



CONNECTING People To Jesus

St. Michael's of Richville, Michigan

Welcome Pastor Knea and Family!



WELCOME OUR NEW PASTOR

Pastor Keith Knea will be installed as administrative pastor of St. Michael's in a special afternoon service on **Sunday, June 16th, at 4:00 p.m.** Local pastors from the Michigan District and our Circuit are invited to attend and participate. A meal will follow in the school gym. Members can bring a dessert to share if they wish. Everything else will be provided.

The Kneas will move into the parsonage the first week of June. Their move-in date with the moving company is scheduled for June 5th. The Call Committee has volunteered to assist with the move. Others will be contacted as needed.



Food Pantry Needs

We will have a pantry shower for the Kneas. You can bring non-perishable food items to the church office. That way they won't get mixed up with our regular collection for the local food banks. The Kneas could use some gluten-free items, and **NO ITEMS THAT CONTAIN NUTS.** You may also wish to donate Kroger or Meijer gift cards.

We give thanks to God that He has provided another pastor for our congregation. We also thank the many members who have worked to get things ready for their arrival. May God continue to bless, guide, and lead us in the years to come!



Greet our new
Pastor and family



June News 2024

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



Vacation Bible School invites you to Celebrate Our Savior, July 8-11, 2024 in the evenings. During this time, kids from Pre-school (4 yrs old, potty trained) up to

going into 6th grade will learn that Jesus came for us, heals us, cares for us, and saves us. They will participate in a Bible lesson, craft, music, snacks, and games themed according to the Bible lesson of the day. Watch out for registration coming soon!

VBS is looking for volunteers (evenings of July 8th-11th). We're looking for Group Leaders (no planning or teaching involved). Helpers to assist with leading the kids. Two people to man the foam machine on the last day. Helpers can be students/youth. If interested, please call Donna Bierlein at 989-868-4303. Leave a message and I will call you back.



Be a VBS Volunteer!



CIRCUIT CONVOCATION

June 8, 2024, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm Trinity Lutheran Church, Reese, Michigan

“His Church, His Mission; Our churches, His Mission”

How is our Lord at work in His Church in our congregations? You can find out and you'll be uplifted and inspired. Michigan District Circuits #9 and #10, Frankenmuth and Saginaw Circuits present a Convocation where all of us can gather together to see just how many places the Holy Spirit is at work among us. Join us Saturday, June 8 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Reese for our Convocation titled: “His Church, His Mission. Our churches, His Mission.” We begin at 9:00 am.

When you arrive, meet your brothers and sisters from our two circuits. Take some time to browse Mission displays. See what your sister congregations are doing in their local communities. You'll be surprised to find out all the various ways Our churches serve His Mission!

After we worship together, we'll hear from a Missionary Couple who have connections to our area. Adam and Christine Lehman serve the Lord with their four children as Missionaries in Puerto Rico. Hear their stories of the Lord's blessings and learn how the Mission Work of the LCMS is organized. You can be a part of this!

Lunch is provided for everyone. In the afternoon you can attend two sectionals about ministries that offer us opportunities to participate in His mission. Each of these is led by an organization based right here in Michigan! These include: LAMP, Orphan Grain Train, Lutheran Heritage Foundation, MOST Ministries and Sleep in Heavenly Peace. How will you choose which sectionals to attend? Find some information on each of the ministries on the church bulletin board.





I thank my God in all my remembrance of you...because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now.
(Philippians 1:3-4)

Dear friends,

As you know, I will be moving to a new calling as music director of Our Shepherd Lutheran Church and School in Birmingham, MI starting this summer. As I look back over my years at St. Michael's, I continue to be amazed at how blessed is this congregation and how blessed I have been to be a part of it.

We have been blessed to gather around God's Word. We have been blessed to receive the forgiveness of sins confessed. We have been blessed to hear the Word of God read and preached, in the full truth of the Law and the Gospel. We have been blessed to receive Jesus in His body and blood in, with, and under the bread and wine. Amazing blessings!

We have been blessed with wonderful musicians who use their gifts and talents to proclaim God's Word. We have been blessed with a pastoral staff which proclaims God's Word to us in all of its truth and purity. We have been blessed with a beautiful sanctuary, including an organ that effectively leads our song; we have also been blessed with the means to maintain that instrument so that this may continue years into the future.

We have been blessed with a great school and child care program, through which God's Word is delivered to our children. We have been blessed with talented students who have learned and are learning about the great love which God has for them. We have been blessed with teachers and staff who take seriously their calling to witness to God's love to their students.

We have been blessed with opportunities to study God's Word on Sunday mornings. We have been blessed with Kidz Min, bible class, and VBS teachers who communicate the love of God to students of all ages.

We have been blessed... And this list could continue for several additional pages. My prayer for this congregation is three-fold:

1. That God would continue to bless this congregation with His presence as you all continue to gather, and that God would support Pastor Knea as he begins his time as your shepherd;
2. That God would continue to bless the musical life of this congregation, and that more of our members would eagerly get involved in that life in whatever capacity God might have for you;
3. That God would lead each of us to a greater appreciation of all of these gifts, and a greater desire to be a part of all that this congregation is doing.

