

# THE TRUMPET

An instrument of good news





**Dr. Gena St. David, PhD, LPC, LMFT,** serves as the Director of the Center for Counseling at Seminary of the Southwest in Austin, Texas. She works as a licensed professional counselor and marriage and family therapist, with a specialization in systems, trauma, and brain science.

In 2013, Gena co-founded The Human Empathy Project. She recently published a book on theology and neuroscience, *The Brain & the Spirit* (Wipf & Stock, 2021), and is currently researching commonalities among nonviolent practitioners across global faith traditions.

# 2024 LENTEN SPEAKER SERIES: GRACE UPON GRACE

Join St. Michael's for a deep dive into the transformative power of grace within the local church to foster forgiveness, healing, and spiritual growth. Our hope each Sunday is to know the truth of John 1:16 more deeply as a community: "From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace." We have 5 remarkable speakers, and we have 5 delicious dinners afterward.

Children's and youth activities will be available, including a kid-friendly dinner. Drop off is at 4:45 pm; we are asking folks to pick up their children by 6:45 pm.

Learn more about our speakers here: st-michaels.org/2024-lenten-speakerseries. Recordings of the talks will be posted on the Monday following.



# **NOTES**

Rebecca Beavers Welcomed as New SMEDS Head of School Exciting news! After an extensive interview process, it is with great joy and enthusiasm that Fr. John announces Rebecca Beavers as the new full-time head of school. Rebecca's journey with St. Michael's the past few years has been marked by dedication and excellence, and her love for our community is unparalleled. During the interview process, Rebecca's depth of experience, understanding, and love moved the school board deeply. One board member, in particular, with experience in starting and running a successful preschool, and who is currently getting her PhD in Student in Educational Psychology, wrote this following her interview with Rebecca: "You could interview for months and would be unlikely to find

anyone else with the same depth of experience, understanding, and commitment."



iACT Visiting SMEC | Sunday, March 3 Please help us welcome our friends from iACT (Interfaith Action of Central Texas), who will join us at the 11:00 am service as part of iACT's Passport Program. This program gives participants the opportunity to travel to various houses of worship of many different faith traditions throughout the year with the aim of

increasing understanding and friendship across difference. Questions? Contact Fr. Josh at jkulak@st-michaels.org.









The children who participated in the Connecting to Communion class led by Fr. Josh will be receiving communion at the 11:00 am service this Sunday. It might not be their first communion but this will be a special moment in their faith journey.



# PALM SUNDAY March 24

7:45 am 9:00 am\* 11:00 am\*

HOLY WEEK March 28 Maundy Thursday 6:00 pm\*

March 29 Good Friday 7:00 am Noon\*

March 29 Stations of the Cross 7:30 am

March 30 Holy Saturday 9:00 am

March 30 Easter Vigil 7:45 pm

1:15 pm

# EASTER SUNDAY

# March 31

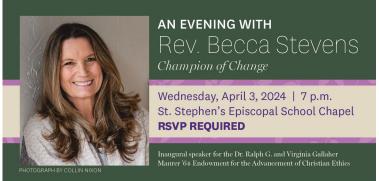
Worship 7:45 am 9:00 am\* 11:00 am\*

Egg Hunts 10:00 am Noon

St. Michael's Episcopal Church 1500 N. Capital of Texas Hwy Austin, Texas 78746

\*in-person & livestreamed services st-michaels.org/worship-online





# **Invitation from St. Stephen's Episcopal School**

The Rev. Becca Stevens is an Episcopal priest, author and justice entrepreneur who has dedicated her life to fostering holistic healing for women survivors of human trafficking, addiction, prostitution and exploitation.

Free & open to the public: Click here to RSVP

# **Registration is Now Open for Camp**

**Firelight!** We're so excited to tell you that registration for Camp Firelight is now open: https://bit.ly/2024VBCRegistration or scan the QR code.

Registration questions? Contact Christine Havens at chavens@st-michaels.org or Fr. Josh at jkulak@st-michaels.org.

Interested in volunteering? Fr. Josh would love to hear from you.

