

**Trusting steadily in God, united in our worship and nourished by our learning together, we long to live a life that expresses the love of God in the world. That's ministry! We are remarkably active here at St. Michael's. Just take a look at all we are doing!**

### **Christian Formation Ministries for All Ages**

**Inspired by our common worship, we learn and develop in our spiritual understanding.**

**Catechumenate:** Both a group and an individual process as each catechumen and sponsor/mentor share the journey together with the entire group of catechumens, reading scripture and reflecting on personal meaning together in small groups and learning more about the church in the larger group. Participants bond in this inspiring, challenging process.

**Book Groups:** Small groups meeting weekly for 4-6 weeks for emotional and intellectual support and nourishment through discussing inspiring and challenging material.

**Centering Prayer:** So many of us say we want to "improve" our prayer life. Learn more about centering prayer and have a time to practice centering prayer with others.

**Cornerstone:** Meet monthly with others for deep sharing and support in living into your life as a baptized person.

**Episcopal 101:** Why do we do what we do here? Four evenings to ask all the questions you want! Enjoy getting to know the clergy and fellow questioners.

**Men's and Women's Retreats:** Well, most people agree, we're different. The debate does rage on about just how different. Explore questions and reflection, deepen your connections and just have fun with members of your own gender. A little friendly competition, anyone?

**Movie Nights:** What a great additional way for adults to connect with the overarching themes of our communal life at St. Michael's. Reflection, discussion, and popcorn!

**Young Adults Group:** Explore your spirituality with other seekers/questioners. Discuss differences from your childhood spirituality/religion, and discover your current meanings.

**Forums:** Sundays at 10:10! Quick opportunities to discover something new about our congregation or the larger community. Drink coffee, sit with friends, free learning!

**Childcare:** Meet them in their element! Watch over the youngest members of our parish during Sunday liturgies.

**Children's Liturgy of the Word:** During Sunday services children gather to explore the day's lessons together, and **Sunday School** provides a friendly and energized group of second through fifth graders an opportunity to share the good news of our Christian life together.

**Family Worship Services:** A welcoming and dynamic group of St. Michael's families with young children experience a special liturgy and meal designed especially for children and their parents. Come and see!

**Godly Play for children and adults:** Trained instructors give us a way of listening to the sacred stories that is child-like but not childish. Specially designed materials encourage spiritual reflection for open hearts and minds of all ages.

**Sunday Music Class:** Children are invited to experience multi-cultural, hands-on music between services; and music comes alive every third Saturday as children are taught how to make beautiful sounds from a varied range of materials in **Music Makers**.

**Youth Space:** St. Michael's middle and high school youth have a blast between the Sunday liturgies. Spend time in spiritual conversation and social connection with other young people.

**First Fridays:** Hey, youth! Game night, anyone? How about bowling? Don't strike this entertaining ministry off of your calendar. Become a First Friday regular!

**Confirm Not Conform:** Be on the front lines of spiritual formation among St. Michael's youth. Guide them, learn from them, and watch them shine.

### **Food and Hospitality Ministries**

**The sharing of food is a traditional and symbolic gesture of hospitality and caring.**

**Join us! We're doing a lot in that department!**

**Coffee Hour:** Coffee, treats, and great conversation with parishioners, newcomers, and visitors alike after each service. God's kingdom is open to all!

**Community Meal:** Warmly inviting members of the community at large, especially our brothers and sisters from Hollywood East, to share a spaghetti meal together once a month.

**Second Saturday Meal:** OK, once was not enough, so we added a community time of hospitality and good food for a second day each month.

**Sunday Lunch:** Finally! A time to sit with friends, old and new, without a work agenda. Come connect, eat, and bask in the love of St. Michael's every week after church.

**Convivio:** Wow, great fun and great food every week after the Misa! If you are looking to connect with your fellow Spanish-speaking parishioners, this is a good place to start. And just FYI, look for the "language exchange evenings" beginning in October!

**Festive Receptions:** Celebrate! Our feast days are special! Nothing says that better than, well, cookies!

**Memorial Receptions and Wedding Receptions** allow us to us to honor these very important times in our human lives with our beloved community.

**Home Delivery of Meals:** Our needs for food and hospitality of the heart do not end on Sunday. We take meals to our brothers and sisters whose lives are complicated by illness, death, (or birth!).

And our sharing of food does not all happen here. Our "**off campus**" hospitality includes providing food for **Street Light** and **Porch Light** shelters for homeless and at risk youth and driving for **Meals on Wheels**. And **Daybreak Shelter** provides us with an opportunity to assist families in transition with food and other services.

Not all food and hospitality ministries involve eating! One in particular, the **Trader Joe's Food Transfer** ministry, involves simply **transporting** the food to people who will eat it.

### **BUT WAIT...THERE'S MORE!**

Yes, you're right. We couldn't even list it all here! In fact, there are whole categories of ministry that will have to wait for next week's edition (look for it in your bulletin). We are doing so much with **Music and Worship**, **Outreach and Justice**, and **Organizational Ministries!** If you just can't wait, this information is on the website RIGHT NOW.

If you have curiosity about or feel a tug on your heartstrings to serve in any of these existing ministries, let us know. If you feel strongly drawn to an activity we don't know about that helps bring the Kingdom of God to the world, let us know that, too! Contact any of your Ministries Team: Bruce Collins, Charlene Sabin, Elizabeth Rouffy, Haelynn Barron, or Lynda Garner at [lyndag@stmaa.org](mailto:lyndag@stmaa.org), or call the office at 503-284-7141.

**Coming Attractions: Ministries Appreciation Party!**