



MESSIAH MESSENGER

March 2023



GREETINGS FROM PASTOR DAN

Why are There Two Different Services During Lent?

We live in an unfocused age.

Have you noticed your attention span is not what it used to be? Between texts, tweets, posts, and emails, it's easy to lose focus.

How do you feel when there is silence in the home or car? Does it bother you? Or do you more greatly treasure it?

Do you find yourself more anxious about life because of its pace?

We get so used to the fast pace of life and all its activities that many times, we fail to slow down in order to reflect on the good and bad of our lives. The Midweek Advent and Lenten services force us to do that by the gentle hand of our Lord.

The liturgy and services are meant to have a greater meditative feel, more than the celebratory nature of Sunday worship. The goal is focus. When this happens, we can better center our hearts and minds on Jesus, and not get swept into the vortex of life that tosses us through its ebbs and tides.

This Advent and Lenten seasons our focus has been on faith in the Lord and all the aspects and challenges of living it. Our Heroes of the Faith series have been proclaiming how faith is lived under the most unbelievable circumstances.

That will continue in the coming weeks as we hear from biblical characters like Jacob, Joseph, Moses, and Samson. If you wish to hear the past characters simply go to our website at mlcbeloit.com. Then click on worship/bulletin and click on Midweek Advent services. Or I can make a CD of past services or load them onto a memory stick.

But the best way is to simply come and experience these services live as you get to know your Messiah Members and Friends better. This is done through the Lenten Suppers before the services, and through the prayers we pray with them right from their pews.

Then leave these worship services more focused on what is really important in life: a more joyful walk with your Savior who gave His life for you.


See you in worship, fellowship, and service.

Pastor Dan



“I will meditate on your precepts and fix my eyes on your ways,”

Psalm 119:15 ESV



Another Way to Give Offerings to Messiah: Last March, our congregation voted unanimously to explore additional ways to give offerings to Messiah through eTithing. The Parish Planning Council decided to open the Givelify app for our members and friends. It is now on-line and ready for use. It is an easy way to give if you don't carry cash or use paper checks. Simply download the app at the Google Play Store or Apple App Store. It is safe and secure. If you need help setting up the app, please contact Jim Shellenberger at (815) 275-2081 or Carl Creedy at (608) 201-2466. They are planning on having workshops to help people use this exciting new tool.

Calendar of Events

- March 1, 2023 (Wednesday, 9 AM) - LWML Gathering in Fellowship Hall
- March 1, 2023 (Wednesday, 5:45 PM) - Lenten Suppers; Sign up to Host (Sheets are in the Narthex)
- March 1, 2023 (Wednesday, 7 PM) - Midweek Lenten Services (Heroes of Faith: Isaac)
- March 3, 2023 (Friday, 5 PM - 7 PM) - Fish Fry Dinners
- March 4, 2023 (Saturday, 9 AM) - Choir Practice
- March 5, 2023 (Sunday, 9 AM and again at 11 AM) - Divine Worship with Holy Communion
- March 5, 2023 (Sunday, 10 AM) - Meet Thrivent Reps during Fellowship Time to learn how to be better stewards with the benefits they offer
- March 5, 2023 (Sunday, 10 AM) - Fellowship, Sunday School, Confirmation and Fellowship
- March 5, 2023 (Sunday, 12:15 PM) - Lay Elder-Deacons meeting in upstairs Conference Room
- March 8, 2023 (Wednesday, 5:45 PM) - Lenten Suppers; Sign up to Host (Sheets are in the Narthex)
- March 8, 2023 (Wednesday, 7 PM) - Midweek Lenten Services (Heroes of the Faith – The Sequel)
- March 9, 2023 (Thursday, 3:30 PM - 5:30 PM) - Food Pantry Open
- March 10, 2023 (Friday, 5 PM - 7 PM) - Fish Fry Dinners
- March 11, 2023 (Saturday, 9 AM) - Men’s Group in downstairs Conference Room
- March 12, 2023 (Sunday, 9 AM and again at 11 AM) - Divine Worship with Holy Communion
- March 12, 2023 (Sunday, 10 AM) - Fellowship, Sunday School, Confirmation and Fellowship
- March 14, 2023 (Tuesday, 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM) - At OLA in assumption hall (2222 Shopiere Rd, Beloit) If Not Now...When? A three-part conversation about our city's population. PART 2: Food Insecurities.
- March 15, 2023 (Wednesday, 9 AM) - LWML Gathering in Fellowship Hall
- March 15, 2023 (Wednesday, 5:45 PM) - Lenten Suppers; Sign up to Host (Sheets are in the Narthex)
- March 15, 2023 (Wednesday, 7 PM) - Midweek Lenten Services (Heroes of the Faith – The Sequel)
- March 17, 2023 (Friday, 5 PM - 7 PM) - Fish Fry Dinners
- March 19, 2023 (Sunday, 9 AM) - Divine Worship with Holy Communion; no 11am service
- March 19, 2023 (Sunday, 9 AM) - Baptism of Archer Marc Lehner
- March 19, 2023 (Sunday, after 9am worship) - Congregational Meeting; no 11am service
- March 19, 2023 (Sunday, 10 AM) - Fellowship, Sunday School, Confirmation and Fellowship
- March 22, 2023 (Wednesday, 5:45 PM) - Lenten Suppers; Sign up to Host (Sheets are in the Narthex)
- March 22, 2023 (Wednesday, 7 PM) - Midweek Lenten Services (Heroes of the Faith – The Sequel)
- March 23, 2023 (Thursday, 3:30 PM - 5:30 PM) - Food Pantry Open
- March 24, 2023 (Friday, 5 PM - 7 PM) - Fish Fry Dinners
- March 26, 2023 (Sunday, 9 AM and again at 11 AM) - Divine Worship with Holy Communion
- March 26, 2023 (Sunday, 10 AM) - Fellowship, Sunday School, Confirmation and Fellowship
- March 29, 2023 (Wednesday, 5:45 PM) - Lenten Suppers; Sign up to Host (Sheets are in the Narthex)
- March 29, 2023 (Wednesday, 7 PM) - Midweek Lenten Services (Heroes of the Faith – The Sequel)
- March 31, 2023 (Friday, 5 PM - 7 PM) - Fish Fry Dinners

