



# The Messenger

St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church



Good Faith Network Problems Assembly at St. Michael's, December 7, 2021



*What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with your God?*

—Micah 6:8

## OUR PARISH INVOLVEMENT IN AN INTERFAITH JUSTICE NETWORK

Since its inception in 2020, St. Michael's has been involved in the development of the interfaith justice network now named the Good Faith Network (GFN). GFN is a direct action and research-based network that works to attain justice in Johnson County. Twenty congregations (Christian, Jewish, and Muslim) comprise GFN. Like many congregations,

St. Michael's excels at acts of mercy, including St. Paul's Breakfast, UpLift, and

### IN THIS ISSUE

|                            |       |
|----------------------------|-------|
| Good Faith Network.....    | 2     |
| Holy Week .....            | 3     |
| Easter.....                | 4     |
| Family Ministry.....       | 5     |
| Summer Opportunities ..... | 6     |
| From the Diocese .....     | 7     |
| Outreach .....             | 8     |
| Ministry Corner .....      | 9     |
| Celebrating                |       |
| St. Michael's .....        | 10-13 |
| Upcoming Events.....       | 14    |

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Backsnacks. We also offer many opportunities to walk with God in the form of worship, Bible studies, and retreats. But Micah 6:8 calls us to do more: we are required to do justice. We are called to move beyond acts of mercy to address the root cause of the problem that creates the need for acts of mercy.

### How GFN Works



We have three teams—a total of 33 parishioners. Team members commit to attend just four meetings a year: a community problems assembly (at which the network decides what issue/s to tackle); a solutions briefing (where solutions developed by the research teams are presented); the Nehemiah Assembly (where the network presents the problems and solutions to governmental authorities); and a celebration (to celebrate accomplishments and begin the process anew). Some team members serve on the research teams. Others focus on raising awareness of what GFN hopes to accomplish. All team members invite others to attend the Nehemiah Assembly as evidence to the authorities that our community needs to make changes in the name of justice.

GFN's next step is the call for action. On May 3<sup>rd</sup>, we will join nearly 500 network team members and their guests to present our findings and urge our elected officials to enact our solutions. This gathering called the Nehemiah Assembly and is based on [Nehemiah 5](#), which provides the model for our call for justice and action.

### What You Can Do

Do you feel strongly about the need for better services in our county to address homelessness and mental health issues? When a GFN team member from St. Michael's invites you, commit to attending the Nehemiah Assembly on May 3rd.

Want more details? Ask any of our team leaders: Kate Capps, Roxie Drautz, Cathy Jackson, and Trish Unruh. You may also visit the GFN website: <https://www.thegoodfaithnetwork.org/>

There are similar justice networks in Lawrence ([Justice Matters](#)) and Topeka ([Topeka JUMP](#)), as well as across the country. All are taking action for change using the mandate of Micah 6:8 and the model of Nehemiah 5.

**As Presiding Bishop Michael Curry often states, it's not what would Jesus do, but what did Jesus do. How can we do otherwise?**

## Holy Week



**THE WATCH:  
THE VIGIL BEFORE THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**



A silent vigil of prayer and meditation throughout the night, inspired by Jesus' request:  
**"COULD YOU NOT KEEP  
WATCH WITH ME FOR ONE  
HOUR?"**

**TIMESLOTS ARE STILL AVAILABLE!!**

In Cloud Chapel continuously from  
Thursday, April 14th, 9:00 pm until  
Friday, April 15th, 7:00 am

**CLICK ON THIS GRAPHIC TO REGISTER**



## Easter Services

### **THE GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER**

**Saturday, April 16th at 7:00 PM**  
with incense



### **THE GREAT VIGIL OF *Easter* RECEPTION**

**16 APRIL, 2022 | SPENCER HALL**

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING  
THE GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER SERVICE

WE INVITE YOU TO BRING AN APPETIZER  
OR DESSERT TO SHARE



### **SUNDAY, APRIL 17TH EASTER SUNDAY SERVICES**

**7:00 AM    EARLY SERVICE**

**8:30 AM    FAMILY SERVICE**

**10:45 AM    CHORAL SERVICE  
WITH INCENSE**



## Family Ministry Corner

# The Shared Ministry of Children, Youth, and Families

I am thrilled to announce that Sunday School for all ages will resume Sunday, April 24, 2022, between the 8:30 and 10:45am services. We have all been waiting for this moment, and I most of all. One reason for my excitement is the opportunity this provides us to rebuild this ministry and learn together across generations.

