

Messiah Messenger

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

November 2021

Volume 59

Issue 11



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

"Gray Lady II" (my 2009 Toyota Tacoma pickup truck ministry partner) and I were smoothly driving across town to the church the other day. It seemed that she had a little extra purr from her engine and grace in her movements about Albuquerque's city streets. It could have been the cooling of the weather. Maybe she like the soft breezes and smells of the autumn ambience of October. So, I asked her why she seems to be so gleeful.

She told me how much she enjoyed the new oil in her crankcase and all her fluids and tire pressure at their designed levels. Her motoring about town was a joy with all of her particular parts in good working order. She also appreciated my attentiveness to her needs and wants. In fact, the week that "Gray Lady II" was serviced by CarER, just blocks from my house. I had my wife's vehicle also serviced and ready for her next travels.

This attentiveness to good maintenance is not just designed to vehicles but also to we mortal physical creatures. If we desire to function at our best in our everyday activities, we need to take good care of our body and mind. Many of you probably do get the time to go for walks or go to a fitness center. The body is healthiest when it is active and well taken care of through constant diligence. That is why we are recommended to

keep up our regular check-ups with our medical provider. Also, if we are diagnosed with a need for special medications, we need to keep to the regimen as required.

What we ingest is also important to keeping our body in good working order. The equipment that we use for our exercise, whether it be the shoes we wear or the equipment we use, be proper and in good order. That is why I have never skimmed on the maintenance, equipment or care I have given to my "ministry partner" vehicles over the years. "Old Blue" (my first official "ministry partner" was a 1973 Ford F100 blue (at first, not so toward the last years of living in the upper Midwest) pickup) I purchased in 1984 and we worked together in three parishes up to 2001. She had 267 miles on her when I sadly had to lay her to rest. She was worn out and my mechanic had exhausted all efforts before we had to say she had had enough. Yet through our many years together I always tried to give her the best care, repairs, lubricants, and parts. She owed me nothing, she had worked hard and faithfully to the end.

Our spiritual life with our Risen Lord needs to be held in such care as our body. Our faith in the midst of all the onslaughts of temptation and trials, needs to be kept in good maintenance to be able to fend them off and keep us on the road of Christ's salvation. We need to have a solid foundation in Christ, so that the Holy Spirit can work within us, to keep our faith strong. There is a great hymn in our Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnal, "How Firm a Foundation" (796), which supports our need to be at one in Christ through constant focus on grace and strength. "How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith in Christ Jesus, the Word..." (First stanza opening). Notice a key point in that opening stanza, "Christ Jesus, the Word." We need to keep our spiritual maintenance centered on Christ and we do so by staying diligent in our reading and listening to His Word.

The Word kept faithfully for the Christian throughout the centuries as a bastion of support for our faith is our Holy Scriptures, our Holy Bible (no matter what translation). When we read the Word and listen to its instruction and love from Our Lord, we are bolstered in our spiritual faith "body." This reading is not one of just trying to accomplish quick "sets" or "reps" just to say we got them done but doing the reading with attentiveness to what it is trying to gain for us over the long haul. The Word speaks to our faith in times of trouble and also in times of glee. It speaks of a God who not only has watched over His people but also has acted for their need. Our Lord still does that for us today. It amazes me each time I read a section of the Word how I find a point or assertion which I had not noticed at an earlier reading. My reading and listening were at a different place in my faith searching than at another.

Please keep diligence to your Christian faith maintenance. Do not forget to listen to the faith stories of other dear Christians. And always, share yourself with Our Risen Lord in prayer. There are a lot of places in the Bible which speak of the foundational power of God in the Word. Here are some citations for which you may go and let them give you some foundational exercise in the love of God for His creation. It would be good for you

not to just read the verses below listed but also the full context for which each are written. (Deuteronomy 8:3; 2 Samuel 22:31; Psalm 33:6; Psalm 119:81; Isaiah 40:8; John 1:1; John 8:31; John 12:48; John 15:3; John 14:23; Acts 10:44; Acts 12:24; 1 Corinthians 15:1,2; Colossians 3:16, 17; 1 Timothy 4:5; Hebrews 4:12; Revelation 12:11) There are more, have a good reading and enjoy what Christ has done for you by His action of going to the Cross, dying to destroy any ultimate power of sin and death, and in His rising has given you a new foundational life in His grace, through faith.

