



CONNECTING People To Jesus

St. Michael's of Richville, Michigan

NEWS FROM THE 175TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

TO
God
BE
THE
Glory
FOR
175
YEARS
1851 • 2026

The 175th Anniversary Committee has been busy at work to coordinate and plan the many events for the celebration and observance of the founding of our Church. There have been monthly video presentations, and these will continue leading up to a special September celebration. Since January we have had a monthly guest pastor, and that will also continue through the rest of 2026.

May 31 is the annual school picnic. Adding a new twist to this year's picnic, the various grades will be entering a float in the parade as we mark our 175th anniversary. Please attend the parade and the activities in the park. You may have noticed the tee shirts for sale in the foyer. If you have not picked one up yet, please do so. Thank You to the Frankenmuth Credit Union for helping with this project.

On Sunday, June 14, we are entering a vehicle in the Bavarian Festival parade. Thanks to Mallorie Rodgers for heading up this project, and I am sure she would appreciate any help.

On June 21 Pastor Bruce Kischnick, a son of the congregation, will be our guest pastor. If you have not picked up the bookmark in the foyer, it lists all the guest pastors as well as future 175th events.

On August 16 Pastor Steve Hess, son of the congregation and grandson of Pastor William Schoenow, will be our guest pastor. Between worship services that day we will have a special commemoration at the cemetery to honor the gravesites of many of the original settlers at St. Michael's. We will also recognize the four former pastors who are laid to rest in our cemetery. This will be an important historical tribute, and we hope all our congregational members attend. A thank-you goes to Lavonne Richards and Pat Roedel for planning this event.

You may also have noticed the 175th signs at the front of the Church and at the school. Mark Frank and Mike Rodgers are to be thanked for constructing these signs.

Coming soon we will have a commemorative Christmas ornament for sale to observe St. Michael's and the 175th anniversary. There will be a limited amount, so buy yours early. Jean Rodammer is leading this project. You also may have noticed the banners hanging in the Church highlighting each month's theme. This will continue each month leading up to September. The show case in the foyer has displays with historical memorabilia linked to each month's theme.

On September 13 we will have a special 3:00 pm German service. Pastor Mark Loest will be leading

(Continued on page 2)



this service and a daughter of the congregation, Monica (Frank) Heissenbuettel, will be the guest organist. She will also be the guest organist July 5 and August 2. These events will lead us up to the grand celebration of September 27.

St. Michael's will have a single 10:00 am church service Sunday, September 27th. Former Pastor Rob Gadeken will be our guest pastor and our former music director, principal, and organist Charles Chaveriat will be our guest organist. Brian Heinlein, another son of the congregation, will help with the music and choirs that day. Brian currently serves at St. Peter, Hemlock, and he will bring their choir to sing with St. Michael's choir. Brian Heinlein will also be a guest organist on July 12 and August 9. We also plan to include the school children in the September 27th celebration service, and after worship we will gather everyone outside for a group drone photo. We urge and invite all the congregation members to attend this special event.

Right after the special service on September 27th the celebration continues over at the park. We will serve a free will donation meal with pork sandwiches, German potato salad, cole slaw, baked beans, and potluck desserts. The refreshment booth will be open, similar to the school picnic. We thank Charles and Nick Zwerk Farms for donating the refreshments. Entertainment will include the Frankentrost Band, the Frankenmuth Gemutlichkeit group, and inflatables for the young children. Again we urge not only congregational members but community guests to attend. A big thank you to Pam Mossner for her expertise in planning the September 27th events and for the many other things she does. The 175th Committee will send out further information and reminders as we get closer to this special September anniversary celebration.

