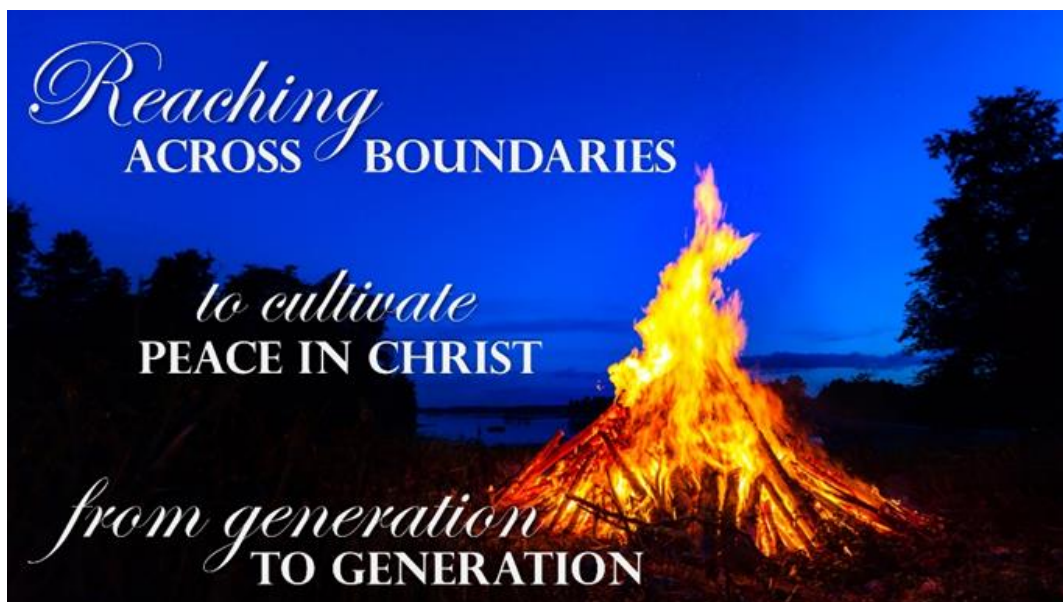


Saint Michael Lutheran Church and School

3595 Broadway
Ft. Myers, FL 33901

2024-2025 Annual Report



Saint Michael Lutheran Church of Fort Myers, Florida

ANNUAL REPORT for 2024-2025

“I will praise You, O Lord, with all my heart; I will tell of all Your wonders. I will be glad and rejoice in You; I will sing praise to Your name, O Most High.” Psalm 9:1-2.

The Lord continues His wondrous work through the ministries of St. Michael. This will be clearly evident to you, fellow redeemed brothers and sisters in Christ, as you read through the pages of this annual report. More than just reports and numbers and figures, I hope that you see in this packet the mighty works and deeds of the Lord through the work of your heart and hands.

Last September we began the “Find Your Five” congregation fellowship initiative, inviting you as church members to connect with five other families within our congregation. The marble jar in the narthex is almost full! Many meals have been shared and relationships created.

Over the course of the past year, I have continued working with our Board of Elders as we continue mapping out spiritual care for our congregation. Making the connection to our “Find Your Five” initiative, our Elders have been co-hosting Elder Flock fellowship meals with Katy and I as a way to introduce members to one another who are served by the same Elder. Pastor Steve Hess, who had been faithfully shepherding the homebound members of our congregation, officially retired from his duties as visitation pastor at the end of May. I am grateful for his many years of service to our St. Michael family.

Our Board of Stewardship has been hard at work in prayer, planning, and preparation for the future that the Lord is mapping out for us. It is a blessing to walk with them in this journey!

The Board of Missions continues its efforts here locally in our Circuit, but also in Haiti, Liberia, and Uganda. We are also continuing our efforts to maintain and strengthen the long standing relationship St. Michael has had in the Dominican Republic. Our Gospel reach is a blessing to many!

I have attended and continue to attend School Board and PTL meetings, along with Church Council, Elders, Stewardship, Mission Board, and Youth ministry gatherings.

We are blessed to have Sam Morganstern, DCE Intern, Dan Maser, Principal of St. Michael Lutheran School, and Pastor Roy Peterson, Associate Pastor and CFO, join our faith family. May the Lord use their gifts, talents, and wisdom to His greater glory here in our midst.

Thank you to you, yes, you, the one reading this. Your prayers, love, encouragement, and support of St. Michael and her ministries is a blessing to me. Indeed, “I will praise You, O Lord, with all my heart; I will tell of all Your wonders. I will be glad and rejoice in You; I will sing praise to Your name, O Most High.” Thanks be to God!

In Service to our Lord,

Pastor David J. Bass

Saint Michael Lutheran Church of Fort Myers, Florida

AGENDA

ANNUAL REPORT and VOTERS' MEETING for 2024-2025

9:30 a.m. July 27, 2025

1. Call to Order
2. Opening Prayer
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Minutes of Previous Meeting
5. Foundation Update
6. Treasurer's Report
7. Board and Standing Committees Reports
8. Vote to Affirm Officers and Board Chairs
9. New Business
10. Old Business
11. Adjournment
12. Closing Prayer

Saint Michael Lutheran Church of Fort Myers, Florida

ANNUAL REPORT for 2024-2025

Minutes from Voters' Meeting – Sunday, July 28, 2024 Submitted by Robin Beck

The voter's meeting was called to order at 9:34 a.m. by Vice President Bill Minor. Pastor Bass gave the opening prayer from Psalm 90, a prayer of Moses.

Agenda- A motion was made to accept the agenda by Lee Berchtold and was seconded by Mike Roach. The motion was approved.

Minutes- A motion was made to approve the minutes of the previous meeting and waive the reading by Donna Roach. The motion was seconded by Jason Zehnder and was approved.

Foundation Report- We can give 5% of the foundation's year-end balance to the church. See the foundation annual report for 2023-2024.

Treasurer's Report- Excess revenue can be put into reserves. A motion was made to accept the treasurer's report by Mike Beck and was seconded by Joni Zehnder. The motion was approved.

Board Reports- No oral reports given as they are contained within the annual report.

Officers and Chairs- Sue Hansen will replace Anne Sluiter as chair of Board of Human Care. A motion to accept the officers and chairs was made by Richard St. Dennis and was seconded by Lee Berchtold. The motion was approved.

New Business- None

Old Business- None

Adjournment- A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Richard St. Dennis and seconded by Jason Zehnder. The motion was approved and meeting adjourned at 9:56 a.m.

