



MESSIAH MESSENGER

March 2024



GREETINGS FROM PASTOR DAN

Saying Goodbye to a Friend, for Now

Acts 20:32 ESV: *"And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified."*

The Apostle Paul spoke these words to the pastors in the Church at Ephesus. He was on his way to Rome where he would be arrested, and face trial for doing nothing but proclaiming Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior.

Acts 20:36-38 ESV: *"And when he had said these things, he knelt down and prayed with them all. And there was much weeping on the part of all; they embraced Paul and kissed him, being sorrowful most of all because of the word he had spoken, that they would not see his face again. And they accompanied him to the ship."*

It was an emotional goodbye as he knew, this side of Heaven, this would be the last time he would see them. He knew soon that he would face death, being executed, being martyred for his faith.

From this descriptive passage we can learn not to take our family and friends for granted, especially among our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Last weekend, I had a chance to travel 9 hours to Norfolk, Nebraska to see my youth minister, the Reverend Dave Kipp, who is living with Stage IV Pancreatic Cancer. He is predicted to pass to his heavenly home within "months." I accompanied three lifelong friends on the journey: Dan Ludeman, Mark Merrill, and Mike Carter.

It was a wonderful weekend of remembering our days in the youth group at St. Johns: the puppet ministry, youth band, and bell choir. It was great to catch up on the decades of our lives since. And it was fantastic to celebrate in the present, sharing how the Lord is working in our lives. We had a chance to connect with Dave's wife, Sue, who is the humblest, most patient, kindest person I have ever met. She is the "checks" to keep Dave "balanced." Dave's enthusiasm makes me look mild by comparison.

Also both of their children, John and Michael, were there. We haven't seen them since they were infants. They are both involved in ministry in their respective congregations. We met their families as well, and you can see the influence of Dave and Sue on their faith.



"And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified."

Acts 20:32 ESV:



Saying Goodbye to a Friend, for Now

Pastor Dave has served over 45 years in Christ's church in over 11 congregations. He is STILL serving at Our Saviors Lutheran in Norfolk in his retired pastor role. Through the power of the Holy Spirit he has exponentially increased Bible study attendance. He has taught a multi-week course on the Book of Revelation and led a two-hour seminar on how to face death: It was called "Death, Dying, and Heaven." You can watch it on Our Saviors, Norfolk's YouTube Channel. He is scheduled to preach three more times before Easter.

Pastor Dave gave me his digital library of Bible studies and selected sermons. As I looked through the files, what I found incredible was how much he has mentored me, and I just didn't realize it. Call it the mysterious working of the Holy Spirit.

My only regret is that I didn't do a better job of keeping in-touch over the years. That was evident when I read his autobiography "Dying to Live." Which brings me back to where I started this column: Don't take your friends and family for granted. Treasure the witness in the fellowship of Christ's church and express your gratitude for people you love as often as you can. Do this no matter if they live here in town or are hundreds of miles away. Don't let a terminal illness diagnosis prompt you to act. You just never know when the Lord is prepared to take you or them to Heaven. And that also includes those who don't know Jesus as their Lord and Savior, including those who have walked away from the faith.

All of us took turns praying over the weekend, especially at mealtimes. But I wanted to pray with Dave, his family, and my friends before we parted Norfolk to head back. It was at the end of a Bible study Dave was teaching Sunday morning. We all shed tears much like the Apostle Paul and his fellow pastors did.

The blessing of that parting is the hope that one day we will be reunited in a celebration that will not end. That is the Day we all receive the crown of life in Heaven where there will be no more tears, or pain, or suffering because this old world with all its evil and fallenness will no longer be. Jesus suffering, death, and resurrection alone made that possible for all of us.

In the meantime we live in the grace of our Lord as He blesses us in worship, fellowship, and service. See you in ministry.

In the Joy of Jesus,

Pastor Dan

Wednesday Midweek Lenten Fellowship Suppers are Returning

Wednesdays, February 14, 21 and 28, March 6, 13, and 20 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.