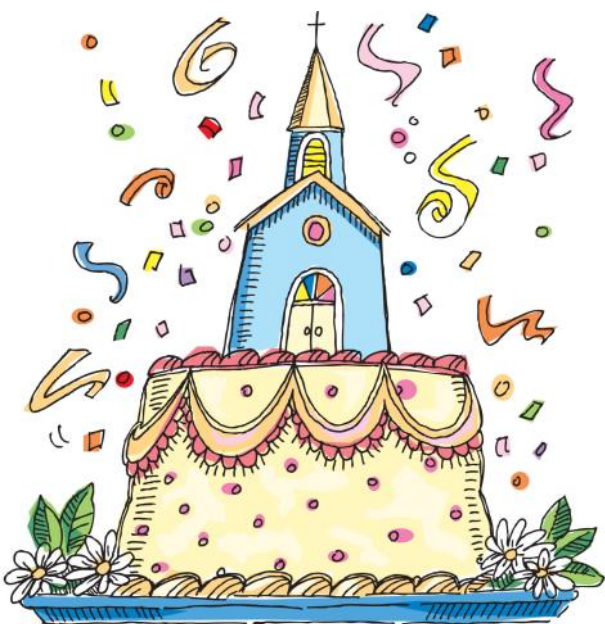
Back in March Pastor Gillaspie, Scott Wenzel, Charlie Zwerk, and Wayne Hecht were interviewed on WSGW's Art Lewis show. Future features are planned for the local TV stations, and we hope to have another WSGW appearance later this summer. We thank Scott Wenzel for the articles in the Frankenmuth News and look forward to many more.

As you can see the Committee has been hard at work to make our 175th a special occasion. TO GOD BE THE GLORY FOR 175 YEARS is our theme. St. Michael's has been richly blessed. It is altogether appropriate to give thanks to God as we remember our forefathers who did so much in establishing and leading this congregation. We urge ALL church members to participate in this observance and celebration. The committee for the 175th anniversary is a great group of people and I want to recognize these members.

Al Rodammer – Chairman,
Scott Wenzel Co-chairman,
Pastor Gillaspie, Ann Gillaspie – Secretary,
Wayne Hecht, Dave Janson, Renee Marsrow, Pam Mossner, Earl Palmreuter, Lavonne Richards, Jean Rodammer, Pat Roedel, Mallorie Rodgers, Don Weber, D.J. Weiss, Charlie Zwerk, and Mark Frank.

Please thank these committee members for their time, talents, and efforts in putting the plans together for the 175th St. Michael's Anniversary celebration and observance. The committee will keep you updated on events.

Al Rodammer
175th Anniversary Chairman



A SEASON OF
CELEBRATION

Sisters of Ruth



June 3rd

Lunch at
Bavarian Inn—
Michigan on Main.

Watch the bulletin for
more details!



Tuesday, June 9th

1 to 6 p.m.

at the Park Hall

Make your appointment by calling 866-642-5663
or by visiting Versiti.org

Lutheran Laymen's League

THE ROADS AND TRAILS LESS TRAVELED
Carol & Tom Hess will present a photo travelog of
some of the unique and beautiful places they have
visited around this beautiful planet that God
created.

LLL PEAT SALE

Thank you from St. Michael's LLL to
everyone who supported the annual peat
sale and made it a great success.

With your purchases, donations, and the
sponsorship from Thrivent The Lutheran
Laymen's League will make a donation to
Jameson Strong, Sleep In Heavenly Peace
and the Lutheran Hour Ministries
International.

May the Lord bless your support.

✝ Financial Report as of		04/30/26	
MISSIONS			
Missions Collected YTD	Goal \$50,000	\$	46,656.32
Non Budget Missions Collected YTD		\$	1,816.00
HOME PURPOSE			
		MTD	YTD
Home Purpose Balance as of	7/1/2025		\$ (71,597.09)
Home Purpose Income		\$ 138,799.09	\$ 1,302,157.25
Home Purpose Expenses		\$ 175,581.29	\$ 1,432,563.13
Thrivent Choice in-H.P.	\$ 9,783.00	\$ (36,782.20)	\$ (130,405.88)
School Income		\$ 5,957.38	\$ 64,519.31
School Expenses		\$ (657.84)	\$ 66,343.45
		\$ 6,615.22	\$ (1,824.14)
Child Care/Preschool Income		\$ 67,511.49	\$ 613,391.38
Child Care/Preschool Expenses		\$ 90,638.00	\$ 664,352.54
Thrivent Choice in Childcare	\$ 292.00	\$ (23,126.51)	\$ (50,961.16)
Home Purpose Balance (includes Child Care/Preschool/School)			\$ (254,788.27)
New Construction			
New Construction Balance as of	7/1/2025	MTD	\$ 12,690.88
Income	Goal \$25,000	\$ 1,075.00	\$ 15,222.00
Expenses		\$ 17.10	\$ 53.27
New Construction Fund Balance		\$ 1,057.90	\$ 27,859.61
Franklin Ave Mission	Goal \$5,000	\$ 120.00	\$ 4,310.00
Capital Improvement			
Capital Improvement Balance as of	7/1/2025	MTD	\$ 144,257.67
Collected	Goal \$80,000	\$ 4,175.66	\$ 50,030.54
Expenses		\$ 2,516.93	\$ 32,171.50
Capital Improvement Balance		\$ 1,658.73	\$ 162,116.71

