



# The Messenger

Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church of Fargo

Volume 29, Issue 4

## Holy Week

at Messiah Lutheran Fargo

### Palm Sunday

Sunday, April 13 • 9 AM & 11 AM

### Maundy Thursday

Thursday, April 17 • 6 PM

### Good Friday

Friday, April 18 • 6 PM

### Easter Sunday

Sunday, April 20 • 9 AM & 11 AM

## Christ is Risen!



April 2025

Inside this Issue:

Pastor's Page	3
Christian Ed	4
WELCA Women's Ministry	5
Church Council	6
Stewardship	7
History	11
Birthdays	12
Calendar	13
Lenten Schedule	14



### Messiah Women's Ministry 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Vendor Show and Bake Sale

Saturday April 26 – 9 AM to 1 PM

Our Spring Vendor Show and Bake sale returns!  
Come support local businesses and shop for Mother's Day!!

*Bring bake goods packaged and ready to sell to Messiah Kitchen by 8 AM Saturday morning.*



## The Story of Being Found

One sunny afternoon, a young boy named Jack wandered away from his father while they were at the park by a forest. Caught up in the excitement of the trees, he didn't realize how far he had strayed. Panic set in as his father noticed he couldn't find his son. He called out, but the only response was the rustling of leaves in the breeze.

When children go missing, parents start searching. And that's exactly what Jack's dad did. Soon, the entire community was helping look for him. Search and rescue teams combed the area. One coordinator said, "I don't think there's a square foot in this town that doesn't have footprints."

Yes, when children go missing, parents go looking. And God has been doing the same for us throughout *The Story*. We began in September with Genesis, and now we are learning about the fulfillment of God's plan and the Great Commission: "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations" (Matt. 28:19). In this month's chapters of *The Story*, we see how God sends us out to seek others for his sake.

There is no place on earth without his footprints. He started searching the moment Adam and Eve lost their way. He sent his Son to "seek and save what was lost" (Luke 19:10).

Today, he sends his church—he sends us. In Acts 1:8, we find his search and rescue plan: "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

We still have the same mission—to be witnesses for Jesus in our Jerusalems and in the world. We are called to search for those who have lost their way.

Let's make sure there's not a single square foot left without our footprints for the sake of the Kingdom.

Just so you know—Jack was found, unharmed but a little shaken. Thank God for those who search for the lost.



## Are you ready to make a difference? It's easier than you think!

As we continue to grow as a congregation, we are reminded of the purpose we find in serving others. The Bible teaches us that we are the body of Christ, and each of us has a vital role to play in God's mission on earth. This truth should inspire us to live out our faith—not just talk about it, but show it through action. Volunteering is one of the most powerful ways to put God's love into action and serve one another.

You should've recently received a letter explaining how we've split our church roster into 12 groups, with each household taking a month to help out with different ministries.

No matter what your gifts are, there's a place for you to make a difference here at Messiah, and we hope you'll embrace this opportunity to serve. When we come together in service, we strengthen our community and reflect Christ's love to everyone around us. Whether the task is big or small, it's all part of our

mission to spread hope and grace.

Volunteering isn't just about filling a need—it's also about growing closer to God and building relationships with others. It's a chance to connect, experience the joy of serving, and be part of something bigger than ourselves.

Thank you in advance for being willing to say "yes" when asked to help out. You're awesome!



***Remember, volunteers don't get paid, not because they're worthless, but because they're PRICELESS!***

## A Message From Pastor Laurie

I love golf. I don't get to play as much as I'd like, but it's definitely on my list for after retirement! I was on the golf team in high school, and I had a blast, even though my dad thought golf was the silliest game ever. He couldn't get why anyone would want to hit a ball and then chase after it—time and time again. The whole strategy was lost on him.

Butch Harmon, who's worked with everyone from Fred Couples to Tiger Woods, tells a story about a club member who kept struggling with shanks—those shots that just go all wrong. Butch spent 20 minutes trying to fix his stance, his weight transfer, his wrists, arms, shoulders, even his chin. He tried everything, but the guy kept hitting shanks.

Butch went to his dad, Claude Harmon, to see if he could help. Claude watched the guy swing once and then said, "Keep your clubface square." Five minutes later, the guy was hitting straight down the fairway.

Butch asked how he figured it out so quickly, and Claude said, "I knew what he was doing before I stood up from behind my desk. . . . A shank is a shank. I knew the guy was hitting it with a shut clubface before I walked out here. The only question left was, what did I need to tell him to get him to stop?"

