

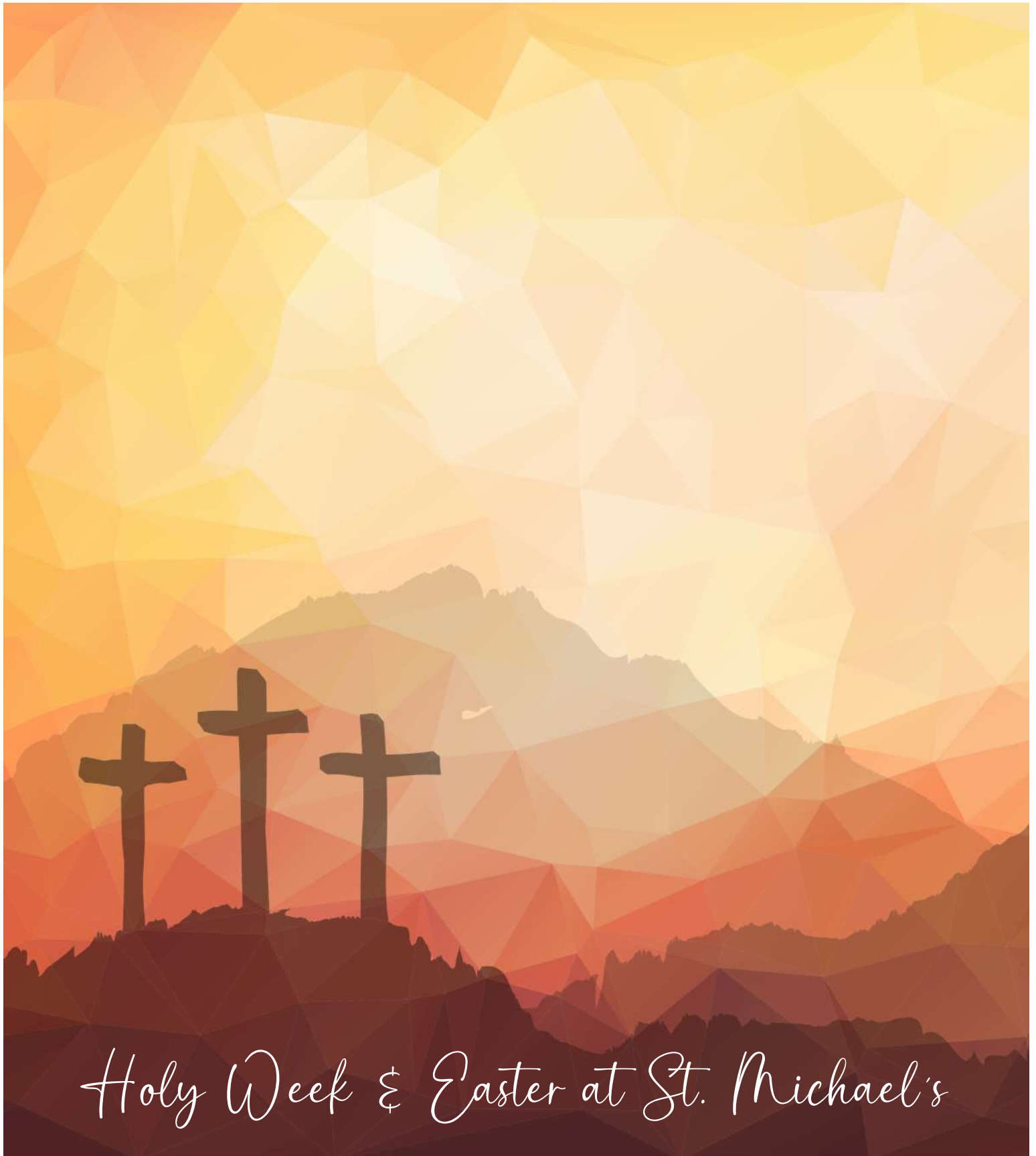


The Archangel

News & Events at St. Michael's Episcopal Church, Colorado Springs

MARCH | APRIL | MAY | 2024

We are a church on a mission to
make Christ known within
and beyond our walls.



