

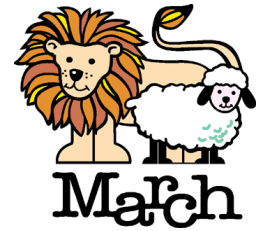
Growing
Proclaiming
Serving
Caring
Praising

Issue 3

ST. MICHAEL NEWS

2131 Getz Road
260-432-2033

Fort Wayne, IN 46804
www.stmichaellcms.org



2010



Schedule
of Worship for
Holy Week

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday	March 28	8:00 w/HC and 10:45 Worship
Maunder 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 3 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

MARCH EVENTS

- 2 Federation of Lutheran Women
- 3 Sr. Youth FIREPROOF
- 6 Men's Prayer Breakfast
- 7 God's Kids Worship
7th@7 Men's Event
- 10 Sr. Youth FIREPROOF
- 11 Heart to Heart
- 13 Women's Prayer Service
Jr. Youth POWERHOUSE
- 14 Women's Meet'n Greet
- 16 Heart to Heart
- 17 Sr. Youth FIREPROOF
- 24 Sr. Youth FIREPROOF
- 25 Shepherd Round-Up
- 27 Jr. Youth POWERHOUSE

**No Thursday services
during Lent**

Wednesday Lenten Services at 7:00 PM

Lasting about 40-45 minutes, these worship times will help the entire family better recognize Jesus' great sacrifice for us and prepare us for the celebration of Easter! Children's sermons will be a part of each service.

Fellowship, Food, and Worship

Lenten suppers will continue each Wednesday through Lent from 5:45 – 6:45 PM. Join us for dinner and fellowship before the Lenten services.

March 3	Servant Hearts	Southwest and pizza soups
March 10	Team Tandem/Waist Mgmt	Sloppy joes
March 17	Empty Nesters	Irish beef stew
March 24	Rupp's Troop & Station #19	Soup and sandwiches



Easter Egg-citement!

On Saturday, March 27, from 10:00 - 11:30 am, we will be having Easter Egg-citement! Join us for an egg hunt, craft and special Easter message. All pre-school thru 5th grade are welcome to explore this fun time learning about Jesus' death and resurrection. Volunteers are needed to help with each part, so contact Scott Hedtke if you are available.

EASTER FLOWERS: There are three ways that you can help us decorate the Sanctuary for Easter worship services. Monetary contributions of any amount may be given by using the pew envelope (please specify EASTER FLOWERS) and placing it in the offering plate. You may purchase a plant and bring it to church on the Saturday before Easter (please place your name on the plant if you are planning on picking it up). You can order flowers from the following list:

1 stem Lily	\$12.99	Azaleas	\$24.99	Daffodils	\$10.99
2 stem Lily	\$25.99	3-bloom Hydrangea	\$19.99	Hyacinths	\$10.99
Tulips	\$10.99	Mums	\$12.99		



Order forms are available on the Narthex table or you can call Ed Bowman at 432-8057 by Friday, March 26. If you will be bringing flowers, the church will be open from 9:00 – noon on Saturday, April 3.



God demonstrates His Own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Romans 5:8

Last month Nikki and I took Emily and Elijah to see their first Illinois basketball game in Champaign. After victories against Michigan State and Wisconsin, the Illini were flying high and looking for a third win over a top 25 team as they took on Ohio State.

I hyped the game to Emily and Elijah and talked about the crowd noise and rooting for the home team, saying we would be with 16,618 of our closest friends, with almost every one of them wearing orange. Emily was interested in watching the cheerleaders tumble and flip during the timeouts; Elijah was excited to watch the students go crazy. It was going to be a great time to stand up and yell for the team. Illinois suffered their worst home loss since 1976. As we walked out (before the game was over), Elijah said, "Dad, I thought it was going to be loud the whole time. The crowd didn't cheer much at all." I didn't have an answer for him then, and even after a few days don't have much to say.

March is my favorite month of the year. It starts on March 1, as Nikki and I celebrate our wedding anniversary, and continues as the Illini battle for an NCAA tournament bid and the Fort Wayne Komets continue to try and move up in the hockey standings. In the middle of the month, the NCAA tournament starts with 16 basketball games each of the first two days of the tournament. It is a time that I like to watch way too much television and find myself drawn into the "March Madness."

