



# THE TRUMPET

AN INSTRUMENT OF GOOD NEWS

FEBRUARY 6, 2022  
FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

## AUTHOR MICHAEL DENNIN VISITS THE SEEKERS

The Seekers, one of the adult formation offerings at St. Michael's, was joined in their January 30 class by Dr. Michael Dennin, author of the book they're currently reading together: *Divine Science, Finding Reason at the Heart of Faith*. He is a physics professor at UC-Irvine who has appeared on a variety of History Channel shows, such as *Ancient Aliens*, *Star Wars Tech*, and *Sci-Fi*. Phyllis Blee, who facilitates the group, notes that conversation highlights included the question of whether God exists, or can exist, from a scientific understanding of the world; whether miracles are possible; a discussion of creationism vs. evolution; and the role of faith in a world of reason. Dennin makes the case that there is no either/or; that all of science and natural causes are a manifestation of God—which he defines as “the fullness of reality.” If you're interested in learning more, the group is nearly finished discussing the book, and are always happy to welcome more folks into their midst. They meet each Sunday at 12:30 pm, currently online only. Here's the Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/158321072?pwd=SE9Zc0hscE13REM1U1lWYjJVU3YyZz09>, Passcode: 541706.

Extravagant generosity at St. Michael's shows itself in so many ways, which is one of the joys of this community. Not only is it found in the financial commitments made by you that enable groups like the Seekers to provide adult formation and fellowship opportunities, but also it is expressed in Dr. Dennin's sharing of his time and knowledge. A big thanks to Phyllis as well as to Harriett Choffel for their generosity in leading the group and sharing this story and the Zoom screenshot of the class.

—Christine Havens, Director of Communications



## NOTES



**Taco Sunday is February 6** Join us in the parish hall during the 10am hour this Sunday for fellowship and a delicious breakfast meal. All are welcome. We'll have Valentine's Day cards again to decorate for those in our parish who need some cheer and for first responders, and our Kindness Tree will be there, full of Generosity Hearts—creative ideas for loving our neighbors.

A blue flyer with white text and decorative white doves in the corners. The text reads: "YOUTH CONFIRMATION CLASSES", "8TH GRADE & UP", "SUNDAYS AT 10AM IN ROOM 8 (EDUCATION WING)", "5-WEEK SERIES BEGINNING FEBRUARY 6", "LED BY THE REV. HOPE BENKO", and "BREAKFAST TACOS & SNACKS".

**YOUTH  
CONFIRMATION CLASSES**

**8TH GRADE & UP**

SUNDAYS AT 10AM IN ROOM 8 (EDUCATION WING)

5-WEEK SERIES BEGINNING FEBRUARY 6

LED BY THE REV. HOPE BENKO

BREAKFAST TACOS & SNACKS

A flyer for Communion featuring a drawing of a chalice and a host. The text includes: "the sacrament of the Eucharist", "connecting to Communion", "a milestone in a child's life", and "Sundays at 10am | Gathering Room 4-WEEK SERIES BEGINNING FEBRUARY 6 for children entering 1st grade & up".

the sacrament  
of the Eucharist

connecting  
to  
Communion

a milestone in a child's life

Sundays at 10am | Gathering Room  
**4-WEEK SERIES BEGINNING FEBRUARY 6**  
for children entering 1st grade & up

**Youth Confirmation & First Communion Classes Begin This Sunday** Just a reminder about these two Christian formation programs for youth and for children. These both will culminate in special events in the life of St. Michael's. Contact Fr. John at [jnewton@st-michaels.org](mailto:jnewton@st-michaels.org) or Amanda Evans Lang at [amanda@st-michaels.org](mailto:amanda@st-michaels.org) for information.

**Mark Your Calendars—Lenten Speaker Series Starts Sunday, March 6** Our series this year is called "Trust in Grace," and will be a hybrid experience, both in person and online. Each Sunday evening in Lent, folks are invited to gather in the sanctuary at 5pm for a Eucharist service, followed by the guest speaker, and then all are welcome in the parish hall for fellowship, food, and further conversation. Here is the schedule of speakers:

- March 6* Trisha Taylor, licensed counselor & author
- March 13* Scott Bader-Saye, professor of Christian ethics, Seminary of the Southwest
- March 20* Rebecca Poe Hays, professor of Christian scripture, Baylor
- March 27* Anthony Baker, professor of theology, SSW
- April 3* The Rev. Kelly Koonce, founder of Life After Loss

**Camp Allen Summer Camp Registration Now Open!** Now is the perfect time to register your child or grandchild for a great week of camp at Camp Allen. The season begins in June, and sessions fill up quickly! For more information, or to register, click here: <https://www.campallen.org/summercamp.html>.