Holy Week & Easter at St. Michael's

From the Rector

Dear People of God,

Earlier this year, a small figurine of Jesus greeted me when I went to read the Gospel from *The Saint John's Bible* during a Sunday service. No bigger than my thumb, Jesus was tucked into the spine-fold of Mark's Gospel. It was unexpected and wonders swirled around as to from where this little Jesus had come. Later in the service, during Communion, another little Jesus appeared on the altar rail. After the service, another was spotted on the thermostat. There were little Jesus sightings everywhere and before I knew it, people were passing Jesuses around like trading cards. In the weeks that followed, these little Jesuses continued to pop up in new and unexpected places, and they can still be spotted from time to time around the church.

It was a wonderful moment when I realized these little Jesuses weren't part of a Sunday School lesson for our children or youth. Nor were they an initiative thought up by our staff as part of a new program. Instead, a parishioner wanted to have a little fun and thought it would be a joyful way to have our community experience Jesus in a new way.

As I passed along little Jesuses, I found myself saying, "Here is a little Jesus," or "Do you need a little Jesus in your life?" Although tongue-in-cheek, having a little Jesus in our lives AND sharing Jesus with others is our call as Christians. As a community, we express this call to share Jesus as we live into our mission to make Christ known within and beyond our walls.

As we continue our journey through Lent, walk with Jesus through Holy Week, and stand outside the empty tomb on Easter, rest assured that Jesus will find you, especially when you least expect it. It could be in a familiar face or an unexpected place ... it may be in an overlooked detail or at the altar rail. We all need Jesus in our lives, and sometimes a little Jesus is more than enough.

Faithfully in Christ,

Rev. Matt Holcombe



Reimagining the Archangel Newsletter

As the clergy and staff continue to seek ways to be good stewards of the resources entrusted to our care, we've been reimagining the Archangel Newsletter. What you are holding is a work in progress, and we anticipate future adjustments as needed. Some of the realities are the impact this publication has on our natural resources and its carbon footprint. In the past four years as we have grown, we have doubled our mailing list, and it currently costs \$667 to print and mail 488 Archangel Newsletters. We also learned from the 2023 parish survey that this publication is not the primary source used to get involved or learn what is happening in our parish. As a result, you'll notice fewer pages and shorter descriptions. This is the final Archangel we will be mailing, unless you opt in to receive a printed and mailed copy. It is our hope that you will transition to viewing the Archangel digitally (on a computer or mobile device). If however you still wish to receive a printed copy in the mail going forward, you may "opt in" by going to www.stmikeschurch.com/mailarchangel, emailing contact@stmikeschurch.com, or calling the church office at 719-598-3244. Thanks in advance for helping us be fiscally responsible and environmentally friendly!

*** Also note that this Archangel takes us through Sunday, May 19, Pentecost and the end of our Program Year. The next Archangel will be Summer 2024, available in May.**

Rector Sabbatical - Russ Howell, Senior Warden

The Rev. Matt Holcombe will be on sabbatical this summer for a time of rest, renewal, inspiration, and to spend time with his family. As our Rector, Matt has enthusiastically, creatively, and faithfully led St. Michael's since 2020. This time of scheduled sabbatical has been approved by our Vestry and will allow Matt dedicated time to unplug and create the space for him to intentionally explore, reflect, and engage in life-giving experiences. The term sabbatical finds its roots in the heart of Judeo-Christian traditions in the account of creation in Genesis as we are introduced to the importance of rest.

While Matt is on sabbatical, The Rev. Vicki Hesse will be stepping up during May. Then in June and July, The Rev. Frank Allen (retired Episcopal priest) will be at St. Michael's to assist and will be staying in the rectory. On Sunday, May 5, we have a "See you soon" reception for Matt and his family after both services (with cake)! In addition to keeping Matt and his family in your prayers, if you would like to help prepare the rectory with gently used furniture or other items, please [SIGN UP HERE](#). If you would like to support the sabbatical fund or have questions, please email Russ Howell at russellhowell@gmail.com.

HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday, March 24

Weather permitting, join 5 minutes before the 8:00 & 10:30 AM services outside to process into the church with palm fronds and song, as we remember Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem on a donkey. There will not be education at 9:15 this Sunday.

Palm Sunday Brunch, March 24

9:00 AM & 11:45 AM

We will have our traditional Palm Sunday Brunches after both the 8:00 & 10:30 AM services. All are welcome - no RSVP needed. If you can help prepare, serve, or clean up, please [SIGN UP HERE](#).

* Palm Sunday Bread Making: Children & Youth are invited to make bread for the Maundy Thursday service from 9:30 - 10:10 AM.

