



CONNECTING People To Jesus

St. Michael's of Richville, Michigan

THAT BOX OF ENVELOPES...



When you are an adult member of St. Michael's Lutheran Church you receive a box of offering envelopes. It's just a small box, one that you could easily fit into your purse or your suit coat pocket. It's small, but it does big things

and is a necessary and important part of why God has put us on this earth: to carry out His mission in Christ Jesus.

There are individual envelopes for every Sunday of the year, along with some special envelopes for the Endowment Fund, Church Anniversary, and holidays like Christmas and Easter. Each weekly envelope has 5 individual funds listed on the front. The first one - and the largest one - is Home Purpose.

Home Purpose pays for our biggest expenses, our day-to-day operating costs. Our worker's salaries, health insurance, and retirement are paid out of Home Purpose. We have pastors, teachers, secretaries, school cooks, custodians, musicians, and so on. We also have child care workers, although most of their pay comes from child care fees. This is our biggest financial obligation, and an absolutely necessary one. If we didn't have these workers our church could not carry out its ministry. But Home Purpose does more than that. It also pays to keep the lights on and our buildings heated in winter-time. It pays for paper for church bulletins, office

equipment, cleaning supplies, Communion supplies, the phone bill, internet, and wi-fi.

As I write this in early August our Home Purpose Fund is running a deficit of -\$309,218. That simply means our expenses are getting way ahead of our income from offerings and donations. As we begin a new school year, we ask that you would prayerfully consider making a donation to the Home Fund above and beyond your regular giving. This allows us to continue carrying on our ministry here without having to make painful cuts to our budget. Our boards and committees are already trying to watch where the dollars are spent and save money where it is possible.

On the front of your weekly offering envelope there is also a space for Missions (to support mission work in the U.S. and overseas); Capital Improvement (major expenses like a new roof or repaving the parking lot); New Construction (new buildings such as the Park Hall); and Church Technology (we hope to get a live-stream webcast of Sunday worship up and going soon).

"Stewardship" is one of those big church words we use from time to time. Stated simply, it means managing the blessings God has given us, our money as well as our time and our ability to serve. Part of being a steward is to give to the Lord's work so we can continue to preach the life-giving Gospel of Jesus



Christ. Stewardship allows us to teach our children the basic skills and subjects they need in the 21st century. At our school they also receive God's forgiving grace and a solid Biblical foundation of values that is so lacking in today's world. Stewardship gives us the opportunity to teach the very little ones in child care that they have a Savior who loves them and cares for them. To make all this possible God's Word encourages us to "excel in this grace of giving" (II Corinthians 8:7) and "each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." (II Cor. 9:7)

Your fellow servant and steward of God's blessings,

Pastor Gillaspie



Sunday, September 1st
Communion in the Park
9 a.m.
(only ONE service this Sunday)

Weather permitting.
Please remember to bring your lawn chairs!



KIT Program

Calling college students and military members!

We're looking to update addresses for our members away at college students or serving away in the military so we can 'keep in touch' throughout the school year! Our students are so excited to send some really great letters, cards and projects that they make just for you!

Please contact Jenni Stuart at 989-284-1541 or jmstuart2015@gmail.com.

Thank you!





Bible Study

Church and State

Is America a Christian nation? What exactly does the First Amendment mean? How has religious freedom changed since the early years of our country? Why do some citizens of the United States want freedom *from* religion instead of freedom *of* religion? With an election looming in November we have legitimate concerns about the future of our country and the direction of our government. In the last 25 years we have gone from a nation that was at least somewhat accommodating to Christianity, to a nation where many - including some of our politicians - are openly hostile to the basic teachings of our faith. Pastor Gillaspie will lead a study on this timely topic during his Sunday morning Bible study. We will meet starting September 8th at 9:00 a.m. in the school media center (or cafeteria if we have a large group). Everyone is invited to attend!



