised Messiah will conquer and pay the price for our sins and ultimately stand—resurrected and victorious!

The Easter Season is 50 days of rejoicing. Martin Luther said “every Sunday is a little Easter.” God’s people are baptized into the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, and our lives are sustained by the Good News of those first witnesses of the Resurrection:

Another great Easter song is *In Christ Alone*. Although this song was written almost 300 years after *I Know That My Redeemer Lives*, it contains the same message of hope.

*In Christ alone, my hope is found;
He is my light, my strength, my song.
This cornerstone, this solid ground;
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm*

“We are witnesses of everything He did in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They killed Him by hanging Him on a tree, but God raised Him from the dead on the third day and caused Him to be seen” (Acts 10:39-40).

The text for *In Christ Alone* was written by Stuart Townend in 2002. He said he has received many email and cards of how “the song has helped to stir faith in many believers that God really is our protector; that our lives are in His unshakable hands.”

On the first day of the week, very early in the morning, the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. While they were wondering about this, suddenly two men in clothes that gleamed like lightning stood beside them. In their fright the women bowed down with their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, “Why do you look for the living among the dead” (Luke 24:1-5)?

*What heights of love, what depths of peace;
When fears are stilled and strivings cease.
My Comforter, my All-in-All,
Here in the love of Christ I stand.*

Praise the Lord that believers **know** these things are true! However, there have been, and still are, questions concerning proof of the Resurrection. The world wants hard evidence; people are skeptical. We believe, but our excitement dims so quickly. How can you remember the joy of Easter throughout the year? How can the beautiful, saving message of the risen Jesus Christ be helpful in our everyday lives?

When we hear and sing of God’s great power and love, we are filled with hope and reverence. Townend shared, “The recording that always moves me most is the one recorded with a congregation of 8,000 at the Stoneleigh Bible Week in England. When we finish the third verse, about the resurrection of Christ, there’s an extraordinary burst of praise from the congregation that at the time was overwhelming, and listening back still sends a shiver down my spine.”

A quote from Luther reminds us of the power of the death and Resurrection of our Lord:

*No guilt in life, no fear in death;
This is the power of Christ in me
From life’s first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny*

Behold, one can find in Christ strength and comfort against all vice and bad habits. That is the right observance of Christ’s Passion, and that is the fruit of His suffering, and he who exercises himself in the same does better than by hearing the whole Passion or reading all masses. And they are called true Christians who incorporate the life and Name of Christ into their own life, as St. Paul says in Galatians 5:24, “*And they that are of Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with the passions and the lusts thereof.*” For Christ’s Passion must be dealt with not in words and a show, but in our lives and in truth.

To think of Christ’s victory...His promise of life for me and you. What hope! What peace! What a celebration! He is risen! He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

Luther is saying that the Resurrection is the ultimate truth, and we can always find solace there. God’s Word reminds us over and over that Christ died for us. We live in the joy that He rose because death is not the end. Each and every day we celebrate that fact all year long!

Stephanie Maxson

WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS
Richelle Crall
Brian and Tiffany Glass and children
Drew and Tyler
Kayla Higdon
Koula Oetting and children Carson and Mason
Paul Reidhaar
Brandy and Christian Schult
Lynn and Sharon Scrogam

Jesus is risen, and He is alive!
Vicar Ben

Alleluia!

HE IS ALIVE!

“...and whoever welcomes a little child like this in My Name welcomes Me.”

Matthew 18: 5

Sa-Wa-Dee Everyone! (hello In Thai)

I said hello in Thai this month because at the January Youth Quake we had the opportunity to adopt a child through Compassion International. And so on behalf of the youth group, I adopted a little girl from Thailand.

Her name is Sarinee Orratai, and she lives in the mountainous community of Mae Lalung in a house constructed of wood with a banana leaf roof. Sarinee lives with her grandparents and helps run errands, clean and carry water. Why does Sarinee have to carry water? Because they do not have running water. She retrieves it from a well or river and brings it to their house. This is just one of the many things we take for granted.

Through the sponsorship of Sarinee, I am hoping the youth will understand the importance of helping a child in need. We have Sarinee’s picture on an offering box in the youth room. It only costs \$38/month to help Sarinee receive an education, stay healthy with food and hygiene, develop social skills, and most importantly hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ and learn about Him. This is awesome because Thailand is 95% Buddhist.

