

# Messiah Messenger

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

**March 2024  
Volume 62  
Issue 3**



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

We are getting closer to Spring, each day. I can tell by the increasing amount and intensity of daily winds. The other day, "Gray Lady II" (my 2009 Toyota Tacoma pickup ministry partner) and I were out driving in the blustery and dust blowing mighty wind. I was whining to "Gray Lady II" about how the wind was such an annoyance to my golf game.

The winds were gusting so mightily that when putting it would blow the golf ball off the sloped greens. I had a putt which I got to stop about a foot from the hole and it stopped. I tried to hurry to the inert ball to mark its place, but then a gust of when beat me and the ball proceeded to roll off the green. This was not an anomaly, it happened often and not just to my ball. Others had the joy of watching their balls get blown rolling all over the place. I guess when we have winds gusts blowing up into the forty miles per hour, this phenomena should be expected.

"Gray Lady II" finally said to me after my belly aching, "Wah, Wah." She asked me how I felt about how her outer coat was getting sand blasted as we drove across town. As she was being buffeted around. she said she would be glad when the wind stopped and

her travels would be less challenging. I agreed and dropped the topic and just held on tightly to her steering wheel. We both were fighting the wind.

Even though I did keep quiet before "Gray Lady II" this topic about the strength and persistence of the wind, I did not stop thinking about it. My mind went to the Bible and the activity of the wind written about it within. In the thoughts of the people of the Bible the wind was seen as caused by God. He started them, maintained them and stopped them. Even the direction for which the wind came had significance. North winds were seen as stormy and rain bringing in their territory. South winds were gentle and seen as helping growth. West winds were often mentioned as wells as East. West winds were remembered in the story of the Ten Plagues Yahweh brought against the people of Egypt in Exodus. It was the West wind which brought in the locust (Ex 10:19).

In Acts 2:2, we have provided by God a "mighty rushing wind." It can be translated also as a violent wind. A violent force which was seen as shaking up the calm of the day. The Greek here is "biaias pnoes". Acts 27:41, has a similar phraseology expressed as a very strong (of a wind). The Greek language quiet of used "anemos" for wind and "pneuma" for breath, wind and spirit. Keeping in mind the people of Jesus' day saw God active in many ways, even making wind blow and stop, for His good purposes for His creation, we need not forget the story of Jesus calming the sea in Matthew 8:27. We should not be surprised that those in the boat after Jesus appeared to them, told the strong wind to cease, that they would ask amongst themselves: "What sort of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey him?"

God brought life into this creation by taking out of nothing (ex nihilo), chaos, and making something. He breathed (here the root word pneuma is used) life into a human form made out of the dust of the earth. That same word, which I mentioned above, can also mean wind or spirit. God is the active one in all that came into existence, remains so, and ceases to be.

We, a people of faith, need to take heed to the reality that the "wind," "breath" of God is maintained and cherished by His Holy Spirit. He blows through our lives with goodness and grace, even when we are frustrated by the blowing of the day about us. Jesus Christ died for us to be enlivened in a relationship with the Almighty. We are blessed to be in His care and ability to make wonder a life of faith. We may not see all that Our Lord does, but we can have the pleasure of knowing as He lives, lives in us, we too shall live, even in the stormy days of life. We may not have power over the winds of life or even understand their total purposes, but the One who does maintains the blessed purpose.

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

# March Scripture 2024

<p><b><u>March 3<sup>rd</sup></u></b>  <b>Exodus 20:1-17</b>  <b>Psalm 19</b>  <b>1 Corinthians 1:18-25</b>  <b>John 2:13-22</b></p>	<p><b><u>Mar h 10<sup>th</sup></u></b>  <b>Numbers 21:4-9</b>  <b>Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22</b>  <b>Ephesians 2:1-10</b>  <b>John 3:14-21</b></p>
<p><b><u>March 17<sup>th</sup></u></b>  <b>Jeremiah 31:31-34</b>  <b>Psalm 51:1-12</b>  <b>Hebrews 5:5-10</b>  <b>John 12:20-33</b></p>	<p><b><u>March 24<sup>th</sup></u></b>  <b>Isaiah 50:4-9a</b>  <b>Psalm 31:9-16</b>  <b>Philippians 2:5-11</b>  <b>Mark 14:1--15:47</b></p>
<p><b><u>March 31<sup>st</sup></u></b>  <b>Acts 10:34-43</b>  <b>Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24</b>  <b>1 Corinthians 15:1-11</b>  <b>Mark 16:1-8</b></p>	

## March 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 March 5<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am

