



The Messenger

Volume 28, Issue 4

Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church

April 2024

Messiah Women's Ministry 3rd Annual Spring Vendor Show & Bake Sale

Saturday
April 20
9 am - 1 pm

Messiah's
Connection Center



Our Spring Vendor Show & Bake Sale returns! Vendors include: Thirty-One Bags, Scentsy, Tupperware, tastefully simple, Cards by Joyce, Kate Spade Bags, Tranot Health, SuMac, Epicure & MiraBella Candles!!

Plan to bring your baked goodies to church kitchen on Fri. April 19 (4:30-6:30)

Admission on April 20 is free for shoppers! Come support local businesses and shop for Mother's Day!

Vendor Contact:

Andrea Tweten-Steinmetz 701-799-7406

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Pilgrimage on the Camino de Santiago: Walking 500 miles across Spain

Sun. April 7 ♦ 7 PM

Messiah Sanctuary

Presented by:

Stan Andrist



Special Thanks to Dottie Stegman for sponsoring the April Issue of The Messenger. Because of this gift, we are able to share the enclosed information with you, our church family!

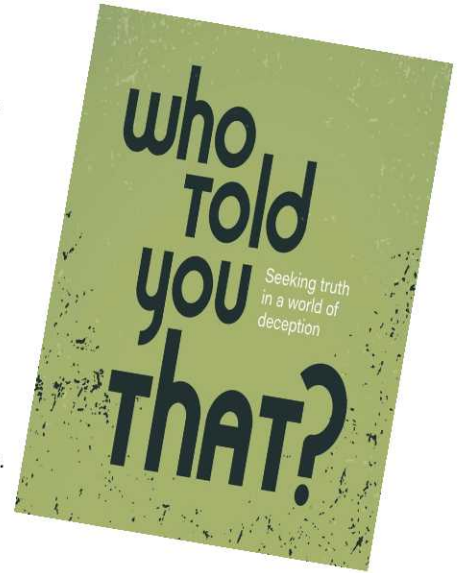


NEW sermon series! Who Told You That?

Life experiences may leave you believing you are a failure, stupid, or ashamed. God asks, "Who told you that?" The answer to that question has the power to change your life—not with behavior modification but by heart transformation.

For the next two months we will explore together:

- How to identify misbeliefs about yourself and God
- How to replace those misbeliefs with truth
- How to live a life of peace, joy, and contentment
- That it is not people, circumstances, or things that determine your happiness. It is what you believe about those things that matter. Know the truth and be set free!



If you would like to follow along with the book, they are for sale through the church office for \$15 or may be ordered at Amazon.com or BarnesAndNoble.com.

Who Told You That? Book study on Thursdays at Noon or 6:30 PM

Join Pastor Laurie on Thursdays at either Noon or 6:30 p.m. as we dive deeper into her book, *Who Told You That? Seeking Truth in a World of Deception*. The first study is Thursday, April 4 and books can be purchased at the front desk for \$15 or ordered on Amazon.com or BarnesAndNoble.com.

Pastor Laurie says: "I am honored to share my book with you! Let's explore together the lies the world throws at us. Jesus tells us in John 8:32 >

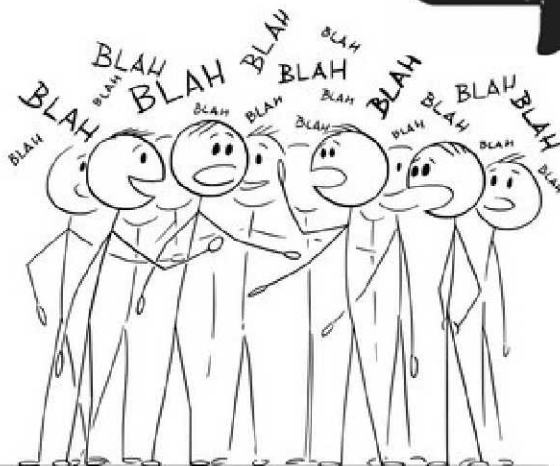
"You will know the truth and the truth will set you free."

Let's get "set free" as we combat the world's lies with God's truth.

I know you will be blessed!