# **Celebrate Girl Scout Sunday | March 10**

Girl Scout Week is celebrated each March, starting with Girl Scout Sunday, and it always includes Girl Scouts' birthday, March 10. St. Michael's will be honoring any past and present Girl Scouts at the 9:00 am and 11:00 am services.



**SMEC at Austin FC** Join St. Michael's for an afternoon of family fun on Saturday, April 27, at 12:30 pm, as we watch Austin FC take on the LA Galaxy at Q2 Stadium. Tickets cost \$70 per person and scholarships are available. Please register for the event here. We are also asking that attending families consider purchasing a soccer ball to donate to our friends at Casa Marianella.

For more information or to sign up, please email Fr. Josh at jkulak@st-michaels.org.

# **FAMILY LIFE**

**Sunday School | 9:00 & 11:00 am | Room 8** The Family Ministry team welcomes children and their parents at the front of the church and guides them to Room 8 in the Education Wing. Parents are reunited with their children in the sanctuary at the announcements—in time for communion together as a family. We also have the Gathering Room and wiggle bags in the narthex for extra wiggly children. Contact the Rev. Hope Benko at hope@st-michaels.org for more info.

#### **SMEYC Schedule**

#### March 3

9:00 & 11:00 am Youth Devos — Parish Hall

10:00 am Taco Sunday/Last Confirmation Class

1:00 pm Sr. High ATX Amazing Race

5:00 pm Campfire



# Click here for the SMEYC Feb/Mar 2024 Newsletter

**Register your camper today** Spots are filling up fast for Camp Allen's summer camp program! Get ready for an action-packed week of fun in the sun (and shade) for rising 3rd-10th grade students. campallen.org/summercamp

*St. Michael's Episcopal Youth Community* welcomes youth 5th-12th grade to experience community and connection, to question and explore our relationships with the church, with each other, and with the world beyond Westlake. Questions? Email Bonnie Walton, Youth Coordinator, at youth@st-michaels.org.

# **OUTREACH IN ACTION**

St. Michael's is actively engaged in community outreach efforts, supporting a variety of non-profit organizations through hands-on service and financial assistance. Volunteer opportunities with several local organizations are offered throughout the year. If you have a passion for spreading love and grace throughout the community, please connect with Harriett Choffel, Outreach Commission Chair, at harriettchoffel@icloud.com; or Fr. Josh Kulak at jkulak@st-michaels.org.

**Del Valle Book Drive** St. Michael's will host the annual book drive for Del Valle elementary students' summer reading enrichment. It's time for you to begin collecting new or gently-used books (English or Spanish) for distribution in May. Our goal is to collect 1000 pre-K - 5th-grade books. For details, contact Tammy Gross at tammygross@me.com or Harriett Choffel (harriettchoffel@icloud.com) or Fr. Josh (jkulak@st-michaels.org).

**Garden Volunteers Needed** The veggies grown in our community garden go to Hope Food Pantry on Speedway in Hyde Park—given to families and students who might not otherwise get fresh food. Would you like to help with this impactful ministry? Great service opportunity for all ages. Contact Beth Michaels at ebethmichaels@gmail.com.

# **2024 Community Investment Partners**

Seminary of the Southwest (theological and pastoral education)

The Texas Pauli Murray Scholarship (scholarship for seminary students of color)

Episcopal Relief and Development (disaster relief & sustainable development)

Interfaith Action of Central Texas (iACT) (interfaith outreach)

Trinity Center (homelessness)

Casa Marianella (displaced immigrants)

Saint Francis Ministries (foster care)

El Buen Samaritano (family services)

One Good Turn (global health in underserved communities)



Thank you cards from the children of St. Francis Ministries.

The Outreach Commission is excited to support these organizations and seek to grow opportunities for purposeful connections with many of them. Click on the links to learn more about each organization or check out the Outreach webpage at st-michaels.org/outreach.

# **FORMATION & FELLOWSHIP**

**Rector's Bible Study Spring 2024 | Sundays @12:45 pm and Tuesdays @noon** All are welcome to join Fr. John for an in-depth study of sections of First and Second Corinthians.

