



THE TRUMPET

An instrument of good news



OCTOBER 8, 2023

Extravagant **GENEROSITY**

Stewardship 2024

"Go after God, who piles on all the riches we could ever manage. Do good, be rich in helping, be extravagantly generous."

1 Timothy 6:18, *The Message*



MEET MICHAEL THOMPSON, LAY STEWARDSHIP WITNESS

Michael Thompson became a born-again Christian as a sophomore in high school. That path grew stronger in college. Michael met his wife, Trish, in college; they have been married 38 years with 4 grown children and 3 grandchildren. The Thompsons alternate weekly between St. Michael's and Holy Apostles in Katy. Both Michael and Trish serve on Sundays as lay readers, chalice bearers, and usher/greeters, and are active members of our Kitchen Crew.

GENEROSITY SUNDAYS

Lay witnesses share what extravagant generosity at SMEC means to them.

October 1 Catherine Bedell

October 8 Michael Thompson

October 15 Thomas Carstens

October 22 Kristen LeClair

St. Michael's
Episcopal Church

YOU ARE INVITED

ST. FRANCIS DAY

Pet Blessing

SUNDAY
OCTOBER 8
4 PM

1500 N. Capital of Texas Hwy

kiddie snacks!

dog treats!

cat treats!

PET APPROVED

Join SMEC for our Annual Pet Blessing Sunday, October 8 @4:00pm

We're celebrating the Feast of St. Francis with a pet-approved blessing of the animals at 4:00 pm in the church courtyard. Not only are lizards, mice, and snakes welcome but also dogs and cats. We'll have bandannas, medallions, pet treats, and people treats to add to the fun.

EXTRAVAGANT GENEROSITY STEWARDSHIP 2024



FROM THE RECTOR

To My St. Michael's family

It is my great honor to invite you to participate in St. Michael's 2024 Annual Stewardship program, "Extravagant Generosity." Interestingly, "generosity" derives from the Latin word *generosus*, which means "of noble birth." When "generous" was used prior to the 17th century, it was used to indicate that a person belonged to nobility. Over time, generosity morphed to refer to a broader nobility of spirit. Today, these two words typically points to specific qualities related to sacrifice and giving.

At St. Michael's, I want to reclaim and rehabilitate the original meaning of "generous." Generosity does in fact stem

from a noble birth. I don't mean to link generosity with class, race, or social status, but rather to our divine birthright as people created by God.

As we're told in scripture, "Then God said, 'Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness;' So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them" (Gen 1:26-27).

I believe that to grow in a life of extravagant generosity is to become more of who we are; sons and daughters of the most High God, people of noble birth. Generosity is our birthright. God created us to be generous. Generosity makes us more alive, more of ourselves.

It is from this understanding that I count it a privilege to invite you to step deeper into your spiritual journey of self-discovery and a deeper knowledge of God by inviting you to make a generous commitment to St. Michael's for 2024 when pledge cards become available on Sunday, October 22.

St. Michael's will continue to grow in 2024, and I am hoping you will grow with us! If you have any questions or wish to visit more about making a financial commitment to St. Michael's in 2024, please reach out. I never tire of inviting people to invest in this community that has blessed us all beyond measure.

With tons of gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John+".

Fr. John+

RESOURCES

Whole-Life Generosity Devotional Extravagant Generosity 2024 available at the Stewardship table

Ingathering Sundays

A blessing of commitment cards during the services.

October 29

November 5

OCTOBER 22

Commitment cards available
(*online, mail, narthex*)

EXTRAVAGANT GENEROSITY: WHY I GIVE

Trish Thompson

I believe that giving of my time, talent, and treasure is essential to being part of the SMEC community. Membership is not a spectator event; it is participatory. By giving, I am able to bless others and show God's love in a tangible way.



NOTES

Host a Trunk on Saturday, October 28, for

Trunk or Treat Halloween is just around the corner and the Family Ministry team is planning our annual Trunk or Treat event on Saturday, October 28. The more trunks, the merrier. If you'd like to dress up your trunk and hand out candy and treats, please register to be a Trunk Host. We had some great trunks last year—kids and parents had a blast.

Trunk Hosts need to arrive between 4:00-4:45 pm and will stay until the event ends at 7 pm. Trunks will be judged in three categories: “spookiest,” “kookiest,” and “biggest surprise,” with a separate contest for the best day school teacher’s trunk. We expect 100-150 kids (but there could be more!), so please prepare accordingly.

Register here: <https://bit.ly/SMECHostATrunk>. Email Fr. Josh at jkulak@st-michaels.org with any questions.

Enter Your Cake in the Annual Trunk or Treat

Cake Auction Any fall- or Halloween-themed baked goods or other treats—homemade or store-bought—should be *delivered to the parish hall on Saturday, October 28, between 3:00-4:30pm*. Please contact Kirstie Cowan (kirstiecowan@gmail.com) with the official name of your creation and whether there are any allergens in them (nuts, etc.) so it can be labeled. Thank you for sharing your time and talents!



