



CONNECTING People To Jesus

St. Michael's of Richville, Michigan

PASTOR KNEA'S PONDERINGS.....

This has been a tumultuous year for our country and world. We have had people take over our colleges and universities in pure acts of racism, and they are not being stopped. There are wars and rumors of wars going on around the world. People are attacking us in the middle east. The tensions are rising, and we are fighting amongst each other as to who is the one that is wrong and who is right.

This all seems strange, but perhaps this is all part of the fruits that we are being shown. Jesus says in Matthew 7:15-17 "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. You will recognize them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? So, every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit. A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a diseased tree bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Thus you will recognize them by their fruits."

Some things are going on with our elections as well. It seems like many are trying to allow the candidates to hide their true fruits. For instance, some have hidden the facts by making them not clear in an attempt to influence people's votes. One of those issues is abortion. One candidate seems to think that people want abortion so badly that many of the commercials the candidate has seem to point out that the candidate is for abortion. In the debate

the other candidate mentioned that a governor once said that if a baby was born alive after an abortion the baby would be kept comfortable and after a conversation, they would determine whether the life would be ended or not. It was live fact checked by the moderator and said that no state allows a baby to be killed after it had been born. This however is not true in fact the governor of Minnesota signed into law legislation that would no longer require life saving measures for children who have been born after an attempted abortion. There still is the other governor who said this in Pennsylvania. He is no longer governor, and they didn't pass a law in Virginia, but he did say it, so it was on their mind. While this is an issue, no abortion is ok. All abortion is killing a baby. The only reason to intervene in a pregnancy would be to protect another life, moms or a sibling like an atopic pregnancy. For instance, an atopic pregnancy is where the baby is developing in the fallopian tubes rather than the uterus. The baby will not survive, and the mom is in grave danger. While this abortion is necessary, it is not celebrated and with all loss of life we mourn but are reminded of the resurrection.

The fruits are being shown if the candidate or the media would like it or not. On top of this gross misrepresentation, she is clearly showing her fruits as a candidate of murder. We are living in a troubling world right now where a candidate running for office of the president is running on a platform of murder.



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Jesus said according to Matthew 10 that He didn't come to bring peace, but a sword. He also said according to Matthew 24 that it wouldn't be easy to believe when it was time for Him to return and many false prophets would rise up among you. Is this His time? Every generation has asked that question. It really could be, but we still right now in our country can possibly do something. We can vote for life and not murder. We may not like who the candidates are. We may think that their behavior and their actions are unforgivable and not worthy of the office of President, but nothing compares to applauding murder.

We also have each other. St Michael's was planted here 173 years ago to love, encourage, and reach out with the Gospel to those who lived here whether German, Native American, or any other ethnicity. It was also supposed to be for those who were poor so that they could be blessed with the opportunity to thrive. God has blessed this community and made it grow. This community is here to continue to provide, peace, hope, and love amid the world's chaos. God's Word continues to sustain us. We may be seeing a difficult world around us, but God's Word is the same yesterday, today, and tomorrow. God is with us all, because He shows us His Hope in life everlasting. This world is temporary, and God is with us telling us to be still and know that He is God. God's blessing be upon us at St Michael's, and God bless America.

Pastor Kneea



Mary Martha Guild

Meeting

October 7th

6:00 p.m.

We will be working on assembling the School and Hygiene Care Kits for the Orphan Grain Train.



Franconian Zone Lutheran Women in Mission 2024 Fall Rally

St. Michaels Lutheran Church, Richville, MI

Saturday, October 19

8:30 AM, Registration/Breakfast, 9:00 AM Rally

Cost: \$8.00 per person

Bible Study with Rev. Wes Gillespie
Speaker: Sharmin Heganauer

Impact Designs- Rescue Ministries of Mid-Michigan
Helping families transition out of emergency shelters
In-gathering: Laundry and Cleaning Supplies
(including mops, buckets and baskets)

Special Music-Madelyn Rogers,
Mite Offering, Business Meeting

Pastor
Appreciation
Day

October 13th
(Second Sunday
in October)



Lutheran Laymen's' League

MEETING

Monday, October 21st

Church Overflow Room, 6:30 p.m.

Our guest speaker will be Pastor Roy Peterson, Lutheran Hour Ministries.

Refreshments will be supplied by Wayne V. Bierlein.

New members are always welcome to join!

LLL Greenery Sale

The St. Michael's Lutheran Laymen's League is having the annual Greenery Sale again this year. We are taking orders for the beautiful grave blankets and wreaths. They are decorated with red ribbons, bows and pine cones, and are furnished by the same supplier we have used in recent years. We will place a Wreath or a Grave blanket on the grave site of your loved one in St. Michael's Cemetery. You may also order and pick up and take a wreath or blanket to another location.

