

# The Archangel

Newsletter & Events

January & February 2026

St. Michael's Episcopal Church

Colorado Springs

# PARISH LIFE

## From the Rector

Dear People of God,

As the glow of Christmas fades, Epiphany calls us to celebrate the light of Christ made known to the world. From the visit of the Magi to the beginning of Jesus' public ministry, Epiphany reminds us that God's love in Christ is not hidden or reserved, it is revealed, shared, and meant for all. As we step into a new year together, this season invites us to reflect on how that same light shines through us as a church.

*Our mission is to make Christ known within and beyond our walls*. These words are not simply a statement on paper; they are a calling that shapes who we are and how we live. Within our walls, we are called to nurture faith, deepen discipleship, and care for one another with grace and truth. Every act of worship, every prayer offered, every moment of teaching or fellowship is an opportunity to encounter Christ and help one another grow in faith.

But Epiphany also pushes us outward. The Magi did not stay where they were, they followed the light, and when they found Christ, they left changed, carrying the good news back into the world. In the same way, we are called to carry Christ's love beyond our building and into our neighborhoods, workplaces, schools, and communities. This new year invites us to ask: Where is God sending us? Whom is God inviting us to see, serve, and love in Jesus' name?

As we begin this year, I encourage you to prayerfully consider how you might live more fully into our shared mission. It may be through a renewed commitment to worship and prayer, through serving in a ministry of the church, through acts of compassion and justice in the community, or through simply being more intentional about sharing the hope we have in Christ with others. No act is too small when it is offered in love and faith.

I am grateful for each of you and for the ways God is already at work among us. My prayer for this Epiphany season and for the year ahead is that we would be a people who follow the light of Christ with trust and courage, and that through us, others might come to see that light as well.

May the light of Christ guide us, inspire us, and shine through us in the new year!

Faithfully in Christ,

Rev. Matt Holcombe+

The Rev. Matt Holcombe
P.S. See you on Sunday!

## Annual Parish Meeting

On Sunday, January 25, 2026, at 9:15 AM we will gather as a community to look back and to look forward. We'll review the impact we made in 2025 as we look ahead to a new year of living into our mission. We encourage you to come to hear from the church leadership, vote on new vestry members, and join us as we prepare for another exciting year of ministry at St. Michael's. As we've grown as a community, the complexity of our operations has increased, and with the addition of the St. Andrew's Community Center in Manitou Springs, our vestry has updated our bylaws to allow for 12 vestry members (an increase from 9 vestry members). The following individuals are on the vestry slate for elections at the upcoming annual meeting.

Senior Warden: Cindy Carr (running for a second year)
Junior Warden: Mark Borchert (running for a second year)
Junior Warden: Rich Page (running for a first term)
Vestry Class of 2029, 3-year term: Ama Couch
Vestry Class of 2029, 3-year term: Jenny Thielke
Vestry Class of 2029, 3-year term: Heather Torrey
Vestry Class of 2029, 3-year term: Danny Raider
Vestry Class of 2028, 2-year term: Steve Shively
Vestry Class of 2027, 1-year term: Steve Leisenring

## Lay Leader Summit at St. Michael's

**Saturday, February 7, 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM**

*The gifts Jesus gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ. Ephesians 4:11-12*

How does your faith inform your leadership? Join us on Saturday, February 7 from 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM to discover how the spiritual gifts you have been given can guide how you equip the saints for ministry at St. Michael's. Learn how leading in a church differs from leading in a corporate/community setting. Discover unique-to-St. Michael's processes that support your ministry (with lay leaders, staff, and clergy). Cultivate communication that builds up the body of Christ within and beyond our walls! All lay leaders, staff, and clergy are invited. **CLICK HERE** to register for the FREE Lay Leader Summit at St. Michael's. Contact The Rev. Vicki Hesse or Stacy Cowell for more information: vicki@stmikeschurch.com or stacy@stmikeschurch.com.

