## **WEEKLY CALENDAR**

## October 26 - November 2

SUN	9:00 AM 9:00 AM 10:00 AM 11:00 AM 11:00 AM 5:00 PM	Confirmation Sunday Worship Service- Sanctuary Children's Church Adult Sunday School Worship Service - Sanctuary Children's Church The Well
MON		No Events
TUES	10:30 AM 9:30 AM	Quilters - Sarah Newsletter Staff
WED	6:30 AM 10:00 AM 7:00 PM	Men's Breakfast & Bible Study Grief Share - Abraham Spiritual Disciplines Series - Chapel
THUR	11:00 AM 6:30 PM 7:00 PM 7:30 PM	Senior Bible Study Bell Choir - Abraham High School Youth Group - Youth Room Adult Choir - Chapel
FRI	6:30 AM	Men's Breakfast & Bible Study
SAT	10:00 AM	Visual Faith - Abraham
SUN	9:00 AM 9:00 AM 10:00 AM 11:00 AM	Worship Service- Sanctuary Children's Church Sunday School Worship Service - Sanctuary Children's Church

**Online Giving -** Your giving helps us continue our ministry and mission here at SMLC and beyond. Utilize our secure online giving by scanning the QR code to easily support St. Michael.

**Offering -** Collection plates can be found in the back of the sanctuary for added convenience.

**Communion -** At St. Michael, we practice open communion. All those who believe in Jesus are welcome to partake. Follow the ushers directions to receive communion. We also have disposable communion elements (not gluten-free) if you prefer to take communion in your seat. Children may come forward for a blessing with their families. We have a gluten-free option as well. Simply let the leader distributing the bread know when they come to you. Those who are not physically able to come and receive communion may take one of the disposable cups or let an usher know that they would like communion brought to their seat. Please note: the red liquid is wine and the clear is juice.

Sermon Scripture This Weekend: Romans 11:1-6 Sermon Scripture Next Weekend: Romans 12:1-2, 9-19



## **HAPPENINGS**

Sunday, October 26, 2025

**Current Sermon Series : Romans: A Close-Up on the Gospel** - In this series, we walk chapter by chapter through Paul's letter to the Romans, uncovering the depth, beauty, and power of the gospel and how it transforms every part of life.

**High School Bible Study - I AM**. I AM. Two words that spoke volumes. Two words that echoed the strains of Old Testament narratives, angering Jesus' opponents but breathing life into his disciples. Seven bold, remarkable statements in the Gospel of John begin with these exact words, giving us profound insight into Jesus' identity—and showing us how to truly find ours. In this series we will spend 7 weeks studying these powerful statements to see how Jesus is the fulfillment of every cry and need of our hearts. Join us from October 23-December 11. (No Youth Group on 11/27).

**The Well -** Join us for the Well **this Sunday** at 5pm! This monthly event is not just for the youth- everyone is invited to attend! See you there!

**Male Leaders Needed -** We are looking for two male leaders to chaperone this year's Preteen Fall Retreat at SpringHill! The dates are November 14-16. If you're able to help please reach out to Valerie. Thanks!

**Thanksgiving Turkey Outreach** - As in years past, we are partnering with Open Door Food Ministry and Hope Medical Clinic to provide Thanksgiving turkeys to those in need. We are providing 50 turkeys this year. A donation of \$20 will cover the cost of one turkey. Please see the Pastor's bulletin board for a "turkey tag" . Donations are due back no later than Sunday, **November 16**, Donations can be made in cash, check payable to St. Michael or online via our website. Please indicate that the donation is for the Turkey Outreach (if giving online, there is a Turkey fund you can select). More families than ever need help this Thanksgiving to get dinner on the table. Thank you!

**Offering Envelopes -** The 2026 Offering Envelopes are now available for pick up in the Lobby. Please pick up at your convenience (and to save the cost of mailing them).

