

# St. Michael Messenger April, 2024



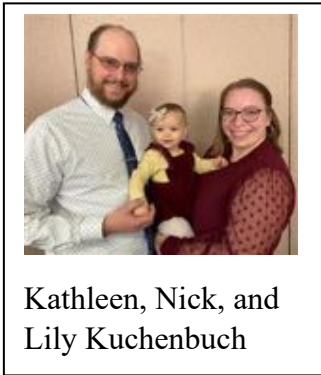
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## Christ Has Risen, He Has Risen Indeed, Alleluia!



We had an amazing Easter Sunday worship together. We also gather before and after the service for fellowship, coffee and great food. Thank you to all that helped make this day very special for all that attended.

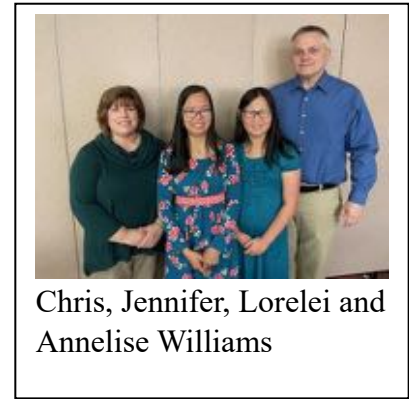
We were also blessed to welcome new members to our St. Michael family. Welcome Chris, Jennifer, Lorelei and Annelise Williams; John Stefaniak, Shirley Trammell; Kathleen, Nick, and Lily Kuchenbuch.



Kathleen, Nick, and Lily Kuchenbuch



John Stefaniak, Shirley Trammell



Chris, Jennifer, Lorelei and Annelise Williams

## Spring Festival and Easter Egg Hunt



**Thank you, Jada and all the volunteers, for your hard work to make the Spring Festival and the Easter Egg Hunt an amazing success!**

The Spring Festival and Easter Egg Hunt was very successful. We had around 150 adults and kids visit us! We enjoyed face painting, music, games, crafts, balloon animals and of course lots of CANDY! Thank you all for the donations!



St. Michael's Music/Drama & Arts had their program "The Quilt Speaks, Secret Messages in Songs & Quilts", by Dr. Rene Boyer on March 23<sup>rd</sup>. It took us on a journey of history unfolding itself and revealing the importance of a spiritual and seemingly simple quilt square. There was a wonderful reception that followed where the actors shared their artwork related to the program. **Everyone did an amazing job!**



## Happy-Go-Lucky: Save the Date-April 2<sup>nd</sup>

Our next Happy-Go-Lucky Luncheon will be Tuesday, April 2 at noon. Our theme will be "Music is Magic" and our visiting "magician" will be Jeff's sister, Bonnie Birch, an accomplished accordionist from Seattle. Come enjoy the music and a post-Easter feast.

## Highlights of the Congregation Meeting

We held our congregation meeting on March 24<sup>th</sup>. The annual report was presented and approved and an update on our finances was given. Replacement of one of our HVAC systems is planned for 2024 and funding will come from the Basil and Katherine Price Bequest. Also a consensus was reached on the addition of monitors in the sanctuary. Thank you to those that attended, the Stewards Team for hosting and all those that brought snacks to share.



## Calling all Grads!

We will be honoring our graduates in May and we need your help. Please let us know of any 2024 graduates so we can recognize their accomplishments. We would also like a little written bio and their future plans that we can share.



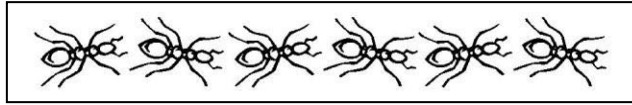
## DEADLINE FOR THE ST. MICHAEL SCHOLARSHIP COMING UP IN APRIL

Applications are invited for the St. Michael Scholarship, a \$600.00 award for individuals to pursue studies in post-secondary education. Members of Lutheran churches in Montgomery County are eligible to apply. Please contact Jenny Kellinger for more information. [Swimsub30@yahoo.com](mailto:Swimsub30@yahoo.com)



## Where Did the Bushes Go?

You may have noticed that the bushes in front of the church have been cut down. You may ask yourself why? This was done so that the exterminators can spray a four-foot barrier around the church to help eradicate the ants that like to make their homes in the church. The beds will be restocked with beautiful blooming flowers and shrubs.



## Sharing Our Gifts: Time, Talents and Treasure

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

### Thank you to some “Quiet” Servants

To all our St. Michael community. You generously share your time, talents, and treasures to be Gods hands in the world.



### Because of your Gifts

Your generous gifts in March supported, office supplies, cups and coffee for fellowship, Altar flowers, Palms, devotionals, postage, building maintenance, our benevolence to the Virginia Synod, donations to MCEAP, Lutheran Campus Ministry, Peace and Hope Ministry and salaries for our ministry staff.



### The Justice and Mercy Fund

The Justice and Mercy Fund continues to assist our neighbors in the community and the world. In March, we provided assistance for 12 families: Four with rent, and eight with electric bills. We encourage the congregation to continue their contributions to the fund and to refer friends and family to use the fund as needed.