Saint Michael Lutheran Church of Fort Myers, Florida

ANNUAL REPORT for 2024-2025

Saint Michael Memorial Gardens

Saint Michael Lutheran Church has consecrated an area to the south of the sanctuary for the purpose of a Memorial Garden. Here the cremains of members and their families may be placed into the ground or scattered. In loving memory, the following members and friends have been commended to their eternal home:

- 1996 Richard Scibbe; Daniel Baker
- 1997 Gerna Pederson; Trung “Jack” Nguyen
- 1998 John Grape; Miriam Ellis
- 1999 Inge Radtke; Ronald Howell
- 2002 Jeannette Baker
- 2003 Maria Rosa de Kermer; Evelyn Renouf; Frank Mallory, Jr.; Kay Rouse
- 2004 Nicholas Piesco
- 2005 Evalynne Hansen; Leonard Renouf; Edward Lenick
- 2006 O.T. Atkinson, Sr.; Evelyn Atkinson; Thomas Wadzuk; Elaine Borden
- 2007 Frank Schwarz; Jeanne Mountford; Ruth Stevens
- 2008 Dietrich Radtke
- 2009 Katie Eason; Margaret Smolka;
- 2010 Elizabeth Tice; Martha Piesco; Donald Smith; Wayne Wolfarth
- 2011 Dianne Korf; Robert Scibbe; Lori Howell; Kathryn Zehnder
- 2012 Michael Tice
- 2013 Lars Marell; Warren Bauer
- 2014 Marie Knarr; Gary Schultz, Jr.
- 2015 Shirley Wayne; LaVerne Wadzuk
- 2016 Carl Bergner, Jr.; Eugene Heiwig; Dorothy Smith
- 2017 Mary Stalter; Marilyn Lehman; Marcia Gordon; George Rosine; Betty Rosine
- 2018 Robert Merritt; Katherine Merritt; Jeanette Franks; Dean W. Hartman
- 2019 Beth Gehringer
- 2021 Charlotte J. Smith; Kenneth Fritsch; Gale Wadzuk; Donald Zehnder
- 2022 Ned Stalter; Klaus Mueller; Kerry Spencer
- 2023 Ardene Ballantine; Kenneth Hansen; Claire Middleton; Rudy Rouse; Tom Zeller
- 2024 Darlene Fritsch; Anne Kittel; Beth Oliver; Tom Bennett; Janis Nieman; Eugene Krall

May God the Father, who created these bodies, may God the Son, who by His blood shed on a cross redeemed these bodies together with their souls, may God the Holy Spirit, who through Baptism sanctified these bodies to be His temple, keep these remains unto the day of the resurrection. Amen.

Saint Michael Lutheran Church of Fort Myers, Florida

ANNUAL REPORT for 2024-2025

Saint Michael Foundation

Saint Michael Foundation is a separate 501(c)3 tax-exempt organization and is charged with serving the mission and ministry of Saint Michael Lutheran Church and School. The foundation focuses on accomplishing short- and long-term needs through donations, investments, estate planning, endowments, charitable gifting, trusts, wills, and other memorials.

The foundation board meets regularly to be sure policies are being followed and to make decisions, relying on the advice of our investment manager, as to how to invest assets, handle funds, and make conservative disbursements. The total of all accounts was \$1,594,660.23 as of December 31, 2024 (up from \$1,461,515.04 as of 12/31/2023), including short-term, long-term and endowment accounts.

If you have designated Saint Michael Ministry (Church, School, or the Foundation) as a beneficiary, please call Mike Roach at 275-9233 (office)/768-1965 (home) or Bob Jablonski at 939-1218, ext. 339 so that your name can be included in our patron list. This will also enable the foundation to give an accurate forecasting for future gifts. Gift amounts will be kept confidential, although the total amount of all gifts may be published.

Saint Michael Lutheran Church of Fort Myers, Florida

ANNUAL REPORT for 2024-2025

Church Statistics – July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025

Membership Gains:

Transfers: 7 Adults, 0 Children

Adult Confirmation Class: 7

Inactive Member Reinstated: 2

Membership Losses:

Transfers: 4 adults, 0 children;

Released: 6 adults; 2 children

Deaths: 11

Total Membership as of 6/30/2025:

Baptized: 224

Confirmed: 614

TOTAL: 838

Pastoral Acts:

Weddings: 1

Baptisms: 3 Adults; 13 Children (4 from SMLS)

Confirmation: 3 Youth

Funerals: 11 Members; 4 Non-Members

School Mission:

Families joining church: 1 family: Adults - 1; Children -1

Average Worship - Fiscal Year (% Difference from previous years)*

1991-1992	326		
1992-1996	440	35%	(4 years)
1996-2000	534	21%	(4 years)
2000-2004	570*	7%	(4 years)
2004-2008	513*	-10%	(4 years)
2008-2012	489	-4.7%	(4 years)
2012-2016	474	-3%	(4 years)
2016-2020	444	-6.3%	(4 years)
2020-2021	408	-8.1%	(52 weeks)**
2021-2022	462	13.2%	(52 weeks)
2022-2023	512	10.8%	(52 weeks)
2023-2024	526	2.7%	(52 weeks)
2024-2025	503	-4.4%	(52 weeks)

* Includes Spanish worship which ended 5/4/2008

** Numbers were affected by COVID-19.

Starting in 2020, numbers include both in-person attendance and online views.

Offering Trends – Fiscal Year (% Difference from previous year)

1991-1992	\$261,538		
1992-1996	\$411,170	57%	(4 years)
1996-2000	\$581,137	41%	(4 years)
2000-2004	\$764,374	32%	(4 years)
2004-2008	\$942,494	23.3%	(4 years)
2008-2012	\$934,176	-0.9%	(4 years)
2012-2016	\$989,046	5.9%	(4 years)
2016-2020	\$1,062,648	7.4%	(4 years)
2020-2021	\$1,161,704	9.3%	\$1,157,600 budget
2021-2022	\$1,182,803	1.8%	\$1,220,100 budget
2022-2023	\$1,202,364	1.65%	\$1,197,748 budget
2023-2024	\$1,267,772	5.44%	\$1,249,784 budget
2024-2025	\$1,364,159	7.6%	\$1,280,527 budget

School Enrollment Trends PreK3-8th Grade (+/- Students)

Early Learning Center (ELC) started in 2012-2013. Full capacity is 65.

1991-1992	271
1992-1996	465 (4 years)
1996-2000	514 (4 years)
2000-2004	507 (4 years)
2004-2008	513 (4 years)
2008-2012	401 (4 years)
2012-2016	336 (4 years)
2016-2020	352 (PK3-8) + ELC 65 = 417 (4 years)
2020-2021	423 (PK3-8) + ELC 65 = 488
2021-2022	434 (PK3-8) + ELC 65 = 499
2022-2023	443 (PK3-8) + ELC 65 = 508
2023-2024	452 (PK3-8) + ELC 65 = 517
2024-2025	440 (PK3-8) + ELC 65 = 505
2025-2026	450 (PK3-8) + ELC 65 = 515 (projected)

Saint Michael Lutheran Church of Fort Myers, Florida

Proposed Officers and Church Council Members

July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026

President: Kelly Zinn
Vice President: Brian Hoffmann
Secretary: Robin Beck
Treasurer: Jack Pohlman

Board of Elders

Bill Minor, Director

Board of Christian Education

Dr. Billy Truax, Director

Board of Fellowship

Laurel Volberding, Director

Board of Local Outreach

Joyce Bell, Director

Board of Congregational Care

Board of Missions

Leonardo Garcia, Director

Board of Parish Education

Megan Shores, Director

Board of Properties

Lou Conzelmann, Director

Board of Stewardship

Amanda Evans, Director

Board of Youth

Susan Clark, Director

Board & Department Reports

Saint Michael Lutheran Church of Fort Myers, Florida

ANNUAL REPORT for 2024-2025

Submitted by Bill Minor – Board of Elders

"The Lord has done great things for us, and we are filled with joy." – Psalm 126:3

As we reflect on this past year, we are overwhelmed with gratitude for the abundant blessings God has poured into our church family. From exciting new ministry initiatives to the expansion of our leadership team, God's faithfulness continues to shape and strengthen our congregation for His mission.