But the biggest madness of all this month will be our journey once again to the cross with Jesus. Without fanfare or accolade, Jesus deliberately and willingly sets out to give His life in exchange for ours on a cross. The only crowd cheering that day was a mob chanting, "Crucify!" Surrounded by two common criminals, Jesus pays the ultimate price for each one of us. Paul speaks of the event this way: *"If God is for us, who can be against us? He Who did not spare His own Son, but gave Him up for us all—how will He not also, along with Him, graciously give us all things"* (Romans 8:31-32)? What a great promise: we are on God's side, and He's rooting for us here on earth. And Jesus did all of this willingly for us. *"As the time came for Him to be taken up to heaven, Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem"* (Luke 9:51). Jesus marched to Jerusalem, and then up a hill, carrying not only a cross, but our sins as well. March Madness indeed!

As we walk with Jesus in His final night before His death each Wednesday night at 7:00 pm in our Lenten services, may we continue to grow in our understanding of the incredible love that God has for each one of us. I pray that we can all use this time to realize that a great crowd in heaven is cheering us on: *"Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus..."* (Hebrews 12:1-2).

In Jesus' Love, *Pastor Matt*

Please accept our deep thanks and gratitude for the generous support you have provided to the ministry of *Food for the Poor*. At the present time, all donations are designated for the recovery efforts in Haiti following the earthquake. At the present time we are not sponsoring mission trips to Haiti other than for medical and disaster relief trained personnel. However, the mission trip planned for Jamaica for this summer by St. Michael will be a great experience, and I encourage those who are able to participate in this experience. It was a privilege for me to speak at St. Michael. Thank you for receiving me with such gracious kindness, hospitality and providing gifts for the destitute and suffering people in Haiti (\$4,808).

*Greetings and peace, Walter D. Volz
Pastor Emeritus, Beggar for the poor*



Thank you for the prayers for my son, Gary, who is recuperating well from surgery. They feel they removed all cancer. *Fred Krotke*

Thank you for the many prayers for Tom Ross. Tom went to be with our Father in heaven in late January.

Ann Ross, wife of Tom and Frances McIntosh, friend

A special thank you to the choirs at St. Michael. Your music and voices add so much to the worship service—I am moved to tears many times.
Maxine Kramer

Thank you for donating books for Emmanuel-St. Michael. The books have been delivered, and many children will benefit greatly from your donations. Thank you for continued generosity and support of our congregation's mission efforts. *The St. Michael Book Club*

A special thank you for the many prayers, get well thoughts, and calls I received while I was ill.
Connie Suter



Lent

**For great is His love toward us, and the
faithfulness of the Lord endures forever.
Psalm 117:2**

What do you do when your spouse decides to leave you? Patrick Morley (Man in the Mirror) wrote the following letter to a woman whose husband decided he didn't love her anymore, and wanted to separate from her and their small son. I thought this might be helpful to anyone going through a "one-sided" divorce.

Dear _____,

As people, we all are very complex, and it is difficult to "divine" another person's motives. That said, the solution is always to work toward a surrender of our lives to the Lordship of Jesus. When a man is walking closely with his God, his heart is not restless. Conversely, when a man feels like he's missed something or that life is futile or meaningless, he will be nothing but miserable.

The ultimate problem is very easy to diagnose. Your husband needs to surrender his life in faith to Christ. No one else, however, can force or otherwise make that happen. So what can you do? God has given us two forms of causality: labor and prayer. Prayer is more powerful than our labor, which is why God has limited it (or else we would destroy ourselves!). So first, I would pray.

Second, I would not be weak and beg him to stay. If he senses you are weak, that will work against you. I'm not saying it's right, but that is the way it works. Don't give the impression you will "always be there" for him, no matter what. Conversely, do let him know you are willing to work it out in an orderly way.

Third, no matter what he does, you have to take care of yourself. Take care to guard and nourish your own mind, heart, body, and soul. The two best things I can suggest are 1) professional Christian counseling, and 2) a wonderful book by Linda Rooks, Broken Heart On Hold: Surviving Separation. She is a family friend and she was reunited with her husband after several years of living through what you are going through now.

Hopefully, there is some encouragement in what I've said. Lean on Christ. You WILL get through this no matter what happens.

I hope this can be helpful to you...or someone you know. I thought it was well written. May God bless you as together we serve the One Who gave His life for us, **Pastor Bob**



**But thanks be to God, Who always leads
us in triumphal procession in Christ and
through us spreads everywhere the
fragrance of the knowledge of Him.**

2 Corinthians 2:14

George Young and his wife often said, "God does the leading, and we do the following." Finances were always tight and Mrs. Young remarked, "Sometimes we didn't have too much of this world's goods, but we always had so much of Jesus."

