

Messiah Messenger

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

September 2023

Volume 61

Issue 9



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

"Gray Lady II" (my 2009 Toyota Tacoma pickup ministry partner) and I have managed to survive the very hot stretch of weather we had over the last months. I really feel badly for her because she does not have a spot in the garage. She has to weather (pun intended) the weather from January through December. Some days she is baking in the heat. Other days she is shedding rain or snow off her shell and chassis. There are fortunately some very nice periods of time when the weather is quite favorable and kind.

She has not balked, as of yet. I am taking her today for a little tender loving care. She is going to the mechanic shop for a replacing of her old used oil with new and fresh. Her other fluid will be checked and topped off. The air in her tires will be at their safe driving levels. Possibly, the mechanic after looking her over may say she needs something adjusted or replace. They will be diligently taken care of and she can be at her peak

performance when she leaves. She is getting advanced in age and has a good amount of miles flipped over on her odometer.

As we traveled to the mechanic shop, Mango Automotive, we reminisced over all the different activities she has been involved. I asked her if she knew the saying about a person who owns a pickup truck. She did not, but quickly smiled and agreed after I told her the answer. "A person who owns a pickup is not without a lot of friends." It is so true. "Gray Lady II" has been requested to help people out in a variety of ways because of her good size box on her back side.

It was not too long ago "Gray Lady II" hauled to the church clothes for the kids from Tomasita Elementary School and Kennedy Middle School. This was not her first time either over the years. She has brought stuff to the waste management site to be tossed and nicely used items to Goodwill. She carries my golf clubs and walking cart, a couple times a week. She has helped people move and she has in her back seat, a child protective seat firmly affixed for our granddaughter. (Those have changed as she has grown and gets used a lot. The telephone rings for a ride for her and "Gray Lady II" is there.)

She reminded me of a time we were shopping at Home Depot. I was going back to her in the parking lot and espied a man with a small car trying to fit sheets of dry wall in its back seat. He had already cut a full sheet in half. It was not going to fit without cutting again or damaging it. "Gray Lady II" said she had plenty of room in her box and we should offer to haul it to his house for him. So I went over and asked him if we could help him out by hauling it for him. (I did think he may say no, not knowing me. It could have run through his mind that I might drive away with it.)

He did appreciate the offer and we put the sheet rock in the back of "Gray Lady II". He lived a ways from our house up in Rio Rancho by the old Chamisa Hills golf course. Yes, it was a little inconvenience to me, but I gladly followed him up to his house. I helped him unload it, turned down the money he offered me for my time, and went home to do the project of my concern. The helping out of this man because I had "Gray Lady II" did interfere, so to say, with my plans; but, it was an opportunity to help out a

person in need and I was still even though later than planned to get done what I wanted to do.

As we remembered this specific event, the many stories of my Lord Jesus, when He was setting out to do what He had planned and was stopped for assistance. He had the where-with-all to change the situation in a person in need, even if it interrupted His plans, and did so. Praise be the Lord. The story of the Feeding of the Five Thousand would be a good case in point. He had been separate from the crowds to deal with His grief over learning that John the Baptist had been killed. He left that quiet spot to head forth to present His message of salvation as He was to be heading for Jerusalem. Not too far along He was confronted by many people from all over who had heard of His ability to heal and give people new life from that healing. He stopped and took care of them and then went on His way, only to see a large crowd that had come out to see and hear His words. He sensed that they were hungry and this meal time would most definitely slow Him down, but He fed all of them with just five loaves of bread and two fish. He even had to take on the challenge from His disciples that it was not enough food and He should send them away to eat. Not Jesus style.

We are the people of Christ's grace and love in our world. We are His hands and assistants for seeing to the needs of the people. We may have planned out days in certain and particular ways to meet our own needs. There are times when they will be interrupted by requests for help and Christ will be with us as we take on those moments. We can make a difference and help change lives of people by slowing down and offering time and gifts which the Lord has given us and supports by His Spirit. May the Lord be in you and through you. Amen.