And I am sure of this, that He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. (Philippians 1:6)

Lutheran Laymen's League presents:

LLL Family Night

Monday, June 17th @ 5 p.m.

Hot Dogs/Brats provided after 6. Please Bring a dish to pass, your own table service, and a drink. We will have a guest speaker. See you there!



Stewardship Minute

Are you being a good steward? What does scripture tell us? Here are just a few verses to think on.

"Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion. 2Cor. 9 6-7

"Moreover, it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful." 1 Cor. 4 v. 2

"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Luke 12 v 34

"Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant not to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they make take hold of the life that is truly life." 1 Cor. 6 vs 17-19

"Whoever loves money never has money enough." Eccl. 5 v 10

Then He said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions." Luke 12 v 15

"Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms." 1 Peter 4 v 10

"Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another." Rom. 13 v 8

"But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you." Matt. 6 v 33

Board Of Stewardship



CONGRATULATIONS to Ella Persails and Lydia Campbell– 2024 Graduates of Frankenmuth High School– for being awarded the Doug Gruber Athletic Memorial Scholarships for St. Michael's Church and School!

Ella is the daughter of Adam Persails and Kelly Persails.

Lydia is the daughter of Lindsey and Brian Campbell.

The College Scholarship is for \$1500 each and Ella and Lydia's names will be placed on a plaque located at the Doug Gruber Memorial trophy case at the front entrance of St. Michael's Lutheran School.

Congratulations to Gwen Zwerk– 2024 Graduate of Reese High School- for being awarded the Doug Gruber Athletic Memorial \$1500 Scholarship for Reese High School.

Gwen is the daughter of Heidi and Andrew Zwerk.

Gwen's name will be placed on a plaque located by the Reese Hugh School Gymnasium.

Congrats to Ella Persails, Lydia Campbell, and Gwen Zwerk!

-Dennis and Vickie Gruber



June 2nd
@ 2 p.m.

Lutherans for Life of Michigan's annual Diaper Shower continues.

The project runs from Mothers' Day through Fathers' Day, June 16, 2024. Please bring in any size diapers (especially larger sizes if possible) and place them in the box in the foyer anytime through Fathers' Day. LifeClinic Community Resources in Bay City, a pregnancy resource center, is so appreciative for the support we at St. Michael's give them. We are an answer to their prayers.

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We are also thankful to some women of our church who made baby blankets and receiving blankets. Thank you also to Mary Martha for the items donated from the rummage sale. These items were donated to Positive Alternatives in Caro.



*"Bless
all the dear
children
with thy
tender care"*



Gifts and Memorials

In Honor Of:

Larry Rodammer

Home Purpose—\$25.00

Lorine Nickodemus— 90th Birthday

-gifts were given to Home Purpose by Ruth Maurer and Nancy Micinski

In Memory Of:

Mark Culbert

Park Hall—\$445.00

School Athletics—\$50.00

Missions—\$10.00

Floyd Auernhamer

School—\$40.00

Day Care—\$50.00

Park Hall—\$710.00

John Schluckebier

Alter Guild (Flowers)—\$35.00

Park Hall—\$1,577.00

Home Purpose—\$1,532.00

Boyd Terry

Park Hall—\$15.00

Betty Huber

Park Hall—\$15.00

Bill Rau

Missions—\$10.00

Sharon Dietrich

Missions—\$10.00

School Athletics—\$125.00

School Financial Aid—\$130.00

Mary Ann Mossner

Home Purpose—\$10.00

Park Hall—\$190.00

In loving memory of our deceased classmates:

Robert Schluckbier, Jim Palmreuter, John Gohsman, Mark Laux, Ron Bierlein, Paul Hecht -a donation has been made (\$100.00) to Home Purpose by the Confirmation Class of 1974

Tuesday, June 11th

1 to 6 p.m.

at the Park Hall

Make your appointment
by calling 866-642-5663

Or by visiting Versiti.org



Violence and Unrest at our Colleges and Universities

At the end of April violent, antisemitic groups set up encampments at Columbia University, UCLA, the University of Texas, and numerous other campuses. Protestors taunted, threatened, and assaulted Jewish students. At Columbia the protestors smashed windows, vandalized, and seized Hamilton Hall. At George Washington University they conducted mock trials and called for the execution of university administrators. These protests have been happening on college campuses since the terrorist group Hamas attacked Israel in October of last year, but the trouble escalated in April. Some of the protestors were not students but a motley group of anarchists, wannabe revolutionaries and, in some cases, paid protestors who work for radical leftist organizations funded by “dark money” which comes from our nation’s enemies. The protesters repeat chants on cue, playing the part of “useful idiots” as Vladimir Lenin liked to call them, mindlessly heeding the call for revolution.

