



# MESSIAH MESSENGER

September 2023



## GREETINGS FROM PASTOR DAN

### Vision for a Growing Congregation

This past August 28 marked my 7th Anniversary being installed as Pastor here at Messiah Lutheran Church. My, how time has flown since 2016, but praise be to God our congregation has grown numerically and spiritually.

The Lord has blessed us to perform 32 baptisms where 11 of those were adults. We have seen 48 additional adult confirmations on top of the 6 confirmed the traditional way.

We have celebrated the eternal life of 30 members who have gone to their heavenly home as we said goodbye at funerals and memorial services.

During the past 7 years, our average weekly worship attendance has gone from 74 to 105, dipping during the Pandemic to a low of 66 but increasing every year since 2021.

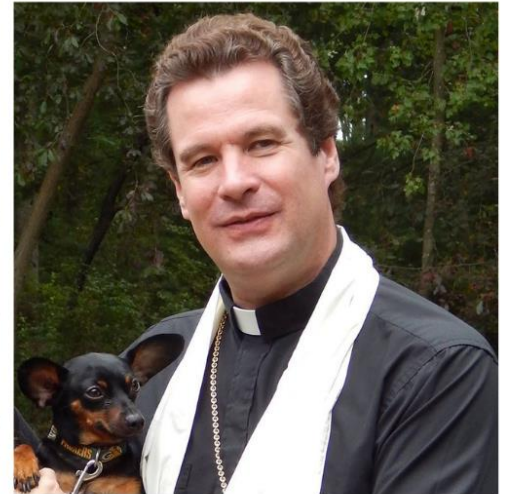
During that time our Sunday School has increased in both students and teachers. We began again VBS. We've added a Children's Handbell Choir, hosted a myriad of Fish Fry and other community dinners, and have done other community outreach events, including Animal Blessings services. We started a Food Pantry ministry and expanded it. We began streaming services and offering audio CDs. We began again our Messenger newsletters.

Along the way we've celebrated our 60th anniversary as a congregation and revived our website, published a pictorial directory, and are ready to do that again.

Praise the Lord how He has worked through us, and how we have worked together to celebrate these blessings. "We," "our" and "us" are the strongest pronouns in the church when Jesus and the Gospel are at the center of our ministry. The worst pronouns for a church are "they," "their," and "them." God's Word shows us "we" is a stronger way to walk together in Christ with a unified faith.

So, as we embark on a Post Pandemic future the question becomes where do "we" want to be as a congregation in the next 5 years or 10 years? Where do we need to grow as a congregation, numerically and spiritually. Where is the Lord leading us in reaching out to our community and how? Where is the Lord providing us time, talents, and treasurers to support this vision?

This is the time to ask our God to give us a vision of where He wants us to be. There will be opportunities soon to do more self-reflection on these questions. We do not want to let the world scare us into retreat. "They" are not our enemy. Satan, sin, and eternal condemnation are. "They" are the "they" that divide. We are called to love those who don't have faith in Christ. We are called to keep those



"There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all,"

Ephesians 4:4-6 ESV

who have faith in the church. How is the Lord calling us to do so? Pray, study God's Word, meditate, contemplate, listen, discern, and decide. And then watch how the Lord blesses us. We can count on Jesus to do so.

See you in worship, fellowship, and service.