Please help me by encouraging your teens to set aside \$1/week to help support Sarinee and to also pray for her and her family that they might come to know Jesus. We also have the opportunity to correspond with her which is cool too.

Check out what Jesus says in Matthew 25:31-46!

Your Bro in Christ, *Scott Hedtke*



Stuff in April

April 4	Senior Youth	Serve Easter Breakfast	7:45 – 10:00 am (be here at 6:00 am)
April 8	Senior Youth	Talk with Dr. Lamb	6:00 – 8:00 pm
April 7, 14, 21, 28	Senior Youth	Fireproof	7:00 – 9:00 pm
April 10	Junior Youth	Powerhouse	6:00 – 8:30pm
April 16-18	8 th grade	Confirmation Retreat	

Why do 10 pre-born babies die every week in Fort Wayne?

All 8th graders and senior high youth are invited to attend a special event on...

Thursday, April 8, at 6:00 PM
St. Michael Youth Room

Learn the importance, value, and worth of these Little Ones at an event featuring...

Dr. James Lamb

National Executive Director of Lutherans for Life

Invite your classmates!
Pizza and pop will be provided



VBS 2010: August 2 – 6! Calling all sleuths! Grab your backpacks and prepare to decode the mystery of life! With **The Egypt File**, kids will learn that they were specially created in the image of God for the purpose of loving and serving Him. Bible in hand, they will unravel the clues that answer such questions as:

- *Did we come from ape-men?*
- *Were we specially designed by God?*
- *Are our lives valuable?*
- *How can I have eternal life?*

Gather your gear and join us for an unforgettable adventure!



BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS will be celebrated the weekend of April 10/11 for the following children through age 12: Donovan Carden; Michael Cook; Andrew Dane; Caitlin, Ethan, and Samuel Dumser; Ella Faley; Kaela Franke; Jessica Gay; Grace Hedtke; Vaughn Hendrickson; Shelby Jones; Lindley Kistler; William McLain; Brandon Schoeneman; Jocelyn Smith; Avery Sparks; Carter Spelbring; Brielle Steele; Noah Thomas; and Ethan Yoder.



CROSS CONNECTIONS COMMISSIONING

Eighteen new Covenant Partners were commissioned at Southwest Lutheran Church on Sunday, March 14. The new Covenant Partners each received special blessings from their home church pastors. The 18 new Covenant Partners represented seven member churches; 14 "seasoned" Covenant Partners also re-committed to serving for two more years as lay counselors. Congratulations to all the Covenant Partners who have committed to serving as lay counselors for Cross Connections. Congratulations and blessings to the Covenant Partners from St. Michael: Beth Brackmann (re-committed); Dennis and Lynnette Brink (new); Debbie Gotsch (re-committed); and Penny Pequignot (new).

Contact one of the pastors if you would like more information about Cross Connections and learn how you can be a part of this important ministry. Training for new Covenant Partners begins on August 25, 2010.



St. Michael Preschool
Michelle Wolfer, Preschool Director
Church Office: 432-2033
www.stmichaellcms.org



REGISTER FOR 2010-2011 PRESCHOOL Registration packets are available in the church office
 There are two classes open:

3 year old Tuesday/Thursday from 8:30 - 11:00 am
4/5 year old Monday through Thursday from 12:30 - 3:00 pm

children must be 3 by August 1, 2010
 children must be 4 by January 31, 2010



Union Street Office: 422-6712
Getz Road Office: 459-1616
www.esmeagles.com



HAVE YOU SEEN DOROTHY AND TOTO? "Follow the Yellow Brick Road!" to an evening of good food and fun! The 2nd Annual Emmanuel-St. Michael Lutheran School Dinner-Auction will be held on Saturday, April 24. The committee is busy making all the necessary plans and need your help in soliciting or donating gifts for the oral and silent

auction booths. The dessert auction was a huge success last year. Do you have a favorite tempting dessert that you are willing to make for bidding? It is part of the fun enjoyed by all! Plan to donate and attend this special event! Contact Dianne Snider at 434-1007 or Diana Fulton at 747-9438 for suggested donations, additional information, or to volunteer your services.