Zoom Info: bit.ly/BibleStudyZoomLink Meeting ID: 832 6049 2080; passcode: bible. Dial by location: +13462487799, ID 83260492080#; passcode 543331# US (Houston)

# The Seekers Adult Formation Group | meets Sundays at 10:00 am in Rm 4 (Education Wing) and via

**Zoom** Looking for engaging discussion of theological and spiritual topics? Join the Seekers on Sunday mornings. The group is currently discussing *The Universal Christ*, by Richard Rohr. Drop in anytime, regardless of whether you've read the book. Contact Harriett Choffel at harriettchoffel@me.com or Phyllis Blees at phyllis.blees@gmail.com for more info. Zoom link: bit.ly/SeekersBookGroup, Passcode: 541706.

**Book Study:** *The Heart of it All* by Samuel Wells January - April Join Fr. Josh for a book study of theologian Samuel Well's *The Heart of it All: The Bible's Big Picture.* There are two weekly meeting options: Mondays from 12:00-1:00 pm in the parish hall (Zoom available) or Wednesdays from 7:00-8:00 pm via Zoom only. We will not meet the week of spring break (March 10 & 13). Email Fr. Josh at jkulak@st-michaels.org with any questions. Zoom links:

Monday: https://bit.ly/HeartBookStudyMonday; Wednesday: https://bit.ly/HeartBookStudyWednesday

**Morning Prayer | Tuesdays @9:00 am** You're invited to Morning Prayer each Tuesday at 9:00 am. Please note the Zoom link and passcode: bit.ly/SMECTuesMorningPrayer. **Passcode**: prayer.

**Tuesday Women's 12-part Bible Study: First Corinthians | 6:00 pm | Church Office** The Women's Bible Study meets at 6:00 pm in the church office; they're studying First Corinthians now to the beginning of April. In this 12-part series, author Jennie Allen walks into the messy lives of the Corinthians and takes us through Paul's words to the conflicted church. We'll see how the truth of the gospel and the Spirit of God can empower us to choose to follow Jesus every day of our lives. Contact Trish Thompson at home.thompson@gmail.com with questions or to RSVP.

**Centering Prayer–Now In-person and via Zoom | Tuesdays @6:30 pm** This ministry is available every Tuesday night at 6:30 pm. Join the group in-person on the SMEC campus (Gathering Room) or join via Zoom link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85765348257?pwd=dnlMUXh3dHdBOTBDeUROS2hMRXV6Zz09; passcode: 541706. Please email Phyllis Blees with questions: phyllis.blees@gmail.com. For more about contemplative prayer, click this link: Heart of Texas Contemplative Outreach.

Wednesday Evening, Off-Campus Bible Study | January 10 - April 3 Michael and Trish Thompson are leading a twelve-week, co-ed evening Bible study on Wednesday evenings through April 3, from 6:30 - 8:00 pm. The group meets in the Capital View Center conference room at 1301 S Capital of Texas Highway (office building next to Westlake fire house). The Gospel of Matthew is the topic, and the group will be using the John McArthur study guide. It is open to everyone. Childcare is not available. The book is available for purchase at this link. Questions? Contact Trish Thompson at home.thompson@gmail.com.

**St. Michael's Book Club | Last Wednesday of the Month @2:30 pm** This group meets on the last Wednesday of each month at 2:30 pm unless there's a holiday. The group is now meeting *in person at St. Michael's*. March's selection is *Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge, and the Teachings of Plants*, by Robin W. Kimmerer; April's is *Mr. Texas*, by Lawrence Wright. Please email Rhoda Silverberg at rmorrillsilverberg@icloud.com or Sue Allen at tom@northcoastbrewing.com for more information.

Wednesday Afternoon Bible Study | Wednesdays at 1:00 pm The group meets by Zoom (using the same link) for one hour beginning at 1:00 pm CT. This is a perfect time to invite others to join our group. This informal group discusses the Daily Office readings—drop in anytime! Led by Mary Healy, mary.r.healy@gmail.com. Zoom Link: bit.ly/SMECThursBibleStudy ID: 870 3540 9217. Use this passcode: biblestudy.

**Evening Prayer | Wednesdays @4:30 pm** All are welcome to join each Wednesday at 4:30 pm for prayer and conversation. Use Zoom link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88196769453 and passcode 945676.