To place an order, or for more information, please call

Bruce Landskroener (989) 798-8073 or Jim Hecht (989) 670-1710 or (989) 823-9252.

Grave Blankets: \$49.00 & Wreaths: \$29.00 .

We will place the Blankets and Wreaths on St. Michael's Cemetery the week before Thanksgiving. The pickup order day is Saturday November 23, and will be at the shed next to the Church parking lot from 9:00 AM until 12:00 Noon.

The proceeds from this sale will go to Pastor Steven and Martha Mahlburg to help with his mission work in Sri Lanka. He Provides administrative support, Christian Education and mentoring for the pastors, evangelists and laypeople. St, Michael's Hot Lunch program will also share in the proceeds of this sale. This project is sponsored by Thrivent Financial.



—LLL Greenery Committee



Sisters of Ruth

Wednesday, October 2nd

We will be going to the
Country View Market.

Watch the Bulletin for more details!



2024 Church Directory Completion

We want to extend our heartfelt thanks to all the St. Michael's members who participated in making this directory a success. It's been a long time in the making, and a lot has changed in the past eight years! With God's help and many prayers, we made it through.

As of today, we have 561 families listed in the address directory portion of this 2024 edition. A total of 288 members participated in the New Church Directory Project, which is 51.34%—so, over half!

This was a huge project, but it's something anyone can do with the right support and a willingness to ask for help. Reflecting back, there are a few things we would have done differently. For example, there is at least one case of a misspelled name—possibly more. We appreciate your understanding.

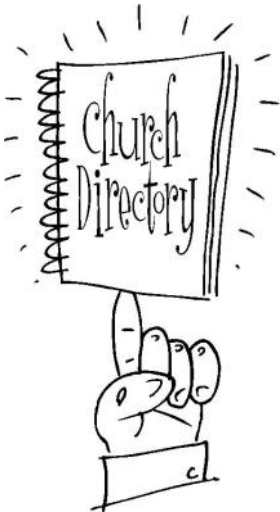
On that note, a guide for the next committee is being worked on and will be available in the church office for future reference.

A special thank you to St. Michael's for covering the sitting fees for all those who had their photos taken.

Thank you to St. Michael's Outreach for funding the binders and the printing of all the addresses.

A big thank you goes to Lois Bickel for her time and hard work on this project.

Thank you,
Pam Mossner
St. Michael's Outreach



Church Directories

for people who had their pictures taken can now be **picked up at the church office**. Please call ahead to make sure someone is there.

If you did not have your photo taken, or if you would like an extra directory, please contact Rummel Studio (989)652-9909 for prices.



Mark your calendar for
Tuesday, October 8th from 1 to 6 p.m.
at the park hall. We will have free t-shirts, and pizza. Making appointments is appreciated. Call 1-866-642-5663. We hope to see YOU there, giving the gift of life.



World Relief Quilting

58 quilts were delivered to Orphan Grain Train in Sebawaing this week. Thank you to all the ladies who have donated materials/supplies, cut squares and took the time to sew them all together into beautiful quilts for people in need, here in the U.S. and in other countries. The last shipment out of Sebawaing a few weeks ago was headed to the Ukrainian people.



LET
gratitude
FOR THE PAST
INSPIRE US
WITH trust
FOR THE FUTURE.
—Françoise Fenelon

ALTAR GUILD MEMBERS

Sign up for 2024 will be
Sunday, October 20.

The calendar will be on the table in the foyer. Please sign up for 3 weeks, unless you take a holiday. If you haven't done a holiday the last few years, please take your turn. Thank you!



Stewardship Minute

Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD)

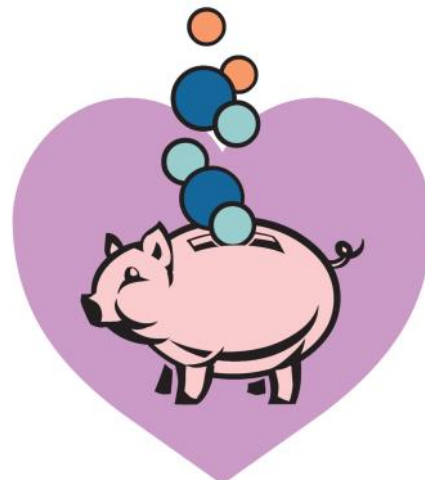
There is a terrific opportunity for people who are at least 70 1/2 years of age and have an IRA retirement account. They can make a charitable distribution each year up to \$100,000 and not pay a penny of income tax! The check must be made out from the financial institution and go directly to the church/charity.