# January & February Worship Schedule

Nursery Hours: *(Ages 5 and under):* 7:45 AM - 12:00 PM
Children's Chapel: During the 10:30 AM Service
* Livestreamed on YouTube & Facebook: www.stmikeschurch.com
ASL Interpreted Services: January 18 at 10:30 AM | February 22 at 10:30 AM

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| January 4: Second Sunday of Christmas | Sunday | 8:00 AM Worship | 10:30 AM* Worship, Children's Chapel |
| January 11: Epiphany & Baptisms (10:30) | Sunday | 8:00 AM Worship | 10:30 AM* Worship, Choir, Children's Chapel |
| January 18: Second Sunday after Epiphany | Sunday | 8:00 AM Worship | 10:30 AM* Worship, Choir, Children's Chapel |
| January 25: Third Sunday after Epiphany | Sunday | 8:00 AM Worship | 10:30 AM* Worship, Choir, Children's Chapel |
| February 1: Fourth Sunday after Epiphany | Sunday | 8:00 AM Worship | 10:30 AM* Worship, Choir, Children's Chapel |
| February 8: Fifth Sunday after Epiphany | Sunday | 8:00 AM Worship | 10:30 AM* Worship, Choir, Children's Chapel |
| February 15: Last Sunday after Epiphany | Sunday | 8:00 AM Worship | 10:30 AM* Worship, Choir, Children's Chapel |
| February 18: Ash Wednesday | Wed. | 12:00 PM Worship | 7:00 PM* Worship, Choir |
| February 22: **First Sunday in Lent** | Sunday | 8:00 AM Worship | 10:30 AM* Worship, Choir, Children's Chapel |

## Second Sunday of Christmas

**Sunday, January 4**



Did you know that in the Episcopal Church, the Christmas season actually runs through January 6? During these 12 Days of Christmas, we continue to celebrate the birth of Christ with carols and special music until the Wise Men come on the "12th Night" and begin the season of Epiphany!

## Baptism Sunday & Prep Class



**Sunday, January 11, 10:30 AM**

If you or someone you know desires to be baptized, we would love to "welcome you into the household of God" during the 10:30 AM service on Sunday, January 11. A required baptismal class will be held the day before, on Saturday, January 10, from 1:00 - 2:30 PM. Please CLICK HERE to complete the baptism request form and to register for the required class. CLICK HERE for future baptism dates. Contact The Rev. Vicki Hesse for more information: vicki@stmikeschurch.com.

## Epiphany S'mores & Lights




**Tuesday, January 6, 5:30 - 7:00 PM**

You're invited to an Epiphany S'mores & Lights night! Enjoy gooey treats, meaningful fellowship, and the final night that the Christmas lights will shine until December. Celebrate God's light shining in the darkness. No RSVP required. Meet on the Plaza behind the church.

## Epiphany & Door Chalking

**Sunday, January 11, Both Services**



We will chalk doorways in Sunday School and during both services on Sunday, January 11 to celebrate Epiphany. Chalking the doorways is a centuries-old tradition in which we write symbols above the doorway to mark the new year and bless the space within each doorway. Curious about what the symbols are and what they mean? Join us on January 11!

## Wednesday Healing Service



**Wednesdays, 12:00 PM in the Chapel**

Join us each Wednesday for a 30-minute Healing Service with Holy Eucharist and anointing with holy oil. We'll reflect on the Gospel for the upcoming Sunday. All are welcome!

# WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

*Try Something New!*

## Service Volunteers

St. Michael's services run smoothly, but we couldn't do it without our amazing volunteers. We're inviting you to lend a hand by signing up to support one or more services. Your time and presence make a difference! **Before volunteering, please review and become familiar with the updated guidelines on the Worship Service Volunteer sign up.**

CLICK HERE to learn more and volunteer during a worship service.

CLICK HERE to join a Coffee Host team.

CLICK HERE to join an Usher team.



### Service Volunteer Positions

**Acolyte** - Assist reverently by supporting the flow of the liturgy through processions, careful handling of sacred objects, assistance at the altar and with the Gospel, and following the direction of the clergy.

**Chalice Bearer** - Reverently assist during communion by offering wine at the altar rail following clergy direction and proper handling of the chalice; return vessels and report any spills to the altar guild after the service.

**Coffee Teams** - Serve on a team to set up and serve, and offer friendly hospitality during Coffee Hour after each service.

**Greeter** - Offer a warm, inclusive welcome by greeting all who enter, assisting with accessibility and wayfinding, answering questions, and alerting clergy or staff to any pastoral or safety concerns.