FUNDRAISERS FOR ESM:

- **MARKET DAY:** www.marketday.com
- **SCRIPS!** Cash and carry is available every day at both school offices. A long list of retailers is also available for ordering gift cards. Pick up an order form in either school office or contact Diana Fulton at 747-9438.

ESM SPRING MUSICAL: Join us on Friday, May 14, at 7:00 pm, as the Kindergarten through fourth graders will present *It Happened at Camp Willomocky*. Plan now to attend and be entertained.



Concordia Lutheran High School
Office: 483-1102
www.clhscadets.com

SPIKE AND THE BULLDOGS: Join us on Saturday, April 24, at the Pine Valley Country Club for an evening of music, fun, fellowship, a silent auction, free hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar. Tickets are available at the high school for \$25. Call the Music Department at 483-1102 x198 for more info.

EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIP: New students are invited to apply. There is a minimum grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale. Each application is given individual attention by the Scholarship Committee. Awards may be given for academic achievement and promise as well as for merit and overall achievement. To receive additional information or an application, contact Krista Friend at 483-1102 x219.

SUMMER ACTIVITIES: Youth in grades K-12 can find something exciting to participate in this summer at Concordia. Please contact the high school at 483-1102 for more information.

SUMMER SCHOOL is open to any student entering grades 9-12. Session 1 is June 14 – July 2; Session 2 is July 5 - July 23. Each session runs Monday-Friday from 7:30 - 12:30 pm.

SUMMER CONDITIONING PROGRAM FOR ATHLETES IN GRADES 6-8: Keep your son or daughter ready for next season! Training will be held Monday-Thursday from 5:30 - 7:30 pm from June 7-July 27 in the CLHS Weight Room and Athletic Facilities. For a registration form or additional information, contact Coach Koehlinger at 483-1102 x131.

THRIFT SHOP DEALS: Stop in for a \$5 Bag Sale from April 16-24 (some exceptions may apply). The shop is located at 3436 N. Anthony Shopping Center; hours are Monday from 10:00 - 7:30, Tuesday-Friday from 10:00 -5:00, and Saturday from 9:30 - 3:30.

Serving in April 2010 at St. Michael

Serving in April 2010 at St. Michael				
Altar Guild		Lora Esslinger, Ruth Hilsmier, Judy Pieper		
		Flowers	Sonrise Ministry	Baked Goods
Sponsors	4 11 18 25	EASTER SUNDAY Sara Chrystal Arlene Killmer Ted and Donna Braun	Easter—No Fellowship Hour April 11—No Fellowship Hour	
		Contact Karen Hall to sponsor the Sonrise Ministry at 432-9238		
Special Services		Maundy Thursday		Good Friday
Acolytes		Zach Panning, Alena Lahey		Lauren Tarbet, Alyx Klutz
Readers		Bruce Schroeder		Randy Fillmore
		Saturday Easter 7:00 AM	8:00 Easter 9:00 AM	10:45 Easter 11:00 AM
Acolytes	4 10/11 17/18 24/25 5-1/2	Austin Lange, Cassy Lange Ally Fulton Madison Nichols Ryan Nutter Ethan Pearl	Hannah Anelle, Michael Nickelson Emma Clifford, Samuel Ryan Alayna Kiefer, Logan Worsham Kristin Scriven, Caleb Patterson Michaela Miller, Samuel Ryan	Ethan Pearl, Mitch Meyer Cody Arnold, Victoria Dantzer Lauren Hoffmann, Erin Hahn Jacob Bickel, Madelyn Kartman Cassy Lange, Michael Nickelson
Children's Church	4 10/11 17/18 24/25	OPEN Kim Bruns, Emily Hahn Tera Klutz, Lisa Meeks Meghan Martin, Emily Hahn	OPEN Jama Fry, Jennifer Nix Sandy Stutz, Kait Scriven Jane Sieber, Marilyn Crum	OPEN Mary Nichols, Lynette Selking, Hannah Drake Gina and Katelyn Connelly Adrienne Clendenen
Elders		Steve Myers Jim Maxson (Easter)	Dave Panning Harry Jones (Easter 9:00) Dan Smith (Easter 9:09)	Harry Jones
Greeters	4 10/11 17/18 24/25	Rick and Tammy Bruns OPEN John and Sue Baker Ed and Nancy Bowman	OPEN Bud & Marie Siegried Gerald and Mary Reidel Dorothy Smith	OPEN OPEN OPEN Zach and Tera Klutz
Lay Readers	4 10/11 17/18 24/25	OPEN Richard Pierce Cindy Mendenhall OPEN	OPEN Karen Hall Jane Sieber OPEN	OPEN Lisa Lorenz Dick Doner OPEN
Ushers		Richard Klaehn, Jack Black, Larry Springer, Clint Lewis	Dave Kuehnert, Paul Sieber, Wayne Bly	David Crow, John Olry, Greg Caudill, Walt Hess
Welcome Center	4 10/11 17/18 24/25	Kelly Lohman Joe and Mindi Schoepf John and Sue Baker Terry and Sandy Butler	Dick and Shirley Fahlsing Brian and Nancy Zirbel Kim Bruns Jim and Linda Grossman	Janice Pekrul Carol Olry Tammy Bickel Adriene Jones
Witness Speeches	24/25 5-1/2 5-8/9	Kaitlyn Black None Kaelyn Hatcher	Elizabeth Moberg None Cody Arnold	None Cassy Lange None