***The 175th Anniversary
Committee Needs Your Help!***

We are looking for photos/
memorabilia from past
Baptisms—Weddings—Confirmations
or any other special events from our
church’s past for our celebration!

Please contact Ann Gillaspie, Scott
Wenzel, or
Al Rodammer
with questions
or donations!



We are reaching
out for some
new, “younger”
volunteers for
trimming
the Church ditch!

This is done 3 times a year, and we need some younger help to get down to the bottom.
A big Thank You to all that have helped in the past to keep the ditch clean and any additional help would be
appreciated! If interested, please contact Dennis Gruber (989) 868-3684.

ST. MICHAEL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

1st ANNUAL

RAIDER OPEN

GOLF OUTING

TIMBERS GOLF CLUB

**SATURDAY
JULY 25
2026**

Register Online at
stmichaelsrichville.org

Schedule of Events
8:00 am Registration Coffee & Donuts
9:00 am Shot Gun Start - Four Person Scramble
Lunch at the Turn, Reception following, Awards and Prizes, Dinner

Format
St. Michael's Raider Open golf outing is a four person scramble.
Par 3 Golfers enter at the hole
Par 3's closest to the pin (Men and Women)
Skins pot (\$20.00 per team)
Orange Tees: Men
Blue Tees: Senior Men (65 & Over)
White Tees: Women

Registration and Sponsorship Information
Entry Fee: \$100.00 per person (\$400.00 per team). Includes 18 holes w/ cart, lunch, dinner, complimentary gift bags and prizes (team, drawings and hole prizes).

7300 Bray Rd, Vassar, MI 48768

HOLE SPONSOR

\$150

Your Business Name
on a Tee Box Sign

- ✔ High Visibility
- ✔ Supports Fundraiser
- ✔ Tax Deductible!

SPONSORSHIPS

RAIDER EVENT SPONSOR - \$2000.00
RAIDER DINNER SPONSOR - \$1000.00
RAIDER LUNCH SPONSOR - \$500.00

For more information contact
Mark Schoenow - 989-751-4910
Scott Wenzel - 989-245-9679

CONTACT US TO DONATE PRIZES OR BECOME A HOLE SPONSOR:

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Outdoor Worship Services



June 28th, 10:30 a.m.
July 26th, 10:30 a.m.
August 23th, 10:30 a.m.

**Please bring your lawn
chairs and join us for
Worship in the Park!**

Each Sunday will be weather permitting.

SAVE THE DATE!



July 13th-17th

**Sign up on the church
website:**

www.stmichaelsrichville.org



ST. MICHAEL'S LUTHERAN SCHOOL
CLASSROOM CONNECTIONS
School Theme: "You're a Piece of God's Plan" Jeremiah 29:11



Kindergarten –Mrs. Hoepfner and Mrs. Jammer

As we are winding down the school year, we have been observing the life cycle of butterflies in our classroom, visiting the Saginaw Children's Zoo, leading chapel as a class, and having Preschool visit our classroom. Currently, we are also busy doing NWEA testing and individual testing for report cards.

1st Grade - Mrs. Janson and Mrs. VanDeVeer

As this school year is coming to a close, we are wrapping up our unit in math by learning how to tell time, our science unit in learning about the five senses and fine tuning our reading and writing skills before heading into second grade. We enjoyed a fun field trip to the Mid-Michigan Children's Museum this past week and the kids had a blast building, exploring, and playing together. We have had a great year and are all looking forward to summer break! Thank you for your continued support and prayers for our school this year.

