



Messiah Lutheran Church Newsletter

1470 W. Maplehurst * Roscommon, Michigan * 989-275-8820 * March * 2018
Email: messiah.roscommon@gmail.com + follow us on the Messiah Group- Facebook page
Website: <http://www.messiahlutheranelca.com> Check out our new website. ☺

We remember in our prayers; Jeff, Joe, Aunt Linda, Thela, Betty, Cathy, Leona Busch, Tim, Lois, Kim, Larry, Adeline, Piper, Tom, Joyce, Sally, Bill, JoAnn Kosick, Mel, Lou, Stan, Dan, Jane, Sue, Don & Laurel, Jackie, Gail, Jean, Robin Ahern, Gene & Donna, Nancy Balla, Crystal, Dottie, Rob, Skylar Rhode, John Lancaster, Edward, JoAnn, Jennifer & Jasen Sexton, Joyce, Caillan & Kendal, Michelle Walsh, Bob Otwell, and Nancy.

Our church leaders: Bishops Elizabeth A. Eaton and Craig Alan Satterlee.

...those in the armed forces, who have served and those currently serving: Nick Anderson, David Cooper; Cole Daniels; Tara Goodell; Erik Mathenia; Ian, Matt and Amy McKenna; Richard McManamon; Peter McWilliam; Ryan Schiffner, Lee Schmidt, Nate Walker, Stephanie & Michael Ysebaert, Don & Dan Sulhoff, Tristan Bunch, Andrew Kurek, and for the safe and resolute return of all our nation's POW/MIAs.

Worship – 9:30AM Sundays. One service only.
Worship at the Brook – 2:00 pm 1st Sunday of the Month
ADULT Bible Study – No Bible Study until further notice
Choir Rehearsal –8:30 AM on Sunday morning.
Sunday school –Children's Bulletins will be available for the kids to work on while sitting with their parents during worship service.

CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Ed Pearen	President/Council	821-9649
Ann Jordan	Vice Pres./Council	281-1180
Joan Jaguszewski	Sec./WELCA/Council	389-4004
Jim Heinlein	Treasurer	348-4350
Debbie Brooks	Publicity/Council	390-2167
Jim Lippert	Council-Stewardship	821-9263
David Osim	Council	275-5397
Ric Falardeau	MELCA Rep/Council	821-9561
Ron Anderson	Council	352-816-3920
Carol Lee Anderson	Council	352-816-3920
Terry Sanders	Council	821-1177
Marilyn Stuart	Council	821-9312
Dianne Sanders	Council	821-1177



Service Information for March

We offer (1) service on Sunday at 9:30AM.

Choir practice is at 8:30AM.

Pastor Lonnie Wilkerson will be leading us in worship during the month of March, and Easter Sunday.

Pastor Gary be taking February and March off, but has decided to return to Messiah starting the 2nd Sunday in April. He will not preach every Sunday. On the Sunday's he is off, a member of Messiah will lead worship. Jim Krauss will be returning in May and will join the group of Messiah members that have been leading worship. There will not be communion on the Sundays Pastor Gary is off.



Keep checking the information table, your emails, and the weekly bulletins for new business or updates.

Reminder-if the office doesn't have your email we can't share the special messages coming from the office concerning members, events, and service changes. ☺
Check us out on Facebook.☺

We also have a new website at: messiahlutheranelca.com

March 4, 2018 THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT Spring Cleaning

Greek mythology tells a story about one of the greatest cleanup jobs of all time. The superhuman Hercules is given the challenge of clearing out a gigantic stable where thousands of animals are living. No one thinks he can do it. But, being quite clever, Hercules diverts a river to run through the stables. As the waters pour through, all the grime and filth is swept away.

In today's gospel, Jesus tackles the "mess" that has built up in the temple in Jerusalem. He overturns tables and drives sellers from the temple courts where they have set up shop. Jesus' actions show his resolve to clear out all that clutters and distracts from our relationship with God. He boldly points to the injustices he sees around him and acts to eradicate them. With his words and his actions, Jesus moves through the world and through people's lives, sweeping away everything that has no place in God's kingdom.