[Pr. Laurie] has walked the dark path and wants you to know there is a light at the end of the tunnel. Even more, she shows you where the lighth switch is."
-A Book Study participant

This book helped me look at the things that I think are true, that society thinks is true, and most important of all, what God thinks is true.
-A Book Study participant



To Register for the Book Study:
Call 701-237-6770 or Email
AdminAssist@MessiahFargo.com



A Message From Pastor Laurie

Spiritual Babies and the Church

In a Trinity Broadcasting Network video, Pastor J. John discussed the challenges pastors face when explaining their profession. He recounted an instance where he was sitting next to a woman on an airplane who asked him what he did for a living. He decided to get a little creative in his answer, so he responded:

"I work for a global enterprise." And she said, 'Do you?' And I said, 'Yes I do. We've got outlets in nearly every corner of the world.' She said, 'Have you!?' and I said, 'Yes we have.

We have hospitals and hospices and homeless shelters. I said we do marriage work, we've got orphanages; we've got feeding programs, educational programs. We do all sorts of justice and reconciliation things. Basically, we look after people from birth to death and we deal in the area of behavioral alteration.'

"She went 'Wow! What's it called?' And I say, 'It's called the church. Have you heard of it?'"

What a wonderful vision and description of the church! A global enterprise doing good work all over the world. We could, then, say that Messiah Lutheran's home base may be at 2010 Elm Street, but God reaches through us and goes beyond us.

However, Pastor J. John's positive portrayal contrasts with prevalent negative perceptions of the church. Many dismiss it as overly political, judgmental, and hypocritical, creating an image crisis that's hard to overlook.

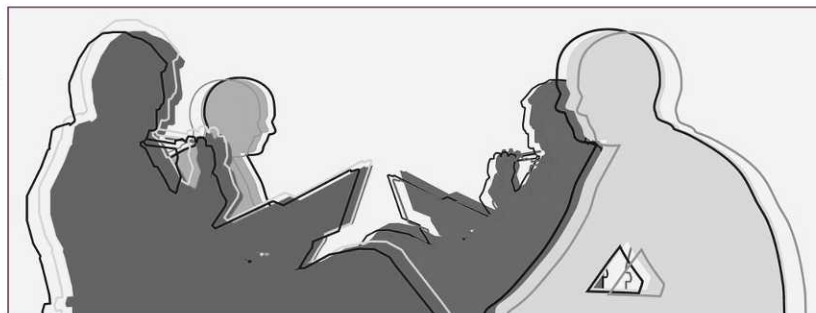
The church as an institution is flawed because it is full of people who are flawed. Paul actually goes as far as to call us a bunch of babies. In Ephesians 4, he says we are "spiritual infants" and the church is our mother, maturing us in the faith.

What does it look like to be a "spiritual infant"? One indication is to be **tossed around by differing opinions and teachings**. If you know babies, you know they don't discern the food put in front of them. They eat what tastes good, without knowing or caring if it is good for them.

Unless you know the Word of God, you are in danger of eating up whatever fits your palate—without knowing if it is healthy, bad, or poisonous.

Paul says Christ gave us the church to equip us and to speak the truth in love to us so that we can have a discerning palate that stays away from what can rot us from the inside.

Maturation is not a solo effort. It is good to study the Bible, listen to sermons, and do devotions, but we all need the community of the body of Christ in order to grow into the fullness of Christ. A baby will never mature without relationships—without others to speak the truth in love; without community. It takes a village to raise a child. It takes a church to raise a Christian.



(Continued on pg.9)



Christian Education

Messiah's Adult Bible Study: Sundays at 10 AM in the Conference Room
Our Sunday morning Adult Bible Study has been studying St. Paul's "Letter to the Romans". We will be finishing our study of this important epistle after Easter.

Beginning Sunday, April 14, we will close out the school year with a study of "The Apostles' Creed" using Martin Luther's Small Catechism as our resource. If it has been awhile since you have taken a deeper look into this basic statement of our Christian faith (since confirmation?), now is your chance for a refresher!

Come join us for this time of study and discussion, and coffee!
Pastor Jeff Johnson is the facilitator for our Sunday Morning Bible Study.



Messiah Confirmation Classes • Wednesdays at 7 PM

For Grades 6+ • Youth Room

Messiah Youth and Friends (grades 6 & up) are welcome to join us.

