



September 2022

1706 Lee Boulevard

North Mankato, MN

507-387-5537

- A Message from Pastor Trish -

September 11 – it will be a very busy day at Messiah, and you don't want to miss it! Events that day are an outgrowth of some of the planning church leaders did earlier this summer as we set out an "annual roadmap" for the coming year. We've designated the day "HopeComing Sunday" – a play on the traditional "homecoming" that happens each fall as we return to new activities and routines, with a reminder that "hope" will be our focus in the coming months. So, what can you expect? In addition to a service with a theme of hope, there will be opportunity to care for yourself and receive flu and/or covid vaccines. For families, it's a chance to get registered for the upcoming year of Sunday School. For all of us, it's a chance to join together with friends and neighbors to complete a service project – we will be assembling the personal care kits for which we have been collecting donations and packing them to be sent to places of needs (the project is suitable for ALL ages and abilities!).

There's one more opportunity that day that I especially want to highlight....many if not all of our ministries and activities here at Messiah will have representation and/or displays highlighting the multi-faceted work and fellowship that goes on here each week. This is your chance to check it all out – maybe you will learn about something new, or become reacquainted with ministries you had forgotten about after the pandemic put a temporary halt on everything. But most importantly, here's hoping that you discover something that you want to know more about and start helping with/doing/attending! As part of the day, make sure you pick up and complete an "Opportunities for the Heart" form.

Someone from another congregation told me just the other day that their pastor stood up in church one Sunday and said "I wish that everyone here, all the disciples in this ministry, would commit to doing one thing for or in this congregation in addition to weekly worship." I remember having a similar discussion with the call committee before coming here. Is it possible to make such a thing happen? We won't know unless we ask – so consider this the "ask"!

No matter what your skills or interests, I am CONFIDENT that there's something at Messiah for you but also something for which we NEED you. Want a sample list? How about gardening, helping with mailings, or attending a Bible Study (no experience necessary, no homework required)? Kitchen help, Sunday School helper, teacher or organizer. Middle School chaperone, money counter, altar guild, reader, running the live stream or the screens during worship. Or there's lawn mowing, property maintenance, quilting, prayer shawls, or preschool pillows. Don't forget our social ministry items – preparing and serving meals at a variety of non-profits, organizing a mission trip or work project, spearheading a donation drive, helping with a

fundraiser. Interested in council leadership? Helping with a blood drive? Singing in the choir? There is a place for you and a task for you and WE NEED YOU! Imagine what we could do if EVERYONE committed to doing one new thing in the coming year!? Are you up to the challenge? Want to know more? Then make plans to be there on SEPTEMBER 11 to learn more and get signed up for your one new thing!

A Service of Blessings—September 4, 2022

Join us on September 4th as we Worship United at 10:00 am for a special service of blessings. We will worship outdoors (weather permitting) for the last time in 2022. Let's take a moment to bless our pets, our children and educators, our health, our prayer shawls, to dedicate trees given in memory of Rita Halstead, and remember our baptisms.

HopeComing Sunday—September 11, 2022

HopeComing Sunday (aka “Rally Sunday”) will be on September 11th. After worship there will be booths with a variety of opportunities for people to learn about and sign up for areas of interest. “Opportunities of the Heart” will be a form available as another way to indicate your interests and areas where you are willing to assist with the life of the community for the benefit of all. Families can also sign their children up for Sunday School which starts on September 18th.

As another part of our “HopeComing Sunday” celebration we will be doing an all-congregation service project for “God’s Work Our Hands” – an ELCA day of service also being celebrated on this day. Together, we will assemble Personal Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief. We will continue to collect donations for the kits until the 11th—light-weight dark bath towels, individually wrapped bars of soap, toothbrushes, sturdy combs, and metal nail clippers.

HopeSending Sunday—September 18, 2022

September 18 – HopeSending Sunday. What’s that? An opportunity to send “hope” to others through a special offering for scholarships for those attending post-secondary institutions. We established a Messiah Scholarship Fund in 2021, and celebrated the plans of the first recipients this past May. This Sunday will be an opportunity to once again give to that fund, and as we did with our first special offering in 2021, we will be inviting giving both for students who are members of Messiah but also students of color from MN who are attending a post-secondary school in Minnesota. In this way we are caring for one another within our walls as well as sending love and support to those outside our walls. The offering will once again be split 50/50 between the Messiah Scholarship Fund and the Page Education Foundation. If you’d like to know more about the Page Education Foundation check out their website at <https://www.page-ed.org/>. Thank you for your generosity!