2nd Grade - Mrs. Doan

We are winding down our year. We took our NWEA online tests and Mrs. Doan did individual reading tests with each student to see the progress they have made from the beginning of the year to the end of the year. We are learning the 10 Commandments for memory work and will be learning the books of the Bible too. We practiced a little cursive and in math we learned to count money and are learning to tell time. We will also learn a little about multiplication and division. In Social Studies, each student had to tell all about the state they were assigned and make a poster highlighting the state flower, bird, tree, nickname, etc. We are all looking forward to summer break!

3rd Grade - Mrs. Bierlein

As our year is coming to a close, in math we learned about multiplying two to four digit numbers by one digit. We are going to finish by learning about fractions. In science we have been learning about weather and will be finishing up with outer space. We have had a good year and have learned a lot. We will be ending the year with our field trip to the Zibiwing Center (Native American History Museum). I hope that everyone has a wonderful, restful summer!

4th Grade - Mrs. Knea

Happy May from the 4th graders. The 4th graders have had a very exciting April. We finished "Charlotte's Web" and started a new unit in our reading. We will be finishing up our state projects. We have been receiving post cards from all over the country. We have the goal of receiving one from each state. In math we will be learning more about fractions and in science we will learn about weather. Mrs Knea and the fourth graders want to thank St Michael's members for all their prayers. We have grown so much and are ready for 5th grade. Have a blessed summer!

5th Grade - Mrs. Krause

5th grade is winding down with fun field trips to Henry Ford & Greenfield Village, the Octagon Barn, and the Loons, finishing a novel Prince Caspian, having exciting labs in science making our own water fountain and anemometer, and planning the annual CF Walk. We have enjoyed 5th grade and finally being part of the middle school but are excited for summer to be here!

6th Grade - Mrs. Woodward

The 6th grade science class is finishing a short chapter on genetic engineering and biotechnology that completes our genetics unit. They will be focusing on Ecosystems and Food Chains as we end the school year. The 7th grade science class is learning about Weather and Climate. The 8th grade science class is studying Electricity, building Circuits and Electromagnetism.

7th Grade - Mrs. Lamb

Hello May - Thank you to all for the wonderful Teacher Appreciation Week. I'm feeling the love. 6th graders are currently reading The Wonderful Wizard of OZ and are marveling at how different it is from the movie. They are learning about South America in Social Studies. In math we have started volume and continue moving through all operations with fractions & mixed numbers. 7th Graders are working on their final essay which is a personal narrative and finished up a unit on Ancient Greece and then will quickly visit Ancient Rome. Pre-Algebra we've been hitting solving equations and inequalities hard and I'm pleased with their progress. It's been an amazing year! Have a GREAT Summer!

(Continued on page 6)

8th Grade - Mrs. Heinlein

As we wrap up our school year, the English and Literature students have been hard at work applying the skills they have developed throughout the year. Our 5th and 6th grade English students are putting their knowledge into practice by writing research papers, while the 8th graders are analyzing DBQs (Document-Based Questions) and writing essays that showcase their growth as writers and critical thinkers. In Literature classes, students are finishing their final novels and reflecting on the themes and lessons learned through their reading.

This spring also brought many memorable educational experiences, including a 5th-8th grade trip to the Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village, where students explored history through hands-on learning and immersive experiences.

As the year ends, our 8th graders are preparing for an exciting milestone: Confirmation and the transition into high school as freshmen this fall. We are proud of all they have accomplished and pray for God's guidance and blessings as they take this next important step in their journey.

Resource Room - Mrs. Newton

Yea! Our students have made so much progress in their reading this year! I am working on getting all the K-4 graders screened one last time. Notes will be sent home with parents with information about growth in reading skills over the course of this year.

Media Center/Upcoming Events - Mrs. Brown

Things are winding down in the Media Center. Students have checked out their final books for the school year and are working on getting the last of their A.R Points. Reminder that all books need to be back into the media center by May 22, 2026. Reminders will be sent out for missing books. I will be gathering summer reading information from the local libraries as it becomes available and will be sending it home with students. Local libraries always have some fun activities to keep the kids busy during the summer! Please check them out and keep reading throughout the summer!!

