



**MESSIAH**  
lutheran church  
*Sharing the love of Jesus*

**April 2024**

1706 Lee Boulevard

North Mankato, MN

507-387-5537

### Messiah Lunch Group

You are invited to join us for the Messiah Lunch Group on **Tuesday, April 2nd** at 11:30 am at the Olde Brick House, 1521 Tullamore Street, Mankato. Parking is in the back of the restaurant and is located next to Mazatlan Mexican Restaurant. Call the church office at 387-5537 or email [messiah@messiahnorthmankato.com](mailto:messiah@messiahnorthmankato.com). 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 meet monthly at various restaurants of your choice in the Mankato area. Come and go as you please.

### Anti-Racism Team Meeting

The anti-racism team is focusing on indigenous culture in the coming months. We're starting to read *Braiding Sweetgrass* by Robin Wall Kimmerer. This month's meeting will be **Thursday, April 3rd at 5:30 pm** at Messiah. Please read Section 2 (pages 64-117) - if you don't have time to read it, that's okay, please still join us. Contact Sonja and Briana Parr-Baker at [sonjaparr@gmail.com](mailto:sonjaparr@gmail.com) with any questions.



### Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl Ministry team will meet on Saturday, April 13th at 10:00 am in the Gathering Place. If you cannot attend this meeting and have completed a prayer shawl, please leave it in the Quilting Room with your name on it. This meeting is also an invitation to anyone who would like to join our team. If you do not knit or crochet, someone will be happy to teach you. Call Alice K. at 387-4755 if you have questions.

**BLOOD  
DRIVE**

**Thursday, April 18, 2024 from 11:30 - 5:30 pm**

Messiah is hosting a blood drive on Thursday, April 18th. There are appointment openings for both regular and Power Red donations.

Sign up at: [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) Code: MESSIAHKATOMN

Maximize your blood donation & help more patients. If you're an eligible type O, B-, or A- donor, consider making a Power Red donation. Red blood cells are the most commonly transfused blood component.

### Quilting

The quilters are going into their final month of quilting for this year. Quilts will be displayed on Mother's Day and the Sunday following and then distributed where needed. Many thanks to those who joined us this year. We welcome anyone to join in the fun and will teach you.

Any questions, call Lynn Klaber at 507-380-5465.



## - A Message from Interim Pastor Tim McDermott -

Dear Partners,

“What can I do?”

The answer to that question is greatly influenced by where one puts the emphasis when saying the sentence out loud. For instance, “What can I **do**?” suggests that if you just tell me how I can help, then count me in.

If, however, the vocalization of this sentence emphasizes the I, then you have “What can **I** do? The implication is that there is not much I can contribute.

If the emphasis is put on the first word, “**What** can I do?”, the implication may be that you don’t see any issues/challenges/problems/opportunities around here. What’s the fuss?

It has been over four and one-half months since Pastor Trish’s last Sunday and four months since I was called to be your interim pastor. I want you to be aware of what is happening and clarify for you how you can help in this time of transition. Permit me a list.

1. Pray. (More on this at the end of the article.)
2. Volunteer. Our Messiah Transition Team is in place (and doing great work!). The Church Council is gathering a list of potential candidates to serve on the Messiah Call Committee. Could your name be on this list? Should it be? Please let a Council member know that you are willing to serve if asked.
3. Give generously. Being strong financially is one way we can position Messiah to attract the best potential candidates for the permanent Pastor position during our call process.
4. Participate. You already have opportunities to help our congregation prepare for the call process. The Transition Team is very grateful for your participation in the surveys they are using on Sunday mornings. With only three surveys to go, please find a way (there are five ways) to submit your thoughts, hopes and dreams by filling out each of the forms.
5. Suggest. Not long from now, you will be given the opportunity to suggest names of potential pastoral candidates. These are pastors currently serving in other congregations, pastors on leave from call, or students who will graduate from seminary very soon. Who knows...you may already know the name of a great person to be interviewed by the Call Committee for the pastoral position!
6. Pray. Pray for our Church Council members as they lead in this process. Pray for the members of our Transition Team and Call Committee in their efforts to find and call just the right person to lead our ministry. Pray for that person whom God will lead into our interview process and, if called, serve as Pastor for years to come. And pray for me that I, working with the Church Council, the Transition Team, the Call Committee, and all of you, will be effective in guiding this transition process.

What **can** I do? You may be asking. There is plenty to do. When asked to help or participate in any way in the coming months, please respond enthusiastically, “Yes I can.”