**2026 Stewardship Campaign -** Our 2026 Stewardship Campaign - For Such a Time as This - will be ramping up soon. Please be on the look out for the 2026 Faith Giving Card and Letter that were mailed to your homes. A Temple Talk conveying our message this year will be graciously delivered by Pastor Tim after both services on November 2nd. There will then be a dedication of the Faith Giving Cards to God at the altar during both services on November 23rd. God has truly blessed our congregation in many ways and we are to share these blessings that he has entrusted to us. Through this faithfulness, we draw closer to Him. It is a matter of the heart. May we each pray on and embrace the call that God has placed before all of us in this very moment of time.

**Friendsgiving Dinner -** Save the date and make plans to join us for our Friendsgiving Potluck Dinner on Saturday, **November 8**<sup>th</sup> from 6-9pm! Meat will be provided but please sign up to bring a dish to pass. Be on the lookout for a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. See you there!

**Advent by Candlelight -** Sign up now to be a hostess for this important event! St. Michael Lutheran Church will be holding an Advent by Candlelight Afternoon for all women of the congregation, and their female family members, friends, and neighbors, on **December 6**, 2025, at 1:00 pm in the church Gym. If you would like to Hostess a table at this event, please sign up on the Women's Ministry Board in the lobby!

**Elderversity Trip Coordinator Needed** - The Elderversity Board at St. Michael is looking for person who would like to join their team as their Trip Coordinator. The Elderversity group takes about six trips per year to various fun places in the Metro Detroit Area (theaters, museums, cider mills etc.) and needs a person dedicated to planning and executing the trips. No experience necessary, just need to be well organized and good at picking fun places to visit! You will be "trained" on this position by your predecessor, Barb Weide. If you are interested, please contact Barb 734-416-9176.

**Pastor & Staff Appreciation Month -** God has blessed us with wonderful pastors and staff! Please take a moment to reflect on how God has worked through our staff to minister to you and your family. Think about how you might bless them in return, such as: Committing to a regular time of prayer for them, sharing face-to-face words of gratitude and encouragement, sending heartfelt notes or emails of appreciation, or giving other tokens of appreciation. Let it be said of St. Michael that we love our pastors and staff!

**Spiritual Disciplines Series -** Please join the Discipleship Team as we present the Spiritual Disciplines education series! This series is based upon the book Celebration of Discipline by Richard J. Foster. Some of the disciplines we will be learning about are meditation, prayer, fasting, and service and many more! Each class stands alone, but participants are encouraged to attend all. Classes meet on Wednesdays from 7 – 8:30 pm in the Chapel through January 14, 2026 (with time off for the holidays). No sign up necessary. Please bring your Bible and a notebook.

**3rd Quarter Financial Update -** Carefully review your Quarterly Giving Statements. The following are key facts and updates:

- General Fund 3rd Quarter Year to date had a deficit over \$33,000
- General Fund 3rd Quarter Year to date receipts were 7.5% below our 3-year average

Current Action items:

- Prayerfully consider increasing your offerings to the General Fund and the Debt Avoidance for a Healthy Church Fund
- Consider areas to help minimize church expenses (volunteering and serving) by utilizing your gifts and talents
- Prayerfully lift our church and staff during these challenging times Potential Future Action items:
- As previously shared, to be good stewards of the church's finances, we cannot continue to operate at a deficit. If this does continue, benevolence support to Mission Partners and/or staff reductions will occur in 2026 if receipts do not increase to support all expenses
- Finance Team and Executive Board will continue to monitor the finances. Expense reductions and Mission Partner support reductions have already been identified for both 2025 and 2026.

**Call Update-** The call committee continues to meet regularly, seeking the Holy Spirit's leading through individual and group prayer, and reflection on scripture. We began meeting in July 2024 reviewing/finalizing a pastoral profile, preparing a job posting, reviewing a job description, creating interview questions, reviewing resumes, and vetting candidates. To date we have had two candidates that have completed written, Zoom and on-site interviews. We were very excited about both candidates but one took a call to another church and as mentioned previously, the other candidate could not commit near term, due to family issues. We continue to recruit and network for the lead pastor position and handle applicants in parallel paths. As a team, we want the Lord's choice for SMLC and believe that He will be faithful in giving us His wisdom.