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

November Scripture 2021



<p><u>November 7th</u> Isaiah 25:6-9 Wisdom 3:1-9 Psalm 24 Revelation 21:1-6a John 11:32-44</p>	<p><u>November 14th</u> Daniel 12:1-3 Psalm 16 Hebrews 10:11-14 [15-18] 19-25 Mark 13:1-8</p>
<p><u>November 21st</u> Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14 Psalm 93 Revelation 1:4b-8 John 18:33-37</p>	<p><u>November 28th</u> Jeremiah 33:14-16 Psalm 25:1-10 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 Luke 21:25-36</p>

<p>Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m. Worship Service (Onsite and Zoom) Fellowship following service</p> <p>Weekday Bible Study Wednesday at 9:30 am</p> <p>Council Meeting 2nd Tuesday this Month at 6:30 pm</p> <p>MLC Women Restart TBA</p> <p>Sew & Share Restart TBA</p> <p>Craft Class Restart TBA</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 Tony Carson tony@messiahbq.org</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"> • Dotty Dahl • Doreen Barelo • Pat Baca & Family Irene Aldredge • Kellen Tetrault • DeAnna Dahm • Carole Baker • Loring Emery • Marian Kulju • Helga Lindner <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...

November 2021 ~ EXCITING NEWS FOR OUR NEIGHBORS

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN

All monthly meetings are still postponed for the time being, except the Wednesday morning Bible Study (in person) and Church Council (in person and ZOOM). As soon as the MLCW knows when they will reconvene, it will be announced. (Prayerfully soon)

KENNEDY MIDDLE SCHOOL

Thanksgiving KMS Family Food drive. We will be collecting non-perishable food November 7 & 14. Please bring to the church and leave on the table or floor in the Narthex. Then on Tuesday, November 16 (at about 9:00 am) we will package it up to take to KMS for ten anonymous families (volunteers needed to package and deliver to Edna to later distribute). We will buy sliced ham/turkey, butter, cheese, and bread, also. We will also appreciate either grocery or cash donations. Thank you.

We will also do a drive for a family of KMS for Christmas. We will need to deliver the gifts and food on Tuesday morning, December 14.

2021 CHURCH COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

President: Ron Kulju

Vice President: Debra Hoyt

Secretary: Rebecca Hauge

Treasurer: Lee Danielson

Financial Secretary: Steve McHenry

At Large:

Rosemary Butler

K D Pass

(The Church Council meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm. We are going to try to meet in person in the Fellowship Hall and on ZOOM.)

RISING SUN CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

Rising Sun Christian Community are once again worshiping in our building and with a digital format for those not in the building. Their "Praise Band" has been practicing on Saturdays at Messiah. Pastor Vangie and her congregation say hello.

WORSHIP at Messiah - 2021

We will continue doing our worship by ZOOM and with some in church worshipers. We pray that this has helped you stay in touch with the Word of the Lord and each other. We have also been emailing or mailing Exposition of the Weekly Worship and

Lessons. We have been allowing members to worship on site, following all the appropriate health precautions. We are getting a nice group of worshipers at Messiah on Sunday each week. **We are now having a “Grab and Go/Stay and Chat” following worship in the Fellowship Hall.** We keep working to offer the best worship and Bible Study opportunities possible. Thank you to Brian and Cassandra, K. D. Pass, Rosemary Butler, Steve McHenry, and Tony for making all this possible.

WORSHIP with our more traditional Holy Communion----Our plan was for the Sunday worship service on June 13, 2021, 9:30 am, to move closer to our traditional way of doing Holy Communion during the service. It went pretty well, and we had a large number of worshipers. Those of you who have been worshipping in the sanctuary know that for the past many months we have limited movement during the service and masks were mandatory. Well, the State of New Mexico has lessened the need to keep on masks on in public inside events, like worship. So if you wish to not wear a mask and have been fully vaccinated, you have that option.