Maundy Thursday, March 28

7:00 PM Eucharist & Tenebrae Service

The Seraphim Choir is excited to present "We Remember Calvary," a contemporary Tenebrae service by Joel Raney. Derived from the Latin word for "shadows," a tenebrae service recreates the emotional and spiritual aspects of the passion story. In this, seven candles will be lit at the beginning of the service and gradually extinguished as the story of Christ's final hours is told. Foot washing is optional followed by the stripping of the altar and the overnight garden watch.

Overnight Garden Watch

8:00 PM March 28 - 9:00 AM March 29

After the last supper, Jesus and the disciples went into the Garden of Gethsemane where Jesus asked his disciples to stay awake with him. Our Garden Watch is an opportunity to sit in the church, pray, meditate, and stay awake with Jesus.

[SIGN UP HERE](#).

Good Friday, March 29

9:00 AM - 2:00 PM Sacred Time with The SJB

2:00 PM Good Friday Liturgy & Passion Reading

3:00 PM Stations of the Cross

Spend an hour (or more) with *The Saint John's Bible*, reading aloud with others supported by a trained docent. [SIGN UP HERE](#).

Join at 2:00 PM for the Good Friday Liturgy, Passion Reading, Homily and Prayers. Following the service, we will meet in front of the church at 3:00 PM to walk the Stations of the Cross, reliving the story of Jesus' journey to Calvary.

Holy Saturday Service, March 30

10:00 AM at the Columbarium

Join for a simple, reflective service on the day Christ's body rested in the tomb.

EASTER

Holy Saturday Easter Vigil & Baptisms

March 30, 7:00 PM

During the Easter Vigil, a new fire is lit, the Exsultet proclamation is sung, and Scripture lessons are read. We will welcome new members into the household of God through baptism, and we will conclude with a festive Eucharist.

Easter Sunrise Spoken Service

March 31, 6:30 AM

New this year, we will mark the empty tomb that greeted Mary as dawn broke on Easter morning with a Sunrise Spoken Service.

Easter Festive Eucharists

March 31, 8:00 & 10:30 AM

Join as we celebrate the feast of Christ's resurrection with our Seraphim (adult) Choir and Brass at both services. You are encouraged to bring a bell to ring each time we say "Alleluia!" There will not be education at 9:15 on Easter.

Easter Egg Hunt

March 31, 9:30 AM

All children in elementary school and younger are invited to participate in our annual Easter Egg Hunt. Meet in the Parish Hall at 9:30 AM, and don't forget a basket or bag for collecting eggs. There will be separate egg hunting sections for each age group. To help fill the hundreds of eggs needed, please consider dropping off candy (no peanuts) by March 24.



Easter Flowers & Music Donations

Please help us fill the church with beautiful flowers and wonderful brass music (for both the 8:00 & 10:30 AM services) for our glorious Easter celebration by making a donation in thanksgiving for or in memory of a loved one.

[SIGN UP HERE](#).

To sign up for an activity, click on the link in the body of the newsletter above, or go to www.stmikeschurch.com/signup.

WORSHIP & FORMATION

Regular Sunday Worship

8:00 AM Holy Eucharist: In-person

9:15 AM: Education for All Ages (Various Spaces)

10:30 AM Holy Eucharist: In-person & Online with
Choir & Children's Chapel

Nursery Care for Children 5 and under, 7:45 AM - 12:00 PM

Baptisms & Baptism Prep Classes

Upcoming Baptism Sundays:
Easter Vigil (March 30), Pentecost
(May 19), All Saints Sunday
(November 3)



The clergy will be leading three weeks of Baptism Prep Classes (March 3, 10, & 17) from 9:15 - 10:10 AM. These classes are open to anyone, but they are particularly recommended for those planning to be baptized or interested in being baptized this year.



Lenten Soup Suppers Wednesdays through March 27 5:30 - 7:00 PM

Our evening Lent "Way of Love" programming continues on Wednesdays with yummy soups and a discussion led by either Rev. Matt or Rev. Vicki of a different practice to help us better follow the loving, liberating, life-giving way of Jesus. [SIGN UP HERE.](#)



Afternoon with The Saint John's Bible Saturday, March 9, 1:00 - 5:00 PM

The docents will be showing three volumes of *The Saint John's Bible*: The Pentateuch, Psalms, and Gospels & Acts. They will also be showing the video, *The Illuminator* (48 minutes), at 2:00 and 3:30 PM, which gives background information on the making of this Bible. All are welcome to drop by anytime between 1:00 and 5:00 PM. No registration is required.

