



THE TRUMPET

An instrument of good news



OCTOBER 22, 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

Host a Trunk on Saturday, October 28,

for Trunk or Treat Halloween is just around the corner and we're in need of 18 more trunks for our annual Trunk or Treat event from 5:00-7:00 pm 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.



MEET KRISTEN LECLAIR, LAY STEWARDSHIP WITNESS

Kristen LeClair, her husband Ted, and three children have been joyful parishioners at St. Michael's since 2012. She has served on the vestry, as both senior and junior warden, the church's finance committee, and is a current board member of the day school. She can be found cooking for Taco Sunday, and baking the famous St. Michael's communion bread.

Professionally, Kristen operates her own wealth management firm, 994 Group, focused on empowering clients to experience the richness of life. She is passionate about educating clients on the tenets of wealth management, but more importantly, empowering them to have richer relationships and live fuller lives. For her, living a rich life includes giving back to others, which led her to volunteer and serve on the boards of nonprofits Chariot (formerly Drive a Senior SW) and Well Aware.

She relishes time with Ted; her sons, Nolan, Davis, and Teddy; pups Hopper and Nimitz; and Fletcher the cat. In those rare moments of alone time, she enjoys running, reading, and heavy metal music.

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*)

Why I Give to SMEC

"SMEC supports, encourages, and blesses me; therefore, I choose to support them."

Bunny Cowan

"Sometimes I give simply because it's the right thing to do. Then I look around and see the abundance of my possessions—things needed, things I thought I wanted.

Then I remember Jesus saying where your treasure is, there your heart is also. I want my heart, my love to be with God."

Gail Reid

"God has touched my life deeply through St. Michael's, and has used this congregation to richly bless me in so many ways. Tithing is a tangible way to express my gratitude to God and to bless others, both within the St. Michael's family, and in the community beyond."

Carol Rosser

NOTES

ST MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

TRUNK OR TREAT

JOIN US FOR SOME SPOOKY TREATS, LOTS OF FUN, AND OUR ANNUAL CAKE AUCTION

OCTOBER 28, 2023
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

TRUNK OR TREATING!

TACOS!

PHOTO BOOTH!

HOST A TRUNK

<https://stmichaelsfamily.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1986605>

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!



“Pray for the peace of Jerusalem” - Psalm 122

CHRISTIANS IN THE HOLY LAND

What? – An evening to pray for peace in the midst of violence, to learn about Christians in Palestine, and to share a Middle Eastern meal

When? – Sunday, November 5 at 6 pm

Where? – St. Michael's Parish Hall

Who? – Prayer led by Fr Josh, Presentation and meal by Sylvia Shihadeh and Chris Abbyad

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT FR JOSH
jkulak@st-michaels.org

Diaper Drive for El Buen Samaritano Families

@ Trunk or Treat
Saturday, October 28
5-7pm

LET'S FILL FR. JOSH'S TRUNK!
Bring any size/brand children's diapers or disposable potty-training pants. Open & partial packages are welcome. All donations go to the families served by El Buen Samaritano, one of our outreach partners.

Christians in the Holy Land RSVP Link If you're interested in attending the event on November 5, please use this link to RSVP: <https://stmichaelsfamily.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/1986605>.



All Saints' Day Service | Wednesday, November 1

6:00 pm - Quiet Reflection and reading of names

6:15 pm - Spoken EOW Eucharist



Names for All Saints' Day Prayers During the All Saints' Day service on Wednesday, November 1, we'll be reading aloud the names of people who are no longer among the living. Those names will also be printed in the 9:00 & 11:00 am November 5 bulletins and prayed for during the service. If you would like to share the names of your loved ones who have passed away and whom you wish to remember before God, please email your list to Christine Havens at chavens@st-michaels.org. The deadline is Monday, October 30.

The Seekers Starting New Book on October 22—*The Universal Christ* by Richard Rohr | 10:00 am | Rm 4 (Education Wing) and via Zoom The group will be starting a new book on October 22: *The Universal Christ*, by Richard Rohr. Franciscan friar and ecumenical teacher, Rohr bears witness to the deep wisdom of Christian mysticism and traditions of action and contemplation.

Drop in anytime, regardless of whether you've 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.

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

Refugee Youth Mentors Our ministry partner Interfaith Action of Central Texas (iACT) is searching for adult volunteers for their refugee youth mentorship program. Mentors meet with students for an hour at least once a week for a minimum of 10 weeks to help with adjustment to life in the US. iACT currently has a backlog of 50 students so volunteers are in high demand. Contact Fr. Josh at jkulak@st-michaels.org if you are interested in this opportunity.

October Outreach Spotlight: iACT (Interfaith Action of Central Texas) One of St. Michael's Outreach partners is iACT (Interfaith Action of Central Texas) which exists to build healthy relationships between faith communities of Central Texas. Their mission is to cultivate peace and respect through interfaith dialogue, service and celebration. Among their core beliefs, they believe “that a future of peace and respect begins with you- and that together we can all be the ‘i’ in iACT; and Love is the Purest Form of Generosity.”

As a way of demonstrating our extravagant generosity, we will participate in the Raise the Roof Faith in Action day on October 21.

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—special guest, Scott Madison, seminarian
- Oct. 22 Clergy in the Hot Seat—Fr. Josh Kulak, curate; church office; limited to Sr. High students
- Oct. 29 Service Project—Making toiletry bags for Street Youth Ministry; meet in the church office

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.

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 Bible Study | Tuesdays at 6:00 pm | Church Office Our new study on friendship begins Tuesday, Nov. 7, and runs six weeks until Dec 12. It is open to all women. *Description:* In the beginning, God created a human. And in God's sin-free, beautiful world, only one thing was declared not good; that the human was alone. This isn't just the story of marriage; it's the story of humanity. We're made in the image of our God who exists in Trinity--God exists in divine community. Sisters, we were created for community. And because our Father is generous, he's given us one of the most essential, fun, and life-changing relationships for community: friendship. 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 Blees 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/88196769453> and passcode 945676.

Men's Pub Theology | Second Wednesdays @5:00pm Join the men of St. Michael's for fellowship and theological conversation. *The next meeting is November 8 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 have any questions.

DAY SCHOOL PHOTOS OF THE WEEK

The cool mornings have brought out very creative play. The girls working on making teeter totters using the wood on the nature playground. Avery, Olivia, and Jasmine worked hard to come up with a solution for 3 friends wanting to teeter totter. *Thanks to Ms. Sarah for sharing this photos & 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 25: The Fiery Furnace

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 Edwina Clift, as she recovers from pacemaker surgery.

For John B., who has had a recurrence of melanoma.

For Susie Orum, who is recovering from surgery after a recent fall.

For Erin La Rue's cousin Albert, that he may receive a diagnosis, and in thanksgiving for his medical team.

For Jennifer Shaw, who just received a diagnosis of stage 4 lung cancer, and for her family, especially her two daughters

For the people of Israel and Palestine as they endure the violence of war.

For those in Afghanistan devastated by the recent earthquakes.

For all those affected by gun violence.

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: St. Stephen's, Beaumont; St. Stephen's, Liberty; Trinity, Anahuac; Trinity, Jasper

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Anglican Church of Korea

ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

STAFF DIRECTORY

Rector

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

Curate

The Rev. Dr. Josh Kulak
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Assistant for Pastoral Care

The Rev. Elizabeth Turner
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Assisting Priest

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Junior Warden

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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"
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