# Messiah Messenger

Gather....Grow....Go....Spread the Good News!

Specíal Congregational Meeting

Sunday, May 9<sup>th</sup> at 9:45am. This special meeting is being called to seek approval of funding for improvements to our audio and video equipment.

#### CONTACT US:

Messiah Lutheran Church 502 9<sup>th</sup> Ave NE P.O. Box 298 Roseau, MN. 56751

STAFF: Pastor Dave Swonger: (218) 452-4639 Email: pastordavemlc@gmail.com

Deacon Joanne Swonger: (701) 955-4479 Email: <u>deaconjoannemlc@gmail.com</u>

Youth Director – Jay Ostgaard Email: jjostgaard@gmail.com

Office Administrator – Elaine Wulff Phone: (218) 463-1648 Email: <u>messiahroseau@gmail.com</u>

**OFFICE HOURS for Office Administrator:** Tuesday – Thursday (9:00AM – 3:00 PM)



### Messiah Lutheran Church Quilting Mission Project

The in-person Messiah Lutheran Church

Quilting Mission Project has come to a close for 2021. Despite COVID restrictions, we persevered. Quilting started on January 4<sup>th</sup> with only 4 people. As time went on and vaccinations were made available, people showed up when they could. Normally quilting is done January through March, but this dedicated group of gals decided they wanted to continue through April. The quilts were on full display on Blanket Sunday and the congregation generously donated \$485 to be sent to Lutheran World Relief to help defray their shipping costs.

We completed a total of 232 quilts and if you are interested, since 2003 that makes a running total of 5678 quilts completed and donated. 193 quilts and 13 personal care kits (790 lbs.) are slated to be shipped to Lutheran World Relief on April 30<sup>th</sup>. It cannot be said enough, this Mission could not be completed without the continuing support from so many people who collect materials, sew tops, and show up to complete the final product. Messiah is blessed!





# Messiah Messenger A Pastoral Reflection

#### Great is thy faithfulness!

These days, Creation is slowly renewing itself under the sweet provision of the loving Creator! The seed is quietly waiting for consistent warmth. The buds are soaking up sunshine and getting plump. Frogs have awakened and are singing in the ditches. Birds are gathering bits for nesting. The signs of SPRING are all around us. And we are delighted to exclaim along with Creator God ... "It is good!"

Yes, we've all been under the cloak of a long winter. And this year, that winter experience has been more than the frigid cold and drifting snow of Mother Nature's design. For many months, we've been blanketed with the precautions, fears, and interruptions of the pandemic. And we are weary. We've endured the storm of Covid for more months than we care to admit! Much like weathering an endless polar vortex, we have trudged through the weariness of what must be done. We have struggled against the challenging and ever-changing dynamics of the storm. We have been faithful, and we have persevered. We are MORE than ready for the freshness and freedom of a new season! With all our hearts, we pray that signs of the pandemic loosening its hold on us will be lasting!

The words of Lamentations 3:22-23 are powerful and true at moments like these. "Because of the Lord's great love, we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness." Lamentations is a collection of poems attributed to the Old Testament prophet, Jeremiah and were written as laments over the destruction of Judah, Jerusalem, and the Temple. The Babylonians began a siege of Jerusalem in 589 BC that lasted a year and a half or more. The Hebrew people suffered great deprivation during the siege and when all was said and done, the Holy City and the magnificent Temple built by Solomon lay in ruins and the people were exiled into Babylonian captivity. A "long winter" of lament and sorrow had come for God's people.

Yet during this bleak winter of sorrow, Jeremiah speaks of the Lord's great love and unfailing compassion! "They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness!" The prophet shows us where to direct our gaze. He pulls our eyes away from the daily cares that come when life seems like "a trudge and a drudge." He lifts our gaze to the One who has the strength, and mercy, and dedication to see us through! He invites us to be refreshed by the Springtime provision of new hope and life given to us by our Lord and Maker!

This has been a difficult year for all of us. No one has remained untouched by the challenges the pandemic has brought. Can we redirect our focus from our own dwindling strength to the unending strength God provides? Can we give thanks for the mercies shown us, even throughout the pandemic's difficulties and adversities?