Thursday Evening Bible Study Begins September 15

Thursday Night Bible Study will resume on Thursday, September 15 at 5 pm. The focus on our studies for this fall will be the Paul’s letter to the Galatians. The study includes a video presentation by theologian N.T. Wright (approximately 30 minutes in length) followed by open-ended conversation. We try to be done by 6 pm, (unless our conversation gets too exciting). If you’d like to increase your Biblical knowledge a little, learn some new things, and meet some new Messiah friends, this study is for YOU! No homework, and don’t worry if you can’t get there every week. Come try it out!

Immigration Conversation—September 22, 2022

A number of people from Mankato area ELCA churches, including Messiah, attended an information session in early August on immigration and refugee services. The workshop was sponsored by Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services (LIRS) and the SEMN Synod. As a result of that day, Messiah is hosting an additional information and brainstorming session for interested parties to come together and discuss/discern possibilities for helping immigrants or refugees in this community and area. (Many of you will remember that sponsorship of immigrant families is a part of Messiah’s history and heritage.) Anyone who wants to learn more and be a part of the conversation is welcome to come. Even if you’re not sure, come find out more! The meeting will be held in the Gathering Place on Thursday, September 22 at 6:30 pm. For additional questions, contact Barb Meier or Pastor Trish.



Thank you to everyone who came in to donate blood.

We had a goal of 27 units and had a final total of 32 units! An hour of your time helps people having surgery, cancer treatments, those with chronic illnesses, as well as traumatic injuries. Each unit of blood can help save up to 3 lives per donation.

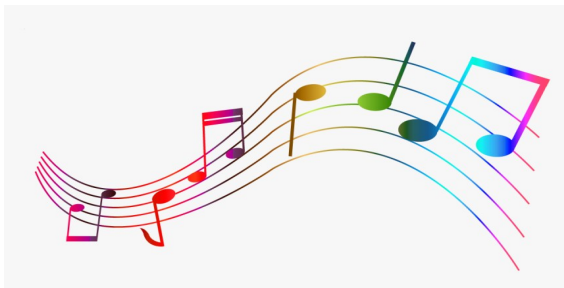
Worship Opportunities

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 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.

Prayer Shawl Ministry Meeting

A Prayer Shawl Ministry meeting will be held on Saturday, October 1st at 10:00 am in the Gathering Place at Messiah. This is an ongoing ministry that you may join at any time. For questions, call Alice Keel at 507-387-4755.



Choir Practice for HopeComing Sunday

Please join us for choir practice on Wednesday, September 7th at 6:30 pm as we prepare for HopeComing Sunday and Messiah Worships United service that will be held on Sunday, September 11th at 10:00 am. Bring your friend, partner, spouse, child and/or parent. Everyone is welcome!

Flu Shot Clinic—Sunday, September 11

Hy-Vee professionals will administer flu vaccines before and after worship so come early or stay late to get your "shot". Vaccines are available for anyone ages 6 or older.

The COVID vaccine (everyone qualified) or the COVID Booster (if you qualify) will also be available. If you would like this, please contact the church office by end-of-day Wednesday, September 7th if you want the vaccine or the booster; also whether you want the Pfizer or the Moderna. This will allow Hy-Vee to bring the appropriate COVID options with them. *In addition, there will be COVID home test kits available if you would like some.*

For both the flu, COVID vaccines, and home tests, please bring your insurance card or Medicare card including Part D.

Crossroads Lunch for a Buck—Volunteers Needed

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, deliver and serve food.

Sign up to prepare meals on Monday, September 19th or deliver and serve meals on Tuesday, September 20th—<https://signup.com/go/FxVNGhD> You can also call the church office to sign up.

If you are unable to help make, serve, or deliver food, please consider a donation to purchase the food.

Looking ahead we will also serve on Tuesday, October 18th, November 29th, and December 20th.

Youth Activities

Sunday School and MSM Registration and Important Dates

Fall youth activities are just a couple weeks away. Registration forms for Sunday School and Middle School Ministries have been mailed out. Registration forms are also available HopeComing Sunday, at MSM Orientation and online at <https://www.messiahnorthmankato.com/ministries> > click Elementary or Middle School and scroll down to EVENTS. For planning purposes, we are asking for registrations to be returned by Friday, September 2nd.

UPCOMING DATES

- > Sunday School begins September 18th at 9:15 am.
- > Middle School Ministries begins on September 7th with orientation for students and families at 6:30 pm.
- > First night of MSM class will be September 14th. The schedule for each week includes:
 - 5:30 pm—meal
 - 6:00 pm—worship
 - 6:30 pm—class time

Prayer Pillows for Sunday School



Our youngest Sunday School children have always been excited to receive a Prayer Pillow at church for many years. Due to COVID, we took a break, and a few years worth of kids haven't been able to receive one. We would like to continue with this faith formation yearly event with the coming school year.