Wednesday Healing Service

12:00 PM, Chapel

A 30-minute Healing Service with Holy Eucharist and anointing with Holy Oil. All are welcome!

More Opportunities to Worship, Learn, and Grow

- Tuesday Compline Online 8:00 PM
- Wednesday Contemplative Prayer Online 2:30 PM
- Wednesday Bible Study 12:30 PM in the Chapel
- Thursday Celtic Spirituality Hybrid 6:00 PM
- Thursday Compline Online 8:00 PM
- Friday Celtic Spirituality 9:00 AM in the Chapel
- Friday Evening Prayer Online 7:00 PM
- Saturday Men's Fellowship 8:00 AM twice monthly

2024 Splendors of Italy & Early Church Pilgrimage

October 22 - November 1



Join the Rev. Matt Holcombe for our 2024 Adult Pilgrimage to Italy. Registration will open in March immediately following an Online Information Session. Check the Weekly eNews for the date and time of the this session and to learn more. Space is limited to 35 travelers, and priority will be given to members of St. Michael's. Visit www.stmikeschurch.com/pilgrimage to learn more.



Parish Retreat & Family Camp August 9 - 11

This fun-filled weekend will have activities, games, and programming for families of all ages, shapes, and sizes! We are so excited to return to our Episcopal Camp & Retreat Center: Cathedral Ridge in Woodland Park. [SIGN UP HERE.](#)

To sign up for an activity, click on the link in the body of the newsletter above, or go to www.stmikeschurch.com/signup.

Our Sunday Forum Series resumes with our clergy, special guests, and leaders from our parish. The Sunday Forum occurs from 9:15 - 10:10 AM in the main church sanctuary. Join us in-person or online for these faith based, formative conversations.

March 3

Re-LENT

Rev. Matt Holcombe

Do Lent again for the first time! Learn about the history and practices that have shaped Christians over the centuries.

April 14

Creation Justice

Jon Numair & Rev. Matt Holcombe

How do we faithfully respond to waste and pollution? Learn what St. Mike's is doing and how you can be a better steward.

March 10

Si-LENT

Rev. Matt Holcombe

God's first language is silence. Explore how we can listen for God in a crowded room and between the whispers of angels.

April 21

God's Children (Youth Sunday)

Owen Copps

We are all God's Children. Come hear what God is doing with and through the children and youth at St. Michael's.

March 17

Ta-LENT

Rev. Vicki Hesse

How can you use your God-given talents in new ways? Come discover how to further develop your spiritual muscle to serve.

April 28

A Holy Pause

Rev. Matt Holcombe

As Matt prepares for sabbatical, come investigate practices for cultivating space for sabbath in your life.

March 24

Palm Sunday

No Sunday Forum

Enjoy the delicious Palm Sunday Brunch after both services. Sign up to help or just come and enjoy a feast for a king!

May 5

Building an Interior Chapel

Owen Copps

Explore the varying and different ways you can build an interior chapel for God in your life.

March 31

Easter Sunday

No Sunday Forum

Easter Egg Hunt at 9:30 AM, and fellowship with DONUTS after both the 8:00 & 10:30 AM services.

May 12

Women in the Bible

Rev. Vicki Hesse

Join as we celebrate Mother's Day by taking a closer look at all the strong and faithful women of the Bible.

April 7

Clergy Q&A

St. Michael's Clergy

Have a wonder or question for our clergy about St. Michael's, Episcopal theology, or why we do what we do?

May 19

Unpacking Pentecost

Rev. Vicki Hesse

Unpack the story behind Pentecost and the various ways the Holy Spirit speaks into our lives.

THE WELL & SMALL GROUP FORMATION



The Well Reflection: Sunday School

By Sandie Willey, Well Imagining Team Member

God is like glitter. God's love is like glitter. Today I am a teacher, responsible for cleaning up after our children. I used to carry a picture in my mind where I am liberally sowing love like seed, a dandelion gone gray, falling apart in places, carrying myself to my own lips as a wish to be borne on the slightest breeze, or in stillness, on my own trembling breath. But here I am, covered head to toe in glitter. It's on my lashes, in my ears, somehow inside my clothes as I hand over a sparkling child into the arms of the parent who's come to retrieve it. . . And now I see it in their hair as well. It's everywhere, escaping dust cloth and broom, riotously, wildly free. How did it come to this? I was so careful, diligent, prepared, dispensing shining colors one by one.

