



Messiah Messenger

November 2022

Messiah's Mission: *To know Christ and to make Christ known through the spreading of the Gospel of Jesus Christ to all through a Word and Sacrament ministry of worship, Christian Education, fellowship, outreach and service.*

Rev. Andrew Twietmeyer, Pastor

Rick Krueger, *Parish Assistant*

Vonda Smestad, *Preschool Director*

Noelle Kaminski, *Office Manager*

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I will admit it: there are perks to being a pastor, especially here at the Lutheran congregation on Five Mile Road. For instance, if I ever wish to hear some excellent live music, all I need to do is come up with an excuse to wander into the sanctuary and busy myself with something while I listen to Rick practice. It is a joy to hear as he manipulates the organ to produce the anthems of salvation which echo off the walls of this holy place. Speaking of the sanctuary, I am also able to spend a great deal of time within her holy walls. I particularly love (who wouldn't?) our stained-glass window. It is a beautiful adornment for the cross of our Lord Jesus. It teaches us that the Roman cross, an instrument of torture and death, has become to us the most beautiful sight in the world, a sight of salvation.

As externally beautiful as our Holy House is, her true beauty is not visible to the naked eye. Instead, the true beauty of our sanctuary is heard rather than seen. When we come into the sanctuary, we find a place of refuge and protection, not just from the wind and the rain, but from the evil spirits of the world. How? It is by means of the holy and everlasting word of God. Our Lord Jesus Christ knows that this world in which we live is also the home of the evil one, Satan. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for souls to devour. Therefore, Jesus prays to our Father in heaven on our behalf in the following way.

"I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one. They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. And for their sake I consecrate myself, that they also may be sanctified in truth." These words from John 17:15-19 teach us just what exactly is happening in the Divine Service. Within the walls of the church, we gather together with other Christians who are not of the world in order to be sanctified by Truth.

November is bringing us to the end of the church year and to the doorstep of winter. Even though it is about 75 degrees as I write this, we all know this is not going to last. Our little Indian summer has been a treat, but it would be foolish to imagine winter is not going to happen this year. How much more foolish would it be to imagine that Jesus is not going to return to judge the living and the dead?

Therefore, let us turn our hearts to God and renew our devotion to His Word. If we listen to Jesus' prayer closely, we must admit that the day is drawing near and that there is an onus to our sanctification. Jesus has sent us into the world which is hostile territory. There are no noncombatants. If we wish for our faith to

PASTOR'S LETTER CONTINUED;

survive in this world, we must take refuge in the sanctuary, the place where His word sanctifies us in truth. This then is the reason we "go to church." Our church attendance is not a matter of getting our name on a list or checking off a box on the to-do list. Instead, we attend the Divine Service to be equipped by the armor of God so that we can extinguish the flaming darts that are hurled at us by Satan from all sides. With God's Word, we need not fear any evil, so let us rejoice in that as the day draws nigh.

Your friend in Christ,

-Pastor Twietmeyer

Messiah Updates for November

WORSHIP: Our weekly Sunday schedule continues as follows:

- Divine Service with Holy Communion at **8:30 and 11:00 am**. The 11:00 am service will be livestreamed at:
 - www.youtube.com/messiahgr
 - Our website www.messiahgr.org
 - Our Facebook page www.facebook.com/messiahgr.
 - Bulletins formatted for use with our livestream are available online the Wednesday before each service, at www.messiahgr.org/worship-resources
 - Sunday School and Bible Class at **9:45 am**. Bible Class will also be livestreamed at www.messiahgr.org/adult-bible-class.



Remember that Daylight Saving Time ends on **November 6th at 2:00 a.m.** Be sure to set your clocks **back one hour** before you go to bed on Saturday evening, **November 5th.**

THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP



Messiah will celebrate Thanksgiving with the Divine Service on **Wednesday evening, November 23rd**. The service time is **7:00 pm**; Holy Communion will be celebrated. Held at Messiah, this will be a joint Thanksgiving Eve service with our brothers and sisters of St. Peter Lutheran Church in Rockford; Pastor Jason Peterson will serve as preacher and the choirs of Messiah and St Peter will provide joint anthems. We invite you to join us for a service of praise and thanksgiving for all of God's blessings! Mark your calendars and plan on attending.