On Sunday, May 9<sup>th,</sup> during the worship service, we'll share a special slideshow of pictures showing God's faithfulness to us as a faith family these past months. These pictures will celebrate the people and events in our congregation that are signs of God's Holy Spirit at work among us ... gathering us and inspiring us to faithfulness and life! There are signs of SPRINGTIME in our midst! THIS SUNDAY, we direct our eyes to the signs of LIGHT and LIFE all around us. Our God loves us! Our God is faithful! We give thanks and delight in God's merciful provision to see us through! AMEN!

Delighting with you in faith and hope, The Swongers

MAY, 2021

# **Messiah Messenger** A message from the Church President

May, 2021

Hello Messiah Congregation!

I hope you are able to attend our special congregational meeting on Sunday, May 9 at 9:45 am. The council is looking for the congregation's approval to purchase equipment to upgrade the video/audio equipment to improve our system. A big THANK YOU to Marty Trangsrud for all his work on this project. I am excited to see what the capabilities will be!

We will be looking for additional volunteers to serve in the sound booth on Sunday's and at other times. Currently there are only three volunteers, Marty, Paul Grafstrom and Bob Tuttle. They are serving almost every Sunday. If there are enough volunteers, your time commitment might only be one Sunday a month. If you have an interest, please reach out to one of them.

Other items that are on the horizon for church council are:

- investing the dollars we receive from the sale of the Lake of the Woods Bible camp in a way to support camp programs into the future for our youth.
- Consider the options we have with the parsonage, once the renters move out.
- Strengthening our members faith (prayer & learning/living the Word) and worship life through a variety of methods.

Blessings,

Karyn Karyn Santl 242-3912 santl.karyn@gmail.com



### J Files Report & Youth Calendar

Matthew: 5:16 "Let your light shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father".

#### YOUTH GROUP/MINISTRY SCHEDULES FOR MAY.

Greetings in the Name of the Father, the Son & Holy Spirit, Amen!

Hard to believe we are already in the last Month of the school year! It was a crazy year of youth ministry during this pandemic time, but we were very blessed to still have youth ministry in person on Wed nights throughout the school year! We had some hiccups along the way, but we found new ways to do youth ministry in person and it was very rewarding for our youth! Please read Matthew 5:16 scripture listed on top of this page! It is very important for us to find ways to still be the light for Christ by Loving your neighbor and staying connected with one another during these changing times we live in! I challenge you all to find ways this month of May to show your light for Christ to others by sending affirmation or gifts to someone through the mail, email, write a letter, drop off a May Basket on neighbor's front steps or whatever you can think of to show God's Love and be the light for Christ while still being safe!

God Bless,

Jay Ostgaard (218-242-2221 Cell & email is jiostgaard@gmail.com)

