



Messiah



Messenger



Volume 55, issue 4

To the Messiah community,

The past six weeks have been difficult as we address challenges facing our congregation. We have taken steps and made choices that are joyless but necessary for our congregation to survive.

Sunday, March 12, the MLC Council met and approved a severance package for Pastor Chris Heller. I wish this step wasn't necessary but I concluded it could not be avoided. Over the past 14 months, our membership and giving losses have become chronic and would become terminal without action. In truth, these losses began several years ago but haven't been reversed. I was informed several more families were considering leaving the congregation and decided the only chance to maintain Messiah Lutheran Church as a congregation was to make a significant change. The families who were considering leaving didn't pressure me into this decision. They did not, in fact, tell me they would take their giving elsewhere. However, it is very rare that a family who has joined another church continues giving to the church they left. Losing them would have meant also losing their giving and they would have merely joined a growing list of members who had already left.

We now move forward with sincere and deep appreciation for the ministerial gifts Pastor Chris brought to us. He provided individuals and families with tremendous support in times of great trial and need. His sermons are thoughtful and thought-provoking. One-on-one interactions with Pastor Chris are meaningful. These gifts will continue to serve Pastor Chris well. They are also facets we will actively seek in future.

Our next steps are already underway:

- We are seeking feedback on the combined service to determine if any further tweaks are needed.
- The pledge program has returned commitments to give ~\$2,400 per month. Only a small portion of our members have pledged so I consider this a healthy start.
- We will soon contact those who have left our community, tell them we miss them, and invite them to join us again.
- We will soon provide opportunities for all to engage and build our future.
- We have identified supply pastors for services through Easter.
- We are working to identify an interim pastor to begin as soon as possible after Easter.

Over the next few weeks to several years, we have much work to complete. We will rebuild our congregation in terms of members and giving. We will rebuild our benevolence beyond paying our bills. We will heal as a community.

'We,' now more than ever, means all of us. Please feel free to reach out to me or any Council member with concerns, questions, and ideas for our future. Together, we will move forward in God's service.

Brian Osterloh

Messiah Lutheran Church Council President
March 19, 2017



Lenten Lunch and Supper during Lent.

Please be sure and check out the signup sheet for Soup and Bread luncheons and suppers during Lent.

Lenten dates are: March 08 through April 05. Lunch of soup and bread at 11:30 a.m. and supper of soup and bread at 6:00 p.m.

The signup sheet will be located on the bulletin board next to the Flower chart.

Sign up chart for Easter lily purchases for Easter Sunday, April 16, has been posted by the flower chart.



Maundy Thursday Worship at 7:00 p.m. with communion.

"Stripping of the Altar" after worship
See Irene Aldredge if you want to participate

Good Friday Worship service at 7:00 p.m.

We will leave the Sanctuary in silence after the service.





Hallelujah! He is Risen, Risen indeed.....

SONRISE WORSHIP WITH COMMUNION

SUNDAY, April 16, 2017

7:30 a.m.



**Join Us For
Breakfast**

Breakfast with us from 9:00 to 10:15 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Breakfast will be provided by Messiah Members.



Hallelujah! He is Risen, Risen indeed.....

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP SERVICE WITH COMMUNION

SUNDAY, April 16, 2017

10:30 a.m.



Easter Egg hunt for Messiah children and youth, Sunday, April 16th at 12:00 noon, in front of the church.



Rocky Mountain Synod in the neighborhood

New L.I.F.E in Albuquerque

The L.I.F.E. Program stands for, "Liberty in Financial Education" and it will begin this month through a partnership between St. Timothy's Lutheran Church Albuquerque, the Rio Grande Credit Union, and Zia Elementary School. Our work with Ruth Hoffman and Lutheran Advocacy Ministry-NM called us to stand up against the devastating impact of predatory lending in New Mexico. St. Timothy's is located in an area inundated by these lenders. L.I.F.E. is St. Timothy's response.

Qualifying families from Zia will be given an application to the L.I.F.E Program, which includes 10 weeks of financial education followed by 24 months of financial incentives that allow families to put to work what they have learned in the 10-week program.