Membership Class

We will be having membership classes on Sunday's at 6 pm, starting September 8th in the overflow room. We will be working through material for about 8 weeks. If you know of anyone who would like to take the class, or you would like to learn more about what we believe as Lutherans. We would love to have you join us. Let the office know if you wish to attend by September 1st so that we can get the material ordered.

Kidz Min

KidzMin is back in session on **September 8!** FREE admission for ages 3 years (potty-trained) to 6th grade. Classes are located at the school on Sundays from 9am-10am. An adult Bible study is offered during that time in the library. We welcome volunteers interested in being co-director or on-call substitute teaching. Registration forms will be available online, at the church office or welcome table before class.



Lutheran Laymen's' League

MEETING

Monday, September 16th

6:00 p.m.

Antigive Tractor Collection at Wehrman Farms, 1818. N. Bradford Rd. We will carpool from the Park Hall at 6p.m. and return for refreshments after.



Greenery Sale

The St. Michael's Lutheran Laymen's League is planning to conduct the Greenery Sale again this year. We will be selling Beautiful Grave Blankets and Wreaths. We will be taking orders for pick up and or placement in our cemetery in October and early November for delivery around November 20. Watch the bulletin newsletter and flyers for more information. Bruce Landsroener 989-798-8073 and Jim Hecht 989-670-1710 will also have information for you.



Sisters of Ruth

Wednesday, September 4th

We will be going to Saginaw to look at the painted silos and eat at a restaurant in town. If you have any suggestions on restaurants or other activities in Saginaw to do this day, please let Luann know.

Watch the bulletin for more details!

Mary Martha

We are collecting items for school and hygiene kits for the Orphan Grain Train.

You can find Shopping Lists on the bulletin board in the foyer to take with you when shopping back to school sales.

Kits will be assembled at the October 7th Mary Martha Meeting.



Meeting

Monday, September 9th

7 p.m.

Pastor Gillaspie will give a presentation on the stained glass windows in our church. Devotions, mite offering, upcoming events, mission projects, fellowship and refreshments will follow. If interested in becoming a member of our group contact Sally Janson.



Mission Statement

As Lutheran Women in Mission, we joyfully proclaim Christ, support missions, and equip women to honor God by serving others.

Want Your Newsletter Paperless?
Contact the Church Office!

Stewardship Corner

WHAT IS PLANNED GIVING?

(Here is a brief overview of this subject matter)

Planned Giving is a type of giving that takes some special thought, consideration, and discipline. It's about donating money or assets to church/charity while you are living or after death as part of an estate plan. It can involve a variety of asset types such as cash, securities, real estate, commodities, life insurance, and retirement plan money.

Planned giving can include opportunities to secure lifetime income and for reducing taxes. There are really a myriad number of strategies in which to support your church and the ministries/charities that you care about and which to support now or in the future, or even from the grave. Below is a short-list of some of the strategies for Planned Giving.

- 1) charitable bequest as part of your will.
- 2) *charitable beneficiary designation (life insurance and retirement accounts)*
- 3) gifting of ownership of life insurance, annuity, and investment accounts,
- 4) *Automated Monthly Giving (EFT) for your regular giving to church. This strategy is great for your budget and making sure the donation is made even when your away from church.*
- 5) Charitable Gift Annuity (many charities and church bodies offer this) A great way to establish a lifetime income.
- 6) *Qualified Charitable Distribution from an IRA. Very Popular!*
- 7) Donor Advised Fund Very Popular! (We have this within our Endowment Fund)
- 8) *St. Michael's Endowment Fund (there are multiple strategies within for current giving and for estate plans)*
- 9) Charitable Trust (as part of an estate plan- an attorney drafted document)
- 10) *Gifting of a commodity or crop. (many farmers use this strategy)*

With some of these strategies you are advised to seek competent tax and legal advice.

Want to learn more? Come to an informational seminar hosted by your Board Of Stewardship later this year.



Lutherans for Life of Michigan hosted its annual Diaper Shower from Mothers' to Fathers' Day. This year we at St. Michael's collected 2,241 diapers, some training pants, 304 wipes, an infant swing, 1 can of Similac, and some infant toys. The pregnancy resource center Life Clinic Community Resources in Bay City is appreciative for the support we give them every year. The director said we were "so generous!"