#### THINGS TO KNOW SO YOUTH CAN GROW. Please READ BELOW FOR OPPORTUNITIES TO STAY CONNECTED IN MAY

- 7-12 GRADE MOESSIAH R.O.C.K. YOUTH GROUP: Will meet one time in May on Wed, May 12<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 pm to 8;30 pm at Messiah Lutheran for End Of School Year Celebration, Outside on the North side of Church! Bjerk's Concessions will be available a long with a Camp Fire, Sand Volleyball, music, outdoor games & fur! Please have your child bring a \$6 donation to help cover cost of the concessions, thanks!
- 4-6 GRADE MOESSIAH HANG TIME YOUTH GROUP: Will meet on Wed, May 5 & 19, 3;30 pm to 4:30 pm at Messiah Lutheran Church! Will be outside unless bad weather!
- MOESSIAH 10-12 GRADE GRAB & GO LUNCH MINISTRY: Final Free Lunch will be on Monday, May 24<sup>th</sup>, 1 pm at Messiah in Fellowship Hall! Come for Free Hot Dogs, PBJ & Summer Sausage Sandwiches, chips, fruit snacks, homemade bars, beverages and to go devotion to bring with you! Bring lots of friends!
- CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP will be on Sunday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10:30 am! Messiah Praise Band will be leading the music for this worship service! Attend in person or join us live on our Messiah Facebook Page through live video streaming!
- MESSIAH GRADUATION SENIOR RECOGNITION SERVICE is Sunday, May 30<sup>th</sup> at the 10:30 am Worship Service! We will be
  contacting the Messiah Parents of Graduating Seniors in early part of May to give them all the details they and their Graduates will
  need to be prepared & ready for the Worship Service!
- NO ZOOM VIRTUAL YOUTH GROUP & NO 1-3 GRADE YOUTH GROUP IN MAY
- 2022 MINNEAPOLIS ELCA YOUTH GATHERING: We have 29 Moe/Messiah Youth signed up for this Gathering! We have 4 Adult Leaders going and will be adding at least 1 more Adult to this trip! Fundraising will begin in May and continue until done reaching our fundraising goal before Summer of 2022! Stay tuned for more info to come on upcoming fundraisers!
- THINGS TO LOOK FORWARD TO FOR SUMMER 2021:
  - WED NIGHT YOUTH/FAMILY OUTDOOR YOUTH GROUP & CAMP FIRE WORSHIP EVERY WED NIGHT @ MESSIAH, 7 PM STARTING TIME!
  - 2. LOCAL & REGIONAL SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES FOR OUR MOESSIAH 7-12 GRADE YOUTH (Takes place of Rockford Trip)
  - 3. MOESSIAH DAYCAMP (VBS) Will be Monday thru Thursday, Aug 2 thru Aug 5! Pathways will lead 1 day and Messiah/Moe Leaders Will lead the other 3 days from 9 am to 3 pm each day! WE WILL NEED LOTS OF ADULT, COLLEGE & JR/SR HIGH AGE LEADERS to help with this awesome week we will have for our K thru 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Students! SEE JAY TO SIGN UP TO HELP!

### **Messiah Messenger Announcements**



### We give THANKS to God for all the good stuff!

\*Good stuff\* Thanks, Mavis Wahlberg and Terry Lundbohm for bringing a fresh and festive look to our entrance and narthex for Easter!

\*Good stuff\* Thanks, Cindy Holmgren for the fun and awesome bulletin boards you've been creating!

\*Good stuff\* Thanks, Messiah Sunday School staff and Education Committee, for being flexible and enduring throughout this crazy Sunday School year! You ROCK!

**\*Good stuff\*** Thanks, Wednesday night youth group volunteers! Your assistance and support is invaluable to keeping our youth ministry vibrant!

### Messiah Online Worship

We encourage you to tune in via:

• FACEBOOK LIVE! (Search for Messiah Lutheran Church Page) @ 10:30am

• Radio: Wild 102 at 11am (<u>Recorded (a) Moe</u>)

If you would like to sponsor a FB live video broadcast, please email/call the office. Please write "Facebook Live Fund" on your check or envelope, and who it is in honor or memory of.

### **Sponsored Live Streaming Broadcasts**

Sunday, May 2, 2021 broadcast is in loving memory of Pastor Lou Hermansen,

and Ann Skrutvold, given by Annette Hermansen.

Mother's Day Broadcast in memory of Helmi Jackson, given by the family of Richard Jackson.

Mother's Day Broadcast sponsored by Naomi Circle.

# Naomi Circle Meeting<br/>Wednesday, May 19th<br/>at 9:30amSummertime Worship ScheduleIn the Fellowship Hall.<br/>New members Welcome!We're planning to maintain current Sunday morning worship<br/>at Bethel,<br/>9:15am worship at Mee,<br/>10:30am worship at Messiah

Have you "liked" & "followed" us on Facebook?

By liking our page you will gain access to the worship service live stream, pictures, updates, and articles that are helpful to our community of faith—a great way to stay connected!

Our page is called Messiah Lutheran Church and it can be

accessed through the following link:

https://www.facebook.com/pages/Messiah-Lutheran-h/419293738166238





Messiah quilters and Bell Choir. The quilters are replenishing their supply of <u>sheets</u> and f<u>abric</u> and donations can be left at the church office or put on the shelf just off the Sunday school wing.