Coffee with the Curate

Join Fr. Josh for a cup of coffee and casual conversation at Trianon Coffee every second Thursday of the month from 9:30-11:30 am (December’s day is a Wednesday).

Email jkulak@st-michaels.org for more information or to let him know that you plan to stop by.

Interested in learning more about serving on the St. Michael's Vestry? Each year, four new vestry members are elected. Contact Father John at jnewton@st-michaels.org to discover more about the selection process for vestry members, the timeline, and the qualifications required for serving in this role.

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. Click on the links to learn more about each organization or check out the new Outreach webpage at st-michaels.org/outreach.

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 program funds a variety of theological and social service organizations and also continues to support St. Michael's Day School, SMEC community garden, Honduras Mission project, and the Del Valle Elementary School book drive. We also provide volunteer opportunities with several local organizations during 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.

Drive a Senior & Chariot

Volunteers Needed Looking for a way to plug into outreach? Get involved with *Drive A Senior ATX* (www.driveasenioratx.org) and *Chariot* (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 or John Boehm at jboehmjr@utexas.edu.



Raise the Roof

OCTOBER 21, 2023
9:00AM - 4:30PM

LUNCH PROVIDED

SERVICE HOURS FOR PARTICIPATING STUDENTS
PAINTING, YARD WORK, MINOR REPAIRS
(dependent on what the groups before us achieve)

HOME OF MR. ALVIN GIBSON
1118 GARDNER RD AUSTIN, TX 78721
(if groups before us complete all the work,
would be reassigned)

CONTACT FR. JOSH AT JKULAK@ST-MICHAELS.ORG WITH QUESTIONS

October Outreach Spotlight: Casa Marianella is one of St. Michael's Outreach partners; thanks to your extravagant generosity, we were able to help fund them in September as part of our annual outreach budget. Casa welcomes displaced immigrants and promotes self-sufficiency by providing shelter and support services. In addition to shelter, they offer access to legal and medical resources, food, clothing, English classes, and other resources. Casa Marianella started in 1986 as one home for men, women and children, but as Casa has grown, a nearby branch site was created in 2003 for women with children (many of whom are escaping domestic or cultural violence) and named Posada Esperanza. Casa Marianella currently consists of three neighboring houses for men and women without children, while Casa's Posada Esperanza branch has expanded to four neighboring houses. The agency as a whole shelters an average of 325 individuals annually as well as providing assistance and services to the community.

FAMILY LIFE

Sunday Morning Nursery Volunteers Needed

Our nursery ministry is blooming and we need your help. Chelsea, our lead nanny, has begun welcoming babies and toddlers into our beautiful nursery in the education wing. We need an additional adult to read stories, sing songs, and serve snacks at each service. Can you help once a month? Contact Family Minister Amanda at amanda@st-michaels.org to volunteer.



Sunday School | 9:00 & 11:00 am | Family Life Center (Rm 8) 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. Contact Amanda at amanda@st-michaels.org for more info.

The St. Michael's Episcopal Youth Community (SMEYC) welcomes youth 5th-12th grade to experience community and connection, to question and explore our faith and ourselves through our relationships with the church, with each other, and with the world beyond Westlake. Here's what we've got on the calendar for the rest of the October 10am hours:

- Oct. 1 Taco Sunday Challenge
- Oct. 8 Service Project—Making sandwich lunches for [Street Youth Ministry](#)
- Oct. 15 Spotlight Sunday—Guest TBA
- Oct. 22 Clergy in the Hot Seat—Fr. Josh Kulak, curate
- Oct. 29 Service Project—Making toiletry bags for Street Youth Ministry

Oct. 28 is Trunk or Treat and students can earn up to 3 service hours for volunteering

Questions? Email Bonnie Walton, Youth Coordinator, at youth@st-michaels.org.



Ellie Germann won the October SMEYC Taco Sunday Challenge and got to pie youth leader Bonnie Walton in the face.

FORMATION & FELLOWSHIP

Prophetic Insights from the Book of Jeremiah: Rector's Bible Study | Sundays @12:45pm and

Tuesdays @noon Jeremiah's journey is one of faithfulness, sorrow, exile, and redemption. Join us this fall as we examine Jeremiah's life and prophetic proclamations, as well as how the various themes of the book are ultimately answered and clarified in the life and ministry of Jesus. Contact Fr. John at jnewton@st-michaels.org with any questions. Zoom Info: bit.ly/BibleStudyZoomLink Meeting ID: 832 6049 2080; passcode: bible.

The Seekers: Sunday Adult Book Study | 10:00 am | Rm 4 (Education Wing) and via Zoom The group will be starting a new book in mid-October. Stay tuned for details to come. Drop in anytime, even if you've not read the book! Contact Harriett Choffel at harriettchoffel@me.com or Phyllis Bleebs at phyllis.blees@gmail.com for more info. Here's the Zoom link: bit.ly/SeekersZoomLink, Passcode: 541706.