**Lay Reader** - Prayerfully prepare and proclaim Scripture to help listeners deepen their connection to God, reading the Old Testament and Psalm (Reader 1) or reading the Epistle and Prayers of the People (Reader 2).

**Ushers** - Prepare the sanctuary and support worship by greeting and seating parishioners, distributing bulletins, assisting with the offertory and Communion flow, securing offerings, and tidying the sanctuary after the service.

*Viewing this as a printed publication? Visit www.stmikeschurch.com/signup to sign up or register today!*

# SUNDAY FORUM .

Our Sunday Forum Series continues in January and February. Join us on Sundays from 9:15 - 10:10 AM in the Sanctuary, in-person or online, for faith-based, formative conversations.

### 3-Week Forum Series: Epiphany Practices for Inward, Outward, and Forward Living

## January 4: Starting Anew: Inward

Where might you need to slow down and listen to God this year? Renewal begins with attention, not action. Join The Rev. Vicki as we listen to God through Scripture.

## January 11: Starting Anew: Outward

What practices help you live into your faith beyond Sunday? Faith becomes visible through practices. Join The Rev. Frank to learn how faith can take shape in new ways.

## January 18: Starting Anew: Forward

Where might God be calling you to grow and serve this year? Discipleship is a direction, not a destination. Join The Rev. Matt for a conversation about real spiritual growth.

## January 25: Annual Meeting

Join us between the services for our Annual Meeting in the Sanctuary. We will look backwards, vote on new vestry members, and look ahead to a new year of ministry.

### 3-Week Forum Series: Revealing Jesus

Jesus is not only revealed in extraordinary moments, but through ordinary, faithful practices. This series explores how Jesus is made known, and through us, by attending to the Word, gathering at the Table, and serving our neighbors.

## February 1: Revealed in the Word

The Rev. Vicki Hesse

## February 8: Revealed at the Table

The Rev. Frank Allen

## February 15: Revealed in Service

The Rev. Matt Holcombe

## February 22: Christians in the World

The Rev. Dr. Deonna Neal will be leading a two-week study on the global and national conversation about Christianity and being citizens of God's Kingdom. Part 2 will take place on March 1.

# Lent 2026

St. Michael's Episcopal Church

## Ash Wednesday



**Wednesday, February 18**

Ash Wednesday marks the first day of Lent and a day for reflection and worship. We will offer three opportunities for the imposition of ashes. Join us as we observe a holy Lent and draw closer to God and one another.

- **7:00-9:00 AM**, Ashes to Go in the parking lot
- **12:00 PM**, Imposition of Ashes & Holy Eucharist
- **7:00 PM**, Imposition of Ashes, Holy Eucharist, choir, and Livestreamed. Visit our website for a quick viewing link.
- **6:00-8:30 PM**, Middle and high school Youth Group gathering with dinner, Lenten intentions, and Ash Wednesday service.

## Guided Walks of the Stations of the Cross at St. Michael's



**Fridays, February 20 - March 27**

**1:00 - 1:30 PM**

We invite you to join us in person to take a guided walk through the Stations of the Cross within our St. Michael's Sanctuary. We will revisit the sacred journey Christ took and prayerfully reflect on his love and sacrifice. Please meet outside the Sanctuary doors at 1:00 PM.

## Bishop Budde Book Study

**Wednesdays, February 25 & March 4, 6:00 - 7:30 PM**

Join us for this two week book study with Bishop Budde. We'll meet on two consecutive Wednesdays during the Soup Suppers. Details will be posted in the Weekly eNews.

## Shrove Pancake Supper

**Tuesday, February 17, 5:00 - 7:00 PM**



Join us for pancakes in the Parish Hall as we kick off the Lenten season. Our youth will joyfully serve the meal as a fundraiser for their Camino pilgrimage–a journey of faith, growth, and service. Your presence helps make their journey possible. CLICK HERE to volunteer or just bring your appetite to the supper!

## Lenten Soup Suppers

**Wednesdays during Lent**

**February 25 - April 1, 5:30 - 7:00 PM**

Join us for food, fellowship, and formation on Wednesday evenings during Lent. Enjoy dinner and fellowship followed by formation. We will explore the many ways our Baptismal Covenant can be used to respond to the world in times of chaos and crisis. CLICK HERE to bring soup or your appetite.