### Donations/Collections for April

**Containers for Donations are found in the Fellowship Hall near the kitchen**

Food Banks: Canned Goods

Women's Resource Center: Laundry PODs

Soup for Seniors: Large Print Puzzle Books

WELCA: Compact Umbrellas



## WELCA Collecting Umbrellas

WELCA is asking for donations of compact umbrellas (about 8” long). These will be given to Micah’s Ecumenical Ministries in Fredericksburg, VA. This is the 2023-24 Love Offering project for the Virginia Synodical Women’s Organization (VSWO). To learn more about this organization go to their website, <https://micahfredericksburg.org/> . They are doing amazing work in Fredericksburg.



## UPCOMING *Events*

### Events for April at St. Michael

<p>4/2-Happy-Go- Lucky Luncheon (Noon)                  4/4-Men’s Breakfast and Bible Study (7 am)                  4/7- Community Engagement WG (11:15 am)                  4/7- Youth and Families WG (11:15 am)                  4/14-Church Council Meeting (11:15 am)                  4/14-Coffee/Fellowship Hour (11:15 am)                  4/15-Lunch and Learn (Noon)                  4/21-Confirmation Class/Luther Memorial (4:00 pm)                  4/30-Soup for Seniors Packing (10 am)</p>	<p>Weekly Events: Meeting at St. Michael                  Monday-Cub Scouts (7:00 pm)                  Tuesday-Packing Micah’s Backpack (6:00 pm)                  Wednesday-Choir (7:00 pm)                  Thursday- Scouts (7:00 pm)                  Sunday-Adult Sunday School (9:00 am)</p> <p><b>Please refer to our calendar for a more detailed list of events.</b></p>
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**Pastor Wes' Schedule:** Pastor Wes Jamison will normally be available on Sundays, Tuesdays, and one other (changing) day during the week. His email address is [pastorwes@stmlc.us](mailto:pastorwes@stmlc.us) and his cell number is 540.392.5632. Please let Pastor Wes know by phone if there is a pastoral emergency.

## April Sunday Servants

	April 7	April 14	April 21	April 28
<b>10:00 AM Service</b>				
<b>Altar Care</b>	Sandy Birch	Dianne Krallman	Gary and Becky Steck	Doug Smiley
<b>Greeters</b>	Graham and Margaret Hoskins	Dianne Krallman Butch Akers	Wilma Pieper William Allen	Elaine Powers Joe Garst
<b>Lay Reader</b>	Sandy Birch	Lori Anne Kirk	Jennifer Wayne	Jody Smiley
<b>Communion Assistant</b>	William Allen	Jane Swing	Jody Smiley	Joe Garst
<b>Youth Servant</b>	Gesine Newman	Tatiana Villegas-Brown	Lilia Villegas-Brown	Tatiana Villegas-Brown

**Please Note:** Greeters/Ushers please take the attendance, write the number down and place in the offering plate and offer “busy bags” to the children.

## Sharing the Story of Micah's Caring Initiative



This month we welcomed the Catholic Campus Ministry, Lutheran Campus Ministry, Circle K at VT, the Montgomery Rotary Club, the Fiji Fraternity, the Chi Delta Alpha Sorority and several other civic organizations at St. Michael. Our volunteer base remains strong and we are grateful for the support from our amazing community. On Sunday, March 24th a group from the VT Project Management class held a food drive for Micah's Backpack in front of the UCB Kroger. They brought in close to 3,000 items of food for our organization! We are in the process of interviewing for the new director of Micah's Backpack.

Look for an announcement welcoming our new hire in the coming weeks. We have some great candidates and I am confident I will leave MBP in good hands. Thank you for your continued support of our mission to ensure

NO CHILD GOES HUNGRY. Together we have provided 6,814 bags or 39,000 meals to children in our community. Our work would not be possible without our dedicated volunteers! Marian Brown, Director PH: 804-921-1432 Email: [marian@stmlc.us](mailto:marian@stmlc.us) Email: [hope@micahsbackpack.org](mailto:hope@micahsbackpack.org)



Soup for Seniors packs and distributes approximately 85 bags to the seniors at Warm Hearth Village. We will be packing the bags at St. Michael on **April 30<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.** We encourage all to volunteer to help us pack and deliver at that time. Thank you to all that donate and support Soup for Seniors. Your help brightens the day of the seniors we serve at Warm Hearth.



The pantry is still going strong, thanks to all the amazing donations! MMP is in need of Hearty Soups, Ramen, Canned vegetables, fruits and pastas, mini boxes of cereal, shelf stable milk and snack type food for those who are in need. Please remember if you are donating from your own pantry to check all expiration dates. THANK YOU ALL! God Bless!



Thank you to all that shopped for Micah's Closet and the Mosaic congregation. We were able to provide clothing for 45 students at PFES. We were also able to provide outfits for 9 kids at the Rainbow Riders Head Start program.



The Snack Closet serves the five elementary schools in Blacksburg, Blacksburg Middle School and High School. In April the NorthStar Congregation will partner with us to help provide snacks for Prices Fork Elementary School. We thank them for their support. The Snack Closet was initially funded by the Robert Schulman Bequest for Children.

**Reminder: If you have any articles, upcoming events, congratulations/celebrations to share, or anything else for the newsletter please pass it along to Jody Smiley. Photos and logos are greatly appreciated.**