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Our Mission Statement

As a community of believers guided by the Holy Spirit,
the mission of St. Michael Lutheran Church is to:

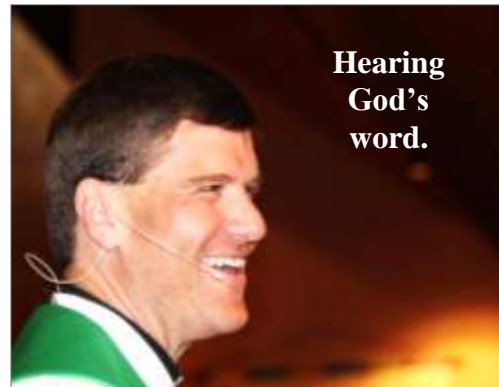
C

Care for God's people in need,



H

Hear of God's love through Word and Sacrament,



R

Respond to God's grace with thankful hearts,

I

Invite others into Christ's community,

S

Serve God in our daily lives, and



T

Tell the story of God's Love



St. Michael Lutheran Church

2308 Merrimac Road

Blacksburg, VA 24060

(540) 951-8951

Rev. John Wertz, Jr., Pastor

February 11, 2018

Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

St. Michael is blessed with generous and capable worshippers and partners in ministry who make it possible for us to proclaim God's love in meaningful ways in our community. Through your gifts to the Core Ministry and willingness to share your time, we provide opportunities for worship, the chance to learn more about faith and share the gift of compassion and caring. Through your gifts and support for ministries like Micah's Caring Initiative and other special ministry projects, you help extend God's love to thousands of people in need. Thank you for being God's heart and hands and voices here at St. Michael and in your daily lives.

Here are a few examples of the ministry we accomplished in 2017.

- Celebrated the hope of Easter with 301 people at four services and the joy of Christmas with 315 people at five services
- Gathered for worship each Sunday at 9 AM, 11 AM and 6:30 PM, enjoyed Holden Evening Prayer midweek services for Advent and Lent and shared hope and support through six funerals
- Offered Faith Formation opportunities like Vacation Bible School, a Women's Bible Study, Confirmation, Tuesday morning and Sunday evening Bible studies
- Partnered with nearly 300 organizations and 1000 volunteers to provide over meals to 315 hungry students in our community through Micah's Backpack
- Provided bags of food, Panera Bread and personal care products to 90 senior adults per month through Micah's Soup for Seniors
- Shared around 15 different varieties of fruits and vegetables to students served by Micah's Mobile Backpack and to two food pantries through Micah's Garden
- Served up to 235 students per week through Micah's Mobile Backpack
- Provided new clothing through Micah's Closet to nearly 100 students in the community
- Served a delicious Thanksgiving Day meal to approximately 190 people
- Provided emergency assistance to approximately 195 families needing help with rent, power bills and other emergency needs
- Supported individuals and families through the Early Childhood Head Start Partnership, Mother's Morning Out program, the Parenting Christian Kids newsletter and Devotionals
- Maintained an online faith formation presence through regular posts, podcasts and through the Fourth Annual Online Advent Calendar
- Completed installation of new siding and trim on the sanctuary, sealed the cracks in the parking lot and saw the installation of a new awning on the back of the classroom building
- Began a long-range planning process and identified Leadership, Engagement and ministry with Children, Youth and their Families as priorities to develop in the coming three years

Thank you for all that you do to make God's ministry at St. Michael possible. May God's presence and blessings be with you always.

Peace and hope,
Pastor John

Those Called to Special Service

Congregational Council

Term Ending 2018

Michelle Berg
Hank Schneider
Doug Smiley

Term Ending 2019

Butch Akers
Matthew James
Fran Shepherd

Term Ending 2020

Elizabeth Graves
John Kell
Mickey McGuigan

Officers of the Congregational Council and Congregational Leaders

President..... Fran Shepherd
Vice President and Secretary Doug Smiley
Financial Officer John Krallman
Financial Secretaries Jim Clemens and Ben Simmers
Ministry Funds Treasurer..... John Krallman
Ministry Funds Recording Secretary Doug Smiley
Memorial Fund Secretary/Treasurer Cindy Dowdy
Sunday School Secretaries Jim Clemens and Doug Smiley
Trustees Jeff Birch, Jim Clemens, Fran Shepherd,
..... Ben Simmers, Doug Smiley, and Dave Surface

Ministry Team Leaders and Ministry Staff

Accompanist (6:30 PM service)..... Alec Alderman
Accompanist (9:00 AM and 11:00 AM services)..... Timmy Akinola
Administrative Assistant..... Suzanne Gay
Project Based Ministry Teams Pastor John Wertz
Choir Director Patrice Yearwood
Finance John Krallman
Memorial..... Jim Clemens
Men in Mission Jeff Birch
Micah's Backpack Director Susan Verbrugge
Micah's Closet Director Jody Smiley/Fran Shepherd
Micah's Soup for Seniors Director Dianne Krallman
Property..... Fran Shepherd
Stewards..... Hank Schneider
Webmaster Philip Isenhour
Women of the ELCA Alice Schneider
Worship..... Pastor John Wertz
Youth and Family Ministry..... Fran Shepherd, Elizabeth Graves and Alec Alderman

A Core Ministry of St. Michael: Worship

When we gather for worship, we intentionally set aside time to hear God's Word proclaimed, to sing and to pray with our fellow children of God and to give thanks to God for all that God has done, is doing and promises yet to do for God's people. We worship each Sunday at 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. and enjoy seasonal worship opportunities and celebrations.

