



# THE TRUMPET

*An instrument of good news*



APRIL 14, 2024

## WELCOMING LITTLE ONES INTO OUR MIDST: HOLY BAPTISM, SUNDAY, APRIL 14, AT 11:00 AM

Holy Baptism is such a blessed occasion in the life of our St. Michael's community. Not only do we welcome this infant, Margaret Kulak, into our midst, but we also get to renew our own sense of belonging to the community of Christians as we all say the Baptismal Covenant on the occasion of the Baptism of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Natalie Anne Pruitt**, the daughter of Daniel and Juliette Pruitt, is 15 months old. She is always on the move and loves animals and picking up various "treasures" while outside. She has mastered walking, running, and is currently exploring climbing.



Dear St. Michael's Parish,

My name is **Louisa Utermohlen**, and I am 11 months old. I'm pretty excited to be 11-months-old now, because I was big and strong enough to find this egg the other day when all the other kids were running around getting eggs. I'm not sure what the big deal was, but my older brother was very excited, so it must have been important. He's 3 years old, so knows just about everything. You might know my grandparents, Robin and David Jackson, who have been going to St. Michael's for many years. My mom (Meg Jackson), tells me that she was baptized at St. Michael's, and my big brother, Alaric, was baptized at St. Michael's too. I'm not sure about this Holy Water thing, but hopefully it will be ok. Thanks for coming to my baptism. See you soon, Louisa.



## NOTES

### Town Hall Meetings & Fr. John's Sabbatical: Building St. Michael's Future

April 14 at 12:15 pm (after 11:00 am service)

April 21 at 10:00 am (between services)

These town hall meetings are meant to engage the parish community in a broader dialogue concerning the growth and future direction of our parish. Together, we aim to co-create the future we envision and initiate discussions, prayer, and discernment regarding potential next steps in relation to a building campaign in the coming year(s). This collaborative effort will enable the rector and vestry to make more informed decisions in the upcoming fall our path forward.

Fr. John will be taking a sabbatical from April 29 to August 18. Clergy sabbaticals are strongly encouraged by the diocese every 6-7 years, and his last sabbatical was in 2016. For those who may be hearing about this for the first time, Fr. John wants to assure you that he has been collaborating with the vestry, staff, and a small committee for over 18 months, and St. Michael's is fully prepared to thrive and grow during his absence. However, he wants to ensure there was ample time for questions so that his absence is not confusing or unexpected.

To facilitate this, he will be hosting an FAQ session at 10:00 am on April 28, where you can join him for a farewell and learn more about his plans during his time away. In the meantime, if you have questions about Fr. John's sabbatical, you are encouraged to look at this [FAQ](#).

**Registration Now 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](mailto:chavens@st-michaels.org) or Fr. Josh at [jkulak@st-michaels.org](mailto:jkulak@st-michaels.org).

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

Join Lumen for **adventure** with God!

# VACATION BIBLE CAMP

at St. Michael's Episcopal Church!

**JUNE 3-6 2024**  
**9AM - NOON**

4 year olds - rising 4th graders

**\$25 per child**  
includes snacks, a T-shirt, and **lots of FUN**

SCAN THE QR CODE TO  
**REGISTER NOW!**



### **New Topic for Tuesday Women's Bible Study: Minor Prophets | April 23 - May 28 | 6:00 pm |**

**Church Office** On April 23, the Women's Bible Study will begin a study topic: Minor Prophets. A prophet in the Old Testament was called to be a Messenger of God's word to His covenant people, Israel. Our next study will examine six of the 12 minor prophets. The term "minor" comes from the relatively short stories; each has a very important message! We will discover who each messenger was and when they served The Lord. We will discuss the literary style and identify the overall message. As you come to a better understanding of each prophet, you will be amazed by God's relentless pursuit of a relationship with us. The group meets at 6:00 pm in the church office. Contact Trish Thompson at [home.thompson@gmail.com](mailto:home.thompson@gmail.com) with questions or to RSVP.

**SMEC at Austin FC—Tickets Still Available** 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](mailto:jkulak@st-michaels.org).

**2024 Graduating Seniors** Families planning to honor their graduates on Senior Sunday, May 19, should contact Bonnie Walton to learn more: [youth@st-michaels.org](mailto:youth@st-michaels.org). Plan to attend an April 28 Pregame Meeting and Senior Sunday Celebration, May 19.