Also, the <u>Bell Choir</u> will be having their <u>annual rummage sale</u>. We have decided it will be held probably in August. As you go through your household items, please hold them for us. We will take anything except clothes. We will ask for the items right before the sale. Watch for further information.



# Messiah Messenger Announcements



"Lord, Hear our Praver": If you or someone you know is in need of prayer, we would love to pray for you! You can be placed on the confidential prayer chain by reaching out to Messiah's Prayer Chain Coordinator, Mary Olson (218-463-2364). To make a request for prayers during worship, fill out the

prayer request for prayers during worship, in out the prayer request form found on the table in the narthex and turn in to the church office.

If you have any questions, please feel free to ask either Mary, Deacon Joanne, or Pastor Dave .

Sarah Wahlberg Scholarship Applications can be picked up at the church office or found on the Messiah Church website at

messiahroseau.net under the Resources tab.

Application deadline is July 1, 2019 for returning students!

### Messiah's Financial Update

Check Book BalanceYD Cash InflowYTD ExpenditureEnding BalanceYTD thru March 2021:\$ 94,821.23\$ 45,784.96\*\$ 58,011.26\$ 82,600.93\*Includes PPP Loan proceeds

### **THANK YOU THRIVENT MEMBERS!**

Messiah has received <u>\$2,192.00</u> through Thrivent Choice Dollars this year to date.

Thrivent Choice Dollars are funds designated to eligible Thrivent Members, based on insurance premiums, contract values and Thrivent Financial volunteer leadership. Choice Dollars can be directed to thousands of nonprofit organizations nationwide, including local congregations.

\*If you would like to designate Choice Dollars to Messiah but are unsure how to do so, please contact our local Thrivent Financial Associate: Luke Erickson at 463-3573

# SERVING SCHEDULE-MAY

Holy Communion Servers (first name listed also sets up communion)			
May 02	No Communion		
May 09	No Communion		
May 16	Communion: Cheryl Schleppenbach; Eileen Carter		
May 23	No Communion		
May 30	Communion		

Lay Reader	Scripture Readings
May 02 Marsha Hagen	Acts 8:26-40; Psalm 22:25-31; 1 John 4:7-21; John 15:1-8
May 09 Barb Erickson	Acts 10:44-48; Psalm 98; 1 John 5:1-6; John 15:9-17
May 16 Jodie Janzen	Acts 1:15-17, 21-26; Psalm 1; 1 John 5:9-13; John 17:6-19
May 23 Carol Guy	Acts 2:1-21; Psalm 104:24-34, 35b; Romans 8:22-27; John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15
May 30 Gloria Skrutvold	Isaiah 6:1-8; Psalm 29; Romans 8:12-17; John 3:1-17

<u>Greeters/Usher/</u> <u>Council Rep</u>	Sound Booth	<u>Counters</u>
May 02 Katie Gunderson	May 02 Marty Trangsrud	May 02 Warren & Marsha Hagen
May 09 Kevin Wensloff	May 09 Bob/Andrew Tuttle	May 09 Stu/Beth McFarlane
May 16 Bonnie Delmore	May 16 Paul Grafstrom	May 16 Jon/Bonnie Hagen
May 23 Keith Okeson	May 23 Marty Trangsrud	May 23 Bill/Sue Jennings
May 30 Ashley Filpula	May 30 Bob/Andrew Tuttle	May 30 Dave/Sharon Grafstrom

If any server is unable to serve on their scheduled day, please find a replacement. Please let the office know who your replacement is—

so they can be added to the bulletin.

Thank you for serving!