With that, we are looking for some volunteers willing to share their time and sewing talents to help make pillows. If this is something that would interest you, please contact the office.



High School Youth—Last Sunday Sessions

High School Students! As a new school year begins, mark your calendars for “Last Sunday Sessions”. We will be meeting together on the last Sunday of each month, either in the afternoon or evening. We will try for something different each month – an escape room, movie, pizza, Mt. Kato.....suggestions always welcome. Our first day will be SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 25, and we are going to bike the Red Jacket Trail to Pastor Trish's house where there will be yard games, fire pit and smores....or maybe a side trip to the Dam Store. Meet with your bike at the West HS Parking lot, next to the Y and near Riverfront Drive at 1:30 pm. Hope to see you there!

3rd Grade Bible Sunday—October 2, 2022

On Sunday, third graders and their parents will spend some time during Sunday School learning some Bible Basics with a “SALSA” theme. At the 10:30 am service that day, the congregation will gift the third graders with new Bibles and offer them a blessing. Additional information has been sent to third graders and their parents – please RSVP for that day if you have not already done so.

Teens Encounter Christ (TEC) Opportunities

Weekend retreats by teens, for teens ... with Christ!

Open to students grades 9-12. Go to www.southernotec.org for more information and to register or see Pastor Trish.

October 20-23 Bethlehem Lutheran in Mankato

Thank You Cleaning Team!

Cleaning day was a huge success, and we had such a great turnout to get the church all cleaned up. Thank you to the following people for all their time: Sandy Dahms, Sandi Mensing, Lynelle Harms, Dee Nolan, Nona Niemeier, Linda Wenkel, Karna Stock, Ron Leiferman, Frank Steichen, Elaine Fossen, Kay Lund, Kay Kendall, and Mary Borth.

MN Adult & Teen Challenge—Mankato Gala

Lives transformed. Families restored. Communities strengthened. Overcoming the devastation and heartbreak of addiction is a difficult journey. With help, MN Adult & Teen Challenge has been able to meet men, women and teens where they are, to give them strength and purpose along the way.

The Mankato Gala will be held Tuesday, September 27th beginning at 5:30 pm with silent auction, dinner and program featuring the MnTC choir. For those interested in attending, go to mntc.org/mankato-gala and register by September 13th.

Adopt-a-Highway

Sunday, October 2 from 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, Oct. 2nd** 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.

Understanding Islam and the Local Somali Community

Saturday, October 22 from 2-4:00 pm

Program Summary: The size of the Muslim community in the Mankato area has grown dramatically over the last several decades, primarily due to an influx of Somali refugees. Minnesota is the home of the largest Somali community outside of Africa. Learn about the Five Pillars of Islam, the Six Pillars of Faith, and Somali culture from a longtime member of the community and co-founder of the Mankato Islamic Center.

Presenter(s): Abdi Sabrie is an Academic Advisor at South Central College in Mankato, a former Mankato school board member, and a co-founder and director of the Mankato Islamic Center. He received the national Jefferson Award for Public Service in 2012 and a two-year Bush Fellowship in 2018.

This event is sponsored by the Mankato Area Lifelong Learners. All are welcome.

Harvest Hope Dinner & Classical Piano Concert

October 30, 2022

Mark your calendars. We are hosting a fundraiser for Messiah's food outreach programs. Cindy Rupp and Noah Wilson will perform after dinner. Dinner served at 6:00 pm. Concert will be from 7:00—8:00 pm. Tickets are on sale in the church office. Dinner and Concert—\$20.00. Concert only—\$15.00.

CHURCH COUNCIL

August Highlights

- The July financials—our total income was \$21,034 and expenses were \$28,348 resulting in expenses over income of \$7,314. Year-to-date expenses are over income by \$18,705. The Messiah Council encourages members to note the current financial picture for the church, with TYD expenses outpacing income. We have had some increased expenses that are part of “returning to normal” and everyone is aware of inflationary issues. Members of the council want to thank you for your ongoing giving to this ministry, and to encourage your ongoing or additional gifts.
- Next council meeting will be Tuesday, September 6th at 6:00 pm.

Weekly Communion Update

As we navigate out of the pandemic, the Stay Safe Committee has agreed that we can make a change regarding communion. Beginning on September 11th we will return to offering communion by means of intinction. For those that are more comfortable continuing to commune with the pre-packaged, this will remain available to anyone.