The worship life of St. Michael is supported by the Sunday Servants who:

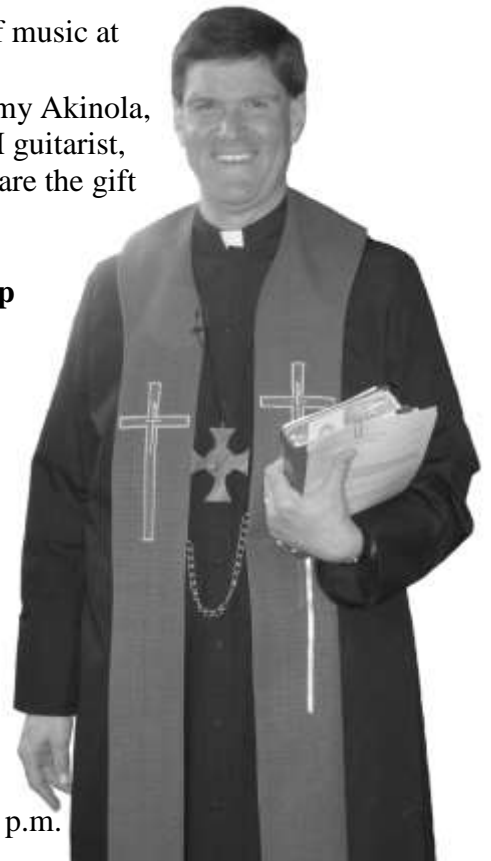
- **Provide altar care:** Volunteers from the congregation prepared Holy Communion and changed altar area vestments. Their duties included, but were not limited to preparing and cleaning of communion ware after the 11:00 a.m. service. Pastor John oversees altar care for the 9:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. services.
- **Assist with communion, serve as lay readers, greeters, and ushers and acolytes:** Volunteers from the congregation served in these capacities. Butch Akers and Suzanne Gay coordinate volunteers and provide materials for these activities.
- **Donate flowers:**
 - Weekly flower arrangements were donated by members of the congregation. Opportunities to reserve/donate for a particular week were communicated via a reservation sheet in the hallway.
 - During the holidays we enjoyed lilies and poinsettias for Easter and Christmas Eve services respectively.

The worship life of St. Michael is strengthened by our Music Ministry: In 2017, St. Michael's music ministry enriched our worship services and helped us to experience God's presence in powerful ways.

- We give thanks for all the musicians who share the gift of music at St. Michael.
- We are especially thankful for our talented organist, Timmy Akinola, our gifted music director, Patrice Yearwood, our 6:30 PM guitarist, Alec Alderman, and our choir and solo musicians who share the gift of song.

The worship life of St. Michael is enhanced by special worship services and activities:

- Lenten meal and worship in partnership with Shiloh and New Mt. Zion.
- Holy Week worship and activities in partnership with Shiloh and New Mt. Zion.
- Easter Services at 7 a.m., 9 a.m., 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.
- The Advent and Christmas Planning Team and the Lent and Easter Planning team who shared their gifts to strengthen our celebrations and add new elements like the Poinsettia Tree and the Lenten Banners to our seasonal celebrations.
- Advent meal and worship (alternating between St. Michael and Luther Memorial) and activities
- Christmas Eve Worship Services at 4 p.m., 7 p.m. and 11 p.m.



A Core Ministry of St. Michael: Education

In Deuteronomy 6:5-9, we hear God say,

“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise. Bind them as a sign on your hand, fix them as an emblem on your forehead, and write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.”

As children of God, we are called to be intentional about sharing the story of God’s love with our children, with our families and with our community.

As individuals, we share the story of God’s love with our families, our friends, our neighbors and our co-workers through our words and through our actions. Each day, we have the opportunity to let God’s light, God’s love and God’s Word shine through us to the world.

As a church, we share the story of God’s love for the world, through a variety of groups and classes. Here is a list of some of the learning opportunities at St. Michael.

Monthly Families of Faith dinner, Bible Story, Music and Discussion for families with small children - First Wednesdays at 5:30 PM

Women of the ELCA Lunch and Learn – Lunch-time Bible study on the third Mondays at noon

Sunday Night Bible Study - Topical Bible study on the third or fourth Sunday night at 7:15 PM

Tuesday Morning Bible Study - Weekly Bible study on the Scripture readings for worship

Vacation Bible School – A one-week opportunity for focus on God’s story, play games, learn songs and share in crafts

Confirmation – A program to help 6th, 7th and 8th grade students learn about God’s love for the world in Jesus, to discover basic Lutheran teachings on faith and life and to explore questions about what it means to believe in God and to live as a child of God in the world.

Devotional Books and Inserts – From Christ in our Home, to the Online Advent Calendar to the Taking Faith Home insert, St. Michael regularly makes resources available to help individuals and families hear and explore God’s Word.

In 2018, you are invited to connect with one of these opportunities or help start a new opportunity so that together we can learn more about Jesus and God’s love for the world.

A Core Ministry of St. Michael: Youth and Family Ministry

St. Michael is working to meet the changing needs of children, youth and their families.

To help youth grow in faith and to provide service opportunities, a group from St. Michael participated in the Junior High Servant Event at Virginia Beach and attended Virginia Synod Youth Events like Winter Celebration and Kairos.

Vacation Bible School continues to be an exciting part of our ministry each year as volunteers, youth and children spend a week learning more about God's love and presence in our lives. This year's theme was "Hero Central". We give thanks for everyone who participated and for all the volunteers who helped make it a wonderful week.



In September, the congregation launched a new Wednesday night program called, Families of Faith, designed for families with small children.

The program which regularly brings together 5 to 6 families and 14 children provides a meal, Bible Story, music with Patrice and a time for parental conversation and support.

On a monthly basis, St. Michael provides the Parenting Christian Kids newsletter and makes resources available both online and through events at the congregation to try and help build families of faith.

