



**November 2023**

1706 Lee Boulevard  
North Mankato, MN  
507-387-5537



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### **Thursday November 2nd at 10:00 am —Decorating Outside of Church**

While the weather is still nice out, we are hoping to gather up an outside decorating team to beautify the church grounds for Christmas. This is a fun opportunity for those who love to decorate. We are looking for some “strong” helpers that can lend a hand for some decorating fun. There is an organized plan on how to accomplish this bright project, so everything is ready to turn on at Thanksgiving time. Anyone interested in decorating, please contact the office and let us know so we can plan accordingly. Thank you in advance! If the weather doesn’t permit us to work on this on November 2nd, we will reschedule and post an update on Facebook.

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### **Thursday Evening Bible Study**

The Thursday evening Bible study will finish the study on the Mystery of Revelation on November 2nd. This group will take a break until the beginning of January where we will start the series “Biblical Stewardship: Our Duty and Delight”. Look for a specific start date in next month’s newsletter. This group welcomes new members at any time!

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### **Sunday, November 5th Messiah Worships United at 10:00 am**

Please join us for an All Saint’s Day worship on Sunday, November 5th at 10:00 am. The service will feature a time of remembering the saints who were a part of this congregation who died during the last year. The worship service will also have a time of remembrance for all loved ones who have gone before us. Many members of the congregation have experienced the death of loved ones in the past year and this service can offer a time for remembering both our grief and our hopes.

Gary Zandstra	Jim Middleton	Suzanne Holland	Cheech Middleton
Leigh Paulsen	Tom Tonneson	Tonia Worthen	Judy Funk

***Reminder it’s Daylight Savings this weekend ... time to “fall back”.***

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### **Messiah Lunch Group**

We are pleased to invite you to join us for lunch on **Tuesday, November 6th, 11:30 a.m.** at Applebee’s in Mankato. This is a senior gathering event for Messiah members and friends. We hope you will join us for good food, lively conversation, fun, and a chance to know other Messiah members. We will meet monthly at various restaurants of your choice in the Mankato area. Come and go as you please. Call the church office (387-5537) or email [Messiah@MessiahNorthMankato.com](mailto:Messiah@MessiahNorthMankato.com) to let us know if you are coming by Friday, September 29th.

## Attention Singers

You are invited to join us in celebrating Christmas by singing during worship on Christmas Eve at 10:30 am and 2:30 pm. **Choir Rehearsal will be at 6:45 pm on December 13th.**



## Poinsettia Orders

We invite you to support Messiah by filling the sanctuary with poinsettias for the Christmas season by ordering a plant. Orders need to be in by November 22nd. The cost is \$15.00 and checks can be made out to *Key City Sertoma*. Forms are available in the Narthex.

## Christmas Luminaries

To order a luminary for your loved one, complete a form and include a \$5.00 donation. Forms are available in the Narthex until December 17th.



## Christmas Worship

We are finalizing worship services for Christmas in the next few weeks. Keep an eye on the weekly "What's Up" weekly email and the announcements for more details to come.



## Sharing Tree

If you or someone you know could use some extra help this holiday season, let the office know by Monday, November 13th, as we prepare to host our sharing tree.

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## Sunday School

### Looking Ahead

**November 5th**—Sunday School will be from 9:15-10:00 am as we will worship united at 10:00 am that day.

**November 26th**—There will be no Sunday School due to the Thanksgiving weekend.

**December 17th @ 10:30 am**—Sunday school children will participate in their Christmas Program during worship.

**December 24th & 31st**—There will be no Sunday School between Christmas and New Year's.

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## Middle School Ministries

### November Updates

**November 1st**—Guest teachers are Steve and Janet Jones who will lead worship and large group.

**November 8th**—An outreach team from Gustavus Adolphus College will join us again this year in leading an evening of worship, music, and lots of fun!

**November 15th**—Messiah is hosting this year's Winter Warm-up where area ELCA middle school students gather for a fun event. Parents: please note change in drop-off/pick-up times: dinner starts at 5:45 pm and the event runs from 6:30—8:00 pm.