During Lent we invite Christ into our communities and congregations for some spring cleaning. We direct our attention toward those places where injustices and distractions have built up, and we pray for God to go to work through Christ. Assembled together, we remember and renew our baptisms. We return each week to have the waters of baptism rush over our lives and through our hearts. Some will take on practices to reflect this desire for purification—giving more space for prayer, simplicity, and silence. Some will declutter their lives by practicing generosity—giving out of their abundance to those with great need. Whatever our practices, we can come together in the hope of God's sanctifying power in our lives.

March 11, 2018 FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT Sharing the Light

Since earliest times, human beings have gathered around fires for warmth, food, storytelling, and community. It is a special feeling to find yourself gathered with a group of people around a campfire or even a heater on a subway platform. Such gatherings prompt us to see those around us in new ways. We notice the faces of people we otherwise would have overlooked. We experience something common in our need for light and warmth.

Each week the Holy Spirit gathers the church together in many spaces around the world. We gather in a different kind of light, a spiritual light that shines from God's only Son who has come into the world. He came into this world "in order that the world might be saved through him" (John 3:17). In the remembrance of our baptisms, in song, in scripture readings, in prayer, in the meal around the table, the one who is the light of the world is present among us. Jesus calls us to step out of the darkness in our lives and into his life-giving, healing, and sustaining light.

Gathered around Jesus Christ, we are called to invite others in. The light of Christ is there for all who experience darkness in their lives, who feel out in the cold, hungry, without a story or purpose, cut off from others in any way. Jesus' light crowds us in together. Then, sent out by Jesus Christ into our lives, we are called to bring that light with us. Wherever we go, we can show interest in others, listen to them, and seek ways to care for them. We lift up the light we experience each week in community with one another for someone else to see.

March 18, 2018 FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT Falling for Jesus

In this final week of Lent we prepare to enter the story of Jesus' passion, death, and resurrection and to be transformed and renewed in our baptismal identity through this story's movements. In our wider culture, however, the depth of meaning and experiences that the church walks through during Holy Week, which begins next Sunday, can be hidden behind secular celebrations of Easter.

The Greek inquirers in today's gospel remind us that people around us who are not Christian or do not celebrate Holy Week may still be curious about the origins and significance of Easter. Amidst chocolate bunnies and eggs, we may find ourselves, like Philip and Andrew, with opportunities to direct people's curiosity toward the Lord we come to meet each week.

Jesus' words to his disciples help us in our witness. He is the one who laid down his life for others out of love. In his life we find a willingness to give everything he has for his neighbors and loved ones, even for those who don't yet have a relationship with him. It is from just such a sacrifice that so much fruit has sprung forth. The church is part of that fruit, people across the centuries who have sought to live their own lives in the same way, offering love to the stranger and the outsider.

Each week we come together and reap the fruit of Christ's self-giving love. We hear it in his words. We taste it in the bread and wine of the table. We receive it in the care and consolation of other Christians around us. And as we receive so much from Christ and his church, we are empowered to let ourselves "fall" in service to others so that they too might see through us to Jesus Christ (John 12:24).

March 25, 2018 SUNDAY OF THE PASSION PALM SUNDAY Total Commitment

This week we will watch Jesus' triumphal procession into Jerusalem give way to his march of suffering out of Jerusalem to Golgotha. We will listen as the voices that once shout "hosanna" later cry "crucify." In some places worshipers will give voice to both cries through their participation in scripture readings or song.

Such scripting suggests a central truth about the message of Holy Week—that despite all our posturing as Christians and disciples of Christ, we remain deeply ambivalent about this Jesus of Nazareth. In our lives, there are times when we participate in both the crowds that praise Jesus and the crowds that look on him with suspicion and contempt.

Yet, more important than our own fickleness in the story of Jesus' procession, arrest, and death is Christ's unwavering faithfulness toward us. While our conviction changes, Jesus' does not. While our interest fades, Christ's investment in us remains total. His resolved march into Jerusalem continues toward Golgotha even as the crowds disperse and disciples run away. When the cheers of the crowd go silent and then turn sour, Jesus' words of blessing and forgiveness carry on.

The good news today and every day is that God's gracious love is poured out through Christ apart from any accounting of which crowd we stand in or which word is coming from our lips. When we think about it, we really are gathered together not through our commitment to Christ but through Christ's commitment to us. That promise is made to us in baptism, where God marks us forever as God's own. And it is with this promise that we walk through the moments of this week, knowing that in all things Christ has chosen to stand by us.

