

Deadline for submissions is the 15th of each month for the following month's newsletter.

Send to:
smlcspublications@gmail.com



Pastor Jon Zehnder

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Weekend Regular Worship

Sat: 5:30 pm	Informal
Sun: 8:00 am	Traditional
10:45 am	Blended
Sun: 9:15 am	Education Hour: Kids Sunday School & Bible Classes.



The Messenger

From the Pastor

Rev. Jon Zehnder

Our "Year" Comes to an End

Kind of weird, but that's what happens when you have a fiscal year rather than a normal calendar year that runs from January to December. For a number of reasons, our "year" runs July to June. And as we look back on these past 12 months, there is so much for us to be thankful for: your prayers, your involvement in the mission and ministry that we share through our 10 Ministry Boards, your participation, your encouragement, and your support have been used by our God to accomplish great things for His Kingdom. Thank you!

Thank you for being part of our Saint Michael family – not just a building but a "body of believers, followers of Jesus"; not just an organization but an "organism – living and vibrant and growing". And I hope you realize that YOU are an indispensable, interconnected part of our Saint Michael Family!

So we love each other, pray for each other, encourage each other, greet each other, serve each other, accept each other, honor each other, bear with each other, forgive each other, and we are devoted to each other. Together, with each other, we have a *purpose* to live for; *people* to live with; *principles* to live by; a *profession* to live out; and a *power* to live on through the Holy Spirit.

My prayer for us all is that, here at Saint Michael, you experience *worship* that helps you focus on your Savior Jesus; *fellowship* that helps you face life's problems as well as its joys; *discipleship* that helps to fortify and deepen your faith; *ministry* and opportunities to serve that help you discover and use your gifts, abilities, passion, and experiences where you can love and serve our God by loving and serving others; and finally *outreach* that helps you understand that YOU are an ambassador of Jesus, as though God were making His appeal through you – that you would build bridges into the hearts and lives of those around you so you could be used to draw them to Jesus.

Our fiscal year may be coming to an end, but the mission and ministry God calls us to really has no end until THE END! So, roll up your sleeves, a brand "new year" starts July 1st!

Top Events for



- 6/1 — SMLS 8th Grade Graduation, 7pm
 6/2 — SMLS PreK4 Graduation, 9am
 6/4 — Summer Programs begin at SMLS
 6/4-6/7 — **FREE Family VBS, 5:30-8:00pm**
 6/9 — Volunteer Work Day, 8am-Noon
 6/11 — Adult Basketball, 7-9pm
 6/14 — Brd. Of Christian Education Meeting
 6/25 — Adult Basketball, 7-9pm

Join us for FREE Family VBS!

June 4-7, 2018

5:30 - 8:00pm

**This event is for the entire family.
 Invite your friends and neighbors!**

See page 5 for more details.

See below for a list of ongoing events in our community. Summer is a great time to get out and participate in these activities when the crowds are lighter and the parking is plentiful. And you never know, you just may get an opportunity to meet new people and invite them to worship with you at St. Michael. 😊

River District History Tour This 90-minute walking tour will educate and entertain you with narratives of local history and acquaint you with the colorful personalities of the founders of our city. Saturdays, 10:30am-12pm, begins at The Franklin Shops located at 2200 First Street in downtown Fort Myers.

Guided Kayak Tours Visit the lovely Imperial River where it gently pours into Estero Bay through winding mangrove mazes. This is a very productive estuarine environment with up to 300 species of birds and a wide variety of aquatic species. Learn how important the estuaries of the world are to life on this planet. Cost is \$60 + tax per person, and is offered every fourth Friday from 10am-2pm. Make reservations online at www.GAEAGuides.com or call 239-694-5513.

Kids Cruise Free Pure Florida in Naples is offering children 12 and younger a free ride on their sightseeing cruise every Saturday at 10:00am., when accompanied by a paying adult. The 1.5 hour children's cruise provides an entertaining environment for children to learn about Southwest Florida wildlife. Adult tickets are \$39 per person. Reservations are required. Call 239-693-4949 or visit www.PureFL.com.

Music Walk The River District of Fort Myers comes alive on the Third Friday of every month as local and regional musicians line the streets. From jazz and blues to rock & roll, many different genres can be heard each month. Free to attend. Summer dates: June 15th, July 20th, August 17th. Time: 6-10pm

Art Walk First Friday of every month in the River District of downtown Fort Myers. Visit the many galleries, exhibitions and performances. Free to attend. Summer dates: June 1st, July 6th, August 3rd. Time: 6-10pm.

