



MESSIAH
lutheran church
Sharing the love of Jesus

September 2024

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

Outdoor Worship

Remember to bring your lawn chairs for our last outdoor summer worship on Sunday, September 1st, at 10:00 am. Thank you to those who volunteered to help set-up to make this outdoor worship possible this summer.

Anti-Racism Meeting—Wednesday, September 4th

The anti-racism team will meet at 5:30 pm on Wednesday, September 4th to re-cap the Sacred Sites Tour and talk about the year to come. Lynn Klaber will lead this team for the upcoming year and the team thanks Sonja and Briana Parr-Baker for their leadership to this point.

Messiah Worships United—September 8th at 10:00 am

Join us as we worship united on Sunday, September 8th at 10:00 am.
Back to school blessing for students of all ages, parents, and teachers. We hope to see all Messiah's youth!
A special offering will be collected for the Messiah Scholarship program.

God's work. Our hands.

Service Project: Birthday Bags for Foster Care Children

Messiah has joined with Lutheran Social Services to create birthday bags. For children experiencing foster care, enjoying a festive birthday is something that can make them feel valued while also giving them an opportunity to celebrate! Assembling Birthday Bags, which make celebrating fun and easy, is a wonderful way to contribute to the festivities. We will be collecting the following items and assembling them after worship on September 8, 2024.

Cake mix	Frosting	Candles	Plastic silverware
Paper plates	Birthday card	Other small festive items	Medium size birthday gift bag

September 8, 2024

Messiah Lunch Group—Tuesday, September 10th at 11:30

Messiah monthly lunches are beginning again. We meet at various restaurants on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 11:30 am. The September lunch will be at Dino's in Lower North Mankato—239 Belgrade Avenue. Come early as Dino's doesn't take reservations. 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. Come and go as you please. Call the church office (387-5537) or email Messiah@MessiahNorthMankato.com to let us know if you are coming.

Share the Warmth (Now-September 29th)

The cooler temperatures will be here before we know it. As the season changes, this is a great time to clean out those closets. So, as winter approaches, we are looking for donations for **all ages** of new or clean, gently used items. Messiah partners with several locations in the area to distribute these items to those in need.

Things that are needed: coats, scarves, hats, boots, mittens, warm socks, sweaters, etc.

Sacred Sites Tour Opportunity—Update with Pics?



18 Messiah members and friends experienced the Sacred Sites Tour offered through the Minnesota Council of Churches on Friday, Aug 16th. Rev. Jim Bear Jacobs led us through powerful stories and difficult truths about the land beneath our feet. The first stop on the tour is Bdote (where the Minnesota River meets the Mississippi River), which is a sacred place for Dakota people. The second stop is Fort Snelling State Park. This location along the river is where the Dakota origin story begins, but it is also where hundreds of native elders, women, and children were held captive and died in the mid-1800s. The final stop is Pilot Knob Preservation Area, a traditional Dakota burial ground that was slated to be developed into luxury condos in 2006. Fortunately, development was blocked by indigenous activists and suburban women. If anyone missed the tour and would like to attend, MN Council of Churches also offers them to the public - <https://mnchurches.org/what-we-do/healing-minnesota-stories>. Special thanks to the Fellowship & Rec team for helping fund this experience.

Adopt-a-Highway—Sunday, September 29th @ 12-3:00 pm

Please consider walking road ditches with your Messiah family and bring along a friend or two! This is a great way to show our stewardship efforts toward improving our land and water. We will gather in the church's east parking lot at noon for instructions. Vests and bags will be provided. We'll go out to our section of Highway 14 on Sunday, September 29th for about 2 hours. It works great if we get about 20 walkers. A meal will be provided to each worker from Big Dog after we walk. The Fellowship and Recreation Team will cover the cost of your meal. Please email Lynell at lynellsenden@hotmail.com OR text her at 507.380.1483 with your interest and how many will be participating. Families are invited! NOTE: walkers MUST be ages 12 and up. WHAT TO WEAR: long pants and sleeves, gloves, closed-toe shoes, hat/sunglasses.

