



# St. Michael Messenger

St. Michael Lutheran Church

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September 1, 2023

## St. Michael Newsletter is Going Digital

In October St. Michael's Newsletter will be going digital. This means that we will no longer publish and mail a monthly newsletter. The news, activities and updates about our ministries will be passed along in our current weekly e-newsletter, *News and Notes*. At the first of each month, we will send an e-newsletter that will contain more detailed articles and announcements.

The task of putting together a hardcopy of the newsletter is a great undertaking. By going digital we will save over \$2,000 per year on postage and supplies, not to mention the countless volunteer hours. This time and money can be put to use in other ministries at St. Michael and the greater community.

If you currently receive our e-newsletter (*News and Notes* from St. Michael) you will not need to do anything. If you are not on our email list and would like to be added or know of someone that we should add, please contact Jody Smiley - [jdsmliley29@comcast.net](mailto:jdsmiley29@comcast.net) or the church office, 540-951-8951. Also, if you are having trouble receiving the News and Notes please let Jody know.

We realize that not all our members and friends are able to receive emails. For those we plan to mail a monthly church calendar, Sunday Servants list and updates of activities and ministries.

If you have any special events, announcements, or articles you would like included, please send them to Jody Smiley. Photos are greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your interest and participation in St. Michael's ministries and activities.

—STAYING—  
CONNECTED

## Sharing Our Gifts: Time, Talents and Treasure

*We offer with joy and thanksgiving what He has first given us--our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of His gracious love.*

### Thank you to some “quiet” servants

To those who helped fold the August newsletter; to Judy and Jim Clemens for faithfully counting the weekly offering; to everyone who provided breakfast food and drinks for the teachers and staff at Price’s Fork Elementary School; to the volunteers who pack and deliver gifts of food for Micah’s Backpack and Soup for Seniors; to our Church Council members who continue to keep us on track; to Brenda and Fred for keeping St. Michael so fresh and clean and to our faithful Card Ministry volunteer (who would like to remain anonymous) for sending cards to our St. Michael family and thank you letters to community members for Micah’s Caring Initiative donations.

### Because of your gifts

Core  
Ministry  
Fund



Your generous gifts in August supported office supplies, altar flowers, postage, building maintenance, cleaning supplies, our benevolence to the Virginia Synod, donations to MCEAP, Lutheran Campus Ministry, Peace and Hope Ministry, our facilities and salaries for our ministry staff and pay for the supply pastor and vice pastor.

The **Justice and Mercy Fund** continues to assist our neighbors in the community and the world. We encourage the congregation to continue their contributions to the fund and to refer friends and family to use the fund as needed. In August, we assisted **six** families: three with electric bills and three with rent assistance.

### Kroger Community Rewards Program – Need to Renew Your Card Number



For a number of years, members of St. Michael have contributed to Micah’s Backpack and the Justice and Mercy Fund through our Kroger Plus cards, adding thousands of dollars to these programs. However, we must renew our card numbers each year. Just visit the secure website: [kroger.com](http://kroger.com) to update your individual Kroger Plus card to one of St. Michael’s accounts. Members can designate their contribution to Micah’s Backpack using **#83513** or Justice and Mercy using **#82386**.

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2308 Merrimac Road  
Blacksburg, VA 24060**

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### *September Sunday Servants*

	September 3	September 10	September 17	September 24
<b>10:00 AM Service</b>				
<b>Altar Care</b>	Sandie Worley Butch Akers	Jody Smiley	Dianne Krallman	Sandy Birch
<b>Greeters</b>	Wilma Pieper Dave Surface	Elaine Powers Joe Garst	Forest Sloan Jennifer Wayne	Jenny Kellinger Butch Akers
<b>Lay Reader</b>	Keith Gay	Bert Kinzey	Jane Swing	Dianne Krallman
<b>Communion Assistant</b>	Jay Nagel	Joe Garst	Butch Akers	Jennifer Wayne
<b>Youth Servant</b>	Gesine Newman	Tatiana Villegas-Brown	Lilia Villegas-Brown	Tatiana Villegas-Brown

**Please Note:** Greeters, please take the attendance, write down the number and place in the offering plate. Paper and pen are in the bookshelf drawer.

## Women of the ELCA

**WELCA Wednesdays (Lunch & Learn) Returns in September:** Lunch and Learn is back! We will meet on **Wednesday, September 20th at noon**. All St. Michael ladies are invited. We will gather at the church for fellowship, a light lunch and a guest speaker. We hope to have the director of the Women's Resource Center in Radford join us. If you have any questions please contact Jody Smiley, [jdsmiley29@comcast.net](mailto:jdsmiley29@comcast.net) or Sandy Birch, [birch@vt.edu](mailto:birch@vt.edu).