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

September Scripture 2023



<p><u>September 3rd</u> Jeremiah 15:15-21 Psalm 26:1-8 Romans 12:9-21 Matthew 16:21-28</p>	<p><u>September 10th</u> Ezekiel 33:7-11 Psalm 119:33-40 Romans 13:8-14 Matthew 18:15-20</p>
<p><u>September 17th</u> Genesis 50:15-21 Psalm 103:[1-7] 8-13 Romans 14:1-12 Matthew 18:21-35</p>	<p><u>September 24th</u> Jonah 3:10--4:11 Psalm 145:1-8 Philippians 1:21-30 Matthew 20:1-16</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 (No meeting in August) 2nd Saturday of the Month at 9:30 am</p> <p>Sew & Share (No meeting in August) 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"> • Baby Athena • Carol Hartenberger • Harlan Wilson • Stephanie • Dotty Dahl • Pat Baca & Family • 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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For the Love of Our Neighborhood... **September 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 were **no** meetings in July and August. We will start meeting again on Saturday **September 9**, 2023, 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 gave a lot of new socks and Polo shirts (uniform requirement) to Tomasita. You should have received a "Teachers' Wish List" from Kennedy Middle School in an eblast. Spiral note books are a constant that the school needs for their students. If you choose to give some items, see that they get to the church and the Pastor will see that they get them.

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. They are joining us in doing the "Sway Meet" on Saturday, September 16, from 8 to noon, in our parking lot.

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. There had been no gatherings in August, the next gatherings will be **September 19**. 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. 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 worshipping 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 have our full practice on September 10. 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.
- 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 this 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."
- 8) **Messiah and RSCC Clothing Drive and Swap/Give-A-Way: Saturday, September 16, beginning at 8:00 am.** We are collecting used clothing and shoes for a local community Give-A-Way. There are collection boxes in the Narthex and a sign-up sheet for volunteers to help. It will be in the Messiah Church parking lot and it is a "no money" exchange.

Treasurer Report July 2023

YTD/MTD	MTD	YTD
Income	\$9,332.94	\$73,681.68
Expense	\$3,722.89	\$48,205.90
Net	\$5,610.05	\$25,475.78
Balances	Beginning of Month	End of Month
Checking	\$137,548.57	\$142,033.21
MM	\$18,648.80	\$18,648.95

September 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 meet September 19th

MLCW Bible Study will meet September 9th

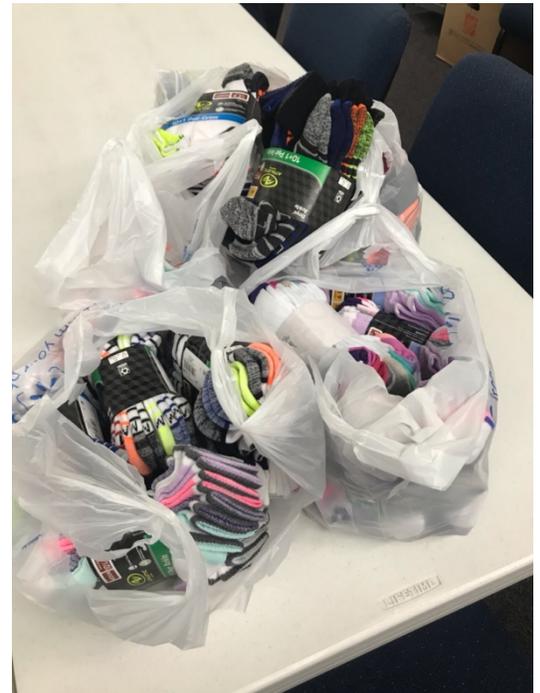
Council meeting will take place **Tuesday, July 12th** this month at **6:30 p.m.** (On Zoom)

Sew and Share :“We need batting (only two bags left) and someone to sew squares together for tops. (Sharon has the squares already cut) and we have the sewing machine someone could use.”

Saranam Success Stories: Mayra (part 2): “She (Mayra) went on to finish a Bachelor’s degree in Middle Eastern and Latin American Studies at UNM and currently works as a real estate agent, taking her journey from homelessness truly full circle. Her brave example is steering her five children towards a bright future as well. Her eldest will even graduate high school with an Associate’s degree before he attends college. She is still involved and cheers on current families from the alumni program.”



**Socks and Polo Shirts
 donated to Tomasita
 Grade School**



September 2023

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			9:30 am MLCW 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	9:30 am Bible Study			8 am – 12 pm Swap Meet
17.	18.	19.	20.	21.	22.	23.
9:30 am Worship & Fellowship Rising Sun Worship 11:30 am		9:30 am Sew and Share				
24.	25.	26.	27.	28.	29.	30.
9:30 am Worship & Fellowship Rising Sun Worship 11:30 am			9:30 am Bible Study			

Messiah Lutheran Church

11515 Lomas Blvd. NE
Albuquerque, NM 87112
505-299-3311

office@messiahabq.org

<http://messiahabq.org>