



THE TRUMPET

An instrument of good news



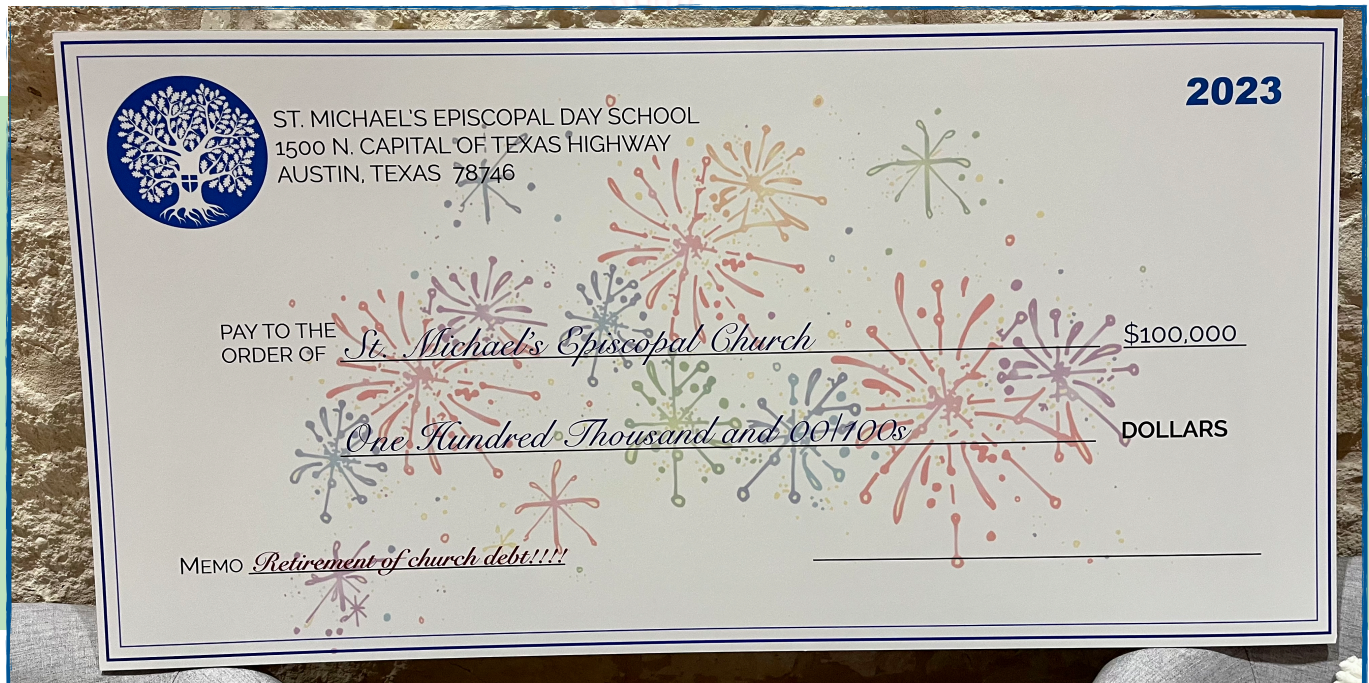
APRIL 2, 2023

TIME TO CELEBRATE: SMEC DEBT RETIREMENT!!

We're looking forward with delight to this Sunday and hope you will join us. At the 9:00am service, Rebecca Hope, our day school head, along with Kash & Kennedy, day school students and grandchildren of our senior warden, David Gross, will present a very special check to Fr. John on behalf of St. Michael's Day School. This is a far-reaching moment in the life of St. Michael's. As Fr. John notes:

In only two years, the church will have paid off its million-dollar facility debt, and in the process retire the debt from the original building construction. Thanks to the extravagant generosity of our members, as well as a \$100,000 gift from the St. Michael's Day School, we are debt free for the first time in almost two decades. This achievement highlights the church's commitment to financial responsibility and stewardship, as well as the strong partnership and shared ministry between the church and school. Even more, it enables both communities to look to the future with great hope as, together, we dream big dreams about what God might have in store for us next.

