

## **An Exciting Opportunity for St. Michael's in Community**

Many of us use some sort of periodic Bible reading or devotional guides to help us in our relationship with Christ. There is now a wonderful opportunity to add to or, for a season, change (or possibly even to begin) this important part of our lives, and to do it together.

Our opportunity comes from Scripture Union, an organization begun in 1959 and committed to "helping people meet God every day." They have identified 100 essential Bible passages that help us see the "Big Story" of God's love for us in Jesus Christ, from creation to the end of history. Our goal is "to have a daily encounter with the God who made us, who loves us, and who desires to have a living relationship with us. We are invited to pray, read, reflect, apply and pray on these passages over a period of time from 100 days to 2 years. There are excellent materials to help us do that.

The E100 leadership team (Dick and Jan Condit, Tige Newell and Hank and Peggy Graeser) is asking that every member of St. Michael's take the E100 challenge: read these 100 passages, but read them together, and form groups so that we can share our experience and insights together. The church will provide the basic E100 materials at no charge. You can order supplementary materials if you so desire.

Why would you want to do this? We can think of 5 good reasons: To develop a "holy habit", to try something new for you, to understand the essence of the Bible without having to deal with the harder parts, to know the story of God's love so you can tell it, to know why the Old Testament is important and how it fits with the New Testament and Jesus.

The Sunday morning ASF class will be one E100 group. We plan to read the E-100 over 20 weeks (with a few breaks for Thanksgiving and Christmas) as well as use our Sunday morning meeting time to share our insights, encourage one another and pray together.

But you need not be in that group to do E100. We pray that groups of all kinds will form in St. Michael's. Since this material is not denominational, we maybe can reach out to some friends outside St. Michael's, too. The only common elements for a group would be 1) a desire to take the E100 challenge 2) a meeting time and frequency 3) an agreed-upon reading rate. Any number of people from 2 to 10 is great. The leadership team wants to help you get started, and to stay in contact with you throughout your E100 term.

We hope to offer a general pot luck dinner and sharing for all E100 participants about 10 weeks into the process – just to help us all keep going. More detailed information, signup and material orders will begin August 21<sup>st</sup>. If you have questions, please contact any member of the leadership team.