# SERVING SCHEDULE-JUNE

Holy Communion Servers (first name listed also sets up communion)			
June 06	No Communion		
June 13	No Communion		
June 20	Communion: Mickey Slater; Caroline Majer		
June 27	No Communion		

Lay Reader	Scripture Readings	
June 06 Mark Wilson	Genesis 3:8-15; Psalm 130; 2 Cor 4::13-5:1; Mark 3:20-35	
June 13 Aimee Wilson	Ezek 17:22-24; Ps 92:1-4, 12-15; 2 Cor 5:6-10 [11-13] 14-17, Mark 4:26-34	
June 20 Carolyn Sabourin	Job 38:1-11; Psalm 107:1-3, 23-32; 2 Cor 6:1-13; Mark 4:35-41	
June 27 Carol Guy	Lam 3:22-33; Psalm 30; 2 Cor 8:7-15; Mark 5:21-43	

Greeters/Usher/	Sound Booth	<u>Counters</u>
<u>Council Rep</u>		
June 06 Stuart McFarlane	June 06 Bob/ Andrew Tuttle	June 06 Micky
June 13 Bob Tuttle	June 13 Paul Grafstrom	June 13 Warren & Marsha
June 20 Karyn Santl	June 20 Marty Trangsrud	June 20 Dave & Sharon Grafstrom
June 27 Bonnie Delmore	June 27 Bob/Andrew Tuttle	June 27 Duane & Barb Erickson

If any server is unable to serve on their scheduled day, please find a replacement. Please let the office know who your replacement is so they can be added to the bulletin.

Thank you for serving!

# **Messiah Messenger**

"And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind ... keep on praying for all the Lord's people." ~ Ephesians 6:18

Requests for public prayer during worship: We are revamping how we add names to the congregational prayers during worship. To be mindful of privacy concerns, we ask that the person requesting prayer sign a permission form. An assigned representative, such as a family member or Messiah's prayer chain coordinator, may also sign on their behalf. This process allows us to print people's names in the bulletin and uplift them in public prayer during worship for a period of one month. Permission forms are available on the table in the narthex. You may also save the permission form printed below for use later.

Requests for confidential prayer via the prayer chain: The prayer chain will continue to operate just as it has in the past. You may reach out to our Prayer Chain Coordinator, Mary Olson (463-2364). Your prayer concern will be kept confidential and will be uplifted in prayer by those who serve as intercessors on our congregation's Prayer Chain.

If you have any questions, please feel free to ask either Pastor Dave, Deacon Joanne, or Mary Olson.



"And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind ... keep on praying for all the Lord's people." ~ Ephesians 6:18 What a privilege it is to pray for one another! At Messiah Lutheran, we treasure the opportunity to pray for each other and are honored by requests to uplift people by name in worship. Would you like your name added to the congregational prayers shared in worship? Please give us permission to do so by signing and returning this form to the Church Office or the pastoral staff. Thank you!

I give my permission to have my name placed on the public prayer list at Messiah Lutheran Church of Roseau, MN for a period of one month. This includes printing my name in the bulletin and uplifting my name during the prayers of the congregation at worship and on the radio broadcast.

Person to uplift in prayer (please print):

Signature of person (or representative):

#### Date:

If name should be included in prayers for <u>less than</u> OR <u>longer than</u> one month, please contact the church office at (218) 463-1648 or email <u>messiahroseau@gmail.com</u>.

#### Name of contact person:

The following family/friend contact person has permission to share news of my condition with the church staff.

#### MAY, 2021

## **Messiah Messenger**

#### Messiah Lutheran Church Council Meeting - April 20, 2021 Approved via Email on 4/28/2021

President Karyn Santl called the meeting to order - "in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit."

Members Present: Karyn Santl, Ashley Filpula, Stu McFarlane, Bob Tuttle, Keith Okeson, Bonnie Delmore, Katie Gunderson, Kevin Wensloff, Marty Trangsrud, Pastor David Swonger, and Deacon Joanne Swonger.

The meeting opened with introductions and Katie led devotions.

Keith made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda for the April 2021 meeting as presented, second by Marty, unanimously approved.

Bonnie made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report as written, second by Bob, unanimously approved.

Stu made a motion to donate \$50.00 to the 2021 Roseau Post Prom, second by Katie, unanimously approved.

Pastor David & Deacon Joanne submitted their report.

Property Report: Lighting upgrades will begin in the coming weeks. On-going small projects include installing a bottle filler for the water fountain, ceiling tile replacement, and white board replacement using existing boards. Additionally, re-keying of the building should take place this week. The thermostat in Jay's office will be checked and repaired if needed.

