

Messiah Messenger

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

**May 2023
Volume 61
Issue 5**



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

In the middle of the week following our Easter Sunday service and after Ron Hartenberger's funeral service, I did a good thing in my eyes and a bad one in "Gray Lady II's" eyes. ("Gray Lady II" is my 2009 Toyota Tacoma pickup truck ministry partner.) I went to the annual joint meeting of the two New Mexico Conferences of the Rocky Mountain Synod. The meeting was composed of Bishop Jim Gonias (RMS) and my colleagues from around the state (including Durango, CO and El Paso, TX). Our meeting was held at the Franciscan Holy Cross Retreat Center in Las Cruces, NM.

The meeting had a lot of introductions and sharing with pastors who usually do not see each other. It was interesting listening as we shared with each other the various things which were going on in our respective parishes and communities. A lot of the talk initially was consumed by conversations over how busy we had been during Holy Week and Easter. The consensus was that all went wonderfully, yet being tired was a common theme. There was conversation about a noticeable increasing

public activity and attendance was increasing. There was the sense that the shutting in place, and now coming out, really caused a new feeling of need of community and spiritual awakening. A word that seemed to be consistent in the most recent months was a rise in people being engaged.

The Bishop also gave us updates of things going on in the Synod and also the fuller Church. He spoke of everything from how the Church in general (especially the ELCA) is seeming to show itself in ways that are new and challenging, yet good. One issue, not unsimilar to our situation, is how the Synod is working at looking differently about pastoral roles and lay people roles, especially as it is worked out concerning worship. We have a lot more congregations than we do pastors available to be called to them.

Now, as far as "Gray Lady II" was concerned I committed a grievous error. I did not have her take me for the trip to Las Cruces. I took "the other" vehicle. I am sure I will hear no end of it. She really did not miss much. It was a long drive of two-lane pavement, for the most part (road construction zones broke up that monotony). There were plenty of automobiles, motorcycles, trucks of various sizes, and one lone bicyclist. She could have seen a whole host of various traffic cones and directional signals which did not differ all that much in the ones we have in Albuquerque. To let you know, we do not have a monopoly on traffic cones here. University Ave which goes right by the NMSU campus and into town, had blocks and blocks of them. If you like brown and brush, you would have gotten more out of the trip than me. What was pleasing during the ride home was looking at the peaks on both vistas east and west of the interstate. The west peaks which continued on for a couple hours of driving provided a view of storm clouds dropping moisture. The campus setting for New Mexico State University was really beautiful.

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

May Scripture 2023



<p><u>May 7th</u> Acts 7:55-60 Psalms 31:1-5, 15-16 1 Peter 2:2-10 John 14:1-14</p>	<p><u>May 14th</u> Acts 17:22-31 Psalms 66:8-20 1 Peter 3:13-22 John 14:15-21</p>
<p><u>May 21st</u> Acts 1:6-14 Psalms 68:1-10, 32-35 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11 John 17:1-11</p>	<p><u>May 28th</u> Acts 2:1-21 Psalms 104:24-34, 35b 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 John 20:19-23</p>

<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 2nd 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"> • Stephanie • Dotty Dahl • Pat Baca & Family • George Holly • 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...

May 2023 ~ EXCITING NEWS FOR OUR NEIGHBORS

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN

Monthly meetings of the MLCW began again this month on Saturday, January 8, 2022. Our next meeting will be **Saturday, May 13, 2023**. We will meet at 9:30 am in the Messiah Conference Room. The Bible study from the W-ELCA magazine "Gather" will be used. The presenter these early months of the year is Pastor Krista from St. Luke, here in Albuquerque.

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

In February, we started collecting Hygiene products for the families of students at Kennedy Middle School. We will continue to collect through the middle of April. Edna came over and gathered the items donated by members and purchased by the MLCW.

2023 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.

President: Brian Osterloh

V. Pres.: Ron Kulju

Secretary: Pat Baca

Treasurer: K. D. Pass

Fin. Sec't.: Cecelia Pepper

At Large: Kristi Adams

At Large: Debra Hoyt

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

RISING SUN CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

They are meeting once again in our building (and with a digital format for those outside the building). They have been having fellowship time in the Fellowship

Hall. They have a second camera up and running for their streaming service of their worship.

They hosted their church body conference (EACA) meeting at Messiah on Saturday, April 15, 2023. It was held from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm.