A thank you card from the clinic said this:

Dear Members of St. Michael's Lutheran,

Thank you SO much for your extremely generous donation of baby items! We are overjoyed to be able to put these items out in our blessing boutique for our parents. You helped us stock many larger sized diapers that we were in great need of. We are beyond grateful!! As they say, it takes a village to raise a child; thank you for being part of our village. May God bless you abundantly!

Love, LifeClinic

Thank you so much for all of you with your support for the Lutherans for Life efforts every year here at St. Michael's. Please continue to pray for all who are working for LIFE.

Sincerely,

Dianne Stresman

Life Ministry Coordinator,

Lutherans for Life



Financial Report as of		07/31/24	
MISSIONS			
Missions Collected YTD	Goal \$50,000	\$	5,130.00
Non Budget Missions Collected YTD		\$	213.00
HOME PURPOSE			
		MTD	YTD
Home Purpose Balance as of	07/01/24		\$ (288,898.14)
Home Purpose Income		\$ 97,052.53	\$ 97,052.53
Home Purpose Expenses		\$ 111,941.88	\$ 111,941.88
Thrivent Choice in H.P.	\$ 22.00	\$ (14,889.15)	\$ (14,889.15)
School Income		\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
School Expenses		\$ 11,742.54	\$ 11,742.54
		\$ (10,742.54)	\$ (10,742.54)
Child Care/Preschool Income		\$ 42,089.41	\$ 42,089.41
Child Care/Preschool Expenses		\$ 38,778.09	\$ 38,778.09
Thrivent Choice in Childcare	\$ -	\$ 3,311.32	\$ 3,311.32
Home Purpose Balance (includes Child Care/Preschool/School)			\$ (309,218.51)
New Construction Balance as of	07/01/24	MTD	\$ (18,215.51)
Income	Goal \$25,000	\$ 2,050.00	\$ 2,050.00
Expenses		\$ -	\$ -
New Construction Fund Balance		\$ 2,050.00	\$ (16,165.51)
Franklin Ave Mission	Goal \$5,000	\$ 195.00	\$ 195.00
Capital Improvement Balance as of	07/01/24	MTD	\$ 197,377.30
Collected	Goal \$80,000	\$ 3,703.00	\$ 3,703.00
Expenses		\$ 29,229.78	\$ 29,229.78
Capital Improvement Balance		\$ (25,526.78)	\$ 171,850.52

Bus Trip October 9th

We will be going to lunch and a murder mystery show at Genititis in Northville. Cost: \$70. Call Nancy Schluckbier if you are interested (989)529-0320.



Gifts and Memorials

In Memory

Charles Dieke

Park Hall—\$50.00

Lloyd Hecht

Hot Lunch—\$15.00

School—\$30.00

Park Hall—\$30.00

Jack Rodammer

Home Purpose—\$145.00

School—\$705.00

Park Hall—\$50.00

Arnold Bekemeier

Home Purpose—\$1,055.00

Sally Hetzner

Home Purpose—\$20.00

Ray Bekemeier

Park Hall—\$100.00

Endowment-Mission Outreach—\$25.00

Endowment-School&Edu.—\$25.00

Robert Gillaspie

St Jude Children's Hospital—\$40.00

Home Purpose—\$235.00

Wanda Reinert

-from the Koch Family Reunion

New Construction—\$80.00

Free Movie Night

September 7, 2024

St. Michael's Youth Ministry invites everyone to bring a lawn chair and join us behind the school for a free outdoor movie. The movie will be "Overcomer". This is a family faith film about overcoming difficulty with God's help, but be aware there is a character death.

The movie will be supplied by Jim & Karen Baughman of Christian Drive-In. movie Ministry.

Games and free will concession will be served by our youth group students to help raise funds for the National Youth Gathering. Games and concession will begin at 7:00 PM Movie will begin about 8:00 PM (sun set).



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



In Loving Memory



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