Your Partner in the Gospel,

*Pastor Tim*

## Transition Team Presentations and Questions

The Transition Team will come forward during worship until April 21st to continue asking important questions about what we, as a congregation, want to see in our next pastor. Each person is encouraged to share their thoughts on each question. In order to gather information from as many people as possible, these questions will be available in the narthex each week and online at [www.messiahnorthmankato.com/transitionteam](http://www.messiahnorthmankato.com/transitionteam). If you missed a chance to respond to any of the week’s questions, it’s not too late to respond.

## Call Committee Forming

The Call Committee is now being formed. If you are interested in serving on the committee, please let Council President, Greg Suskovic know.

## Sunday School

- There will be no Sunday School on Easter Sunday, March 31st. Join us for worship at either 8:30 am or 10:30 am.
- Last day of Sunday School will be on Sunday, May 5th. Join us at 10:30 am worship to hear the children sing.
- Note youth summer activities below.

## Middle School Ministries

**All MSM Students**—Join us the last few weeks of MSM for some fun projects. Final night is April 17th.

**Upcoming Dates for 8th Grade Affirmation Students and Parents:**

Sunday, April 7th—Retreat and making stoles from 12:00-4:00 pm

Wednesday, April 24th—Rehearsal and dinner at 5:30 pm

Sunday, April 28th—Affirmation of Baptism during 10:30 am worship

## Youth Summer Activities

It's time to start planning what our kiddos are going to do over the summer. There are plenty of fun summer activities that friends of Messiah can join in.

**Elementary**—Vacation Bible School this summer will be done jointly with Christ the King from June 10-13th. It will be hosted at CTK. To register, click this QR code:



**CULTIVATE LIFE**  
JOHN 15:5

**DAY CAMP**

DATE: June 10-13, 2024  
LOCATION: Christ the King  
TIME: 12:30-5PM  
Cost:\$30 per kid

Ingham + Okoboji  
Lutheran Bible Camp

**Middle/High School**—Messiah will be participating in Service & Sun with Christ the King from June 24-26th. This is a great opportunity to have fun in the sun as well as serve our community. Watch for a registration link coming soon.

**SERVICE & SUN**  
Mornings: Service Projects Afternoons: Fun in the Sun!

**SAVE THE DATE**

**6TH-12TH GRADERS** **JUNE 24-26**



**All Ages**—Green Lake Bible Camp is a fun way to enjoy the summer doing outside activities and meet new friends. There are different types of full-week and half-week camps based on age, as well as, some themed camps for older youth.

—<https://www.gllm.org/summer-camp.html>



Messiah Lutheran Church  
1706 Lee Boulevard  
North Mankato, Minnesota 56003

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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



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“Sharing the Love of Jesus...”

**PRAYER**  
*list*

**Thoughts and Prayers:** Jeanette, Elle, Brooke, Cheryl, Darrell, Diana, Jeff, Micah, Arthur, Margaret

**Continued Thoughts & Prayers:** Craig, Earl, Sally, Mike, Linda, Bonnie, Patty, Neal, Lowell, Emma, Morgan, Peggy, Heather, Mollie, Carolyn, Rosie

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

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

**Prayers for safe travels:** Lauren

### **Worship Screens and Facebook Live—Help Needed**

***We are asking for some extra help during this time at Messiah. The Transition Team has begun their presentations during Sunday worships and have extra things they would like to share up on the screens, as well as wanting to reach as many people online as possible. Looking for some volunteers especially through April 21st to help.***

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.

# COUNCIL UPDATES

Stewardship & Finance: Giving through February is at 19% of budget compared to 20% of prior two year average. Thank you for saying yes to Christ and supporting Messiah's Mission and Ministries!

Pastor Tim presented several topics; the Transition team is going rather well and they have continued to gather information from the congregation for our Profile. He then presented an exercise for the council on the life of a church and where we thought our church was on that lifespan. Pastor Tim informed the council that Sunday School classes for some students had to be canceled this month, due to teachers not being available. This raised awareness that there is a need for more volunteers. With the council's permission he will look into ways to recruit Sunday School teachers for next year.

Under old business, estimates to replace/repair numerous property concerns were discussed. Before we start a capital campaign to raise funds, we will reclarify what our needs and goals are, to determine the amount that would be appropriate for a capital campaign.

Under new business, local benevolence for the next 3 months was decided on and forming a Call Committee was discussed.

The next council meeting will be held April 14th at 11:45 am.