Read more about L.I.F.E and other stories of RMS in the Neighborhood in the newest edition of [RMS Connection Newsletter](#)

Rocky Mountain Synod World Hunger News

Exciting things are happening in ELCA World Hunger right here in the Rocky Mountain Synod! Download the next issue of [Daily Bread](#) and share with your congregation upcoming opportunities:

- ELCA Hunger Ambassadors
- Domestic Hunger Grants available to social ministry organizations

[RMS Hunger Campaign: 500 years on the move for hunger](#)

500 Years on the Move for Hunger

Join the Rocky Mountain Synod's Hunger Network and get MOVING in 2017 to commemorate the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation. The roots of the poverty and justice ministries of our church come directly from the soil of Martin Luther's teachings...especially his concern for the need of our neighbors. From February 1, 2017, through January 31, 2018, we are encouraging congregations to try something NEW this year! Some have already embarked on a new ministry. Others are thinking about what might work for them. What can YOU and your congregation or organization do?

[Find out more](#)





April 2017 MLCW meeting on Saturday, April 08, at 9:30 a. m. for a bible study and fellowship.

Our topic will be: The Gather Magazine

*Leader: Hazel Mella
Hostess:*

Messiah Lutheran Church Women Officers

*President: Hazel Mella
Secretary: Irene Aldredge
Treasurer: Dotty Dahl*

Mission Lead Ladies

*Growth: Lorraine Davis
Action: Charlotte Moritomo
Community: Dotty Dahl
Historian: TBD
Prayer Chain: TBD*



***April 2017* MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Fellowship Coffee and Snacks Please Sign up

Date	Fellowship Set-up	Blended Service Snacks	Library/Fellowship Clean-up
April 02	Irene and Gene Aldredge	Tom and Kristi Adams	
April 09	Irene and Gene Aldredge	Dawn R. Early	
April 16	Irene and Gene Aldredge	Sara Bender Hooks and Buddy Hooks	
April 16 Easter Breakfast at 9:00a.m.	Cassandra Osterloh Lee Danielson Ellen Dobson		
April 23	Irene and Gene Aldredge	Debra Hoyt	
April 30	Irene and Gene Aldredge	Lee and Chuck Danielson	



John 11:25-26

²⁵Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, ²⁶and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

April 2017 Flowers

April 02

April 09

April 16

Easter Lilies by Messiah Members

April 23

April 30

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS



DATE	Assisting Minister	Greeter	Ushers	Counter
April 02	Ellen Dobson	Buddy Hooks	Sara and Buddy Hooks	Ellen Dobson
April 09		Kris and Tom Adams	Kris and Tom Adams	
April 16 Sonrise		Lee and Chuck Danielson	Lee and Chuck Danielson	
April 16 Blended				
April 23	Ron Kulju			Ron Kulju
April 30		Rosemary Butler	Rosemary Butler	

Readers for April 2017

April 02 Kristi Adams

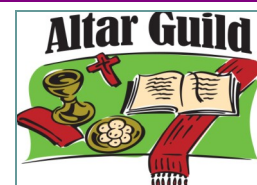
April 09

April 13 Lee/Chuck Danielson

April 16

April 23 Debra Hoyt

April 30



Irene Aldredge



2017



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 9:00 Church Work Day
2 9:30 a.m. Blended Worship Service	3	4 9:30 a.m. Sew and Share	5 6:00-8:00 p.m. Craft Class 7:00-8:00\ Lutheran Commu- nity "Theology On Tap"	6	7	8 9:30 a.m. MLCW Bible Study
9 Palm Sunday 9:30 a.m. Blended Worship Service	10	11 6:30 p.m. Church Council	12	13 Maundy Thursday 7:00 p.m. Worship Service	14 Good Friday 7:00 p.m. Worship Service	15
16 Easter 7:30 a.m. SonRise 9:00 a.m. Easter Breakfast 10:30 a.m. Blended Worship Service 12:00 p. m. kids Easter Egg Hunt	17	18 9:30 a.m. Sew and Share	19 6:00-8:00 p.m. Craft Class	20	21	22 10:00 a.m. Messiah Book Club
23 9:30 a.m. Blended Worship Service	24	25	26	27	28 9:30 a.m. Newsletter Team	29
30 9:30 a.m. Blended Worship Service						