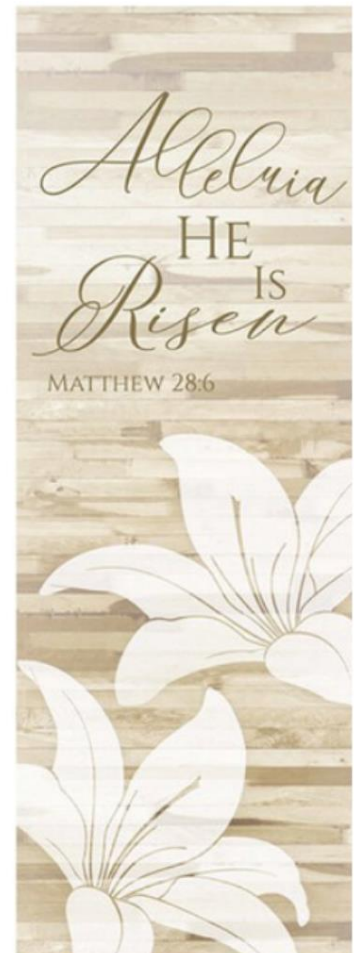
Sign up sheets are in the Narthex. Free-will offerings can be used to cover hosts' meal expenses.



Friday Night Fish Fry
5:00-7:00 pm
Messiah Lutheran Church
Feb. 16 - Mar. 22



Free will offering.
1531 Townline Ave. Beloit, WI
608-365-3794



Calendar of Events

- March 1, 2024 (Friday, 5 PM - 7 PM) - Friday Night Fish Fry in Fellowship Hall
- March 2, 2024 (Saturday, 9 AM) - Senior Choir Practice – Sanctuary
- March 3, 2024 (Sunday, 9 AM and again at 11 AM) - Divine Worship with Holy Communion
- March 3, 2024 (Sunday, 10 AM) - Sunday School and Fellowship
- March 3, 2024 (Sunday, 12:15 PM) - Lay Elder-Deacons Meeting in Upstairs Conference Room
- March 5, 2024 (Tuesday, 1 PM) - Adult Bible Study – Fellowship Hall, on-line, and phone
- March 6, 2024 (Wednesday, 5:45 PM) - Lenten Suppers
- March 6, 2024 (Wednesday, 7 PM) - Midweek Lenten Services: Fruit of the Holy Spirit continues
- March 8, 2024 (Friday, 5 PM - 7 PM) - Friday Night Fish Fry in Fellowship Hall
- March 9, 2024 (Saturday, 9 AM) - Men’s Group in downstairs Conference Room
- March 10, 2024 (Sunday, 9 AM and again at 11 AM) - Divine Worship with Holy Communion
- March 10, 2024 (Sunday, 10 AM) - Sunday School and Fellowship
- March 12, 2024 (Tuesday, 1 PM) - Adult Bible Study – Fellowship Hall, on-line, and phone
- March 12, 2024 (Tuesday, 7 PM) - Parish Planning Council Meeting – downstairs Conference Room
- March 13, 2024 (Wednesday, 5:45 PM) - Lenten Suppers
- March 13, 2024 (Wednesday, 7 PM) - Midweek Lenten Services: Fruit of the Holy Spirit continues
- March 15, 2024 (Friday, 5 PM - 7 PM) - Friday Night Fish Fry in Fellowship Hall
- March 17, 2024 (Sunday, 10 AM) - Congregational Meeting after 9 AM worship; no 11AM service
- March 17, 2024 (Sunday, 10 AM) - Sunday School and Fellowship - LWML Hosts Fellowship Time
- March 19, 2024 (Tuesday, 1 PM) - Adult Bible Study – Fellowship Hall, on-line, and phone
- March 20, 2024 (Wednesday, 5:45 PM) - Lenten Suppers
- March 20, 2024 (Wednesday, 7 PM) - Midweek Lenten Services: Fruit of the Holy Spirit continues
- March 21, 2024 (Thursday, 5:30 PM) - Women’s Bible Study in downstairs Conference Room
- March 22, 2024 (Friday, 5 PM - 7 PM) - Friday Night Fish Fry in Fellowship Hall
- March 24, 2024 (Sunday, 9 AM and again at 11 AM) - Palm Sunday Service with Holy Communion
- March 24, 2024 (Sunday, 10 AM) - Sunday School and Fellowship
- March 26, 2024 (Tuesday, 1 PM) - Adult Bible Study – Fellowship Hall, on-line, and phone
- March 27, 2024 (Wednesday, 7 PM) - Palm Sunday with Holy Communion
- March 28, 2024 (Thursday, 7 PM) - Maundy Thursday Service with Holy Communion and stripping of Altar
- March 29, 2024 (Good Friday)
- March 29, 2024 (Noon (12 PM) through 3 PM) - Tre Ore at Trinity
- March 29, 2024 (7 PM) - Tenabrae Service at Messiah
- March 31, 2024 (Sunday, 9 AM and again at 11 AM) - Easter Sunday Service with Holy Communion
- March 31, 2024 (Sunday, 10 AM) - Sunday School and Fellowship