**November 22nd**—NO evening activities leading up to Thanksgiving.

**November 29th**—MSM with Interim Pastor Tim McDermott.

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## Last Sunday Sessions

All high school students are welcome to join in an afternoon of fun at the WOW Zone for the November Last Sunday Session. Put Sunday, November 19th at 3:00 pm on your calendars. Bring money for the activities you want to do. Kara Pipes will be your chaperone that day, so check in with her, and let her know if you need anything.

## Fiesta de la Familia

*Thursday, November 9th—6:00-8:00 pm*

The Welcome Team invites you to a celebration to recognize the Cruz family at Christ the King Lutheran Church. Enjoy a Nicaraguan-style supper, short program, and music. There is no charge for this event. Space is limited, so please contact the church office to make reservations. Free will offerings are gratefully accepted.

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### *- A Message from Interim Pastor Tim McDermott -*

Dear Partners in the Gospel,

Thank you for welcoming me to Messiah Lutheran Church as your Intentional Interim Pastor. Two years ago, I “retired” from Bethel Lutheran Church in Northfield after 25 years of ministry there. My first interim call was at St. Ansgar’s Lutheran in Cannon Falls, and I just finished my second interim at Spring Garden Lutheran, a rural congregation south of Cannon Falls.

A little bit about me and my family: I grew up in Toledo, Ohio, and graduated from the University of Idaho and Trinity Lutheran Seminary. I began my ministry in Michigan before being called to Bethel. My wife Lisa and I have twin girls, Madeline and Bronwyn, who are in their junior year of college, Madeline at the University of Minnesota and Bronwyn at Rochester Institute of Technology in New York. It’s an exciting time for them and an expensive time for us 😊 but we were blessed to have them both at home this past summer. Lisa works in the Music Department at St. Olaf, a job she thoroughly enjoys. We have two dogs, Brie and Ginger (both of whom are Cavapoos) and many house projects to keep us occupied in our free time. We like camping in our pop-up and exploring the beauty of God’s creation. So far, we have explored 32 states and 9 Canadian provinces.

I am excited to get to know you, learn your names, hear your stories, and help you develop your visions for the future of Messiah Lutheran. Please feel free to drop by my office at any time (I will begin my ministry at Messiah on November 15). I am so excited to enter into your ministry and help you plan for your future.

Your Partner in the Gospel,  
Pastor Tim

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### **Messiah Food Ministry Volunteer Opportunities**

Messiah has committed to volunteer as a congregation for the following organizations. Opportunities exist to make part of a meal or serve at the site. Please see sign-up sheets for the coming month in the narthex. If you’re not available this month, all additional dates through December are listed below. If you are unable to help make, serve, or deliver food, please consider a donation to purchase the food.

#### **Crossroads Lunch for a Buck**

Crossroads Campus Ministry is for students of all backgrounds and beliefs who need food to sustain them through challenging times. Messiah is looking for volunteers to make food on Mondays, deliver and serve food on Tuesdays.

November 20 & 21

#### **Connections Shelter**

The Connections shelter is an emergency shelter in Mankato that houses men, women, and families. The shelter is open from 6 pm-8 am daily and has a 35-bed capacity with nightly meal.

November 27 & 28

December 28 & 29

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### **Anti-Racism Team Meeting**

The anti racism team is planning a focus on indigenous culture in the coming months. We'll read Braiding Sweetgrass by Robin Wall Kimmerer. We'll meet the first Wednesday of each month at 5:30, starting December 6th. We are also planning a trip for a Sacred Sites Tour next spring and a visit to the pow wow next September. More information to come and contact Sonja and Briana Parr-Baker at [sonjaparr@gmail.com](mailto:sonjaparr@gmail.com) with any questions.

From the Church Council ...

## —October Highlights—

Stewardship & Finance: As of September 30, our giving is at 68% of budget vs. 70% of the last 2 years' average and are behind \$7,000 from projections. Fortunately, we have 5 Sundays in October and the fourth quarter is typically our biggest season of giving. We thank God that our snow season has not begun yet.