April 01	Madison Albillar
April 01	Lorraine Davis
April 02	Al Burmeister
April 16	Alex Osterloh
April 17	Mary Emery
April 19	Kelly McConnell
April 22	Chris Heller
April 24	Alek Reid
April 26	Deja Dubuque
April 26	Tony Carson
April 28	Cheryl Hauge



April 10-Pam and Woody Storey
April 19-Ralph and Luanne Killingsworth.



April 01	Herb Biermann
April 01	Dawn Early
April 01	KD Pass Maranville
April 04	Pam Storey
April 08	Lorraine Davis
April 12	Bob Hauge
April 17	Melissa Aldredge
April 27	Pat Baca
April 27	Delia Hernandez (child)



In Condolence to the Kesatie family at the death of Eloise Kesatie on March 30th

IN OUR *Thoughts and Prayers*

Baca Family; Al Burmeister; Anna May Currier; Danielle Currier (Anna May's granddaughter); Laura Eller; Helga Lindner; Robert Maranville; Arlene Mickelson; Jean and Orman Paananen, Brian Selby (Betty Hauge's son-in-law)



Max Corrie



Daniel Vickers — serving in the Navy (**grandson of Eloise Kesatie**)
Micah Kesatie—Army Reserves (**grandson of Eloise Kesatie**)
Allen J. Tetreault—serving in the USAF Kirtland AFB Military
Matt Braun—serving at Kirkland AFB Military
Kevin Dombey—Air Force Special Forces



COUNCIL NOTES FOR THE APRIL NEWSLETTER

Council Meeting Minutes for March are available on the usher's table.

Messiah Lutheran Church members are invited to review the church council's meeting information. The binder is located in the church office. All council meetings are open to members.



The **FIRST** Sunday of **EVERY** month, bring your loose change and place in the offering plate. This is collected and sent in for **World Hunger!**



Average Attendance

JANUARY 2017

Contemporary Worship average (3 Sundays)
16

Traditional Worship Average—32

January 15 meeting-50

January 22 meeting-33

FEBRUARY 2017

Blended Worship Average-34

Send

Easter brings good news to tell everyone. Draw yourself sharing the Easter greeting with a family member, friend or neighbor.



Dear God, help us share the great news:
Jesus lives! Alleluia! Amen

This week

Use colored paper to make a butterfly as a symbol of Easter. Give it to a neighbor or friend.

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Kids Celebrate

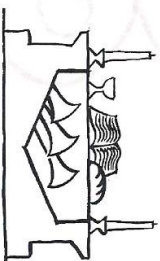
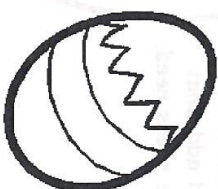
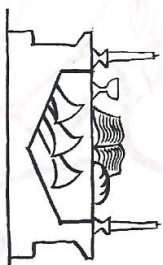
Resurrection of Our Lord / Easter Day



gather

Welcome to worship. Today is Easter Sunday.
Jesus has risen from the dead!

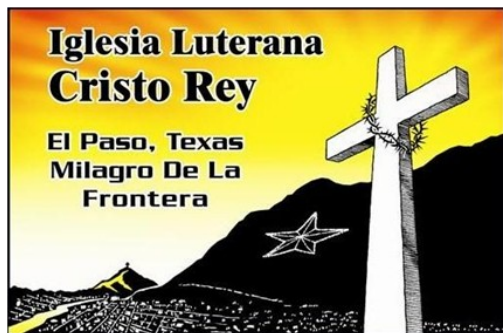
Use the first letter of the name of each picture to spell an Easter word you will hear today. Write the word below.