The law now says that you must start to take a required minimum distribution each year when you turn 73. The IRA is generally 100% taxable when you take money out. This required distribution may increase the income tax on your social security. It may also increase your Medicare premium.

So, if you can afford to, why not gift IRA money to church or qualifying charity and not pay a penny more in income tax?

Consider this (if applicable): Why not give pre-tax dollars instead of after-tax dollars? It makes great financial sense and is also being a wise steward of God's money.

As always, please consult your tax and financial advisor(s) before making these important decisions.



Gifts and Memorials

In Memory

Jack Rodammer

Park Hall—\$100.00

Arnold Bekemeier

Missions—\$10.00

Home Purpose—\$25.00

Linda Gray

Missions—\$10.00

Choir—\$20.00

Park Hall—\$1,150.00

LCMS World Relief—\$500.00

In Honor

Bernice Auernhamer's 85th Birthday

-a gift was given to Home Purpose by
Diane & Keith Kueffner & Family.

Glenn & Leona Doud's 65 Wedding Anniversary

Gifts were given to:

Child Care

Jerry & Nancy Schluckbier

Home Purpose

Craig & Dianna Compton

Doug & Sue Doud

Glenn & Leona Doud

Little Dresses

Sewing Ministry

Save the date for our next sewing session,
Saturday, November 2nd
9 AM until 4 PM.

We will meet at Mary Reinbold's place to sew dresses for Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Ministry. There are parts that don't require sewing, so please consider joining us for some great fellowship. We will have a potluck lunch at noon.

If you have donations such as cotton fabric, narrow elastic, thread and ric rac, please put the items in the blue tote in the coat room at church.

If you have any questions or would like kits to sew at home, please contact Mary Reinbold. We look forward to seeing you.



Want your
Newsletter
Paperless?
Contact the
Church Office!



Financial Report as of		08/31/24	
MISSIONS			
Missions Collected YTD	Goal \$50,000	\$	6,334.00
Non Budget Missions Collected YTD		\$	823.00
HOME PURPOSE		MTD	YTD
Home Purpose Balance as of	07/01/24		\$ (296,397.11)
Home Purpose Income		\$ 126,570.46	\$ 223,622.99
Home Purpose Expenses		\$ 92,507.29	\$ 204,448.97
Thrivent Choice in-H.P.	\$ 218.00	\$ 34,063.17	\$ 19,174.02
School Income		\$ 57,030.50	\$ 58,030.50
School Expenses		\$ 17,298.16	\$ 29,040.70
		\$ 39,732.34	\$ 28,989.80
Child Care/Preschool Income		\$ 47,969.19	\$ 90,058.60
Child Care/Preschool Expenses		\$ 41,238.18	\$ 80,016.27
Thrivent Choice in Childcare	\$ 12.00	\$ 6,731.01	\$ 10,042.33
Home Purpose Balance (includes Child Care/Preschool/School)			\$ (238,190.96)
New Construction Balance as of	07/01/24	MTD	\$ (18,215.51)
Income	Goal \$25,000	\$ 2,962.72	\$ 5,012.72
Expenses		\$ -	\$ -
New Construction Fund Balance		\$ 2,962.72	\$ (13,202.79)
Franklin Ave Mission	Goal \$5,000	\$ 50.00	\$ 450.00
Capital Improvement Balance as of	07/01/24	MTD	\$ 160,870.93
Collected	Goal \$80,000	\$ 2,716.00	\$ 4,576.00
Expenses		\$ -	\$ 2,449.78
Capital Improvement Balance		\$ 2,716.00	\$ 162,997.15



Parent Meeting: Oct. 6th at 9:00 AM at the church (between services)

This is a meeting for all parents who have students interested in attending The National Youth Gathering, July 19 -Jul 23, 2025 in New Orleans. To be eligible for the gathering you must be 14 by 7/19/25 or (entering 9th Grade) to age 20.

Save the Date:

Youth Group Sloppy Joe Sale **Sunday, Oct. 20** (Youth will make them the evening of Oct. 19).

Can and Bottle Drive

Our Youth Group Ministry Teens will be collecting cans and bottles until June 2025 to help raise funds for the National Youth Gathering (happening July 19-July 23, 2025 in New Orleans.). There will be marked plastic tub at the church or if you would like them picked up at your home contact Carrie Hoepfner (989) 327-4061 or Mrs. Leanne Rodammer (989)863-8011 to make arrangements or questions.

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