## Lenten Retreat



**Saturday, March 7**

This Lenten season, join us for moments of reflection and calm at the Lenten Retreat. Details will be announced in the Weekly eNews.

## Stations of the Cross - A Virtual Journey!




Participate anytime, anywhere, using any device in the Virtual Stations of the Cross. Meditate on images of the Stations of the Cross that hang in our Sanctuary and images from the actual Stations of the Cross in Jerusalem. Enter into the mysteries of Christ's Passion as you reflect on Jesus' suffering, God's deep love for us, and the immense sacrifice made for our salvation. CLICK HERE to experience Stations of the Cross - A Virtual Journey.

## Prayers after Communion

**Sundays during Lent**

The Rev. Matt and the clergy will offer prayers and blessings during Lent following communion at each Sunday service. If you desire prayer for healing, birthdays, surgeries, etc., please join us downstairs in the Prayer Room for a short prayer.

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# FORMATION

## Small Groups

### The Bible Journey - Reading the Bible

**Beginning Wednesday, January 7**
**7:30 AM via Zoom**

Have you ever wanted to read the entire Bible, but needed a little motivation? Wondering about spiritual and divine truths revealed in the Word of God? Join The Rev. Vicki Hesse and others online as we read the entire Bible from Genesis to Revelation in 242 days! Visit the St. Bede's Bookstore in the church office or contact Stacy Cowell: stacy@stmikeschurch.com to purchase a $10 reading guide. We will meet weekly on Wednesday mornings. CLICK HERE to register. Contact Vicki for more information: vicki@stmikeschurch.com.

### Faith and Politics

**Wednesdays, Jan. 21-Feb. 11, 6:00 - 8:00 PM**




Grounding ourselves in the words we promised in our baptismal covenant, "to strive for justice and peace among all people and respect the dignity of every human being," the Faith and Politics small group will have political (non-partisan) conversations rooted in our Episcopal faith. Over four weeks beginning on Wednesday, January 21, we will explore what it looks like to live out our faith with firm commitment (I will…) and a reliance on the greatest source we have (…with God's help) as we discuss how to engage with the politics of our times. The small group meets weekly from 6:00 - 8:00 PM. CLICK HERE to sign up.

## Recurring Group

### Virtual Compline - Ten Minutes of Prayerful Connection

**Tuesdays and Thursdays, 8:00 PM via Zoom**

Align yourself with the quiet rhythms of winter through this gentle prayer practice that invites reflection, release, and rest in God's presence. Our Compline group meets Tuesdays and Thursdays for a 10-minute, quiet prayer at day's end. CLICK HERE to join.

## Recurring Group

### A New Year for The Saint John's Bible Docent Meeting

**Saturday, January 24, 9:30 - 11:00 AM**

You are invited to become a docent and share the knowledge you gain with others within and beyond our walls OR simply attend our gatherings to learn how *The Saint John's Bible* helps us understand the word of God. Please consider joining us for the next docent meeting on Saturday, January 24 at 9:30 AM in the Parish Hall. No RSVP required. Contact Linda Page for more information: 719-651-5199 or lindajpage@comcast.net.

## Pilgrimages



### 2026 Pilgrimage Opportunities
### Deadline to Register: January 15, 2026

**Youth & Adult Camino, May 26 - June 5**

Walk the ancient pilgrimage route in Spain as we walk 100 km to Santiago de Compostela. Youth will be taking the French Route and adults will be on the Portuguese Route. Two paths, one destination! CLICK HERE to learn more.

**The Saint John's Bible Pilgrimage**
**August 2-7, 2026**

Journey into beauty, scripture, and community by joining *The Saint John's Bible* pilgrimage to Collegeville, Minnesota. Encounter sacred art firsthand, and deepen your faith through reflection, learning, and shared pilgrimage. We need five more registrations to make this pilgrimage a reality. Sign up now and be part of this unforgettable spiritual journey. CLICK HERE to learn more.

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# FORMATION

## Recurring Groups

### Every Stitch a Prayer

**Second and Fourth Mondays, 4:00 - 6:00 PM**



Every Stitch a Prayer will pick up on January 12 where we left off from our holiday break. Join us at Third Space coffee shop on the second and fourth Mondays of each month. We have hat and fingerless glove patterns to start collecting for next fall's cold weather, socks and mittens, patterns, and patient instructors. All we need is you! No RSVP required.