**Stephen Ministry** Overwhelmed? Despite our prayers, resilience, and best efforts to remain positive, there are times when we all feel discouraged, weary, frustrated, or simply overwhelmed. A Stephen Minister can provide one-to-one, fully confidential emotional and spiritual support. Wouldn't it be a comfort to allow a Stephen Minister to love you as Christ has loved each of us? To learn more, contact Julie de Wette ([julie@losmadrone.com](mailto:julie@losmadrone.com)), or Fr. John Newton ([jnewton@st-michaels.org](mailto:jnewton@st-michaels.org)).

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## **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](mailto:harriettchoffel@icloud.com); or Fr. Josh Kulak at [jkulak@st-michaels.org](mailto:jkulak@st-michaels.org).

**Trinity Center** Many thanks to John Boehm for organizing the monthly sack lunch deliveries for Trinity Center and gratitude to all the parishioners who have signed up to cover a month!

**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](mailto:tammygross@me.com) or Harriett Choffel ([harriettchoffel@icloud.com](mailto:harriettchoffel@icloud.com)) or Fr. Josh ([jkulak@st-michaels.org](mailto: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](mailto:ebethmichaels@gmail.com).

**Drive a Senior & Chariot Volunteers Needed** Looking for a way to plug into outreach? Get involved with Drive A Senior ATX ([www.driveasenioratx.org](http://www.driveasenioratx.org)) and Chariot ([chariot.org](http://chariot.org)), two local non-profit organizations that provide free rides to senior citizens, taking them to doctors, stores, and other essential destinations within the greater Austin-Travis County area.

Drivers are greatly needed and scheduling is easy. If you are interested in volunteering as a driver or in another capacity OR if you or someone you know is over 60 and needs transportation assistance, please contact either of the organizations directly or contact Harriett Choffel at [harriettchoffel@icloud.com](mailto:harriettchoffel@icloud.com) or John Boehm at [jboehmjr@utexas.edu](mailto:jboehmjr@utexas.edu).

## 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*)

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](http://st-michaels.org/outreach).

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## FAMILY LIFE

**Sunday School | 9:00 & 11:00 am | Education Wing** 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 wiggly bags in the narthex for extra wiggly children.

Contact the Rev. Hope Benko at [hope@st-michaels.org](mailto:hope@st-michaels.org) for more info.

### SMEYC SCHEDULE

#### Sunday, April 14

9 & 11 am Youth Devos--Parish Hall

5 pm EYC

**Summer Camp 2024** 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/summercamp](http://campallen/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](mailto:youth@st-michaels.org).

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## FORMATION & FELLOWSHIP

**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](mailto:harriettchoffel@me.com) or Phyllis Blee at [phyllis.blees@gmail.com](mailto:phyllis.blees@gmail.com) for more info. Zoom link: [bit.ly/SeekersBookGroup](https://bit.ly/SeekersBookGroup), Passcode: 541706.

**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](https://bit.ly/SMECTuesMorningPrayer). **Passcode:** prayer.

**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=dnIMUXh3dHdBOTBDeUROS2hMRXV6Zz09>; passcode: 541706. Please email Phyllis Blee with questions: [phyllis.blees@gmail.com](mailto:phyllis.blees@gmail.com). For more about contemplative prayer, click this link: [Heart of Texas Contemplative Outreach](#).

**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*. April’s selection is *Mr. Texas*, by Lawrence Wright. Please email Rhoda Silverberg at [rmorrillsilverberg@icloud.com](mailto:rmorrillsilverberg@icloud.com) or Sue Allen at [tom@northcoastbrewing.com](mailto: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](mailto:mary.r.healy@gmail.com). Zoom Link: [bit.ly/SMECThursBibleStudy](https://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 April 10*; the group meets at the County Line BBQ on Bee Caves Road. Contact Andy Hines at [ahines@hinespool.com](mailto:ahines@hinespool.com) or Rich Noland at [richnoland@eversheds-sutherland.com](mailto:richnoland@eversheds-sutherland.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](mailto:reid.gail@gmail.com).