In addition to traditional forms of youth and family ministry, St. Michael supports youth and families through a successful Mother's Morning Out program and the Early Childhood Head Start partnership. Our Mother's Morning Out, under the leadership of Judy Clemens, provides a safe, loving environment for young children to play and socialize five mornings a week. The Early Childhood Head Start partnership, which includes Rainbow Riders and Total Action for Progress, helps at-risk children and their families by providing high-quality care five days a week for children from 6 weeks old to 3 years old.

Through the Micah's Caring Initiative ministries, St. Michael addresses food insecurity for youth and families who struggle with weekend meals, summer meals and new school clothing needs.

Ministry with Children, Youth and their Families was identified as a focus area during our long-range planning process which began in November 2017. Goals and strategies are being developed to strengthen and grow St. Michael's ministry in this area.

A Core Ministry of St. Michael: Project-Based Ministry Teams

As people are passionate about an idea and excited about helping, they gather together to accomplish a ministry project. We give thanks for everyone's willingness to share their time and talents to make ministry happen. Here are a few of the ministry projects that were accomplished in 2017.

Lent and Easter Planning Team: This creative group sponsored the Favorite Bible Verse Bracket Challenge during Lent and oversaw the creation of new Lenten Banners. Both projects strengthened our observance of Lent.

Online Advent Calendar: Under Gary Worley's wonderful leadership, artists in the congregation created beautiful images of angels. The images were converted to stained-glass window coloring pages. The 'stained glass windows' were colored and formatted for the online Advent calendar, Facebook and Twitter. A downloadable coloring book was produced and distributed at St. Michael and online. The images were seen online by thousands of people.



Price's Fork Fair Outreach Booth: Folks from St. Michael spent two days at the fair playing games and painting faces for children. This activity provided an opportunity to share St. Michael's ministry with the community. Handouts included faith-themed coloring books, grief resources, family devotionals and general information about the church.



Community Thanksgiving Dinner: Approximately 190 persons enjoyed the Thanksgiving meal. Special thanks to St. Michael members for preparing delicious side dishes, to the volunteers from the area who assisted St. Michael's members in serving the meal and to Ron Brewer for leading and coordinating the event.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper: This traditional activity brings people together for food and fellowship from St. Michael, Shiloh Lutheran Church, New Mt. Zion Lutheran Church and the Prices's Fork area. Thank you to everyone who helps cook and prepare for the event.

Meals for Funerals: When there is a death in the congregation, volunteers provide a meal at the church or for the family. Thank you to Judy Clemens for helping organizing the meals.

Second Sunday Summer Brunches: The WELCA hosted the June brunch which recognized the high school and college graduates. In July and August, we enjoyed wonderful food and fellowship.

To Our House: St. Michael participated in this area ministry which provides meals and shelter for up to 12 homeless men per night. Volunteers provided meals for a week.

Boy Scout Troop: Jan Helge Bohn continued to serve as Scout Master of Boy Scout Troop 158 which now includes a Cub Scout Pack and an Adventure Crew.

50th Anniversary Celebration: Planning is underway for the celebration of our 50th Anniversary. The main celebrations will take place in September 2018.

Thrivent Teams in Action

Thanks to all the Thrivent Action Teams that help support the St. Michael ministries. Thrivent, through these Action Teams, has provided over \$1000 in 2017 for these ministries.

Projects assisted included Soup for Seniors, Micah's Closet, the purchase of school supplies, Christmas Boxes for Pine Ridge Reservation, and reupholstering the choir chairs.

There is a potential of over \$5000 for these action teams in \$250 individual grants. The action teams are not limited to congregational projects. They can also be community based. If you are interested in finding out more information about Action Teams, how to apply for funds, or have ideas for projects that need funding in 2018 please contact Jody Smiley or Pastor John.



Stewards Team 2017

“The Stewards Team is called to promote the understanding of congregational stewardship and encourage the sharing of our time, talents and treasures.”

Time and talent surveys were completed in March and April, with another excellent member response. Members of St. Michael volunteer to serve on many committees and teams, service includes worship assistants, assistance in Vacation Bible School, preparing food for multiple church functions, maintenance of the church grounds, singing in our choir, and participating in many fellowship opportunities. During the year, many donate their time and talents to special projects such as representing St. Michael at the Price’s Fork Fair, preparing Micah’s Backpacks with weekend and summer vacation food for elementary school children, providing food for seniors in the “Soup for Seniors” program, and preparing and serving food for homeless shelters.

The monthly newsletter, *Sharing Our Gifts: Time, Talents and Treasure*, is devoted to recognizing servants who volunteered their time and talents for numerous tasks and activities at the church and in thanking the congregation for participating in the many projects throughout the year.

Estimates of giving for 2018 were distributed and received with an outstanding response.



Examples of how The St. Michael Giving Initiatives invests God's gifts in the community and in the world.

- Food, cleaning supplies, paper goods, and baby items for the Women's Resource Center and Montgomery County Food Bank
- School supplies and Christmas gifts for Prices Fork Elementary School
- 276 Christmas shoebox gifts for Head Start children on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota (a joint project with other New River Lutheran churches, Christ the King Lutheran in Richmond and other groups)
- Supplies for Vacation Bible School
- \$1,560 for the Montgomery County Emergency Assistance (MCEAP) program
- Rainbow Riders Early Childhood Head Start at St. Michael
- Assistance to 195 families for rent and medical expenses, electric and water bills, heating oil, food and other expenses from the Justice and Mercy Fund
- \$23,000 donated to the Virginia Synod to support ministry in the Synod, the country and in the world
- \$1,200 to Bedford Lutheran, our Mission Partner
- Food and funds for the annual community Thanksgiving dinner
- Meals for "To Our House" homeless shelter
- \$2,500 to Lutheran Campus Ministries
- Monetary donations (for 2016-2017 school year) were given by St. Michael members along with Food Donations for Micah's Backpack which now assists over 350 children in 5 area elementary schools, one middle school, one high school and three preschools
- Monetary, Food, and Time Donations for Micah's Initiatives including Soup for Seniors, Micah's Closet, and Micah's Garden

The stewardship of the people of St. Michael is of the highest level. **We Thank Each and Every One of You for Your Support.** Our annual catered brunch was held in December to honor all the St. Michael stewards. **You** are very most generous supporters of the ministry at St. Michael, in the community and the world.