Athletic Department

Track has been going well with 18 athletes participating from grades 4-8. Regionals are May 16 and we look forward to athletes qualifying for the State Meet at VLHS on May 30. Watch the PTL page for updates on our tracksters. Go Raiders!!!



Congratulations
to our 2026 Graduate:
Cohen Lee
(Reese High School)
son of Brandon & Heather Lee

for being awarded the Doug Gruber Athletic Memorial Scholarships for St. Michael's Church & School.

This college scholarship is for \$1500, and Cohen's name will be placed on a plaque located at the Doug Gruber Memorial trophy case at the front entrance of St. Michael's Lutheran School.

Congrats again to Cohen!
-Dennis & Vickie Gruber

Statewide Diaper Shower

sponsored by Lutherans For Life of Michigan
May 10th through June 14th, 2026

Lutherans For Life of Michigan is again sponsoring a statewide Diaper Shower to help local pregnancy care centers. This annual project encourages and supports local pregnancy resource centers throughout our state.

Every Lutheran congregation in Michigan is encouraged to collect disposable diapers on the Sundays between Mother's Day [May 11] and Father's Day [June 15]. Disposable diapers of any size may be placed in the box in the foyer. We will then deliver them to Positive Alternatives Pregnancy Resource Center in Caro and LifeClinic in Bay City. The centers are always so appreciative of these gifts for mothers and children in need.

Thanks for your participation in this outreach project. We praise God for these Christian ministries and the help they give to women and their unborn children. Thank you also for your generosity in this annual Diaper Shower. Praising our risen Lord Jesus for the NEW life He has won for us.

Dianne Stresman ;Life Ministry Coordinator; Lutherans for Life of Michigan

St. Michael's Mother's Day Chicken BBQ — A Magnificent Success!

VOLUNTEERS – We Couldn't Have Done It Without You! Thanks to the dedication and hard work of our amazing volunteers, this year's Mother's Day Chicken BBQ was a tremendous success! From start to finish, everything ran smoothly—and we owe it all to YOU.

Cupcake Crew, Coleslaw Crew, Saturday Morning Helpers & Everyone Who Lent a Hand You made it happen—thank you!

A Special Thank You to Kay Buetow. We are still receiving compliments on how fantastic the dressing was!

BBQ Pit Crew- A huge thank you to our BBQ Pit volunteers. We received so many compliments on the delicious chicken! Special recognition goes to Tim Bierlein for your incredible organization and for rallying the crew. The BBQ Pit absolutely knocked it out of the park!

Sales & Drive-Thru Team- You kept the lines moving quickly and safely. Great job making sure everyone received their meals efficiently!

Kitchen Crew- You were fabulous, dependable, and worked tirelessly behind the scenes preparing food and supporting the serving line. We are so grateful!

Serving Line Rockstars- You are the coolest crew around—serving 1,400 containers without missing a beat!

Runners- A special thank you to the Leanne Rodammer Family & Bickel Girls for expertly leading the front line this year. We couldn't have done it without your leadership!

Community Volunteers- Thank you to those who may not belong to St. Michael's but generously gave your time to help us. Your support means so much.

Safety Team—Thank you to the Richville Fire Department for helping keep everyone safe!

Special Behind-the-Scenes Recognition—A special thank you to Levi Mossner, Kevin Stressman, Vern Squanda, Vic DiBerardino, and Noah & Aiden Feldott. Your hard work behind the scenes helped make so much possible, and your support played an important role in the success of this event. We truly appreciate all you did!

Sponsors & Supporters—A heartfelt thank you to:

- Frankenmuth Credit Union
- Vic & Lynn DiBerardino
- Norm's Market
- Cake That
- Vassar Building Center
- St. Michael's Endowment
- Thrivent
- Shoprite
- Dunn Hardware

We're thrilled to share that we sold 1,400 meals and raised over \$18,000! All proceeds will benefit St. Michael's. We also donated 200 meals to the Franklin Avenue Mission.

We look forward to seeing everyone again next year and working together to make another wonderful Mother's Day Chicken BBQ a success!

With sincere gratitude,
Connie Mossner
Pam (Mark Mossner)
Roxane Mossner
Pam (Jeff Mossner)



St. Michael's Lutheran Church
3455 S. Van Buren Road
Reese, MI 48757