### Rector's Bible Study

**Tuesdays, 8:00 - 9:00 AM**

Join The Rev. Matt on Tuesdays in the Multipurpose Room for a thought-provoking Bible study diving into the upcoming Gospel lesson for Sunday. All are welcome to explore theological themes, historical context, and practical applications of the passages. No RSVP required. BYOB - Bring your own Bible!

### Centering Prayer Gathering

**Wednesdays, 10:45 - 11:00 AM (Instruction)**
**Wednesdays, 11:00 - 11:50 AM (Gathering)**

This weekly, silent prayer practice, combined with a short Lectio Divina, is designed to deepen our relationships with God. It's a wonderful way to quiet yourself and experience the Sacred throughout the holiday season! The optional instruction period is for questions or review of the practice. All are welcome - no RSVP required.

### Friday Evening Online Prayer Group

**Fridays, 7:00 PM via Zoom**

Looking for a sacred pause to end your work week? This liturgical offering guides participants through prayers, song, and scripture readings using the *Book of Common Prayer*. The Friday Prayer Group meets online each Friday night at 7:00 PM via Zoom, for 15 minutes or less. CLICK HERE to join. Please contact Christine Hudson with any questions: parisdenver76@gmail.com.

# MUSIC

### Choir and Bells Resume January 11



Choral activities are on a holiday break and will resume rehearsals and Sunday services on January 11 (Epiphany Sunday). The Seraphim Choir and the Bell Choir are eager to welcome new members for the spring semester! For more information, contact one of our music directors.

### Valentine's Music Concert

**Wednesday, February 4, 3:00 PM**



Join our music team (Amalia Dobbins and Daniel Foster) as they perform That's Amore! songs of love across the ages. This special event is sponsored by the Pikes Peak Opera League and will take place at the Millibo Art Theater on Wednesday, February 4 at 3:00 PM. Tickets are $10. For more information and tickets, visit https://www.pikespeakoperaleague.org/programs.

### Choir Rehearsals Wednesdays During Lent



Want to sing in Choir but can't make a long-term commitment? Consider joining us for the season of Lent! Beginning Ash Wednesday (Feb. 18) and culminating in our Holy Week Tenebrae Service (April 1), the Seraphim choir will rehearse every Wednesday from 7:00 - 8:00 PM after the Lenten Soup Suppers. All are welcome.

### Soli Deo Gloria Concert

**Saturday, February 21, 7:00 PM**

All are welcome for this Lententide choral concert in the St. Michael's Sanctuary, featuring the Soli Deo Gloria Chamber Singers. This event is free and open to the public.

### St. Michael's Music Team

Contact Amalia or Daniel for more information on music events or choir.



Amalia Dobbins
Director of Music
amalia@stmikeschurch.com



Daniel Foster
Assoc. Director of Music
daniel@stmikeschurch.com

# FELLOWSHIP

## Special Events

### Winter/Spring Supper Club

**February/March/April/May - Sign up by January 16**




St. Michael's Supper Club is a great way to build community and form spiritual friendships in the comfort of home. Just as Jesus shared many meals with friends and strangers, this is a great opportunity to try something new, enjoy a delicious home cooked meal, and get to know some new people from St. Michael's! Hosting is not required. Supper Club members meet monthly (February/March/April/May) and share in the meal preparation. Or sign up as a short-term sub. CLICK HERE to sign up – deadline is January 16.

### SMASH Sweet Celebration Potluck (60+)

**Thursday, February 5, 11:30 AM**




In honor of National Chocolate Fondue Day, join us for a St. Michael's Active Senior Happening (SMASH - 60+) Sweet Celebration Potluck in the Parish Hall. Suggested donation of $3 plus food contribution. CLICK HERE to sign up and let us know what you are bringing.

### New Art Gallery Exhibit - Save the Date

**Friday, February 6, 6:00 - 7:30 PM**

Mark your calendar for the next Hallway Art Gallery opening on Friday, February 6 at 6:00 PM. Enjoy light refreshments and conversation with the artist, to be announced. Details will be posted in the Weekly eNews. This unique ministry brings local artists and their work to St. Michael's. Thirty percent of all art sales support our Outreach partners in ministry. No RSVP required. CLICK HERE to learn more about the Hallway Art Gallery.