**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 and they are meeting regularly again. If you're interested in learning more about the group, they meet in the Gathering Room (next to the sanctuary) the third Saturday of each month at 10:30am. Contact Jonea Raney at [jcsrrech@gmail.com](mailto:jcsrrech@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

**Four Chosen to Stand for Election as 28th Presiding Bishop** The Episcopal Church's Joint Nominating Committee for the Election of the Presiding Bishop for the Election of the Presiding Bishop today announced the names of the bishops it will nominate to succeed Presiding Bishop Michael B. Curry. Its nominees are:

The Rt. Rev. J. Scott Barker, Diocese of Nebraska

The Rt. Rev. Daniel G. P. Gutiérrez, Diocese of Pennsylvania

The Rt. Rev. Sean Rowe, Diocese of Northwestern Pennsylvania & Diocese of Western New York

The Rt. Rev. Robert Wright, Diocese of Atlanta

Read the release on the web: <https://www.episcopalchurch.org/publicaffairs/four-chosen-to-stand-for-election-as-28th-presiding-bishop/>



★ The Episcopal Diocese of Texas

BISHOP DOYLE INVITES YOU

THE VERY FIRST GRANDE TEXAS

May 3-5 **FAMILY REUNION** 2024

**A weekend of fun just for us at Camp Allen!**

Archery	Nature Hikes	Outdoor Movie
Ropes Course	Biking	Petting Zoo
Fishing	Labrynth	Craft Room
Swimming	Live Music	Inflatables
Paddleboarding	Eucharist	Skeet Shooting
Canoeing	Reptile Show	Yoga
Giant Swing	Pickleball	Zip Line

**Total Cost for Hotel Lodging** \$210 per room

**Total Cost for Activities/Meals** \$152 per person

**Family discounts available**  
Check in at 5 pm Friday  
Check out at 1 pm Sunday

**Packages Include**  
Six buffet meals and most programming.  
Kids age 2 and under are free.

**Register Now!**  
[campallen.org](http://campallen.org)

### The Rio Grande Borderlands Ministry

**(RGBM)** is offering a pilgrimage opportunity from May 5-10. RGBM, a ministry of the Episcopal Diocese of the Rio Grande, provides relief, development and advocacy in support of migrants, asylum seekers, and its neighbors in need on both sides of the Texas/Mexico border. We start the pilgrimage at St. Paul's in Marfa and then travel to additional borderland sites including serving at St. Christopher's shelter in El Paso. Be a part of the loving response to our neighbors in need. Contact [laura\\_stoner@icloud.com](mailto:laura_stoner@icloud.com) by April 21 if you are interested. Spaces are limited.

## ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL DAY SCHOOL

Our Owls had a busy day on Wednesday this week. They were in full play mode. Owls worked on their number recognition through various types of play throughout the room. They were invited to go fishing with magnetic fishing poles. When they caught a fish, they were asked to find the correct spot according to the number on the fish. *Thanks to Ms. Debbi for the story and the photos.*



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

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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.*

For Jai, who died recently, and for Jai's family and friends.

For Fritz Houstoun, 4-year-old son of Dillon and Caitlin, who has a genetic muscle disease.

For Howard Brunson, who is in hospice care due to a brain infection; for his daughter, the Rev. Christine Brunson and the rest of his family.

For John, who is navigating a difficult diagnosis and prognosis.

For the children, families, and staff of Saint Francis Ministries.

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

For all those affected by gun violence.

**Diocesan Cycle of Prayer:** San Pablo/St. Paul's, Houston; San Pedro/St. Peter's, Pasadena; St. Alban's, Houston; St. James', Houston

**Anglican Cycle of Prayer:** The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia

## ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

### STAFF DIRECTORY

#### Rector

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

#### Curate

The Rev. Dr. Josh Kulak  
[jkulak@st-michaels.org](mailto:jkulak@st-michaels.org)

#### Assistant for Pastoral Care

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

#### Priest for Children

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

#### Senior Warden & Community Engagement

Hilary Bellm  
[hbellm@st-michaels.org](mailto:hbellm@st-michaels.org)

#### Junior Warden

Meg Abbott  
[megabbott1@gmail.com](mailto:megabbott1@gmail.com)

#### Youth Coordinator

Bonnie Walton  
[youth@st-michaels.org](mailto:youth@st-michaels.org)

#### Parish Administrator

Julie Hodges  
[parishadmin@st-michaels.org](mailto:parishadmin@st-michaels.org)

#### Director of Communications

Christine Havens  
[chavens@st-michaels.org](mailto:chavens@st-michaels.org)

#### Choir Director

Dr. Suzanne Pence  
[drpence2009@gmail.com](mailto:drpence2009@gmail.com)

#### Media Tech & Sexton

Jeremy Aschenbach  
[jaschenbach@st-michaels.org](mailto:jaschenbach@st-michaels.org)

#### Bookkeeper

Frank Haby  
[bookkeeper@st-michaels.org](mailto:bookkeeper@st-michaels.org)

## ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATIONS

The altar flowers are given to the glory of God.

*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](https://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](mailto: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