The beginning of all discipleship, formation, and learning commences with us being together. Relationships are the foundation of all that we seek to accomplish through youth and children's programming, Sunday School classes, and parish-wide events. We all continue to learn how to be faithful Christians, and we do that by learning from each other. Children teach us how to imagine and wonder about the vast nature of God. Youth teach us to ask fearless questions about our faith and why it matters. We are all simultaneously learning from and teaching one another.

Several years ago, the kids in the preschool class I taught loved one song more than the others. "The more we get together" was our circle time song. It is how we began and ended our group time. As is true of most children's songs, the lyrics are simple: "The more we get together, together, together; the more we get together, the happier we'll be. Because your friends are my friends, and my friends are your friends. The more we get together, the happier we'll be."

This song's theme is the reality of the basic human need for connection, care, and love. It is a reminder that we are all responsible for each other throughout the entirety of our shared life together. Rebuilding, restructuring, and enriching the

programs we now have is a significant undertaking. It requires a lot of people donating their time and gifts to support our children, teens, and the ministry of this entire parish.

If we change the lyrics of that simple song from my preschool classroom, I think we might find it applies more than we could ever imagine. "The more we learn together, together, together. The more we learn together, better Christians we'll be. Because your friends are my friends, and your kids are our kids. The more we learn together, better Christians we'll be."

If the Holy Spirit is guiding you to learn from our wonderful children, youth, and families, contact me for more information on how you can be involved.

—Ryan Bloyd-Wiseman,  
Director of Youth and Family Ministry



## Summer Opportunities for Kids



### **SUMMER ARTS CAMP AT ST. MICHAEL'S !** 6630 Nall Avenue, Mission

**July 11-15 Grades 1-6**

\$140 per child, scholarships available

**June 13 - 17 Ages 4-5**

\$75 per child, scholarships available

Donna Kirkwood, Camp Director

Email: djkirkwood5062@gmail.com

Phone: 913-206-6859

**mega  
Camp '22**

C A M P W O O D Y M C A

**JUNE 5-11, 2022**

**CAMP WOOD YMCA, ELMDALE, KS**

Students in grades 3-12 for 2021-22 school year

[edokformation.wordpress.com/camp/](http://edokformation.wordpress.com/camp/)



## From the Diocese

*There's still time to register for the Women's Summit!*

### Celebrating God's World: The Earth, The People, and Their Faith

*Not an event just for women—all are welcome to attend*

**April 22-23, 2022—in person or via Zoom**



With the help of Chelsea Whipple, a member of St. James Episcopal Church as well as a member of the board of directors of Global Faith in Action, the planning committee for this year's summit has put together a program that will inform and encourage us to go and practice what we learn. We want to make this world a better and more peaceful place for all people!

Friday, April 22 is the 50th Anniversary of the first Earth Day. Taking advantage of that, most of our program Friday evening will focus on creation care. Bishop Cathleen Bascom and Mother Jenn Allen will be sharing their love of all creation with us. On Saturday we will focus on interfaith issues. In this everchanging world, it is more and more important to follow these words from Sister Joan Chittister: Nothing will bring world peace faster than the opening of our lives to cultures and religions unlike ours.

In response to our changing world, interfaith organizations are now found in many metropolitan and even rural areas of our globe. A multitude of methodologies for interfaith and intrafaith dialogue have been developed. Global Faith in Action has chosen to focus on a methodology called Dialogue in Action. Women of faith backgrounds including Christian, Jewish, and Muslim will be among those who will be part of the dialogue on Saturday.