Submitted by The Stewards Committee

Members: Sandy Birch, Butch Akers, Pastor John, Andrea Robinson, Hank Schneider, Ben Simmers, Jody Smiley

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

WELCA (Women of the ELCA)

“As a community of women created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ, empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, society and the world.”

WELCA is led by a team of three: Jody Smiley, Sandy Birch and chaired by Alice Schneider.

Lunch and Learn meets at the church monthly during the school year. All women are invited to come each month. We have lunch followed by a short Bible study, led by Jody Smiley.

Projects and activities for 2017 include the following:

- Sponsor monthly donations for the Montgomery Food Bank and Women's Resource Center.
- In January, women of the congregation enjoyed dinner at Olive Garden followed in July at O'Charley's, with complimentary pie for dessert. All women are invited for dinner!
- In April, thirty eight Easter baskets for children and eight for mothers were filled by members of all ages with treats, small toys, books and games. They were delivered to the Women's Resource Center and the Salvation Army. We hosted Easter brunch following 7 a.m. sunrise service. Sunday Summer Brunch in June celebrated St. Michael graduates of various high schools and universities for the year.
- The Sisters in Christ Luncheon May 7 featured the theme “Friends are God's gift”. Suzanne Gay, St. Michael administrative assistant, received the Bold Woman Award for the ways she supports all the programs of the congregation, organizes pot lucks, as well as the women's group. A donation was sent to Women of the ELCA Katie's Fund which supports programs for women worldwide.
- We celebrated Women Acting Boldly by leading all three services on May 14th joined by more from the congregation who sang a hymn during the morning services. The congregation filled Love Offering baggies with \$545.40 in donations for Sole Hope, a non-profit which recycles old jeans and tires into shoes for children of Uganda. Fifty sets of shoe tops were cut as a Filling-Your-Faith Toolbox Service project. The money is used to provide foot care and education as well as employment for those making the shoes in Uganda.
- The VSWO (VA Synodical Women's Organization) Convention held August 18-19 was attended by Jody Smiley, Anna Rossomando and Alice Schneider at St. Philip Lutheran in Roanoke. Worship was led by St. Philip Pastor Kelly Derrick. Bishop Mauney, in his last official appearance before retirement, was the keynote speaker. The theme centered on “Renewal of the Spirit: All Anew”. Jody was elected President for a new term, after finishing 2 terms on the National ELCA board. Writing materials, greeting cards, stamps, etc. were gathered by all for the VA Chaplains “Grace Inside” program, which is a VA Mission Partner, so inmates can communicate by mail with family and friends. Love offerings were divided between Women of the ELCA Katie's Fund and Elijah's Backpack at St. Philip. Regular offerings were split between VSWO and Women of the ELCA ministries. In addition, a special offering was collected by VSWO in Bishop Mauney's name for the “Forwarding Faith Campaign” to support Christian education in the VA Synod. Next year's convention will be at Bethel Lutheran in Winchester August 3-4, 2018.

- For the beginning of school in August, we filled boxes with 1952 pieces of school supplies for children at Price's Fork Elementary.
- On September 24, we celebrated St. Michael's 49th Birthday with our annual birthday dinner which featured Italian food catered by the Cellar Restaurant followed by delicious birthday desserts provided by church members. A donation was made to the Christmas Store.
- On November 5, the NRV District of Women of the ELCA had their annual Fall Gathering at Our Saviour, Christiansburg. We worshiped with a liturgy "An Ever Present Help in Trouble" written by the Florida-Bahamas Synod in September during the hurricane season. The service project this year was helping Faith Lutheran in Dickinson, TX which was flooded by hurricane Irma. Jody discussed and distributed ELCA information and suggestions on all kinds of discrimination in our groups. We sent offerings of \$388 to VSWO and a total of \$1132.66 to Faith Lutheran, TX. The funds were for sewing machine replacement and craft needs they use to support local charities and books for "Ark Book Pantry" which is one of their primary church missions. We also made Lutheran prayer beads to send with our offerings to Faith as a reminder to pray for all our sisters and brothers.
- On November 12, members young and older worked together to organize shoeboxes for the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in SD. This year 276 shoe boxes were checked, decorated, and labeled. They were donated by NRV Lutheran churches, Christ the King in Richmond and St. John Lutheran Church in Lexington, SC. Ron Brewer once again, delivered our boxes to Fontaine in Dublin, who very generously, donated the shipping cost. Over 2,000 pounds was shipped to SD! We also shipped a box of handmade baby blankets, art supplies, additional hats & gloves, toiletries etc. to the homeless program at Pine Ridge. A few extra donations totaling \$130 was just the right amount to ship the boxes to SD.
- This year was the 25th anniversary of the shoebox program at Christ Episcopal Church. At the celebration dinner November 19th lots of memories were shared along with entertainment, then packing backpacks. Sandy Birch and Alice Schneider enjoyed the evening with them.
- In December we delivered 19 Christmas stocking gifts for Price's Fork Elementary children. These gifts from the congregation contained clothes and one or two things from their "wish" lists.