• Parents & Adults: Contact Bud to set your date as a Guest Confirmation Helper



DIG IN at Messiah Sunday School

Sundays • 10 AM • Grades 1-5 • Room 201

10:15 AM Pre-K and Kindergarten We always welcome helpers and teachers.

➔ Come "DIG-In" with our Messiah Kids—even one Sunday per month would be awesome. Check with our teachers on Sunday mornings and find your spot on the calendar.



NOTE: Messiah Kids Sing on Music Sunday!
Sunday May 12 at 9 AM Worship
(Also last day of Sunday School)



2024 VBS at Messiah Fargo

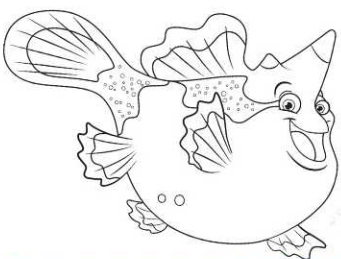
Sun. July 28 thru Wed. July 31

➔ Annual Family Picnic on Wed.!! Yay!

SCUBA: Diving into Friendship with God!

Mark your calendars! Get ready to bring your friends to SCUBA!!!

See you there!!!

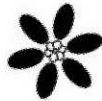


Messiah CIRCLE



Tues. April 9th
Rachel 9:30 AM
Church Conf. Room

Tues. April 9th
Anna 6:30 PM
Messiah Fireside



Bible Study



Messiah Women's Ministry



BAKE SALE

Bake & Bring your Favorite "Bake Sale Goodies!"
Please—All items need to be ready to sell.

- ♦ Package muffins, bars, or cookies in quantities of 4 / 6 / 8 / 12 (depending on size of individual treats)
- ♦ NOTE: Gluten-free w/Labels Welcome ♥
Ethnic treats would be fun, if you are so inclined!!
- ♦ Deliver Packaged Treats to Messiah Kitchen:
Fri. April 19 (4:30-6:30) or Sat. April 20 by 8 am.

Mange Takk!

Many Thanks for your contributions!

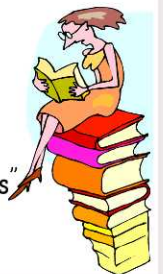
April Book Club

Tues. April 30 • 7 PM

Host: Pat Solberg

Book: "The Echo of Old Books"

By Barbara Davis



Messiah Women's Ministry

Next Meeting:

Mon. April 15 • 6:30 pm

Join us as we plan Women's Ministry
for the rest of 2024!



A Note from Messiah Women's Ministry:

Can you imagine
no Sunday donuts? I can't.

We are in need of volunteers to pick up
donuts on Sunday mornings.

We are looking for two people to work as a team. For example, if you signed up for the Second Sunday of each month, there would be a teammate for that same week. Between the team, it would only be 6 times in a year that you would handle the morning pickup and delivery. That seems easy—right?

We'd love for you to consider signing up to help in this very important mission.

Contact Lora Elfstrum with Questions or Sign-up at the Welcome Center.



WELCA/Messiah Women's Ministry facilitates Sunday morning coffee hour by providing the coffee and donuts. The cost of donuts has increased significantly. We appreciate your consideration when contributing to Sunday's "Free Will Offering."



A Note from your Council President

Spring is in the air! I am hopeful that the mild winter we have all enjoyed, the record temps that have been broken, and the early arrival of robins, have found you in good and renewed spirits.

Spring is the time for renewal, refreshing and awakening of new life. Recently Messiah's elevator was given new life. After months of research, bids, discussions, Council and congregational approval, securing funds, and signing contracts, the new elevator was becoming a reality. However, the construction couldn't begin until all parts were received by the supplier. Progress seemed slow at times. Patience was necessary. Anticipation became intense until the announcement was made: "installation will begin next week!" And, now it is complete!

Our congregation is much like the elevator. We have many moving parts: some large, some small, and everything in between. All of the parts must work together to bring the elevator from one floor to the next and back again. Every part is essential, as is every member of our congregation.

There are many working parts at Messiah, including the pastor, worship leaders, musicians, Sunday School and Confirmation teachers, staff, every volunteer, Council, ushers, altar guild, communion assistants, technology experts, TV people, lectors, coffee servers, quilters, gardeners, funeral servers, bakers and card senders...and any that I have missed.

*Thank you for working together
to bring us together.*

*Together we are Messiah: Renewed, Refreshed,
and Prepared to spread the Word of God.*

*Love and Peace in Christ,
Doug Nasset
Council President*



For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.