In the Joy of Jesus,

Pastor Dan



# Calendar of Events

- September 6, 2023 (Wednesday, 7 PM) - Divine Worship with Holy Communion
- September 6, 2023 (Wednesday, 7 PM) - Pastor Gene Dassow Presiding and Preaching
- September 9, 2023 (Saturday, 9 AM) - Men's Group Meeting in Downstairs Conference Room
- September 10, 2023 (Sunday, 9 AM and again at 11 AM) - Divine Worship with Holy Communion
- September 10, 2023 (Sunday, 10 AM) - Fellowship
- September 10, 2023 (Sunday, 11 AM) - Senior Choir Singing
- September 10, 2023 (Sunday, 12:15 PM) - Rally Day Picnic
- September 10, 2023 (Sunday, 1 PM) - Lay Elder-Deacons Meeting in the Upstairs Conference Room
- September 11, 2023 (Monday, 6 PM) - Confirmation starts again in Fellowship Hall. Every Monday at the same time and same location.
- September 12, 2023 (Tuesday, 1 PM) - Adult Bible Study starts again
- September 12, 2023 (Tuesday, 7 PM) - Parish Planning Council Meeting
- September 13, 2023 (Wednesday, 7 PM) - Divine Worship with Holy Communion
- September 14, 2023 (Thursday, 3:30 PM) - Bradley and Kayla Wedding in Sanctuary
- September 14, 2023 (Thursday, 3:30 PM - 5:30 PM) - Food Pantry Open
- September 17, 2023 (Sunday, 9 AM ONLY) - Divine Worship with Holy Communion
- September 17, 2023 (Sunday) - Congregational Meeting after 9am service; No 11 AM Service
- Christmas Eve Candle Decision: At the March 2023 voters meeting, the subject of replacing the vigil candles that we use for Christmas Eve service was presented. The option of using flameless battery-operated candles was offered, and samples were demonstrated. This will be voted on as "old business" at the September Voters Meeting to be ordered in the Fall. Please review the samples and the "pros and cons" information sheet on a table in the Narthex to help you decide your preference. Thank you. Terry Zimmerman, Altar Guild.
- September 17, 2023 (Sunday, 10 AM) - Fellowship
- September 18, 2023 (Monday, 6 PM) - Confirmation Class in Fellowship Hall
- September 19, 2023 (Tuesday, 1 PM) - Adult Bible Study
- September 20, 2023 (Wednesday, 7 PM) - Divine Worship with Holy Communion
- September 21, 2023 (Thursday, 10 AM) - LWML Meeting in Fellowship Hall
- September 23, 2023 (Saturday, 2 PM) - Garrett and Virginia Wedding in Sanctuary
- September 24, 2023 (Sunday, 9 AM and again at 11 AM) - Divine Worship with Holy Communion
- September 24, 2023 (Sunday, 10 AM) - Fellowship
- September 25, 2023 (Monday, 6 PM) - Confirmation Class in Fellowship Hall
- September 26, 2023 (Tuesday, 1 PM) - Adult Bible Study
- September 27, 2023 (Wednesday, 7 PM) - Divine Worship with Holy Communion
- September 28, 2023 (Thursday, 3:30 PM - 5:30 PM) - Food Pantry Open





May the abundance of the  
Love of Christ fill all the days  
of your life.

*Have a Blessed  
Birthday!*

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## July Birthdays

Terry Annen	7/1
Mikaya Pingel	7/1
Carson Pingel	7/1
Kyle Gerber	7/3
Pam Kirk	7/3
Pat Hanson	7/6
Kathy Hogan	7/8
Lois Weideman	7/8
Kris Beaumont	7/9
Carl Creedy	7/10
Daniel Newland	7/14
Carolyn Teague	7/14
Rianne Foerster	7/15
Rachael Goff	7/15
Sue Kolander	7/15
Abigail Borre	7/17
Linda Stocker	7/17
Jeanne Voigt	7/17
Lori Beaumont	7/19
Mary Lou Benz	7/20
Jim Cook	7/20
Ryan Dressler	7/21
Cynthia Whitman	7/22
Brian Thurman	7/23
Tiffany Koenitzer	7/25
Kirsten Anderson	7/27
Tracey Porter	7/27
Megan McGuire	7/29
Matthew Battist	7/30
Kim Collins	7/30
Bill Beaumont	7/31
Travis Erickson	7/31
Jerry Guetschow	7/31