Here are several observations that are important to remember:

The Palestinian people in the West Bank & Gaza elected Hamas to the majority of the seats in the Palestinian Legislative Council. The protestors blame Israel for the war, but this conflict was started by Hamas. For decades Hamas has said its goal is to destroy Israel and kill Jews. That’s the meaning of “From the river to the sea” and “Intifada revolution.” Ever since Israel was established in 1948, neighboring Arab countries have attacked it numerous times. Several U.S. presidents have tried to broker peace treaties but to no avail. It truly is sad that the Palestinian people are suffering, but they elected a terrorist government that started this war and uses them as human shields. Hamas hides rocket launchers and other weapons in residential areas, including schools and hospitals.

For all the outcry about Palestinian suffering, the protestors have ignored it everywhere else. Sudan has been ravaged by civil war for years. The southeast Asia country of Myanmar suffered the same fate, with a military coup in 2021. The militant rebel group Boko Haram sparked a war that has killed hundreds of thousands in several west African nations. Not a word from protestors about those conflicts.

The Radical Left is working to undermine democracy and weaken the U.S. from within. New York Mayor Eric Adams said what many people long suspected: *“There is a movement to radicalize young people...This is a global problem that young people are being influenced by those who are professionals at radicalizing our children and I’m not going to allow that to happen as the mayor of the city of New York. These external actors have a history of escalating situations and trying to create chaos.”* At a press conference NYPD officials described how they identified paid “bad actors” who have been at work for years on college campuses and other places, waiting for moments like this to start riots and unrest. The same thing happened with the riots in the summer of 2020.

Where did the tents and professionally printed signs come from? Isn’t it interesting that all of a sudden, hundreds - maybe thousands - of professionally printed signs, plywood sheets, and nearly identical tents appeared on campuses? Those things did not come from a bunch of poor college students.

The protestor’s carbon footprint. Progressives on the left regularly lecture us about saving the earth, climate change, and banning fossil fuels. Did you see the tons of trash left behind when the campus encampments were cleared? How much fossil fuel did it take to manufacture and transport all those tents, signs, water bottles, and plywood to the campuses? How much pollution came from the cans of spray paint? Apparently protestors and revolutionaries get a pass on climate change.

Finally, as I’ve said before, this is neo-Marxist ideology at work. It’s a trendy belief-system of many college pro-

fessors and administrators, politicians and news media: the world is divided into oppressors vs oppressed. White heterosexual males are guilty of oppression. Western Civilization is guilty of oppression. The United States is guilty of oppression. Black, Indigenous, and people of color are oppressed. Palestinians and people from the Middle East are oppressed. Jews are considered white European oppressors and therefore are easy targets for violence. This simplistic and vacuous ideology sees people only in terms of their racial identity and fails to acknowledge that oppression takes place everywhere: Ghengis Khan, Abu Bakr, Mao Zedong, Idi Amin, Robert Mugabe, Saddam Hussein, and Pol Pot, among many others.

We continue to pray for peace during these troubled times. It is also important that, as citizens of the United States, we speak out on these important issues. As St. Paul writes, "We are citizens of heaven, and we await a Savior from there, our Lord Jesus Christ." But while we are on this earth Jesus tells us, "You are the salt of the earth...You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl...In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven." We are blessed to live in a nation where our Founding Fathers gave us remarkable freedoms, including the First Amendment which guarantees the free exercise of religion. It is important that we defend our liberties and our way of life so our children and future generations can hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ, "the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes."

Pastor Gillaspie

Financial Report as of		04/29/24	
MISSIONS			
Missions Collected YTD	Goal \$50,000	\$	50,396.39
Non Budget Missions Collected YTD		\$	1,888.00
HOME PURPOSE			
		MTD	YTD
Home Purpose Balance as of	7/1/2023		\$ (112,077.61)
Home Purpose Income		\$ 97,360.60	\$1,146,551.90
Home Purpose Expenses		\$ 112,779.03	\$1,260,666.02
Thrivent Choice in H.P.	\$ 1,213.00	\$ (15,418.43)	\$ (114,114.12)
School Income		\$ 4,295.97	\$ 98,360.94
School Expenses		\$ 2,230.84	\$ 74,088.18
		\$ 2,065.13	\$ 24,272.76
Child Care/Preschool Income		\$ 62,049.85	\$ 497,491.53
Child Care/Preschool Expenses		\$ 57,183.75	\$ 456,219.79
Thrivent Choice in Childcare	\$ 12.00	\$ 4,866.10	\$ 41,271.74
Home Purpose Balance (includes Child Care/Preschool/School)			\$ (160,647.23)
New Construction Balance as of		MTD	\$ (46,394.50)
	7/1/2023		
Income	Goal \$200,000	\$ 5,950.00	\$ 66,761.04
Expenses		\$ -	\$ 48,135.14
New Construction Fund Balance		\$ 5,950.00	\$ (27,768.60)
Franklin Ave Mission	Goal \$5,000	\$ 200.00	\$ 1,852.00
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT			
Capital Improvement Balance as of		MTD	\$ 197,377.30
	7/1/2023		
Collected	Goal \$80,000	\$ 3,872.00	\$ 64,882.30
Expenses		\$ -	\$ 79,814.74
Capital Improvement Balance		\$ 3,872.00	\$ 182,444.86

St. Michael's Lutheran Church
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