Our worship services now-- when it is time to for the sacred elements distribution, you will be asked to come up around the altar, be before the altar railings or stay in your pew, and we will serve you. Please do keep in mind social distancing no matter what you choose.

Pastor will bring the bread (wafer) to each person and another person will follow with the trays of filled disposable wine cups (safely spaced away from each other on the tray). There will be no words shared and each person is to hold the elements until Pastor gets back in front of the ZOOM camera at the altar. Pastor will make sure all people are ready to receive the elements, both in house and on ZOOM, so we can receive the sacrament as a full community of Christ. Then the Pastor will say, “The body of Christ given for you, amen,” and everyone will eat the body, and then “The blood of Christ shed for you, amen,” again all will drink.

Once all have received the Body and Blood, the Pastor will bless the meal. Those not in their seats will return to their pews, giving space for each returning and dispose of the cups in the trash can in the aisle. We are still trying to see how this all flows and when we will sing the Communion Hymn, while returning to their pews. It may take us a couple of weeks to get this all moving smoothly. God bless.

OTHER ACTIVITIES AT MESSIAH (projected)

- 1) Wednesday Morning Bible Study – 9:30 am, in the Fellowship Hall. We will continue to meet as long as we feel we are able to do so safely, while following

state health guidelines. We ask that those attending to once again, bring your own Bibles, and Pastor Doug will have copies ready for the appropriate text of study. (Of course, coffee will be made, and also, we ask those attending not to leave personal items in your vehicle.)

- 2) Sew and Share – has not set a getting back to quilt making at the church, yet.
- 3) Men's Morning Bible Study - No plans have been made to resume.
- 4) We are in need of volunteers to help our worship services: PowerPoint/ZOOM for worship (and at other special times) and Sunday offering Counters (who would count, record and deposit the offering.) We will provide people who know how to do these things tutor volunteers.
- 5) We have set Sunday, January 16, 2022, following the worship service, for our **Annual Meeting**.
- 6) We will be needing members to consider being on next year's Church Council. Please prayerfully consider volunteering to be on the ballot for a Church Council position.
- 7) The University of New Mexico campus pastor Rhonda Newby-Torres will be worshipping with us at our Sunday, November 21, 2021 service. She will present information while here with us about campus ministry and she will be our guest preacher.
- 8) **Set clocks BACK on Sunday morning, November 7, 2021.**

Treasurer Report September 2021

YTD/MTD	MTD	YTD
Income	\$5309.00	\$74,962.98
Expense	\$5459.95	\$57,868.14
Net	-\$150.95	\$17,094.84
Balances	Beginning of Month	End of Month
Checking	\$102,139.71	\$101,670.52
MM	\$13,645.48	\$13,645.95

Albuquerque Refugee & Asylee Programs Donation List

Thank you for thinking of LFS for your donations of furniture and household goods! When a refugee family arrives, LFS secures an apartment and furnishes the apartment with all the basic necessities. We rely on donations of new and gently used items from the community to be able to give refugees a warm welcome! For large items and furniture we are able to pick-up Monday-Friday, but please understand that we are a small operation and so we are generally not able to pick up with short notice. Please call our office in advance to schedule. Thank you for your generosity!

We accept the following new or gently used items.

Furniture:

- Bed frame (twin/full/queen)
- Dressers or chest of drawers
- Small couches or loveseats
- Lamps and light bulbs
- Kitchen/dining table and chairs
- Living room chairs
- Coffee table/side tables
- Nightstands

Linens:

- Bath towels, hand towels, and washcloths
- Sheet sets (twin, full, queen)
- Blankets and bedspreads
- Pillows (new only)
- Curtains
- Shower curtain

Kitchen Items:

- Utensils
- Dishes (plates, bowls, cups)
- Glasses, mugs
- Pots and pans
- Bakeware
- Mixing/serving bowls
- Cooking utensils (spatula, wooden spoon, knives, serving utensils)
- Can opener
- Cutting board
- Tupperware (new only)

Cleaning Supplies:

- Dish soap
- Bathroom/kitchen cleaner
- Laundry detergent
- Sponges or cleaning rags
- Paper towels
- Waste baskets
- Trash bags
- Mop, broom, dust pan

Toiletries:

- Toilet paper
- Shampoo & Conditioner
- Soap
- Toothbrushes and toothpaste
- Personal hygiene items: deodorant, feminine products, shaving cream, razors)

Other:

- Home décor
- Small appliances
- Alarm clock
- Paper, pens, pencils
- Children's books and toys
- Baby items: baby food, clothing, diapers, car seats, cribs, strollers
- Gift Cards: a gift card to a local supermarket can be a life-line for a refugee waiting on their first paycheck.