MEN'S MINISTRY

MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST: Join us on Saturday, April 3, at 7:00 am in the Fellowship Hall for breakfast, prayer, and fellowship. Hope to see you there!

MEN'S EVENT: We will meet again on June 7 at 7:00 PM, when Pastor Bob Henry will present the Facebook and other emerging technologies and how they can be used to further God's kingdom. Mark your calendars.

STEPHEN MINISTRY



STEPHEN MINISTRY is currently accepting applications for the next training class. Do you have the gift of mercy, compassion and listening? If so, or if you have questions about the training, please contact Debbie Gotsch at debbiegotsch@gmail.com or 348-7280.

MUSIC MINISTRY

BACK TO NORMAL! The Men's Choir practice will be at 6:30 pm on Wednesday evenings, and the Adult choir will practice at 7:00 pm. This is a great time to join our choirs since we start with new music.



KEYBOARDIST NEEDED! Life Song, one of our Saturday praise teams is in need of a keyboardist to play on the 4th Saturday of each month and rehearse on the 3rd and 4th Tuesday at 7:00 PM of each month. If you are interested, contact Bruce Schroeder or Stephanie Maxson.

SOLOIST? INSTRUMENTALIST? We are scheduling music for the summer months. If you would like to share your musical talents this summer in our Sunday worship services, please contact Stephanie.

BRASS CHOIR AND FLUTE CHOIRS will continue through the summer. Please contact Stephanie Maxson or Denise Beights if you are interested in joining either of these groups.

PROCLAIMING THE GOSPEL

Register for these Bible studies through the church office or contact Karen Kuehnert at karen.kuehnert@stmichaellcms.org.



Women's Bible Study

"ESTHER: It's Tough Being a Woman," offers "treasures to aid us in our hurried, harried, and pressured lives." Join us this summer for an in-depth Bible study by Beth Moore. This 10-week study will be held on Thursdays from 9:00 – 11:00 am

in Room 24, beginning on Thursday, June 10. Each week's lesson is divided into five sections—one for each day. Participants will enjoy breaking into small groups for discussion, followed by a taped lecture by Beth Moore. The workbooks are \$18 and will need to be ordered prior to the class, so call 432-2033 to register.

JOIN A WAIST MANAGEMENT CLASS to lose those extra pounds before summer. Experience a 12-week daily study, **Growing in the Fruit of the Spirit**, by First Place 4 Health. Developing the fruits of the Spirit—hope, love, joy, peace, patience, goodness, compassion, faith, gentleness and self-control—is the key to leading a balanced life. *First Place 4 Health* is the most complete Christ-centered healthy living program available. *First Place 4 Health* will help you create balance in the five core areas of your life—mentally, emotionally, physically, socially and spiritually—so that you can truly put Christ first in all things. The results? Weight loss and total health from the inside out! Included with the Bible study are Scripture memory cards, a coordinating Scripture memory music CD, and two complete menu plans with grocery lists, recipes and detailed nutrition information. Cost is \$25 for new members and \$15 for returning members. New classes start on **Monday, March 29, 6:00 - 7:15 pm and Thursday, April 1, 9:00 - 10:15 am.**