This past month, the council has met with the synod and the new interim pastor that will start mid-November. Decisions regarding a capital campaign for early 2024 are also in progress.

Next council meeting will be Sunday, November 19th at 11:30 am.

\*The annual meeting is in early 2024. Team leaders, please submit final reports by December 31st.

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## Ways to Give Online

1. Scan this QR code: *or*

2. Visit our website at [messiahnorthmankato.com](http://messiahnorthmankato.com)

> Click on "OFFERING" on the home-page, or go to the "GIVING" tab

> Choose the amount you'd like to give and the frequency (e.g. one-time, weekly, monthly)

> Make donations by using a credit or debit card, or by using your bank account. Know your gift is appreciated and helps support the ministry of Messiah.



## Share the Warmth

THANK YOU to everyone who donated winter wear last month. Over 160 items were sent to the Salvation Army.

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## Gardening Update

*A special thank you to the entire gardening team* for all their work throughout the summer, planting and maintaining the church grounds. There was also a large group that helped get the gardens ready for winter. April & Carl Rosendale, Deb & Frank Steichen, Doris Hertzgaard, Jeri Veldman, Jim Jilek, Jerry & Sandy Crest, Joyce Hankins, Karna Swenson-Stock, Kay Lund, Kim & Sherry Henrickson, Lynelle Harms, Lynell Senden, Mary Jane Hassel, Mary Jo Hensel, Phyllis Skadah, Rosemary Kinne, Sarah Suskovic, Dave Dahl, Doug Stock and Mary Borth.

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## Quilting

Mark your calendars! Quilting begins in January. It is always great coming back together to resume our work and fellowship once again. Starting January 10th, we meet the second and fourth Tuesdays of January, February, March and April. The quilts are displayed on Mother's Day and the Sunday following and then distributed where needed. New faces are always welcome whether you sew or not. There are several phases to finishing a quilt and all are fun to do and can be learned in minutes and lunch is included. Come join our group! Any questions, call Lynn Klaber 387-6172.

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## Worship Opportunities

A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex at the Ushers Stand, for volunteers willing to assist with 8:30 screens and 10:30 screens and/or Facebook livestream. Anyone who knows how, can sign up on a week-by-week basis. If you're interested but don't know how, it's easy and we can train you whenever it works best for you—it only takes 30 minutes to get the hang of it. This is a great opportunity for students who are looking for volunteer hours. **Please Note:** We will continue to stream the 8:30 am worship each week and add 10:30 Facebook Live when we have volunteers.

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## Adult Forum—Postponed

The Adult Forum planned for Sunday, November 19th by Tharan Leopold, has been postponed until after the new year.

## Fall Activities at Messiah

School has started and Messiah students are busy with Sunday School, Middle School Ministries, and Last Sunday Sessions. Messiah adults are meeting for lunch, participating in bible studies, volunteering their time and talents with gardening, knitting, music, fundraisers, donations, making care packages, food preparations and serving those in need. Our Messiah community is strong and faithful. Thank you all!



## From Pastor Trish ...

Grateful. That word sums up what is on my heart as we close this chapter on the ministry we have accomplished together. I am grateful you called me to come and partner with you; grateful for the ways in which you opened your arms and hearts and welcomed both Steve and I into your midst. I am grateful for the many things we have accomplished together: healing from past difficulties, regular Messiah Worship services and experiments with different ways of worship, thriving education programs for all ages, continued and expanded ways of reaching out into our community and world to love and care for others. In some weird way I am even grateful for the pandemic. While I hope to never again have to stand in front of a congregation and say we cannot gather for worship or sit in an empty sanctuary on an Easter morning, we still found ways to worship, and to gather, and even learned to sit outside on chilly October mornings. ☺ But more importantly, the pandemic allowed us to discover who we are as people of God in this particular place and time, and we realized that what was most important was our relationships with each other, and we “re-remembered” that if we are going to love God and love others, the best place for that to begin is in our own community of faith.