Romans 12: 4-5 (NIV)





thank you

SO MUCH

Many, many thanks to those who answered the call for Messiah Work Days. Be sure to show your appreciation to: Pastor Jeff Johnson, Marsha Johnson, Stan James, Linda Monge, Dottie Stegman, Phyllis Sauer, Steve Sauer, Mary Bjerke, Jan Lundgren, Mark Hartje, Mary Hartje, Nila Halverson, and Steve Syrdal.

Just what did they accomplish?! It was just amazing... look at this list > vacuum the sanctuary pews and pew racks; mop the altar tile, front entry, bathrooms and stairway; scrub the fellowship tables, chairs, & cabinets; vacuum hall edges, vents & radiators; cleanup in our lawn; deep scrub the upper baths; and clean -n-buff glass doors & entries. Phew!!



The Bethany Auxiliary is selling Geranium plants in 4 1/2 inch pots > \$6 each.

Choose Red, Pink, Salmon or White. Order forms are at the Welcome Center. These beautiful zonal plants are locally grown. Your purchases enrich the lives of all residents at both Bethany Campuses in Fargo, North Dakota.

✓ Orders & Payment must be turned in by Tues., April 23, 2024.

Pickup Geraniums at Messiah Lutheran Church on Wed., May 1 after 2 pm at North Door.

Questions: contact Mary Bjerke: sauvageaufargo@gmail.com or 701-388-3206

Women of the ELCA Eastern North Dakota S.W.O. Spring Cluster Roundup

WHEN: Sat. April 20 • 10 AM to 3 PM WHAT: A FREE Retreat

WHERE: Riverbend Farm near Valley City, ND

WHO: All Eastern ND Lutheran women (and your friends)

WELCA hopes to inspire women of all ages in practical matters, boldness of faith, and leadership. Speakers > including an interview with Katie Luther. Childcare available. Quilting & Demonstrations. Music & Vendors.

RSVP by March 23 to jbhuso@hotmail.com // 701-371-0303

Or Jeanne Wobbema 701-230-8745 (At Messiah: Contact Sharon in church office.)



Bethany Retirement Living Did You Know...

...that Bethany Retirement Living is one of the 30 largest employers in the region, according to the Fargo Moorhead West Fargo Chamber of Commerce?

More than 800 professionals serve residents in roles as nurses, nursing assistants, Dietary and housekeeping staff, Chaplaincy, engineers, social services, administrative, activities, therapy and others. If you know of someone who would like to join the Bethany team, contact Human Resources at Bethany at 701.239.3000 or visit our website at www.bethanynd.org/careers.



Bethany

retirement living



New Life Center

New Life Center: In-Kind Donations are Lifesavers
1902-3rd Ave. N. Fargo, ND (701) 235-4453

Urgent Needs: cold weather hats/gloves, men's t-shirts & boxers, allergy meds.
Basic Mission needs: twin XL, full or queen sheet sets; full-size bath white towels; laundry pods; alcohol-free mouth wash, melatonin, Q-tips.
See full list at their web site: fargonlc.org/currentneeds.

New Life Thrift Stores

221 - 19th St N • Fargo
5556 - 51st Ave S • Fargo

Donations always
Welcome!



Churches United: "Here for Every Neighbor"

There are 3 areas we serve the community: Housing, Food, and Healing.
We are in critical need of blankets, men's pants, small battery alarm clocks and hygiene products. As we move forward into our colder months, we will also be accepting any winter gear donations. Hats, gloves, coats, snow pants, etc. for children and adults.
Complete Listing of Current Needs: www.churches-united.org



Mail Financial Donations to:
Churches United • (218) 656-7495
1901-1st Ave. N. • Moorhead, MN 56560

Churches United Donations can be dropped off at Micah's Mission • 1901 1st Ave N, Moorhead • 8 am-7 pm Daily

T'ai Chi Chih® at HeartSprings

T'ai Chi Chih - Part 2 > Mondays at 1 PM - April 1, 8, 15, & 22; Connection Center

T'ai Chi Chih for Beginners: for those living with Parkinson's
Mondays at 2 PM - April 1, 8, 15, & 22 in Messiah Connection Center.

