

Messiah Messenger

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

October 2021

Volume 59

Issue 10



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

We are now officially into the season of Fall. "Gray Lady II" (My 2009 Tacoma pickup ministry partner) and I are really appreciative of its arrival. "Gray Lady II" was commenting to me how thankful she was not to have the sun beating down on her outer shell and interior cab compartment. I know it has to be hard on all her parts with the scorching heat we have had over the last months. She would mention how blessed she would feel when we had a full day of overcast; and even more so, when it rained.

I told her I felt the same way. Scorching heat did not do anything necessarily good for my outer shell, or inner compartments. I had to drink a lot of water to stay ahead of the moisture I was losing. I am surprised that "Gray Lady II" did so well helping me get to places around town in such heat. We had to not only deal with the heat of the day, but also the residual effects on the roads of constant heat.

Maybe, she and I, should be thankful that we are able to complain. The complaining shows us that we are alive and functioning. Such thinking reminds me of what is commonly said about getting older, "It is better than the alternative." Point well taken and I am thankful for each day.

This thinking of being thankful really hit home for me as we have been working the last weeks through the "Passion Predictions" of Jesus. In Mark, three times He declares what was just a

short time away to His disciples the cruelty which was instore for Him in Jerusalem. Even though the disciples (and probably us if we had been there) struggled to really come to grips with this Suffering Messiah coming into our world to die for our sins and defeat death for us, Jesus went to Jerusalem and fulfilled His prophecy and promise.

Just think of what must have been going through His mind at the Last Supper. Jesus was sitting there at table and eating with the disciples. Jesus took that gathering as a time to offer a special sacramental moment. We now celebrate in our worship the Eucharist while he feeds us for living through His body and Blood. He knew what the next week was going to bring, and in human terms, it was not going to be pleasant. Even with people looking to do Him harm, at the time of this meal He did it with grace and thankfulness. He twice gave thanks to His Father in heaven—once taking up the cup and once again after breaking the bread. The Son of God showed pure faithfulness to the task at hand with thanks.

As I discussed this with "Gray Lady II", she pointed out we should be thankful each day, because none of them are going to be as bad as Jesus' last days. He did not have to go to the Cross for us and be beaten and crucified for our sins, but He chose to out of His love. How would we be able to offer that last meal of grace know that we were going to be betrayed into the hands of those who found us a pain in their side. Such an annoyance that the event would be considered expedient by the haters.

It made me think of all the times I could have taken the time to be grateful and expressed it. I took that moment in our conversation to give thanks to "Gray Lady II" directly and deeply (while also remembering those before her who were my previous ministry partners) for her dependability and faithfulness. I also gave thanks to my Lord and Savior for providing her as my assistant, and even more so, Jesus who through the Holy Spirit invited me into His victory through the Cross and Resurrection.

I am sure over the years the Lord has provided so many wonderful and helpful people into my life and ministry, and I have not shared fully my appreciation for their company and efforts. Let me take this moment to share my deepest thanks to all of you who are part of my life and ministry for all that you have done; efforts large and small; recognized and unrecognized." And not let me forget all those who have forged out of me a man of many years one I hope they would be proud of and thankful they had a chance to know me, as I do them. Lest I forget, my family and friends thankfully fill my life with more than I could have ever imagined, and I thank the Lord, each day in my prayers.

The Lord at many times in His time on earth took time to say thanks to the Father. May we each day find time and ways to do the same with our Lord. If I had to pick a favorite thought in my relationship for which to earnestly give the Lord thanks, it was when He said in His last recorded words from St. Matthew's Gospel, "An behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." (Mt. 28:20b) Thank you Lord Jesus. Amen.

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

October Scripture 2021



<u>October 3rd</u> Genesis 2:18-24 Psalm 8 Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12 Mark 10:2-16	<u>October 10th</u> Amos 5:6-7, 10-15 Psalm 90:12-17 Hebrews 4:12-16 Mark 10:17-31	<u>October 17th</u> Isaiah 53:4-12 Psalm 91:9-16 Hebrews 5:1-10 Mark 10:35-45
<u>October 24th</u> Jeremiah 31:7-9 Psalm 126 Hebrews 7:23-28 Mark 10:46-52		<u>October 31st</u> Jeremiah 31:31-34 Psalm 46 Romans 3:19-28 John 8:31-36

<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...

October 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

Thank you to the members of the Thursday Morning Men's Bible Study and the Women's Bible Study for providing eighteen full size backpacks for KMS students. We also provided all kinds of school supplies, water and books following the Summer Fair we had here on September 18, 2021. Thank you.

TOMASITA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

We had the pleasure of donating school supplies, water, books and toys to Tomasita following our Summer Fair we had here on September 18, 2021. Thank you.

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
KD 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 began worshiping in our building and with a digital format for those not in the building, on Sunday, August 8, 2021. 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 a member 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 space 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) The **Summer Fair**, on Saturday, September 18, from 10:00 am- 2:00 pm, in the parking lot, went really well. Thank you all who donated items for the event and also helped work it. A special thanks to Debra Hoyt and Nancy Tillen for all their weeks of preparation for the fair. As noted above, Tomasita and Kennedy schools came over and took for their students' use the items we had left over.
- 5) 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.
- 6) We have set Sunday, January 16, 2021, following the worship service, for our **Annual Meeting**.
- 7) 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.

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.