WORSHIP AT MESSIAH

We are worshipping in the church building and doing ZOOM for those not in the building. We pray that this keeps us in touch with the Word of the Lord and each other. Sadly, our ZOOM experience has had its hiccups. Please understand that we are trying but it does not always perform as well as it could. We have also been emailing or mailing a weekly exposition of the weekly worship and lessons. We are having fellowship time following worship in the Fellowship Hall. Most of our eats are prepackaged, but some people bring in treats. Please pick and choose what works best for you and your health. Thank you to Brian and Cassandra Osterloh, KD Pass, Rosemary Butler, Debra Hoyt, Ron Kulju, Steve McHenry, Gene and Irene Aldredge, and Tony, for their extra assistance in making worship happen during this unusual time. We are having Holy Communion during the service with special directives for practicing social distancing and health concerns. We started using unleavened bread for the Sunday services, beginning April 24, 2022.

Thank you to Carol Hartenberger and Lee Danielson for making the communion bread we are presently using. If others would like to make the bread, we have a recipe available for you.

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 **May 2 and 16, 2023.**

They decided this past year to make quilts for the **Linus Project**. The theme of the Linus Project is "Covering New Mexico with Love." Their quilts of different sizes will go to children in crisis in Bernalillo County. "The Bernalillo County Project Linus Chapter, established January 1999, has provided nearly 58,736 blankets to children in crisis." You are invited to participate in any way you feel you are able to assist in this project.

- 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, and other activities throughout the year. Please sign up on the volunteer sheet on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

- 3) We have formed a "Vision Committee" to review and look into what is ahead for worship and other activities at Messiah. Presently, the committee consists of Ron Kulju, Steve McHenry, Cassandra and Brian Osterloh, Chuck Danielson, KD Pass, and Pastor Doug. They are interested in visiting with members of Messiah, as we look ahead being a worshipping center for our Lord. Vision Committee met on Tuesday, March 7, at 7 pm, at Messiah. **A main topic was "Geographic parishes and sharing ministries."**
- 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 are singing some anthems in the upcoming weeks. 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 will be replacing the storm glass window for the Southeast Altar Stained Glass window (for the second time this year). Council will be employing a plumbing service to replace our water heater (very old) and fixing the urinal plumbing leak.
- 7) **Vacation Bible School:** St. Luke is having their Vacation Bible School Day Camp with counselors from Rainbow Trail Bible Camp the week of June 19-23. The ages being inviting to participate are K-5th grade. This is open to the community. We are not sure the times at this point and they are always looking for volunteers if you are so inclined. The **Messiah Westside Men's Bible** study has donated to this cause \$300.00. (They also donated \$300.00 to the All Saints VBS for this summer.)

May 2023 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 be held on the first and third Tuesdays of the month at **9:30 a.m.**

- **May 2nd**
- **May 16th**

MLCW Bible Study will meet on **Saturday, May 13th at 9:30 a.m.**

Council meeting will take place **Tuesday, May 9th** this month at **6:30 p.m.** (On Zoom)

Sew and Share has a sewing machine we can provide to sew squares together for the Linus Quilts. I can bring the machine to your house, walk through how the particular machine works and provide squares to sew into tops. Sew and Share ladies will then pick them up and finish the quilts for the Linus Project. Thank you, Sharon Wilson.

Contact Messiah at office@messiahbq.org or call 505.299.3311.



Treasurer Report March 2023

YTD/MTD	MTD	YTD
Income	\$8,549.00	\$25,151.52
Expense	\$7582.57	\$20,775.99
Net	\$966.43	\$4,375.53
Balances	Beginning of Month	End of Month
Checking	\$121,797.36	\$121,827.89
MM	\$18,648.17	\$18,648.33

May 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.
		9:30 am Sew & Share	9:30 am Bible Study			
7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.
9:30 am Worship & Fellowship Rising Sun Worship 11:30 am		6:30 pm Church Council Meeting	9:30 am Bible Study			9:30 am MLCW Bible Study
14.	15.	16.	17.	18.	19.	20.
9:30 am Worship & Fellowship Mother's Day Rising Sun Worship 11:30 am		9:30 am Sew & Share	9:30 am Bible Study			
21.	22.	23.	24.	25.	26.	27.
9:30 am Worship & Fellowship Rising Sun Worship 11:30 am			9:30 am Bible Study			
28.	29.	30.	31.			
9:30 am Worship & Fellowship Rising Sun Worship 11:30 am			9:30 am Bible Study			

Messiah Lutheran Church

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