



The Messiah **Messenger**

April 2017

Published Monthly

Echoes of Easter

"And we are witnesses of these things..." –Peter (Acts 5:32)

On April 16, once again we will proclaim, "Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!" (I'll leave the "A" word off the end since I'm writing these words in the season of Lent.) We know how the story ends: Christ rises from the dead, thereby conquering death forever. The Resurrection of our Lord is THE most important day of our church year... bigger than Christmas, even... because the Resurrection the actual absolution pronounced upon all sinners. It shows the world that God is a gracious, merciful, and loving God.

This was not a new concept of God for the world at the time, but it was a concept that had certainly been lost. Religious leaders painted God as a righteous Judge who needed to be convinced of one's worthiness before Him. Therefore, holy living and piety were the marks of religion at the time of Jesus' resurrection. If one wanted to gain God's good favor, one had to work at it. But the Resurrection changed all of that. The Resurrection showed that God had always given His favor and He continues to give it still today! In this renewed hope, the 11 disciples become the 13 apostles, men who are sent into the world to remind people of the goodness of God.

Therefore, there is a long-standing tradition to remove the Old Testament readings during the season of Easter and replace them with readings from the Acts of the Apostles. These readings from Acts show the zeal and fervor with which the apostles shared the Gospel message with their world. These readings show how Peter, Paul, and the rest preached the powerful message of forgiveness of sins. They took this earth-changing event and set out to change the world with it.

In the season after Easter, we're going to look closely at these stories and examine how we can echo the zeal and fervor of the apostles in our world... a world that could desperately use a reminder of God's love.

I hope you'll join us as we take the Gospel into our world each day!

Pastor Tom Vanderbilt

Results Of The Special Voters Meeting Of March 19, 2017

NOTE: The following is an executive summary of the special voters meeting and are not the official minutes. –Pastor Vanderbilt

At a Special Voters Meeting held on March 19, 2017 at 12:20pm, the Voters elected to accept a bid from N.D.J. Construction in the amount of \$58,000 to replace the entire roof of Messiah's building. This bid was accepted unanimously by those in attendance.

To finance this new roof, the Voters elected to add the bid amount to our existing mortgage. This increased our mortgage amount \$326,128.46 to be paid in five years at an interest rate of 3.5%. This motion also passed unanimously.

Easter Flowers

In partnership with the Holt Lions Club, orders for Easter Flowers are currently being taken through Wednesday, April 5th. Order sheets and payment envelopes are on the narthex table. All plants are \$10.00 each. Lilies, daffodils and yellow tulips will be used to decorate the altar area for Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday services. Red and pink tulips are also available. Plants can be taken home after late service Easter Sunday. Any plants remaining after late service Sunday, April 23rd will be planted on Messiah property. Please place payment envelopes in Chris Gilliland's mailbox. Proceeds from sales are used by the Lions Club to support local community projects. Questions can be directed to Chris.

Planned Giving Board Report

The Planned Giving Board (PGB) met on March 13, 2017 and was presented with and approved two grant requests totaling \$3,449.00. The first grant request was for labor, materials and funds to stock a "Little Free Library" on Messiah property, near the resting bench along the Ram Trail which runs in front of our church. The project totaling \$1,649.00 is spearheaded by Gary Volker and James Keat, and will offer Lutheran-specific and other Christian-themed books, tracts and brochures which will be available to anyone who wishes to borrow/return or keep them. Watch for more details on this wonderful community outreach project from Gary and Pastor Keat later this spring. The second grant request came from Marty Noss in the amount of \$1,800.00 to purchase a new drum kit and bass pedal for the Praise Band. Their current equipment is nearing 15 years old and beginning to fail and the new equipment will be an upgrade to their aging instruments. Funds are still available for 2017 requests which meet Endowment Fund criteria. Contact Erin House for more information.

More from the PGB: Throughout the coming year, the Planned Giving Board will publish an article each month in Question & Answer format to help members better understand the Endowment Fund and its many options for planned giving.

Q #1. What is an Endowment Fund?

A #1. An endowment fund is a special fund that's invested for long-term growth and exists to support our mission now and in the future. It's in place to receive gifts and address a variety of future needs, beyond what our annual budget is designed to provide.