Pastor Trish on Leave 9/2-10

Pastor Trish will be on leave September 2-10. On September 4th Marlene Buker, Kim Henrickson, Julie Olsen, and Britta Petersen will lead our Service of Blessings and on September 11th HopeComing Sunday, Melissa and Joe Wagner will assist with worship. For any emergencies during that time contact the office.

September Worship Participants

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

	8:30 AM	10:00 AM
9/4	Messiah Worships United at 10 am	Usher: Jim Jilek & Mike Erickson
9/11	Messiah Worships United at 10 am	Usher: Jim Jilek & Mike Erickson Reader: Sandy Hatlestad
	8:30 AM	10:30 AM
9/18	Usher: Steve Lenz & Scott Madigan Reader: Chuck Dulas	Bill Halstead & Mark Gulden Lisa Benson
9/25	Usher: Steve Lenz & Scott Madigan Reader: Georgia Holmes	Bill Halstead & Mark Gulden Shawna Merrill

Ways to Give Online

How to give online:

1. Scan this QR code:



2. Visit our website at messiahnorthmankato.com
 - > Click on “OFFERING” on the homepage, 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 account

Know your gift is appreciated and helps support the ministry of Messiah.

September 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 7:00 am Men's Bible Study 9:00 am SAIL Group 10:00 am Monarch Meadows	2	3
4 Communion A Service of Blessings 10:00 am Outdoor Messiah Worships United (FB also)	5 OFFICE CLOSED 9:00 am NO SAIL Group	6 6:00 pm Council Meeting	7 9:00 am SEE Bible Study 6:30 pm Choir Practice 6:30 pm MSM Orientation	8 7:00 am Men's Bible Study 9:00 am SAIL Group	9	10 11-2 pm Private Event
		P a s t o r T r i s h	o n l e a	v e 9/2-10.		
11 Communion HopeComing Sunday 9:15-11:45 HyVee Flu Clinic 10:00 am Indoor Messiah Worships United (FB also) 11:00 am Congregational Service Project	12 9:00 am SAIL Group 2:00 pm Private Meeting	13 1:30 pm Staff Meeting	14 9:00 am SEE Bible Study 5:30 pm Evening Meal 6:00 pm Worship 6:30 pm MSM Class time	15 7:00 am Men's Bible Study 9:00 am SAIL Group 5:00 pm Bible Study Begins	16	17
18 Communion 8:30 am Traditional Worship (FB also) 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Contemporary Worship (band)	19 9:00 am SAIL Group	20 9:00 am Make Food for Crossroads 10:45 am Deliver and Serve Food for Crossroads 11:00 am Private Meeting	21 9:00 am SEE Bible Study 5:30 pm Evening Meal 6:00 pm Worship 6:30 pm MSM Class time	22 7:00 am Men's Bible Study 9:00 am SAIL Group 5:00 pm Bible Study 6:30 pm Refugee Sponsor Meeting	23	24
25 Communion 8:30 am Traditional Worship (FB also) 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am Contemporary Worship (band) 1:30 pm HS Youth Bike Ride	26 9:00 am SAIL Group	27 1:30 pm Staff Meeting	28 9:00 am SEE Bible Study 2:30 pm Oak Terrace Worship 5:30 pm Evening Meal 6:00 pm Worship 6:30 pm MSM Class time	29 7:00 am Men's Bible Study 9:00 am SAIL Group 5:00 pm Bible Study	30	You are welcome to join a bible study anytime!



Messiah Lutheran Church
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Label 1

www.messiahnorthmankato.com



“Sharing the Love of Jesus...”

Please Pray For ...

In our thoughts and prayers: Ben K, Craig V, Earl W, Judy F, Milt H, Sharen O, Dan and family, Millie, Arthur, Tom, Bob G, Lois S, Sally M, Calvin D, Harvey, Rosie, Jim and Cheech, Debbie S, Suzanne H, Jodi H, Nancy F, Trish R

Those who serve our country: Dan P, Derek M, Carley, Alex

Prayers of Sympathy for the family and friends of Joan Vaske.

Prayers of Sympathy for Cheryl Christofferson on the death of her husband, Dave.

Prayers of Sympathy for Kelly and Dustin Runkle and family on the death of Kelly's father, Gary Metag.

A note from Pastor Trish ...

If you missed my announcement at worship services on August 28, a note about some medical treatment I am undergoing this fall. Thanks to a routine mammogram, I was diagnosed with what appears to be early stage breast cancer, and I am undergoing surgery on September 2. I anticipate taking a week or so off work, and am grateful to Messiah members covering for me in my absence! After recovery from surgery I expect to be undergoing 4-5 weeks of radiation, along with a long stint of hormone therapy. Any need for chemotherapy will be determined after additional testing on the tumor after its removal. I am grateful for the many medical advances for breast cancer that have been made in recent years and I anticipate and pray for a full recovery. I am also grateful for your support and prayers during this time. I am planning to work as close to a regular schedule as possible during these next several weeks, but will also heed the advice of many to practice good self-care, so thank you in advance for your understanding, support and patience.