They saved enough money to buy a small piece of land where George built a cottage. Although very simple, this was a dream come true for the Youngs, and they dedicated the house to the Lord. After being gone on a mission trip a few years later, the Youngs returned home to find their home burned to the ground. As George gazed at the ruins, he was reminded of all the treasures the fire could never destroy...his family, his faith, his ministry, his eternal home. He immediately penned the words to *God Leads Us Along*:

*Sometimes on the mount where the sun shines so bright,
God leads His dear children along;
Sometimes in the valley, in darkest of night,
God leads His dear children along;*

*Though sorrows befall us and Satan oppose,
God leads His dear children along;
Through grace we can conquer, defeat all our foes,
God leads His dear children along;*

*Away from the mire and away from the clay,
God leads His dear children along;
Away up in glory, eternity's day,
God leads His dear children along;*

*Some through the waters, some through the flood,
Some thru the fire, but all thru the blood;
Some through great sorrow, but God gives a song,
In the night season, and all the day long.*

Years later, Dr. Harold Lillenas tried to track down the author of the hymn but was shocked to find Mrs. Young, now widowed, living in the run-down county poor house. Although Lillenas was greatly troubled by Mrs. Young's situation, Mrs. Young had a different attitude: "God led me here! I'm so glad He did, for you know, about every month someone comes into this place to spend the rest of their days, and so many of them don't know my Jesus. I'm having the time of my life introducing them to Him! Dr. Lillenas, isn't it wonderful how God leads?"

Yes, God leads us along...that we would be as faithful.

Stephanie Maxson

“Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends.”

– John 15:13



Greetings from Youth Dude!

I love grizzly bears—the animals, NOT the team. In school, I did several reports and speeches on different kinds of bears, so I had to share this story with you.

Two adventurous teenage boys who were good friends were out spelunking (exploring caves) when they found what appeared to be huge bear tracks deep inside a long, cavernous tunnel. They bravely decided to keep going, but they moved ahead slowly and with extreme caution, keeping their eyes and ears open in case they actually encountered a bear.

Suddenly, from the darkness behind a rock jumped the biggest, meanest-looking grizzly bear they had ever seen. Standing squarely in front of them, the bear beat on his chest and roared like a lion, sending a terrible sound echoing off the walls of the cave. Scared to death, the two boys decided they had better run for their lives. They immediately turned to make a dash for daylight.

Just then, one of the boys dropped to the floor and started untying his hiking boots. He whipped the boots off, jammed on his running shoes, and began tying the laces.

His exasperated friend yelled at him, “Come on, man! Let’s get out of here! Why in the world are you changing shoes? We don’t have much of a chance of outrunning that bear anyway!”

Lunging to his feet and starting to run, the first boy replied, “I don’t have to outrun the bear. All I have to do is outrun you.”

How many of you can identify? Do you ever feel like bear bait? When the going gets rough, does it feel like your friends bail out on you? They remain friends with you until it costs them something—then they ditch you.


We all have a friend who will NEVER do this to us. Of course this friend is Jesus. He is a friend Who will never leave or forsake us. “And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age” (Matthew 28:20b).

Our friend Jesus even died on the cross to take away our sin just because He loves us that much. What great news!!

Your Bro in Christ, *Scott Hedtke*

Upcoming Stuff

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Sr Youth FIREPROOF | March 3,10,17,24 @ 7:45 - 9 pm |
| Jr Youth POWERHOUSE | March 13, 27 @ 6 – 8:30 pm |
| Just Girls Study | Sundays @ 1 – 2 pm |
| New Orleans Trip Meeting | March 28 @ noon |



BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS will be celebrated the weekend of March 13/14 for the following children through age 12: Braden Bartkowiak; Brooke Chaffee; Joseph Deeter; Victoria Hoffman; Isabella Kaufman; Nickolas Lehman; Olivia Logan; Mia Loggins; Rhiannon Powell; Wyatt Raney; Noah Selking; Addison and Jackson Stalter; Gretchen, Natalie, and Nathaniel Witmer; Elliot Yoder.

How important was Jesus Christ in world history? Check out the top 10 according to A Ranking of the Most Influential Persons in History¹:

1. Muhammad
2. **Isaac Newton**
3. **Jesus Christ**
4. Buddha
5. Confucius
6. **St. Paul**
7. Cai Lun
8. **Johannes Guttenberg**
9. **Christopher Columbus**
10. Albert Einstein

Jesus is only number 3!? WOW! I bet you thought He would be #1; I know I did.