*Women of the Evangelical  
Lutheran Church in America*

**Montgomery County Food Bank and Blacksburg Interfaith Pantry:** In September we are asking for donations of **health snacks**. These can be enjoyed by the kids when they get home from school. The food bank always appreciates receiving any non-perishable food items.

**Women's Resource Center:** In September we are collecting paper towels.

**The collection for the Food Bank is located in the Fellowship Hall next to the kitchen window. The Women's Resource Center has a collection basket in the narthex. As always thank you for your donations.**

## Attention Older Kids (O.K.s)



It's time for our traditional Back-to-School Happy-Go-Lucky luncheon in the fellowship hall. Mark your calendars for **Tuesday, September 12 at noon**. We'll enjoy delicious food and fine fellowship as we learn our lessons: a little math, some music taught by Patrice, and a study of Costa Rica provided by our geography "instructors", Doug and Jody. Bring a friend. A \$5 donation towards the meal would be appreciated, but not required. Come and enjoy going back to school!

## Online Worship Option

For those who are not able to attend our worship service in person, please check the online option to participate in a service each week. Go to [www.peacehopeva.org](http://www.peacehopeva.org) at 10 a.m. each Sunday. Pastor Bryan Katz organizes this ministry.

## Micah's Backpack Sharing the Story

As we prepare to start another school year, we are busy stocking the shelves and organizing our dedicated volunteers. Montgomery County Public Schools begin classes on Wednesday, August 16th. We will continue to send bags to the Interfaith Food Pantry until our first delivery to the schools on September 8th. This will ensure

there are no gaps in the food families receive from Micah's Backpack. The partnership with the food pantry was a success and we hope to work with them again next summer. We have packed 850 bags so far this summer. Thank you to everyone who came out to the benefit night at Zeppoli's Restaurant. Zeppoli's sent us a check for \$138 to be used towards food this school year. On Monday afternoon I had the opportunity to accept a check for \$1,512 from the Fit Body Boot Camp in Blacksburg. Holly Kobia and her wonderful staff put on a fundraiser for Micah's Backpack on the Virginia Tech campus. Athletes from all over Virginia competed in the Fit Body Games. They matched all donations and exceeded their fundraising goal!



Please save your plastic shopping bags for Micah's Backpack. During the school year we will use approximately 500 per week! Clean, dry bags can be dropped off at the church and left on the MBP desk. If you or someone you know would like to volunteer to pack bags with us this fall sign, check the MBP website for our current sign-up link.

Marian Brown, Director 804-921-1432; [marian@stmlc.us](mailto:marian@stmlc.us) [hope@micahsbackpack.org](http://hope@micahsbackpack.org)

NO CHILD SHOULD GO HUNGRY

## Shoppers Needed for Micah's Closet



School is back in session so that means we will be shopping for clothing for children at Price's Fork Elementary School (PFES).

In case you are not familiar with Micah's Closet. Each fall and spring we provide up to a week's worth of new school clothes for children in need at PFES. Studies show that children in need are more likely to have higher self-confidence and maintain regular school attendance if their clothes are as nice as clothing worn by their peers.

Micah's Closet volunteers purchase the clothing and return the clothes to St. Michael. Volunteers place the clothing in a separate colorful reusable bag for each child and deliver the bags to the school. School staff members deliver the gifts of clothing to selected children.

If you are interested in being a shopper or have any questions please contact Fran Shepherd, [fshepherd13@icloud.com](mailto:fshepherd13@icloud.com) or Jody Smiley, [jdsimiley29@comcast.net](mailto:jdsimiley29@comcast.net).

## Micah's Soup for Seniors

We are continuing to pack and distribute approximately 90 bags to the seniors at Warm Hearth Village. We are getting food from Feeding America, Food Lion and Kroger. We are packing the bags at St. Michael on the **4th Tuesday** of each month at 10:00 a.m. We encourage any new volunteers to help us pack and deliver at that time.



We will continue to supply extra personal care items along with special items every other month. We look forward to continuing to help out the seniors at Warm Hearth.

### Packing Dates:

September 26th

October 24th

### Donation Items:

October - Small packets of Tissues / Lotion



Food items to donate:

Chicken noodle soup

Tomato soup

Tuna

## Preisch (Price) Family in America 285<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration September 15-16

Many of our church members and those who grew up in the local area are descendants of the Preish (Price) family that sailed to America aboard the ship, *Winter Galley*, from Rotterdam, Holland and arrived in Philadelphia on September 5, 1738.



