

Messiah Messenger

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

November 2022
Volume 60
Issue 11



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

It should be no surprise to you who have been reading the "Rides with "Gray Lady II" articles in the Messiah newsletters that there is regular commenting on our traveling about our community roads. "Gray Lady II" (my 2009 Toyota Tacoma pickup ministry partner) and I, do get to be about and see a lot of interesting driving skills and maneuvers. It is easy for us to get hypocritical of what we see during our trips. A couple of weeks ago, we had a parable from our Lord Jesus concerning a Pharisee and a tax collector. One was smug and stated: "God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector" (Luke 18:12) The other was a repentant tax collector who beat his breast in humility before the Lord and asked: "God, be merciful to me, a sinner!" (Luke 18:13)

"Gray Lady II" has taken me to task when I acted like the smug Pharisee. I could hear my own words flowing from my mouth after watching someone-else's lawbreaking driving with similar words to the smug Pharisee: "Boy, am I glad that I do not drive like that driver." In response to "Gray Lady II's" challenge which took me to task about my words and my own driving, a sense of humbleness flowed. I wanted them to get caught, yet, in my own cases of breaking a traffic law, I felt relieved that I did not get caught or caused an accident.

It is not always easy to traverse a community's roads, especially if one is not familiar with their roads. Instead of being haughty or smug, "Gray Lady II" told me I should be more understanding. It is not stretching the point too far, but some people in the midst of being lost, try to alter their plight to get to where they want to be illegally and unsafely. Also, there are just some people caught up in their own interest and with no concern for the other. They just do what ever they feel is right for them at the moment.

In reality, sometimes a person becomes lost especially when they are overly intent to get from point A to point B with no full knowledge of where their driving will take them. When I move from being smug when not lost, watching the actions of others struggling over the lanes, signs, signals and orange cones about them, to humility my view alters. In fact, I am relieved and even glad they made it through their errant moves safely. Not only for them, but for the others, who are sharing the same road.

I am also thankful, that by the grace of other drivers around me, when I am struggling with traversing the particulars of a roadway, they make helpful moves to rescue me. A case in point, when I was at my son's town, I had no idea about the signage and lanes of my travels until I got to them. My head was on a swivel trying to figure out where I was supposed to be as I was also looking for where I wanted to be. I had no former reference points to work with and traffic was moving at the assigned pace. In truth, I was in their way, but even as I made poor laned decisions, most gave me room to correct my errors of lane choice. I thank God for them and that all of us were not hurt or inconvenienced by my erratic driving.

Well, I have erratic (erring) moments in my life which I am thankful that my Lord covers me with His forgiving nature. There are times when I have been mortally lost but divinely recovered by the Lord in all His goodness and compassion. In humble appraisal, I have been blessed better than I deserve, in my own right. I thought the path at the particular moment was a good one, but had it revealed that it was erroneous. Fortunately, by the Lord's grace, He has brought me along to His glory.

This conversation brings to mind the so popular hymn about the Lord's never-ending or failing love which has its only purpose to safely bring us to His home. The hymn growing out of the faith transition and life of John Newton. He was lost in his early life as a sailor on a slave trading ship. It seemed alright for years and brought him a good income at the expense of the misery placed upon others. The Lord brought him out of that lost condition to one of being found. A grace upon understanding but available as our faith is awakened by Christ through His Holy Spirit. Praise be the truth for we fallen sinners from the end of the third stanza: "Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home."

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

November Scripture 2022



<p><u>November 6th</u> Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18 Psalms 149 Ephesians 1:11-23 Luke 6:20-31</p>	<p><u>November 13th</u> Malachi 4:1-2a Psalms 98 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13 Luke 21:5-19</p>
<p><u>November 20th</u> Jeremiah 23:1-6 Psalms 46 Colossians 1:11-20 Luke 23:33-43</p>	<p><u>November 27th</u> Isaiah 2:1-5 Psalms 122 Romans 13:11-14 Matthew 24:36-44</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 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"> • Steve McHenry • Dennis Milks • Stephanie • Ceceilia Pepper • Irene Aldredge • Deanna Dahm • Carole Baker • Loring Emery • Marian Kulju • Helga Lindner • Jacen Hoyt • Dotty Dahl • Pat Baca & Family <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 2022 ~ 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, November 12, 2022**. We will meet 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