Five of the people on the list are Christians (in bold print); three represent other religions; and one was an atheist. We can conclude that Christianity has impacted human history as much as all other belief systems combined.

The author listed Muhammad at the top because Muhammad himself did everything to establish Islam, organizing the spiritual, religious and political spheres of the Middle East into a new way of life. By comparison, he claims, Jesus supplied only the spiritual spark for Christianity, while the theological, ecclesiastical and missional aspects of Christianity were started and spread by St. Paul.

The author hints at an important fact: rather than doing everything by Himself, God uses His people for spreading the Gospel. *Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the Name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call" (Acts 2:38-39).* Could God evangelize the world without us? Absolutely! Does He? No! He does not need us to fulfill the Great Commission, but He calls us to be co-workers in His mission. Paul was influential, but he was not the only co-worker of the Church. God calls us in the same way.

Then the disciples went out and preached everywhere, and the Lord worked with them and confirmed His Word by the signs that accompanied it (Mark 16:20). The Greek verb, *synergeo*, in the phrase "the Lord worked with them" is where we get our English words "synergy" and "synergism." When it comes to our salvation, synergy is impossible. Synergism is the belief that we can work with God to achieve our salvation. The Bible teaches that Jesus alone is our Savior. He redeems and justifies us wholly on the basis of Jesus' work and not on the basis of our efforts or works.

When we speak of our role in God's mission, however, synergy does happen. Through the Holy Spirit, God works in us as we act according to His call. We know we are not alone; we are not limited to our own abilities; God gives us strength to witness. *For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do (Ephesians 2:8-10).* We work with the Lord, and the Lord works with us.

St. Michael has wonderful mission opportunities from our community outreach to our short-term mission trips. We also have mission opportunities at work, school, and every day in our lives.

Go with the Lord, **Vicar Ben**

¹ Hart, Michael *The 100: A Ranking of the Most Influential Persons in History* 1978



FOLD Ministry News...

March, did it come in like a lion or like a lamb? I am partial to lambs. You know FOLDS, shepherds, sheep...get it? Let's continue on our journey of examining our spiritual health:

So comparing five years ago to today, have you grown more aware of God in every area of your life?

We are surrounded by radio signals, television signals, cell phone conversations, and satellite transmissions. We are totally unaware of them because we aren't wired to receive them, but we are wired to receive God's signal because Christians are "alive in Christ" (Romans 6:11). The Holy Spirit is alive in our souls and brings thoughts of God and things of God to our mind. Are you noticing the Spirit's promptings more now than in the past? The Holy Spirit helps us to see God everywhere—the colors in flowers, the beauty of coral reefs and fish (I witnessed this snorkeling off Mexico), the kindness of a friend, finding those misplaced car keys. Spiritual growth increases our sensitivity to the Spirit's promptings...God's signal. Enjoy His promptings; they can give you a great feeling.



JOIN A WAIST MANAGEMENT CLASS to lose those extra holiday pounds that continue to linger. The 12-week daily study, "**Growing in the Fruit of the Spirit,**" examines hope, love, joy, peace, patience, goodness, compassion, faith, gentleness and self-control and how we can develop these fruits in our lives to help us lead a balanced life. The study is produced by First Place 4 Health and will help you create balance in the five core areas of your life: mental, emotional, physical, social and spiritual. The results: weight loss and total health from the inside out! The Bible study includes Scripture memory cards, a coordinating Scripture memory music CD, and two complete menu plans with grocery lists, recipes and detailed nutrition information. New classes begin on Monday, March 29, from 6:00 - 7:15 pm and Thursday, April 1, from 9:00 - 10:15 am. The cost is \$25 for new members and \$15 for re-joining members. Register by calling the church office or Karen Kuehnert.

FOOTPRINTS OF DISCIPLESHIP

Watch a small boy follow his dad through the snow. He stretches to where his dad stepped. Not an easy task. His small legs extend as far as they can so his feet can fall into his father's prints. The father, seeing what the son is doing, smiles and begins taking shorter steps so the son can follow. It's a picture of discipleship.

In our faith, we follow in someone's footsteps...a parent, teacher, hero...none of us are the first to walk the trail. All of us have someone to follow.

In our faith, we leave footprints to guide others...a child, a friend, a recent convert...none should be left to walk the trail alone. It's the principle of discipleship.