Q #2. How can I make a gift that supports our Church into the future?

A #2. Our endowment fund is designed to provide long-lasting support for our mission. Only a portion of the annual earnings from our endowment fund are used each year, so the fund continues to grow. Through careful investing and growth, this fund provides a buffer against inflation and a long-term source of support for the mission of our church.

Our endowment fund is held at InFaith Community Foundation in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Foundation staff are available to help you make a gift that matches your interests and financial circumstances. For more information about giving options, call the Foundation at 800.365.4172.

What Difference Does It Make?

What can you do with \$5? Maybe get a cup of coffee at Starbucks... if it's not too fancy. Maybe get a sandwich at McDonalds... but not a full meal. Maybe see a matinee...at a second-run movie theater... by yourself. Doesn't seem like you can do much with \$5 anymore, does it.

Here's a way to make a difference with just \$5. There are about 100 families that make up Messiah Lutheran Church. If each of these families increased their monthly offering by just \$5 and designated that \$5 increase as "Debt Reduction" to be used on the mortgage, we would raise an extra \$500 a month for the mortgage. Over the course of a year, that would be \$6,000 or the equivalent of one month's mortgage payment. An extra \$6,000 per year applied to the mortgage over the next five years would help us retire the mortgage six months sooner and save us over \$2,000 in interest payments over the life of the loan. \$5 might be worth more than we think.

Please consider increasing your offerings each month by just a small amount and designate it "Debt Reduction." Together, we can retire our mortgage and prepare for the next chapter at Messiah Lutheran Church.

Trustee Meeting

The Trustees held their regular meeting on March 3. In addition to regular business items, there were a few events that required some prompt attention. Among the business discussed were:

Investigating new flooring for the Peter, Paul and nursery rooms. Ron Pride is in contact with Scott Rickett. This will coincide with painting all the aforementioned rooms. We are anticipating being reimbursed from a Church Extension Fund (CEF) Aesthetic Improvement Grant. Tom Large to coordinate the project.

Moving up our informal timetable for re-shingling the roof. The mortgage for the Church is due to be renewed this spring. Pastor has been in contact with CEF and they are willing to allow us to extend the mortgage, in order to borrow against it to pay for the work. A special voter's meeting was called for the end of March 2017 and received estimates were presented to the congregation.

The dumpster project will continue.

The sidewalk library project is on-going.

A chair rail will be installed in the youth room.

Cleaning the chairs in the Sanctuary. Bill Soule will contact Kelly cleaning for an estimate to clean the chairs in the Sanctuary

Two (2) window cranks in the infant room will be replaced.

Delhi Fire Inspection Report. Delhi Fire cited two (2) emergency exit lights in a recent inspection. Bill will contact DeLau and have them repaired or replaced. This work will be done before 4/1/17.

Delhi Fire also requested that a copy of all interior door keys be placed outside in the Knox box so they have interior access without damage, Ron Pride will handle.

The Trustees will hold their next meeting 4/3/17 at 7:00 p.m.

TaeKwonDo Classes at Messiah

TaeKwonDo classes are now forming to take place in the Messiah gym beginning on April 3rd. The classes will be taught by Messiah member Jerry Koernke, a certified 5th Degree Black Belt instructor. Classes will be Mondays and Thursdays for juniors ages 8-12 (5:30-6:30 p.m.) and adults 13 and older (6:30-7:30 p.m.). To ask questions or sign up, text or leave a message at (517) 980-2783, email gkoernke@gmail.com or leave a PM on Facebook Mountain Tiger Spirit TaeKwonDo.



Youth at Messiah is comprised of the High School and Head 2 Heart programs. We develop relationships with Christ & each other through Discipleship, Service, and Fellowship.

Upcoming Activities

In February, our youth came together and planned activities for the rest of 2017. Below are the upcoming activities in April – All activities take place in the Youth Room (unless stated).