This year's Rally Day was a joyful celebration and a powerful reminder of the unity and energy God has given our church. With hearts full of praise, we kicked off the year with strong momentum, witnessing firsthand the fruit of intentional fellowship and faithful service.

A key highlight has been the launch of our "Find Your Five" initiative, encouraging members to connect, to get to know one another, and to grow spiritually, serve faithfully, and share life in Christ. This initiative has sparked deeper relationships and empowered members to live out their faith in new and meaningful ways. We give thanks to God for the growth and spiritual vitality we see taking root through these connections.

God also continues to build and bless our ministry team. We celebrated the installation of Rev. Dr. Roy Peterson as our Associate Pastor and CFO. His leadership and spiritual insight are already bearing fruit in both pastoral care and stewardship. In May, we joyfully welcomed our DCE Intern, Sam Morganstern, who now serves as Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry under the mentorship of Katy Bass. In another exciting step, we officially called Katy Bass to continue serving as our Director of Children and Family Ministry, and we thank God for her unwavering commitment and heart for families.

Our Vacation Bible School was an incredible success, hosting nearly 150 children and supported by over 70 dedicated volunteers. Through their generosity, we raised over \$1,500 for Filters of Hope, which will provide over 40 life-saving water filters for families in need around the world. Truly, "whoever gives one of these little ones even a cup of cold water... will certainly not lose their reward." (Matthew 10:42)

With Sam's addition to the ministry team, Lori Schwan has transitioned into a new role as Director of Assimilation and Senior Adult Ministry. Her heart for connection and compassion is already evident, and we look forward with anticipation to how God will grow this vital ministry in the coming year.

As we look ahead, we remain confident that "He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." (Philippians 1:6) Thank you for being a part of this journey. May we continue to walk forward together in faith, love, and hope—always for His glory.

Saint Michael Lutheran Church of Fort Myers, Florida

ANNUAL REPORT for 2024-2025

Submitted by Ben Ball – Director of Worship and Music

As I reflect on what will soon conclude three years since arriving at Saint Michael to serve as your director of worship and music, I am so happy to report that my family and I have been so blessed to become a part of this church family. It is fulfilling and exciting to be here as we have witnessed and will continue to witness everything that God has planned for this community.

The first year and a half (roughly) of my service here saw the need to renovate and update some of our existing systems and instruments, as well as expand into new areas never charted here (such as the “share the music scholarship”). Thankfully, after the fundraising for the new organ and handbells was complete, we just had to wait for the instruments to arrive. Last July, we really got to enjoy the fruits of our labor as the new organ was installed, and the new octave of handbells arrived shortly thereafter to be put into service.

Church Music Ministry:

- Adult choir – Average of twenty singers in worship (rehearses and sings from September through May). Although people cannot always be here every Sunday, we currently have a choir which includes three generations of singers from the same family. We continue to open the sanctuary choir to SMLS middle schoolers who wish to sing. The adult choir offered a cantata, *“The Longest Night,”* as part of the annual Blue Christmas celebration in December 2024.
- “Grace Notes” Handbell Choir – consistently has twelve members (rehearses and rings an average of one time per month from September through May). This past year we expanded to allow anyone who had completed fourth grade band in the school music department to join the handbell choir.
- Worship Team – regularly has seven to eight dedicated members on an average Sunday.
- Instrumentalists – bringing in instrumentalists, both volunteer and paid, to support the worship and music ministry.
- Hosted the third annual *“Sounds of the Season”* Christmas Concert. Proceeds from the concert went to Lutheran Services of Florida.

Musical Instruments:

- New Allen Organ: installed in late July 2024. Almost all the pipework from the previous organ was integrated into the new pipe-digital hybrid organ.
- The “small” Allen Organ (the digital organ which was used in the sanctuary while the new one was built) has been installed and used in the chapel for small services. It also gets moved to the gymnasium for joint events and works out splendidly!
- We had several pianos around our campus which were taking up space and no longer needed. They were traded in on a much newer grand piano which now resides in the sanctuary. The former sanctuary piano now serves the school music department (and serves for joint services in the gym).

Share the Music Scholarship Fund:

- Established in the spring of 2023 by Ben Ball, the Share the Music Scholarship Fund seeks to support students who are serious about music and are ready to take their gifts to the next level and hone them in by working with a professional teacher.
- The scholarship covers the cost of a weekly private music lesson with a professional teacher and any music/materials they need.
- The students must apply and audition for the scholarship with the music faculty, maintain a high academic standard, make good progress with their instructor (accountability), and offer two pieces in worship each semester.
- In the 2024-2025 school year, we supported five students in the program.

Miscellaneous:

- Hosted two music ministry potluck meals in the narthex to give all our music volunteers and their families an opportunity to relax with food fellowship “without working.” There was an average of 45-50 people in attendance at each event, which included family members.
- Combined music ministry worship services on numerous occasions, integrating the entire music ministry in worship leadership together.
- Working closely with the Wednesday morning school chapel services, mainly the second and third chapel services each Wednesday for the preK4/K and Little Saints, respectively.
- Working with Mike Wenzlaff (head of school fine arts) and other fine arts teachers – coming alongside them to support their music education ministry, plus working with them to craft a vision for integrating the fine arts of the school with the ministry of the church. We have crafted a multi-year vision of where we are currently and where we would like to be in five years as a fine arts department.

Ongoing Projects and/or Goals:

- Getting youth and children involved in the worship leadership (weekend worship and Wednesday morning chapel).
- Intergenerational choir and handbell choir
- Dates are already on the calendar for the music ministry Christmas and spring fellowship parties.
- Further expansion of the scholarship program to include more kids.

Saint Michael Lutheran Church of Fort Myers, Florida

ANNUAL REPORT for 2024-2025

Submitted by Lori Schwan – Board of Congregational Care

This year was the first full year having our newly formed congregational care board that focuses on coming alongside our members to care for and support each other. We set our focus for the first 18 months to be on the seniors of our congregation.

We specifically started with focusing on our homebound. Each board member connected monthly with at least one who was unable to be in person in worship. We hope to expand this ministry to others in the congregation who have that passion and giftedness.

We hosted our annual Christmas Senior Social for 71 senior adults. Twenty-one volunteers including 14 youth served roast beef, glazed carrots, salad, dinner rolls, and mashed potatoes that were prepared by Candy Offerman. Seniors signed cards for homebound who could not join us. We enjoyed singing led by Cathy Hellmuth on piano and 2 youth as vocalists.

Some members brought poinsettias to over 15 homebound people on Christmas Day and then flowers to 6 people on Easter Sunday. The SMLS middle school students sent cards in February.

This year our SMLS 6th graders also blessed our seniors. They visited two homebound doing activities with them and their fellow residents. They also took advantage of a rare opportunity when the gym was available on a school day to host a senior luncheon for the congregation members on May 2 as the culmination of their week of service. The 45 students made all the food and served it to 27 seniors. Each mixed table had a trivia contest that bridged the generations.

GriefShare facilitators Gail Schultz and Carol Anello met on Saturday mornings this fall with 8 participants (2 members and 6 nonmembers). This winter they had 6 participants (3 members and 3 nonmembers).

A widow and widowers group formed in April called the 2W Club with over 20 people. Their purpose is to gather on and off campus for fellowship and service. Since April they have met monthly for lunch and organizing, trivia, and going to the movies and dinner.