Calling all Singers!

Messiah has two worships coming in September that we'll be singing for. You are invited to join us (and bring a friend if you like) in preparing for these.

It would be wonderful to have everyone perform on both dates, but if you are available for only one of them, please come to the rehearsal that leads up to the specific performance.

Below are the dates to remember.

Choir Rehearsals will be Wednesdays at 6:30 pm on the following dates:

- September 4th
- September 25th

Performances will be at Messiah Worships United services on:

- September 8th @ 10:00 am
- September 29th @ 10:00 am

Any questions, please contact Cindy Rupp at 507-327-9306.



Messiah Worships United—September 29th @ 10:00 am

Join us for the "5th Sunday" Messiah Worships United. Worship will be a combination of traditional and contemporary and the choir will sing. We will also have a special 3rd Grade bible presentation and blessing.

Reminder to "Messiah Kids" parents that Sunday School times will be adjusted to start earlier since worship will begin at 10:00 am instead of 10:30 am. We look forward to seeing all the kiddos at worship!

- A Message from Interim Pastor Tim McDermott -

Dear Partners,

Back in 2003, Lisa and I had several hurdles to jump as Lisa wound down her pregnancy with Madeline and Bronwyn. I remember 28 weeks, 32 weeks, and 34 weeks all being important milestones to our physician. "The longer you can keep them (the twins) inside, the better off they will be," Dr. Bill would tell us. But the most important goal to our friend and doctor was making 36 weeks. Lisa delivered at 37 and a half weeks. The girls were healthy and well!

I share this because I can still remember the waiting. The last four to six weeks seemed long to me but interminable to Lisa who was on bed rest for the last four weeks of her pregnancy. She was betwixt and between discomfort and boredom all while doing everything she could to keep the girls in the womb as long as possible. It worked out just fine.

In a sense, we (Messiah Lutheran Church) are "great with child" in September of 2024. The long year of waiting (Pastor Trish left Messiah in October 2023) is almost over. The Messiah Call Committee received a list of potential pastoral candidates in June. They interviewed several of these candidates in late June and July. From this list of excellent candidates, the Call Committee has chosen a smaller number of select and highly qualified candidates for second interviews. These meetings are scheduled for the end of August. Eventually the Call Committee will feel confident about one candidate to serve as the resident pastor of our parish. We may not have to wait much longer before the Call Committee feels confident in presenting this highly qualified candidate to the congregation. And if the congregation affirms this candidate (in a Call Meeting of the Congregation), then Messiah will begin its preparations to welcome its new resident (settled) pastor. It is such an exciting time for us!

But still we wait. And waiting is not always easy - even if it is the right thing to do! Lisa did her part by going (and staying) on bed rest for weeks. What can we do? Pray. First, pray for the members of our Call Committee.* Next, pray for potential candidates (even though we don't know their names.) Third, pray that the Holy Spirit would guide and bless the call process so that we take as much time as we need to find the proper candidate to lead this great congregation into our future ministry in this community.

In God's time, the good and great news that we have a candidate the Call committee wishes to present to the congregation will arrive. I can hardly wait, but I am sure that prayerful waiting serves our congregation best. Please join me in prayerful anticipation of the "safe delivery" of the woman or man God has chosen to be our next pastor. It was worth the wait for Lisa and me back in 2003. It is worth it for Messiah in 2024.

Your Partner in the Gospel,

Pastor Tim

*Our Call Committee members are Marlene Jilek, Steve Jones (Chair), Nona Niemeier, Joanna Petersen, Autumn Pipes, Emma Tokheim, Heather VonBank.