We continue to be Bold Women throughout the year as we spend time in fellowship, Bible study and work on projects to help our neighbors, both near and far.

Submitted:

Alice Schneider, chair

Men in Mission

The Men in Mission group is “on-call” to support the programs of St. Michael and provide community service as needed.

In 2017, the Men in Mission

- unloaded the Micah’s Backpack pick-up truck for several months and
- directed traffic in the parking lot of the Montgomery County Christmas Store and assisted shoppers with unloading their carts on December 8.

Many thanks to Joe and Pat Garst who have been picking up the Micah’s food items from Feed America in Roanoke for several years and now also do all the unloading.

Jeff Birch, Coordinator



Older Kids (O.K.s) Senior Ministry

An active group of “over 50’s” had a number of opportunities for fellowship during the year. The Happy-Go-Lucky group, mostly retirees, met quarterly for a catered luncheon and program in the fellowship hall. March was our annual Easter luncheon and June was a barbeque picnic with special guests, Martin and Katie Luther, who shared some of their experiences in 16th century Germany. In September, we enjoyed “Chile and chili”, a special back-to-school luncheon and school work including an exciting South American geography lesson on Chile by Matt James. December featured a 5-course Christmas luncheon and participants “sang (Christmas carols) for their supper” between courses and enjoyed special Christmas music provided by Jeff Birch, Doug Smiley and Patrice Yearwood. The “Ice Cream and Iceland” theme included highlights of Doug and Jody Smiley’s fall trip to Iceland. We thank our caterers, Lynn Hickock, Barbara Corbett, Anna Rossomando, Alice Schneider, and Sandy Birch for supporting this activity. A \$5/lunch contribution for groceries is always appreciated, though not required. Friends from Shiloh and New Mt. Zion often attend the luncheons and add to the fellowship.

The Out to Lunch Bunch met for lunch on several occasions at local restaurants. Restaurants visited in 2017 included Al’s on First in Pulaski and Montano’s in Roanoke. Many thanks to Peggy Brown for organizing these luncheons.

In August, a group of O.K.s enjoyed a field trip to Lutheran Family Services in Roanoke to visit with staff and participants in its Day Support program. Day Support provides individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities with a number of activity-based, skill-building experiences. In September, O.Ks donated small items for BINGO prizes along with a large bag of new stuffed animals for use by the Day Support participants.

Announcements posted on the hallway bulletin board and in the newsletter keep the O.K.s informed of AARP and other senior organizations’ activities throughout the year.

The younger O.K.s, known as the “middle-agers” support activities such as Soup for Seniors packing and distribution and may meet for social events on occasion. The middle-agers are loosely described as those “between PTA and AARP” and not yet retired.

Sandy Birch

Lutheran Campus Ministry at Virginia Tech

Annual Report for the Committee on Campus Ministry

Committee on Campus Ministry Annual Report



This ministry centers around those students who gather at THE WELL each Tuesday for a meal, fellowship, and service. Vibrant student leadership nurtures spiritual awareness among about 20 students at these meetings. Students worship within congregations in the area. At Luther Memorial approximately 20 students join us for worship and communion. Between three to five students worship at St. Michael congregation. Many but not all students participate with THE WELL and the worship life of the congregations.

Campus ministry at Virginia Tech is supported by grants from the Virginia Synod, St Michael Lutheran Church, the ELCA and congregational support from Luther Memorial Lutheran Church. Pastor Joanna Stallings accepted a call to ministry in Goldsboro, North Carolina, beginning in January. We were blessed to have Pastor Drew Tucker shepherd this ministry from January through November.

We appreciate that Christ Lutheran Church, Radford affirmed the agreement to contract sufficient time for Pastor Tucker to include this work in his ministry. Pastor Tucker provided a connection between the ministries of THE WELL and the Highlander Campus Ministry at Radford. He developed, with student leaders, a southeast regional retreat for campus ministry held in North Carolina in October.

Members of the congregation hosted Luther's Luscious Lunch (L³) each month of the academic year. We appreciate meals provided by Marilia and Mike Deisenroth, Teresa Cassel, Brad and Mary Gremms, John and Ann Hess, Jim and Lois Lang, Tammy Neeble, St Michael Lutheran Church, and Matt

Financial Summary (from end of year financial statement for LMLC)

Campus Ministry Grants

Virginia Synod	31,364
ELCA	2,852
St Michael Lutheran Church	2,708

Ministry Generated Resources

Thrivent Choice	1,017
Football Parking	7,997
Other contributions	0

Enrichment Funds (endowments)

Campus Ministry Fund	2,111
Student Faith Development	1,360

Direct Campus Ministry Expenses

Operations	6,898
Interim Campus Pastor	13,500

The committee is supported by contributions of leadership from THE WELL 2016-2017: Meghan Rupkey (president), Samantha Dibiaso, Casey Parrett, Rachel Magri, and Tommy Hyres; 2017- 2018: Ethan Hodges (president), Rebecca Pettit, Anna Schmitt, Jayme Kokkonen, Meghan Rupkey, and Diane Cline, and congregational members: Jody Smiley (SMLC), Lori Anne Kirk (SMLC), John Hess, Pastor Drew Tucker, and Pastor Bill King.

Prepared by John Hess, Chairperson

February 2018



Micah's Backpack, a free, community-based ministry, feeds children from low-resource families 6 meals and snacks on the weekends throughout the academic year and summer vacation. Here is our 2017 report.