In the same way, Jesus already knows what's causing the "shanks" in your life. He knows why your "swing" is off, and he already has the solution—even before you ask for help. He knows because he took care of the problem on the cross. Remember when he said, "It is finished!" (John 19:30)? That was the moment he paid the debt that we could never pay ourselves.

April 18 is Good Friday, although it is hard to call that day "good." Yet it was on that day, on the cross, that Jesus did the work of satisfying both God's holiness and his love. God's holiness is foundational to everything in Scripture. It means he's "set apart" and different from us—not just better, but completely beyond us. And because of that, he sees sin differently than we do. It can't just be ignored; it has to be dealt with.

But God is also love. So, he put our sin on his Son and took the punishment there. That's how he took care of sin—and you and me, too, when we embrace him as Savior.

So, just like in golf, when we let Jesus handle the "shanks" in our lives, everything falls into place.



We don't have to keep struggling with the same mistakes over and over. He's already fixed the problem, and the answer is right there in the sacrifice he made for us on the cross. With him, our lives can be full of purpose, direction, and peace.

No more shanks—just a steady swing toward the life he's called us to live.

*HAPPY EASTER!  
See you in church.  
Pr. Laurie*

# Christian Education ♦ Messiah Youth

## From Our Youth Director > Bud:

Confirmation students continue to learn valuable life skills.

In contrast to the Esther story, students examined when and how to re-examine our views. Students tried to lift a foot while their shoulder and other foot were flat against the wall. Unfortunately, this task was impossible because they couldn't shift their center of gravity.

Students talked about how Christ should be their center. If a belief they hold is keeping them from Jesus, they need to tear down and rebuild their internal temple (an internal reformation).

During this portion of the month, students looked at examples of social and religious reformation, and how the two interact. Students developed skills they need to self-examine coupled with the knowledge that as long as God centers us, nothing can tear us down.

## Messiah Confirmation

Wednesdays at 7 PM

♦ Youth Room, Grades 7+

♦ Youth Fellowship (directly following Confirmation, in the Youth Room)



**THE STORY > REWIND.** (What has happened so far?)

**SEE The Story.** (What does this chapter represent?)

**HEAR The Story.** (What was most meaningful?)

**JOIN The Story.** (What challenges or inspires you?)



**Bud's Email > [YouthDtr@MessiahFargo.com](mailto:YouthDtr@MessiahFargo.com)**

# THE STORY

## Finding our story in God's Story.



Each week in "The Story" Students learn about the Upper Story (God's Story) with the rest of the church but students also explore a Lower Story where we focus on a specific part of the week's chapter and dive into how it affects their lives.



One topic we had this month was the courage of Esther and having courage in your faith. Students discussed the sacrifices Esther was willing to make and the courage required to save her people.

Then, they examined their own life: identifying sacrifices they have made; others have made for them; and learning what values they would stand strong in.

As a part of this class, we had Jan Nelson join us to teach more about self sacrifice. (A big "Thank You" to Jan!)

Jan will continue as a guest speaker with our students throughout Lent.

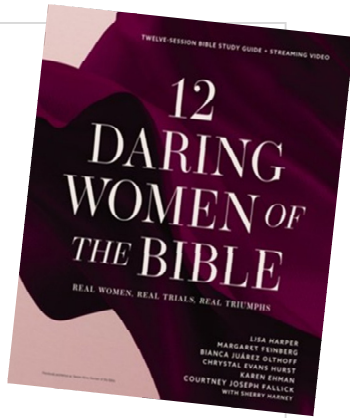


**Women's Circle  
Bible Studies**

Tuesday, April 8

(Every 2nd Tuesday)

- Rachel Circle 9:30 AM
- Anna Circle 6:30 PM



Join us for a Bible Study called "12 Daring Women of the Bible." This Bible study helps participants learn to live through life's failures and successes, draw near to God

*Thank you*

Many thanks to Sharon Weitzel for creating scrapbooks for Messiah Women's Ministry (WELCA). For several years, Sharon has worked on this important project, and we have appreciated her excellent work.

*Next Meeting*  
Mon. April 21



**Women's Book Club • Tues. April 29 • 7 pm**

Book: The Mostly True Story of Tanner & Louise  
by: Colleen Oakley  
Host > Dottie Stegman



*Here's an opportunity to get involved:*

- ♦ Auxiliary Representative for Bethany Retirement Living needed.
- ♦ Women's Ministry Historian Needed.

The Women's Ministry Historian gathers photos and descriptions of events of Messiah Women's Ministry (WELCA) and constructs scrapbooks (albums) for safekeeping at the church. The work can be done at home, expenses are reimbursed. There are many scrapbooks from the past that can be examined. New books do not have to be exact copies of previous. The latest scrapbook is in the church office and it has additional pages yet to be filled.

