



# Faith Stepping Stones



**A family ministry system pulling parents into the role of primary faith mentors for their own children every night in every home.**

## Stone 1: Raising a Healthy Baby - 0-12 Months

Parents attend four sessions on physical, emotional and spiritual needs of infants and toddlers. Parents are also taught how to do a nightly blessing as a family faith practice.

## Stone 2: Raising a Healthy Preschooler - Preschool 2/3

Parents attend four sessions on physical, emotional and spiritual needs of preschoolers. Parents are taught to add prayer to the nightly blessing as a faith practice.

## Stone 3: Entry Into School - Kindergarten/1st Grade

Parents attend four sessions on physical, emotional and spiritual needs of kindergarteners. Parents are taught to share "Highs & Lows" with their children, and add it to their nightly prayers and blessing.

## Stone 4: My Bible - 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> Grades

Children join parents for nine sessions highlighting 120 key verses in young readers' Bibles. Children and parents commit to read a Bible verse nightly, and continue with "Highs & Lows," prayer, and blessing nightly.

## Stone 5: Livin' Forgiveness - 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Grades

Children join parents for four sessions from Passover to Lord's Supper, with nightly confession and forgiveness added to the faith practices of Bible reading, "Highs & Lows," prayer and blessing.

## Stone 6: Surviving Adolescence - Middle School

Children and parents attend four sessions receiving tools to thrive through adolescence. They commit to apply God's Word to their "Highs & Lows" and adding this to the previous faith practices of confession and forgiveness, prayer, and blessing.

## Stone 7: Confirmation As Ordination - 8<sup>th</sup> grade

Youth and parents go on a retreat to look at their confession, confirmation, and unique call to serve some type of ministry. Families recommit to nightly home huddles of "Highs & Lows," Bible Reading with application, confession and forgiveness, prayer, blessing.

## Stone 8: Graduation Blessing - 12<sup>th</sup> grade



Seniors and parents participate in three sessions spread over the fall, winter, and spring where seniors and their parents look back at God's blessings, look to the moment, and look to the future of their new callings. They promise together to bless, thank, forgive, and pray for another as they begin their new callings.

To learn more contact Lori Schwan, Director of Nurturing Ministries  
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## **Congratulations 2009 Graduates!**

### College Graduates



Ty Curtis graduated from the University of Florida with a major in Finance and a minor in Real Estate. While in college he was on the Business Dean's List and completed volunteer work in various financial areas. He is living in Tampa beginning his training with LPL Financial.

Troy DiNicola graduated from the University of Central Florida with a degree in Business Marketing. He served as the recruitment chair and rush chair of the Sigma Chi Fraternity. In addition he was enrolled in a highly competitive Marketing and Selling program. He works for Pelican I Real Estate and Development and Pinnacle Performance Group in Naples.

Laura Lang graduated from the University of Central Florida with majors in Advertising/Publication and in Psychology. She is an alumnus of FMHS IB program. She moved back to Ft. Myers and has started a new position at Quenzel and Associates Marketing Agency. She recently became engaged to Jason Torres.

Michael Youngman graduated with merit from the US Naval Academy with a major in economics. He is now an Ensign and will report in July to flight school in Pensacola.

Reed Ziegler graduated in December with a Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Social Science and a minor in Education from the University of South Florida. While there, he participated in ROTC receiving both airborne paratrooper and air assault training. He also served as a St. Michael adult leader for the LCMS Florida-Georgia District High School Immokalee Mission Trip. Upon graduation he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the US Army.

### High School Graduates

Alexandra (Ally) Dickinson will graduate from Gainesville High School. She was involved in drama (4 yrs) and served as 2009 yearbook co-editor. She will be attending Santa Fe College in Gainesville this fall.

Alexiss Griffin will graduate from Cape Coral High School. She played basketball all four years and will be attending Kennesaw State University in Georgia on a basketball scholarship.

Jessica Rieger Himalstein will graduate from South Ft. Myers High School where she participated on the Soccer team and Varsity Volleyball team. She has received several awards including the Bright Futures Award, Heart & Sole Award, and LCAC Best in Conference. Jessica will be attending St. Andrews Presbyterian College in Laurinburg, North Carolina on an Academic and Volleyball Athletic Scholarship.

Danielle Howell graduated from Evangelical Christian School where she attended Kindergarten through 12th grade. At age 5 she played soccer for the YMCA, advanced to Goal Keeper for Club Soccer and on to Varsity Soccer (6 yrs) at ECS. She threw discus and shot-put on the Varsity Track and Field team (6 yrs), sang in choir (4 yrs), in Student Government (2 yrs), and traveled to Italy her junior year for 2 weeks of schooling. She played softball for Little League (6 yrs). She was involved in St. Michael Youth Ministry by participating in Sunday School, FOCUS, a female singing quartet, Vacation Bible School, the 2007 National Youth Gathering, the 2008 Dominican Republic Mission Team, and the 2008 LCMS Florida-Georgia District Mission Trip to Immokalee.

**Jeanette Johnson** was an honor student at Fort Myers High School. Her freshman and sophomore years she participated in competitive gymnastics. She is employed by Office Depot and will be attending Edison State College.