Board member Steve Brown shared a Mission and Ministry Moment to educate members on our new hearing assistance system that is installed in the sanctuary. Several devices can be checked out each service from the sound booth.

We are blessed to have two members, Ann Sluiter and Tammy Zinn, serving our congregation as Faith Community Nurses as part of the Lee Health program. This is a unique, specialized practice of professional nursing that focuses on the intentional care of the spirit as part of the process of promoting holistic health and preventing or minimizing illness in a faith community. Bridging the two disciplines of nursing and ministry, Faith Community Nurses serve as liaisons between the

clergy and their congregations, the healthcare system, physicians and other community agencies and resources. This past year they arranged breast cancer awareness at worship, had the blood mobile visits every 8 weeks, and made phone calls and visits to members in need.

In addition to the nurses, we praise God for the faithful service of Pastor Steve Hess who has served the last 13 years as our visitation pastor bringing the Lord's comfort and Supper to our homebound. We wish him and Deb all God's blessings as he, in his words, "re-retires." Pastor Hess will be dearly missed.

Congregational care isn't always through visits. With our new church logo, we helped distribute over 330 name tags to help people put faces to names. Our email prayer chain is handled by Shea Flynn in the office. We also have several volunteers utilize the US mail to connect with and care for our congregation.

- Journey Through Grief - After many years of serving, Linda Lang passed this ministry onto Liz Solvieff in December. She mails 4 different comforting booklets to those grieving the loss of a loved one at key milestones in the first year. Since taking it over, 11 people have received all the mailings and many more are still receiving this blessing.
- Homebound and Sick - Janet Elliott has mailed over 150 cards just in the second half of the year to those who are on our prayer chain dealing with sickness or unable to be a part of our community easily.
- Anniversaries - Marcia Malisiak serves, as she travels around the country with her job, by mailing cards to members celebrating wedding anniversaries.
- Birthdays - Kathy Byers has found addressing birthday cards from her home is a great way to serve.
- Baptism Birthdays for Kids - Robin Beck helps families remember their children's baptism birthdays with a postcard.

Since Covid, St. Michael has continued to have a hybrid DivorceCare group that has people in person and also on zoom. Facilitator Lori Schwan met with 10 participants this fall (1 member and 9 nonmembers) and then in the winter we had 12 participants (2 members and 8 nonmembers). During the summer, the majority of churches in the US do not have groups, so we felt it was vital to meet some of the need. After just 6 weeks, we have had 23 participants (2 members and 21 nonmembers).

We look forward to next year as we develop the Senior Adult Ministry, establish funeral/memorial reception teams, and perhaps meals for those going through a celebratory or stressful time.

Saint Michael Lutheran Church of Fort Myers, Florida

ANNUAL REPORT for 2024-2025

Submitted by Dr. Billy Truax – Board of Christian Education

Establishment and Governance of the Board of Christian Education:

The Board of Christian Education is established under Article V of the Constitution of Saint Michael Evangelical Lutheran Church. Specific duties and responsibilities of the Board are outlined within the Constitution and governed by policy that aligns with the bylaws and constitution of the Church. The Board is aligned with the mission and philosophy of Saint Michael Lutheran Church and School and with the Early Learning Center (Little Saints). Members of the Board are members of Saint Michael Lutheran Church and are appointed by the Pastor and Board Chair with input from the Administrator.

Board Responsibilities:

The Board meets monthly, August-June, at 12:15 PM in the conference room of the Early Learning Center. Meeting dates are announced in SMLS and church publications. An agenda, prepared in advance, guides the discussion and business for each meeting. The school's mission statement and annual theme are included in each meeting and reproduced on all publications and communications.

Monthly agenda items include a financial report, reports from Administrators of SMLS and the Early Learning Center that include enrollment data and trends, reports covering discipline/behavior, testing data, instructional updates, staffing, and programming notes (extended care, summer, extracurriculars). The board reviews parent, student, and staff policy (handbook) updates for SMLS and Little Saints and the academic calendar for the following year. The board is tasked with approving the school budget for the following year in the month of April.

Summary of actions by the Board of Christian Education for 2024-25:

- Welcome and orientation of new board member Charlie Crouse
- Thanked Dr. Tim Underhill, Stephanie Webb, and Craig Ecelbarger, who resigned their board positions, for their years of service to Saint Michael Lutheran School
- Board review of MAP testing scores (fall & spring)
- Creation and adoption of updated Parent-Teacher-League policy
- Completion of full board policy manual update
- Board approval of proposed unified budget
- Requested additional financial data regarding dedicated/restricted funds under the school's purview, including playground update project
- Review and approval of the proposed school calendar and meeting dates for the Board of Christian Education 2025-26
- Monthly comparisons of enrollment data and trends that include withdrawals & applications for both SMLS and Little Saints
- Progress on and achievement of objectives assigned to the Board of Christian Education as outlined in the ongoing accreditation cycle and the continuous improvement plan

- Participation in annual EOY school events – Saints Scholars Society, recognitions, and graduation
- Facilitate a call board and support the call for a new principal, Mr. Dan Maser
- Form a transitional plan for the leadership change in the principal roll
- Review current policies for visitation and campus security
- Several board members served on the accreditation team to gather evidences and document processes for the school
- Facilitate a site visit from the accreditation team and pass with flying colors!

Members of the Board of Christian Education: Dr. Billy Truax, Chair

Ken Danielson	Vicky Manietta
Charlie Crouse	Cynthia Schafer
Jamie Gilles	Sabrina Lundbohm

Ex Officio Members of the Board:

The Reverend Dave Bass	Bob Jablonski
Kati Miser, Administrator SMLS	Jennifer Pohlman, Assistant Administrator
Nikki Howley, Administrator of ELC	Shelly McGovern, Principal for the Interim

Accreditation Facilitator:

Judy Scharpenberg

Saint Michael Lutheran Church of Fort Myers, Florida

ANNUAL REPORT for 2024-2025

Submitted by Rev. Jon Zehnder – Board of Missions

What an exciting time! Our Savior Jesus gave us a command to “make disciples of all nations” (literally – all “ethnicities”) in Matthew 28:19-20. Then He even gave us directions in Acts 1:8 to begin locally, and then in ever broadening circles, to take the good news of salvation to “the ends of the earth.”

Through our tithes and offerings, we support partner ministries that help us reach both near and far. We do that through the Florida-Georgia District and our Circuit Outreach of SW Florida (supporting Pelican Lutheran Ministries, Thrive/FGCU Mission, and Amigos Immigration).

Here is a quick recap of specific missions that were supported: **Dominican Republic** – after 47 years, the mission we began has grown tremendously, receiving support to be able to stand on their own. We will continue to look for selected opportunities for missionary support, partnering in opening new locations, and sending mission teams (using funds set aside for that purpose in the restricted budget). **Liberia** – new mission doors are opening before us as we partner with Hope and Care Mission. Liberia has always been close to our heart as we honor Dr. Ben Dennis.

The excitement for this new fiscal year comes as the Mission Board partners with our Outreach Board to substantially assist in reaching out locally in Fort Myers! \$16,000 has been shared from the Mission Board to Outreach to assist in that effort! Plus, we are excited to begin a new mission site as we are supporting the **Uganda Mission Orphanage** (affiliated with the Nakabango Lutheran Nursery and School in Jinja). Our recent gift of \$3,000 covered the costs of room rental, food, soap, firewood, and doctor visits for a year! Touching hearts and lives for eternity – what a tremendous joy and blessing. Thank you for your ongoing prayers and support.