T'ai Chi Chih Flow > Thursday 11:30 Am - April 4, 11, 18 (& Wed. April 24), Game Room

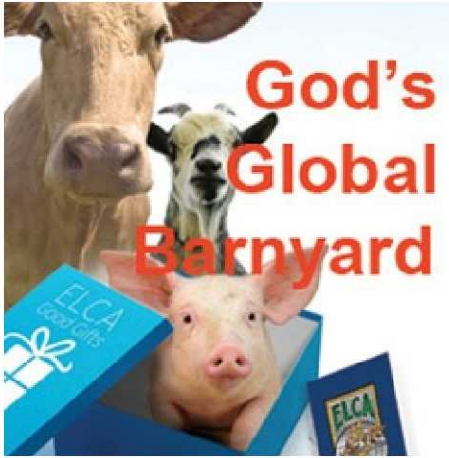


Contact Jan or Barbara at HeartSprings for class details.
heartspringsed@gmail.com ☎ Phone 701-261-3142





Noisy Change: Sun., April 14th at 9 & 11 AM for: ELCA Global Barnyards Animals



On Sunday , April 14, our Noisy Change offering will go to the ELCA Global Barnyard Animals. The ELCA reaches out to about 60 countries around the world to address world hunger. God's Global barnyard project is one way we help. With our offering, we can give a variety of animals: cows, pigs, fish, goats, sheep, oxen, chicks, or even a family farm. Animals are given to families to allow them a way to produce income through eggs, honey, wool, milk and working the land for farming. Please help! Bring your change and/or bills and let's help families around the world earn a living. If you write a check, please make it payable to ELCA Good Gifts.



Pastor's Page – Conti. From pg.3

The other thing babies are is incredibly **self-centered**. They want what they want, and they want it now. The church also allows us to be a part of something bigger than ourselves. Bishop William Temple said, "The Church is the only organization that does not exist for itself, but for those who live outside of it."

We are invited to be a part of a living organism, not a static organization. The church helps turn our focus outward and gets us out of our self-centered rut. Our consumer-driven attitude about the church says, "Going to church is OK, but I'm just not getting anything out of it." We may wonder: "What's in it for me?" God invites us to walk through our doors and ask ourselves: "What does God want from me?" And when that happens, then you know you are on the road to maturity.

Babies also have **an incredibly short attention span**. We're not much different. We need the church to keep us focused on what is important. All week we are bombarded with things that demand our attention. But Pastor Randy Frazee says, "In the body of Christ, you belong to a family focused on all the things of God, which are good, right and healthy."



Thank God we are saved by grace and not by maturity, but God does not want us to remain spiritual infants. We can spiritually grow a bit on our own, but never to the degree that we can in community. We have a God of relationships, and that's how we're wired.

Martin Luther said, "Anyone who is to find Christ must first find the church. How could anyone know where Christ is and what faith is in him unless he knew where his believers are?"

See you in church!
Pr. Laurie





Why Is Stewardship for You?

Stewardship is what we as stewards do. It is faith in action. Stewardship is the living out of our faith through our serving, giving, witnessing, and relating to others. It is the faithful use of our time, talents, and money in doing God’s will. It is our faithful response of gratitude for God’s gift of forgiveness and salvation. As God’s stewards, we are called by Him and governed by His Word. God’s Word gives us motivation, direction, and purpose for our stewardship. Prompted by the Holy Spirit through God’s Word, we freely and joyously commit all that we are and have for His purpose.



Simply put, stewardship is good for us, helps others, extends God’s kingdom, and gives God honor and glory. We as Lutherans ask, “What does this mean?”

Stewardship Helps Others

Stewardship helps others by providing people with food, shelter, and clothing. Jesus said that we will always have the needy and the poor. Stewards provide support for their brothers and sisters in Christ and those outside the faith by giving their time and money. Paul wrote, “So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith” (Galatians 6:10). Helping and serving others brings us joy as Jesus’ love in us overflows to others.

Stewardship helps others as God uses us as His instruments to share the life-saving Gospel. God calls us to be His witnesses in our homes, communities, states, country, and throughout the world (Acts 1:8). We are witnesses by what we say and do, and we provide the financial support of missionaries who carry the Gospel to all parts of the world.

Stewardship helps others through our financial support of churches, Christian schools and colleges, seminaries, and other Christian organizations. Christian organizations and institutions are essential to kingdom building. The care and services these organizations provide are essential and far reaching.