There sits Jesus with the children as one of them reaches, grabs, overturns a lidless jar. Mounds of the stuff spill out, more, much more than the polite drop of glue waiting to receive a polite sprinkle of blue or purple or silver or gold could ever hope to hold. Every adult for miles around takes in a breath sharply, grabs a rag, finds a broom, scoops, sweeps, cleans with the urgency of firefighters leaning a ladder against a second-story nursery window. The child's eyes widen in dismay – until a hearty deep-throated laugh breaks the tension, and the two of them, Jesus and the child, are pouring color, laughing, stirring, mixing, cutting out construction paper hearts, smearing them with glue, using them to wipe the tables, and it's all laughter. The mother with the vacuum is trapped between laughing surrender and adult responsibility. Jesus catches her eye, captures her worry, and wordlessly says, "It's okay. There's plenty more." And sure enough, all the tubes are somehow still full, with 12 baskets leftover, and the child is still laughing. And the glitter? It will never be contained.



Creating Space

4th Saturday of Each Month

9:30 AM - Noon

Would you like to craft or create something, but clearing space to do so is challenging? Have you wanted to learn a new skill such as knitting, painting, or beading? St. Mike's is Creating Space for you on the fourth Saturday of each month! Typically a new craft or skill is demoed in the first hour, and you are invited to come for as little or as long as your schedule permits.

The Space Between Us

Friday, April 19 4:00 – 8:00 PM &
Saturday, April 20 9:00 AM – 3:30 PM

Join for this weekend mini-retreat format of "The Space Between Us." This workshop focuses on the foundational communication topics of empathetic listening and conflict resolution, as well as providing strategies to better understand ourselves and others. Open to all ages, and registration is required. [SIGN UP HERE.](#)



Spirituality of Aging Part 2:

Discovering Spiritual Gifts, Meaning, & Purpose
in our Lives as Elders

Beginning April 11, 1:00 - 2:30 PM for 5 Weeks

This small group for those 65 or older will explore together what it looks like to live meaningful, purposeful lives in elderhood. They will examine how elders can use their gifts in their daily lives to enhance a sense of meaning in their lives. They'll look at how to uncouple the use of one's gifts from a sense of accomplishment. They'll explore the connection between spiritual gifts, identity, and meaning...as looking at meaning as elders differs from what one's sense of meaning was at the height of careers and work life. Lastly, they'll look at how this all ties into living a life of purpose as elders. The group will be facilitated by spiritual directors, Sue Caruthers and Margie Arms, and it will be limited to 12 people. [SIGN UP HERE.](#)



To sign up for an activity, click on the link in the body of the newsletter above, or go to www.stmikeschurch.com/signup.



St. Michael's: Journey to Becoming a Green Church

Early last year, St Michael's began a series of educational programs to help parishioners understand the roots and complexities of the climate crisis. Small groups have studied water, air, climate, energy, and food sourcing issues, and made recommendations to parish leadership on how St Mike's can reduce its carbon footprint. We are so pleased to highlight some of the results within and outside our walls.

Inside our walls...

- Installation of LED bulbs throughout the campus (approximately 95% is now LED).
- Installation of water bottle filling stations throughout the church to reduce single use plastic bottles.
- Conversion to an electronic version of the Archangel, except when a hardcopy is requested.
- Plans to experiment with non-plastic alternatives for our hospitality events, replacing countless plastic cups, forks, knives, spoons, etc.
- Plans in conjunction with Earth Day in April to share ideas with our members re making a difference in their homes and communities.

Outside our walls...

- We had almost 40 parishioners volunteer to help with the Great American Cleanup last year, picking up trash all around Prospect Lake.
- St. Michael's has adopted a portion of the Santa Fe trail, where volunteers pick up trash along the trail multiple times each month.

Please participate, as you are able, in these and upcoming efforts to improve our care for God's Creation as we move to becoming a "Green Church".

Planet or Plastic?

You've probably heard that question before. It is very real and very present. "Planet or plastic?" is National Geographic's multiyear effort to raise awareness about the global plastic trash crisis.

Plastic's remarkable durability, which makes it so useful, is its very downfall for the environment. Unlike natural materials, it degrades incredibly slowly, taking hundreds of years to break down. 40% of plastics wind up in landfills and 32% wind up uncontained in the environment. Only 14% is recycled, while another 14% is incinerated. Yet, even after breakdown, it lives on as tiny fragments called microplastics.