#### Business

- Public Announcements: Public announcements will be limited to church related activities, but community organizations will be allowed to post a flyer/advertisement in a public space.
- Sound/Video Booth Upgrades: Marty received an updated quote to upgrade sound/video capabiliti
  es for

\$28,420.20 - the quote includes upgrades to the audio system, an in-ear monitoring system, a livestream package and computer, and speaker replacement.

- Discussion regarding how to fund a project of this scope.
- A funding plan will need to be developed prior to presenting this proposal to the congregation.

 Marty made a motion to call a special congregation meeting regarding sound/video booth upgrades on May 9th at 9:45am, second by Stu, unanimously passed.

 A congregational meeting regarding the sound/video upgrades is being planned for May 9th at 9:45am.

 The line item for the radio fund will be removed, but the Audio/Video restricted fund will continue. The radio fund is currently part of the general fund.

Any future donations for radio broadcasts will go to the Audio/Video fund.
Parsonage Boiler: There are also issues with the boiler at the parsonage and it has temporarily been fixed. It is recommended that it be replaced for a cost of \$4200. Discussion will continue in May.

 Scholarships for Campers at Camp Emmaus: A request has been made for half of the cost to be covered for youth attending camp this summer.

2021 Goals Discussion

#### MAY, 2021

# Messiah Messenger

March Meeting Minutes Continued...

Upcoming Dates

- Smart Team will meet on 4/21/21 to discuss updated COVID-19 guidelines.
- Committee Night Blitz will take place on 4/21/21 to discuss planning for 2021-2022.
- Blanket Sunday is April 25th.
- The last day of Sunday School is May 2nd.
- · High School Graduates will be celebrated on May 30th.
- The Gideons will be visiting on May 2nd to deliver a Temple Talk.

Devotions for May: Kevin

Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 18, 2021 at 5:30pm.

Bob made a motion to adjourn, second by Bonnie, approved unanimously.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Ashley Filpula

# **Options for Giving to Support God's Ministry at Messiah Lutheran Church**

With your help, Messiah Lutheran Church will continue to be the church even if we aren't in the same physical location. Your willingness to invest your time, talents, and financial resources in being church together matters

- your generosity matters! Use this guide to giving options to help you consider ways in which you can share a gift and make an impact. If you have questions regarding any of the options below, please contact Aimee Wilson at messiahroseau@gmail.com or call the church office at 218-463-1648 and leave a voicemail.

### Mail a Check

You can share your offering gift by placing a check in the mail. Send your check to:

Messiah Lutheran Church PO Box 298 Roseau, MN 56751

### **Recurring Automatic ACH Giving**

Messiah Lutheran Church has a system in place to initiate and receive automatic <u>recurring</u> ACH direct contributions. To start this type of giving, please fill out the form on the following page and mail (see address above) or e-mail (messiahroseau@gmail.com) to the church office. Setting up a recurring payment can be a helpful tool in the joy and discipline of consistent giving. Please note, once you have returned your completed form, this type of giving is initiated by Messiah. Please do not return the completed form to your banking institution.

### Online Bill Pay through your Bank

Most online banks offer a service called "Online Bill Pay." You can arrange for your bank to send a check to Messiah Lutheran Church through the mail.

### **Online Giving through Messiah's Website**

Messiah Lutheran Church receives giving digitally – through bank draft or debit/credit card payment – by way of our church management software, Breeze ChMS. You can make a one-time gift through the site. If you would like to setup a recurring gift, please see the instructions above: Recurring Automatic ACH Giving. You can access Messiah Lutheran Church's giving page through our website <u>messiahroseau.net</u> and click on "Give Now" or you can access the giving page directly by visiting: *messiahroseau.breezechms.com/give/online* 

"The gifts you sent with Epaphroditus were more than enough, like a sweet-smelling sacrifice roasting on the altar, filling the air with fragrance, pleasing God no end. You can be sure that God will take care of everything you need, his generosity exceeding even yours in the glory that pours from Jesus. Our God and Father abounds in glory that just pours out into

eternity. Amen." Philippians 4:18-19 (The Message)