Please join us as we explore and learn more about those with whom we share our world. Even within the constraints we have through the pandemic, we still have opportunities to learn and grow in our faith and discover ways in which we can share love.

For complete information about registration and the agenda, [click here for the detailed brochure](#)

---

### A Prayer for Earth Day

Friday, April 22nd

O merciful Creator, your hand is open wide to satisfy the needs of every living creature: Make us always thankful for your loving providence; and grant that we, remembering the account that we must one day give, may be faithful stewards of your good gifts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Book of Common Prayer, p. 259

## Outreach



### SEEKING WAYS TO HELP UKRAINE?

There are many organizations providing a variety of aid to those in Ukraine and those who are now refugees from the war. Here are some suggested options. Charity Navigator is a good website to be aware because it rates charities on their financial health, accountability, and transparency.

**CARE** This international humanitarian organization, set up an emergency Ukrainian Crisis Fund to provide immediate support for 4 million people. Donations will go toward providing Ukrainians with water, food, supplies, hygiene kits, immediate support and aid, and cash.

**Charity Navigator** A large list of highly-rated nonprofits engaged in relief and recovery efforts in Ukraine and the surrounding region. Nonprofits addressing peace-building efforts to encourage diplomacy and prevent further military action are included. These organizations are categorized by specific efforts.

**EPISCOPAL RELIEF & DEVELOPMENT-- UKRAINE CRISIS RESPONSE FUND** ER&D is working closely with Anglican agencies and ecumenical partners to meet the urgent needs of Ukrainian refugees in Europe. Those refugees need both basic supplies and long-term support.

**Heart to Heart International** Heart to Heart International seeks to improve healthcare access in the U.S. and around the world by ensuring quality care is provided equitably in medically under-resourced communities and in disaster situations. HHI is distributing medicines, medical supplies, and hygiene items to partners in Ukraine and the surrounding countries to support refugees and restock hospitals and pharmacies.

**Razom for Ukraine** A Ukrainian-American nonprofit working to not only support emergency response to the war, but also to provide a whole host of resources for allies looking to help, including a round-up of rallies and events for people interested in showing their support for the #StandWithUkraine movement.

**The Ukrainian Congress Committee of America** This organization has launched a nationwide fundraising campaign to provide vital humanitarian aid to this population, as well as to the front-line defenders. Together with partners, they have secured warehouses in several regions where humanitarian aid supplies can be securely stored.

**World Central Kitchen** An organization on the frontlines feeding and assisting displaced Ukrainian people. Led by Chef José Andrés, World Central Kitchen is at 8 different border crossings outside of Ukraine to feed those fleeing from war. Additionally, WCK is supporting local restaurants in Odessa and Lviv working to feed Ukrainians still in the country. Their efforts are expanding into Moldova, Slovakia, and Hungary to support incoming refugees.