**Bethany Geranium Sale**

Choose Red, Pink, Salmon or White!  
Plants in 4 1/2 inch pots for just \$6 each.  
These beautiful zonal plants are locally grown.

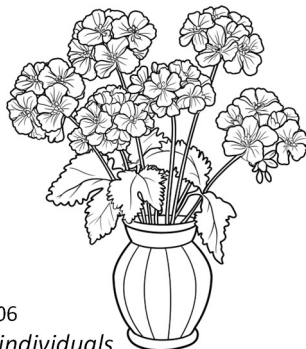
**\$6 per Plant** 🌸 **Payment & Orders due Sun. April 27**

**Checks payable to: Bethany Auxiliary**  
Drop orders w/payment at Church Office  
**Pickup Day > Thurs. May 8**  
**after 2 pm at Messiah North Door**

**Questions: contact Mary Bjerke**

Email: [sauvageaufargo@gmail.com](mailto:sauvageaufargo@gmail.com); Phone 701/388-3206

NOTE: Mary is willing to deliver to homebound individuals.



**EaND Synodical Women's Organization  
2025 Spring Roundup**

**Rooted In Hope  
Sat. April 26**

9 AM to 3:30 PM at Stump Lake Village  
Located 12 miles South of Lakota, ND  
Speakers! Vendors! Fellowship!  
No Registration Fee  
Coffee & Refreshments  
Noon Meal \$20

*Come for the day or even part of the day.  
Be sure to tour the village!*



"At least there is hope for a tree: If it is cut down, it will sprout again, and its new shoots will not fail."

Job 14:7 (NIV)



## A Note from your Council President

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

By the end of this month, we will finish our 40 days of Lent and celebrate the central event of our church, Easter.

We all love Easter, not only because we get to celebrate the manifest promise of Jesus Christ, but also because we are experiencing the bright spring weather and the coming new growth of everything green.

But first we do the work of Lent. Prayer, penitence, and possibly some form of fasting as we remember Jesus' 40 days in the desert.

Easter then brings us new life and hope for something better. Full of new energy, we refocus on our collective mission of celebrating and spreading the Gospel.

Your Messiah Council has recently taken a couple of actions centered on mission. We approved a new projector for the worship sanctuary to replace the one that died. The new projector has already been installed and is in service. We give thanks for two donors who committed to help cover the cost.

Also, based on Pastor Laurie's recommendation, we approved the hiring of a part-time staff person to be our Digital Media Specialist. We look forward to having her help us keep our message useful and consistent on our web site and other digital media platforms.

Alive in Christ, let's continue to share the Gospel and care for our neighbor.

Your Brother in Christ,  
*Stan Andrist*  
Council President



# HE IS RISEN

*Lord our God,*

*You continue to amaze us! As we gather and, come and go, help us learn together as we unpack this unpredictable, radical, world-changing Story.*

*We thank you for sending your Son, Jesus, to show us the best ways to live in relationship to you and to one another.*

*And we ask that you'd give us the eyes to see the world the way Jesus sees it, and the heart to love and serve others the way you want us to.*

*Thank you for showing us your love and grace daily. Amen.*





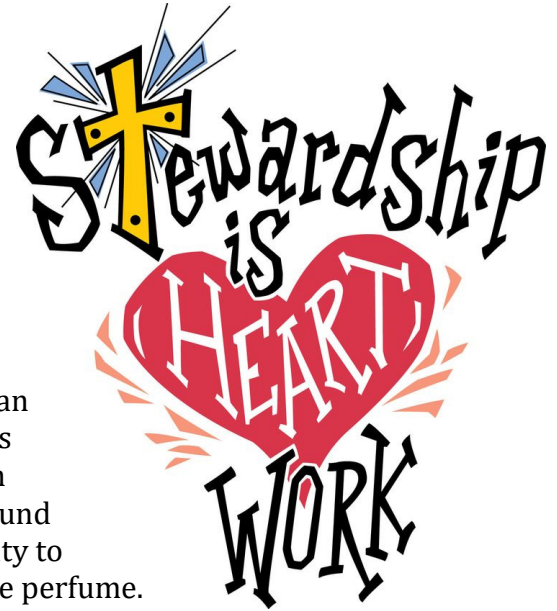
## Our Stewardship Journey: Love Makes Us Do It

When Jesus went willingly to the cross on Good Friday, the world witnessed the greatest possible gift of love.

*“Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends” (John 15:13).*

Because of God’s tremendous love for us, we are empowered to love and serve others. Love makes us do some outrageous serving and giving.