After the service, all are invited to the parish hall for an extra-special Taco Sunday to celebrate this occasion.



Grace Abides

Holy Week & Easter at St. Michael's Episcopal Church

April 2-9

PALM SUNDAY

April 2

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

Taco Sunday
10:00 am



*online
&
in person

EASTER SUNDAY

April 9

Worship

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

Egg Hunts

10:00 am
Noon



HOLY WEEK

April 6
Maundy Thursday*
6:00 pm

April 7
Good Friday*
Noon &
7:00 pm

April 7
Stations of the Cross Trail Walk
7:30 am
1:15 pm

April 8
Holy Saturday
9:00 am



Holy Week & Easter at St. Michael's

Palm Sunday services will begin in the courtyard—look for our greeters handing out palm crosses to wear and branches to wave as we process into the church. Children will head to Sunday School with Ms. Amanda and the Family Ministry team at that time. It's also Taco Sunday; all are welcome in the parish hall during the 10am hour for breakfast tacos & fixings. Pick up a fun and formative Holy Week kit from the Family Ministry team in the parish hall then, too!

Our Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services will be in the sanctuary and will be livestreamed at www.st-michaels.org/worship-online.

We have a Stations of the Cross Trail Walk on Good Friday at 7:30 am and at 1:15 pm, and is rain or shine. Karen Moody, parishioner and Stephen Minister, leads this contemplative offering. Gather at the trailhead, which is across the parking lot from the church offices/day school area. Questions? Contact Karen at kmcmoody@gmail.com.

On Holy Saturday, April 8, at 9:00 am, join Christine Havens in the sanctuary for a brief liturgy contemplating the "Holy Sabbath, so we may await with Jesus the coming of the third day." This service is in person only.

Then it's Easter Sunday and the joy of the resurrection on April 9! Services are at 7:45, 9:00, and 11:00 am, with Easter egg hunts at 10:00 am & noon. The 9:00 & 11:00 am services will be online as well. What a glorious day it will be!

The Flowering of the Cross is an Easter tradition at many churches and St. Michael's is no different. Children (of all ages) are welcome to bring their favorite flower to place on the wooden cross that will be in the narthex before each service. Don't worry—we will have plenty of flowers at the church for you if you have any to bring.

NOTES

There's Still Time for Easter Lily Dedications

Easter lily dedications are a lovely way to remember and celebrate those who are always in your heart. If you'd like to have your dedication printed in the Easter Sunday bulletins, *please send your dedication by email to Christine at chavens@st-michaels.org by 5:00 pm on Wednesday, April 5.*

2023 Lenten Speaker Series: Repentance as

Grace Did you love the amazing speakers at our Lenten series and want to listen again or share with friends? Did you miss seeing one or two of them and would like to know what everyone's abuzz about? You can watch all five—Pittman McGeehee, Brian Brewer, Jeehei Park, Kathy Culmer, and Michael Lloyd—here: st-michaels.org/2023-lenten-speaker-series.

Tuesday Night Women's Bible Study Begins April

11 Join parishioner Trish Thompson for a 7-week Tuesday night Bible study beginning on April 11. This video study, *The Miracles of Jesus* by Jennie Allen, was filmed on location in Israel. The group will meet consecutive Tuesdays at 6:00 pm in the St. Michael's office. Questions? Contact Trish at 281-851-7463 or home.thompson@gmail.com.

Family Camp—May 5-7, 2023 A beloved tradition has returned to St. Michael's—Family Camp at Camp Allen! All are welcome, no matter the size of your family! The weekend of May 5 will be filled with fun, time in nature, and lots of family time. There will be campfires, swimming, trail rides, hiking, and more. While not exactly glamping, climate-controlled bunkhouses offer comfortable twin beds. Our meals will be served family style and it will be a great chance to get to know other members of our parish family. Saturday will include options for spiritual formation, rest, and adventure.

Cost: Individual-\$75; Family-\$180

Register here: bit.ly/2023FamilyCamp

Questions? Contact Family Minister Amanda at amanda@st-michaels.org



The Church Cracked Open Book Study Please join Fr. Josh for a six-week book study of Stephanie Spellers' *The Church Cracked Open* during the Sundays of Eastertide. The group will meet from 10:00–10:50 am in the church office, starting April 16 and concluding on May 21.