### Valentine's Day Pasta Potluck

**Saturday, February 14, 5:30 - 7:30 PM**



Our annual Pasta Potluck is back and you are invited! Singles, partners, and everyone in between are welcome. This fun night is open to all and is a wonderful way to enjoy a great meal and fellowship. CLICK HERE to sign up.

## You are Invited

### Young Adults (20s & 30s)

**Gather Pikes Peak**

**Friday, January 9, 6:30 - 8:00 PM**

Join us on Friday, January 9 at 6:30 PM at the Peel House at First Lutheran Church for the New Year Vision Board & Spiritual Gifts get together. No RSVP required.

**Theology on Tap**

**Friday, February 13, 6:30 - 8:00 PM**

Join us at Goat Patch Brewing on Friday, February 13. Rev. Vicki from St. Michael's will be our guest speaker on "Spiritual Adulting: Understanding the Sacraments." No RSVP required.

### Creating Space

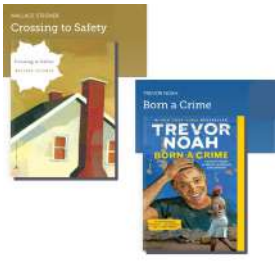
**January 24 & February 28**
**9:00 AM - 12:00 PM**



Creating Space will return to its regular schedule this year on the fourth Saturday of each month. Watch the Weekly e-News for updates on the planned activities.

### People Who Read

**January 28 & February 25**
**6:00 - 8:00 PM**




Get to know others while discussing intriguing books each month on the fourth Wednesday. No RSVP required. Contact Jennie with questions: jennie@stmikeschurch.com.

**January Book** - "Crossing to Safety" by Wallace Stegner

**February Book** - "Born a Crime" by Trevor Noah

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## 40 Days of Giving

**Begins Ash Wednesday**
**February 18**

Our next donation drive will be the Lenten 40 Days of Giving starting on Ash Wednesday. This drive supports many of our Outreach Partners involved in direct distribution ministries. Please consider donating 1, 5, 10, or all 40 of the essentials identified on printed lists and bags, which will be hanging in the Gathering Space starting February 15. Each donation makes a big difference!

## Featured Outreach Partner

Care and Share Food Bank provides food to the growing number of food-insecure neighbors in southern Colorado. As the need for supplemental food increases, government support is decreasing. This impacts families, children, seniors, disabled, working poor, and others. The St. Michael's Outreach Committee has responded with financial grants to support Care and Share. In addition, St. Michael's members have stepped forward to volunteer, making a meaningful difference for those in need. Our next workday at Care and Share is Friday, February 6. The tasks are simple, and working alongside other volunteers fosters a sense of fellowship and teamwork. CLICK HERE to register for the February 6 morning or afternoon shift and make a positive impact in our community. Questions? Contact Justin Morrill or Ellen Dickerman: justin_morrill@msn.com or ellendickerman@gmail.com.

## St. Michael's in the Community

St. Michael's was given special recognition for its commitment to its neighbors at two recent local events – the Inside Out Youth Services "Ally Up" breakfast in November, and the Habitat for Humanity Home dedication in December (both are pictured below).





## St. Andrew's Community Center

Our planning for a vibrant ministry and community center at the former St. Andrews Episcopal Church in Manitou Springs continues. We concluded our community input sessions in November, when we heard from the local residents about their priorities for the center: basic needs (food pantry, etc.), health and wellness, community gathering, and social connection. We are creating a plan to implement as much as possible, working with service providers and community leaders. We removed the pews, resurfaced the Sanctuary floors, and installed security improvements. Next up are electrical upgrades, door improvements (for safety), and plumbing improvements. Also in November, 20 volunteers from St. Michael's cleaned the grounds (accumulating 40 bags of yard waste) and hung Christmas lights to help cheer the neighborhood. The Food Pantry now operates on both Wednesday and Friday afternoons, and we've just added an evening opportunity. Please consider becoming a Friend of St. Andrews; STACC Friends are a circle of neighbors, supporters, and partners who believe in this mission and want to help it flourish. CLICK HERE to learn more.

## Abundant Generosity



The Outreach Committee and its community partners are so thankful for your generosity over the past year! Here's the impact we've had just in the last few months:

- **Backpack Drive:** 80 backpacks along with 100+ bags of school supplies, plus $325 in gift cards and cash, were distributed to seven partner organizations.