For example, in Luke 7:36-50, we read the story of the sinful woman who washed Jesus’ feet with expensive perfume. In response to His great love and forgiveness, she poured expensive perfume from an alabaster jar on Jesus’ feet. If CNN, Fox News, or ABC had been around at the time of this event, they would have jumped at the opportunity to ask her what prompted her to wash Jesus’ feet with such expensive perfume. Her answer would have been, “Love made me do it.”



*Prayer: Dear Heavenly Father, Your love is new to me each and every day. Help me not take Your love for granted. I pray that Your love within me will overflow to those around me. In Jesus’ precious name I pray. Amen.*

***Blessings on your journey as a Steward! Thank you for your on going (and amazing) support of the mission and ministry of Messiah Lutheran Fargo.***

### Messiah’s QR Code for Electronic Giving

Scan this QR Code to give with the Simply Giving App through Vanco.



When it opens, choose the fund to which you wish to give and follow the prompts. Messiah will be charged

processing fee when you give by card. *Please consider giving a little extra to cover these fees.*

### Messiah Fargo Text-to-Give Number: 833-766-0122

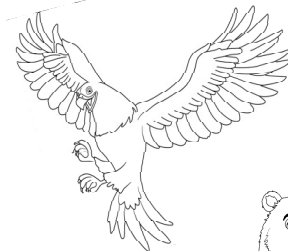
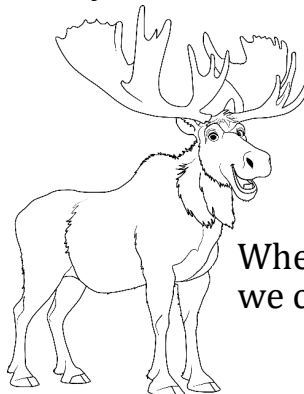
Through GivePlus with Vanco

**It’s both safe and easy. Give it a try and follow the prompts.**



### Messiah’s 2025 Vacation Bible School

Sun. August 10 thru Wed. August 13 ☀ 5:30 to 8 p.m.  
Family Picnic > Wed. @ 5



When we wonder—  
we can trust

*Jesus!*

## Bethany Retirement Living

### Did You Know...

...that Bethany Retirement Living offers a support and educational program called "Endings & Beginnings" for family members who have a loved one with a dementing illness living in a nursing home? This multi-session program is offered twice a year and there is no cost to attend. Participants need not have a resident at Bethany. Topics such as change, loss, the stages of Alzheimer's, behavior, end-of-life and emotional issues are discussed. For additional information, contact Casey at 701-239-3529 or [cjonson@bethanynd.org](mailto:cjonson@bethanynd.org)



# Bethany

*retirement living*



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

Current 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](http://fargonlc.org/currentneeds)

### New Life Thrift Stores

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

Donations  
 always  
 Welcome!



## Churches United for the Homeless

Churches United: "Here for Every Neighbor."

**Current Needs:** Hygiene items, medical supplies, towels, bedding (twin & queen size), quilts, sleeping bags, new pillows. Soaps & Shampoo, New Underwear, plain white T-shirts. Baby Supplies, diapers, wipes, formula, teething gels & diaper rash creams. Food items. Please make sure products are new and unopened.

Complete Listing of Current Needs: [www.churches-united.org](http://www.churches-united.org)



**Donations can be dropped off at Micah's Mission 1901 1st Ave N, Moorhead 8 am—7 pm Daily**

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

### Dear Friends of Open Doors 65,

We need your assistance. Our landlord has sold the building where we currently operate. The new owners have terminated our lease early. We have just 6 months to find a new rental space and move. We need 3,000 to 5000 sq. feet in an affordable downtown location to serve the population that needs us the most.

❖ *Do you know of such a space?* Call Open Doors 65 at 701-799-7550. ❖ We will be raising funds to prepare for the move and cover the related costs. If you are interested in assisting – please contact us today!



### OPEN DOORS 65: Volunteers Needed

Christian volunteers who love Jesus and people are needed. Open Doors 65 provides free assistance to those in need, providing for physical needs as well as support and prayer. Flexible hours available: as little as two 3-hour daytime shifts per month. ❖ Visit our Facebook page or [opendoors65.com](http://opendoors65.com) or call 701-799-7550 for more information. Pick up an application at 307 Main Avenue in Fargo and meet the staff Monday, Wednesday, or Friday from 12:30 - 2:30pm.