- Packed 11,449 backpacks full of food which represents 68,694 meals donated to hungry children. Most weeks during the school year, we packed over 300 bags of food. During the summer, we usually packed 150-180 bags.
- Continued the Cummings/Ivers Challenge at the end of the year, which raised over \$3,000 for infrastructure needs.
- Engaged between 31-301 volunteers each week to pack and deliver bags. Among them, they shared over 2,635 hours of their time to help feed hungry children.
- Grants awarded from the Adobe Community Foundation, Blacksburg Presbyterian Church Endowment, the Community Foundation of the NRV, Two Cents a Meal through the Presbytery of the Peaks, Kroger, Food Lion, and more. Over 50 groups and over 150 individuals donated monetarily to MBP.
- Continued the partnership with the Work Study Program at VT that provides two work study students to MBP. Two new students were hired this year because the two with us last year graduated. Along with assisting in the weekly tasks of packing and inventory, these two students helped improve efficiency through the creation of an extensive price comparison of foods from different sources and improved spreadsheets for inventory and lists of participants.
- Continued partnership with Downtown Blacksburg in the Fork and Cork Event in April in which people bring canned goods to the festival in return for a coupon for wine and raised over \$1000 in sponsorships for MBP during the event.
- Reestablished the Annual Gingerbread House Decorating Contest at Kent Square sponsored by Nest Realty and Kent Jewelers. Raised \$400.
- Hired a summer intern to ride the Mobile Backpack bus each week to provide continuity for the volunteers and the children served.
- Continued to share fresh fruits and vegetables from Micah's Garden and berries from 3 Birds Berry Farm with kids participating in Micah's Mobile Backpack in the summer months.
- Continued partnership with faculty and staff at Harding Avenue and Price's Fork Elementary School who provide books on Fridays on the mobile backpack.

For more information about Micah's Backpack please contact **Susan Verbrugge**,
(hope@micahsbackpack.org)



“St Michael established Micah’s Garden, a cooperative community garden, in the spring of 2012.”

In 2017, Micah’s Garden:

- Welcomed Mary Nickle back for a second year as the Micah’s Garden Director.
- Partnered with three food pantries: Giving Tree, Interfaith, and Micah’s Mobile Backpack to distribute fresh produce.
- Expanded to 15 different types of vegetables and fruits grown and shared 500 pounds of produce.
- Partnered with the Blacksburg Refugee Partnership to allow refugee families a place to grow fresh food.
- Kids who visited the mobile backpack loved choosing fresh vegetables!
- Partnered with Virginia Tech and the Montgomery County Health Department to submit a grant proposal to help teenagers learn more about producing and selling fresh produce.
- Received a grant from the Master Gardeners to help rebuild the raised beds for the next growing season.

For more information about Micah's Garden, please contact **Mary Nickle** (hope@micahsgarden.org).





Micah's Soup for Seniors (MSS) had a great 2017. We have continued in this ministry with great support from the church, church members, community volunteers, and Warm Hearth.

Some of our outside partners include Panera, Kroger, Warm Hearth, Chi Delta Alpha, Virginia Tech's Pre-Pharmacy Club and the Blacksburg Rotary Club.

Some special notes from this year:

The history and outline of Micah's Soup for Seniors (MSS): MSS was started in September 2012 as a way to provide extra food for low-income seniors at three houses at Warm Hearth: North Trolinger, South Trolinger and the New River House.

MSS volunteers pack and distribute on the fourth Tuesday of each month. We deliver approximately 90 bags a month. Each bag contains soup, tuna or peanut butter, vegetables, fruit, rice and beans. The seniors fill out a menu each month for what they would like to have delivered the next month. MSS has 20-25 volunteers who help out each month. We also have a partnership with Panera which provides us with leftover bagels, breads and sweets each month.



Since September 2012, Micah's Soup for Seniors:

- Received over 7000 donated food items
- Delivered approximately 6000 bags of food
- Worked approximately 3000 volunteer hours

This year, with the support of the Blacksburg Rotary Club, we were able to provide special Christmas bags that included blankets, fresh fruit and chocolate treats.

We also provided "health bags" in Feb 2017- the bags included tissues, hand sanitizer, lotion, and chap stick.

For more information about Micah's Soup for Seniors, please contact **Dianne Krallman** (Dhkrallman@hubbell-Itg.com).



2017 Annual Report

The goal of Micah's Closet (MC) is to provide up to a week's worth of new school clothes to children in need, through a partnership with schools, churches, community groups, businesses, and individuals. 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.

In 2017:

- In the Spring, shirts and shorts were distributed. In the Fall distribution, MC shared shirts, pants, athletic shoes, pajamas, socks, underwear and a jacket.
- MC had over 30 unique volunteer shoppers, including 8 from the Blacksburg's Newcomers Group and 8 from the Rotary Club!
- MC reached over of 80 students at Prices Fork Elementary School and the Blacksburg Head Start Program with the Spring and Fall clothing distributions.
- Judy Clemens, in partnership with the New River Community Services, provided 282 specific clothing items to 17 families in need throughout the year.
- In 2017, grant money received by the Rotary Club was used by their members to purchase clothing. Along with the funds the Club provided much need man hours of assistance in shopping.
- We continue to utilize donations of "Kohls' Cash", to "purchase" free clothing. Keep those donations coming!



Property Committee

“The property team oversees the church property, making improvements and repairs as needed.”

Regular activities included

- Overseeing the seasonal clean-ups
- General upkeep and mowing of the grass
- Removal of snow
- Spraying monthly for insects
- Spraying for weed control
- On-going maintenance and repair

Facility improvements included

- Siding and trim installed
- Fans installed in classrooms on cemetery side of building
- The area at the end of the far parking lot was cleared, leveled and seeded
- An awning was installed over the rear entrance to the classroom building
- Cracks in the parking lot were filled in and resealing will take place in the spring
- Fence next to Blacksburg High School was replaced in partnership with Montgomery County Schools
- Cameras were installed at the rear entrance and in the preschool area

Special Thanks

To all those folks who work behind the scenes who are a major part in the upkeep and maintenance of our church including . . .