**MLCW Bible Study** will meet March 9<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am.

**Council meeting** will take place **Tuesday, March 19<sup>th</sup>** this month at **6:30 p.m.** (On Zoom)

<p><b>Sunday Worship</b>  9:30 a.m. Worship Service (Onsite and Zoom)  Fellowship following service</p> <p><b>Weekday Bible Study</b> Wednesday's at 9:30 am</p> <p><b>Council Meeting</b>  3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday this Month at 6:30 pm</p> <p><b>MLC Women</b>  2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the Month at 9:30 am</p> <p><b>Sew &amp; Share</b>  1<sup>st</sup> &amp; 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month</p> <p><b>Craft Class</b>  Up and running  Contact for meeting time</p> <p><b>Rising Sun Christian Community</b>  11:30 a.m. Worship Service</p> <p><b>Pastor Doug Mathison</b>  <a href="mailto:office@messiahbq.org">office@messiahbq.org</a></p> <p><b>Director of Music</b> Katherine Alexander  <a href="mailto:kalex@unm.edu">kalex@unm.edu</a></p> <p><b>Building &amp; Grounds</b> Carlo Bachechi</p> <p><b>Church Office</b>  <a href="mailto:office@messiahbq.org">office@messiahbq.org</a>  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"> <li>• Baby Athena</li> <li>• Harlan Wilson Family</li> <li>• Stephanie</li> <li>• Dotty Dahl</li> <li>• Pat Baca &amp; Family</li> <li>• Irene Aldredge</li> <li>• Jacen Hoyt</li> </ul> <p><b>Serving In the Military</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Matt Braund</li> <li>• Daniel Vickers (Navy)</li> <li>• Micah Kesatie (Army Reserves)</li> </ul>
---	---

# **For the Love of Our Neighborhood...**

## **March 2024 ~Exciting News for Our Neighbors**

### **MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN**

Monthly meetings of the MLCW meet once a month. Our next meeting will be on Saturday, **March 09**, 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.

President: Steve McHenry

Vice-President: Brian Osterloh

Secretary: Sharon Wilson

Treasurer: KD Pass

Financial Secretary: Cecelia Pepper

At Large Members: Kristi Adams, Debra Hoyt

(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**

#### Holy Week

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 **March 5 and 19, 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. **The next joint congregation vision committee meeting (Holy Cross and Messiah) will be at Holy Cross on Wednesday, March 13, 2024, at 5:30 pm.**
- 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

Mid-week Lenten services will be on Wednesdays, 11:00 am  
 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 service, 9:30 am  
                     (Easter Breakfast, between worship services)

## Financial Reports

### Treasurer Report December 2023

YTD/MTD	MTD	YTD
Income	\$14,386.16	\$115,070.72
Expense	\$9,164.67	\$88,618.61
Net	\$5,353.49	\$33,245.11
<b>Balances</b>	<b>Beginning of Month</b>	<b>End of Month</b>
Checking	\$149,375.34	\$150,911.84
MM	\$18,649.58	\$18,649.74

### Treasurer Report January 2024

YTD/MTD	MTD	YTD
Income	\$5,390.15	\$5,390.15
Expense	\$6,626.84	\$6,626.84
Net	-\$1,236.69	-\$1,236.69
<b>Balances</b>	<b>Beginning of Month</b>	<b>End of Month</b>
Checking	\$150,911.84	\$150,597.81
MM	\$18,649.74	\$18,649.89

# March 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1.	2.
3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.
9:30 am Worship & Fellowship  Rising Sun Worship 11:30 am		9:30 am Sew and Share	9:30 am Bible Study  11am Mid-week service			9:30 am MLCW Bible Study
10.	11.	12.	13.	14.	15.	16.
9:30 am Worship & Fellowship  Rising Sun Worship 11:30 am			9:30 am Bible Study  11am Mid-week service  5:30 p.m. Meeting with Holy Cross			
17.	18.	19.	20.	21.	22.	23.
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			
24.	25.	26.	27.	28.	29.	30.
9:30 a.m. Palm Sunday Worship  Rising Sun Worship 11:30 am			9:30 am Bible Study	7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday service (Zoom)	7:00 p.m. Good Friday service	
31.						
7:30 a.m. Easter Sunrise service 9:30 a.m. Easter service  Rising Sun Worship 11:30 am						

**Messiah Lutheran Church**  
 11515 Lomas Blvd. NE  
 Albuquerque, NM 87112  
 505-299-3311  
[office@messiahabq.org](mailto:office@messiahabq.org)