**Thank you!**





### THE STORY Study Groups

Sundays at 10 AM with Pastor Jeff  
Mondays at 1 PM with Vicki Peterson  
Wednesdays at 9 AM with Men’s Bible Study  
Thursdays at Noon & 6:30 PM with Pastor Laurie

**We are finding our story in God’s Story...think about:**

❖ “Pray that we will recognize Jesus in our midst, and throughout each day of our lives.” ❖ “Spend time reflecting on “Who” Jesus is. Let the stories guide you. What can you learn even as you read stories that are so familiar?” ❖ “Jesus said, ‘follow me.’ How are you seeking to live out his calling in your life? ❖ “When Jesus said, ‘it is finished;’ what was He declaring in the Upper Story?” ❖ “God calls his people to share the good news and hope we have found in Jesus. How are we doing?”



**Have you joined a Study Group? The invitation is always open. Come when you are able. Invite a friend or neighbor to join us. See you in church!**



### Pray for our Kids!! Pray with our Kids! When? All the time. Any time....Anywhere and...Everywhere.

#### Week 1, we pray:

God, you continue to amaze us every single week as we come together and unpack this unpredictable, radical, world-changing Story. We thank you for sending your Son, Jesus, to show us the best ways to live in relationship to you and to one another. And we ask that you’d give us the eyes to see the world the way Jesus sees it, and the heart to love and serve others the way you want us to.

Thank you for showing us your love and grace daily. Amen.

#### Week 2, we pray:

God, we’re in awe of this person of Jesus—the Son of the Living God. We’re grateful for the ways in which his story—your Story—unfolds to show your passion for leading and redeeming your people. We ask that you’d continue to show us what it means to live out the kingdom of God in our lives every day. Be with us as we wrestle through the big questions of who Jesus is and what he means for our lives here and now.

We ask this all in his name.

Amen.

#### Week 3, we pray:

God, we are filled with hope and awe at the way you decisively entered your own Story. Thank you for showing us your love and power by conquering death and raising Jesus to new life. God, we ask that you continue to show us the “dead” areas in our lives that you wish to bring to life. May we also be assured every day that there is always hope because you have power over everything—even the grave.

We pray in the name of Jesus, who is alive! Amen.

#### Week 4, we pray:

God, we are so excited and honored to be a part of a community of faith that has been gathering for thousands of years and experienced such amazing things as a result of your Holy Spirit. Thank you for giving this same Spirit to each and every one of us to be with us through even the toughest times. May we continue to grow as a community of your followers and figure out what it means to be a blessing to all people in your name. Amen.



## Noisy Change Offering: Sunday, April 27 for Farm in the Dell

Messiah's Noisy Change on Sunday, April 27 will support Farm In The Dell of the Red River Valley. Farm in the Dell is a Christian centered non-profit organization that focuses on creating community based employment opportunities for people with disabilities. Their mission is to transform disabilities into abilities.

*"The most important part of why we do what we do is because we believe every person has great worth in God's eyes, no matter what their abilities are."*

Farm In The Dell doesn't just plant produce and flowers. Their 6 acre garden provides employment and learning opportunities which teach discipline and increase self confidence and feelings of worthiness. With guidance and instruction, they learn valuable skills working in the gardens from planting through harvest. They both acquire vocational training and learn life skills, as well as business/marketing skills They learn purposeful work that fills their spirits, sharpens their minds and cultivates joy. They also learn business/marketing skills by seeing how the garden produce gets integrated into the community. This helps them feel like they really belong to their community and supports the yearly cycle of giving. People with disabilities WANT to give back to their community and they CAN give back.



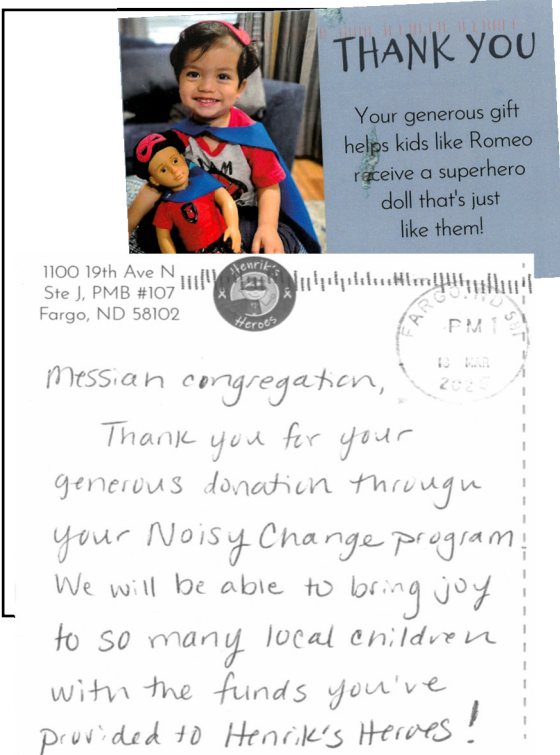
You can also become a CSA shareholder. CSA is Community Supported Agriculture is a membership that gives you & your family a variety of freshly picked vegetables once the gardens start producing. This provides immediate income for Farm in the Dell to buy seeds and begin planting. The foods are healthy, locally grown, and pesticide free, plus you have the satisfaction of knowing its origin. (For details > [farminthedellrrv.org/csa](http://farminthedellrrv.org/csa) )

