

Messiah Messenger

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

**July 2023
Volume 61
Issue 7**



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

"Gray Lady II" (my 2009 Toyota Tacoma pickup ministry partner) and I were on one of our travels across town to church. She had some time off while I was visiting my son for Father's Day in Texas. So, while we were motoring I filled her in on the trip. It was a great time and as expected, hot and humid. There were times when my eyeglasses were only a little help for seeing because they would fog up when going from air-conditioned buildings and vehicles to the great outdoors. I just left them off when I didn't need to read anything.

There were some interesting things which got me to thinking while in conversation with people during my travels. First reflection happened when we were coming home flying out of the Austin airport and going through security. The TSA agent upon reading my driver's license and where our flight was going made a statement. He said, "I bet you would not be thinking going back to a climate with a temperature in the 90's would be considered going to a cooler place." (The heat index in Austin was 116 when we were getting ready to fly out and had been that basically every day we were there.) That thought he offered had not even entered my mind. Albuquerque was hot when we got home, but yes, cooler than where we were.

Then on the airplane, there was a woman sitting next to me. She and her husband were from Austin and had never been to New Mexico. She told me they were flying in to Albuquerque to pick up her daughter from a camp in New Mexico and fly her home with them. They were going to stay overnight in town and then with a rental car go get her. (Yes, I did tell them not

to leave anything in the car while they slept in the hotel.) I asked her where they had to go to get their daughter. She answered with an obvious sense of puzzlement: Las Vegas, New Mexico.

I told her I knew where the town was but not sure where there was a camp around it. I gave her a clear path, get on Interstate 25, go north to Santa Fe and stay on that road. She showed me the directions given her on how to get there and I saw that they had to get off at Romeoville. I told her that exit would be a little before Las Vegas.

"Gray Lady II" injected that she knew the way and the truck stop at Romeoville. We had stopped there a couple times on our travels northeast. Nice and clean. The mother was quite thankful for my limited insight. I share this story for a reason which is related to growing confidently in our faith. I would have been of little help to her thirteen plus years ago. I knew very little about any place in New Mexico. I did not even know that there was a town named Las Vegas while living in the upper Midwest. But over the years living here, it has become a very significant part of my life. I have traveled to go see family taking that north route, turning at Springer to head east and eventually northeast. We have gone beyond there to Colorado a number of times. We enjoyed a couple of times the Pecos Pueblo area ruins. Until my son moved to the Austin area, I would have needed her advice on how to traverse the roads in Austin.

When we become more versed in the area we live and desire to find out more, we become more proficient and confident. If we want to be more confident in any aspect of our life, we have to get involved in learning more about it. If we want to get more confident in living out fully our faith life, we have to work at getting to know more about our Lord, the Scriptures and how to be about living a Christian life style. That is why we crack open regularly our Bibles and let the Holy Spirit raise us up from our timidity and questions. Then we involve in our lives other Christians who have been doing the same thing for years. We go to worship and hear the words of faith, not only from the exposition by the pastor in a sermon, but also words of faith in the liturgy and hymns.


Beyond that we seek special events of the church work through the finer points of the Scriptures. I attend three Bible studies of different forms and fashions almost every week.

In those events, I hear thoughts like the TSA agent who simply made a remark from his point of view and gave me an "ah ha" moment. "Gray Lady II" most Tuesdays takes me to the area clergy text study for the upcoming weekend. Their sharing moves me to think more fully about the texts. Wednesday mornings we have a Bible study on the same texts and quite often I get some more reflections from faithful and learned Christians. On Thursday mornings, I go to a gathering where we read through a book of the Bible and when we get through that one, we pick another. We have done some a bunch of times. Again, questions and reflections bring forth more thoughts about what the Lord is trying to do for us so we can gain hope in life and strength in faithfulness.

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

July Scripture 2023



<p><u>July 2nd</u> Jeremiah 28:5-9 Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18 Romans 6:12-23 Matthew 10:40-42</p>		<p><u>July 9th</u> Zechariah 9:9-12 Psalm 145:8-14 Romans 7:15-25a Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30</p>
<p><u>July 16th</u> Isaiah 55:10-13 Psalm 65:[1-8] 9-13 Romans 8:1-11 Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23</p>	<p><u>July 23rd</u> Isaiah 44:6-8 Psalm 86:11-17 Romans 8:12-25 Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43</p>	<p><u>July 30th</u> 1 Kings 3:5-12 Psalm 119:129-136 Romans 8:26-39 Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52</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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Help us welcome our incoming families with these much needed tools and supplies!

We need **11** of each Welcome Basket and Handy Kit by July 20th to stock the apartments for our 2023 families. Email Jennifer Clear at jclear@saranamabq.org before July 1st if you or your organization are interested in supplying any of the baskets or kits below.