- **Glove, Hat & Scarf Drive**: 323 clothing items were distributed to local organizations, mostly elementary schools.

- **Thanksgiving Food Drive:** 261 bags of food, 66 turkeys, 13 turkey breasts, 1 ham, plus $975 in grocery store gift cards and cash were distributed to six partner organizations.

These acts of kindness have made a real difference in the lives of many. Thank you for your generosity!

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# CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

## Program Year Events

**Youth Group - Wednesdays**
**Middle School: 5:30 - 6:45 PM**
**High School: 7:00 - 8:30 PM**
Dinner is provided.

**High School Youth Council**
**January 25 & February 22, 6:00 - 7:30 PM**

**Elementary & Youth Sunday School**
**Sundays, 9:15 - 10:10 AM**

### Trailblazers (4th & 5th Graders)

Blaze a trail of excitement, adventure, and faith in the Trailblazers youth group.

**Sunday, January 4, 2026, 12:30 - 2:30 PM**

Outdoor ice skating at Acacia Park - $20/person. CLICK HERE to sign up.

**Sunday, February 8, 12:30 - 2:30 PM**

Urban Air Trampoline Park - $35/person. CLICK HERE to sign up.

### Epiphany S'mores & Lights

**Sunday, January 6, 5:30 - 7:00 PM**

Enjoy gooey treats, meaningful fellowship, and the final night of St. Michael's Christmas lights. Come celebrate God's light shining in the darkness. No RSVP required. Meet on the Plaza behind the church.

### Youth Service Day

**Monday, January 19, 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM**
**Salvation Army Family Hope Center**

Our youth family will honor the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., on this day of reflection, learning, and service. We'll focus on Dr. King's enduring message of justice, equality, and love for all people: "Being Change-Makers in Our Communities." We'll also reflect on Dr. King's powerful words, exploring how we can actively contribute to building a more just and compassionate world. CLICK HERE to sign up.

### Youth Council

All high schoolers are invited to join our Youth Council. CLICK HERE to learn more and apply.

Email Bailey, Director of Children, Youth, & Young Adult Ministries, with questions on youth events.



## Special Events

### Youth Ski Trip

**January 31 - February 1 at Monarch Ski Resort**

Middle and high schoolers are invited to a ski weekend and retreat! There is no better way to beat the cold of winter than by diving into it head on! Our friends at Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp will host us on Saturday, then we'll head to Monarch to ski all day on Sunday. $165/person - includes four meals, lodging, lift ticket, and lots of fun! CLICK HERE to sign up.

### Youth Ice Skating

**Saturday, February 7, 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM**

Middle and high schoolers - join us on the largest outdoor skating rink in Colorado - Evergreen Lake! This all day event will be full of fun, adventure, and, of course, ice skating. $25 includes skate rental and admission. Scholarships are available. We will depart St. Michael's at 10:00 AM and return at 5:00 PM. CLICK HERE to sign up.

### Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

**Tuesday, February 17, 5:00 - 7:00 PM**

Our youth will joyfully serve at the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper as a fundraiser for their Camino pilgrimage–a journey of faith, growth, and service. CLICK HERE to volunteer.

### Parents Night Out

**Saturday, February 21, 6:00 - 8:30 PM**

Parents, enjoy a well-deserved night out! St. Michael's is hosting a fun, safe evening for the kids filled with games, crafts, and laughter. Drop off your children and enjoy some time to relax, reconnect, or run errands–worry-free. All ages welcome. CLICK HERE to sign up.

### Youth Pilgrimage to the Camino

**May 26 - June 5, Reg. Deadline: January 15**

Walk the 100 km ancient pilgrimage route in Spain to Santiago de Compostela. Youth will take the French route and adults will be on the Portuguese route. Two paths, one destination! CLICK HERE to learn more.

### Bible & Brunch with Bailey

**First & Third Sundays, 9:00 - 10:15 AM**

6th-12th graders: Join Bailey at an offsite brunch on the first and third Sundays of each month. We'll walk through the Bible and enjoy food and fellowship. Contact Bailey for info.