Employees and staff are Christ centered. They are called to care for their CSA community through prayer. In their daily huddle, they pray for their shareholders and ask God's blessing on the produce and flowers they grow.

***Please consider donating to support the good work that is done at Farm In The Dell.***

***You will be supporting a community of "farmers" who find joy in their ability to serve their community. Thank you! Mission Matters Team***

### Thank you from Henrik's Heroes



### MN FoodShare 2025

It's not too late to turn in your non-perishable food and household donations to help our Emergency Food Pantry during the MN FoodShare 2025 Campaign!



***Return your filled donation bags to the church by Sunday, April 6.***

We still have a few spots left to volunteer at the Pantry April 8, 9, and 10. A sign-up sheet is at the Welcome Center.

Return your filled bags to Messiah **by Sunday, April 6.**

***Thank you for sharing your time and food gifts with our neighbors who are in need.***



# Messiah Lutheran of Fargo: Worship in Music through the years

1950s



1970s



1960s



1970s

Kids' Choir (At Left)  
Phyllis Gehrke, Director

## Save the Date

YOU'RE INVITED

Throwback Service: *Sun. May 25, 2025*

Anniversary Celebration: *Sun. Sept. 21, 2025*

Vintage Style Show: *Sat. Oct. 18, 2025 at 2 p.m.*

Mark  
these important dates  
on your 2025  
Calendar!



## First Communion Class ☩ Sun. April 13

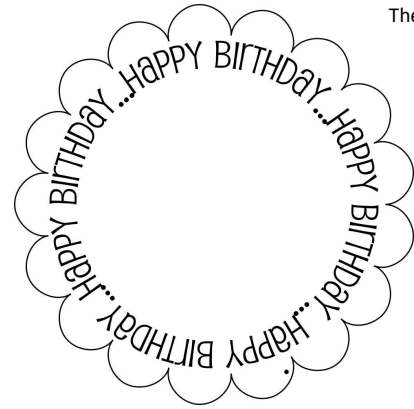
10 a.m. in Rm. 110 (By the Kitchen!)

**Parents** > Stop at the Church Office to pick up materials for Banners. Put them together at home and bring to class.





# April Birthdays



**3**  
Mel Rudnick

**5**  
Tristen Oelke  
Mara Piper

**6**  
Wesley VanderBush

**7**  
Nels Fiechtner  
Tyler Isgrig

**8**  
Bobbi Solberg Laney  
Anakeya Steinmetz

**10**  
Nathan Aamold  
Graham Qualey

**11**  
Randy Wehler

**12**  
Matt Fremstad  
Nancy Pearson  
Jack Torbert

**13**  
Janel Aamold  
Ann Johnson

**14**  
Phyllis Benson  
Emma Ibach

**15**  
Ellen Bratholt  
Nancy Heinzer  
Chris Langerud  
Kristin Treiber

**16**  
Jon Nelson  
Carol Norby

**17**  
Jack Berube

**19**  
Rhys Treiber

**20**  
Ayanna Anderson  
Ben Braaten  
Rhoda Faleide  
Zachary VanHorn

**21**  
Amy Burdick  
Joel Cross  
Kellen Dougherty  
Lindsey Thorstad

**22**  
Todd Goschen

**23**  
Klara Helfenstein  
Krista Knutson  
Leslie Thorstad

**24**  
Zelia Dougherty  
Britta Gibbons

**26**  
Jacob Labernik  
Colton Langerud

**27**  
Chelsey Hanson

**28**  
Collin Beckman



## Mission Giving during Lent at Messiah Fargo

**\$3030** (thru March 25)

How much over \$3500 will we achieve?!

*“And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.”*

Hebrews 13:16

## CARAMEL ROLL FUNDRAISER

Pre-order caramel rolls.  
**\$15 per pan.**

Orders can be picked up Sunday, April 13 at Messiah Lutheran Church between services.

All proceeds will be used to purchase needed supplies for the Patriot Assistance Dogs Facility.