- Ray Howell and Ron Brewer for their help in addressing our maintenance issues.
- The “Mowing Crew” that mows and keeps our grounds looking nice.
- Marty Gordon who serves as our church custodian and Wanda Pascoe who makes sure that needed cleaning supplies are on-hand.
- Dickie Shepherd and J.C. Martin for preparing the grass at the far end of the parking lot.
- Donors to the Property Maintenance Fund, the Growing with Faith Fund and the Under One Roof project.



MEMORIAL COMMITTEE REPORT FOR 2017

The Memorial Committee meets on an as needed basis to act on Council recommendations or conduct other business related to overseeing the use of all money donated to St. Michael as memorials.

This past year no undesignated Memorial Funds, or designated Memorial Funds were spent.

Donations in memory of Laura Peery, \$50.00, Tim Clemens, \$25.00, Burn Gross, \$225.00, Ken Wolfe, \$510.00, Martha Waybright, \$200.00, Ross Kirk, \$275.00, Doris Price, \$200.00, Joe Wall, \$100.00, Charles Price, \$25.00, Sarah Wall \$5.00 and Juanita Simpson, \$605.00, for a total of \$2220.00, went into the Memorial Fund.

Donations in memory of Joe Wall, Ross Kirk, Mary Berg, Ellen Merricks, Blanche Newman, Marcenia Akers Renick, and Dora Vail and Keith Walters, went into the Micah's Backpack Fund.

Donations in memory of Blanche Worley, Myla Nelson, Ross Kirk, Lila Olsen, Juanita Simpson, Russ Bergen and Robert Svenningsen, went into the Soup for Seniors Fund.

Donations in memory of Gary Christle went into the Boy Scout memorial fund.

Donations in memory of Richard Morgan, and David Lawhorne, went into the Micah's Closet Fund.

Donations in memory of Ken Wolfe went into the Circle of Grace fund.

Donations in Memory Juanita Simpson, Joe Wall and Ross Kirk went into the Growing with Faith Fund.

Donations in memory of Russ Bergen went into the Micah's Non-Food Fund..

Donations in Memory of Doris Price and Burn Gross, went into the Core Fund.

Donations in memory of Laura Peery went into the Micah's Garden Fund.

Donations in memory of Ross Kirk went into the Sunday School Supplies Fund.

The committee is always available to answer questions or assist a family in choosing a memorial gift. Members of the committee are: Bob Brown, Cindy Dowdy, Jim Clemens-Chair, Jay Nagle, Donna Oliver and Sandy Birch.

Jim Clemens
Chair

2017 Investments in Ministry through the Core Ministry Fund

	<u>Projected 2017</u>	<u>Actual 2017</u>
Giving in Support of Spending Plan for Ministry and Other Ministry Generated Resources	\$230,500	\$208,737
Sharing Our Gifts Includes gifts to Virginia Synod, Campus Ministry at Virginia Tech, and salary for Micah's Backpack staff	\$37,760	\$32,634
Worship Includes Supplies for Worship and Music Programs and Salaries	\$24,796	\$21,796
Youth and Education Ministry Includes Youth and Family Programs, Sunday School, Vacation Bible School and Child Care Staffing	\$12,075	\$7,845
Caring and Sharing Includes Fellowship Events, Softball and Volleyball Teams, Publicity, Future Programs and Associate in Ministry	\$8,200	\$2,358
Pastoral Support Includes Salary, Benefits, and Continuing Education	\$109,426	\$108,592
Parish Administration and Support	\$24,078	\$25,712
Property	\$14,200	\$15,781
Total Spending Plan for Ministry Investment	\$230,635	\$214,718

Notes:

1. *Investments in Ministry through Core Ministry Fund exceeded giving by \$5,980.*
2. *Total Support for All Funds in 2017 (including Core Ministry Fund, Growing with Faith Fund, Justice and Mercy Fund, Micah's Backpack and other Restricted Funds) was \$496,975.*
3. *Through the Justice and Mercy Fund, St. Michael provided \$15,202 in direct assistance with rent, power bills and fuel. The balance in the account at the end of 2017 was \$3,144.*
4. *The Balance in the Property Maintenance Fund at the end of 2017 was \$6,453.*
5. *The mortgage balance with Thrivent at the end of 2017 was \$120,230. The balance in the Growing with Faith Fund at the end of 2017 was \$18,824.*

Micah's Caring Initiative

2017 Investments in Ministry

Micah's Backpack and Micah's Mobile Backpack: Providing weekend meals for 320 students per weekend during the school year and over 200 students during the summer

Donations and Grants	\$ 83,291
Expenses	
Food	\$ 75,073
Infrastructure Support (including bus fuel, insurance, Director stipend, t-shirts)	\$ 7,865
Total Invested	\$ 78,594

Micah's Soup for Seniors: Providing approximately 90 bags of food at the end of each month to low-income seniors in the community

Donations and Grants	\$ 9,936
Expenses	
Food	\$ 8,309
Infrastructure Support	\$ 545
Total	\$ 8,854

Micah's Closet: Providing clothing at the change of season for low-income students in our community

Donations and Grants	\$17,259
Expenses: clothing	\$ 5,791

Notes

1. *Some grants and donations received in 2017 by Micah's Caring Initiative Ministries are designated for use in 2018.*
2. *Micah's Caring Initiative paid staff now includes Susan Verbrugge, Director of Micah's Backpack and Mary Nickle, Micah's Garden Director. All other Micah's Caring Initiative leaders and staff are either volunteers or interns from Virginia Tech.*