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.

SMEC Tuesday Night Women's Fall Bible Study | Tuesdays at 6:00 pm | Church Office The Women's Bible Study is currently studying Paul's letter to the Philippians through October 17 using *The Book of Philippians*, a video study guide by Jo Saxton. Through Paul's words and example, learn how joy and sacrifice can go hand-in-hand. All women are welcome—the group meets on Tuesdays at 6:00 pm in the church office. Contact Trish Thompson at home.thompson@gmail.com for more info.

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 Bleebs with questions: phyllis.blees@gmail.com. For more about contemplative prayer, click this link: [Heart of Texas Contemplative Outreach](#).

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 2:30 pm. The group is now meeting *in person at St. Michael's*. October's read, for discussion on October 25, is *Remarkably Bright Creatures*, by Shelby Van Pelt. Please email Rhoda Silverberg at rmorrillsilverberg@icloud.com or Sue Allen at tom@northcoastbrewing.com for more information.

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.

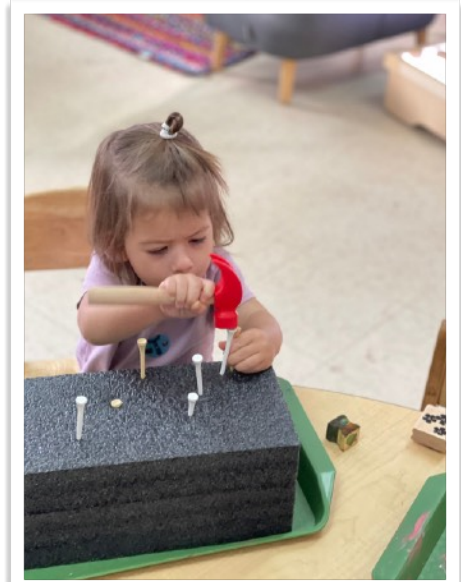
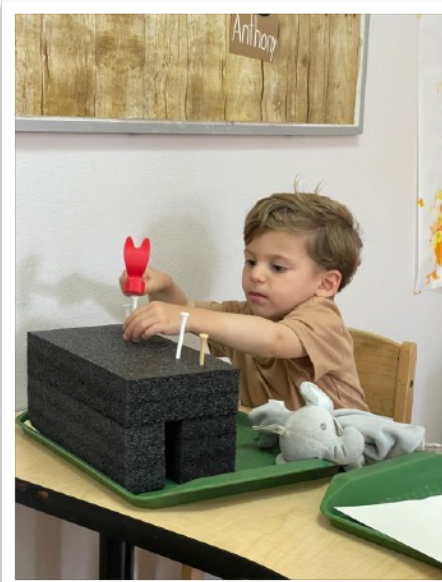
Men's Pub Theology | Second Wednesdays @5:00pm Join the men of St. Michael's for fellowship and theological conversation. *The next meeting is October 11 at the Waterloo Ice House on the corner of FM 2222 & 360*. Contact Andy Hines at ahines@hinespool.com for more information.

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.

Small Group Leader Training This fall, we will provide Small Group Leader Training to empower SMEC lay people to facilitate small groups. Our goal is to equip people with the necessary tools, skills, and guidance to successfully facilitate meaningful and transformative group experiences. *Meeting dates: 9/10, 9/24, 10/8, 10/22, 11/5, 11/12*. Meet in the church office at 12:15pm; lunch will be provided. Contact Trish Thompson at home.thompon@gmail.com if you're interested but have missed the first session.

DAY SCHOOL PHOTOS OF THE WEEK

One day this week, the Puppies began their day by stamping with leaf stampers and ink pads. They also worked on their gross motor skills development by hammering golf tees into big foam pieces. *Thanks to Ms. Lorenza for sharing this photo & story.*



SMEDS Chapel takes place every Wednesday at 12:30 pm. Fr. Josh and Ms. Amanda gather with the students, parents, and teachers in the sanctuary for worship & Bible-based lessons. *Lesson for October 11: Deborah*

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 Duane, who is struggling with several health issues, and for his wife, Lois.

For Presiding Bishop Michael Curry as he recovers from surgery, and in thanksgiving that no cancer was found.

In thanksgiving for cooler temps and rain in the Austin area.

For Ron Collins.

For all those affected by gun violence.

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: Christ Church, San Augustine; Holy Trinity, Port Neches; St. John's, Silbee

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Episcopal Church in Jerusalem & The Middle East

ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

STAFF DIRECTORY

Rector

The Rev. John Newton
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Curate

The Rev. Dr. Josh Kulak
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Assistant for Pastoral Care

The Rev. Elizabeth Turner
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Jeremy Aschenbach
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ALTAR FLOWER DEDICATIONS

*The flowers are given to the Glory of God,
and by the Baldwin family in remembrance of
Randy.=*

*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 11am 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"*

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