# April 2025



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
10 am Coffee Hour Men's Choir  2 pm Girl Scouts 3:30 pm Just for Kix	6:30 pm Cub Scouts 7 pm Boy Scouts 7 pm Came to Believe  Just for Kix	1 pm Staff Meeting    Just for Kix	8:30 am Messiah Quilters 9 am Men's Bible Study 7 pm Festival Choir 8 pm Joy Ringers	    Just for Kix		

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

		1 	2 5:15 pm Meal 6 pm Holden Evening Prayer 7 pm Confirmation 8 pm Youth Group	3 The Story Bible Study w/Pr. Laurie 12:30pm & 6:30 pm 1 pm Game Time	4 	5
6 9 am Worship 10 am Sun. School & Club 56 Adult Bible Study 11 am > Elm @ 11	7 1 pm The Story Study Group	8 Circles: 9:30 am Rachel 6:30 pm Anna	9 5:15 pm Meal 6 pm Holden Evening Prayer 7 pm Confirmation 8 pm Youth Group	10 The Story Bible Study w/Pr. Laurie 12:30pm & 6:30 pm 1 pm Game Time	11 	12  1 pm Private Event
13 <b>Palm Sunday</b> 9 am Worship 10 am Sun. School & Club 56 Adult Bible Study 11am > Elm @ 11 	14 1 pm The Story Study Group	15 * <u>Newsletter Deadline</u>  7 pm Council	16 No Activities  	17 <b>Maundy Thurs.</b>  6 pm Worship and First Communion	18 <b>Good Friday</b> 6 pm Tenebrae  	19 <b>NOTE:</b> <b>Church Office</b> Closed on Mon. April 21
20 <b>Easter Sunday</b> 9 am Worship 10 am Adult Bible Study 11am > Elm @ 11 ☞ No Sun. School & Club 56	21 <b>Office Closed</b> 1 pm The Story Study Group 7 pm Messiah Women's Ministry	22 	23 5:15 Meal 6 pm W.O.W. 7 pm Confirmation 8 pm Youth Group	24 The Story Bible Study w/Pr. Laurie 12:30pm & 6:30 pm 1 pm Game Time	25 Vendor Show Setup 2 pm to 6 pm	26 <b>4th Annual Vendor Show and Bake Sale</b> 9 am to 1 pm
27 <b>Noisy Change</b> 9 am Worship 10 am Sun. School & Club 56 Adult Bible Study 11am > Elm @ 11	28 1 pm The Story Study Group	29 7 pm Women's Book Club	30 5:15 Meal 6 pm W.O.W. 7 pm Confirmation 8 pm Youth Group	31 The Story Bible Study w/Pr. Laurie 12:30pm & 6:30 pm 1 pm Game Time		

## Journey of the Stones: Lenten Lessons for 2025



Wed. April 2: Upon This Rock ✠ Matthew 16:13-20

This story in Matthew 16 begins with the disciples reflecting on who people think Jesus is, but Jesus shifts the question to something deeply personal:

*"Who do you say that I am?"*

Wed. April 9: Crying Stones ✠ Luke 19:29-40

This passage in Luke 19 reflects on Jesus' triumphant yet paradoxical entry into Jerusalem, where the joyous crowd celebrated Him as King while being unaware of the Pharisee's plot to end His ministry.

Palm Sunday April 13 ✠ 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.

*From Palm to Passion*

Maundy Thurs.: Stones to Bread ✠ Matthew 4:1-11

In Matthew 4, we see the central message of love, as emphasized by the Apostle John and Jesus' new commandment. It underscores the transformative power of Holy Communion.

Good Friday: The Stone in Shadows ✠ Matthew 27:59-60

The word 'Tenebrae' is a Latin word meaning 'shadow.' A shadow has been cast over Jesus, the cornerstone of our faith. This Tenebrae Cantata meditates on Christ's darkest hour. Thankfully, we do not grieve as those who have no hope.

Easter Sunday April 20 ✠ 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.

*"He's Alive! Christ the Lord is Risen Today!"*

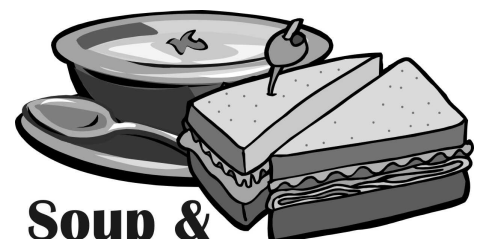
### Support Messiah's Youth

*Lenten Meals served by Messiah's Youth*

Through Wednesday April 9

5:15 to 5:45 p.m. ❖ See you there!