These microplastics are polluting our oceans - harming marine life all along the food chain. They've been found in the high mountain snowpacks potentially impacting not only marine life but also our drinking water. Landfills are overflowing with plastic, likely leaching harmful chemicals into the soil and water. In addition, plastic production relies on fossil fuels, which contribute to greenhouse gas emissions and climate change.

Microplastics are now known to enter our bodies through our food and water. Plastic's wide use in food production, processing, packaging, and distribution leads to the release of microplastics that mix with our food and drinks. Recent studies have found microplastics in human organs and bloodstreams.

Plastic's harm to God's Creation, our home, is undeniable and demands efforts to reduce our usage.

So, what can we do? Opt out of plastics, as you can. Buy aluminum or glass beverage containers, not plastic. Use glass storage containers, not plastic. Don't reach for that plastic water bottle; use a refillable one instead. Increase your use of biodegradable materials and recycle or reuse the plastic you must use.



FELLOWSHIP

Recurring Groups

Young Adult Theology on Tap 2nd Friday of the Month, 6:30 - 8:00 PM Goat Patch Brewing

Remaining Spring Facilitators:

March 8 – Nick Ehrhardt, Lutheran Musician

April 12 – Rev. Matt Holcombe, Rector of St. Michael's

May 10 – The Rt. Rev Kym Lucas, Bishop of the Episcopal Church in Colorado

40s & 50s Group Friday, April 19

Line dancing at the Whiskey Baron (5781 N Academy Blvd). You won't want to miss it! Registration required & coming soon.

SMASH Group (60+ Fellowship) Tuesday, March 12

Icon Tour Time: 3:00 PM

Location: Holy Theophany Orthodox Church
2770 North Chestnut Street, Colorado Springs

Followed by an Early Dinner: 4:30 PM

Mollica's: 985 Garden of the Gods Road, Colorado Springs

[SIGN UP HERE.](#)

Adult Supper Club Food! Fun! Fellowship!

The Spring Supper Club is already underway, and sign-ups for the Fall groups will happen later this summer. Stay tuned for more information.

People Who Read 3rd Wednesday, 6:00-8:00 PM

All are welcome to join to discuss books selected by group member. Email Jennie at jennie@stmikeschurch.com or Linda at linda@stmikeschurch.com for more information.

MARCH 21 (Thursday instead of Wednesday) - *The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store* by James McBride *hosted by Mary Anderson

APRIL 17 - *Horatio's Drive* by Ken Burns *hosted by Brett Wandfluh

MAY 15 - *History of the World in 6 Glasses* by Tom Standage
*hosted by Dave Somers

Special Events

St. Mike's Softball Season Opener March 12

The St. Mike's Softball team is back for another season, and we want you on our team! Games will take place on Tuesday evenings at Cottonwood Creek Park (7040 Rangewood Dr) from March 12 - April 23. Anyone 18+ is invited to play. The cost is \$40 per player (not subs) which includes league fee and a team shirt. [SIGN UP HERE.](#)

St. Patrick's Fish Fry Friday, March 15, 5:30 - 7:30 PM

St. Mike's BBQ Ministry is once again hosting their annual St. Patrick's FISH FRY!!! Join for a time of fellowship and frivolity to celebrate the patron Saint of Ireland. Come enjoy an Irish beer, wine, or non-alcoholic beverage along with a delicious meal. Suggested donation of \$10. RSVP to attend and/or to help. [SIGN UP HERE.](#)

Summer Parish Picnics: Save the Dates May 26, June 30, July 28, August 25

We'll be continuing our tradition of monthly outdoor 10:30 AM worship services followed by parish picnics on the last Sunday of each month from May through August. More information will be forthcoming as we get closer, but mark your calendars!

Recent Fellowship Fun!



To sign up for an activity, click on the link in the body of the newsletter above, or go to www.stmikeschurch.com/signup.

Recurring Events

Parenting Small Group

March 3, April 7, May 5
9:15 - 10:10 AM

Family Sunday School

March 17: Using *The Saint John's Bible*, engage in Bible study as a whole family.

April 21: Spring Children & Youth Sunday. Attend Sunday Forum led by Owen as a family.

May 19: Last Sunday of Education for the program year. Reflect on the year & set summer intentions.

Youth Council

March 3, April 7, May 5 Celebration
6:00 - 8:00 PM

BeYou!

March 17, April 21, May 19
6:00 - 8:00 PM

Youth Group

Every Wednesday through May 22
Middle School: 5:30 - 6:45 PM
High School: 7:00 - 8:30 PM

* Be sure to save the date for Youth Group's third annual end-of-year celebration with **Youth Group Olympics** from 6:00 - 8:00 PM on May 22! Registration info to come!