Head 2 Heart

(program leading to confirmation for grades 6-8)

- April 5 – No H2H Class (Spring Break)
- April 12 – No H2H Class (Holy Week)
- April 19 – Fellowship Night – Game Night
- April 26 – Regular Lesson (H2H)

All Youth

(activities for fellowship & service for grades 6-12)

- Sunday Morning Bible Study – 9:45 am
- April 9 – Easter Egg Stuffing – 9:45 am
- April 16 – Egg Hunt - Hiding of the Eggs – 10 am
- April 19 – Game Night – 6:30 pm
- April 23 – National Youth Gathering Information meeting – 12:30 pm in the Good Shepherd Room

In addition to the above activities, we have the following planned:

District 5 Trampolines

Raking Leaves at Youth Haven

Youth Week in Iowa (High School Only)

Forts & Sorts (High School Only)

Animal Shelter Service Activity

Going to the Zoo

Day at the Park

Laser Tag

Lock-In

Pool Party

Cedar Point



We are looking for adults to help plan these activities.

If interested, talk with Sara Vanderbilt – 615-557-6792 or sara.vanderbilt@hotmail.com



Once again this year Messiah will be hosting the Forts & Sorts Servant Event. This servant event brings high school youth from all around the country to Michigan to work at Youth Haven Ranch.

Youth Haven Ranch is a non-denominational Christian outreach providing life changing experiences and meeting the needs of disadvantaged youth.



Participating youth spend a week working on various projects that improve the buildings and grounds of Youth Haven. Projects from 2016 included painting, removing weeds, cleaning out a trash pile, and creating a maze for the children to use.

Dates

- June 18-24

How YOU can Help!

- Pray for our event! As groups are deciding to attend Forts & Sorts - pray that God would lead them to our servant event.
- Pray for our leaders! Many of our Messiah members give of their time to direct the work and the youth that participate - pray that God would be preparing their hearts for this awesome project.
- Pray for the kids of Youth Haven Ranch! Many of the kids who experience Youth Haven Ranch don't know Jesus - pray that the Holy Spirit will be at work in them and their leaders.

Look for more ways to get involved in the coming months.

If you know of High School Youth who want to attend this event, contact Sara Vanderbilt for information and registration material.

For anyone who has participated in the Forts and Sorts servant event in the past, join our alumni Facebook page (www.facebook.com/groups/fortsandsorts).



Here We Stand

500th Anniversary Worship Service at Breslin Center

The Michigan District, LCMS has organized the 500th Reformation Anniversary Celebration Worship Service on October 15, 2017 at the Breslin Center. There are a number of activities happening and jobs to be done between now and then. These will be announced over the coming weeks and months. One of the jobs we need is a Ticket Captain. The Ticket Captain responsibilities are:

1. Be a promoter and encourage people to order tickets by September 5, 2017;
2. Help people who need assistance order tickets online;
3. Distribute tickets;
4. Help organize transportation—Many congregations and circuits are arranging buses to assist members in transportation and to reduce parking congestion and fees at the Breslin Center.

If you are interested in being the Ticket Captain, please contact the church office or Pastor Tom to let us know.

Join the 500th Anniversary Worship Service Choirs

The Michigan District, LCMS has created two remarkable opportunities for singers to participate in a concert and an once-in-a-lifetime worship event.

Reformation 500 Festival Adult Choir

All adult singers (soprano, alto, tenor, and bass) are encouraged to join the Festival Adult Choir that will participate in the worship service.

Reformation 500 Honors Choirs (current 4th graders through college)

Singers who wish to participate in one of three 120-voice

Lutheran Honors Choirs must submit a video audition application. These choirs will present a pre-service concert at 4 p.m.

5th/6th Grade Honors Choir

7th/8th/9th Grade Honors Choir

High School/College Age Honors Choir

All adult choir registrations and honors choir video audition applications are due by April 15, 2017. Go to herewestand.michigandistrict.org and click on Worship Service to find the applications and video audition procedures.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Isaiah Dixon	1	Jennifer Komm	10	Joan Schneeberger	18
Elijah House	1	Travis Lueder	12	Patsy Walters	18
Andrew Cascaddan	2	Paul Weishar	13	Taylor Beck	19
Jack Nunn	4	Lois Snover-Hanson	16	Christine Gottleber	22
Ellen Geyer	6	Will Hartenburg	17	Jerry Koernke	22
Eric Bailey	8	Martha McDowell	17	Zoe Meyer	22
Corynn Cooley	8	Ned Gottleber	18	Alicia Schmidt	26
David Biergans	10	Levi Krause	18	Ellen Biergans	29