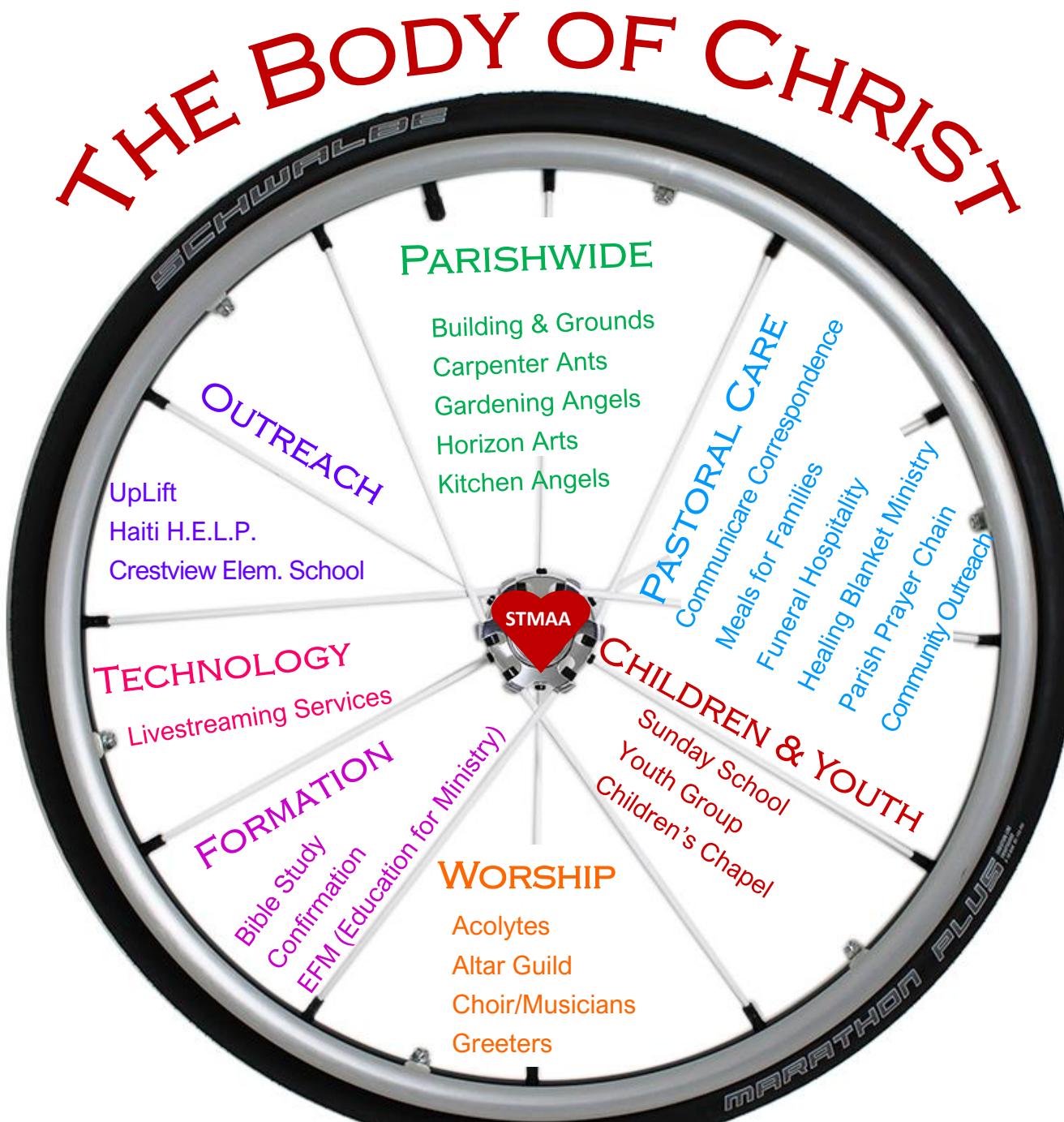
## Ministry Corner

Where do you see yourself serving as the Body of Christ?

Is there a ministry that you are curious about or would like to become involved in?

What talents or skills have you been blessed with that you might share?

Call or email Kate at 913-236-8600/[kate@stmaa.com](mailto:kate@stmaa.com) for information.



## Celebrating St. Michael's

# Our 2021 College Freshman Are Having a Great Year!

### **Paul Carter**

Paul is a freshman at Pittsburg State University majoring in Construction Management. He is a member of Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity and has enjoyed playing bass in the Pitt State Symphony.



### **Ragan Dutcher**

Ragan Dutcher is currently attending KState University. She is majoring in integrative physiology and kinesiology on the Pre- Physician Assistant tract. Since she has been on campus she has joined the Pre-PA club, kinesiology student association, and the K-State women's club lacrosse team. Outside of school she has found a love for Manhattan, KS and the Flint Hills.



### **Rich Wiggins**

My name is Rich Wiggins, I graduated from Shawnee Mission East last year, and now attend KU. I'm majoring in architecture and joined the same fraternity as both of my brothers. In the summer I'll be a swim coach at Indian Hills Country Club. Some of my hobbies are recreational sports, art, and spending time with friends.