**Vacation Bible Camp—Save the Date!** It's not too early to get excited about VBC, which happens the week of August 1! This year's theme is Catch the Wave. Registration opens April 1. Contact Family Minister Amanda at [Amanda@st-michael's.org](mailto:Amanda@st-michael's.org) for more details.

**Rector's Bible Study: 1 & 2 Peter | Tuesdays @noon | Sundays @12:45 pm** Did the Apostle Peter write the letters that bear his name? For a lively discussion of this and other questions about these lesser-known epistles, join Fr. John this spring on Tuesdays or Sundays now through March. Zoom info: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84620183719?pwd=ait6RFhzZFIRY2RxR0FqWTFvZ0JmUT09>, Meeting ID: 846 2018 3719, Passcode: bible.

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## PLUG INTO OUTREACH

**Trinity Center Volunteers Needed** Two volunteers are needed from noon-3pm on February 20 to help prepare boxed meals, which will be distributed on the steps of Trinity Center, located at 304 E. 7th Street. COVID precautions are in place for volunteers and there is free parking in St. David's garage. If you are interested in serving, contact Marsha Hart by text or call at 713-805-2243 or email her at [mhartsales@outlook.com](mailto:mhartsales@outlook.com).

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## FORMATION & FELLOWSHIP

**St. Michael's Book Club** Looking for fellowship and conversation? Love reading? Join the SMEC Book Club! The group meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 2:30pm via Zoom. February's meeting is on the 23rd and the book is *My Remarkable Journey*, by Katherine Johnson. Please email Rhoda Silverberg at [rmorrillsilverberg@icloud.com](mailto:rmorrillsilverberg@icloud.com) for more information and for the Zoom link. March's book is *The Sentence* by Louise Erdrich.

**The Seekers | Sundays @12:30 pm | Zoom only** The group is finishing the book *Divine Science: Finding Reason at the Heart of Faith*, by Michael Dennin, a physicist; they are choosing a new title soon. Contact Harriett Choffel at [harriettchoffel@me.com](mailto:harriettchoffel@me.com) or Phyllis Bleebs at [phyllis.blees@gmail.com](mailto:phyllis.blees@gmail.com) for more info. Here's the Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/158321072?pwd=SE9Zc0hscE13REM1U1lWYjVU3YyZz09>, Passcode: 541706.

**St. Michael's Women's Virtual Potluck** The SMEC Women's Potluck group gathers at 6:00 pm on the first Monday of each month unless it falls on a holiday. All women of the parish are invited—bring a friend! Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84019837778?pwd=SGRmQXhoYlIXSUZCZEkrL0hMdFhldz09>; passcode is 242636.

**Morning Prayer: Tuesdays @9:00 am** You're invited to Morning Prayer each Tuesday morning at 9:00 am. Please note the Zoom link and passcode: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81346686555?pwd=MHFKdmlwWXRnZlVZM2tlb04wUUVHUT09>. **Passcode:** prayer.

**Centering Prayer: Tuesdays @6:30 pm** This ministry is available every Tuesday night at 6:30 pm. Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/158321072?pwd=SE9Zc0hscE13REM1U1lWYjIVU3YyZz09>; passcode: 541706. Please email Phyllis Blees with questions: [phyllis.blees@gmail.com](mailto:phyllis.blees@gmail.com). For more about contemplative prayer, click this link: [Heart of Texas Contemplative Outreach](#).

**Evening Prayer: Wednesdays @4:30 pm** Each Wednesday at 4:30 pm. Use Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88082768969> and passcode 826364.

**Thursday Afternoon Bible Study @1:00 pm** This informal group discusses the Daily Office readings—drop in anytime! Led by Mary Healy, [mary.r.healy@gmail.com](mailto:mary.r.healy@gmail.com). Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87035409217?pwd=b3RVWmJwOGFRTHgyK0dXMTB3UEM0Zz09>. Meeting ID: 870 3540 9217. Use this passcode: biblestudy.

## FAMILY LIFE

Amanda Evans Lang, family minister, invites you to check out the [Family Ministry](#) and [Student Ministry](#) pages on the St. Michael's website for updates and activities to enrich your spiritual life. Please email with questions at [amanda@st-michaels.org](mailto:amanda@st-michaels.org).

**Sunday School @9:00 & 11:00 am** Each week in January and February, we talk about love: loving self, loving neighbor, and loving God. Sunday School is a place where children and their families can practice being compassionate in a community that values love and compassion. 9:00 and 11:00 am in the Family Life Center. Drop off is on the playground and you will be reunited in the sanctuary in time for communion together as a family.