Mystery Walk Scavenger Hunt in downtown Fort Myers, every second Friday, 6-8pm. Cash prizes! They meet at the intersection of First and Hendry Streets to begin. Free to attend. Summer **dates:** June 8th, July 13, August 10th. **Time: 6-8pm.**

Fort Myers Drum Circle Drum and Dance Circle meets every Sunday, 7-9pm, at Centennial Park in downtown Fort Myers. Drummers, dancers, jugglers, hula hoopers, everyone is welcome. Bring your own chair and instrument, or just come to listen.

From the Director of Caring Ministries

Julie Berchtold

When Everything Is About Me! Me! Me!

By FamilyLife

If you went through pre-marriage counseling, you may recall some of the subjects you discussed with your pastor or counselor - things like communication, personality differences, finances, and resolving conflict. But you probably didn't hear your counselor say anything like this:

“Barbara, I want you to look at Dennis. Do you realize he’s a wretch? He’s selfish, and he’s potentially an adulterer and liar.”

“Dennis, look Barbara in the eyes. Do you realize who you are about to marry? Another wretch.”



These words obviously had an impact on Dennis Rainey, who told that story on *FamilyLife Today*®. And from my experience in marriage I have concluded that an honest discussion of our sinfulness ought to be part of any basic pre-marriage curriculum.

In recent years I've become more aware than ever that I face a never-ending battle against my natural sinfulness and selfishness. As I go through each day, my thoughts are often focused on what I want and what I need. I think about how I look ... what I'm about to do ... what I wish I was doing ... what I will do after work ... what I want to say and eat and watch and read. Life is all about Me! Me! Me!

And that makes marriage a challenge, because I married a woman who, for some strange reason, doesn't always agree with what I want. She has Me! issues of her own. We all do.

Some may think these words are a bit harsh. What good does it do to dwell on the fact that we are sinners?

I would agree—if that's where I stopped. But there are a number of practical benefits to acknowledging that we are sinners. For one thing, only when we acknowledge our sin will we truly understand grace.

In his book, *When Sinners Say 'I Do,'* Dave Harvey writes:

To say “I am a sinner” is to stare boldly at a fundamental reality that many people don't even want to glance at. But when we acknowledge that painful reality in our lives, several great things become clear. We find ourselves in good company—the heroes of our faith, from Old Testament times to the present, who experienced the battle with sin on the front lines. We also acknowledge what everybody around us already knows—particularly our spouses.

But, by far the greatest benefit of acknowledging our sinfulness is that it makes Christ and his work precious to us. Like Jesus said, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance (Luke 5:31 - 32).” Only sinners need a savior.

Acknowledging my sin helps me view myself honestly and without pretense. I know what I am and what I am capable of doing. And that makes Christ's work on the cross all the sweeter. And then consider that the relationship of a man and woman in marriage is a picture of Christ and His church. When we demonstrate to our spouses the same grace that Christ demonstrated to us, we experience true oneness in marriage.

My wife loves me, forgives me, and remains committed to me in spite of all the times I've hurt her and failed her. And, vice versa. As **1 John 4:19** tells us, ***“We love, because He first loved us.”***

Marriage works when a husband and wife remember that they are two sinners living together in a state of grace. It stops working when either of them forgets.

From the Director of Music Ministry***Colton LaMay***

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The first quarter of 2018 has been very productive in upgrading the systems used in live streaming and projecting during the church services. In an effort to increase the output quality of our livestream, components that are 4k compatible were installed. This includes the camera, the television switch, and the computer used to facilitate the streaming process. We are currently running an output of 1080x60p and should have an output of true 4k by mid-summer. The increased quality is helping to increase viewership as the stream is much more stable and much higher quality. We continue to only use LiveStream to facilitate our streaming, which may be easily accessed by visiting: www.livestream.com/smlcs

If you are accustomed to finding the link in our website, that is fine! The above link is simply the direct link to the hosting service used to facilitate the stream. I continue to look for more ways to stream our services on other platforms and the logistics that entails.

The computer that runs the MediaShout program also began to fail in the last few months, causing lots of crashes and much frustration for the folks who create the presentations. The computer was replaced, but the new version of MediaShout is very problematic and the frustration involved quickly outweighed its usefulness. After much technical support and frustration, I decided to give a new company a try. The program I landed on is called Faithlife Proclaim. Rather than being just presentation software, it is presentation software designed specifically for church use. It functions much better for us and because of our particular mission is completely free for us to use! I am also looking for volunteers who may be interested in learning how to use the equipment in the production booth, so if you have any interest in that, please feel free to get in contact with me.