MARCH 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1 1PM WELCA	2	3
4 Noisy Offering & Food Pantry Collection 2PM- Worship at the Brook	5	6	7 LARC-St. Elizabeth's-will be held at Messiah Lutheran due to water damage at St. E's.	8	9	10
11	12	13 10AM-CutUps Quilting Group	14 First Congregational Church Bible Study 6:30-7PM LARC-Roscommon Baptist	15	16	17
18	19 6PM-Worship Life 7PM-Council Meeting	20	21 First Congregational Church Bible Study 6:30-7PM	22 Seder Meal-6PM Ros. Baptist Church RSVP by 3/14/18 at 281-1449	23	24 FOOD TRUCK LOCATION BUS GARAGE TIME 11:00
25	26	27 10AM-CutUps Quilting Group	28	29	30	31

MARCH-2018	WORSHIP ASST.	MARCH REMINDERS
MARCH 4	9:30AM	During the winter months it becomes more
READER	RON ANDERSON	difficult to fill this schedule, due to so many
USHERS	HAROLD & LADONNA KRAMM	members heading south for the winter months.
COM. ASST.	RUTH C. & ANN JORDAN	I apologize for having to put the same people on more often during this time.
SUNDAY SCHOOL	Bulletins will be provided to work on at the pew every Sunday.	If anyone has not been scheduled and wishes to fill an assisting position, please drop me a note, send me an email, or call me.
WORSHIP ASST.	JUDY LEGG	
MARCH 11	9:30AM	I thank you all in advance for your understanding. Cory
READER	MARGARET KARINEN	
USHERS	BILL & VARLYA HANUSIK	<u>PRAYER PARTNER LETTER</u>
COM. ASST.	RON & CAROL LEE ANDERSON	Please remember to sign the PPL that is
PASTOR'S ASST.	DAVID OSIM	found on the information table. Each week we send a letter to another church in our synod that we pray for. ☺
MARCH 18	9:30AM	
READER	RED BRUNKE	<u>COFFEE HOUR</u>
USHERS	TERRY & DIANNE SANDERS	IF ANYONE WOULD LIKE TO BAKE
COM. ASST.	MARGARET K. & MARY ANN P.	COOKIES OR BAKE A CAKE TO SHARE
PASTOR'S ASST.	ANN JORDAN	DURING COFFEE HOUR, PLEASE FEEL
MARCH 25	9:30AM	FREE TO DO SO. HOMEMADE DESSERTS
READER	PATSY LIPPERT	ARE ALWAYS ENJOYED BY ALL. ☺
USHERS	JAN & EMIL MEISSNER	WE ALWAYS NEED VOLUNTEERS TO POUR
COM. ASST.	RON & CAROL LEE ANDERSON	COFFEE AND CLEAN UP AFTERWARDS.
PASTOR'S ASST.	SHELLY OSIM	YOUR HELP IS APPRECIATED. ☺
<u>COUNTERS</u> <u>MARCH</u> MARY GRAY JIM LIPPERT	<u>COUNTERS</u> VOLUNTEERS FOR COUNTERS ARE ALWAYS NEEDED CONTACT THE OFFICE IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO COUNT THE OFFERINGS COLLECTED ON SUNDAYS.	<u>ALTAR CARE</u> MARCH – RUTH CHRISTOPHERSON

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(989) 275-8820



Pray for each other....

03/04---03/10

Ric & Jean Peckham

Tom & Vicke Raymond

03/11---03/17

Shirley Reilly

Lynne Slatinsky

03/18---03/24

Terry Van Elsacker

Larry & Pamela Vergeldt

03/25---03/31

Dottie Winter

Ron & Carol Lee Anderson

March Anniversaries

10* Marilyn & Ernie Stuart

March Birthdays

1* Karl Gottleber

2* David Osim

6* Logan Roth

7* Denise DeVolder

7* Luke Legg

16* Emil Meissner

16* Leonard Yenglin

22* Varlya Hanusik

23* Terry Sanders

29* Ron Anderson

29* Patsy Lippert

30* Paul Roth