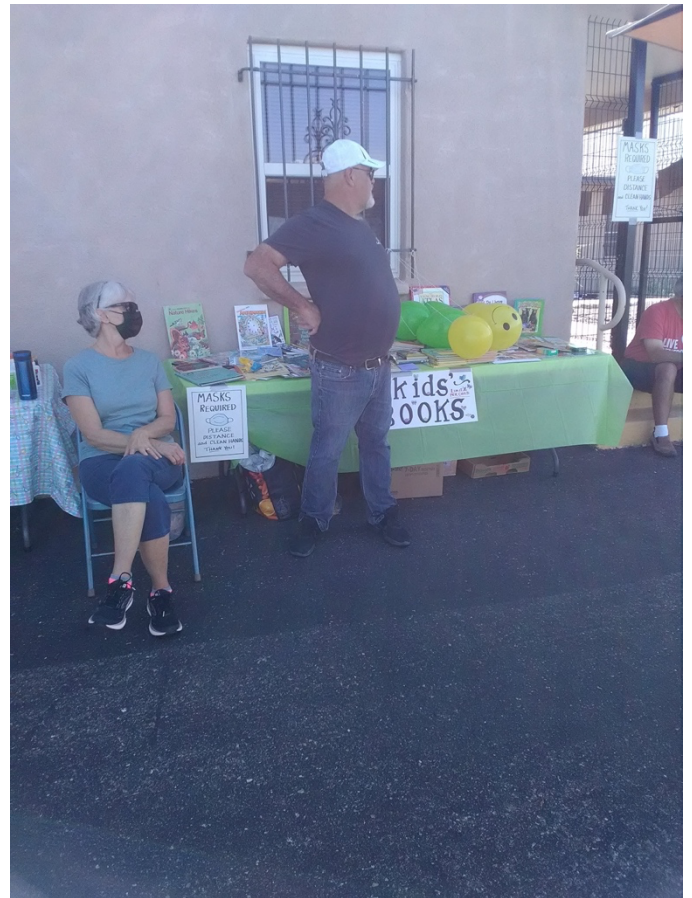
~ Cassandra Osterloh
(cassandra.osterloh@yahoo.com), Vice-
President, Lutheran Campus Ministry Board



Summer Fair Highlights

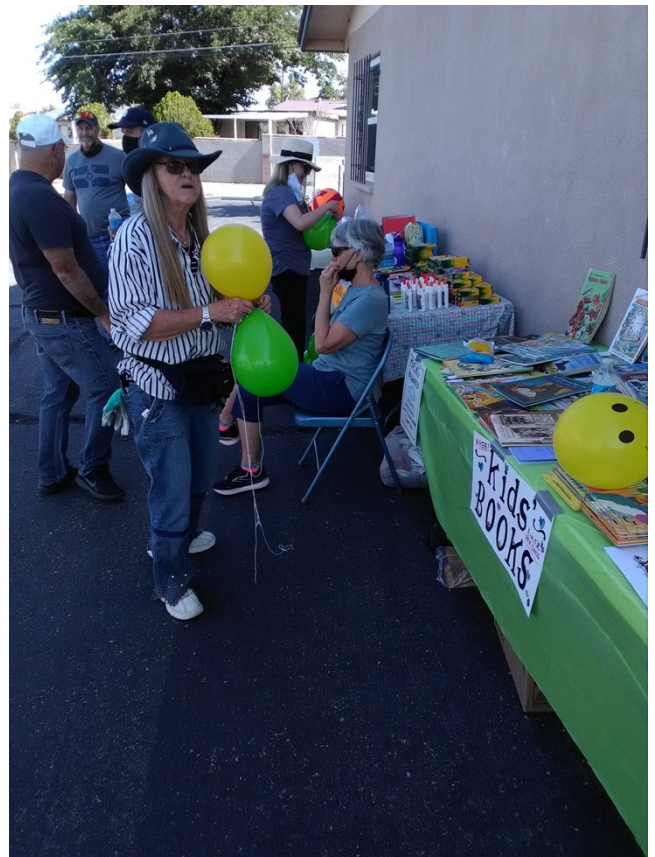
Messiah's Summer Fair, "Celebrating God's Grace" took place Saturday, September 18 from 10am to 2pm on the church grounds. Several volunteers turned out to help set up and to man the activities and participate throughout the day. And a beautiful day it was for community outreach and fellowship!

Thank you to Pastor Doug, Dave, Ron, Carol, Tony, Lee, Nancy, and Sarah. Thank you to all who contributed books, school supplies, refreshments, and prizes. Thank you to Thrivent Financial for the grant, to Rising



Sun's congregation for their contribution and to individuals who contributed financially. All is greatly appreciated. Any left-over supplies were given to the neighboring schools for distribution.

- Debra Hoyt



October 2021 NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

	<p>Council meetings will take place the 2nd Tuesday this month at 6:30 p.m. (On Zoom)</p>
<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>Our sympathies to Ron, Marian Kulju, and family for the loss of Marian's dad, Doug Brown, on Sunday, September 26th. May the Lord be with them.</p>
	<p>2021 Annual Meeting</p> <p>Sunday, January 16, 2021</p> <p>Following the worship service (location and ZOOM possibility: to be announced next month)</p>
<p>Trunk or Treat</p> <p>When: Saturday October 30th Time: 5 – 7 p.m.</p> <p>More information to come!</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>

October 2021

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 Bible Study			
10.	11.	12.	13.	14.	15.	16.
9:30 am Worship & Fellowship Rising Sun Worship 11:30 am		6:30 pm Church Council Meeting	9:30 am Bible Study			
17.	18.	19.	20.	21.	22.	23.
9:30 am Worship & Fellowship Rising Sun Worship 11:30 am			9:30 am Bible Study			
24.	25.	26.	27.	28.	29.	30.
9:30 am Worship & Fellowship Rising Sun Worship 11:30 am			9:30 am Bible Study			5 – 7 pm Trunk or Treat?
31.						
9:30 am Worship & Fellowship Rising Sun Worship 11:30 am						

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