

THE MONITOR

Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church – Lindsborg, Kansas

Volume 111, Issue 10

October 2019

Dear Church,

What a wonderful time it is to be people of Christ! We have the opportunity to share with every person we meet what it means to be saved by grace through faith!

When I say something like the above sentences, what do you think of? Do you think of sharing a specific “God story” from the Bible? Do you think of talking about the specifics of our congregation, our worship, our study times or fellowship? Do you hear that you’re to pray with everyone or try to tell them how our religious beliefs are “the” dogma they need to know they’re saved?

For me, that sentence, “we have the opportunity to share with every person we meet what it means to be saved by grace” is a sentence that says, “tell your story...use words only when you must.”

As a person who has been forgiven, who bears the seal of the Holy Spirit and the mark of the cross, your own life is filled with moments of grace, of resurrection, of hope, of despair, of joy and of laughter. Through every one of those moments, the Holy Spirit, Jesus, and Creator Father has been with you, empowering you to walk through your circumstance, forgiving your attempts to turn away from God, and opening to you times of new beginnings and creative outcomes. They have been your crutch and your wings. Your story is woven into God’s story in such a way that there is no separation. Nothing you do can separate you from the love of God. Nothing. That is truly good news!

Our lives, the way we carry ourselves, the way we treat others in every circumstance, the manner in which we tell our truths and the hope we bear for whatever is next to come, these tell the story of our faith. When we treat others as we want to be treated, we are sharing God’s story, as God only offers to us that which is good and healthy and just. When we treat others as though they ought to behave as we command, we are not in line with the message of love and truth; we are foisting an attempt at power beyond that which God models to us. God uses God’s power only for good; we are asked to do the same. To build up, to create, to envision harmony and unity, this is to live the story of God’s love in your life. We tell this experience of love by our actions.

We tell this story by our words. It seems so simple, to hear that the moments you’ve experienced, the situations you have survived and those that made you crumble for a bit, that these are the story to tell the world about God. And yet, God has made us Church, we are the hands and feet of Christ in the world. God uses every one of us to share the message of God’s love, to pass along the forgiveness we’ve received, and to be the open door to stranger and friend alike.

The simplicity of the message of Christ coming to us 2000 years after the resurrection has come because people were willing to share the message. People like you and I are the people God calls to be witness to the mercy and abundance of God to the world.

Creation, humanity, and Spirit are so intertwined that we want to make the message about something not-so-intimate as our own personal lives. To share our intimate story of God’s work in our lives is to be vulnerable to the way people receive that story. To witness to what we can note is by God’s action in our lives is to open ourselves to criticism. In the storm of that criticism, we are called even further to rely on God for sustenance and support...and God always provides in some manner.

As the seasons turn and the world continues to try to understand the healthiest and most faithful ways to live in communities, the story of God’s love for all that is created, including human beings, is imperative to share. It is not only our opportunity to share how we are strengthened and enlivened, it is our call through the One who loves us beyond our comprehension.

May you, this month, find ways to share the power of God in your life, the moments of grace and resurrection, the joyful awareness that you are created in the image of One who is ever present and faithful to us.

Blessings, Church,
Pastor Amy



by Jeanne Ahlers

The new year for the Messiah Church Senior Choir got off to a great start with a potluck on September 15!

Choir members got together to provide an appetizing beginning for this year. Long-standing members and newcomers -- and those in between -- had the chance to get to know each other apart from choir rehearsals. Among the new members were Mackenzie Smith of Leavenworth, Kansas; Austin Hampton of Cheney, Kansas; Dylan Carrier of Hoisington, Kansas, and Jennifer Klapp, now living in Lindsborg. Jennifer, by the way, is Betty Russin's daughter. A big welcome to each of you! We hope you'll enjoy being members of the choir, and will want to stay in it!

Mark Lucas presented the choir with plans for this year's Christmas Candlelight Service, and it will be something to look forward to! Mark Hayes' *Candles & Carols* is described as "a service of hope, peace, joy and love." (Well, we all can use more of those!) A preliminary rehearsal acquainted choir members with the music. It'll be worth waiting for, and a pleasure for the choir to rehearse.

New members are always welcome. Rehearsals are Sunday mornings at 8:15, on the Sundays when the choir sings.

Approximate number of people who used Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church during the month of September.:

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- Worship Services **364**
- Others in September **488**
- Daily (includes staff, daycare & coffee groups) **52**

October Anniversaries

Carolyn & Bill Brock	10/03
Sonja & Bill Taylor Jr	10/24
Gloria & Eugene Holdsworth	10/25

October Birthdays

Vic Streufert	10/01
Brian Anderson	10/02
Kathy George	10/04
Louise Benson	10/06
Tyler Breneman	10/08
Kenneth Swisher	10/08
Rhonda Anderson	10/12
Ingrid Pohl	10/16
Anita Johnson	10/17
Robert Nyquist	10/17
Jeanette Shogren	10/21
Gary Mattas	10/23
Walli Ellis	10/29
Konrad Peterson	10/31