V 1.0 – Feb. 12, 2018

2018 Investments in Ministry Plan

Investments in Ministry Partnerships: Sharing Our Gifts	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
Virginia Synod and ELCA	23,500	23,000
Mission Congregation Partnerships	1,200	1,200
Montgomery County Emergency Assistance Program	1,560	1,560
Community Ministry Support	500	500
Campus Ministry at Virginia Tech	2,000	2,500
Micah's Caring Initiative Staff Support	<u>9,500</u>	<u>9,000</u>
Total	38,260	37,760

Investments in Core Ministries: Worship	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
Choral Director	7,548	7,400
Choral Director Continuing Education	600	600
Music and Choir Supplies	1000	1,000
9:00 AM Accompanist	3,073	3,011
11:00 AM Accompanist	7,675	7,525
6:30 PM Accompanist	2,150	2,260
Accompanist Continuing Education	600	600
Instrumentalist	250	250
Organist Substitutes	600	600
Inserts and Bulletins	500	500
Altar Supplies	550	550
Miscellaneous	<u>500</u>	<u>500</u>
Total	25,046	24,796



Investments in Core Ministries: Caring and Sharing	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
Congregational Ministry Coordinator	0	5,000
Congregational Ministry Coordinator Continuing Education	0	200
Fellowship	1000	800
Evangelism/Publicity	500	300
Sports Teams	0	400
Older Kids Senior Adult Ministry	400	400
Future Programs	300	300
Appreciation	700	700
Miscellaneous	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>
Total	3,000	8,200

Investments in Core Ministries: Youth and Education Ministry	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
Youth	-----	-----
Youth Activities	1,800	1,800
Family Programs	1,800	1,200
Youth Ministry Staff	1,200	2,400
Nursery Worker	2,000	2,000
Education	-----	-----
Christian Education	1,000	1,000
Confirmation	2,300	2,300
Subscriptions/Devotionals	1,000	1,000
Miscellaneous	<u>50</u>	<u>50</u>
Total	11,150	11,750



Investments in Core Ministries: Faith Milestone Ministry	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
New Baby Ministry	25	25
Faithchest Resources	125	125
Faith Builders Toolbox Resources	150	150
Grief Resources	<u>25</u>	<u>25</u>
Total	325	325



Investments in Core Ministries: Pastoral Support	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
Salary	39,409	38,637
Housing	21,489	21,068
Pension, Insurance	37,720	35,717
Social Security	7,378	7,229
Mileage Reimbursement	4,100	4,100
Supply Pastor	975	975
Continuing Education, Professional Expenses	<u>1,700</u>	<u>1,700</u>
Total	112,771	109,426

Investments in Core Ministries: Support	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
Materials	100	100
Workshop	0	0
Miscellaneous	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Total	100	100

Investments in Core Ministries: Parish Administration	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
Administrative Assistant	11,759	11,528
Social Security	3,400	3,600
Office Supplies	1,600	1,500
Postage	1,600	1,600
Copier Maintenance	2,400	2,100
Internet, Telephone and Online Services	2,700	2,100
Conventions and Conferences	650	650
Staff Retirement Assistance	500	500
Miscellaneous	<u>500</u>	<u>500</u>
Total	25,109	24,078

Investments in Facilities	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
Insurance – Church Property and Workman’s Comp	<u>5,300</u>	4,200
Custodian Services	3,000	3,000
Utilities	5,200	5,200
Snow Removal	500	500
Pest Control	500	400
Capital Replacement	600	800
Miscellaneous	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>
Total	15,200	14,200

Ministry Fund Spending Plan vs. Projected Giving	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
Total Spending Plan for Ministry	230,961	230,635

Projected Core Ministry Fund Giving	206,500	204,000
Ministry Generated Resources: Head Start	18,000	14,000
Grant Support for Micah's Backpack Staff Support	<u>4,750</u>	<u>4,500</u>
Total Estimated Support for Core Ministry Fund	229,250	222,500



Investments in Preventative Maintenance and Ongoing Restoration:	<u>2018</u>
General Maintenance & Improvements	1,000
Landscaping & Maintenance	1,500
Equipment Maintenance	550
Reseal Parking Lot	2250
Heat Pump Maintenance	<u>2528</u>
Total	7,828

Investments in Growing with Faith Fund	<u>2018</u>
Monthly Mortgage on Classroom Addition	34,032

Notes on 2018 Investment in Ministry Plan

- *Thank you for your generous support of God's ministry at St. Michael. Together we are touching people's lives with God's Word and making a difference in our community.*
- *As we approach the end of the year, it appears that our expenses will slightly exceed your giving, plus ministry generated resources which include funds raised for Micah's Backpack Infrastructure Support, Focus on Youth gifts and the stipend from the Head Start partnership. The Council has adjusted our ministry investments to compensate for changes in giving patterns earlier this year and the difference will be covered by reserves.*
- *Based on your estimates of giving for 2018, St. Michael anticipates stronger support for the Core Ministry Fund in the coming year.*
- *This year's plan includes a 2% raise for staff members. The investment in Micah's Caring Initiative staff is increased to help us continue to build the amount of funding available to match the needs of this growing element of our ministry.*
- *As a result of our long-range planning, we will be examining options for our staffing model going forward. The position of Congregational Ministry Coordinator is being removed from the plan for 2018 and the youth staff is reduced since it will be at least this summer before we are ready to implement any staffing suggestions from our planning teams.*
- *St. Michael continues to share over 16% of our gifts to the Core Ministry Fund with ministries outside of the congregation.*
- *The 2018 Investment in Ministry plan projects a small imbalance which the Council plans to watch and adjust for as needed in 2018.*
- *This year's plan includes money to seal and restripe the parking lot.*

Updated Nov. 29, 2017