Written during the pandemic and after the murder of George Floyd, the book explores how the Episcopal Church can love Jesus, live in solidarity with the oppressed, and seek the flourishing of all God's children. Paperback copies of the book are available upon request. Email Fr. Josh at jkulak@st-michaels.org for more information.

Prayer for a call to Stephen Ministry James tells us that the prayers of righteous people are powerful and effective (James 5:16). During the coming week, we invite you to pray about our congregation's Stephen Ministry. Specifically, please pray for those God is calling to serve as caregivers in this ministry. For more information about Stephen Ministry, please email St. Michael's Stephen Ministry or call Julie de Wette (512) 925-7029 or Jeff Robinson (512) 963-6687.

Iftar Dinner with Dialogue ATX | April 16

@6:45 | Parish Hall During the month of Ramadan, our Muslim siblings fast from dawn to sunset in order to focus on prayer, charity, and thanksgiving. Each evening they break their fast with an iftar dinner. Our neighbors at Dialogue ATX visit different places of worship every night to celebrate this moment of fast-breaking with a shared meal and a conversation about our faith traditions. St. Michael's will host Dialogue ATX on April 16 at 6:45 in the Parish Hall for this interfaith fellowship, with dinner starting immediately after sunset. For more information please visit www.dialogueatx.org/ramadan/. Please RSVP to Fr. Josh at jkulak@st-michaels.org if you plan to attend.

PLUG INTO OUTREACH

2023 Outreach Partners The Outreach Commission is excited to support these organizations in 2023 and seek to grow opportunities for purposeful connections with many of them:

- Seminary of the Southwest** (*theological and pastoral education*)
- Pauli Murray Scholarship** (*scholarship for seminary students of color*)
- Episcopal Relief and Development** (*disaster relief & sustainable development*)
- iACT-Interfaith Action of Central Texas** (*interfaith outreach*)
- Trinity Center** (*homelessness*)
- Casa Marianella** (*displaced immigrants*)
- St. Francis Ministries** (*foster care*)
- El Buen Samaritano** (*family services*)
- One Good Turn** (*global health in underserved communities*)

The Commission intentionally focused on connecting with a variety of theological and social service organizations. Additionally, the church will continue to support St. Michael's Day School, SMEC Community garden, Honduras Mission project, and the Del Valle Elementary School book drive.

If you have a passion for any of these organizations and projects or want more information about them, we would love to hear from you. We sincerely want to increase parish participation in spreading our love and grace throughout the community.

Please reach out to Harriett Choffel, Outreach Commission Chair, at harriettchoffel@icloud.com; or Fr. Josh Kulak at jkulak@st-michaels.org if you'd like to serve.

El Buen Samaritano Volunteer Opportunities & Monthly Food Pantry Team

El Buen Samaritano, one of SMEC's outreach partners, depends on volunteers year-round to maximize limited resources. Volunteer opportunities: Adult Education, Youth Education, Food Pantry, and Community Garden

All volunteer opportunities require a semester-long commitment with a minimum of volunteering one day a week. All in-person volunteer opportunities require COVID-19 vaccination. To sign up or learn more about each opportunity, visit elbuen.org/volunteers.

Spring Book Drive for Del Valle Elementary

We need pre-K to 2nd grade in English and in Spanish as well as bilingual ones and 2nd-5th grade chapter books. ***Please do not drop books off until April 16 and April 23 as we have limited storage space.*** Enrich a child's life—give the gift of reading! Questions? Email Alison Fly (alisoncfly@icloud.com) or Tammy Gross (tammygross@me.com).

El Buen Samaritano Monthly Food Pantry Team The SMEC Outreach Commission would like to form a small team to go to the Food Pantry on a monthly basis. If interested, contact Harriett Choffel at hchoffel@icloud.com or Fr. Josh at jkulak@st-michaels.org.