ADVENT WORSHIP

With the season of Advent beginning on November 27th, Advent midweek services will be held on these dates:

- **Wednesday, November 30th at 11:00 am and 7:00 pm**
- **Wednesday, December 7th at 11:00 am and 7:00 pm**
- **Wednesday, December 14th at 11:00 am**
(Christmas Reflections service at **7:00 pm**)
- **Wednesday, December 21st at 11:00 am and 7:00 pm**



MESSIAH UPDATES FOR NOVEMBER CONTINUED;



OUR 2022 CHRISTMAS SERVICE SCHEDULE

Preschool Christmas Program	Thursday, December 8th, 6:30 pm
Christmas Reflections (Lessons and Carols)	Wednesday, December 14th, 7:00 pm
Advent Prayer Breakfast	Saturday, December 17th, 9:30 am
Christmas Eve Divine Service	Saturday, December 24th, 3:00 pm
Christmas Eve Family Candlelight Service	Saturday, December 24th, 7:00 pm
Christmas Day Divine Service	Sunday, December 25th, 10:00 am
New Year's Day Divine Service	Sunday, January 1st, 10:00 am
Epiphany Divine Service at St. Peter, Rockford	Friday, January 6th, 7:00 pm

SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATE: weekly classes for Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 8 children continue on Sunday mornings at **9:45 am**. Children and teachers meet in the south downstairs classroom. This month, students will discover how *Jesus Teaches His Church* with the following lessons:

- *A Servant Speaks—Stephen (November 6th)*
- *A Deacon Delivers – Philip (November 13th)*
- *An Enemy Converts – Saul/Paul (November 20th)*
- Sunday School will not meet on **Sunday, November 27th**.

DEAR BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN CHRIST AT MESSIAH,

I am so very grateful for all the calls, cards, prayers, and concerns during this very difficult time in my life.

June went into the hospital on the 15th of August for tests because of her pain in her back. She died the 31st of August.

Thank you so very much for being you.

-Jerry L. Swanson

WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE gifts to Messiah in memory of **June Swanson** from Dwight and Marlene Anderson, Terry and Shirley Hoese, Joann Hilton, and Pat Mull, Mark and Laura Altmann, and Dale and Dody Reinke.

THE TRUSTEES ARE RECRUITING: You may have noticed that the TRUSTEES have been busy but many of their responsibilities are not noticeable. This is an important board but it is also FUN working with other trustees accomplishing a variety of tasks as they emerge with a facility as large as this. That being said, it is recruiting time here at Messiah and please consider signing on for a two-year term on the BOARD OF TRUSTEES. We would love to hear from you. Please feel free to contact Kurt Veitengruber, Mark Altemann, Dick Wilson, or any other trustee that you may know of for more info.

CHRISTIAN LIVING RESOURCE CENTER (CLRC) - Just a reminder that in addition to the various items available at the CLRC, there is also a container for the metal pull tabs off your pop/soda, energy drinks, beer, and soup/vegetable cans. Collect the pull tabs and save them in a container at home or work (better yet, get your friends, family, and co-workers to start saving too!) and then return the tabs to the CLRC. These tabs are then given to the Ronald McDonald House in support of their programming.

From the Parish Assistant

OUTREACH NEWS: We thank Lee Cobb for his faithful years of service changing the messages on our outdoor sign. In the wake of Lee's retirement from this service, we welcome Peter Tessin to the sign changing team; Peter joins Mark Altemann, Pete Garchow and Richard Wilson in this volunteer group's monthly rotation. Thanks to all of you for your help in sharing the good news of Jesus with our neighborhood and community!



Thanks as well to the members of Messiah and 3 other area LCMS congregations who attended the Board of Outreach's *Every One His Witness* workshop on October 1st! We hope to embark on a series of sequels dealing with witnessing to people in specific situations and circumstances. Watch for more details coming in 2023!

