

Messiah Messenger

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

April 2024
Volume 62
Issue 4



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

We are in the week of Holy, with Easter being a little earlier than some years. It seemed like came upon us quite quickly. I was telling "Gray Lady II" (my 2009 Toyota Tacoma pickup ministry partner) how it caught me by surprise. My mind tells me Easter is an April event, but my mind was wrong this year. Just the same, it is a glorious moment for any year, at any time, reminding us of the great sacrifice the Lord had made to gain freedom for us from sinful consequences before the Father and the fear of death. He has risen, He has risen indeed! And He has paved a pathway for us unto eternal life.

"Gray Lady II" made a comment to me on our trip across town to Messiah. She said, "Have you noticed how little traffic there is during our travel?" It made me think for a minute and ponder her question. She was correct. Why could that be? After a while of my mental cogs grind about within my skull it dawned on me that it was Holy Week vacation time for the public schools and for some businesses. Good Friday was exceptionally easy to get across town. Probably an enhancement of my previous thought. I suppose with the Stock Market closed on

Good Friday, fewer people we going to their respective financial institutions and other offices.

Our conversation got me thinking about how many lives are about going here and there to where-ever each day. There is a fellow who works on Menaul, just east of 2nd Street. We quite often are adjacent to each other as we go south on Coors Bypass heading toward Paseo Del Norte. He takes the exit east on Paseo and I keep going south to use the Montano River crossing, 4th Street and then Menaul. He almost every morning this happens beats me as he has come down 2nd street. I see hymn backing his dark blue GMC pickup, with two wide light blue stripes, up to the company warehouse.

So many times, I wanted to pull in there an introduce myself, a fellow traveler, and find out more about him. But I am in too much of a hurry to get across town to stop for those few minutes. "Gray Lady II" and I are traveling in the middle lane, and it would mean for us to do something different, like move over to the right lane and pull into his parking lot. It is quite possible we could have a really interesting interchange or maybe not. I will never know.

As they say, how often do we stop to smell the roses. Usually, we are just trying to accomplish or lists of tasks for the moment and keep on moving to the new ones. In all the what is considered the important things of the day to we miss out any possibly something more important by not stopping and taking in what could be really wonderful. Consider the times when you have encountered someone or something who or which might have brought a new vision on life. Do we miss opportunities by not inviting others into our lives, and vice versa, which could be so enhancing or enriching?

Are we available to others? Do we invite others to be in their lives? Do we as a church make ourselves present to the Lord regularly and consistently? Do we do so as redeemed Christians do so constantly as individuals? Are we present regularly to be Christ's assets to a people who would like to meet the Lord? His people? And by doing so opening up a new life for them and each other? If we shut ourselves away in our own little world's, routines, comfort zones, are we able to be those agents of the Lord of love to others, and new life for ourselves?

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

April Scripture 2024

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>April 7th</u></p> <p>Acts 4:32-35 Psalm 133 1 John 1:1--2:2 John 20:19-31</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>April 14th</u></p> <p>Acts 3:12-19 Psalm 4 1 John 3:1-7 Luke 24:36b-48</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>April 21st</u></p> <p>Acts 4:5-12 Psalm 23 1 John 3:16-24 John 10:11-18</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>April 28th</u></p> <p>Acts 8:26-40 Psalm 22:25-31 1 John 4:7-21 John 15:1-8</p>

April 2024 NEWS ANNOUNCEMENTS

<p>Messiah Lutheran Church Women Women Officers President: Rosemary Butler Secretary: Irene Aldredge Treasurer: Dotty Dahl</p> <p>Mission Lead Ladies Growth: Lorraine Davis Action: Charlotte Moritomo Community: Dotty Dahl Historian: TBD</p>	<p>Sew and Share will meet April 2nd and 16th at 9:30am</p> <p>MLCW Bible Study will meet April 13th at 9:30am.</p> <p>Council meeting will take place Tuesday, April 16th this month at 6:30 p.m. (On Zoom)</p>
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Financial Reports

Treasurer Report February 2024

YTD/MTD	MTD	YTD
Income	\$6,913.15	\$12,303.30
Expense	\$6,411.89	\$13,038.73
Net	\$501.26	-\$735.45
Balances	Beginning of Month	End of Month
Checking	\$151,597.81	\$152,181.36
MM	\$18,649.89	\$18,650.04

<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 3rd Tuesday this Month at 6:30 pm</p> <p>MLC Women 2nd Saturday of the Month at 9:30 am</p> <p>Sew & Share 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@messiahabq.org</p> <p>Director of Music Katherine Alexander kalex@unm.edu</p> <p>Building & Grounds Carlo Bachechi</p> <p>Church Office office@messiahabq.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 • Harlan Wilson Family • Stephanie • Dotty Dahl • Pat Baca & Family • Irene Aldredge • 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... April 2024 ~Exciting News for Our Neighbors

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN

Monthly meetings of the MLCW meet once a month. Our next meeting will be on Saturday, **April 13**, 2024, 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 are waiting to hear from the respective school communicators to let us know what they presently need.

2024 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: Steve McHenry

Vice-President: Brian Osterloh

Secretary: Sharon Wilson

Treasurer: KD Pass

Financial Secretary: Cecelia Pepper

At Large Members: Kristi Adams, Debra Hoyt

(The Church Council meets on the Third 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. We have made a quarterly arrangement to see to keeping paper and cleaning supplies up to date. **Rising Sun will provide supplies for January, February and March. Also, RSCC will be having a rummage sale on the parking lot Saturday, April 20, 2024, from 8 am to Noon.**

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. The next gatherings will be **April 2 and 16, 2024.**
They decided this past year to make quilts for the **Linus Project** and **Saranam**. The theme of the Linus Project is "Covering New Mexico with Love." You are invited to participate in any way you feel you are able to assist in these projects.
- 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) **VISION COMMITTEE:** We have a great opportunity to be in conversation with Holy Cross Lutheran Church. Ron, Brian, Steve, Cecelia and Pastor Doug have been representing Messiah). Please visit with any of them for more information and if you have any concerns or ideas. The Vision Committee as an ad hoc committee were given to move forward in their efforts to see what is in the future of Messiah. The Annual meeting also affirmed them to carry on in their efforts. This committee will keep in contact with the congregation and make any recommendations to the council. We will be having discussions amongst the members of the congregation and keep Rising Sun Community Congregation informed. **The next joint congregation vision committee meeting (Holy Cross and Messiah) will be at Holy Cross on Wednesday, April 17, 2024, at 5:30 pm, at Messiah.**
- 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 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.
- 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 involvement opportunities. They are also making available a setting for the westside of Albuquerque. (Montano and Taylor Ranch)

April 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.
		9:30 am Sew and Share	9:30 am Bible Study			10 am Memorial service for Harlan Wilson
7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.
9:30 am Worship & Fellowship Rising Sun Worship 11:30 am		7:00 pm Vision Committee	9:30 am Bible Study			9:30 am MLCW Bible Study
14.	15.	16.	17.	18.	19.	20.
9:30 am Worship & Fellowship Rising Sun Worship 11:30 am		9:30 am Sew and Share 6:30 pm Church Council	9:30 am Bible Study 5:30 pm Joint HC/Messiah @Messiah			
21.	22.	23.	24.	25.	26.	27.
9:30 am Worship & Fellowship with Pastor Matt Powell Rising Sun Worship 11:30 am			9:30 am Bible Study			
28.	29.	30.				
9:30 a.m. Palm Sunday Worship (Pastor Doug's last Sunday Service) Rising Sun Worship 11:30 am						

Messiah Lutheran Church

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