Worth The Wait

Crossroads Campus Ministry Update—Seeking Coordinator

After many years of leading and coordinating Messiah's social ministry with Crossroads Campus Ministry, Barb Meier has decided to step down. We are all thankful for the many years of service she has provided for this Ministry and are appreciative that she will continue with her other Social Ministry activities. Unfortunately, if Messiah is to continue with our Crossroads Ministry it will require a new leader/coordinator. This could be one person or several. If anyone is interested, please contact the office or Greg Suskovic. Thank you.

Sunday School Updates for Fall 2024

The Education Team has created a fresh new plan for Sunday School starting in September. Registration is available online through the QR Code to the right. Paper copies are also available in the narthex.



MESSIAH'S KIDS on Sundays

Religious Education for Pre-K (3 years old) to Third Grade

1. Families will come to 10:30 worship together
2. Children will be dismissed with education leaders after Children's Talk (about 15 minutes after church begins)
3. Parents can continue to worship until end of service at approximately 11:30
4. Parents pick up children from classrooms after worship.

CLUB MESSIAH on Wednesdays

Religious Education for Fourth and Fifth Grade

1. Families are invited to come to dinner from 5:30-6:00 pm
2. Families will worship together from 6:00—6:30 pm
3. Children will have their lesson from 6:30—7:00 pm

Sunday School Parents—we are still looking to add more adults leaders to make this a successful program. Ideally we would like enough adult leaders willing to commit to a schedule on a regular basis—this could mean weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, etc. Having more adult volunteers allows everyone the flexibility to alternate days they volunteer to lessen the overall commitment. *We need your help on both Sundays and Wednesdays to be able to continue this program.* Here are the positions we are needing to fill.

- **Adult Teachers:** You will build relationships to last a lifetime with your students as you learn & grow in faith together. You can team with another teacher for flexibility of schedules. All materials are provided, and you will be supported by coordinators. Reviewing the pre-provided lesson plans only takes about 15 minutes and can be done at home or directly before class begins.
- **Adult Teacher Substitutes:** you will cover for an Adult Teacher who is unable to teach on a particular day. You will get a glimpse of the "a-ha!" moments our children experience when finding God in their lives and the world around them. All materials are provided, and you will be supported by coordinators. Reviewing the pre-provided lesson plans only takes about 15 minutes and can be done at home or directly before class begins.
- **Youth Volunteers:** You'll see the growth of faith through the eyes of a child as you support students and teachers. No preparation is needed and schedule can be flexible.
- **Education Office Helper:** You will help gather supplies for future class sessions and other miscellaneous tasks. This is something you will be trained how to do and is a more flexible role. (currently this role has been filled)

Those who have volunteered or are interested, the Education Team will meet with Teachers/Leaders/Volunteers on Wednesday, September 11th from 6:00-6:30 pm to get to know each other, to go over how the year ahead looks and the new curriculum.

If interested in volunteering to help these programs, please reach out to Sunday School Coordinator, Heather Von Bank (heather.vonbank@gmail.com) or Amy Malvin (amy@messiahnorthmankato.com) in the office.

Middle School Ministries (MSM) - Important Dates

Fall Registration is open and this year, you can register your middle schooler online at the QR code to the right. Forms are also available in the narthex.

- MSM orientation for students and families will be on Wednesday, September 11th at 6:30 pm.
- First night of class will be September 18th. The schedule for each week includes a 5:30 pm meal, worship at 6:00 pm, and class time that goes from 6:30-7:30 pm.



COUNCIL UPDATES

From Stewardship and Finance: We are at 54.6% of budget compared to 56.1% last year. Our giving is \$11,600 behind last year, but our expenses are \$18,000 less mainly due to the difference in snow removal. Let's make sure we are keeping up with our pledges and other giving. Remember, you are able to use the following methods of giving:

1. Online banking
2. Simply Giving (credit card or checking account accepted)
4. Put your dollars in the Sunday worship plate

Church Council met on August 11th and the following was discussed:

- Upcoming office changes discussed as Jan prepares to retire on October 31st and Amy will transition to Office Manager. Jan's retirement recognition will be on Sunday, October, 27th during both worship services.
- Further discussions on the physical needs of the church were discussed along with ideas on how to fund those needs. It was also learned that the air conditioner in the conference room needs to be replaced.
- The Call Committee has selected candidates to come for a 2nd interview.