We do NOT accept: king-sized beds, sofa beds, recliners, desks, bookshelves, entertainment centers, hutches, armoires, waterbed frames, grills, patio furniture, lawnmowers, appliances such as washers, dryers, stoves, or refrigerators, TVs, clothing.

Contact Information:

Community Engagement Coordinator
Lydia Monte | lydia.monte@lfsrm.org



Over the summer the Lutheran Campus Ministry Board at UNM and CNM had the task of finding and hiring a new pastor, after the departure of Pastor Bre Roberts to her new church in Maryland. After much discussion and searching, we have found a wonderful leader in Rhonda Newby-Torres, our new lay Pastor at Luther House. She began her work the beginning of August - getting to know the Luther House residents, the wants and needs of the Board and residents, the lay of the land at UNM and CNM, and more.

Rhonda Newby-Torres was born and raised in New Mexico and has also lived and traveled extensively outside of the state and the country. She lives on a farm in Tome where she and her husband are raising two children with lots of cows, chickens, cats, dogs, and room to roam. Rhonda graduated from UNM in 2005 with a bachelor's degree in Sociology and Religious Studies and spent 15 years doing community organizing in the International District in Albuquerque. She is currently finalizing her Master of Theological Studies at St. Norbert College.

Rhonda and the Luther House residents, along with others, hosted a table at the Duck Pond at UNM's Welcome Back Days, August 26-27, one of their first events of the school year. They also have put together a weekly schedule of events that anyone is welcome to attend (UNM, CNM, members of the public, etc.).

Wednesdays: Shared Meal at 6pm at Luther House followed by a time of prayer, study, dialogue, and spiritual practice.

Thursdays: Centering Prayer at 12 noon at the Duck Pond (UNM).

Fridays: Theology in the SUB- "What is Progressive Theology" at 12 noon in the SUB (UNM Student Union Building).

Saturdays and/or Sundays: Church visits, service projects, community outings and much more!

I am looking forward to hosting Rhonda at Messiah, as she makes the rounds of the Lutheran churches in the area. I will keep the MLC congregation up to date on her upcoming visit as well as any other news from Luther House. If you have any questions regarding Lutheran Campus Ministry, please don't hesitate to ask.

~ Cassandra Osterloh
(cassandra.osterloh@yahoo.com), Vice-
President, Lutheran Campus Ministry Board



November 2021 NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



Council meetings will take place the 2nd Tuesday this month at 6:30 p.m. (On Zoom)

**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

Thank you to everyone who helped make Trunk or Treat a success.

Church supplies needed: glass cleaner, counter cleaner, power towels

We will have Pastor Rhonda Newby-Torres from UNM Campus ministry as our guest at our Sunday, November 21 worship service and coffee.

2021 Annual Meeting

Sunday, January 16, 2021

Following the worship service (location and ZOOM possibility: TBA next month)

We will be having a Thanksgiving food drive for Kennedy Middle school. We will be collecting food until Sunday, November 14th. Tuesday, November 16th we will bag and deliver food to KMS.

Volunteers Needed!!!

- ZOOM and PowerPoint on Sundays
 - Offering Counters
 - Church Council Members
- Sign-up on the volunteer board at MLC.

November 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.
			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			
14.	15.	16.	17.	18.	19.	20.
9:30 am Worship & Fellowship KMS Food Drive Deadline Rising Sun Worship 11:30 am		9 am KMS Food Drive Bagging and Delivery	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.				
9:30 am Worship & Fellowship Rising Sun Worship 11:30 am						

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