

Messiah Messenger

Caring for and serving others so all may share in God's love.

February 2024
Volume 62
Issue 2



Rides with "Gray Lady II" **A Message from the Pastor**

"Gray Lady II" (my 2009 Toyota Tacoma ministry partner) commented to me the other morning that things have been different for her over the last few weeks. She has had to use accessories of her vehicle which do not get to be used often. In the early mornings, when I went out to get her ready for one of our trips about town, she was shivering and her windows were not clear. She had to have her knob for where the heat went as her engine warmed to defrost. I had to even assist her with any ice scraper, a few times.

Then she pointed out that she was using her windshield wipers almost daily. Mostly, it was to get the dampness off, but there was rain and snow occasionally. Just the other damp, cool morning, she and I were going to go on a drive over to Messiah. She had been sitting for a few days. Her brakes gave notice that there had been moisture within the braking system, with a grunt and a few squeaks. As we got going, the brakes loosened up with usage. I noticed that my neighbor's brakes made the same noise as he was starting to head to his place of work.

I do not know how the amount of moisture we have lately been receiving measures up with other respective years, but it is sure nice. What has been especially gracious, has been how the moisture has arrived. The rain and snow have come down without such a speed and amount that it just ran off. It came down not in a heap, but spaced out with some quiet days in between the storms. In the past, I would have to go out and make sure that the ground around my roses was damp. These storms have taken care of that concern. And the trees are getting a good amount of winter moisture on their roots. If I may say it appreciatively, "It is nice to get free water from the heavens." The only plant I have had to regularly water is not where the rain or snow falls. It is the one given to me a few years ago from Messiah. Just to let you know that yesterday I saw new sprouts popping out of the pot's soil.

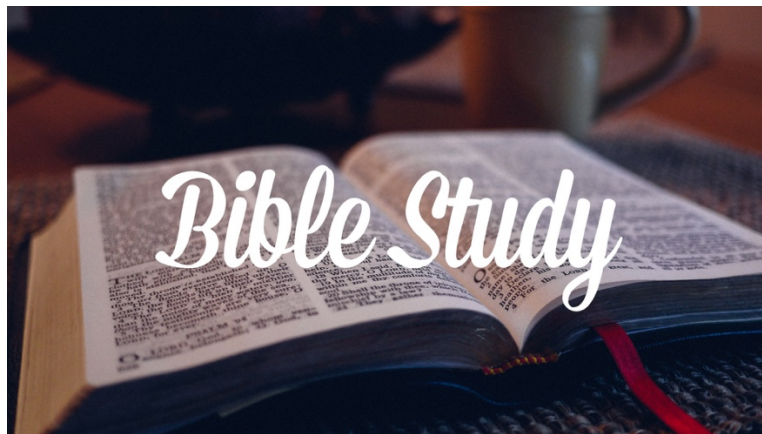
I am thankful and appreciative to the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ in my life. Let me also say, in your lives. I believe, like the Psalmist and others of faith over the centuries, that God is ever-present and loves to provide and care for His people, His creation. There is much we are able to accomplish on our own from day to day, in some form or way. But ultimately, the goodness available to each and every one of us comes from the grace of our Lord.

As I was putting this letter to you the Psalmist's faith statements came to my mind, especially Psalm 147. Let me just share with you for reflection and faith support verses seven through eleven. "Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; make melody to our God on the lyre! He covers the heavens with clouds; He prepares rain for the earth; He makes grass grow on the hills, He gives to the beasts their food, and to the young ravens that cry, His delight is not in the strength of the horse, nor His pleasure in the legs of man, but the Lord takes pleasure in those who fear [cherish] Him, in those who hope in His steadfast love." It is so true we are His people, the creation is His creation, and we are His people, and His creation is His creation.

May the Lord's peace be with you each and every day.
Pastor Doug

February Scripture 2024

<p><u>February 4th</u> Isaiah 40:21-31 Psalm 147:1-11, 20c 1 Corinthians 9:16-23 Mark 1:29-39</p>	<p><u>February 11th</u> 2 Kings 2:1-12 Psalm 50:1-6 2 Corinthians 4:3-6 Mark 9:2-9</p>
<p><u>February 18th</u> Genesis 9:8-17 Psalm 25:1-10 1 Peter 3:18-22 Mark 1:9-15</p>	<p><u>February 25th</u> Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 Psalm 22:23-31 Romans 4:13-25 Mark 8:31-38</p>



February 2024 NEWS ANNOUNCEMENTS

Messiah Lutheran Church Women Women Officers

President: Rosemary Butler
 Secretary: Irene Aldredge
 Treasurer: Dotty Dahl

Mission Lead Ladies

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

Sew and Share will meet February 6th and 20th at 9:30am

MLCW Bible Study will meet February 10th at 9:30am.

Council meeting will take place **Tuesday, February 20th** this month at **6:30 p.m.** (On Zoom)

<p>Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m. Worship Service (Onsite and Zoom) Fellowship following service</p> <p>Weekday Bible Study Wednesday's at 9:30 am</p> <p>Council Meeting 3rd Tuesday this Month at 6:30 pm</p> <p>MLC Women 2nd Saturday of the Month at 9:30 am</p> <p>Sew & Share 1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month</p> <p>Craft Class Up and running Contact for meeting time</p> <p>Rising Sun Christian Community 11:30 a.m. Worship Service</p> <p>Pastor Doug Mathison office@messiahbq.org</p> <p>Director of Music Katherine Alexander kalex@unm.edu</p> <p>Building & Grounds Carlo Bachechi</p> <p>Church Office office@messiahbq.org 505-299-3311</p>	<p>Please keep in your prayers our family and friends who are in need of our prayers this month. Prayer requests can be made by contacting the church office.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baby Athena • Carol Hartenberger • Harlan Wilson • Stephanie • Dotty Dahl • Pat Baca & Family • Irene Aldredge • Carole Baker • Loring Emery • Jacen Hoyt <p>Serving In the Military</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matt Braund • Daniel Vickers (Navy) • Micah Kesatie (Army Reserves)
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For the Love of Our Neighborhood...