And that’s what I am most grateful for – the many ways in which you have loved me and loved one another, and for the ways in which you share that love with others in and outside of Messiah. Before I came to Messiah, Pastor Joy said to me “this place is full of good people”, and was she ever right! The Holy Spirit has gifted this place with an extra dose of care and compassion, and my prayer is that you will continue to use your gifts to show love and be love to others. This world needs so much love these days, but as you already know, the more you give the more you have to give even more. Thank you for letting both Steve and me be a part of this community, and know that we are leaving a big chunk of our hearts (i.e. love!) behind.

God’s love to you always,

Pastor Trish

## November/December Worship Participants and Communion Assistants

If you are unable to serve as scheduled please call the church office or Linda Wenkel (345-6180). Thank you!

### 8:30 am

- 11/5** **Messiah Worships United**  
at 10:00 am
- 11/12** **Ushers:** Scott Madigan & Kyle Vogt  
**Reader:** Chuck Dulas  
**Comm:** Elaine Fossen & Janet Jones  
**FB Live:** Janet Jones  
**Screens:** Steve Jones
- 11/19** **Ushers:** Rande Bowman & Steve Lenz  
**Reader:** Kim Henrickson  
**Comm:** Sylvia & Scott Norman  
**FB Live:** TBD (call office if interested)  
**Screens:** TBD (call office if interested)
- 11/26** **Ushers:** Rande Bowman & Steve Lenz  
**Reader:** Britta Petersen  
**Comm:** Marilyn Hanson & Al Narveson  
**FB Live:** TBD (call office if interested)  
**Screens:** TBD (call office if interested)

### 10:30 am

- Ushers:** Bill Halstead & Cory Merrill  
**Reader:** Sandy Hatlestad  
**Comm:** Phyllis & Peter Skadah  
**FB Live:** TBD (call office if interested)  
**Screens:** TBD (call office if interested)
- Bill Halstead & Cory Merrill  
Eva Borneke  
Cindy & Bob Rothenbuehler  
TBD (call office if interested)  
TBD (call office if interested)
- Frank Steichen & Amos Tokheim  
Lisa Benson  
Judy Spencer & Lynn Klaber  
TBD (call office if interested)  
TBD (call office if interested)
- Frank Steichen & Amos Tokheim  
Marlene Buker  
Sheryl Gulden & Dee Nolan  
TBD (call office if interested)  
TBD (call office if interested)

### 8:30 am

- 12/3** **Ushers:** Chuck Dulas & Steve Jones  
**Reader:** Sonja Parr-Baker  
**Comm:** Jane & Paul Zwieg  
**FB Live:** TBD (call office if interested)  
**Screens:** TBD (call office if interested)
- 12/10** **Ushers:** Chuck Dulas & Steve Jones  
**Reader:** Diane Halvorson  
**Comm:** TBD & TBD  
**FB Live:** TBD (call office if interested)  
**Screens:** TBD (call office if interested)
- 12/17** **Ushers:** Brad Heilman & Barb Pingel  
**Reader:** Mike Hanson  
**Comm:** Amy & Jeremy Soost  
**FB Live:** TBD (call office if interested)  
**Screens:** TBD (call office if interested)

### 10:30 am

- TBD (call office if interested)  
Shirley Rosenau  
Marlene Buker & Jan Waller  
TBD (call office if interested)  
TBD (call office if interested)
- Jon Karau & Jeran Karau  
Joan Klanderud  
Gina Henkelman & Lisa Benson  
TBD (call office if interested)  
TBD (call office if interested)
- Dayle Moore & Dan Pesonen  
Jeff Pribyl  
Swede Mundell & Shawna Merrill  
TBD (call office if interested)  
TBD (call office if interested)

More information to come for worship participant needs on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and New Years Eve.