A STUDY THAT ENCOURAGES TRANSFORMATION
Live Like You Are Dying
Wednesday Night Bible Study
April 14 - May 23
7:00 - 8:30 pm

This study takes a song of the culture, the deepest needs of people, the truth of God's Word, and brings it all together during a focused period of time for spiritual transformation. The Bible teaches that we are not guaranteed tomorrow. So how should we live? This study will challenge participants to:

1. Live with a sense of urgency (1 Peter 4:7-8)
2. Live with a sense of eternity (Psalm 90:12)
3. Live with a sense of priority (Ephesians 5:15-17)
4. Give up the frantic pursuit of the "good life" (Matthew 16:25-26)
5. Make more time for relationships (Hebrews 10:24-25)
6. Offer forgiveness (Ephesians 4:32)
7. Celebrate being released from God's judgment (Romans 8:33-34)
8. Liberate others from your judgment (Romans 14:13)
9. Do the unexpected in love (Matthew 5:39-42)

WHAT: Retired People's Bible Class
WHEN: April 26, 10:00 – NOON
WHERE: St. Michael Lutheran Church, Room 24
WHY: For fellowship and brunch, followed by the study of 1 Corinthians led by Pastor Bob. *Hope to see you there!!*

Equipping Disciples...A Capital Campaign for Growth Update

To equip God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up. —Ephesians 4:12



Capital Campaign

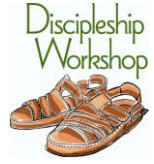
We have raised in excess of \$1,663,372 from the 190 pledge cards received. That is an increase of more than \$350,000 and 50 additional pledge cards since last month's newsletter. To God be the glory!

We thank those families that have pledged their commitment to the campaign and know that the Lord will bless you for your obedience. There are still many St. Michael families to be visited and many pledge cards yet to be completed and turned in. Please make your decision a priority and finalize your gift/pledge today. Thanks to our Steering Committee members and volunteers who have been tirelessly making visits and sharing the exciting growth plans with our members. We still need more volunteers. Will you join us?

For several weeks now, we have enjoyed watching the video testimonials during each service. It has been a blessing to watch and hear people share their love and excitement for St. Michael Lutheran Church and Emmanuel-St. Michael School.

The Campaign will continue as we personally visit and present the St. Michael plan to all of our church families. Please continue to pray for God's guidance and direction as we watch and see what He will do!

ST. MICHAEL NEWS



INTERESTED IN BECOMING A MEMBER OF ST. MICHAEL? If you do not have a Lutheran background, you are invited to join the next Information Workshop on May 2 from 9:15 – 1:30 pm (lunch and childcare is provided). This class, called Discipleship Training, covers the basics of the Christian faith and focuses on how Lutherans differ from other Christian denominations. If you have a Lutheran background, call the church office to sign up for the next Getting Connected class.

SPRING VOTERS' MEETING will be held on April 18th after the 2nd service. We will elect officers and provide an update of the budget. If you are interested in serving on the council as Chair of the Stewardship Board or Evangelism Board, please contact Dave Davis at 672-3565.



GOD'S KIDS WORSHIP: Join us on **Sunday, May 2, at 10:45 in Room 24** for the next worship service designed for children in 1st – 5th grade.

THE DIRECTORY IS ONLINE! You can find current phone numbers and addresses of members at www.stmichaellcms.org. The password will not be published in the newsletter or bulletin for security reasons, so contact the church office at 432-2033 or tammy@stmichaellcms.org.



OUTDOOR WORSHIP SERVICES are being planned at St. Michael for July 14, 21, 28, and August 5. Volunteers are needed to help set up and take down chairs and sound equipment. Contact Stephanie Maxson if you are interested in helping.

ST. MICHAEL FOUNDATION AWARDS: Since the fall of 2006, the St. Michael Foundation has grown from \$15,000 to over \$75,000 due to the generosity of our congregation. Requests for funds from the endowment fund can be submitted to the Foundation Board of Directors until noon on Sunday, April 11. Over \$4,150 of awards will be announced on the weekend of April 17 & 18. A door collection will also occur that weekend to benefit the Foundation. You may also use the pew envelopes. Two designated Foundation Funds exist: the Fillmore Vacation Bible School Fund and the Senior Youth Mission Trip Fund. Beyond these designated annual donations, awards will be made from the general endowment fund to any church or mission related cause. Please submit a letter and copy to the St. Michael Foundation, c/o Ron Menze, Stewardship Chair. Recent past awards have included seminary student support, Sunrise Youth Ministries, Men's and Women's Ministry event support, and Community Charity Outreach.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY



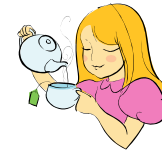
Ladies (and men), continue to save your loose change in your Mite boxes! Bring your change in a baggie to church and deposit in the large Mite Box at the Welcome Center. **Mites for Missions offerings** may be received any Sunday. We are still emphasizing receiving the offerings the first Sunday of each month, but you can bring them any time. In this biennium, \$80,000 has been designated to defray cost of shipping quilts by Lutheran World Relief. The Lutheran Women's Missionary League goal for this biennium is \$1.825 million. Mites are MIGHTY!

HOTEL ON THE CORNER OF BITTER AND SWEET by Jamie Ford will be the discussion book for the next Women's Book Group on Thursday, April 15, at 10:00 am in Room 24B. This is a story of hope and the power of forgiveness told within a historical novel set in the volatile 1940's. Anyone who loves to read will enjoy this book and is always welcome to join us.



FORT WAYNE LWML ZONE RALLY will be held Saturday, April 17, in the Activity Center at Emmanuel-St. Michael Lutheran School at 1123 Union Street from 9:00 – 11:30 AM. Registration (\$6) and a light breakfast will begin at 8:30 am. Heidi Floyd will be speaking about the Vera Bradley Foundation for breast cancer and the ingathering will be monetary donations to the Foundation. Call Frances McIntosh at 625-6489 to register by April 11.

LWML DISTRICT CONVENTION, June 25-27, will be held at the Sheraton in Indianapolis. "Standing at the Crossroads" is the theme of this inspiring event. There will be mission speakers and small group sessions. Contact Mary Nichols for registration forms at 459-7679.



MOTHER-DAUGHTER TEA will be held in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, May 2, from 2:00 - 3:30 pm. Tickets are available in the office for \$3.00 per person. Dressy attire is encouraged but not mandatory. There are a limited number of seats, so please buy your tickets early! If you or someone you know might have a fancy teapot that we could borrow, please contact Jennifer Chaffee at 436-4456.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 17 **LWML Zone Rally**
Details listed above.

April 24 **Beth Moore Simulcast**
9:30 – 3:30 pm

May 2 **Mother-Daughter Tea**
Mark your calendar for this special event.

May 7 **Women's Ministry Board Meeting**
Mary Leininger's home at 11:30 am

June 10 **Beth Moore Bible Study "Esther"**
More information on Page 9

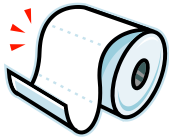
June 25 **LWML District Convention**
Indianapolis, June 25-27



SERVING THE COMMUNITY



ADOPT-A-MOM! Connecting churches with moms in need is a new outreach program through Indiana Right to Life and Three Rivers Educational Trust Fund. The Adopt-A-Mom program is seeking church communities willing to show the love of Christ to moms in need. The commitment begins prior to the birth and extends through the baby's first birthday celebration. The impact could be eternal. It is a perfect program for churches as a whole or for small groups. Let's do it! Call Karen Kuehnert if you or your small group is interested in participating in this great ministry!



LET THE GOOD TIMES ROLL!

Each family is challenged to bring one roll of toilet tissue each month! Donations are used to help Community Harvest Senior Pak and the Community Charity Outreach. Please place rolls in CHFB barrel.

NATIVITY SET MINISTRY: The Community Charity Outreach is collecting nativity sets throughout 2010 to distribute at Christmas to clients. As you shop garage sales, keep your eyes open. If you have a set you would like to donate, contact Marlene Lepper at 432-2033 x 219 or 432-7983. African American and Hispanic sets are especially hard to find.



JUSTICE BREAD will be available in the Narthex on April 10/11. The specialty bread is Cranberry. For every \$3 loaf purchased, \$3.30 is donated to Lutheran Social Services to help families in need.

POSTAL FOOD COLLECTION: The annual Postal Workers' Food Collection will take place on Saturday, May 8. If you are interested in helping with this event, contact Terry Butler at 436-3046. Most volunteers will be involved in sorting the food. You can also help by gathering canned and boxed food to set out by your mailbox on May 8. Last year, more food was collected from Fort Wayne residents than any other city in the whole country!