The next council meeting will be held September 15th at 11:30 am.

Directory Update

We've been in contact with the company that puts together the church directories and were informed that they do not have the files we originally sent them. We are sending this information to them again and hope to have a more optimistic update soon.

Ways to Give Online

1. Scan this QR code: *or*
2. Visit our website at messiahnorthmankato.com
 - > Click "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.



Mark Your Calendars for Upcoming Musical Events



Cypress Fyre

will be performing a concert at Messiah on Saturday, September 21st at 7:30 pm. Tickets are available in the church office for \$30. Cypress Fyre's connection to Messiah is through Cindy Rupp—her son, Chris Rupp, is a member of this new a cappella group. With special guest, Ryan Rader, Messiah's drummer. To learn more about this group, visit cypressfyreband.com.



Fall Piano Concert Fundraiser

Mark your calendars for the Fall Piano Concert fundraiser with special performances by Cindy Rupp and Noah Wilson, on Sunday, October 27th.

Concert will be from 2:00-3:00 pm

with a catered dessert bar and cheese board to follow.

Proceeds will go towards the Messiah's Music and Food Ministry programs.

September/October Worship Participants and Communion Assistants

Please look through the entire calendar for the dates you have been scheduled.

If you are unable to serve as scheduled please call the church office (387-5537) or Linda Wenkel (345-6180) to identify a substitute or get help finding a substitute. Thank you!

9/1	Ushers: Steve Jones & Greg Ous Reader: Diane Halvorson Comm: Sarah & Greg Suskovic	Jon & Jeran Karau Eva Borneke Lynn Klaber & Gina Henkelman
9/8	Messiah Worships United at 10:00 am	Ushers: Jon & Jeran Karau Reader: Lynn Klaber Comm: Darci Karau & Jodi Himmer
9/15	Ushers: Les Altenburg & Kyle Vogt Reader: Victoria Hanson Comm: Elaine Fossen & Steve Lenz	Mark Gulden & Dayle Moore Joan Klanderud Betty & Chuck Rafferty
9/22	Ushers: Les Altenburg & Kyle Vogt Reader: Georgia Holmes Comm: Deb Leiferman & Linda Wenkel	Mark Gulden & Dayle Moore Kimberly Moore Marlene & Jim Jilek
9/29	Messiah Worships United at 10:00 am	Ushers: Jim Jilek & Karla Elmore Reader: Jeff Pribyl Comm: Rosemary & Dale Kinne
10/6	Ushers: Barb Pingel & Brad Heilman Reader: Greg Suskovic Comm: Diane Halvorson & Mary Borth	Bill Halstead & Paul Henkelman Marlene Buker Jan Waller & Dee Nolan
10/13	Ushers: Barb Pingel & Brad Heilman Reader: Linda Wenkel Comm: Marilyn Hanson & Al Narveson	Bill Halstead & Paul Henkelman Kay Lund Cindy & Bob Rothenbuehler
10/20	Ushers: Ron Leiferman & Greg Guyer Reader: Renee Guyer Comm: Jane & Paul Zwieg	Steve Carlberg & Tim Hatlestad April Rosendale Judy Spencer & Kara Pipes
10/27	Ushers: Ron Leiferman & Greg Guyer Reader: Janet Jones Comm: Sylvia & Scott Norman	Steve Carlberg & Tim Hatlestad Sandy Hatlestad Deb & Frank Steichen

Worship Volunteers

Do you enjoy following along with worship on the screens during worship? Would more people enjoy viewing late worship on Facebook? With fall just around the corner and all worships are again being held inside, we are in need of more volunteers to help with screens and Facebook Live.