Saint Michael Lutheran Church of Fort Myers, Florida

ANNUAL REPORT for 2024-2025

Submitted by Joyce Bell – Board of Outreach

The Board of Local Outreach's purpose statement is **Gospel to Others or GO.**

We continue to focus on reaching out to our school families, which as you know is a mission field in our own backyard. This year we again participated in the school's annual Fall into Fun event in October. We decorated tables and handed out candy and church information flyers and cups. We also sponsored the face painting booth at the school's Touch-A-Truck event held in January. Again, we like to hand out church related items and info on services and upcoming church events. It's always fun to be a grandparent even if you are adopted by a school child for the day. What a wonderful way to show God's love on Grandparent's Day at the school!

Other local outreach events:

- *Thanksgiving baskets (gift cards) and the Christmas tree gifts which you made possible by your generosity.

- *We held a diaper drive along with a member's neighborhood to supply over 13,000 diapers and 13,000 wipes.

- *We donated money to Oma's Heart fund for their annual toy drive. It is a wonderful organization that provides toys to needy families. The children are guided to a room to play and have fun activities while the parents are prayed with before they choose the gifts for their kids.

- *We toured a place called Bridge and Beyond who houses children that are not placed in foster homes. We were able to provide a few immediate items before the children even arrived.

- *The board is looking forward in the future months to get the congregation involved in Oasis, Harry Chapin Food Bank, and other local organizations that need a little help.

Our board is small but we are blessed to be a blessing. So, if you have a passion for outreach, this is the place for you!

Saint Michael Lutheran Church of Fort Myers, Florida

ANNUAL REPORT for 2024-2025

Submitted by Laurel Volberding – Board of Fellowship

The Board of Fellowship plans or assists with events that give our church family members opportunities to “fellowship” with one another. We grow our love of Jesus while sharing one another’s joys and struggles, enjoying old friendships, and cultivating new friendships.

On October 27, 2024, we gathered for Reformation Sunday worship followed by a luncheon celebrating our Lutheran heritage. We had approximately 270 in attendance. Bratwursts and hot dogs were served along with several delicious side dishes. Church members were asked to bring a dessert to share. Everyone attending gave their best guess at the most pieces of candy in the pumpkin jar. We recognized our oldest veteran, youngest member, longest married couple, newly wed couple, and the person who has lived in the most countries. The youth entertained us with the longest hula hooper contest, and each table participated in a family trivia game with trivia about Reformation, Saint Michael Lutheran Church, and the fall season. Many hands assisted with take down and clean up.

In February 2025, SMLC members were asked to share their opinions about their SMLC experience in a survey developed for the Board of Fellowship. Approximately 10% of our total membership responded (these are typical results for surveys). We received some excellent feedback on what we are doing well, what we could improve upon, and suggestions for future events.

On April 13, 2025, over 300 people gathered to celebrate Palm Sunday outdoors under the big white tent. A BBQ dinner catered by Smoke’n Pit was served with members providing desserts. Katy Bass planned an Easter egg hunt which was great fun for our youngest SMLC family members. Once again, many hands assisted with set up, take down, and clean up.

On June 29, 2025, the Board of Fellowship assisted with the luncheon following the installation service for Pastor Roy Peterson.

The Board of Fellowship, while in need of members, is blessed with volunteers willing to pitch in to cook, serve, set up, and take down. If you would like help plan future events by serving on the Board of Fellowship, we would welcome you!

Saint Michael Lutheran Church of Fort Myers, Florida

ANNUAL REPORT for 2024-2025

Submitted by Lou Conzelmann – Board of Properties

The Board of Properties is responsible for the maintenance of all physical properties belonging to St. Michael Church and School. Board members include Gregg Tharnstrom, Ron Krugman, Will Kollmann, William Wettler, and Lou Conzelmann. Bob Jablonski, Director of Support Ministries at St. Michael, is our ex-officio member who oversees the maintenance operation and manages the budget. Steve Eggen, Maintenance Manager, coordinates the day-to-day operations and is also a helpful participant at our meetings. We thank Brian Hoffmann for his service over the past several years. Brian resigned this year as he now serves as Vice President of the congregation and also on the Board of Elders. We welcome William Wettler who is a recent addition to our board. We appreciate that William has volunteered to serve with us.

Steve Eggen has a three-person staff consisting of Assistant Maintenance Manager Darrell Eacholes and long-time employee Joel Zehnder. Thank you very much to this group as they stay very busy maintaining the property.

Some of the improvements that were completed in this fiscal year included the repaving and sealing of many of the parking lot areas, assisting in the renovations to the school playground areas, and repairs to a school building drainage issue that turned out to be a significant project.

We are currently working on our usual summer projects. Carpet replacement, painting, mulch replenishment, lighting improvements, and replacing air conditioners are always part of the plan when school is out of session. We are also anticipating the installation of a new sign to replace the current one in front of the church on Broadway. There have been some delays with this project but we have been assured it will be completed soon.

Volunteer work events are usually held on various Saturday mornings throughout the year. Thanks to the volunteers who come to help. It's a great way to serve. Upcoming events will be advertised in the church bulletin.

We thank God for the members and administrators who work to keep St. Michael running smoothly. We pray for God's continued blessings as we honor Him by putting forth our best effort in the maintenance of the St. Michael campus.

Saint Michael Lutheran Church of Fort Myers, Florida

ANNUAL REPORT for 2024-2025

Submitted by Amanda Evans – Board of Stewardship

As we reflect on the incredible journey of faith and fellowship over the past year, the Board of Stewardship is filled with gratitude for your patience as we strategically plan for the future. It has been a year of thoughtful planning and significant progress. Through reviewing the Vision Plan that our congregation completed through Clarity Navigators, we've identified the need for a capital campaign. As a board over the past year, we have researched, conducted interviews and reference checks for organizations to facilitate this process with us. We currently envision a three-step process that will actively engage the congregation and school families and seek their support and endorsement at each step.

Phase 1: Campus Master Plan (6-months)

This initial phase will lay the groundwork for our campus's future. Our congregation has been blessed with a campus and facilities that have served the ministry well for many years, but many of these need updates and replacement, especially in the school. We'll develop a comprehensive roadmap that addresses major maintenance needs, potential remodels, and exciting new additions. Your input is crucial! We'll invite the congregation and school families to engage directly with architects and staff leadership to help shape this 20–30-year plan. Together, we'll set priorities to ensure all work is done as efficiently and cost-effectively as possible.

Phase 2: Feasibility Study (6-months)

Before we move forward, we'll conduct a strategic feasibility study. This vital step will help us understand our collective readiness for a capital campaign. We'll conduct interviews with staff, leaders, and many of you, our dedicated church members, to identify potential hurdles and gauge the enthusiasm and confidence of our incredible congregation. Your insights are essential in shaping this journey!

Phase 3: Capital Campaign (3-5 years)

Once we've completed the feasibility study, we'll partner with the Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF), an organization with a proven track record, to launch a comprehensive capital campaign. This campaign will focus on three powerful goals:

- Debt Reduction: Significantly reducing our existing debt is vitally important to alleviate this burden on our ministry.
- Campus Growth & Enhancement: This includes capital for remodeling and any new facilities needed to better serve everyone who walks through our doors.