Why should I join a Small Group, you ask? Well...

*Making our way in the world today takes everything we've got.
Taking a break from all our worries sure would help a lot.
Want to go where everyone knows your name?
Want to go where people are glad you came?*

Try a **small group!**

Here are some other reasons:

1. Since the start of the Christian church, Christians have gathered in large groups and in small groups for growing, proclaiming, serving, caring, and praising (Acts 2:46-47).
2. God created us to be in relationships...with Him and with others (Genesis 2:18).
3. We need people because life is tough (Ecclesiastes 4:9-12).
4. Jesus' presence is stronger when two or three are gathered in His Name (Matthew 18-20).
5. Fellowship with other believers is part of God's plan for discipleship (Acts 2:41-42).

A FOLDS Catalog is available in the Narthex and www.stmichaellcms.org with days and times that small groups meet. Contact Karen if there is not a day and time that is convenient for you.

Thank you to all who submitted a wedding photo. You added to the fun. May God continue to bless all the marriages and new marriages here at St. Michael.

Karen Kuehnert

FOLD Small Group Director, 432-2033 x210
karen.kuehnert@stmichaellcms.org

Gentle Snow Fall

Snow!!!! Why did God make snow? God gave us a lot of snowy days this year, which I consider a blessing. God knows what makes my heart calm and reflective...how well He knows me and loves me. It has been snowing for two days now, and I love to watch it fall gently in what seems to be total peace with the world. Oh, how my life could be that—as the snow falls stress-free from the world.

*Every snowflake is different in its own special way
Watching it fall, its gentleness is the same day after day
People are special and are needed for their uniqueness
Loving, caring for each other to stride for peacefulness
Admire the fresh snow that makes the winter scene from mountains to valleys low
It is the uniqueness of every snowflake that makes the beauty of new fallen snow
Children are unique just as a snowflake that makes a snowy scene
The need to praise children for their special place, our minds need to be keen*

Daniel C. Doenges



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

PRESCHOOL SUNDAY is March 21 at the 10:45 service. All of the St. Michael Preschool children will sing with Pastor Bob.



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

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.



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.

ENROLLMENT: Our school is growing, which is a great problem! It also means we need re-enrollment information early to plan appropriately. If you have a returning student, please submit your re-enrollment application and fee by March 19. Forms are available in the school office or at www.esmEagles.com. Kindergarten enrollment is also open. If you missed the kindergarten information meeting, call the Getz Road school office at 459-1616 for your Kindergarten Enrollment Kit. Register soon as we expect a large incoming class and space to fill quickly. Students of all ages are welcome to explore ESM. If you would like to find out more, call either school office to schedule a visit.

EVEN IF YOU DON'T HAVE A STUDENT AT ESM YOU ARE WELCOME AT ALL THESE EVENTS.

- **NATIONAL LUTHERAN SCHOOLS WEEK, March 8-12:** Students will have several special events including take your parent to lunch days on March 10 and 11. Visit esmEagles.com for more info.
- **TALENT SHOW** on Saturday, March 6, at 7:00 pm at the Union Street gymnasium. Students of all ages surprise and entertain with their own special gifts.
- **FAMILY READING NIGHT AT GETZ ROAD:** On Friday, March 19, from 6:00 – 8:00 pm, Getz Road will host families of students in grades K-2 as well as families interested in knowing more about Emmanuel-St. Michael. This year we are featuring Caldecott Award winning books and activities that center around the books that have been recognized for their illustrations. Our main presenter will be author and illustrator, Claire Ewart, who will share the joys and challenges of getting books ready for publication. Mark's Ark is returning featuring animals for the book, *What Do You Do With a Tail Like This*. Many other hands-on activities are planned for the evening, so join us for the fun.
- **MARK THE DATE FOR THE SPRING MUSICAL ON MAY 14.**



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. A limited number of tickets are on sale at the high school for \$25. Call the Music Department at 483-1102 x198 for more info.

THRIFT SHOP DEALS: Stop in March 19-27 and find **half off** the entire store (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.

DISCOVER CONCORDIA: Tuesday, March 23, at 6:30 pm. The format of the evening includes small group tours, a look at some of our outstanding programs, and a chance to meet with administrators. The evening concludes with refreshments and everyone receives an informational CLHS DVD. For additional information, contact Krista Friend at 483-1102 x219.