Even though bells and choir have wound down for the season, please prayerfully consider ways you might want to participate musically in the future. The groups start again September 4th, so mark your calendar now! Both groups are fantastic opportunities for making music and having great fellowship! If you are looking for an opportunity to give for the music department, the bells are certainly in need of attention. Clappers wear out and the rims get little chips which cause a deterioration of sound quality. I contacted the manufacturer (Schumelrich) and according to their records, our middle three octaves of bells have not had any service since they were manufactured in the 1970s. It is normal to send them back every ten years or so in order to get them refurbished for optimal sound quality. The outer octaves were purchased back in 2007, so they are just now ready for their first refurbishment. The quote the company has provided me is \$3,300 with shipping costs. Our bell account only has funds available for normal music purchases, so any help with that would be greatly appreciated!

It is an absolute blessing to have the opportunity to serve musically alongside you! We have a very dynamic worship setting, so every day is very exciting and filled with diverse challenges. I look forward to some summer projects to further enhance our ability to reach out to the local community and beyond to spread the life-saving message of Jesus. God's richest blessings on your month!

~ Colton LaMay

From the Saint Michael Lutheran School Principal***Kati Miser***

At Saint Michael Lutheran School, our mission is to educate children and touch families' lives with the awesome love of our Lord Jesus Christ! As another school year comes to a close, we pray that our families continue to teach their children to love and follow Jesus. But wait! That mission continues with our summer camp which begins in June. What an opportunity to keep on proclaiming Jesus! Even if your children do not currently attend Saint Michael Lutheran School, they (and any other children you know) are invited to participate in Summer Camp, Vacation Bible School and Summer Sunday School. Summer Camp brochures are available in the school office, and camp director Sue Hampel (239-939-1218, ext. 229) is ready to answer your questions.

Check out the SMLS reviews on our Facebook page that are creating a buzz of excitement as Saint Michael families share their stories about the impact Saint Michael Lutheran School has had on their family. Give me a call if you want to see our school first-hand or want to show it to a friend, neighbor, or family member. New online applications for 2018-19 are being accepted on our website.



You have probably heard the old adage, "Many hands make light work." Perhaps your hands could be used during the summer with projects around the school. For example, our PreK 3 and PreK 4 classes have blossomed ... growing from one classroom each to two classrooms each for next fall. As we enter summer, we will be refreshing those classrooms with simple repairs, paint and some new equipment. If you would be interested in helping or donating items, contact Sue Hansen at sue.hansen@gsmc.org or call/text her at 847-987-0150.



From the Ministry Coordinator

Lori Schwan

When we discover our **S.H.A.P.E.:** Spiritual Gifts, Heart, Abilities, Passion and Experience, serving the Lord can be energizing and fulfilling for decades. We praise God for Rose Davis who has humbly demonstrated that for 20 years of teaching Sunday School to our preschool, kindergarten, and 1st graders. Want to discover where you might serve to give that kind of passion and dedication? Schedule a time to meet with me to find out how God has SHAPed you for serving in this chapter of your life.



Children's Ministry

Preschool Sunday School

Have you ever used a compass to show you which way to go? They're great for helping you on a hike, but not as great when we're trying to figure out which way to go in life. This summer, we're going to teach our preschoolers that the Bible tells us which way to go as we ride through life!



Elementary Sunday School

June's theme Amped is really all about showing us that we can be confident because God is strong than anyone. He can do things that would be impossible for us, especially His death and resurrection. We can be fully alive because of Him!



Sunday School Nursery Reopening

Enjoy loving on little ones? Contact Lori Schwan if interested in volunteering with 0–2-years-olds once a month!

Summer Sunday School Help Needed

Do you want to help during the summer with our preschool, elementary or middle school students? It is fun and easy and the time commitment is for as many weeks as you would like. Please contact Lori if you are interested. Classes start June 3.

Family Ministry

FAMILY VBS from 5:30-8:00 PM will be Monday – Thursday, June 4-7.

Venture onto an uncharted island where kids are rescued by Jesus! Anchor kids in the truth that Jesus carries them through every storm in life. They'll learn to hold onto God's promises when they are lonely, they worry, they struggle, do wrong, and feel powerless. This FREE adventure is for the whole family with dinner, service projects and raffle prizes! Registration is underway. Contact Lori Schwan if you are interested in volunteering on our team; there is a place for everyone (behind the scenes or with families) 939-1218, ext. 237 lori.schwan@smlcs.org.



Faith Stepping Stones:

- **Mother-Daughter Retreat for 5th-6th Grade:** *God's Design for His Daughters* was a blessing! 9 families and 10 girls enjoyed a great time growing to understand how God designed them to be cherished, pure, and faithful to the end. Thanks for all your prayers for them.

Women's Bible Study

We meet Thursdays from 10:00-11:30 AM, in the Art Room and study Emerson and Sarah Eggerichs' "Respectfully Yours." Together we will unpack the secret of respect as we:

- Distinguish Biblical respect from being a doormat
- Discover how to stop negative thought patterns
- Enjoy a life-changing truth: not wrong, just different
- Learn practical yet powerful ways to apply respect

We will run through the summer. Join any time.