Summer Offerings

Cathedral Ridge Camps

Dates for Elementary, Middle, & High Schoolers

Visit: <https://cathedralridge.org/youth-camps>

YES Service Trip

New Mexico, Middle & High School, June 9-15

Visit: <https://episcopalcolorado.org/programs-ministries/children-youth-programs/yes-service-trips/>

High School Pilgrimage

Utah July 7-12

Visit: <https://episcopalcolorado.org/programs-ministries/children-youth-programs/yes-service-trips/>

Special Events



Children & Youth Sunday Sunday, April 21

Young people of all ages are invited to serve in all of the worship volunteer positions on this special Sunday. From acolyte, to musicians, to chalice bearers, greeters, and more, we can't wait to spotlight our young people! [SIGN UP HERE.](#)

Middle School Lock-In

Friday PM, April 5 - Saturday AM, April 6

Middle schoolers are invited to join for a night of food, fun, games, a movie, and hopefully some sleep! [SIGN UP HERE.](#)

High School Spring Retreat

Saturday, April 27 - Sunday, April 28

YMCA of the Rockies Snow Mountain Ranch

Attention High Schoolers! Come hang out in Winter Park for the weekend! We have reserved a lodge just for St. Mike's and will be engaging in centering & contemplative prayer, while mixing in some cross-country skiing & snow tubing. [SIGN UP HERE.](#)

Senior Send-Off

Sunday, May 5, 10:30 AM

During the 10:30 AM service, we will recognize our Seniors with a special blessing and a small token of our love as we wish them well on their future endeavors.

Vacation Bible School: Save the Date

Monday, June 24 - Wednesday, June 26

Mark your calendars for VBS. Registration opens soon.



Contact Owen Cops, Director of Children, Youth, & Young Adult Ministries, at owen@stmikeschurch.com with questions about any of these events or programs.

To sign up for an activity, click on the link in the body of the newsletter above, or go to www.stmikeschurch.com/signup.

MUSIC



Royal Gorge & AFA Cadet Chorale April 27, 2:00 PM

The Royal Gorge Philharmonic and Air Force Academy Cadet Chorale are back to present *Songs of Isaiah*, a new work by composer/conductor Gerald Willis. This premier will feature organ, soloists, a multi-church choir and string orchestra.

Handbell Choir Playing March 17 & May 19

The Handbell Choir will be enhancing our worship experience during both services on March 17 and Pentecost, May 19. New members are always welcome, so if you are interested in learning more or joining this group, please contact Mary Dee Weigel at jmandmdweigel@aol.com.



Children & Youth Music Interest Sunday, March 24, 11:45 - 12:00 PM

Calling all children and youth, and their parents, to meet with Amalia after the 10:30 AM service on Palm Sunday to share ideas about how our children might best be involved in music at St. Mikes, both on our upcoming Youth Sunday and beyond.

Ascension Day Evensong May 9, 7:00 PM

Our seasonal Evensongs will continue on Thursday, May 9. Join as we celebrate Jesus' ascension into heaven 40 days after Easter with a reflective Choral Evensong.



* Please note that after Pentecost, Thursday choir rehearsals and Sunday handbell rehearsals will be suspended for the summer. Summer choir will be open to all and only rehearse on Sundays at 9:45 AM. More information to follow.

NEWCOMERS



Newcomer Classes: Get Connected

March 10: Get Connected & Get Involved

April 14: The Episcopal Church 101 - The Basics

All newcomers, visitors, and guests are invited to join Linda Kean, Newcomer Coordinator, in the Chapel from 9:15 - 10:10 AM for our monthly rotational Newcomer Classes. All are welcome and no RSVP is needed.

Newcomer Lunch

Sunday, April 21, 12:00 PM

Are you new to St. Michael's in the past six months? All newcomers are invited to a special lunch with the clergy, staff, and other newcomers following the 10:30 AM service. Registration coming soon.

Welcome New Members

A special welcome to our newest members. We are thrilled you are here!