Wednesday Midweek Lenten Fellowship **Suppers are Returning**

Wednesdays, February 22, March 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 from 5:45-6:30pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Hosts are needed for the six weeks. It is a great opportunity for Sunday and Wednesday worshippers to dine together, get to know each other better, and catch up on life.

Hosts would need to provide a meal for 30 people. Menu items are entirely up to the hosts. See Cindy Zimmerman for details.

Sign up sheets are in the Narthex. Free-will offerings can be used to cover hosts’ meal expenses.



March Birthdays



Andrea Stageman	3/1
Angela Peiffer	3/6
Kaylene Hansel	3/8
Rita Wojszynski	3/10
Dawson Schraiber	3/11
Samantha Anderson	3/12
Eric Kempf	3/12
Hank Baumann	3/13
Ella Quade	3/14
Kayla Quade	3/20
Mary Jo Wilpolt	3/20
Javin Lee Beaumont	3/21
Richard Borre	3/21
Fay Fink	3/21
Carol Wilkins	3/21
Sandy Wachsmuth	3/22
Aaron Wood	3/24
Alex Reid	3/25
Bill Goff	3/26
Charles Hogan	3/26
Nina Quade	3/26
Jon Pingel	3/29
Jeremy Kroning	3/30

March Anniversaries



Terry & Mary Borgwardt	3/16/2002
Jim & June Cook	3/27/1976
Brad & Debbie Borre	3/31/1979

A note from Jim and Susie Waters:

We would like to invite all boards and church members to be a part of our church newsletter. If you know of upcoming events, have inspirational quotes, great recipes for the upcoming month, or have any other church or community news that you think would fit well with our congregation please let us know by email (Messiahlutherannewsletter@gmail.com), and we will do our very best to get your news entered in as soon as possible. We plan on printing newsletters monthly.

Thank you and God's blessings to you all.

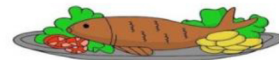


Need a Prayer?

Call Messiah
Lutheran's
Prayer Line at
608-365-4724



Friday Night Fish Fry
5:00-7:00 pm
Messiah Lutheran Church
Feb. 24-Mar. 31



Dinner includes fish, potato, vegetable, roll and dessert.
Free will offering.