From the Director of Christian Education

Jack Proctor

Saint Michael Youth Ministries

The youth will be in action throughout June! Please pray that God works in the youth and volunteers to grow their faith and that they are a blessing to those they meet on the trip. Thank God for using ordinary people to do extraordinary things!



Summer Mission Trips!

High School: Dominican Republic

June 9th-16th

FL-GA District Mission Trip to Fort Myers Beach

June 17th-22nd

Middle School: Camp Luther Springs

June 24th-29th

Confirmation

Confirmation Class is on break for the summer. We will pick it back up with the start of school! Over the summer middle school students can join in on the combined Sunday school in the youth room. 9:30-10:30.

Combined Sunday School

Sunday Mornings from 9:30 to 10:30 with the wonderful Mrs. Sue! Middle and high school students will be together. Take a deeper look into God's Word.

Adult Pickup Basketball

Lace up your sneakers for some fun and friendly exercise. We play a series of pickup basketball games on select Mondays 7-9 PM. **June 11 & 25.**

High School Revive

Revive is a community of high school students coming together to support, encourage, learn, and laugh together centered on the truth of Christ. Join us on Wednesday nights from 6-8 pm in the youth room!

Ever want to be involved with youth coming to know Jesus Christ in a powerful and real way? You can! Contact Jack.Proctor@gsmcls.org to talk about different ways to be involved. Be on the lookout for a Parents and Volunteers training session coming in July!

Usher Schedule	
8:00 A.M.	10:45 A.M.
<i>Please contact the head usher if you are unable to serve as scheduled, or secure your own replacement. If YOU would like to serve as an usher, please contact the church office at 939-1218, and let us know which service you prefer.</i>	
June 3	
John Hoffmann 936-8362 Bill Truax Kathy Royston David Engstrom Nila Little	Tom Kosteno 489-4398 Marge Bennett Jacob Haycook Roy Hendry Diane Hendry
June 10	
Dale Mast Bob Richardson Kathy Royston Tom Schlotterbeck	Ken Fritsch 997-2596 DD Schleicher Judy Ward Neil Meador
June 17	
John Hoffmann 936-8362 Kathy Royston Bob Richardson David Engstrom Nila Little	Leroy Waldren 989-1048 Brian Bottorff Jacob Haycook Eric Zinn
June 24	
Bill Truax 482-8418 Bob Richardson John Hoffmann Dale Mast	Tom Kosteno 489-4398 Judy Ward Christian Bottorff Marge Bennett
July 1	
Dale Mast John Hoffmann Kathy Royston Tom Schlotterbeck	Leroy Waldren 989-1048 Ken Fritsch Hannah Zinn Neil Meador


Church Greeters for June Sunday Services

Jun 3 8:00 a.m. Tom & Jo Zeller
10:45 a.m. Carol Williams

Jun 10 8:00 a.m. Alexandra DiNicola
10:45 a.m. Woody & Nancy Jackemeyer

Jun 17 8:00 a.m. Mel & Linda Lang
10:45 a.m. Ursula Jean Baptiste

Jun 24 8:00 a.m. Ron & Laurel Volberding
10:45 a.m. Ellen Feige





Be a Greeter

Interested in serving as a Greeter? Please contact Jan Nieman to sign up today!
jannieman@comcast.net

We have openings
in our
June 2018
Acolyte and Crucifer
schedule.

Sign up today using SignUp Genius!
www.signupgenius.com



St. Michael Lutheran Church
3595 Broadway, Fort Myers, Florida 33901

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Return Service Requested

Sunday School & Bible Study Opportunities
9:15-10:30 AM

Sunday School

9:00 – 9:15am “Excite” (games)
9:15 – 9:30am “Engage” (opening)
9:30 – 10:30am

Individual Grade level Activities

Toddlers- 2 year olds
Preschool
Elementary
6th-8th Grade
9th-12th Grade

Adult Bible Studies

Marriage Enrichment
Family Enrichment
Pastor Zehnder’s Adult Bible Study

Weekly Bible Study Opportunities

7:30 am Tuesday Men’s Bible Study,
.....6835 Porto Fino Cir, Suite #2, Mike Roach, 275-9233

10:00 am Thursday Women’s Bible Study,
..... led by Lori Schwan, in the Art Room

8:30 am Friday Men’s Bible Breakfast,
.....Pastor’s Conference Room

9:00 am Saturday.....Men’s Ministry/Bible Study
..... Education Bldg., Art Room. Call Lee Berchtold,
872-8999

9:15 am Sunday Pastor’s Bible Class,
..... Cafeteria

