

Messiah Messenger

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

October 2023
Volume 61
Issue 10



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

"Gray Lady II" (my 2009 Toyota Tacoma pickup ministry partner) and, my wife I had an opportunity to go down to Los Lunas to watch our granddaughter play T-Ball. It was a trip well worth it. Those kids are a hoot to watch as they chase balls around the field that had been hit, run the bases, and of course, beat up on the poor "T" holding the ball when batting. There are two great events: watching them get better and the joy when our granddaughter runs over to us yelling grandpa and grandma.

Another happening while traveling with my wife over that trek, is my wife looking over at the Manzano mountains and with the regular curious query: "I wonder what the names are for the two peaks?" Of course, I do not know and we have not pursued it when we have gone by them. Usually, we have forgotten the question until the next time we are our driving past them. I guess that is what happens as one gets older. I am sure they have names, maybe even multiple ones from over the years and residing people.

This thought was revisited when I was reading a J. A. Vance book entitled "Downfall." The main character in this book series is a County Sheriff out of Bisbee, Arizona, named Joanna Brady. The story has a multiple murder with the victims falling off a 5,900 ft elevation peak. Where it gets interesting is that the peak has multiple names, depending on who is or has been asked. Same peak, different names. Please let me copy out for you a section on page 10 speaking to this point. "For generations of Bisbee kids, climbing that distinctive double-humped limestone peak east of town had been a rite of passage. Locals referred to it either as Geronimo or else by the name Anglo pioneers had given it—Black Knob. In official topo-map parlance, however, it was referred to as Gold Hill." She also mentioned the two humps when viewed from town looked like a valentine heart.

My hometown was named Rockford because the early settlers arriving at the east bank liked the west bank better for a variety of reasons. They forded the Rock River and named the place Rockford and also some called it Forest City because of all the trees. My last name originally when my people came to the new world was Matthieson, because the boys who made the voyage and travels were sons of Matthie. In some cases, the last names of people came from what it means in their language, like my wife's maiden name means "bright angel" or "angel of brightness".

Naming is a powerful event in peoples' lives. The process can be for signification and it can also speak of moment or presence dear to us. Like in our family for two generations all the kids first initial was the letter "D." I can not tell you why. Yet, my baby sister has the middle name "Robin." When I was little my mom told me she gave her that name because she saw a robin at the window at the hospital at the time she was giving my sister a full name.

I have spent this time on naming because many times people ask what does a name or word mean in the Bible. It should be said, especially for oral traditions similar to the early people of our Bible heritage, naming was important. It was seen as denoting a special moment where God was present or a person of God was known. It had a sense of power. Think about it today, when a person comes up to you and says your name. The relationship becomes special. There is a connection. That is why in the Old Testament you will see a lot of people and place names with "el" (hebrew for God), either in front or at the back of name. For instance, "Israel." God is present in and

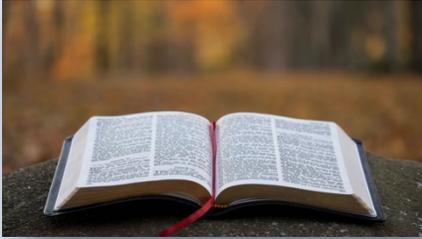
remembered with designation to the son of Isaac: Jacob; or his descendants: the original twelve tribes; or later the ten northern tribes who split leaving the other two named: Judah. Naming also signified God's presence or activity in a specific time, place or person. When God made the covenant with Abram, the name was changed to Abraham and Sarai became Sarah. Their child to a very old couple brought joy to God, the parents and the future generations. His name was Isaac: "he laughs." God did what they thought could not be done. And we have Saul the great persecutor of God's people become at the Damascus Road incident where Paul began working for God and his name became: Paul.

"Zion" has a not for sure Hebrew definition but many scholars think it means "citadel." It is one of the hills at Jerusalem. Jerusalem, which became the focal site of the southern two tribes of Israel. Eventually, as you probably know, the main city of the Hebrew faith, presently. "Shekel" is measured by weight from the Babylonian weight exchange and could be a variety of metals: gold, silver, bronze and sometimes iron. It would be about 2/5 oz. Talent is about 75 lbs. The Denarius (Denarii) was the common Roman exchange coin about the size of dime and of silver. Commonly called in the King James version of the Bible: "penny."

Other asked questions about names heard from scripture are offered here next. "Ephod" was the sacred vest worn mostly by the high priests and usually made of gold, blue, purple, or scarlet. "Ebenezer" (from one of our hymns) was a memorial set up by the prophet Sanuel after the Philistines were defeated by the help of God. It means "The stone of help" with the remarks, "Hitherto hath the Lord helped us." (1 Samuel 7:12) Baal was the foreign god of fertility which many ascribed to in the lands about the Hebrews. "Hittites" were people who lived at the same time as the Hebrew Patriarchs tied in with the people of the northern region of Philistia. "Torah" is the first five books of the Old Testament, also called the Pentateuch. Lastly, for now, the "Samaritans" who lived and came out of the northern tribes of Israel after the death of Solomon. They considered themselves as faithful Hebrews and their holy mountain was Mt. Gerizim.