## August Birthdays

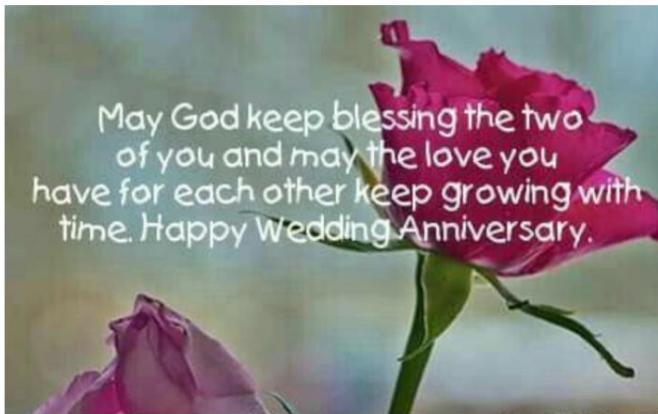
Debbie Drost	8/4
Kate Martindale	8/4
Briana Mattison	8/4
Terry Borgwardt	8/7
Kathleen Gardiner	8/7
Brad Borre	8/8
Emil Benz	8/9
Vergean Jurs	8/9
Linda Appleby	8/10
Sandy Borre	8/10
Chris Reid	8/10
Jason Kempf	8/14
Sarah Berrier	8/17
Tim Bakke	8/19
Kimberly Beighley	8/19
Miley Berrier	8/20
Jan Britton	8/20
Lucas Borre	8/21
Katlyn Beighley	8/23
Rachyl Burzinski	8/23
Katie Hooker	8/24
Nicole Thompson	8/24
Audrey Veale	8/24
Nicole Farrow	8/26
Charlene Wilson	8/26
Vicky Kreyer	8/27
Alissa Teague	8/27
Edward Foerster Jr.	8/30
Logan Gabbard	8/30
Lori Bakke-Morgan	8/31

## September Birthdays

Mason Wells	9/3
Brad Thurman	9/7
Judy Voth	9/7
Ayden Eddy	9/8
Valerie McCannon	9/11
Steve Stageman	9/11
Gwen Rehard	9/13
Kristopher Wood	9/13
Linda Cook	9/14
Tina Swanson	9/15
Ruth Komprood	9/16
Stacey Borre	9/21
Kelly Thompson	9/21
Amy Kreyer	9/22
Judy Altenberg	9/23
Kristin Weller	9/25
Sharon Dwyer	9/27
Aimee Marlette	9/27
Terry Morgan	9/28
Mike Stocker	9/29







May God keep blessing the two of you and may the love you have for each other keep growing with time. Happy Wedding Anniversary.

## July Anniversaries

James & Rebecca Shellenberger	7/3/2004
Craig & Kimmy Redding	7/5/2010
Bruce & Debbie Peterson	7/11/1987
Charles & Kathleen Gardiner	7/18/2012
Tim & Karen Battist	7/21/1984
Paul & Jan Britton	7/23/1991
Henry & Angela Baumann	7/29/2006
Edward & Joanne Foerster	7/30/1983
Joseph & Linda Cook	7/31/1976

## August Anniversaries

Richard & Stacey Borre	8/3/2013
Jeff & Cheryl Sennett	8/6/1994
Jerry & Elaine Guetschow	8/12/1967
Nick & Kristin Weller	8/28/2010

## September Anniversaries

Emil & Mary Lou Benz	9/2/1988
Daniel & Berta Eddy	9/3/2000
David & Patti Gahl	9/7/1995
John & Teresa Cleveland	9/9/1989
Andrew & Kelsey Dautermann	9/15/2012
Lance & Susan Bukove	9/24/1994
William & Sara Hansel	9/29/2012

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.

Thank you and God's blessings to you all.