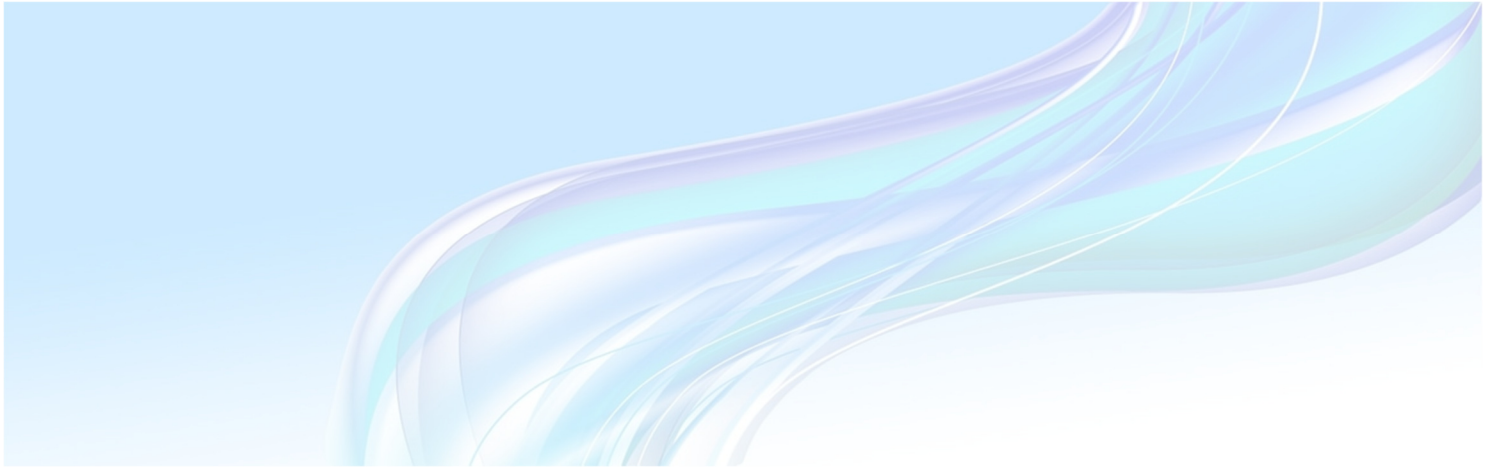
Duluth, Minnesota is located on Lake Superior and is well-known for outdoor adventures and natural beauty. However, it also has the highest share of extreme poverty in Minnesota. In July 2025, Messiah Youth will **Serve Boldly** with local churches to serve our neighbors in Duluth.



**Soup & Sandwich Supper**

**SERVE  
BOLDLY**

**Duluth, MN**





Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church of Fargo

April 2025

2010 Elm ST N  
Fargo, ND 58102

Phone: 701-237-6770  
www.messiahfargo.com

NON PROFIT ORG.

U.S. Postage

PAID

Fargo, N. Dakota

Permit No. 799

## CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

## 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.



### Staff

**Senior Pastor:**

Rev. Laurie Neill

Email: SeniorPastor@messiahfargo.com

**Parish Administrator:**

Sharon Syrdal

Email: ParishAdmin@messiahfargo.com

**Youth Director:** Bud Schenk

Email: YouthDtr@messiahfargo.com

**Administrative Assistant:** Karen McCloud

Email: AdminAssist@messiahfargo.com

**Bookkeeper:** Trudy Eide

Email: Bookkeeper@messiahfargo.com

**Organist/Director & Coordinator of Music:**

Jim Gurney

mail: jimgurney@messiahfargo.com

**W.O.W. Worship Leader &  
Joy Ringers Director:** Trudy Eide  
Email: teide01@aol.com

**Children's Music Director:** Lindsey Thorstad

**Media Technician:** Erik Eide

**Custodian:** Kelvin Fisher

**Wedding Coordinators:**

Amanda Leichtenberg & Kimberly Groszhans

### Council

**President:**

Stan Andrist

**Vice President:**

Susan Langerud

**Secretary:**

Katelynn Norman

**Treasurer:**

Dan Oberholtzer

**Council Members:**

Eric Gerst

Melody Holen

Jan Lundgren

Melissa Mocol

Doug Nasset

Jon Steinmetz

### Information

**Sunday Worship Schedule**

9:00 a.m. Hour of Worship

10:00 a.m. Coffee Hour

11:00 a.m. Elm@11

**W.O.W. - Worship On Wed.**

5:15 p.m. Meal

6:00 p.m. W.O.W.

**Office Hours**

Mon/Tues/Thurs 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Wednesday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Friday 9 a.m. - Noon

**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