IN WORSHIP THIS MONTH: Following the celebration of All Saints Sunday on **November 6th**, our Gospel readings for **Sunday, November 13th** focus on Jesus' prophecies of the end times, calling us to be ready and stand firm amid the frequently disturbing signs of His return. The Last Sunday of the Church Year on **November 20th** reminds us again that our Savior is our King – and proclaims how He reigns among us by the preaching of His cross!

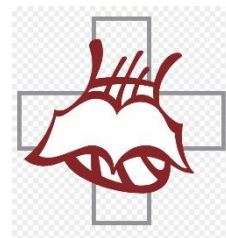
Following our November 23rd Thanksgiving Eve service, the season of *Advent* begins on **Sunday, November 27th**! During Advent we not only prepare to celebrate Christ's first coming at Christmas; we also prepare for His *second* coming on the Last Day, and we reflect on His *constant* coming into our hearts through Word and Sacrament! The altar, pulpit and lectern paraments for Advent are blue, a color symbolizing our hope in our Savior; the Advent wreath is displayed, with one candle lit every Sunday until Christmas; and we begin a year of readings from the Gospel of Matthew (with related selections from the Old Testament prophet Isaiah and Epistle readings from Romans).



During November, we will continue to pray Divine Service, Setting Three from *Lutheran Service Book*; on the first Sunday of Advent, we'll switch to Divine Service, Setting Four. That day, we'll also begin singing a new hymn, "O Bride of Christ, Rejoice" (number 335 in *Lutheran Service Book*). The anonymous text, based on Matthew 21, comes from the Danish tradition, translated into English by Lutheran physics and chemistry professor Victor Peterson; the tune, frequently used by J.S. Bach in his sacred music, is by an unidentified German composer of the 1600s.

In the month to come, we pray that your hearing of God's Word and partaking of the Lord's Supper at Messiah will strengthen your faith, empowering you to share Christ's love with the people in your life!

NOTES FROM THE CHOIR LOFT: Senior Choir continues its weekly practices on **Wednesdays at 7:00 pm** during November. Feel free to stop by on a Wednesday night and try us out! The Senior Choir sings at **11:00 am** on **Sunday, November 6th**, at **8:30 am** on **Sunday, November 20th** and at our Thanksgiving Eve service on **Wednesday, November 23rd at 7:00 pm**. Please note that there will be a special practice on **Tuesday, November 22nd at 7:00 pm**, and that during Advent choir practices will be held following our evening midweek services, beginning on **Wednesday, November 30th**.



Our Hand Chime Ensemble returns for the Thanksgiving Eve service as well. Contact Rick Krueger for details if you're interested in participating!

Women's Ministry

SANDY'S TRADITION: Our next luncheon will be **Thursday, November 17th, at 11:30 am**, at **New Beginnings** at 5200 Northland Dr NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49525 Contact Judy Gerke at (616) 363-8412 so reservations can be made. Hope to see you there!

THE SEMI-ANNUAL ALTAR GUILD MEETING is scheduled for **November 5th at 9:30 am**. We will welcome our newest member, Marijo Pataniczek and also discuss the upcoming Advent and Christmas season. We can also discuss any issues that come up regarding our responsibilities as team members. I encourage all team members to attend if they can. Also, those who aren't on the Guild are very welcome to attend so they can learn a little of what we do. We really could use a couple people to sub now that we have Holy Communion at each Sunday service. Any Questions? Ask Carol Mushong or any other team member.

MESSIAH'S COOKIE AND CRAFT BAZAAR: Saturday, December 3rd from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm: Save the date! If you are interested in baking Christmas cookies for our bazaar you will find a sign-up sheet at the welcome center. Everyone is asked to frost their own cookies this year. Please label them so we know what they are if people ask-especially if they contain nuts. A few vendor tables are still available. For additional information contact Barb Brinkman, Sherry Troutwine, or Debbie Krueger.

LWML NOVEMBER MISSION HIGHLIGHTS: Fourteen mission grants for LWML Michigan District were approved at this summer's convention. The grant capturing the most votes was "I Was Naked and You Clothed Me" - Orphan Grain Train - \$18,000. Orphan Grain Train, an RSO of our Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod, began in 1992 and has shipped relief and humanitarian aid to 69 foreign countries. No distribution occurs without the fixed prerequisite that material about the Gospel of Jesus Christ be shared. Our \$18,000 of LWML Mites will fund two overseas shipments the next two years. Previous shipments have gone to Kyrgyzstan, Panama, Moldova, and the Republic of Georgia. Soon a shipment of clothing, altar paraments, books from Lutheran Heritage Foundation, candelabra, and choir robes will be sent to South Sudan.