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. We will add 10:30 Facebook livestream when we have volunteers.

September 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 <i>10:00 am OUTDOOR</i> 8:30 am Traditional Worship (FB Live) 10:00 am Worship w/ band OUTSIDE	2 OFFICE CLOSED Labor Day	3 1:00 pm Staff Meeting	4 9:00 am SEE Bible Study 5:30 pm Anti-Racism Team 6:30 pm Choir Practice	5 7:00 am Men's Bible Study 9:00 am SAIL Group	6	7
8 <i>Back-to-School Blessing</i> 10:00 am Worship United (FB Live) 11:00 am "God's work. Our hands." Congregational Service Project	9 9:00 am SAIL Group	10 11:30 am Monthly Lunchers @ Dino's 1:00 pm Staff Meeting	11 9:00 am SEE Bible Study 6:00 pm Strategic Planning Meeting 6:00 pm Sunday School Leaders Meeting 6:30 pm MSM Orientation	12 7:00 am Men's Bible Study 9:00 am SAIL Group	13	14
15 <i>1st Day of Messiah Kids</i> 8:30 am Traditional Worship (FB Live) 10:30 am Worship w/ band & Messiah Kids (PreK-3rd Grade) 11:15 am Council Meeting	16 9:00 am SAIL Group	17 1:00 pm Staff Meeting	18 9:00 am SEE Bible Study 5:30 pm Dinner 6:00 pm Worship 6:00 pm Strategic Planning Meeting 6:30-7:00 pm Club Messiah Class time (<i>4th/5th Grade</i>) 6:30-7:30 pm MSM Class time	19 7:00 am Men's Bible Study 9:00 am SAIL Group 2:00 pm Life Long Learners	20	21 7:30 pm Cypress Fyre Concert
22 8:30 am Traditional Worship (FB Live) 10:30 am Worship w/ band & Messiah Kids (PreK-3rd Grade)	23 9:00 am SAIL Group	24 1:00 pm Staff Meeting	25 9:00 am SEE Bible Study 5:30 pm Dinner 6:00 pm Worship 6:30-7:00 pm Club Messiah Class time (<i>4th/5th Grade</i>) 6:30-7:30 pm MSM Class time 6:30 pm Choir Practice	26 7:00 am Men's Bible Study 9:00 am SAIL Group	27	28
29 <i>3rd Grade Bible Blessing</i> 10:30 am Worship United (FB Live) & <i>Messiah Kids (PreK-3rd Grade)</i> 12:00 pm Adopt —a—Hwy	30 9:00 am SAIL Group					



Messiah Lutheran Church
 1706 Lee Boulevard
 North Mankato, Minnesota 56003

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

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

Label

www.messiahnorthmankato.com



“Sharing the Love of Jesus...”

PRAYER list

Thoughts and Prayers: Elle, Brooke, Cheryl, Diana, Micah, Arthur, Lyndsey, Milo, Greg, Swede, Jackie

Continued Thoughts & Prayers: Craig, Earl, Sally, Linda, Patty, Neal, Lowell, Emma, Margaret, Peggy, Heather, Mollie, Carolyn, Trudy

Prayers for Those Who Serve Our Country: Carley, Alex, Tyler, Cole

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

Prayers of Sympathy for Jane Perkins, Cindy & Bob Rothenbuehler on the death of Jane’s husband/Cindy’s father, Les Perkins.



Fall Worship Times and Office Hours

The final summer worship times will be 8:30 am (indoor) and 10:00 am (outdoor) on Sunday, September 1st.

The office will be closed on Labor Day Monday, September 2nd.

Fall hours start on Tuesday, September 3rd and will be Monday—Friday, 8:30 am—4:30 pm.

Sunday, September 8th is “God’s work. Our hands.” Sunday at 10:00 am. (See article on front page)

Fall worship schedule begins Sunday, September 15th with traditional at 8:30 am and contemporary at 10:30 am.