Thanksgiving—We will once again be involved with providing food for Ten Families of Kennedy Middle School. If you would like to donate non-perishable food which we can bag up to be given to them, Wednesday, November 16, 2022, please bring them to the church and put in marked area in Narthex. There will be more information coming later. We will use Thrivent Dollars to buy sliced ham, butter, processed cheese and bread. We look to your help for the rest. (There is a sign up sheet for items being brought on the volunteer bulletin board)

2022 CHURCH COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

President: Steve McHenry

Vice President: K.D. Pass

Secretary: Rebecca Hauge

Treasurer: Lee Danielson

Financial Secretary: Rosemary Butler

At Large:

Ron Kulju

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 are working on getting a second camera up and running for their streaming service of their worship.

They celebrated their 10th Anniversary on Sunday, October 16, 2022.

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 **November 1 and 15, 2022.**
- 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. We have been looking for someone who would be willing to be the Treasurer next year (This is a council position.) and we have someone to fill that position (Thank you). Lee, the present Treasurer, will work with someone over the fall months to get familiar with the position.
- 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.

- 4) **Trunk or Treat**—We are planning to have an event for our neighborhood kids on Sunday, October 30, 2022, from 5-7 pm, in our parking lot. Contact Debra Hoyt if you have any questions.
- 5) **Advent Charitable Drive**—“Advent Calendar”—This calendar has a designated item to put into a box each day and at the end of the Advent Season, bring your full box to the church or to your local food bank of choice. (See Advent Calendar printed in our newsletter)
- 6) **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.

November 2022 NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

<p>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</p>	<p>Sew and Share will be held on the first and third Tuesdays of the month at 9:30 a.m.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - November 1st - November 15th <p>MLCW Bible Study will meet on Saturday November 12th at 9:30 a.m.</p>
<p>Council meetings will take place the 2nd Tuesday this month at 6:30 p.m. (On Zoom)</p>	<p>Volunteers Needed!!!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ZOOM and PowerPoint on Sundays - Offering Counters - Church Council Members <p>Sign-up on the volunteer board at MLC.</p>

Treasurer Report September 2022

YTD/MTD	MTD	YTD
Income	\$7,231.22	\$79,818.28
Expense	\$12,473.10	\$66,006.38
Net	-\$5,241.88	\$113,811.90
Balances	Beginning of Month	End of Month
Checking	\$122,696.61	\$114,956.10
MM	\$18,647.25	\$18,647.40

REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR

EACH DAY ADD AN ITEM TO A BOX.
ON CHRISTMAS EVE DONATE THE CONTENTS TO A
FOOD BANK.

- December 1 - box of cereal
- December 2 - peanut butter
- December 3 - stuffing mix
- December 4 - boxed potatoes
- December 5 - macaroni and cheese
- December 6 - canned fruit
- December 7 - canned tomatoes
- December 8 - canned tuna
- December 9 - dessert mix
- December 10 - jar of applesauce
- December 11 - canned sweet potatoes
- December 12 - cranberry sauce
- December 13 - canned beans
- December 14 - box of crackers
- December 15 - package of rice
- December 16 - package of oatmeal
- December 17 - package pasta
- December 18 - spaghetti sauce
- December 19 - chicken noodle soup
- December 20 - tomato soup
- December 21 - can corn
- December 22 - can mixed vegetables
- December 23 - can carrots
- December 24 - can green beans

Trunk Or Treat 2022

Thank you to Rising Sun and Messiah Lutheran members for participating in this year's Trunk or Treat. It was a success. Here are some pictures from the day.



November 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1.	2.	3.	4.	5.
		9:30 am Sew & Share	9:30 am Bible Study			
6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.
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
13.	14.	15.	16.	17.	18.	19.
9:30 am Worship & Fellowship Rising Sun Worship 11:30 am		9:30 am Sew & Share	9:30 am Bible Study 11 a.m. KMS Thanksgiving Food Drive Bagging			
20.	21.	22.	23.	24.	25.	26.
7:30 am Sunrise Service Rising Sun Worship 11:30 am			9:30 am Bible Study			
27.	28.	29.	30.			
9:30 am Worship & Fellowship Rising Sun Worship 11:30 am			9:30 am Bible Study			

Messiah Lutheran Church

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