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

October Scripture 2023

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>October 1st</u></p> <p>Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32 Psalm 25:1-9 Philippians 2:1-13 Matthew 21:23-32</p>		<p style="text-align: center;"><u>October 8th</u></p> <p>Isaiah 5:1-7 Psalm 80:7-15 Philippians 3:4b-14 Matthew 21:33-46</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>October 15th</u></p> <p>Isaiah 25:1-9 Psalm 23 Philippians 4:1-9 Matthew 22:1-14</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>October 22nd</u></p> <p>Isaiah 45:1-7 Psalm 96:1-9 [10-13] 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10 Matthew 22:15-22</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>October 29th</u></p> <p>Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18 Psalm 1 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8 Matthew 22:34-46</p>

October 2023 NEWS ANNOUNCEMENTS

<p>Messiah Lutheran Church Women</p> <p>Women Officers President: Rosemary Butler Secretary: Irene Aldredge Treasurer: Dotty Dahl</p> <p>Mission Lead Ladies Growth: Lorraine Davis Action: Charlotte Moritomo Community: Dotty Dahl Historian: TBD</p>	<p>Sew and Share will meet October 3rd and 17th</p> <p>MLCW Bible Study will meet October 14th</p> <p>Council meeting will take place Tuesday, October 14th this month at 6:30 p.m. (On Zoom)</p>
<p>Sew and Share :“We need batting (only two bags left) and someone to sew squares together for tops. (Sharon has the squares already cut) and we have the sewing machine someone could use.”</p>	<p>NUCLEAR CARE PARTNERS benefits presentation- Did you work for Sandia Labs or Los Alamos? Come learn about the benefits you may be able to receive. Tuesday, Oct. 17, 10am-1pm., Tijeras Senior Center, 10 Tijeras Ave.,Tijeras, NM.</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 (No meeting in August) 2nd Saturday of the Month at 9:30 am</p> <p>Sew & Share (No meeting in August) 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@messiahabq.org</p> <p>Director of Music Katherine Alexander kalex@unm.edu</p> <p>Building & Grounds Carlo Bachechi</p> <p>Church Office office@messiahabq.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... **October 2023 ~Exciting News for Our Neighbors**

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN

Monthly meetings of the MLCW began again this month on Saturday, January 8, 2022. There were **no** meetings in July and August. We will be meeting on Saturday, **October 7, 2023**, 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 purchased \$100 worth of supplies for the students and teachers at KMS from their wish list. They were very thankful. Edna and pastor are working on doing the 10 families for Thanksgiving. More information will be forthcoming.

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 still meeting in our building and enjoy being with us on Sundays. They have been having fellowship time in the Fellowship Hall. They joined us for the "Sway Meet" on Saturday, September 16. That was a good day. They will also be joining us for the annual Trunk or Treat event on Monday, October 30, from 5-6:30 pm. **We have made a quarterly arrangement to see to keeping paper and cleaning supplies up to date. Our upcoming quarter is October, November and December. Please bring in supplies to donate to the keeping up our supplies.**

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. 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. There had been no gatherings in August, the next gatherings will be **October 3 and 17**. 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. 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, Fellowship time treats 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 started our full practice on September 10. 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.
- 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 opportunities. Pastor has been in contact with them and is looking in to how we may be able to support their efforts. (See the write up in this month’s newsletter) Tracy and Diane will be at our worship service and fellowship time, Sunday, October 1, 2023. The MLCW will help by providing for two of the “Welcome Baskets.”
- 8) **Messiah and RSCC Trunk or Treat will be on Monday, October 30, from 5-6:30 pm in the parking lot.** You can come with you and your vehicle dressed up for Halloween. We will need treats for the youth who come. If you would like to volunteer and/or donate goodies, bring them and put them in the box entitled for the event.

Treasurer Report August 2023

YTD/MTD	MTD	YTD
Income	\$5,819.41	\$79,501.09
Expense	\$6,050.28	\$54,256.18
Net	-\$230.87	\$25,244.91
Balances	Beginning of Month	End of Month
Checking	\$142,033.21	\$144,375.57
MM	\$18,648.95	\$18,649.11



HAPPY

HALLOWEEN

BOO

Kids and Parents!

Join us for our Annual

Trunk or Treat

Monday, October 30

5 - 6:30pm

At Messiah Lutheran Church & Rising Sun

Parking Lot

11515 Lomas Ave. NE

October 2023

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

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