Stewardship helps others by using our time and talents in ministry in our churches and other Christian organizations. We serve on boards and committees, sing in the choir, usher, cut grass, provide maintenance to the buildings, etc. God blesses us with gifts that are needed to support the mission and ministry of our churches.

God bless you on your stewardship journey. Thank you for your faithful contributions of time, talent, and treasure to mission & ministry at Messiah Lutheran in Fargo.

You are amazing and we appreciate you. Together, we are Messengers of God’s Grace.



You are invited to an OPEN House at Churches United!

Thursday April 25th ♦ 4 PM to 7 PM

Take a tour of the Churches United locations: learn more about their services; meet their staff & volunteers; and enjoy snacks & refreshments!

Tour Locations > All in Moorhead, MN:

Churches United > 1901–1st Ave. N.

Bright Sky Apartments > 3305–3rd Ave N.

Dorothy Day Food Pantry–Moorhead >
1308 Main Ave.



All are Welcome! For more information, contact:
Maverick Cashman > maverickc@churches-united.org

Messiah Library Serves Congregation for over 70 Years—Part 2

In the mid-1970s, the Messiah Ladies Aid (now called the Messiah Lutheran Church Women) asked Angie Malm to fill the position for Carol. Angie asked her husband, Harry (who was serving on council), to add a library budget to the church. Once this occurred, the Messiah bookcase library took shape into a full-fledged library in one of Sunday School classrooms across the hall from the church office (today this is where the conference room is located) A desk, table, and chairs were purchased and shelving built by Sid Rusdal installed. Books were purchased and new additions were shared with the congregation via bulletins and *The Messenger*. Several reference books were purchased for Bible study leaders and Sunday School teachers, and the library continued to be a treasured resource for the congregation. It was open for browsing on Sundays.



The topic of creating banners in churches was discussed at a meeting of the Red River Valley Church Library Association in the 1980s. JoAnne Johnson, along with several other members of women's organization now called WELCA (Women of the ELCA) designed and created the Christmas and Easter banners which hang in the sanctuary every year. Around the time of the 1997 flood, the library had been packed in boxes which were stored in the lower level. Unfortunately, several were damaged by water and had to be disposed of. With the remodeling and addition project in 2000, space was designated in the narthex gathering area and the library has been in its current location since. There are several genres of books of varying topics for congregation members of all ages to enjoy.

Donations of new and gently-used books are always welcome. Contact Megan Lass with any questions!

I am thankful for longtime member Frances Jensen, who wrote a history of the library in 2008, which I condensed for this article. Blessed be her memory!

(Compiled by Erik Eide)

75th Anniversary Team Meeting

Thurs. April 11 • 6:30 PM • Rm. 202

Join the planning team for Messiah's 75th Anniversary Celebration...

WE need YOU and your ideas!

Contact Melissa Mocol or Erik Eide with questions...and ideas!



Our Wed. Lenten services focused on Psalm 23 and how the King of Kings invites us to His Table. Here is Psalm 23 from The Message Translation and the very familiar King James Version: great reminders that God is with us.



"I am the good shepherd."

John 10:11 (NRSV)

PSALM 23
THE MESSAGE

GOD, my shepherd!
I don't need a thing.
You have bedded me down in lush meadows,
you find me quiet pools to drink from.
True to your word,
you let me catch my breath
and send me in the right direction.
⁴Even when the way goes through Death Valley,
I'm not afraid
when you walk at my side.
Your trusty shepherd's crook
makes me feel secure.
⁵You serve me a six-course dinner
right in front of my enemies.
You revive my drooping head;
my cup brims with blessing.
⁶Your beauty and love chase after me
every day of my life.
I'm back home in the house of GOD
for the rest of my life.