PUPPET MINISTRY: Did you know that the St. Michael Puppet Ministry performs at camps over the summer? Youth and adults can participate in this exciting ministry. Contact Nancy Sackschewsky at 625-4005.

SERVING AT ST. MICHAEL



SUPPORT OUR YOUTH by sponsoring the *Sonrise Ministry*, which provides the refreshments and sets up the St. Michael Fellowship time at 9:30 AM on Sunday mornings. This ministry is solely supported by free will donations and sponsorships. Celebrate an engagement, a baptism, your family...*dates are available through May 18 for sponsors and bakers.* If you would like to help, call Karen Hall at 432-9238 or Jami Jo Hahn at 260-359-1458.

ALTAR FLOWERS: We have many open dates on the altar flower calendar. Please call Mickey Buschman to reserve a date. This is a nice way to remember a loved one or a special date. Flowers that are not picked up are taken to a shut-in.



Welcome Center: Friendly faces are needed after worship services to welcome new people. Call Terry and Sandy Butler at 436-3046.

Ushers: Greet people as they come to worship, hand out bulletins, and help people with special concerns...if you can help: Saturday, contact Richard Klaehn at 432-2413; Sunday at 8:00 service, contact Chris Hupe at 484-5458; or Sunday at 10:45 service, contact David Crow at 459-9320.

Lead Usher for 8:00 AM: If you attend 8:00 service, enjoy being an usher, and can make a few phone calls per month, contact Chris Hupe at 484-5458 about helping.

Audio/Video Support for Thursday and Saturday services. If you attend these services and would be interested in learning more about how you can help, please call the church office at 432-2033. *It is easier than it looks or sounds!*



Support our Armed Force: If you are interested in serving on a leadership team, contact Mary Leiningner at 676-2367 or email indylein@comcast.net.

GOD'S MISSION—COMMUNITY CHARITY OUTREACH

Thank you for all your generous donations. In February, St. Michael provided 3,220 pounds of food to 37 families—20 of those families had no church affiliation. We are so thankful for your \$585.64 door offering and \$191 gas donation.

The Community Charity Outreach Program is in **need of facial tissue; laundry detergent and dryer sheets; dish soap; feminine hygiene products; pain relievers (adult and children); children's vitamins; lotion; shampoo; deodorant; and gas cards** for clients who come in for interviews.

Thank you for all your prayers and support. Your generosity is appreciated. God's blessings, *Marlene Lepper and Dick Doner*



St. Michael Lutheran Church
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Growing Disciples who
Proclaim the Gospel and
Serve the Community

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:
Third Friday of each month



Thank you to all the children who joined with our adult choir to sing in our Palm Sunday services. How wonderful to hear the beautiful blend of our children's voices with the adults. To God be the Glory!!!

Our sincere and warm thank you for your acts of kindness shown us at the death of my brother, Don Hegarty. Your prayers, cards, and calls meant much to us. God bless all of you. *Mary and Jerry Riedel*

BIBLES MAKE GREAT GIFTS! Confirmation and graduation dates are approaching quickly. The Lutheran Study Bible (hardback) is on sale for \$39.99 (reg. \$54.99). The Lutheran Study Bible (hardback) with thumb-index is \$44.99 (reg. \$59.99). You can imprint up to 30 letters/spaces per line for an additional cost of \$3 for one line or \$4 for two lines. Call the church office to order prior to April 30.



NIV Study Bibles Available (In Church Office)

- Paperback for \$15; hardback for \$35
- Children's Faith Alive Bible for \$20

Bibles include study notes and Scripture references; Words of Christ in red letters (adult Bibles only); concordance; maps, charts, diagrams, and illustrations; and introductions and outlines for each book of the Bible.



CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE!!!

www.stmichaellcms.org

- ⇒ Sermons
- ⇒ Interactive Calendar
- ⇒ Pictorial Directory
- ⇒ Birthdays
- ⇒ Newsletter

Did you know that you could have the newsletter emailed to you or read it online at www.stmichaellcms.org. If this option appeals to you, send the office an email (tammy@stmichaellcms.org) indicating that you would like to be taken off the newsletter mailing list. The office will send you an email to let you know when it is available.