To celebrate this important event, The Price Family Historical Society is very pleased to host a celebration for the 285th Anniversary of the Preisches who arrived in America in 1738. The event will take place at Price's Fork Elementary School on September 15th starting at 6 p.m. with light refreshments and a presentation from Jimmie Price. The event continues on Saturday morning starting at 10 a.m. with presentations from local authors and historians, Bob Hill, April Martin and Rebecca Novy. A traditional German lunch will be served at 11:30. The cost of this event is \$30 per person and includes food, as well as a map for a self-guided tour of local, significant historical spots. We hope you can join us for this special occasion to celebrate family and community. Contact Margaret Davidson, 540-552-2341 or [margaretpdavison@gmail.com](mailto:margaretpdavison@gmail.com) Through the love and friendship of this event, what the next generation will value most is not what we owned, but the evidence of who we were and the tales of how we lived and loved. In the end, it's the family stories that are worth the storage.

## Music News



Music will be hopping soon as we get closer to Fall and the start of a new **Adult Choir** season. **Come sing with us in 2023 & 2024!** We will have a camp in September for all choir members, new or returning members. Camp will include singing, (of course), a little music theory, singing warm-ups, tips for singing and caring for our voices, games, food and fellowship. You do not want to miss this! Date to be announced.

**Choir rehearsals** begin on Wednesday, September 13, 7:00 p.m.

**Handbell Choir** will also start ringing in October. Let Patrice know if you are interested. We will ring in December! A multi-generational group is GREAT! Or we can split into two handbell choirs if we have enough volunteers.



Any questions, contact Patrice Yearwood, [payearwood1@gmail.com](mailto:payearwood1@gmail.com)



The church council is pleased and excited to announce our wait for an interim pastor is over.

By a unanimous vote at our last council meeting, we decided to invite the Rev. Dr. Wes Jamison (United Church of Christ), to serve as our interim pastor.

We'll announce his start date, likely in September, once it is determined.



AED: Jenny Kellinger is composing a list of church members who have training on using the AED to place near the device. Please let her know if you have training and are willing to be on the list.

Jenny Kellinger [swimsub30@yahoo.com](mailto:swimsub30@yahoo.com)

If you're wondering what an AED is – and why they seem to be located in most offices and public buildings, you're not alone. In fact, because these devices are now commonly available, more people than ever before are curious about them. So – just what is an AED?

An AED, or automated external defibrillator, is used to help those experiencing sudden cardiac arrest. It's a sophisticated, yet **easy-to-use**, medical device that can analyze the heart's rhythm and, if necessary, deliver an electrical shock, or defibrillation, to help the heart re-establish an effective rhythm.





## September 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	30	31	1 Church office closed	2
3 10:00am Worship Service with Communion with Pastor Don Holmstrom 11:15am Large classroom is reserved 11:15am Youth and Family Working Group	4 Labor Day 8:45am Mother's Morning Out - Closed 7:00pm Cub Scout Pack Committee Meeting in Large Classroom	5 8:45am Mother's Morning Out 6:00pm Packing for Micah's Backpack	6 8:45am Mother's Morning Out 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal	7 7:00am Men's Bible Study and Breakfast 8:45am Mother's Morning Out 7:00pm Scout Meeting	8	9
10 "God's Work. Our Hands." Sunday 10:00am Worship Service with Communion with Pastor Terrie Sternberg 11:15am Church Council Meeting	11 8:45am Mother's Morning Out 7:00pm Cub Scout Meeting	12 Music lessons (Patrice) 8:45am Mother's Morning Out 12:00pm O. K. s Back-to-School Happy-Go-Lucky luncheon 6:00pm Packing for Micah's Backpack	13 Music lessons (Patrice) 8:45am Mother's Morning Out 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal	14 8:45am Mother's Morning Out 7:00pm Scout Meeting	15	16
17 10:00am Worship Service without Communion with Lay Preacher Glen Kirk 11:15am Worship, Music, and Program/Ministry Options that Might Appeal to Younger Adults Working Group 4:00pm Confirmation Class 4:15pm Families of Faith	18 8:45am Mother's Morning Out 7:00pm Cub Scout Meeting	19 8:45am Mother's Morning Out 6:00pm Packing for Micah's Backpack 7:00pm Price Family Historical Society	20 8:45am Mother's Morning Out 12:00pm WELCA Wednesdays (Lunch & Learn) 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal	21 8:45am Mother's Morning Out 5:30pm Micah's Music/Drama & Arts class at St. Michael 7:00pm Scout Meeting	22 4:00pm Choir Retreat	23 9:30am Choir Retreat
24 10:00am Worship Service with Communion with Pastor Terrie Sternberg 11:15am Community Engagement Working Group	25 8:45am Mother's Morning Out 7:00pm Cub Scout Meeting	26 8:45am Mother's Morning Out 10:00am Packing and Delivering for Soup for Seniors 6:00pm Packing for Micah's Backpack	27 8:45am Mother's Morning Out 7:15pm Choir Rehearsal	28 8:45am Mother's Morning Out 5:30pm Micah's Music/Drama & Arts class at St. Michael 7:00pm Scout Meeting	29	30