- Endowment: An important part of the campaign for the future of St. Michael, an endowment allows individuals to support the campaign through future estate gifts, ensuring long-term stability and growth.

We are filled with immense hope and excitement for what the next year holds as we boldly step out in faith together. Each step of this journey will actively seek the engagement of our congregation and school families as we walk together into the future God has planned for us.

Saint Michael Lutheran Church of Fort Myers, Florida

ANNUAL REPORT for 2024-2025

Submitted by Katy Bass – Board of Parish Education

“Let the little children come to Me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.” – Mark 10:14

This past year in Parish Education at St. Michael Lutheran Church has been a joyful and Spirit-filled journey of nurturing faith, building community, and walking with children and families as they grow in Christ. With hearts full of gratitude, we reflect on the many ways the Lord has worked through our ministry to plant and water seeds of faith in the lives of His children.

Our **Sunday School children** not only learned about Jesus but lived out their faith through meaningful **service projects**. They packed shoeboxes for **Operation Christmas Child**, tied cozy **blankets for children in foster care**, and prepared **meals for neighbors in need**, shining the light of Christ in tangible ways.

Our littlest worshipers were embraced through **weekly Worship Packs**, designed to help them engage in God’s Word during services. A special milestone came in the fall as our **3rd-grade students received their very own Bibles**—a gift we pray will guide them for a lifetime.

Our **Mothers’ Bible Study**, **Advent and Lenten Women’s Studies**, and the beloved **Advent Tea** offered women of all ages the opportunity to be rooted in Scripture and refreshed in community. Together, we opened God’s Word, shared burdens and blessings, and were reminded that we are never alone in this walk of faith.

Family fellowship events created opportunities for Christ-centered fun and formation. From **Preschool Playdates** to **Movie Nights with take-home devotions**, we offered safe and joyful spaces for faith to grow at every age. Seasonal favorites like the **Gingerbread Bash** reminded us that Christmas is truly about Jesus, while the **Children’s Christmas Eve Program** proclaimed the Good News of His birth to a full sanctuary.

During Advent, we extended Christ’s love to our shut-ins through **Advent wreath-making kits** delivered with care, reminding them they are remembered and loved. On **Palm Sunday**, families gathered for a festive **Easter egg hunt, crafts, and games**, celebrating the hope we have in our risen Savior.

One of the biggest blessings of the year was our **Camp Moosefeather Falls Vacation Bible School**, which welcomed **155 children** and involved **over 70 volunteers**. Through songs, skits, Bible stories, and service, we shared that “Jesus loves you!” loud and clear. We also praised God for the opportunity to share His Word through weekly **Kindergarten, Preschool, and Little Saints chapels** with our school students.

As we reflect on the year, we give thanks to God for His abundant grace and provision. Every Bible story read, every song sung, every prayer whispered by a child is a testimony to God’s faithfulness.

“Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.” – Proverbs 22:6

Thank you to each volunteer, parent, and supporter who has partnered with us in this mission. Together, we are raising up the next generation of disciples, rooted in Christ’s love and ready to serve His world.

In His Service!

Katy Bass

Saint Michael Lutheran Church of Fort Myers, Florida

ANNUAL REPORT for 2024-2025

Submitted by Lori Schwan and Sam Morganstern – Board of Youth

During the vacancy of a Youth Director, we are very thankful for our team of board members, parents, volunteers, and staff who together, empowered completely by the Holy Spirit, helped grow our students to know our Savior through the following activities:

Worship

- Students serve as lectors, acolytes, and crucifers
- Sound booth assistants
- Rock the Universe
- Poet Tanner Olson & musician Matt Doering
- 12th grade: blanket blessing and reception

Fellowship

- Middle school ice skating
- High school bowling
- Middle and high school youth group every Wednesday with dinner and games
- Wednesday night Thanksgiving feast
- Rock the Universe
- High school Christmas party
- Vacation Bible School

Spiritual Growth

- Middle and high school youth group every Wednesday night
- New middle school confirmation modules that students take at their own pace in 1 – 3 years
- First Communion for 4th – 8th grade was celebrated on Maundy Thursday
- Middle and high school Sunday school
- FL-GA Middle School Youth Gathering in Leesburg, FL
- FL-GA High School Student Leadership Event
- Vacation Bible School
- FL-GA Middle School Summer Servant Event to Camp Luther Springs
- LCMS Youth Gathering preparation

Service Projects

- Work project service days at St. Michael
- Various event set up and take down
- Students serve as lectors, acolytes, and crucifers
- Help decorate the church for Christmas

- Serving at the Congregational Care Senior Social
- Christmas gifts for Oasis Youth Shelter teens
- Christmas Eve luminaries
- Middle school making 12th grade blankets
- Thrivent water filter and solar light assembly
- Vacation Bible School

Outreach

- Vacation Bible School
- Middle and high school youth group every Wednesday
- Intentional outreach to youth in SMLS, especially Wednesday youth group
- FL-GA Middle School Servant Event to Camp Luther Springs

Fundraisers

- Full car wash at Edison National Bank
- Poinsettia sale
- Thrivent spaghetti dinner with bingo, dessert auction, and raffles
- Wall O' Money
- Thrivent Yeti cooler raffle
- Bake sale

Thank You, Lori!

During the vacancy of our Youth Director position, we are deeply grateful for Lori Schwan and others who stepped up to ensure our youth had continued opportunities to grow in faith and Christian community. Their leadership and dedication have been a true blessing.

Splitting Middle School and High School Ministries

Since my arrival, we made the decision to separate middle school and high school youth ministries—moving high school youth nights to Tuesdays and keeping middle school youth nights on Wednesdays. This change has been effective; high school attendance has remained strong, and middle school participation has stayed consistent, even throughout the summer.

Ministry Opportunities

Over the past two months, our students have had several opportunities to grow, serve, and engage in meaningful ways. Highlights include:

- Youth Nights
 - High School: Tuesdays
 - Middle School: Wednesdays
- LCMS Youth Gathering Bake Sale
 - Fundraiser supporting high school students attending the LCMS Youth Gathering
- Florida-Georgia Middle School Servant Event at Luther Springs
 - A chance for our middle school students to serve, grow in leadership, and cultivate Christian community

Statistics

Middle School Totals	103
High School Totals	41
Total Youth in 1 year	144
Total hours invested by the youth and their families for youth ministry	6,812
Average hours invested in 1 year/youth's family	25
Percent Youth Family are Members	28%
Percent Youth Baptized @ SM but parents aren't members yet	6%
Percent nonmembers	65%
Percent no church home	32%
Percent not sure of church home	6%
SMLS Current or Alumni active this year	120

Saint Michael Lutheran Church of Fort Myers, Florida

ANNUAL REPORT for 2024-2025

Year In Review

July 2024:

- The 21st year of our summer programs begin with Sue Hampel leading these amazing camps.
- The new organ was installed in the sanctuary!

August 2024:

- Saint Michael Lutheran School celebrates its 69th academic year with the theme “Endure” from Hebrews 12:1-3.
- Little Saints welcomed 17 new students this school year.

September 2024:

- September 8 was the annual church rally day. Summer break is officially over, and fall classes have kicked off. St. Michael Lutheran Church celebrates its 83rd year of ministry!
- Our middle school choir sung at Constitution and Citizenship Day in downtown Fort Myers, and our 5th grade students recited the Preamble to the Constitution.
- Edison National Bank graciously hosted our youth group for a fundraising car wash. Youth group held many fundraisers this year as they prepared for the LCMS National Youth Gathering in the summer of 2025.
- Little Saints held their annual Pirate Pasta Dinner on September 29.
- St. Michael was honored to be asked to lead the daily worship and music sessions at the FL-GA District Educators Conference.