Garden Volunteers Needed Recently, garden volunteers harvested and delivered 42 bags of veggies to Hope Food Pantry: spinach, kale, collards, onions, radishes, cilantro. This ministry provides fresh veggies to folks who might not otherwise get them. We need 2 more volunteers to help with watering and harvesting for the next few months— one day a week will be perfect! Contact Harriett Choffel at harriettchoffel@icloud.com for more information.

FAMILY LIFE



VBC Registration Now Open!

Join St. Michael's July 31-August 3 for the most exciting week in Family Ministry. Games, stories, crafts, games, music, friends, and much more fun are in store. Children from pre-K through 5th grade are welcome!

Hours: 1:30 pm- 4:30 pm

Register here: bit.ly/2023VBCRegistration

Cost: \$25, which includes a T-shirt and snacks.

The Family Ministry team needs volunteers to help shepherd children, etc. Sign up for one day or all.

Please email amanda@st-michaels.org for scholarship info or to volunteer.

Sunday School | During 9am & 11am Services

Sunday school begins Lenten spiritual practices for children. Ms. Amanda, our Family Minister, and the Family Ministry team welcome children and their parents at the front of the church and guide them to the Family Life Center in the Education Wing. Parents are reunited with their children in the sanctuary at the announcements—in time for communion together as a family. Questions? Contact Amanda at amanda@st-michaels.org.

Our Sunday School Classes are Growing!

Sunday School Helpers Needed Do you love working with children? Our Sunday school classes are growing, and the Family Ministry team needs adults to serve as Sunday School helpers one or two Sundays a month. If you are interested or for more information, please email Amanda Evans Lang, our family minister, at amanda@st-michaels.org.

The A(colyte)-Team St. Michael's A-Team—our amazing acolyte team—is so appreciated! They add light to our Sunday worship by leading the procession as torchbearers and crucifers. A big thanks to all of the parents of our acolytes as well. If you're nine-years-old and above, and interested in joining the team, contact Fr. Josh at jkulak@st-michaels.org. Adults are welcome, too!

FORMATION & FELLOWSHIP

The Seekers | Sundays @10:00am | Rm 4 (Education Wing) and via Zoom The Seekers meet weekly at 10:00am. The group is starting a new book this week: *Do I Stay A Christian?: A Guide for the Doubters, the Disappointed, and the Disillusioned* by Brian McLaren. McLaren, a pastor, explores the ways to say both yes and no by shifting the question from whether we stay Christian to the question of how we stay human. A fascinating discussion ensues in this recently-released and favorably-reviewed book. Contact Harriett Choffel at harriettchoffel@me.com or Phyllis Blee at phyllis.blees@gmail.com for more info. Here's the Zoom link: bit.ly/SeekersZoomLink, Passcode: 541706.

Spring Bible Study on the Book of Exodus with Fr. John | Sundays @12:45 & Tuesdays @noon Take a journey through the Book of Exodus with Fr. John. This in-depth Bible study meets via Zoom on Sundays and Tuesdays now through the end of May. ZOOM INFO: bit.ly/BibleStudyZoomLink Meeting ID: 832 6049 2080; passcode: bible.

St. Michael's Book Club | Fourth Wednesdays @2:30pm 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. The group is now meeting *in person at St. Michael's*. **Here is the title for April 26—*The Woman in the Library***, by Sulari Gentill. Please email Rhoda Silverberg at rmorrillsilverberg@icloud.com or Sue Allen at tom@northcoastbrewing.com for more information.

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: bit.ly/SMECTuesMorningPrayer. **Passcode:** prayer.

Centering Prayer | Tuesdays @6:30 pm This ministry is available every Tuesday night at 6:30 pm. Zoom link: bit.ly/SMECCenteringPrayer; 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](#).

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/88082768969> and passcode 826364.

Men's Pub Theology | Second Wednesdays @5:00pm Join the men of St. Michael's for fellowship and theological conversation. *The next meeting is April 12 at County Line BBQ on Bee Caves Road*. Contact Andy Hines at ahines@hinespool.com for more information.

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. Zoom Link: bit.ly/SMECThursBibleStudy ID: 870 3540 9217. Use this passcode: biblestudy.