PSALM 23
KING JAMES VERSION

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.
He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.
Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

April Birthdays

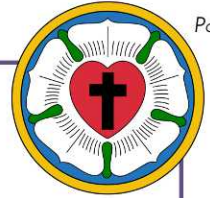
- | | |
|--|--|
| 3
Mel Rudnick | 16
Jon Nelson
Carol Norby |
| 5
Tristen Oelke
Mara Piper | 17
Jack Berube |
| 6
Wesley Vanderbush | 19
David Kankelfirtz |
| 7
Alexander Eickman
Nels Fiechtner
Tyler Isgrig | Rhys Treiber |
| 8
Bobbi Solberg Laney | 20
Ayanna Anderson
Ben Braaten
Kinslee Carney
Rhoda Faleide
Zachary VanHorn |
| 9
Judy Moe | 21
Amy Burdick
Kellen Dougherty
Lindsey Thorstad |
| 10
Nathan Aamold
Graham Qualey | 22
Todd Goschen |
| 11
Randy Wehler | 23
Klara Helfenstein
Krista Knutson |
| 12
Matt Fremstad
Nancy Pearson
Jack Torbet | 24
Zelia Dougherty
Britta Gibbons |
| 13
Janel Aamold
Ann Johnson | 26
Breann Bundgaard
Rachel Jones
Jacob Labernik
Colton Langerud |
| 14
Phyllis Benson
Emma Ibach | 27
Mary Hallquist
Chelsey Hanson |
| 15
Ellen Bratholt
Nancy Heinzer
Chris Langerud | 28
Collin Backman
Bill Tweten |



April 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
10 am • Coffee Hour • Men's Choir • Youth Chevra 2 pm Girl Scouts 3:30 Just for Kix	8:30 am Aerobics 6:30 pm Cub Scouts 7:00 pm Boy Scouts 7:00 pm Came to Believe Just for Kix	1:00 pm Staff Meeting Just for Kix	8:30 am Messiah Quilters 9:00 am Men's Bible Study 7:00 Festival Choir 8:00 Joy Ringers	 Just for Kix	8:30 am Aerobics	
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Messiah Office Closed	2 6 pm Exec	3 5:15 Meal 6 pm Contemporary Worship 7 pm Confirmation	4 Noon & 6:30 pm Who Told You That Book Study	5	6
7 9 & 11 am Worship 7 pm Camino de Santiago w/ Stan Andrist	8	9 Circle Bible Study 9:30 am Rachel 6:30 pm Anna	10 5:15 Meal 6 pm Contemporary Worship 7 pm Confirmation	11 Noon & 6:30 pm Who Told You That Book Study	12	13
14 9 & 11 am Worship Noisy Change	15 Messenger Deadline 6:30 pm Women's Ministry Meeting	16 7 pm Council	17 5:15 Meal 6 pm Contemporary Worship 7 pm Confirmation	18 Noon & 6:30 pm Who Told You That Book Study 6:30 pm 75th Anniversary Team Meeting	19 Setup for Spring Vendor Show	20 9 AM to Noon 3rd Annual Spring Vendor Show & Bake Sale
21 9 & 11 am Worship	22	23	24 5:15 Meal 6 pm Contemporary Worship 7 pm Confirmation	25 Noon & 6:30 pm Who Told You That Book Study	26	27
28 9 & 11 am Worship	29	30 7 pm Women's Book Club				

Messiah Youth News



Sunday Youth Chevra

Sunday Youth Chevra
10 AM • Youth Room

"Chevra" = "friends" in biblical Hebrew.
See you on Sunday!

Event RSVPs needed with Bud for...

Sat. April 6: Holi Festival > a Spring celebration with a splash of color & great food. \$10/Person (deadline Wed. 4/3)
Thurs. April 11: Mercy Me Concert 7 PM
Your whole family is welcome!!
Est. \$35 per ticket (deadline Sun. April 7)

Messiah Confirmation

Wednesdays at 7 PM

- ♦ Youth Room, Grades 6 and up
- ♦ Confirmation Hosts > Confirm your date with Bud.
- ♦ Senior High Fellowship (directly following Confirmation, in the Youth Room) RSVP w/Bud

April Confirmation Discussions > More Bible Basics!

Students (and Guest Hosts!) will explore and discuss more stories from the Old & New Testament.

See you on Wednesdays at 7 PM!!
Contact Bud for your date to Guest Host!!!

Bud's Email > YouthDtr@MessiahFargo.com



Messiah students met up at a Fargo force game for some fun, fellowship, and a great game! (Go Force!)