Nationally, LWML Mites will partially fund MOST (Mission Opportunities Short Term) Mission Scholarships for individuals serving on eyeglass, medical/dental care and health education, building churches and schools, and VBS mission teams. \$50,000 dollars will be raised through Mite Box donations to assist in partial payment of travel expenses for MOST volunteers. Travel costs have risen and the number of MOST teams requested by overseas missionaries has also risen. MOST volunteers have served in 52 foreign countries. Let's continue to serve the Lord with gladness and our Mites!

Other

DEAR SAINTS OF MESSIAH,

The peace and joy of Christ fill your hearts. We thank God for your partnership in His mission work in Sri Lanka. Your prayers and gifts of \$755.56 makes a difference for Jesus here. Please pray for Sri Lanka, the people we serve, and for us.

In Jesus' love,

Rev. Steven and Martha, Autumn, Liberty, Skye, Rose, and Duncan Mahlburg.

OTHER CONTINUED;

FROM NORTH END COMMUNITY MINISTRIES:

Dear friends of NECM:

North End Community Ministry provides quality programs and services on behalf of the clients we serve. We depend heavily upon your donations and volunteer support. On behalf of our clients, staff, volunteers, & board members of North End Community Ministry, I would like to express our gratitude and appreciation for your generous donation of \$434.43 to benefit clients of our ministry.

In addition to NEXM & Leonard Terrace 'Client Choice Food Pantries', we provide NE Support House; a hot meal program, cooking classes, Holiday Basket program.

We are constantly reminded that without the generosity and ongoing commitment from individuals, our supporting churches, schools, and other organizations, we would be unable to continue to remain a beacon of hope for many in the northeast community. Again, thank you for your support of our ministry!

We pray God will bless you richly!

In Christ,

Laura L Castle/Executive Director

WMLHS CRAFT SHOW: West Michigan Lutheran High School will be having a Craft Show **Saturday, November 5th** from **9:00 am to 4:00 pm.**

WMLHS DRAMA PRODUCTION: Mark your calendars! West Michigan Lutheran High School will be performing *Moriarty's Revenge* on **Friday, November 18th** and **Saturday, November 19th**. Performance times and ticket information coming soon!

IN OUR PRAYERS

- ✦ Those with immediate prayer concerns: **Jim Wilson**, friend of Larry & Marijo Pataniczek, **Bryan Smith**, friend of Larry Pataniczek, **Lucille Preston**, sister of Steve Ledbetter, **Alice Feigel**, mother of Renee Davis; **Ariel Cunningham**, friend of Vic VanEtten; **Nora Rotman**, friend of Sandy & Larry Goodlander; **Maureen Norton**, niece of Rita & Bill VanEtten; **Mike Brumley**, brother of Shirley Kremm; **Mike Buckley**, brother-in-law of Sandy & Larry Goodlander; daughter-in-law of Bill & Rita VanEtten; **Sue VanEtten**, daughter-in-law of Bill & Rita VanEtten; **Nora Rotman & David Brock**, friend of Sandy & Larry Goodlander and **Larry Wilson**, brother of Dick Wilson.
- ✦ **Those with ongoing prayer concerns:** (Steve Ledbetter, Bernie & Eileen Ottenjan, Glen Ottenjan, Mike Mull, MaryAnn Snell, Dody Reinke, Claudia London, Kathy Mueller); Sharry Milner, **daughter in-law of Shirley Lang**; Tina Eikenroth, **friend of Matt VanEtten.**
- ✦ **Those serving in the military:** Eric Gerke, **grandson of Judy Gerke and** Nicholas Jackson, **grandson of Sharon Fahling.**
- ✦ **Our Missionaries:** Pastor Masih and Pastor Mahlburg.
- ✦ All who have suffered physically, emotionally, financially, mentally and spiritually during the worldwide outbreak of coronavirus, including all those currently ill with COVID-19 and all health care providers who treat them.
- ✦ All those in authority, especially Joseph our president, Gretchen our governor, Rosalynn our mayor, and all those who make, administer, and judge our laws.
- ✦ Peace in our world, our nation and our community.