October 2024:

- SMLC held their first family movie night of the school year on October 4; the high school youth sold snacks as a fundraiser.
- We formally received new members at the combined Reformation service. Three of our youth were confirmed. We celebrated with a wonderful fellowship lunch after the service.

November 2024:

- Little Saints held their 10th annual pet food drive to benefit ARC in N. Ft. Myers.
- The LCMS FL-GA District sponsored a middle school youth gathering and a high school leadership event at Lake Yale Baptist Conference Center in Leesburg, FL. Nine youth attended the middle school gathering, and two students participated in the high school leadership event.
- GriefShare and DivorceCare held special “Surviving the Holidays” classes.
- SMLS PTL had to reschedule their annual October Fall into Fun Festival due to Hurricane Milton. They hosted a great event on Friday, November 22.
- One hundred people joined us for Thanksgiving Eve worship, and 115 watched online. A pie social was hosted by the Bass family in the narthex following the service.
- Thirty-six Operation Shoebox kits were assembled by our Sunday School students.

December 2024:

- Our annual Advent event was held on December 1. Breakfast was served, and we made advent wreaths for shut-ins and those in need.
- Little Saints held their annual student and family Christmas party on December 5.
- The Sounds of the Season Christmas concert was held on December 6.
- Women's Advent Tea was held on Saturday, December 7.
- The Christmas Senior Social was held on Sunday, December 8 after the 2nd service; 71 senior adults attended.
- Fun was had by all during the December family movie night showing of *The Grinch* on December 8.
- The Gingerbread Bash was held on December 14 for all SMLCS families.
- The Progressive Servant Event was held on December 15. Our middle and high school youth had the opportunity to shop for gifts for the teens staying at the Oasis Youth Shelter.
- Four hundred people showed up to enjoy the Kindergarten / First Grade Advent presentation on December 18.
- Choir cantata of *The Longest Night* was presented at our Wednesday evening Advent service on December 18.
- The birth of the Savior was celebrated on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. We had 759 worship in person at the 3 evening services on Christmas Eve and 98 worship in person on Christmas Day.

January 2025:

- Middle and high school youth attended Rock the Universe at Universal Studios on January 25.
- The official dedication concert for the new organ was held on January 26. Ben Ball released a new CD recording, *Heaven's Morning Breaks*.
- SMLS PTL held the 7th annual Touch-a-Truck event on January 25. This event is open to the public and has become a huge community hit.
- SMLS hosted their annual open house on January 29.

February 2025:

- The youth group hosted a spaghetti dinner fundraiser with bingo, a dessert auction, and a raffle.
- The Board of Local Outreach held a diaper drive to benefit new mothers in our community.
- Little Saints hosted the annual Father-Daughter dance. Their theme this year was *Once Upon a Time*.

March 2025:

- Spring family movie night was held on March 9, and families enjoyed watching *Moana*.
- The 38th annual SMLS PTL gala was held on March 22. Deep Sea Soiree was the theme.
- The accreditation team visited our campus, and SMLS passed the accreditation process!

April 2025:

- Author, poet, podcaster, and speaker Tanner Olson and singer/songwriter Matt Doering led our mid-week Lenten worship on April 2.
- Our new 2W Club – a group for widows and widowers regardless of age or church affiliation – had their first meeting on Saturday, April 5.

- Saint Michael had a historic moment on Maundy Thursday, April 17, as twenty-one students took first communion during the explanation of Christ in the Passover by Sahar Sadlovsky, a student at Fort Wayne Seminary.
- Over 500 people joined us for worship and a fellowship meal on Palm Sunday.
- Almost 750 people worshiped the Risen Savior over Easter weekend at St. Michael. This year, Easter worship included a sunrise service, fellowship opportunities in between services, and an Easter lunch after the last service of the morning.

May 2025:

- The SMLS cookbook arrived. Proceeds from the cookbook went to support the ministries of St. Michael Lutheran Church, and we hoped the cookbook helped plan meals for the Find Your Five initiative.
- Pastor Steve Hess, Visitation Pastor, retires. We thank God for Pastor Steve's service to our congregation.
- The sixth grade class of SMLS hosted a senior adult luncheon on May 2. Students and seniors assembled Thrivent Cause Kits for those in need.
- Our annual graduate blessing was held at both Sunday services on May 11.
- Sam Morganstern, DCE Intern, arrived from Concordia University Irvine and began working with our middle and high school youth.

June 2025:

- The Saints Scholar Society Awards are held. Meghan Oharriz, Morgan Kollmann, and Darrel Eacholes receive staff awards.
- SMLS closed out the school year on June 4 with forty-seven 8th grade graduates.
- Camp Moosefeather Falls VBS was held June 16 – 19. We hosted over 150 kids and had over 70 volunteers. The kids raised money for Filters of Hope.
- Middle school youth attended the FL-GA District middle school summer servant event in Gainesville, FL June 22 – June 27.
- Dr. Rev. Roy Peterson was installed as our Associate Pastor and CFO on June 29.

Saint Michael Lutheran Church and School
Annual Financial Report for 2024 - 2025

		Tot Off'g '23 1,216,058	Tot Off'g '24 1,268,582	Tot Off'g '24 1,300,673	Tot Off'g '25 1,384,167	Explanatory Notes:
		ACTUAL 22-23 FULL YEAR	ACTUAL 23-24 FULL YEAR	BUDGET 24-25 APPROVED	ACTUAL 24-25 FULL YEAR	
CHURCH						
CHURCH INCOME ACCOUNTS:						
		3.73%	4.32%	2.53%	9.11%	
3000.00	CH Offering--Regular	1,216,058	1,268,582	1,300,673	1,384,167	(1)
3120, 3200 & 3280	Restr, Misc & AdvRepay'y Income	-	4,887	11,000	37	
3160.00	CH Interest Income	166	9,475	20,000	21,629	
3240.00	CH Memorials & Gifts	5,359	2,588	3,000	3,525	
	(Intentionally left blank to give line spacing)		-		-	
3320.00	CH Mtg & EquipLn Pmt Suppl't fr Sch/Elsewhere	186,000	186,000	186,000	186,000	(2)
3360.00	CH Parish Ed Income	5,610	6,435	7,500	7,050	
3400.00	CH Youth Income	14,773	17,037	17,500	18,061	
Total Church Income		1,427,966	1,495,004	1,545,673	1,620,470	
		3.97%	4.69%	3.39%	8.39%	
SCHOOL (CHRISTIAN ED MINISTRY) INCOME	PreK3 thru 8Tuition & Fees	4,499,684	4,662,843	4,979,800	4,983,048	(3)
	Early Learning Center Charges/Fees	654,800	680,914	728,795	761,254	(4)
	B/A School Care	126,382	156,315	165,000	204,540	(5)
	Summer Program	102,179	99,817	110,000	88,243	
	Restricted Income	7,000	-	-	-	
	PTL Fundraising	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	(6)
	Lunch Program	147,568	154,956	160,000	160,513	(7)
	Misc Receipts	37,380	34,050	35,000	44,515	(8)
	Total School Income	5,624,993	5,838,894	6,228,595	6,292,114	
GRAND TOTAL CHURCH AND SCHOOL RECEIPTS		7,052,959	7,333,899	7,774,268	7,912,583	
SCHOOL (CHRISTIAN ED MINISTRY) EXPENSE	Occupancy Expense	710,519	754,265	781,313	912,178	(9)
	School Supplies	272,330	261,842	277,433	308,822	(9)
	Salaries & Benefits	3,964,660	4,287,656	4,549,502	4,435,288	(10)
	Other Expenses	677,484	535,132	620,347	635,827	
	Total School Expense	5,624,993	5,838,894	6,228,595	6,292,114	
		7.16%	3.80%	6.67%	7.76%	
Net Revenue vs Expense -- Board of Christian Ed		(0)	0	0	0	
Non-School Ministry Expenses	--Board of Elders:	86,920	84,636	108,000	87,798	
	--Board of Parish Education:	21,416	20,698	17,100	20,191	
	--Board of Outreach:	5,572	6,350	6,400	2,841	
	--Board of Stewardship:	3,107	6,000	3,900	2,568	
	--Board of Fellowship:	14,917	14,766	13,300	16,127	(11)
	--Board of Human Care:	10,428	11,260	9,400	4,678	
	--Board of Property:	329,855	281,462	291,600	386,717	(12)
	--Non-Board: (Mostly 1st mort; coll schol)	215,161	215,161	214,873	214,873	
	--Administration:(Salaries and Benefits)	594,372	701,375	736,700	742,794	(13)
	--Board of Missions:	123,291	128,941	119,000	115,235	
	Total Church Expense	1,427,966	1,495,004	1,545,673	1,620,470	
		6.49%	3.98%	6.00%	12.19%	
GRAND TOTAL CHURCH AND SCHOOL EXPENDITURES		7,052,958	7,333,899	7,774,268	7,912,583	
Net TOTAL Excess (Deficit) of Income vs Expense		0	(0)	0	(0)	