Men's Pub Theology | Second Wednesdays @5:00 pm | County Line BBQ on Bee Caves Road Join the men of St. Michael's for Christian fellowship and theological conversation. *The next meeting is March 13*; the group meets at the County Line BBQ on Bee Caves Road. Contact Andy Hines at ahines@hinespool.com for more information.

# **MINISTRIES**

**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.

**Feeling Overwhelmed? Stephen Ministers Care** Imagine what it might be like to have someone hold, with you, the sources of that heavy pressure that tightens and presses on you. To know and understand. A Stephen Minister will listen for an hour, week after week, and not grow weary or frustrated or try to fix you. Stephen Ministers are trained to provide safe, confidential Christian care. Contact the Rev. John Newton (jnewton@stmichaels.org) or Stephen Ministers Julie de Wette (julie@losmadrones.com) or Jeff Robinson (jarobinson100@gmail.com).

# ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL DAY SCHOOL

# WHAT MAKES ST. MICHAEL'S SO SPECIAL?

ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL DAY SCHOOL

JOIN US FOR A
COMMUNITY
OPEN HOUSE
SATURDAY, MARCH 9
10AM-12PM







SMEDS Chapel takes place with Fr. Josh and Miss Karen every Wednesday at 9:30 am in our bright and beautiful sanctuary.

# THIS WEEK'S PRAYERS

Please email Christine Havens at chavens@st-michaels.org with prayer requests or to receive the weekly Prayer Chain emails.

For Mark B., who is undergoing cancer treatment; for his brother, Jeff, and his family.

For Presiding Bishop Michael Curry, in recovery from pacemaker surgery.

For all those in harm's way of the Smokehouse Creek wildfire in the Texas Panhandle, especially the children, families, and staff of Saint Francis Ministries.

For all those who celebrated Leap Day birthdays & anniversaries.

For Palestinians, Israelis, and all victims of violence in the Middle East.

For all those affected by gun violence.

**Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:** Epiphany, Calvert; Holy Innocents, Madisonville; Plantación, Bryan; St. Andrew's, Bryan

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Church of the Province of Uganda

# ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH STAFF DIRECTORY

#### Rector

The Rev. John Newton jnewton@st-michaels.org

#### Curate

The Rev. Dr. Josh Kulak jkulak@st-michaels.org

### **Assistant for Pastoral Care**

The Rev. Elizabeth Turner eturner@st-michaels.org

#### **Priest for Children**

The Rev. Hope Benko hope.benko@ssw.edu

# Senior Warden & Community Engagement

Hilary Bellm hbellm@st-michaels.org

#### **Junior Warden**

Meg Abbott megabbott1@gmail.com

### **Youth Coordinator**

Bonnie Walton youth@st-michaels.org

### **Parish Administrator**

Julie Hodges parishadmin@st-michaels.org

### **Director of Communications**

Christine Havens chavens@st-michaels.org

#### **Choir Director**

Dr. Suzanne Pence drpence2009@gmail.com

### **Media Tech & Sexton**

Jeremy Aschenbach jaschenbach@st-michaels.org

## **Bookkeeper**

Frank Haby bookkeeper@st-michaels.org

#### **ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATIONS**

There are no flowers on the altar during Lent.

Altar flower dedications are a wonderful way to celebrate the special people in your life or honor an important event or memory. They are printed here and in the 11:00 am service bulletin.

You can use this link to send your dedication and make a donation: st-michaels.org/altar-flower-donations. You may also donate using the QR code below or send a check to the church office at 1500 N. Capital of Texas Highway, 78746; put "altar flowers" as the memo.

### **GIVE TO SMEC**



#### THE TRUMPET SUBMISSION DEADLINE

Have a submission for the Trumpet?
Please send your ideas, stories, or photos to
Christine Havens, Director of Communications
(chavens@st-michaels.org) by 12:00 pm on
Wednesdays. We recommend running stories
beginning two weeks prior to your event.

ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

1500 N. Capital of Texas Hwy. Austin, Texas 78746 512-327-1474

OFFICE HOURS: M-TH 9:00AM-4:00PM