1531 Townline Ave.
608-365-3794
mlcbeloit.com

Irish Beef Stew



INGREDIENTS

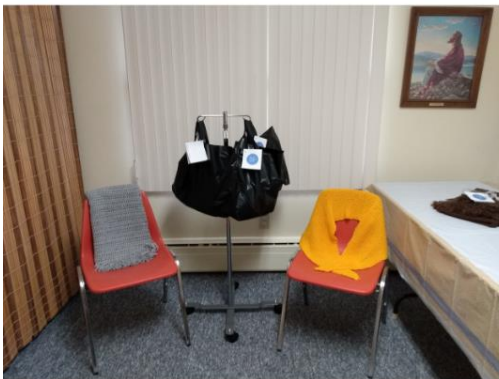
- 3 tbsp. extra-virgin olive oil
- 2 lbs. braising steak or stew meat, cubed into 1" pieces
- Salt & Freshly ground black pepper
- 1 yellow onion, chopped
- 2 medium carrots, peeled and cut into rounds
- 2 stalks celery, chopped
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 3 medium russet potatoes, peeled and cut into large chunks
- 4 cups low-sodium beef stock
- 1 (16 oz.) bottle Guinness
- 2 tsp. fresh thyme
- Freshly chopped parsley, for serving

DIRECTIONS

1. In a large Dutch oven over medium heat, heat 2 tablespoons oil. Season beef with salt and pepper, then add to pot and cook on all sides until seared, 10 minutes, working in batches if necessary. Transfer beef to a plate.
2. In same pot, add remaining tablespoon oil and cook onion, carrots, and celery until soft, 5 minutes. Season with salt and pepper. Add garlic and cook until fragrant, 1 minute.
3. Add beef back to Dutch oven, then add potatoes, stock, beer, and thyme. Bring to a boil, then reduce heat to a simmer. Season with salt and pepper. Cover and let simmer until beef and potatoes are tender, 30 minutes.
4. Garnish with parsley before serving.



Messiah members and friends celebrated Joyce Elwood's 90th Birthday with her family during Fellowship time on Sunday February 12. Joyce joined our congregation last fall, and a number of her family are members as well. It was a wonderful time of praising the Lord for 90 years of life living the eternal life she has by faith in Christ. Congratulations Joyce with God's blessings for many good years to come.



New look for Crafty Christians yarn supply room. We've moved on up to the main floor. These young hearted women now are being located next to Sunday School. Thanks to the Sunday School Administrator for sharing the space.



OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL STUDENTS!



February Servant Sunday—
Youth Group and Sunday
School Kids Serving
Breakfast During Fellowship

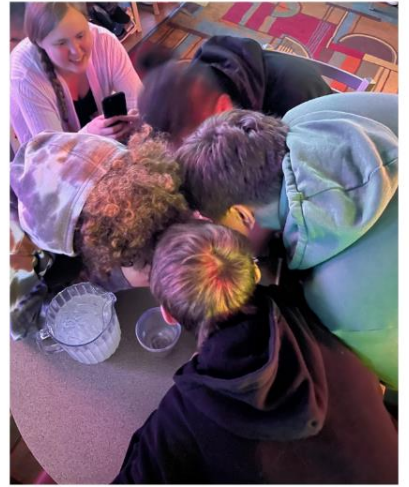


The Sunday school students acted out the parable of Good Samaritan. This parable reminds us that God loves us and wants us to love and care about others. The students decorated cookies, made beaded hearts, and played Musical Hearts.



YOUTH NEWS

Youth Group meetings are on Sundays from 10am-11am.



The Messiah Youth Group spending an evening with the youth from Christ Our Savior (Roscoe) bowling, laughing, and bonding! Can't wait for the next gathering in April!!!





Messiah Members and Friends host and enjoy Wednesday suppers together during Lent. On March 1, Sue, Eldon, and Bethany Kolander, Vickie Dansbury, Linda Sornson, along with Kim Beagley, and Trina Pettit made a multi-course meal. Over 40 gathered to enjoy dinner together. A great time for food and fellowship. The Lenten Suppers continue through Wednesday, March 31.



Friday, February 24 Fish Fry Dinners returned to Messiah's Fellowship Hall for the first time in almost three years. Diners came from our membership, sister congregations, family, friends, and community. Almost 100 meals were served, not including our volunteer staff. We have many new volunteers helping from our membership. The proceeds will help fund local evangelism activities like Trunk or Treat, and Community Picnic, as well as Bible Sticks for those in our military who request audio Scriptures. Also, members can purchase tickets to win other prizes from quilts to certificates to Woodman's and Olive Garden, as well other prizes. Dinners continue each Friday from 5-7pm through March 31. Free will offering. We hope you come and enjoy great food and fellowship.