Happy Anniversary

Kyle & Danielle Kopper
4/4/2000

Randy & Debi Kelbert
4/7/1984

Ken & Bonnie Root
4/18/1970

Paul & Bonnie Weishar
4/21/1967

Stan & Kerry Chubb
4/26/2006

Bob & Ruth Ann McKean
4/28/1972

Meals on Wheels Recruitment Meeting

There is an unprecedented need for volunteers to deliver meals in the Lansing area. Tri-County Office on Aging will be having a Recruitment Meeting on Wednesday, April 5, 11:00 a.m at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 7000 W Saginaw Hwy, Lansing, MI. This meeting is for anyone and everyone interested in exploring the possibility of volunteering with Meals on Wheels.



Messiah Lutheran Church
 5740 Holt Rd
 Holt, MI 48842
 517-694-1280
 Office@messiahlutheranholt.org

APRIL 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 8:30a Worship 9:45a Bible Study and Fellowship 9:45a Kingdom Quest 11:00a Worship	3 7p Trustee AT Paul	4	5 7p Lenten Service	6 7p Elders Meeting GSR	7 4:30p Fish Dinner Gym	8
9 Palm Sunday 8:30a Worship 9:45a Bible Study and Fellowship 9:45a Kingdom Quest 11:00a Worship	10 6:30p Planned Giving Board Paul	11	12 6:30p Education AT Paul	13 Maundy Thursday 6:30p Education AT Paul	14 Good Friday 7p Service	15 Easter Vigil 7p Service
16 Easter Sunday 8:30a Worship Easter Breakfast 9:45a Bible Study and Fellowship 9:45a Kingdom Quest 11:00a Worship	17	18	19 6:30p Head 2 Heart Youth Room	20 7p Governance Board GSR	21	22 9:30a First Place 4 Health GSR
23 8:30a Worship 9:45a Bible Study and Fellowship 9:45a Kingdom Quest 11:00a Worship	24	25	26 6:30p Head 2 Heart Youth Room	27 7p Team Meeting GSR	28	29 9:30a First Place 4 Health GSR
30 8:30a Worship 9:45a Bible Study and Fellowship 9:45a Kingdom Quest 11:00a Worship						

Messiah Lutheran Servant Schedule

5740 Holt Rd, Holt, MI 48842
 www.messiahlutheranholt.org / 517-6941280
 office@messiahlutheranholt.org

April 2017

	4/2/2017	4/9/2017	4/16/2017	4/23/2017
8:30 AM				
Elder	Ernie Schuette	Ned Gottleber	Mark Reister, Jeff Rutter	Ernie Schuette
Acolyte	Irene Nielsen	Lucas Nunn	Tyler Rutter	Haley Clinton
Reader	0	Ellen Biergans	Diane Bennett	Janet Robson
Usher	Don Schneeberger	Dave Biergans	0	0
Screens	Craig Cumbow	Sherri TerBush	0	Craig Cumbow
Altar Guild	Team A4	Team A5	Team A5&2	Team A3
11:00 AM				
Elder	Jon Wulff	Tom Large	Tom Large	Jon Wulff
Acolyte	Laney Waugh	Audrey Harmon	Megan Schlattman	Charlie Gietzel
Reader	Sherrie Nunheimer	JoEllen Miskowski	Sherrie Nunheimer	Krista Ried
Usher	Dale Nunheimer	0	Dale Nunheimer	0
Screens	0	0	0	0
Altar Guild	Team A4	Team A5	Team A5&2	Team A3
Worship Team	0	0	0	0
7:00 PM	4/5/2017			
Elder	Mike Wagner			
Reader	0			
Screens	0			
Altar Guild	Team A4			
Maundy Thursday	4/13/2017	Good Friday	4/14/2017	Easter Vigil
7:00 PM				
Elder	Mike Wagner	Mike Wagner	Ernie Schuette	
Reader	0	Janet Robson, Diane Bennett	0	0
Screens	0	0	0	0
Altar Guild	Team A2	Team A3	Team A4	