- (1) Helped tremendously by "the June Challenge" which saw one member pledge to match all June Off'gs up to \$25,000.
- (2) Continued help from School staying \$20K above the "old standard".
- (3) Late enrollees made up for several withdrawals.
- (4) Helped by a few more clients plus some "Summer Programs" and related revenue.
- (5) More clients; so more income AND an improved net owing to tight cost control.
- (6) PTL's normal aid to cover IT & other Educational Improvement costs.
- (7) Though income was on-budget, the net was lower than expected due to cost increases of food and supplies.
- (8) A bit more generous and more numerous donors.
- (9) As is done with Church surpluses -- money was "expensed" into reserves for property improvements / betterments.
- (10) Mostly tight cost control in both Extended Care and Little Saints offest raises and health benefits costs.
- (11) More (and costlier) celebrations than planned.
- (12) As has been our practice, this Board "expenses" Church surpluses into Reserve Accounts to use on long-term improvements and maintenance.
- (13) Raises, increased benefits and staff while still being helped by the absence of a Youth Director who will be on-board in 2025-26. Personnel costs expected to grow in the future.

Reserve Accounts Thinking some may wonder about these accounts upon seeing them mentioned in financial reports from time to time --we thought we'd give a bit of insight. Consider these as "savings accounts" --each of which holds money for a specific purpose. Both the Church and the School have them. Most of the time, these accounts are funded by book entries from budgeted accounts about which the Annual Financial Report is concerned. In some cases, though, they are increased by direct "gifts" which are like Offering Income, yet not counted as such. Donations made separately from Sunday offerings for missions, "Sonshine", Parish Ed study materials, Easter baskets, even specific capital improvements are among these gifts (some solicited, some not). As of June 30, Reserve Accounts totalled \$1,228,997. Monies "given" (not generated by mere journal entries) for fiscal year '24-'25 totalled about \$290 Thousand. **We also have \$300 Thousand invested in fully insured money market funds.** While the main driver of ALL non-school ministries MUST come through Sunday Offerings, we greatly appreciate the additional help the church gets from these generous donors. One other key way St Michael is helped comes via our Foundation about which we are reporting below.

Saint Michael Foundation

Balance Sheet

	At Jun 30, 2024	Fiscal Y-T-D Change
Assets	\$1,834,681.25	\$159,238.25
Operating Acct at Edison Nat'l	127,156.99	52,236.21 (1)
LCEF Short Term Investment	-	- (2)
Funds@Broker (FSC Securities)	1,705,798.96	106,973.00 (3)
DepositAcct@LCEF	1,725.30	29.04 (4)
	1,834,681.25	159,238.25 (5)
Liabilities		
Short Term Restricted	201,234.20	(17,307.46)
Long Term Restricted	739,908.28	176,545.71
Endowment Funds	893,538.77	-

**Income & Expense
Income**

	From 07/01/24 Thru 06/30/25
	\$263,487.75
Interest Income	81,634.86 (1)
Invest't Value Change	129,536.49 (2)
Building Fund Offering	2,316.40 (3)
Desig'd Or Alloc'd Rec'ts	- (4a)
Event Contributions	- (5)
Event Revenue	- (5)
UN-Designated Rec'ts	50,000.00 (4b)

Expense

	\$263,487.75
Actual Spending	104,249.50 (6)
Desig's/Alloc's to ... Shrt Trm	32,692.54 (7)
... Long Term Category	126,545.71 (7)
... Endowments Category	- (7)

Net

Total Income from above	\$263,487.75
Less Actual "spending"	104,249.50
Net Change in Assets for year	\$159,238.25 ***

Notes:

- (1) Where all normal deposits are made (for building fund or other donations, event ticket sales, etc); all journal entries recognizing interest income; and out of which all normal payments are made (accounting charges, development costs, supplies, disbursements for building projects, costs of events, support to school, etc.)
- (2) 35 month term note to LCEF 4% fixed interest rate maturing October 2021. Ths was a reinvested portion of a 200 K original Note investment at 3.5%. The remainder was placed at FSC Securities.
- (3) Investments held at FSC Securities. Change reflects actual movement of monies into or out of here; but also includes the net change in market value of total holdings from last period-end to this.
- (4) Account established many years ago with LCEF. Change is interest shown on account since last statement.
- (5) Allocations of all funds by Board of Directors giving highest priority to donor wishes.

**** Incl cost of tax return prep, distributions to Reserve Accounts to cure overdrafts in the accounts from which we pay for SSS celebrations, college tuition help, gifts our outgoing staff; PLUS funding of the account "Mission Expansion" to help with the costs of a new Youth Director and CFO/Assistant Pastor.**

- (1) Interest on bank and LCEF accounts plus recognition of interest reported on LCEF Term Note.
- (2) Represents net value change at FSC Securities since last report NOT deposits or withdrawals.
- (3) Mostly via Sunday Offerings
- (4) (a-Desig) (b-Undesig) Contributions made during the period since the last report.
- (5) Contribution and/or Admission Receipts for events (e.g. Saints Scholar or Founders Dinners).
- (4) (a-Desig) (b-Undesig) Contributions made during the period since the last report.
- (6) Actual spending as noted above. **
- (7) Bldg Fund Offer'gs; Inter'st Inc; Event Contrib/ Net Rev; stock contrib OR market value change at Broker; less certain Actual Spending ... ALL of these are moved by the Board to appropriate lines based first on known wishes of givers.

*** ties to "Full Year Change" on Balance Sheet at 06/30/24)