## Celebrating St. Michael's

### **Laura Kidwell**

I'm currently living in Phoenix, Arizona and attending Arizona State University. I am a direct-admission nursing major (Edson College) and also a Barrett Honors College student. I joined Alpha Delta Pi in the fall, and was appointed as the Director of Health and Wellness at the end of last semester. I'm involved with Episcopal Campus Ministries here, and work on the weekends at a local acai bowl place!



### **Lucille Winter**

Since my graduation last year I have moved down to Fayetteville Arkansas to attend the University of Arkansas. Since being here I have made so many new friends and gotten involved in lots in our college community. I live with another girl from Kansas City and we live right on campus in Futrell Hall. I am in the Walton College of Business and have taken some challenging but fun classes so far. I also joined the sorority Zeta Tau Alpha where I have made so many friends and have future plans of living in our sorority house next year. Overall I love where I have ended up here at Arkansas and I can't wait for the next 3 years here!!



## Celebrating St. Michael's

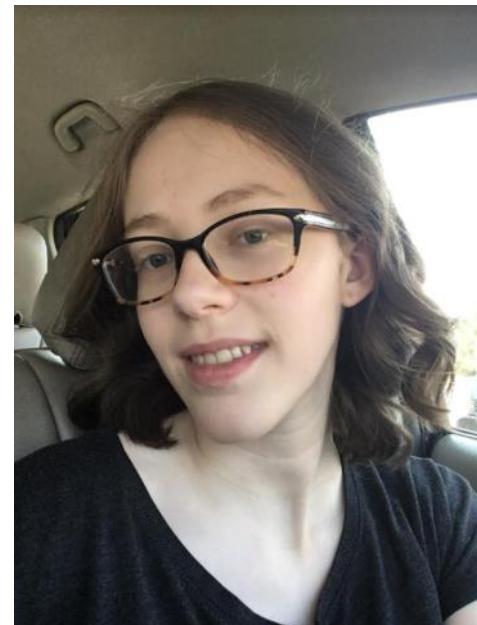
### **Gwyneth Hayes**

School is going well! I'm attending the University of Kansas for Film & Media Studies. I'm also taking sociology classes. I've been living at Rieger Scholarship Hall and working as a hostess at Chili's. Some other things I've been up to is improving my drawing, listening to a lot of music, and spending time with friends.



### **Arann Raven**

I'm currently attending Iowa State University as a Biology major, specifically in the College of Agriculture and Life Science. A lot of my classes are pretty science-focused because of that, although I've taken a few fun unrelated courses, like a Religion in America class last semester. I'm participating in the Honors program here and living in an Honors dorm as well, which basically means that I'm around other people in the program often. I've been in the Conservation Club since last semester, and we go on hikes and do larger environmental projects around Ames. I've also been going to the Episcopal church right next to campus, and there's a lot of cool people I've met through that. I've been having a great time in college so far!



## Celebrating St. Michael's



### **Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper!**



# Upcoming Events

## **New Member/Inquirer's Lunch**

Sunday, April 24, 12:15 PM in the South Classroom [Register Here](#)

## **Sunday School is Back!!**

Sunday, April 24, 9:40 AM, Downstairs

## **Mother's Day Brunch**

Sunday, May 8th, 9:30 AM, Spencer Hall

## **Ascension Day Service**

Thursday, May 26 at 7:00 PM

## **Youth Group Year End Celebration**

Sunday, May at 6:30 PM, location details to follow

## **Summer Worship Hours Begin**

Sunday, May 29th one worship service at 10:00 AM

## **Pentecost Worship Service**

Sunday, May 23, 10:00 AM

## **Mega Camp for Grades 3-12**

June 5-11 at Camp Wood in Elmdale, KS, [More Information](#)

## **Arts Camp**

June 11-16, Grades 1-6

June 13-17, Ages 4-5

[More Information](#)