Welcome Baskets	Handy Kits
Paper Goods Basket: Toilet Paper (12 Rolls) Paper Towels (2 Rolls Select-A-Size) Tissues (2 Boxes) Coffee Filters (Sized 8-12 Cup) Plastic Zip Sandwich Bags Plastic Freezer Quart Bags Plastic Freezer Gallon Bags Aluminum Foil Tall Kitchen Trash Bags (25+ Count) New Reusable Shopping Bags (6) <div>≈ \$55 Walmart</div>	First Aid Kit: Assorted Band-aids (Family or Variety Pack) Oral Thermometer Hydrogen Peroxide Gauze Pads & Tape Triple Antibiotic Ointment Tweezers Hand Sanitizer <div>≈ \$25 Walmart</div>
Cleaning Supplies Basket: Liquid Dish Soap (20+ oz) Kitchen Sponges w/Scrubber (2) Liquid Dishwasher Detergent (75 oz) Multipurpose Spray Kitchen/Bath Cleaner (Clorox/Generic 32 oz) Multipurpose Floor/Surface Cleaner (Fabuloso 48 oz) Disinfecting Wipes (80 Count) Broom & Dustpan (Full-size) Bucket & Libman Wonder Mop Spray Carpet Cleaner <div>≈ \$55 Walmart</div>	Laundry Kit: Laundry Basket Laundry Detergent (100 Loads, Purex or All) Liquid Fabric Softener (30 Loads, Suavitel) Dryer Sheets (80 Sheets) Spray Laundry Stain Remover Small Sewing Kit <div>≈ \$25 Walmart</div>
Toiletry Supplies Basket: Hairbrushes (4) Hair Combs (Combo Pack) Toothbrushes & Toothpaste (Adult & Kids) Shampoo & Conditioner (Suave Almond & Shea or Garnier Fructis Sleek & Shine) Body Wash (Adult & Kids, Suave) Bar Soap (2) Lotion Sunscreen (SPF 30+) Women's Deodorant (Secret or Suave) Disposable Razors (2-4) Liquid Hand Soap & Refill <div>≈ \$55 Walmart</div>	Basic Tool Kit: Toolbox/Bin Hammer Standard Screwdriver Phillips Screwdriver Tape Measure Pliers Flashlight <div>≈ \$10 Dollar Tree</div>
Technology Supplies Bundle: Laptop Backpack (black, fits 15.6") Wireless Computer Mouse Shaped for Right & Left Hand Use (USB Receiver) Surge Protector Power Strip Adult Wired Earbuds/Headphones with Microphone <div>≈ \$60 Walmart</div>	Study & Desk Kit: Pens, Mechanical Pencils & Highlighters 3 Single Subject Notebooks Scientific Calculator Stapler with Staples Scissors & Tape Paperclips Envelopes & 10 Stamps <div>≈ \$35 Walmart</div>

For the Love of Our Neighborhood... **July 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 will be **no** meetings in **July and August**. When we start meeting again it will be 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

We will be in contact with them in July to get ready for the next school year.

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

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 of 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 **July 4 and 18, 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, 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 worshiping 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 will be before September begin our practice gathering. 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). We need to fix the landscape at the southeast corner of our parking lot. We are considering hiring a weed spraying company. (It needs to be done and will have a cost.)
- 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 last month's newsletter) We will try to get someone to talk to us this Fall at a worship service and fellowship time. The MLCW is already looking into supporting them with help providing one of the "Welcome Baskets."

Saranam Success Stories: Yudima

"Yudima has worked hard to become the successful nurse, mother, and community member she is today. Her schooling in her native Cuba challenged her physically and mentally, but she surmounted every obstacle to complete nursing school and earn her dream job in a hospital NICU unit. Despite her accomplishments, her security shattered when her partner became abusive, and she was forced to flee the country with her small son. In Albuquerque they stayed on a cousin's couch, but with her nursing credentials unable to transfer, she worried their future was hopeless. Saranam was the light at the end of her tunnel."

July 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.**

- **July 4th**
- **July 18th**

MLCW Bible Study will not be meeting this month.

Council meeting will take place **Tuesday, July 11th** this month at **6:30 p.m.** (On Zoom)

Sew and Share

In need of batting (only two bags left) and someone to sew squares together for tops (Sharon has the squares already cut). We have the sewing machine someone could use. Thank you.

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

An Ice Cream Social will follow our July 2nd Worship Service



Treasurer Report May 2023

YTD/MTD	MTD	YTD
Income	\$26,824.67	\$58,301.19
Expense	\$5,919.85	\$35,221.54
Net	\$20,904.82	\$23,079.26
Balances	Beginning of Month	End of Month
Checking	\$123,597.04	\$141,615.75
MM	\$18,648.33	\$18,648.64

July 2023

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

Messiah Lutheran Church

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