“WORSHIP ANEW” is a Lutheran television, 30-minute worship service with no commercials or repeats. It is not a tape of a Sunday morning service, but a special taping done just for the viewer at home. Worship for Shut-Ins airs locally **Sunday mornings at 11:30 am** on Comcast (channel 21), Charter (channel 2), AT&T (channel 24), Dish Network (channel 54) and DirecTV (channel 377).

November 6th, 2022 - All Saints Day

"Conversational Witnesses" - Sermon Text: Daniel 1:17-20 - Rev. Michael Zeigler

November 13th, 2022 - Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

"Redemption Draws Near" - Sermon Text: Luke 21:5-28 - Rev. Shayne Jonker

November 20th, 2022 - Sunday of the Fulfillment

"The Great Triumph" - Sermon Text: Colossians 1:13-20 - Rev. Paul Shoemaker

November 27th, 2022 - First Sunday in Advent

"Caught in the Flow" - Sermon Text: Isaiah 2:1-5 - Rev. William Mueller

LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES - is available on these radio stations:

WTRV –100.5 FM Sundays at 7:00 am

WSRW –105.7 FM Sundays at 6:30 am

Visit lutheranhour.org to read about next Sunday's message.

SERVING YOU

Staff:

Rev. Andrew Twietmeyer, Pastor
Richard Krueger, Parish Assistant
Noelle Kaminski, Office Manager
Tammy Ahrens, Office Assistant
Vonda Smestad, Pre-school Director

Officers and Board Chairmen:

President, David Ahrens
Vice-President, Dan Hula
Treasurer, Ruth Lueders
Secretary, Kurt Veitengruber
Education, Dan Bohlinger
Elders, Randy Gerke
Outreach, Rick Krueger
Social Ministry, Shirley Kremm
Stewardship, Dan Hula
Trustees, Kurt Veitengruber

Congregational Auxiliaries & Services:

Acolytes, Rick Krueger
Altar Guild, Carol Mushong
Bowling League, Joanne Gillette
CARES Bible Study, Laura Altmann
Church Extension, Richard Tank
LifeLight, Dwight Anderson
LIFT, Dave Ahrens
LWML, Shirley Hoese
Parish Service Guild, Barbara Brinkman
Prayer Chain, Sharon Fahling
Sunday School Supt., Sabrina Slagter
Wedding Coordinator, Sherry Troutwine
Ushers, Pete Garchow



HAPPY THANKSGIVING



Messiah Service Calendar – November 2022

Sunday, November 6, 2022

EARLY 8:30 am

Elders: Kevin Mueller
Ushers - Team 1: Dick Wilson, Mike Kearney, Bill VanEtten, Dwight Anderson
Acolyte: Lily Slagter
Altar Guild: **Team 3:** Judy Gerke, Deb Krueger, Diane Wheeler, Barbara Wilson
Counters: Mark Altemann and Dave Kremm

LATE 11:00 am

Steve Dengler
Pete Garchow, Rich Griffis, Steve Dengler, Ken Martin
Connor VanderTuig

Sunday, November 13, 2022

EARLY 8:30 am

Elders: Randy Gerke
Ushers – Team 2: Jim Hoffman, Joe Buss, Duane Ambrose, Kevin Mueller, Al Davis
Acolyte: Nick Mannor
Altar Guild: **Team 4:** Rita VanEtten, Joann Hilton, Sharon Hula, Laura Altemann
Counters: Lori Martin and Joann Hilton

LATE 11:00 am

Larry Goodlander
Dan Hula, Larry Goodlander, Steve Kaminski, Eli Kaminski

Sunday, November 20, 2022

EARLY 8:30 am

Elders: Pete Garchow
Ushers – Team 3: Dan Bohlinger, Mark Altemann, Rick Quackenbush, Peter Tessin
Acolyte:
Altar Guild: **Team 4:** Rita VanEtten, Joann Hilton, Sharon Hula, Laura Altemann
Counters: Judy Gerke and Diane Wheeler