(Easter word)

What do you hear with your Easter ears today?
What do you see with your Easter eyes today?

IN THE COMING MONTHS



Iglesia Luterana Cristo Rey, El Paso TX
Border Immersion Week
Saturday April 29 to Friday, May 5

Iglesia Luterana Cristo Rey is having a 6-day border immersion experience from Saturday, April 29 in the afternoon through the afternoon of Friday, May 5. It is open to individuals and small groups interested in participating in mission alongside the Cristo Rey community and experiencing immigration and the border through a human-centered, faith-based approach.

Cost is \$420 for the week, which includes 6 meals and all transportation after arrival in El Paso. Come look past the headlines and join us in community and relationship.

For more information, email borderimmersion@gmail.com or visit their [website](#)

Mother's Day
May 14

Honor your mother,
Exodus 20:12



Father's Day
June 18

Honor your father
Exodus 20:12



Day of Pentecost
Sunday, June, 04, 2017

Acts 2:1

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place.



Mark those 2018 calendars for late June.....



Youth to get ready for Houston Texas ELCA Youth Gathering.

There will be many sights and sounds on the Gulf Coast.....

Church Website! is www.messiahbq.org.

You may also reach us on Facebook.

The website has up to date information about our church, our synod, and current activities.

Sunday Bible Readings for April 2017

April 02

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Psalms 130

Romans 8:6-11

John 11:1-45

April 09

Palm Sunday

Sunday of the Passion

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Psalms 31:9-16

Philippians 2:5-11

Matthew 26:14—27:66

April 13

Maundy Thursday

Exodus 12:1-14

Psalms 116:1-2, 12-19

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

John 13:1-17, 31b-35

April 14

Good Friday

Isaiah 52:13—53:12

Psalms 22

Hebrews 10:16-25

John 18:1—19:42

April 16

Resurrection of Our Lord—

Acts 10:34-43

Psalms 118:1-2, 14-24

Colossians 3:1-4

Matthew 28:1-10

April 23

Second Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:14a, 22-32

Psalms 16

1 Peter 1:3-9

John 20:19-31

April 30

Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:14a, 36-41

Psalms 116:1-4, 12-19

1 Peter 1:17-23

Luke 24:13-35



Note: Daily bible readings may be found in "Christ in Our Home" Devotional.



Sunday Worship Schedule:

9:30 a.m. Blended Worship with communion except on Easter

Easter Sunrise service at 7:30 a.m.

Easter Breakfast from 9:00 to 10:15 a.m.

Traditional worship service at 10:30 a.m.

Messiah Messenger

is a monthly publication of Messiah Lutheran Church. The church is located at 11515 Lomas Blvd. NE, Albuquerque NM 87112.

Director of Music: Tony Carson

Tony's email:

tony@messiahbq.org

Office Secretary: Shirley Lehde

Hours: -Tues.day-9:00—12:00

Thursday: 9:00-1:00

Friday: 9:00-12:00

Shirley's email:

Shirley@messiahbq.org

Office Phone 505-299-3311

Church Website:

messiahbq.org

Bible Studies

Messiah Lutheran Church Women

Bible Study and gathering on the second Saturday of each month at 9:30 a.m.



Lutheran Community

"Theology on tap"

meets on the first Wednesday of every month from 6:00 to 7:00

p.m. Place to be announced.



If you have a prayer need, please call the church at 505-299-3311 to be added to the Messiah Lutheran Church's Prayer Chain as we pray in the name of Jesus.

***Easter Sunday
Worship Schedule:***

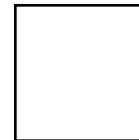
**Easter Sunrise service at 7:30 a.m.
Easter Breakfast from 9:00 to 10:15 a.m.
Traditional worship service at 10:30 a.m.**



Messiah Messenger

A monthly newsletter of April 2017

**Messiah Lutheran Church
11515 Lomas Blvd
Albuquerque, NM 87112
Phone: 505-299-3311**



Our Mission: *Caring For and Serving Others So All May Share in God's Love.*

April 2017