March Birthdays



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|--------------------|------|
| Andrea Stageman | 3/1 |
| Kaylene Hansel | 3/8 |
| Rita Wojszynski | 3/10 |
| Samantha Anderson | 3/12 |
| Eric Kempf | 3/12 |
| Hank Baumann | 3/13 |
| Ella Quade | 3/14 |
| Brian Morse | 3/15 |
| Kayla Burrows | 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 |
| Alex Reid | 3/25 |
| Bill Goff | 3/25 |
| Nina Quade | 3/26 |
| Jon Pingel | 3/29 |
| Lesia Burzinski | 3/30 |
| Jeremy Kroning | 3/30 |

March Anniversaries



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|------------------------|-----------|
| 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.

Thank you and God's blessings to you all.

Italian Ricotta Easter Bread

Ingredients

- 3/4 cup plain or butter-flavored shortening, room temperature
- 1-1/2 cups sugar
- 3 large eggs, room temperature
- 3 large egg yolks, room temperature
- 1 cup whole-milk ricotta cheese
- 1 teaspoon almond extract (or flavor of choice)
- 6 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 tablespoon baking powder
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 cup 2% milk

GLAZE:

- 1-1/2 cups confectioners' sugar
- 3 tablespoons 2% milk
- 1/2 teaspoon almond extract (or flavor of choice)
- Sliced toasted almonds or assorted sprinkles

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 350°. Cream shortening and sugar until light and fluffy, 5-7 minutes. Add eggs and egg yolks, 1 at a time, beating well after each addition. Beat in ricotta and extract. In another bowl, whisk 5 cups flour, baking powder and salt; add to creamed mixture alternately with milk, beating well after each addition. Stir in final 1 cup flour by hand.

2. Turn onto a lightly floured surface; divide into thirds. Roll each into an 18-in. rope. Place ropes on a parchment-lined baking sheet and braid. Pinch ends to seal; tuck under braid. Bake until a toothpick inserted in center comes out clean, 45-55 minutes (do not overbake). Remove to wire rack to cool.

3. Meanwhile, beat confectioners' sugar, milk and extract until smooth. Brush on bread while still warm; top with sliced almonds or sprinkles.

**FREE CLOTHING AND SMALL HOUSEHOLD ITEM
GIVE-A-WAY**

Saturday, April 13th

9 am—1 pm

St. John's Lutheran Church

1000 Bluff Street

Beloit, WI 53511

Donations Welcome—call Christi at 608-718-7922



MESSIAH LUTHERAN CRAFTY CHRISTIANS

INVITE YOU TO JOIN THE GROUP

WE KNIT OR CROCHET BLANKETS FOR ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN

ALSO PRAYER SHAWLS

Contact Linda Stocker for details ljstoke@charter.net



VBS, Sunday, July 21 through
Wednesday, July -24 5-5:30pm Dinner;
5:30-7:30pm

During the 9am service on Sunday, February 25, Vickie Dansbury and Sandy McDearmon were installed as Co-Chairs of the Fellowship Committee at Messiah Lutheran Church. They are leading the board that organizes our Fellowship Time between services on Sundays as well as coordinates our Midweek Advent and Lenten Suppers and works to support other boards like Evangelism for the Friday Fish Fry Dinners. Congratulations to Vickie and Sandy and thanks for the hard work of our Fellowship Committee



Thank you to Messiah members Tina and Noelle Swanson for baking the birthday cakes for our Fellowship Time. Once a month we honor the members who have birthdays that month.



PANTRY NEWS



We are busy behind the scenes, preparing to share the gifts of special Easter dinner items, to registered pantry clients. Many hands create the packaging and a team makes this possible.