38th Annual Captain Homer L. Clendenen Memorial Drill: Competition begins on Saturday, March 20, at 8:30 am. Events run continuously throughout the day with the final award ceremony held at approximately 7:00 pm. This event is free and open to the public. Watch some of the very best drill teams in the country compete for the coveted CPT Homer L. Clendenen Memorial Trophy.

Serving in March 2010 at St. Michael

Altar Guild		Donna Braun, Carol Korte, Linda Hansen			
Sonrise Ministry					
Sponsors	7 14 21 28	Care-A-Lots Small Group All baked goods by Campfire Small Group Care-A-Lots Small Group Care-A-Lots Small Group	<i>If you would like to sponsor a Sunday in honor of a birthday, anniversary, or just for no reason at all, contact Karen Hall at 432-9238 or Jami Hahn at 359-1458.</i>		
		Wednesday	Saturday	8:00 AM	10:45
Acolytes	3/6/7 10/13/14 17/20/21 24/27/28	A Kiefer, C Arnold J Bickel, R Nutter E Clifford, A Pinion E Moberg, E Zimmerman	A Fulton M Nichols K Black K Hatcher	M Meyer, A Lahey L Miller, L Tarbet Z Panning, C Patterson K Scriven, H Thomas	M Kartman, C Powers M Thompson, M Leininger L Worsham, I Doenges S Fisher, C Wright
Elders		Harry Jones	Al Claus	Shayne Ulmer	Dave Carden
		Saturday	8:00 AM	10:45	
Children's Church	6/7 13/14 20/21 27/28	Teresa, Ashley, & Katie Peters Kim Bruns, Emily Hahn Tera Klutz, Lisa Meeks Meghan Martin, Emily Hahn	Jen Ackmann, Shirley Fahlsing Jama Fry, Jennifer Nix Sandy Stutz, Kait Scriven Jane Sieber, Marilyn Crum	Michelle Bade, Hannah Drake Mary Nichols, Lynette Selking, Hannah Drake Gina and Katelyn Connelly Adrienne Clendenen	
Greeters	6/7 13/14 20/21 27/28	Penny Pequignot Bernie Bollinger John and Sue Baker Robert and Bernice Mock	Adam and Jami Jo Hahn Bud and Marie Siegfried Jerry and Mary Riedel Dorothy Smith	Dave and Marsha Carden Paul and Mary Leininger OPEN Michael and Colleen Blankenship	
Lay Readers	6/7 13/14 20/21 27/28	Diane Bricker Colleen Wielosinski Paul Leininger Bruce Schroeder	Jane Sieber Mary Nichols OPEN Jane Sieber	Lisa Lorenz Randy Fillmore Janice Pekrul Richard Pierce	
Ushers		Richard Klaehn, Jack Black, Larry Springer	Chris Hupe	Dave Crow	
Welcome Center	6/7 13/14 20/21 27/28	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	6/7 13/14 20/21 27/28	None Mike Nickelson None Indira Doenges	None Kristin Scriven None Corey Powers	Steven Fisher None Cody Arnold None	



Don't forget to change your clocks on March 14!



Save the dates...
June 27th will be the 3rd Annual Summer Picnic/Family Retreat. Families may sign up to camp on Friday, June 26, at Kramer Park. The day will include activities for children and adults, gourmet food (yes, cooked over a fire), devotions, singing, and more. Sunday will begin with a worship service, and continue with a potluck and games. You may come for the entire weekend or just parts of it. Look for more details to follow.

You are cordially invited to a service of worship and celebration at the commissioning of seventeen new Cross Connections Covenant Partners on Sunday, March 14, at 3:00 pm at Southwest Lutheran Church, 5120 Homestead Road. Those who are being newly commissioned from St. Michael are:

**Dennis Brink
Lynnette Brink
Penny Pequignot**

Those who have served for two years and are recommitting to service as covenant partners are:

**Beth Brackmann
Debbie Gotsch**

A reception in honor of all Covenant Partners will immediately follow the service.

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!

WOMEN'S MINISTRY



Ladies (and men), continue to save your loose change in your Mite boxes! Save your loose change in your Mite Box and bring to church to deposit in the large Mite Box at the Welcome Center. The Mite collections help projects such as improvements for St. John's Church in Southeast Indiana that include the installation of air-conditioning in the pre-school and meeting rooms.

DEAR JOHN by Nicholas Sparks will be the discussion book for the next Women's Book Group on Thursday, March 18, at 10:00 am in Room 24B. Anyone who loves to read will enjoy this book and is always welcome to join us. Call Gloria Helfrich at 672-8371.