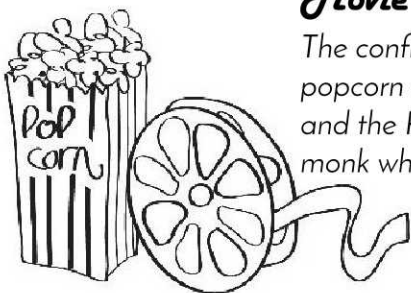
Important Bible Stories & How to Interpret Them

Students are looking at impactful Bible stories and learning how to interpret them using historical/cultural understanding to examine each story from multiple perspectives; and, then, learn how to apply these teachings to their own lives. Some favorites so far: "woman at the well," "parable of the workers in the vineyard," and "Jesus walking on the water."

Movie Night at Messiah Confirmation

The confirmation kids got to "go to the movies" as they ate popcorn and watched a film by Rick Steves on Martin Luther and the Reformation. It was an intriguing story of a humble monk who lived a dramatic life.

It is important to know our Lutheran heritage and how the Protestant Reformation changed the world.



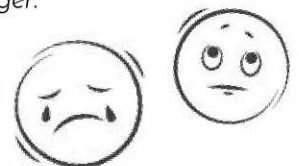
Dealing with Emotions
Pastor Laurie talked with the confirmation kids about handling emotions.



Are they good or bad? (The answer is they are neither; it is what you do with them that counts.)



Our main focus was anger. What makes us angry and how do we deal with it in a healthy way? Students learned about anger from a biblical perspective then discussed what makes them angry as well as practiced healthy ways to express their anger.



What have we been learning on this 2024 Lenten journey?

from Pastor Laurie's Ash Wednesday message:

"What is so wonderful and so challenging about Ash Wednesday and the whole season of Lent is its insistence that we are FREE. Free of the trappings of the world which lie to us. Free of the sins which stain us. Free of the death that is inevitable."

"God doesn't define us by your failures; -he doesn't use them to shame us; -he doesn't hold them over our heads -he doesn't throw them in our face—no, he **removes** them as far as the east is from the west. Our perpetual shortcomings are no match for a faithful God who is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love."



Our kids learned that God is Loyal. They drew pictures as if a friend was sitting across the table. Then, they added a red heart as a symbol that they will always be a loyal friend—just as God is loyal to them.

Kids' KEY VERSE

The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

Psalm 103:8 (NRSV)

Check out the Bible story in Exodus 16:1-35!!

DON'T GIVE THE ENEMY A SEAT AT YOUR TABLE

Who is sitting at your table?

We have learned that God welcomes us to His Table. But, even as He welcomes us, He also reminds us that the enemy is close by wanting to make us stumble. What to do?

Focus on our Lord—He is at your table & will help you handle the tactics of the enemy.



God's Invitation Always Stands

The enemy wants to define you by your scars—every mistake that you have ever made. But Jesus wants to define you by his scars. Grace not only cancels guilt and shame—grace also redefines you. You are a beloved family member of God, and because of that, you are given a seat at the table with our Almighty God.

Let us bless our God.
Praise and thanks to you.
May God, Creator,
bless us and keep us,
may Christ be ever light
for our lives,
may the Spirit of Love
be our guide and path
for all of our days.
Amen.





Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church

April 2024

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Mission Statement:

Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church
is a Messenger of God's Grace.

Vision Statement:

...to nurture a deep spiritual relationship with Jesus Christ
inspiring all people to Christ-like maturity, equipping them
to do His work, and to celebrate and experience His love.



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Susan Langerud

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Katelynn Norman

Treasurer:

Jan Lundgren

Council Members:

Suzanne Sheldon

Dan Oberholtzer

Melissa Mocol

Jon Steinmetz

Melody Holen

Stan Andrist

Information

Sunday Worship Schedule

9:00 a.m. Traditional Worship

10:00 a.m. Coffee Hour

11:00 a.m. Worship

Wed. Contemporary Worship

5:15 p.m. Meal

6:00 p.m. Worship

Office Hours

Mon/Tues/Thurs/Fri 9 a.m.–4 p.m.

Wednesday 8 a.m.–5 p.m.

The Hour of Worship TV Schedule & Online Options

Messiah's The Hour of Worship can be seen on WDAY-TV, Channel 6 at 11 a.m. on Sundays. It will also be available on Vimeo® and by links on Facebook®.

The Messenger Deadline

5 p.m. on the 15th of April for the May Edition. No copy for the newsletter will be accepted after this time.

Find us on  and 
as Messiah Lutheran Fargo