**Sunday School Volunteers Needed!** Family Minister Amanda is looking for some volunteers to help at 9:00 and/or 11:00 am. This is a great and fun opportunity to minister to the children in the St. Michael's community. Talk to Amanda on a Sunday morning to learn about getting involved or contact her at [amanda@st-michaels.org](mailto:amanda@st-michaels.org).

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## MINISTRIES

**Stephen Ministry** Would you like a caring person to be with you steadfastly, in and through a hard time in your life? Consider asking for a Stephen Minister. Stephen Ministry is a free, confidential program that provides Christian care to hurting people with our congregation and surrounding community. Learn more at [www.st-michaels.org/stephen-ministry](http://www.st-michaels.org/stephen-ministry). If you'd like a Stephen Minister, please contact Jeff Robinson ([jarobinson100@gmail.com](mailto:jarobinson100@gmail.com)), Julie de Wette ([julie@losmadrone.com](mailto:julie@losmadrone.com)), or Fr. John Newton ([jnewton@st-michaels.org](mailto:jnewton@st-michaels.org)).

**Altar Guild** The Altar Guild is always looking for women and men to join this ministry. This group makes sure that the sanctuary is clean and readied for services and other liturgical events that happen at St. Michael's. If you are interested in serving or for more information, please contact Gail Reid at [reid.gail@gmail.com](mailto:reid.gail@gmail.com).

## DAY SCHOOL PHOTOS OF THE WEEK

The Lambs worked on a community loom this week—how cool is that?! And the Owls got ready for Valentine's Day by making love potions. Thanks to Miss Melody and to Miss Jennifer for the photos.



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## THIS WEEK'S PRAYERS

Please email Christine Havens at [chavens@st-michaels.org](mailto:chavens@st-michaels.org) with prayer requests or to receive the weekly Prayer Chain emails.

### Parish Prayer List

For Chris Rardin, recovering from surgery.

For Mac, young grandson of Karen Moody, who has COVID; for his parents Sarah and Cullen, who are caring for their sick child and working full time.

For Ronald Hudson, who recently had a stroke; for Martha, his wife.

For all those in the US affected by Winter Storm Landon.

For Jordan.

For all victims of gun violence, especially those affected by the school shootings in Virginia and in Minnesota this week.

### COVID-19

For all children and teachers during this unexpected style of attending school.

For all who struggle with loneliness and isolation.

For all those living in eldercare facilities, and for the staff, and for their families.

For all those without employment at this time.

All of our hospital and healthcare workers, including Rosa, J'aime, and Patty, who are keeping healthcare services running.

**Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:** St. James', Austin; St. James', La Grange; St. James', Taylor

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Church of Ireland

## ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

### STAFF DIRECTORY

#### Rector

The Rev. John Newton  
[jnewton@st-michaels.org](mailto:jnewton@st-michaels.org)

#### Assistant for Pastoral Care

The Rev. Elizabeth Turner  
[eturner@st-michaels.org](mailto:eturner@st-michaels.org)

#### Assisting Priest

The Rev. Hope Benko  
[hope.benko@ssw.edu](mailto:hope.benko@ssw.edu)

#### Deacon

The Rev. Sherry Williams  
[sherry.v.williams@mac.com](mailto:sherry.v.williams@mac.com)

#### Senior Warden

Kristen LeClair  
[kleclair0704@gmail.com](mailto:kleclair0704@gmail.com)

#### Junior Warden

Clark Whitty  
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#### Family Minister

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#### Parish Administrator

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#### Director of Communications

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#### Director of Music

Dr. James Morrow  
[morrowj@austin.utexas.edu](mailto:morrowj@austin.utexas.edu)

### ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATIONS

*The altar flowers are given to the glory of God.*

Sponsoring altar flowers is a wonderful way to honor loved ones or celebrate an occasion. They are printed here and in the worship bulletins.

Dedications can be emailed to: [chavens@st-michaels.org](mailto:chavens@st-michaels.org). Your donation can be mailed to the church office or given via the "Give" page of our website: <https://www.st-michaels.org/take-action>.

**FEBRUARY 6, 2022**

**FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY**

Isaiah 6:1-8

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Luke 5:1-11

Psalm 138

### FOLLOW ST. MICHAEL'S ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook: @St.Michaels.Austin

Instagram: stmichaels\_atx

Twitter: StMichaelsEpiscopal @StMichaelsATX

### THE TRUMPET SUBMISSION DEADLINE

Have a submission for the Trumpet? Please send your ideas, stories, or photos to Christine Havens, Communications Assistant, ([chavens@st-michaels.org](mailto:chavens@st-michaels.org)) by 12:00 pm on Wednesdays.

*Your extravagant generosity is appreciated.  
Text SMEC1500 to 73256 and follow the prompts to make an e-offering.*