## Macaroni & Cheese Soup



### Ingredients

- 6 ounces dry elbow macaroni, about 1 ½ cups
- 4 tablespoons butter
- ½ cup all-purpose flour
- 6 cups low-sodium chicken broth
- 12 ounces sharp or extra-sharp cheddar cheese, shredded (about 3 cups)
- 2 cups milk, 2% or whole, warmed
- ½ cup grated Parmesan cheese
- 1 tablespoon tomato paste
- 1 teaspoon dry mustard powder
- ½ teaspoon garlic powder
- ¼ teaspoon onion powder
- Salt & freshly ground black pepper, to taste
- 6 slices bacon, cooked until crispy and diced or crumbled

### Directions

- Set a medium pot of salted water over high heat and bring to a boil. Stir in the macaroni and cook according to package directions. Drain and set aside.
- In the meantime, set a large pot over medium heat. Melt butter. Use a whisk to stir in flour, whisking continuously until light golden brown, about 2 minutes. Continue to whisk while slowly and gradually adding broth. Increase heat to medium high and bring to a boil. Cook while whisking until the sauce is smooth and thickened, between 5 to 10 minutes.
- Remove pot from heat. Add grated cheddar, ½ cup at a time, stirring until completely melted and smooth before adding more. Once all cheese has been incorporated and cheese sauce is smooth, stir in milk, cooked macaroni, Parmesan, tomato paste, mustard powder, garlic powder, onion powder, and salt and pepper, to taste. Serve immediately with diced bacon sprinkled on top.





Trey led students in playing games that had connections to each Bible story.



Sam told the Bible story with interactive parts for the students.



Food Truck Party VBS based on Matthew 6:11: "Give us this day our daily bread. Top Chef Dan and D.J. Cupcake helped students learn important lessons about God's ability to provide, and how they can turn to God in prayer. Tiffany led us in songs that helped us to reflect on each days lesson.







Each day Rebecca helped the students use their creativity to create beautiful memories of what they learned at VBS.



We celebrated our VBS with the students singing during the service. After the service we all enjoyed snow cones from a food truck that Kyle Fourtonis donated for our use.

42 individuals donated their time, treasures, or talents to help to make our VBS such a success!





Thank you everyone for supporting our brat stand. We have been blessed to be able to help many families. Our action as a pantry over the last month with numbers served even with the tremendous heat level we had to endure; our pantry team continues to serve our community with excellent service. Unfortunately, we do not get all of our food free. We have to purchase a good share of what we pass out. Be it food and other items such as personal care, laundry detergent, toothpaste, toilet paper, etc. We have noticed our congregational offerings have declined and we still need help with those personal care items. With the costs of everything continuing to rise your donations are needed more than ever. Helping out with the pantry is very rewarding. Just seeing the faces of those we are helping makes it all worth while.



**Messiah Lutheran Church  
Food Pantry**

Our Food Pantry is located at 1531 Townline Ave, and is open on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month from 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm for all residents of the Greater Beloit Area!



Our students learned the value of service and caring for others. They collected 130 items and \$100.03 that was donated to Messiah's food pantry. The students visited the pantry, and placed their donations on the shelves. They also made book marks that were placed in the food pantry client's bags.







Cindy Zimmerman always gets the bags ready for the pantry and yesterday she had them so high you couldn't see her!



Picture of hygiene supplies sorting



## Rally Day 2023 The Armor of Christ "Protecting Your Faith from All that is Bad!"

Rally Day, Sunday, September 10th  
Messiah Lutheran Church  
1531 Townline Ave.  
Beloit, WI

Attend the 9 or 11 A.M. service to hear a special Children's message and receive a special gift.

Sunday school will be held from 10-11 A.M.

- Open to children ages 3-14
  - Members and non-members
  
- Picnic after the 11am service with food and games. Open to all members
  - Meat and beverages provided.
    - Please bring a dish to pass. Sign up in Narthex



Lasting impressions do have benefits. Thanks to Pastor Dan's St John's 1st grade school teacher Mrs. Carol Matas. We received a very large donation of yarn. What a fabulous surprise. That was not the only gift. When Pastor cleaned his office he found a storage container with prayer shawls. Previous member Kay Froelich started the prayer shawl gifting. Later the Froelich 's moved from town. Crafty Christians room has the creations on display.