**William Kollmann** graduated from Bishop Verot High School where he participated in basketball and football all four years. He is a John Carrigan All-Star Football participant and recipient of the Ironman Football Award. While in high school he was a Summer Camp Leader at Gateway Trinity Lutheran for 3 years and attended the 2008 LCMS Florida-Georgia District Immokalee Mission Trip. He is a recipient of the Bright Futures scholarship and various scholarships from Jacksonville University, Quincy University and St. Benedictine College, as well as Heritage Award from Mount Union College. William will be attending Mount Union College in Alliance, Ohio where he will be playing football on the defending Division 3 National Championship team., majoring in Business Administration.

**Ryan McCurdy** graduated from Bishop Verot High School where he played football and basketball. He also participated in Student Government Association. He was awarded an academic scholarship for Birmingham Southern College where he will play football in the fall.

**Shayla Merck** will graduate from Riverdale High School where she participated in Powder-puff Football (2 yrs), and worked at St. Michael Lutheran School's Extended Care her senior year. She was active in the St. Michael Youth Ministry by attending Sunday School, FOCUS, Vacation Bible School, FL-GA District Youth Gathering in 2007 and the National Youth Gathering in 2007. Shayla will be in the Nursing Program at Edison State College.

**Alison Minisce** will graduate from Fort Myers High School and will be attending college in the fall.

**Aaron Seitz** will graduate from Fort Myers High School and will be attending the University of Florida in the fall.

**Nathaniel W. Sprosty** will graduate from Cape Coral High School where he participated in Varsity football, wrestling, track, and was the football captain. He also participated in County All-Star Football, State All-Star Football, and All Conference Football. He was active in St. Michael Youth Ministry and attended the National Youth Gathering in 2007. Nate will be attending California University of Pennsylvania on a full football scholarship.

**Mark Stiggleman Jr.** will graduate from Ft. Myers High School where he participated in National Honor Society (11-12), Rho Kappa Social Studies Honor Society (11-12), Mu Alpha Theta Math Honor Society (11-12), Lacrosse Club (9-10), and Political Science Club (11). He worked at Fiddlesticks Country Club (10-12). Mark will be attending the University of Florida.

**Alexandra Troast** will graduate from Ft. Myers High School where she participated in the International Baccalaureate program, softball, Soudwave, National Honor Society, Rho Kappa, Spanish Club, and the Spring Musical. She received the Chorus Medal of Honor, was on the Homecoming Court, and Prom Court. She has worked at Chick-fil-a for 2 years. She was active in the St. Michael Youth Ministry by participating in Sunday School, FOCUS, 2007 National Youth Gathering, 2008 Dominican Republic Mission Team, being a Junior Guide for the Middle School Youth Gathering and singing at worship services in a female Quartet. Alex will be attending Washington & Jefferson College in Washington, Pennsylvania.

**MacKenzie (Mac) Wallace** will graduate from Ft. Myers High School where he participated in football, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Summa Cum Laude, and National Honor Society. He was voted by his classmates to be their Graduation Speaker. Mac volunteered at our Vacation Bible School. Mac was signed to play football for Heidelberg University in Tiffin, Ohio.

**Sergio Workman** was a student at South Fort Myers High School and attended the National Youth Gathering in 2007 before his family moved to Wisconsin. He played football both here and up north. He will graduate from Williams Bay High School in Williams Bay, Wisconsin.

**Alana Yallop** will graduate from Ft. Myers High School where she participated in the Renaissance Club, Spanish Club, Rho Kappa, National Honor Society, Academy of Finance, lacrosse, and the swim team. She was active in the St. Michael Youth Ministry by participating in Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, the 2007 National Youth Gathering, and the 2008 Dominican Republic Mission Team. Alana will be attending the University of Florida.

### **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduates - Saint Michael Lutheran School**

Graduated May 29, 2009

Carrie Madison Agnew	James P. Harris
Samantha Alechko	Lindsay Marie Hoop
Sean Paul Austin	Tara Howard
Brian Baker *	Zachary Louis Jarvis
Zachary Ryan Belcher	Cyril Daniel Kurland
Gabrielle Anna Bell *	Whitney Hendry LeTourneau *
Daniel Erik Benson	Megan M. Malsom
Maximilian Xavier Beyrent	Marguerite Mast *
Marco Andres Bohm	Mariah Leigh Miles
Emily Jane Campbell	Caroline Grace O'Mailia
Savannah Leigh Chandler	Hope Alexandria Owen
Bryant R. Cole	Sara Vose Pease *
Victoria Carvolth Cook	Samantha L. Petrozzi
Elisabeth Rose Cossu	Devin Ritrosky *
Patrick James Crowley	Sarah Elizabeth Roach *
Alexis Rianna DeCarufel *	Samantha Sestito
Richard Adam Dobbs * (Honorary)	Jennifer Lynn Shotwell
Edward Francis Dougherty III *	Alyssa Dajani Swett *
Devin James Douglass	Mason Taylor
Jared Steven Frantz	Danika Celeste Thiele
Mitchell Fundingsland	Jack R. Thomas
Emily Anne Gear	Jameson Taylor Trettenero
Stephanie E. Gemme	Talia Rose Vechazone
Claudia Gesiotto	Brittany Waltman
Heath Christopher Grant	Hannah Lila Wherry *
Catherine Rose Hackler *	Kirsten Alexandra Yallop *
David J. Haight	

*\*Indicated member of Saint Michael Lutheran Church*