Attached cards share the good news. Recently, pantry clients were seen at the Friday night fish fry. Our outreach is working to bring in the unchurched.

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!





Over 50 Stateline Area Residents attended Messiah's Food Pantry Room at the Winter Crafter Farmer's Market on Saturday, March 2 from 9am to Noon.

Carol Wilkins, Linda Stocker, Cheryl Sennett and Sam Anderson represented our congregation. Cheryl made parfaits for the children. Carol made homemade Garden Vegetable Cheese Soup giving out samples. Recipes were handed out for the soup and for salvation. Sam spoke on nutritional breakfasts, lunches, and dinners.

Linda handed out congregational brochures.

All the items were free. Thank you to everyone who came out and supported this outreach event.



Recipe for the Body Quick Garden Cheese Soup

INGREDIENTS
Makes 2 quarts

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|------------------------------------|--|
| 1 cup sliced celery | 1 cup frozen hash brown potatoes |
| 1 cup chopped onion | 3 cups milk or Half-and-Half |
| 2 TBSP or 2 cubes chicken bouillon | 2 cups frozen broccoli, cauliflower and carrot combination |
| ½ cup unflavored flour | 2 ½ cups (10 oz) shredded cheddar cheese |
| 4 cups water | |
| 2 TBSP butter | |
| ¼ tsp pepper | |

DIRECTIONS
In a large kettle or Dutch oven, cook celery and onion in margarine until tender; stir in flour until smooth. Gradually add water then bouillon, pepper and vegetables; bring to a boil. Reduce heat, cover and simmer 15 minutes. Add milk and cheese. Cook and stir until cheese melts and soup is hot (do not boil). Garnish as desired. Refrigerate leftovers.

Recipe for the Soul
Recipe for Salvation

DIRECTIONS

1. Know that God created you and all things.
2. God demands that you be perfect to enter heaven. We all have sinned and fall short of perfection, so we are unable to save ourselves.
3. Know that God loves you so much, that He sent His Holy, innocent Son, Jesus Christ, to die for you as full payment for your sins.
4. Allow the Holy Spirit to open your heart through His word to give you faith to believe that Jesus died, and rose from death, thereby winning the victory over death for you.
5. Put your complete faith in Jesus Christ alone for your salvation.
6. Continue to feed your faith, thus keeping it alive by: reading the Bible, attending church, partaking of His Holy Supper (communion), and prayer.
7. Showing your love for Him by loving and serving others.



OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL STUDENTS!



Sunday, 2/11/24, the focus for our lesson was God's love for us. God loves us so much that He sent Jesus, His Son to die for us! We had a heart tower race, played bingo, and had a heart relay race.



John the Baptist was born to be a prophet and to prepare the way for Jesus. We studied how he ate locust and honey while in the wilderness, and we made a locust craft and snack. John preached repentance. As the people listened to John, they realized how sinful they were, and they began to see their need for a Savior. They confessed their sins and John baptized them in the Jordan River. He told them, "I baptize you with water but there is one coming after me who is much greater than I am. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit!"





The Sunday School children helped Sunday, February 4 during the Fellowship Hour. Thanks to them and the teachers for mentoring us to be faithful servants. And thanks to all who attend Fellowship time to get to know your fellow parishioners better



Messiah's Evangelism team has organized many volunteers for six Friday Fish Fry Dinners Over 100 meals being served each week. Thank you to all the volunteer support. These meals give us a chance to interact with members, friends, and new people. Proceeds will go to help Messiah's Evangelism and Outreach efforts including Bible Sticks, support for our Missionary, Trunk or Treat and other endeavors. Friday Fish Fry Dinners continue through March 22 where a \$50 Woodman's gift card and several baskets will be given away.







Wednesday Midweek Lenten suppers have been a blast this year. We have seen an uptick in attendance for both the meals and the services. Thank you to the groups and families at Messiah who are making homemade meals for these weeks. And we are grateful for all who have attended with the result of stronger fellowship. They will continue every Wednesday through March 20 from 5:45-6:30pm with the Fruit of the Spirit Midweek Lenten Services at 7pm.





Photos of 2/28 Wednesday night Lenten Supper, Indian tacos being made.