WOMEN'S PRAYER SERVICE, "BEAUTIFUL FEET" will be on Saturday, March 13, in Room 24. The continental breakfast begins at 9:30 am followed by the prayer service at 10:00. Please register at the Welcome Center. Invite your friends, relatives and neighbors! Spending time in prayer, we will be encouraged to look for opportunities to share the Good News of Jesus in everyday situations. An offering will be taken for mites for missions.

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. Register with Mary Nichols by April 11.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- March 2** **Federation of Lutheran Women**
Quarterly Meeting hosted by St. Michael
1:30 PM in Room 24; Pastor Bob will do the opening devotion; Warren Wilbert will speak on Lenten Psalms
- March 13** **LWML Prayer Service: *Beautiful Feet***
Details listed above.
- March 14** **Meet'n Greet** in Room 24 from 9:00 – 9:25 am
Bring a friend and meet new friends!
- March 19** **Women's Board Meeting**
11:30 AM at Deb Gotsch's home
- April 17** **LWML Zone Rally**
Details listed above.
- May 2** **Mother-Daughter Tea**
Mark your calendar for this special event.

FEBRUARY MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

Transfer Out: Jerry and Jane Bischoff; Jill Brown; Ken and Maureen Cowles, and Ashley, Benjamin, and Ellyn; Brentley, Michelle, and Victoria Lothamer; Heather Pieper and Colten

Baptism: Alexander Huston

MEN'S MINISTRY

MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST: Join us on Saturday, March 6, at 7:00 am in the Fellowship Hall for breakfast, prayer, and fellowship. Hope to see you there!



MEN'S EVENT: Men, do you want to allow God's love to be perfected in you? Come to the March 7th@7 as Mike Lough, a Homestead High School Teacher, discusses ways you can allow God's love to be perfected by enhancing and enriching relationships with your family members and friends. *Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and His love is perfected in us* (1 John 4:11-12).

MUSIC MINISTRY



CHOIR REHEARSAL DURING LENT: The Men's Choir will be on Wednesdays at 6:15 pm; the Adult Choir will be on Wednesdays at 7:45 pm.

CHILDREN NEEDED!!!! I would like to put together a small group of children to sing a response piece on **Palm Sunday** with the Adult Choir. We will rehearse Monday, February 22, from 5:00 - 5:30; Monday, March 8, from 5:00 - 5:30; Wednesday, March 17, from 7:45 - 8:10; and Wednesday, March 24, from 7:45 - 8:10. Please call Stephanie Maxson for more information.



OUTDOOR SERVICE planned for Thursdays in July. Volunteers needed to help set up and tear down chairs. Contact Stephanie for more info or watch the bulletin.



9:09 EASTER SERVICE IS BACK! With Easter services at 7:00 am, 9:00 am, 9:09 am, and 11:00 am there should be plenty of room for everyone. What better time to invite someone to church than the victory celebration of our Risen Lord! (Room 24 will be used for the 9:09 service and will only have silk flowers to help accommodate those with allergies.)

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.



Capital Campaign

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

We continue to make great strides in our Capital Campaign. Last month, we celebrated the great work God is doing at St. Michael at the Capital Campaign Kick Off event. The inspirational messages reminded us of where we were, where we are, and where we are going. Our hearts were warmed by the video testimonials from our members, which you have been seeing in the worship services.

Many of you have been led to give sacrificially to make this Campaign a success. We thank you and know that the Lord will bless you in your obedience. We appreciate those who have volunteered to present St. Michael's growth plans to members and ask them for their gift. Thank you to everyone that has helped in other important areas.

We reached \$1 million on February 7, and as of February 23, the total stands at \$1,280,080. To God be the glory! While this is an exciting amount, much more work remains to be done. When someone calls to schedule a visit, please meet with the volunteer as soon as possible. Prayerfully and thoughtfully consider your gift, as well as volunteering to make visits to help us achieve success. 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 seek His plan for our church.

ST. MICHAEL NEWS



GOD'S KIDS WORSHIP: Join us on **Sunday, March 7.** God's Kids Worship is a complete service designed for children in 1st – 5th grade. The last 15 minutes is spent in small groups with an adult mentor doing an

activity that incorporates the message of the day. We will meet the first Sunday of every month in Room 24 during the 10:45 service. Parents should bring their children to Room 24 between 10:30 and 10:40 to sign in and then pick them up when the regular congregational worship service is finished.

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.