## Ways to Give Online

1. Scan this QR code: *or*

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



## April 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

- 4/7** **Ushers:** Kyle Vogt & Les Altenburg  
**Reader:** Chuck Dulas  
**Comm:** Sarah & Greg Suskovic  
**FB Live:** TBD (call office if interested)  
**Screens:** TBD (call office if interested)
- 4/14** **Ushers:** Kyle Vogt & Les Altenburg  
**Reader:** Georgia Holmes  
**Comm:** Jane & Paul Zweig  
**FB Live:** TBD (call office if interested)  
**Screens:** TBD (call office if interested)
- 4/21** **Ushers:** Greg Guyer & Ron Leiferman  
**Reader:** Janet Jones  
**Comm:** Elaine Fossen & Steve Lenz  
**FB Live:** TBD (call office if interested)  
**Screens:** TBD (call office if interested)
- 4/28** **Ushers:** Greg Guyer & Ron Leiferman  
**Reader:** Greg Suskovic  
**Comm:** Janet Jones & Al Narveson  
**FB Live:** TBD (call office if interested)  
**Screens:** TBD (call office if interested)

### 10:30 am

- Frank Steichen & Paul Henkelman  
Joan Klanderud  
Lisa Benson & Gina Henkelman  
TBD (call office if interested)  
TBD (call office if interested)
- Frank Steichen & Paul Henkelman  
April Rosendale  
Jodi Himmer & Marlene Buker  
TBD (call office if interested)  
TBD (call office if interested)
- TBD (call office if interested)  
Lucette Hurley  
Jan Waller & Swede Mundell  
TBD (call office if interested)  
TBD (call office if interested)
- Jon Karau & Jeran Karau  
Julie Olson  
Betty & Chuck Rafferty  
TBD (call office if interested)  
TBD (call office if interested)

# April 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>31 EASTER SUNDAY</b> 8:30 am <b>Traditional Worship (FB Live)</b> 9:15 am NO Sunday School 9:15 am Easter Breakfast 10:30 am <b>Worship w/ band</b>	<b>1 OFFICE CLOSED</b> 9:00 am SAIL Group	<b>2</b> 11:30 am Messiah Monthly Lunchers 5-8:00 pm Scout Meeting 5:30 pm Transition Team	<b>3</b> 9:00 am SEE Bible Study 5:30 pm Anti-Racism Mtg 5:30 pm Dinner <b>6:00 pm Worship</b> 6:30 pm MSM Class time	<b>4</b> 7:00 am Men's Bible Study 9:00 am SAIL Group	<b>5 OFFICE CLOSED</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7 Transition Team @ Worship</b> 8:30 am <b>Traditional Worship (FB Live)</b> 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am <b>Worship w/ band</b> 12:00 pm 8th Grade Retreat	<b>8</b> 9:00 am SAIL Group 2:00 pm Private Meeting	<b>9</b> 9:30 am Quilting 5:30 pm Transition Team	<b>10</b> 9:00 am SEE Bible Study 5:30 pm Dinner <b>6:00 pm Worship</b> 6:30 pm MSM Class time	<b>11</b> 7:00 am Men's Bible Study 9:00 am SAIL Group 12:00 pm Private Event	<b>12 OFFICE CLOSED</b>	<b>13</b> 1:00 pm Private Event
<b>14 Transition Team @ Worship</b> 8:30 am <b>Traditional Worship (FB Live)</b> 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am <b>Worship w/ band</b> 11:45 am Council Meeting 4:30 pm 4H Meeting	<b>15</b> 9:00 am SAIL Group	<b>16</b> 9:00 am Crossroads Food Prep 1:00 pm Staff Meeting 5:30 pm Transition Team	<b>17</b> 9:00 am SEE Bible Study 12:30 pm Worship Team Mtg 5:30 pm Dinner <b>6:00 pm Worship</b> 6:30 pm LAST MSM Class time	<b>18</b> 7:00 am Men's Bible Study 9:00 am SAIL Group 11:30 am—5:30 pm Blood Drive	<b>19</b> 2:00 pm Life Long Learners	<b>20</b>
<b>21 Transition Team @ Worship</b> 8:30 am <b>Traditional Worship (FB Live)</b> 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am <b>Worship w/ band</b>	<b>22</b> 9:00 am SAIL Group	<b>23</b> 9:30 am Quilting (LAST) 1:00 pm Staff Meeting 5:30 pm Transition Team	<b>24</b> 9:00 am SEE Bible Study 5:30 pm 8th Grade Affirmation Dinner and Rehearsal	<b>25</b> 7:00 am Men's Bible Study 9:00 am SAIL Group	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 8:30 am <b>Traditional Worship (FB Live)</b> 9:15 am Sunday School 10:30 am <b>Worship w/ band and 8th Grade Affirmation</b>	<b>29</b> 9:00 am SAIL Group 2:00 pm Life Long Learners	<b>30</b> 1:00 pm Staff Meeting				