# PASTORAL CARE

## Connect with St. Michael's

### Sharing Christ Within & Beyond our Walls

If you would like a visit from clergy or a Care Team member, an on-line visit, or a simple phone call prayer, please contact The Rev. Vicki Hesse, Beverly Raider, or Debbie Keith: vicki@stmikeschurch.com, dbraidercolo@comcast.net or dk80817@yahoo.com.

- CLICK HERE to submit a prayer request.

- CLICK HERE to reach out to the Care Team for spiritual connection. Care Teams are assigned by the clergy or a Care Team coordinator.

### Hearing Loss Ministry Support Meeting

**Sunday, January 11, 12:00 - 1:15 PM**

The Hearing Loss Support Ministry will meet on January 11 from 12:00 PM to 1:15 PM. The session will be led by Renee Brown and sandwiches will be provided. All are welcome, but please RSVP. Attend online or in person. CLICK HERE to register.

### Funeral Planning Seminar

**January 14 or 17, 9:00 - 11:30 AM**

Join The Rev. Matt and The Rev. Vicki in the Parish Hall to learn how planning your funeral, or that of a loved one, can be a time of prayerful, joyful reflection versus a morbid task. CLICK HERE to register for the seminar. If you are unable to attend, CLICK HERE to view the funeral planning resources.

### Soul Shop for Congregations

**Thursday, February 26, 6:00 - 8:30 PM**

Soul Shop for Congregations is a faith-community–focused training that raises awareness about suicide and equips participants with practical, compassionate steps to reduce risk and offer hope. This program is ideal for clergy, lay leaders, and congregants who want to better understand suicide, recognize its impact within their community, and become more engaged as part of the solution. Participants will explore how we think about and talk about suicide within faith settings, reduce stigma, and learn how faith communities can respond with care and responsibility. CLICK HERE to register or contact David Galvan with questions: galvan.davidj@gmail.com.

# CREATION CARE

## Creative Climate Solutions

### The Just & Proper Use of God's Creation

At St. Michael's, we've examined how some of the choices we make in our everyday lives affect the water we use, the air we breathe, and the land that produces our food – all part of God's miraculous gift – our earthly home. It's easy to take these gifts for granted, but when viewed as the Gifts from God, our responsibility to be good caretakers becomes an essential part of our faith life. But what can we do when it feels overwhelming? On Monday, February 2, the Creation Care Team alumni will discuss how we can refocus our attention and actions on caring for God's creation. All parishioners are welcome - details will be posted in the Weekly e-News.

### Connecting the Cry of the Earth with the Cry of the Poor

The Creation Justice educational journey continues this Spring with Sacred Land: Food and Farming. Participants will learn how food and farming practices affect the climate crisis, marginalized communities, and their own health and spiritual wellbeing. Please join us on Tuesdays from 6:30 - 8:30 PM, February 10-mid April for a spiritually inspiring and educational examination of how we treat God's Holy Land. CLICK HERE to learn more and register for Sacred Land.

# NEWCOMERS

### Welcome New Members

We are delighted to welcome the newest members of our community. If you see anyone listed below on Sunday or during the week at an event, please introduce yourself.

**JR and Kim Montalvo**

**Donald and Aida Richardson**

**Betty Yeary**

### Newcomer & Visitor Luncheon

**Sunday, February 15, 12:00 - 1:30 PM**

New - or newish - to St. Mike's? We'd love to get to know you at the next Newcomer & Visitor Luncheon! Meet clergy and staff, connect with other newcomers, and learn more about life at St. Michael's. CLICK HERE to sign up.

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St. Michael's Episcopal Church
COLORADO SPRINGS

7400 Tudor Road
Colorado Springs, CO 80919

# Lent at St. Michael's

Lent 2026
St. Michael's Episcopal Church

## Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
**Tuesday, February 17**
5:30 - 7:00 PM No RSVP, All are welcome!

## Ash Wednesday
**Wednesday, February 18**
7:00 - 9:00 AM Ashes to Go
12:00 PM Imposition of Ashes & Eucharist
7:00 PM Imposition of Ashes, Eucharist, Choir

## Lenten Soup Suppers
**Wednesdays, February 25 - April 1**
5:30 - 7:00 PM Dinner & Education, Please RSVP

## Stations of the Cross
**Fridays, February 20 - March 27**
1:00 - 1:30 PM In-Person

## Virtual Stations of the Cross
**Anytime, Anywhere**
stmikeschurch.com/lent