# November 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b> 9:00 am SEE Bible Study 5:30 pm Meal 6:00 pm Worship 6:30 pm MSM Class time	<b>2</b> 7:00 am Men's Bible Study 9:00 am SAIL Group 10:00 am Outdoor Christmas Decorating 5:00 pm LAST Bible Study	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5 ALL SAINTS SUNDAY</b> 9:15-10:00 am Sunday School <i>(note time change)</i> 10:00 am <b>Worship United</b> <b>(FB Live)</b>	<b>6</b> 9:00 am SAIL Group 11:30 am Monthly Lunch @ Applebee's	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 9:00 am SEE Bible Study 5:30 pm Meal 6:00 pm Worship 6:30 pm MSM Class time 6:45 pm Choir Practice @ CTK	<b>9</b> 7:00 am Men's Bible Study 9:00 am SAIL Group 2:00 pm Life Long Learners 6-8:00 pm Fiesta de la Familia @ CTK	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 1:00 pm Private Event
<b>12</b> 8:30 am <b>Traditional Worship</b> <b>(FB Live)</b> 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am <b>Worship w/ band</b>	<b>13</b> 9:00 am SAIL Group 2:00 pm Private Mtg	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 9:00 am SEE Bible Study 5:45 pm Meal <i>(note time)</i> 6:30-8:00 pm MSM Winter Warm-up	<b>16</b> 7:00 am Men's Bible Study 9:00 am SAIL Group	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19 WELCOME PASTOR TIM</b> 8:30 am <b>Traditional Worship</b> <b>(FB Live)</b> 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am <b>Worship w/ band</b> 11:30 am Council Meeting	<b>20</b> 9:00 am SAIL Group 9:00 am Crossroads Food Prep 6:00 pm Cub Scout Mtg	<b>21</b> 10:45 am Deliver & Serve at Crossroads	<b>22</b> 9:00 am SEE Bible Study 5:30 pm No Evening Activities	<b>23 OFFICE CLOSED</b> <b>HAPPY THANKSGIVING</b> 7:00 am NO Men's Bible Study 9:00 am NO SAIL Group	<b>24 OFFICE CLOSED</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> 8:30 am <b>Traditional Worship</b> <b>(FB Live)</b> 9:15 am NO Sunday School 10:30 am <b>Worship w/ band</b>	<b>27</b> 9:00 am SAIL Group 5:45 pm Serve @ Connections	<b>28</b> 5:45 pm Serve @ Connections	<b>29</b> 9:00 am SEE Bible Study 5:30 pm Meal 6:00 pm Worship 6:30 pm MSM Class time	<b>30</b> 7:00 am Men's Bible Study 9:00 am SAIL Group 2:00 pm Life Long Learners		



Messiah Lutheran Church  
1706 Lee Boulevard  
North Mankato, Minnesota 56003

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**PHONE: 507-387-5537**

Tim McDermott, Interim Pastor:

Jan Waller, Office Manager: *Messiah@MessiahNorthMankato.com*

Amy Malvin, Communications & Education: *Amy@MessiahNorthMankato.com*

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[www.messiahnorthmankato.com](http://www.messiahnorthmankato.com)



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“Sharing the Love of Jesus...”

*Please Pray For...*

**In Our Thoughts and Prayers:** Craig V, Earl W, Sally M, Mike F, Linda R, Bonnie O, Patty A, Neal L, Lowell R, Emma M, Bill, Morgan B, Peggy M, Mollie D, Steve R, Heather S, Karen B

**Prayers for Those Who Serve Our Country:** Carley, Alex

**Prayers for the Cruz family:** Ariac, Andrea, Randy, and Kamil

**Prayers for safe travels:** Lauren

**Prayers of Sympathy** for Greg and Sheila Ous and family on the death of Greg’s mother, Lois Ous.

**Prayers of Sympathy** for Victoria and Mike Hanson and family on the death of Victoria’s mother, Lola Zwart.

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## November Sunday Schedule

8:30 am—Traditional  
9:15 am—Sunday School  
10:30 am— Contemporary

### Special Activities:

November 5th @ 10:00 am—Messiah Worships United for All Saints Sunday

November 19th @ 8:30 & 10:30 am—Welcome Interim Pastor Tim McDermott

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