2023 graduates were recognized during worship on Sunday, June 4. From left to right: Andrew Lambertz and Gabe Bukove each graduated from High School. Rebecca Sennett graduated with a doctorate in Occupational Therapy and Garrett Cook with an Associates degree in Medical Administrative Coding. Andrew and Gabe now are each starting college, and Rebecca and Garrett have each passed boards in their respective fields. Rebecca has now moved to Washington state and started a new job in the Occupational Therapy field. Garrett will be getting married later this month to his fiancée, Virginia. Praise the Lord for these young adults achieving these milestones as children of God.



New Members were welcomed to Messiah during worship on Sunday, July 23. From Left to Right: Kevin and Patty Divine, and Pat Weber all by transfer, and Michael Duran by adult Confirmation. God bless our new members that they may experience excellent fellowship at Messiah.



Lay Elder-Deacon Karl Wetzel is lighting Messiah's new Paschal Candle for the first time. It was dedicated on Sunday, July 2 during our Patriotic Services. During this special dedication Pastor Dan explained what a Paschal Candle is and why it is important part of our Divine worship services especially for Baptisms, Funerals, and during the Easter season.





## Synodical Convention Report

### 68<sup>th</sup> Regular Convention of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod Report

Rev. Andrew Harris



Lay Elder-Deacon  
Garrett Cook



Here are some highlights from the recent Synodical Convention with Lay Elder-Deacon Garrett Cook attending representing our Circuit as a Lay Delegate. The Rev Andrew Harris of Christ in Clinton was our pastoral delegate.

- A resolution was passed regarding in-person communion. Pastors and congregations are urged to gather in-person to celebrate the Lord's Supper and to refrain from online Communion.
- A resolution was passed regarding encouraging in-person corporate worship. It calls upon pastors and congregations to "uphold the Third Commandment by gathering together weekly for worship" and to prioritize "in-person, embodied corporate worship."
- A resolution was passed regarding to encourage appropriate use of social media. This offers guidance on the use of social media for the church. It also acknowledges the benefit that social media can have for the church, but also pointed to the many evils exacerbated by incorrect use of this technology. With this being adopted, church workers will be held to a higher standard.
- A resolution was passed regarding to affirm and strengthen the Synod's commitment to well-formed clergy for the sake of the gospel. This resolution adopts that the SMP route be utilized only for its intended purposes according to Bylaw 2.13.1 and that the residential Master of Divinity route at our Synod seminaries continue to be positioned and understood as the Synod's strongly preferred route to ordination.
- A series of resolutions were passed regarding to recognize alter and pulpit fellowship with several Lutheran Churches in other countries. Evangelical Lutheran Mission Diocese of Finland, Lutheran Church of Uganda, Evangelical Lutheran Church of Ukraine. Bishop Serge Maschewski addressed the assembly and presented President Harrison with a helmet purchased, along with others and with flak jackets, for the pastors of his church by the LCMS Office of International Mission, which saved his life in a rocket attack and then that of a colleague as well.

The convention was held at the Baird Center in Milwaukee from Saturday, July 29 through Thursday, August 3. Over 7000 were in attendance. Pastor Dan volunteered one day at the convention helping people find where they needed to go.

If you want more details on the convention and votes, please go to [reporter.lcms.org](http://reporter.lcms.org) and click on the "convention" tab.

During worship on Sunday, June 18, four Messiah members were blessed to attend the LWML National Convention. From left to right pictured are Jean Behl, Teresa Behl, Chrissy Behl, and Vickie Dansbury. They joined thousands of other women from around the world at the Baird Convention Center in downtown Milwaukee. During the 5-day convention our Messiah members volunteered to help at the convention. They also worshipped together with the other women, studied Scripture and prayed together, and Jean voted for the mission grants to be funded over the next two years. It was a very edifying for their faith. Join them on Thursday, September 21 at 9am for how women in our congregation can be in greater fellowship and support important mission work.