Angelina Cowles

Chase & Rachel Gaumont

Steve Graves

Fred Porter

Tamika Richardson

Jim Wessely



IHN Family Hosting at St. Michael's March 24 - 31

St. Michael's will be providing temporary shelter in our building for several families the week of March 24 - 31 in partnership with Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN). We will be providing meals, showers, and a safe place to sleep during Holy Week, and we need your help. There are volunteer opportunities that include preparing dinner, sleeping overnight at church, washing linens, setting up beds, cleaning bathrooms & showers, and more! Children and youth are invited to participate by accompanying adult volunteers. IHN is an outstanding volunteer effort that allows St. Michael's to utilize the safety of our walls for those who would otherwise be beyond our walls. Please view the volunteer opportunities in more detail online and prayerfully consider how you might support this effort. Registration required. [SIGN UP ONLINE.](#)



IHN is a Family Promise core program providing shelter to families with children under the age of 18 who are experiencing homelessness. Families are hosted overnight for 1-2 weeks at host venues like St. Michael's throughout Colorado Springs. The hosts provide a clean and safe environment and meals to aid the families in their efforts to establish self-sufficiency. Family Promise provides case management and enrichment classes that empower families on their road to housing stability. It is a nationally proven program enabling volunteers to have hands-on service opportunities that directly impact the lives of people in need. To learn more about IHN and Family Promise go to <https://fpmainline.org/>.

40 Giving DAYS OF LENT 2024

40 Giving DAYS OF LENT 2024	
Monday, March 25	Prayer
Tuesday, March 26	Prayer
Wednesday, March 27	Prayer
Thursday, March 28	Prayer
Friday, March 29	Prayer
Saturday, March 30	Prayer
Sunday, March 31	Prayer

Outreach Donations During Lent

It's not too late to give yourself the gift of helping others this Lent by picking up a reusable bag in the Gathering Space along with a list of donation items needed by our Outreach Partners. Donate 1, 5, 10, or all 40 items on the list. This year donations will benefit Partners in Housing, Care & Share Food Bank, Mercy's Gate, Tessa, ASD20 Family Resource Center, and Inside Out. Gift cards and financial donations are also welcomed. Please indicate "40 Days of Giving" in the check memo or in the notes if giving online. Please drop off donations March 24 - March 31 in the Parish Hall or the church office. Thank you in advance for your generosity and for making a difference. . . .no gift is too small!

Featured Partner: Westside CARES

Did you know that Westside CARES is a major financial contributor to St. Mike's Laundry Love Ministry? Conveniently located near our Laundry Love laundromat in Old Colorado City, many of our Laundry Love neighbors visit Westside CARES while their clothes are being washed. The organization is a nonprofit collaboration of 22 interfaith communities in El Paso County, united in care and compassion for those in need by providing crisis human services. The only criteria for accessing services is an individual's or family's genuine need.

In 2022, Westside CARES provided rental assistance to 528 families to help them avoid eviction; 26,036 four-day healthy food baskets to local families and individuals in need; helped 576 neighbors obtain vital documents, like IDs and birth certificates; transportation assistance to 1,808 individuals; eye exams and glasses for 108 people; back-to-school backpacks to 600 people; 449 nurse consultations; 36 prescriptions; clothing from the onsite resource room to 2,026 people; holiday or Thanksgiving help to 160 families; housing navigation for 300 people; mail support for 1,000 neighbors; and over 10,000 snack bags.

If you would like to learn more about Westside CARES, visit their website at <https://www.westsidecares.org> or if you would like information on how you can volunteer, contact Steve Shively at steve.shively@comcast.net.

Where are the Birthdays & Anniversaries? As we continue to grow, it just isn't practical to list multiple months at a time. You can find these each week in the Weekly eNews and in the bulletin.

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St. Michael's
Episcopal Church
COLORADO SPRINGS

7400 Tudor Road
Colorado Springs, CO 80919

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Holy Week & Easter

March 24, Palm Sunday 8:00 & 10:30 AM Services
Palm Sunday Brunches 9:00 & 11:45 AM

March 28, Maundy Thursday Service 7:00 PM

March 28, Garden Watch 8:00 PM to
March 29, 9:00 AM

March 29, Sacred Time with *The Saint John's Bible*
9:00 AM - 2:00 PM (Sign up Online)

March 29, Good Friday Liturgy & Passion Reading, 2:00 PM

March 29, Stations of the Cross, 3:00 PM

March 30, Holy Saturday Service, 10:00 AM

March 30, Easter Vigil with Baptisms, 7:00 PM

March 31, Sunrise Spoken Service, 6:00 AM

March 31, Festive Easter Choral Eucharist 8:00 & 10:30 AM

March 31, Easter Egg Hunt 9:30 AM

All are welcome & invite a friend!