February 2024 ~Exciting News for Our Neighbors

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN

Monthly meetings of the MLCW began again this month on Saturday, January 8, 2022. We will be meeting on Saturday, **February 10, 2024**, at 9:30 am in the Messiah Conference Room. The Bible study from the W-ELCA magazine "Gather" will be used.

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

The study meets every Wednesday morning at 9:30 am. We usually meet in the Conference Room at Messiah, unless we need to be at appropriately socially distanced. The study is traditionally a study of the upcoming Sunday's Gospel lesson and other designated lessons. You can bring your own Bible, otherwise, there will be handouts of the scripture made available to you.

KENNEDY MIDDLE SCHOOL and TOMASITA GRADE SCHOOL NEWS

We are waiting to hear from the respective school communicators to let us know what they presently need.

2024 CHURCH COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Thank you to the newly elected officers for their willingness to guide us through the next year in doing the Lord's work.

The newly elected council members are: Brian Osterloh, Sharon Wilson, Cecelia Pepper, KD Pass, Debra Hoyt, Kristi Adams, and Steve McHenry. (Ron Kulju will be acting council president until the February council meeting.)

(The Church Council meets on the Third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm. We have been meeting in person at the church and on ZOOM.)

WORSHIP AT MESSIAH

February 13, 2024: Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, 4:00 pm-6:30 pm

February 14, 2024: Ash Wednesday services, 11:00 am and 7:00 pm (ZOOM)

[Mid-week Lenten services will be on Wednesdays, 11:00 am, no evening services.]

March 24, 2024: Palm Sunday service, 9:30 am

March 28, 2024: Maundy Thursday service, 7:00 pm (ZOOM)

March 29, 2024: Good Friday service, 7:00 pm

March 31, 2024: Easter Sunrise service, 7:30 am

Easter Breakfast, between worship services
Easter service, 9:30 am

RISING SUN CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

They are still meeting in our building and enjoy being with us on Sundays. They have been having fellowship time in the Fellowship Hall. We have made a quarterly arrangement to see to keeping paper and cleaning supplies up to date.

Rising Sun will provide supplies for January, February and March.

OTHER ACTIVITIES AT MESSIAH

- 1) **Sew and Share**—They will meet on the first and third Tuesdays of each month. They will meet in the Conference Room, at 9:30 am, with some food and fellowship following. Come and have a great time putting together quilts and working with other members of the church. The next gatherings will be **February 6 and 20, 2024.**

They decided this past year to make quilts for the **Linus Project** and **Saranam**. The theme of the Linus Project is "Covering New Mexico with Love." You are invited to participate in any way you feel you are able to assist in these projects.

- 2) We are in need of volunteers to help our worship services: PowerPoint/ZOOM (run the system); Offering Counters (count, record and deposit the offering); Altar Guild, Fellowship time treats and other activities throughout the year. Please sign up on the volunteer sheet on the bulletin board in the Narthex.
- 3) **VISION COMMITTEE:** We have a great opportunity to be in conversation with Holy Cross Lutheran Church. Ron, Brian, Steve, Cecelia and Pastor Doug have been representing Messiah). Please visit with any of them for more information and if you have any concerns or ideas. The Vision Committee as an ad hoc committee were given to move forward in their efforts to see what is in the future of Messiah. The Annual meeting also affirmed them to carry on in their efforts. This committee will keep in contact with the congregation and make any recommendations to the council. We will be having discussions amongst the members of the congregation and keep Rising Sun Community Congregation informed.
- 4) **Flowers:** We are looking for people to bring flowers to adorn our flower shelf behind the altar. There is a flower chart on the big bulletin board by the Narthex Door if you would like to pick a certain Sunday.

- 5) **Choir.** We would love to have more members as part of our choir. We practice after services on Sunday morning in the Conference Room.
- 6) **Property:** We need to fix the landscape at the southeast corner of our parking lot. We are in the process of hiring a new custodian. **We have notified by the City that we need to replace some of our sidewalk adjacent to Lomas Blvd NE.** Council has been in contact with the city and the city will see that the project is done.
- 7) **Saranam:** This is a caring facility for homeless families, not too far from Messiah. It is on Eubank and they provide housing, education, and community involvement opportunities. They are also making available a setting for the westside of Albuquerque. (Montano and Taylor Ranch)

Important Upcoming Dates

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February 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1.	2.	3.
4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.
9:30 am Worship & Fellowship Rising Sun Worship 11:30 am		9:30 am Sew and Share	9:30 am Bible Study			9:30 am MLCW Bible Study
11.	12.	13.	14.	15.	16.	17.
9:30 am Worship & Fellowship Rising Sun Worship 11:30 am		4 – 6:30pm Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper	9:30 am Bible Study 11 am and 7pm Ash Wednesday Service			
18.	19.	20.	21.	22.	23.	24.
9:30 am Worship & Fellowship Rising Sun Worship 11:30 am		9:30 am Sew and Share 6:30 pm Church Council	9:30 am Bible Study 11am Mid-week service			
25.	26.	27.	28.	29.		
9:30 am Worship & Fellowship Rising Sun Worship 11:30 am			9:30 am Bible Study 11am Mid-week service			

Messiah Lutheran Church

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