LATE 11:00 am

Steve Kaminski
Rick Domine, Glen Ottenjan, Dave Ahrens, Andrew Ahrens
Callan Reickard

Wednesday, November 23, 2022

7:00 pm

Elders: Steve Kaminski
Ushers: **Team 3**
Acolyte:
Altar Guild: **Team 1:** Carol Mushong, Laura Altemann, Marcie Merkle, Barb Brinkman

Sunday, November 27, 2022

EARLY 8:30 am

Elders: Rich Griffis
Ushers – Team 4: Dave Kremm, Randy Gerke, Jack Keller, Matt VanderTuig
Acolyte:
Altar Guild: **Team 1:** Carol Mushong, Marijo Pataniczek, Marcie Merkle, Barb Brinkman
Counters: Jerry Tiedt and ?

LATE 11:00 am

Max Conner
Mike Mushong, Steve Ledbetter, Kurt Veitengruber, Max Conner
Jack Reickard

Wednesday, November 30, 2022

11:00 am

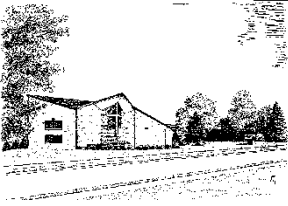
Elders: Larry Pataniczek
Ushers: **Team 4**
Acolyte:
Altar Guild: **Team 1:** Carol Mushong, Marijo Pataniczek, Marcie Merkle, Barb Brinkman

7:00 pm

Steve Kaminski

Sign Changer: Mark Altemann

Thank you all for serving!



November 2022

Messiah Lutheran Church



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 LifeLight 10:30 am Trustees 7:00 pm Outreach 7:00 pm	2 CARES 9:30 am Pastor at WMLHS Chapel 12:00 pm LifeLight 6:00 pm Choir 7:00 pm	3 Confessions Study 10:00 am	4 Pastor's Day Off Rick's Day Off	5 Turn Clocks Back before bed Altar Guild Meeting 9:30 am Private Event 11:00 am
6 Day Light Savings Time Ends 2:00 am Worship/Communion 8:30 am & 11:00 am Classes 9:45 am 1 ST Communion Class 12:00 pm Private Event 3:00 pm	7 Elders 7:00 pm	8 Election Day LifeLight 10:30 am Board of Ed. 7:00 pm	9 CARES 9:30 am LifeLight 6:00 pm Choir 7:00 pm	10 Rick on Vacation Piano Tuning 12:00 pm Service Guild 1:00 pm Preschool Father's Night 6:00 pm	11 Pastor's Day Off Rick on Vacation Veterans Day	12 Rick on Vacation
13 Rick on Vacation Worship/Communion 8:30 am & 11:00 am Classes 9:45 am 1 ST Communion Class 12:00 pm Bowling 3:00 pm	14	15 Pastor on Vacation	16 Pastor on Vacation CARES 9:30 am Choir 7:00 pm	17 Pastor on Vacation Sandy's Tradition 11:30 am	18 Pastor's Day Off Rick's Day Off	19
20 Worship/Communion 8:30 am & 11:00 am Classes 9:45 am Potluck and Voters Meeting 12:00 pm	21 Newsletter Deadline 9:00 am Council 7:00 pm	22 Choir 7:00 pm	23 CARES 9:30 am Thanksgiving Service 7:00 pm Preschool Thanksgiving Break	24 THANKSGIVING OFFICE CLOSED Preschool Thanksgiving Break	25 OFFICE CLOSED Pastor's Day Off Rick's Day Off Private Event 3:00 am Preschool Thanksgiving Break	26
27 Worship/Communion 8:30 am & 11:00 am Bible Class 9:45 am 1 ST Communion Class 12:00 pm Bowling 3:00 pm	28 Rick is at Youth Workers Event	29 Organ Tuning 9:00 am	30 CARES 9:30 am Advent Service 11:00 am & 7:00 pm Choir 8:00 pm			