Worship Participants

As we continue to transition into a “new normal” for worshipping at Messiah, a calendar scheduling ushers and readers for October-December 2022 has been created. You will notice that **two ushers** are scheduled **for each service** on a given Sunday. The role of an usher is to direct worshippers to the bulletins, collect offering during the service, direct worshippers for communion, be attentive to any needs of the worshippers/pastor and also record the number of worshippers at each service. Please look through the entire calendar for the dates (ushers look for 2 Sundays/ month) 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!

October	8:30 AM	10:30AM
10/2	Ushers: Jeremy Soost & Greg Guyer Reader: Amy Soost	Bill Halstead & Dave Dahl Kay Lund
10/9	Ushers: Jeremy Soost & Greg Guyer Reader: Renee Guyer	Bill Halstead & Dave Dahl Joan Klanderud
10/16	Ushers: Kyle Vogt & Greg Ous Reader: Diane Halvorson	Cory Merrill & Frank Steichen Lucette Hurley
10/23	Ushers: Kyle Vogt & Greg Ous Reader: Sarah Suskovic	Cory Merrill & Frank Steichen April Rosendale
10/30	Messiah United at 10:00 AM	Ushers: Karla Elmore & Mark Gulden Reader: Lynn Klaber
November	8:30 AM	10:30 AM
11/6	Ushers: Steve Jones & Chuck Dulas Reader: Janet Jones	Jon Karau & Jeran Karau Samantha Erickson
11/13	Ushers: Steve Jones & Chuck Dulas Reader: Sonja Parr-Baker	Jon Karau & Jeran Karau Shirley Rosenau
11/20	Ushers: Les Altenburg & Scott Madigan Reader: Greg Suskovic	Dayle Moore & Chuck Rafferty Eva Borneke
11/27	Ushers: Les Altenburg & Scott Madigan Reader: Carla Butcher	Dayle Moore & Chuck Rafferty Kimberly Moore
December	8:30 AM	10:30 AM
12/4	Ushers: Rande Bowman & Ron Leiferman Reader: Mike Hanson	Steve Carlberg & Peter Skadah Shawna Merrill
12/11	Ushers: Rande Bowman & Ron Leiferman Reader: Steve Lenz	Steve Carlberg & Peter Skadah Shirley Rosenau
12/18	Ushers: Jeremy Soost & Kim Henrickson Reader: Linda Wenkel	Bob Rothenbuehler & Tim Hatlestad Sandy Hatlestad
12/25	Christmas Day MUW at 10:00 AM	Ushers: TBD Reader: TBD

50th Anniversary Celebration

Messiah's 50th Anniversary Celebration was held on July 31st. What started as an outdoor worship lead to an indoor gather. It was a great example of the congregation coming together to make everything work out. It was wonderful to look back at all this church has done and excites us to see where God leads us in the future. Seeing friends old and new come together was fantastic!



From Mary & Ken Huntley—Dear Messiah Family, Congratulations on celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Messiah Lutheran Church. As charter members we have about that many years of memories happily huddled in our cognitive masses. All year we have been hopeful that we could join you in July 31 to celebration the church we love and praise God for Messiah's faithful outreach ministry to everyone. However family activities have taken priority. Thus, we will stay at our cabin in Northern MN and celebrate with you from afar & perhaps online if available. We extend our greetings to Pastor Trish, staff, church member friends and especially to former pastors who expertly serviced Messiah and whom we fondly remember. We pray God's ministry at Messiah will continue to enrich lives mirthfully, musically, and spiritually. In Peace & Love.

From Pastor Jim Ahlquist—Thanks to all for wonderful, meaningful worship and time together on the 31st! Especially to Trish, Jan and the rest of the staff and volunteers who did everything with a smile and joy in their hearts (even the change in venue at the late hour). The music and the meal were a great complement as well. Messiah is poised and ready for the next 50 years, "kindled by the Spirit" with great servants of God. Thanks be to God for your continued blessings!

From Pastor Arley Fadness—I too, along with Pastor Jim and I'm sure the other clergy guests sing Alleluia to you, to the beloved faithful at Messiah and to our precious Lord Jesus Christ! I am sending a modest gift to Messiah in turn be sent on to the Ukrainian Relief Fund perhaps through Lutheran Disaster Funds. I give a holler of thanks for all the behind-the-scenes faithful workers.