Church Photo Directory



GOD'S MISSION—

COMMUNITY CHARITY OUTREACH

Thank you for all your generous donations. In January, St. Michael provided 3,112 pounds of food to 34 families—21 of those families had no church affiliation. We have also been blessed to be able to help St. Michael families with their utilities. Thank you for the \$10.27 gas donation and \$44.15 donation.

The Community Charity Outreach Program is in **need of dish soap, feminine hygiene products, pain relievers (adult and children), 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

BETH MOORE

So Long, Insecurity

SIMULCAST EVENT
— LIVE VIA SATELLITE ON CCN —

Saturday, April 24, 2010

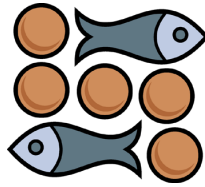
Kiss your insecurities good-bye and discover the joy of living with confidence!

WOMEN—REGISTER TODAY!

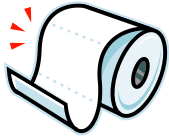
This exciting event will be held at St. Michael on April 24 from 10:00 – 4:00 pm. Tickets are available for \$20 (lunch not included) at the Welcome Center before and after worship services or in the church office during the week. If you have any questions, please call the church office at 432-2033. 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.

SERVING THE COMMUNITY

CRACKERS AND FISH: We are collecting fish and crackers. Please bring your cans of fish (tuna, salmon, or any canned meat) along with boxes of crackers. The food will be distributed to the Associated Churches' Food Bank who distributes the food to families in need.

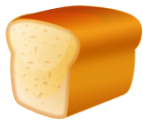


LET THE GOOD TIMES ROLL!



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 will be collecting nativity sets throughout 2010 to distribute at Christmas to clients. As you shop garage sales or store 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 March 13/14. The specialty bread is Apple Raisin. For every \$3 loaf purchased, \$3.30 is donated to Lutheran Social Services to help families in need.

UNDIES SUNDAY! St. Michael will be collecting underwear for the inmates at the Allen County Jail in March. WHITE items are needed for both men and women. Bras should contain no underwire and t-shirts must have sleeves. All sizes are needed. Paperback Bibles and books, English and Spanish translations, are also requested. St. Michael serving others in light of Matthew 25:36 and Hebrews 13:3.



MAD ANTHONY'S CHILDREN'S HOPE HOUSE is a non-profit hospitality house that provides shelter, meals, laundry facilities, and a peaceful refuge for families with critically ill or injured children who are hospitalized in any community hospital. St. Michael members can help by donating items on the wish list (www.childrenshopefw.org). Items can be placed in the barrel near the poster throughout March.

THE PURLS, a small group that knits and crochets for charity, has benefited the Women's Care Center (multiple deliveries), the Rescue mission (four bags of hats, scarves, and mittens), as well as Lutheran Hospital Pediatric Unit with filled Christmas stockings in 2009. We are also responsible for the St. Michael Prayer Shawl Ministry. There are adult and children's prayer shawls available, and we would like to encourage everyone to gift a shawl to someone who is ill, hurting, or needing an extra hug. In 2009, 28 shawls were taken. We feel so blessed to use our talents and interests for these ministries. Anyone interested in more information, please call Pat Armstrong at 432-4238.

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 Carole Klaehn at 432-2413 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.



LET IT SNOW?? Sign up on the main bulletin board to shovel snow from the sidewalk going from door to door for one weekend. It will not snow every weekend, but we need someone to be prepared. There are shovels and ice melt at each door and the snow blower will always be filled with gas. If you need a key or have any questions, contact Dan Clendenen at 705-5419.

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 on: 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!*



Puppet Ministry: Youth and adults can participate in this exciting ministry. Contact Nancy Sackschewsky at 625-4005.

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



St. Michael Lutheran Church
2131 Getz Road
Fort Wayne IN 46804

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Growing Disciples who
Proclaim the Gospel and
Serve the Community

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:
Third Friday of each month



ACOLYTE TRAINING FOR 6TH GRADERS: All 6th graders will be trained for Acolyte responsibilities on March 14, 21, and 28 during the Sunday School hour. Sixth graders will begin to acolyte the first weekend in June. If you cannot attend one of these dates, please contact the church office at 432-2033.

ACOLYTE SCHEDULE: We will be working on the schedule for June 2010 – May 2011. Postcards have been sent to all 6th and 7th grade parents regarding personal preferences and available dates. Please return these cards to the church office by Sunday, March 28.

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.