MINISTRIES

Stephen Ministry Occasionally, worry, pain, anxiety or loneliness feel relentless. Jobs, unemployment, family, or eldercare may bring unique highs and weighty lows. A caring Stephen Minister, a trained and confidential listener, not a therapist or friend, may be best equipped to hold your concerns with you for an hour each week, offering understanding, support and prayers.

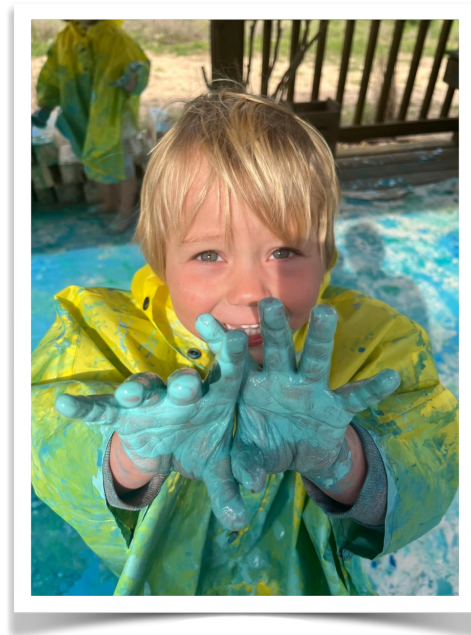
Learn more at www.st-michaels.org/stephen-ministry. If you'd like a Stephen Minister, please contact Jeff Robinson (jarobinson100@gmail.com), Julie de Wette (julie@losmadrone.com), or Fr. John Newton (jnewton@st-michaels.org).

Daughters of the King The Daughters of the King® is an order for women who are members of the Episcopal Church. The DOK's mission is the extension of Christ's Kingdom through prayer, service and evangelism. St. Michael's chapter was established in 2014 but went on hiatus during COVID. They are meeting regularly again. If you're interested in learning more about the group, please contact Jonea Raney at jcsrrech@gmail.com.

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.

DAY SCHOOL PHOTOS OF THE WEEK

Splatter painting! The Lambs explored painting freedom! They were encouraged to pour, splash, throw the paint and try out different tools in the puddles. Thanks to Ms. Annelise for the photos!



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 Ruth Borinstein, who died recently; for her daughter-in-law Sandra, and for all the Borinstein family as they grieve.

For Susan, for healing and peace.

For Loretta Jeanette Harding, who died recently; for Andy Young, her grandson, and all her family as they grieve.

For Erin LaRue's great-nephew, Benjamin, who is serving in the US Army; may he be an instrument in God's hand as he carries out daily tasks, and may he feel God's loving protection and support through all that an active duty soldier must face.

For Ann Hines, that she might feel God's presence and healing in her life as she ages, and for wisdom and strength for her family offering care.

For Dena, as she awaits a kidney transplant.

For all those in Rolling Fork, Mississippi, devastated by the recent tornado, including the Episcopal Chapel of the Cross; may they be given strength, endurance, and solace.

For the refugees who lost their lives in the fire at the refugee center in Ciudad Juarez.

For all those affected by gun violence, especially for all those affected by the school shooting in Nashville, Tennessee

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: Christ Church Cathedral, Houston; Grace, Houston; Holy Family, Houston

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan

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

Assisting Priest

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

Senior Warden

David Gross
dgross@grossandnelson.com

Junior Warden

Hilary Bellm
hilarybellm@gmail.com

Family Minister

Amanda Evans Lang
amanda@st-michaels.org

Parish Administrator

Julie Hodges
parishadmin@st-michaels.org

Director of Communications

Christine Havens
chavens@st-michaels.org

Media Tech & Sexton

Jeremy Aschenbach
jaschenbach@st-michaels.org

Director of Music

Dr. James Morrow
morrowj@utexas.edu

ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATIONS

The altar remains bare during the season of Lent.
Consider sponsoring altar flowers after Easter or dedicate lilies on Easter Sunday. Your dedication can be emailed to: chavens@st-michaels.org.

Donate using the "Give Now" button on our homepage, www.st-michaels.org, 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