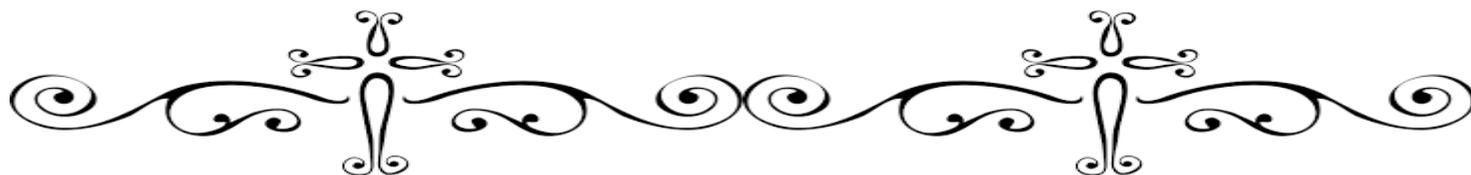
Women's Ministry



What's Up in October



- **Thursdays 9:00 at church - Women's Coffee** (Come as you are – relax, and visit)
- **Thursdays 12:00-1:00 - Moms in Prayer** at Barbara's, 405 N. Chestnut, (when school is in session) Join in prayer for our precious children here in Lindsborg and across the world.
- **Thursday, October 3, 3:00pm - Visiting at Bethany Home Assisted Living.** Come when you can to enjoy time with residents. Sitting around a table, getting to know each other over a cup of coffee - it is a time when you receive far more than you give.
- **Sunday, October 6, 9:30 – Worship** – Blessing of LWR Quilts, School & Personal Care Kits.
- **Thursday, October 10, - LWR items** to Trinity Lutheran, Salina
- **Wednesday, October 23, 7:00 - MCW Gather Bible Study** at Mary Lindgren's.



Thursdays, 9:00 a.m. - WOMEN'S COFFEE at church. Come and enjoy getting to know each other better.

Thursday, October 3, 3:00 Visiting at Bethany Home Assisted Living. If you haven't met the people at the Assisted Living home, you have something to look forward to as the "coffee" is on and the visiting is delightful! Join us!

Sunday, October 6, 9:30 Worship – We will have the blessing of our Lutheran World Relief quilts, school kits and personal care kits. To all those who have made quilts and brought supplies and donated to these projects, a Big Thank You!

Thursday, October 10, 9 a.m-12 we will be taking our Lutheran World Relief quilts, school and personal care kits to Trinity Lutheran in Salina. **Our thanks, once again, go to Gavin and Sharon Doughty for delivering Messiah's items.**

Wednesday, October 23, 7:00 MCW Bible Study at Mary Lindgren's, with Karol Carr leading the Bible Study. All are welcome!

Thanks for the wonderful response for supplying our 60 loaves of bread for Hyllningsfest!



KICK "kick off" day was September 11 and we had a great time! Children got to sing about Jesus, play ice breaker games, make crafts, and play at Swensson park! We are grateful for the many people who work to make kick possible and for all of the support from the churches! Thanks also to the Smoky Valley Community Foundation, the McPherson County Community Foundation, and Thrivent for Kick grants.



The BLC and MELC youth will be serving a Brookville Chicken Dinner at noon on Sunday, October 6, at Bethany Lutheran Church. This is a fundraiser that will directly benefit our upcoming ski trip!



Bishop Emeritus Munib Younan is coming to the Bethany College campus in October to share insights regarding Christian/Muslim relationships. Bishop Younan is the Lutheran Bishop Emeritus of Jordan and the Holy Land and has most recently served as President of the Lutheran World Federation. His wisdom and experience will certainly provide students, faculty, community members, and area clergy and PMAs with an unparalleled opportunity to engage in religious and political reflection on communities of faith in the Middle East.

Thursday, October 10

5:30 – Dinner and Panel Discussion in Lindquist Hall, *RSVP required*

7:00 – Panel discussion in Lindquist Hall on the topic of interfaith approaches to immigration and borders

Friday, October 11

10:30 a.m. – 10:50 a.m. – Bishop Younan, Chapel Talk

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. – Lunch in Levin Room, *RSVP required*
1:00 p.m. – 1:50pm – Bishop Younan's Public Address in Pearson Chapel, Mabee Welcome Center
2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.– Younan meets with interested individuals, Mabee Welcome Center.

Sunday, October 13

9:30 a.m. – Preach at Messiah Lutheran Church in Lindsborg – **Congregational Pot Luck!** Bring a dish or two to share and your table service. Lunch will start at 11:00 a.m., after worship.

Sunday, October 13 at 3:30, Pastor Amy will begin a course on “Faith: Confidence and Doubt in Daily Life.” This is intended to be a six session course, meeting the second and fourth Sunday of each month. Books are available in office and childcare can be available if desired. Please let the office know!

STEPMc has utilized a classroom in the basement of MELC for about 15 months. Last month, they moved the office to the Covenant Church as the access and the visibility, they believed, is better for their work. The Covenant Church provides space for their weekly meals on Monday night and the connection between the STEPMc Coach and the place where they gather seems simplified when it is all in one building. MELC received these thank you’s from a team leader, the Coach, Rindi Guldner, and their director, Austin Regier.

“Thank you for your very generous donation! Our family appreciates all the help you give. Without that, STEPMc couldn’t do all the things they do. Mallory, Team Leader”

Thank you so much for giving me a space in your building to do my work for STEPMc. I am so appreciative of your continuous support and collaboration with STEPMc! Your church space impacts many people in the community and is a hub of so many blessings. Thank you for all you do! ~Rindi Guldner, Lindsborg Coach.”

“Thank you so much for your steadfast support of STEPMc! Your generosity and kindness to me, Rindi, and those in our community is one-of-a-kind, and we certainly notice it! Thank you for allowing us to use space in your church to further our mission to end poverty! We are motivated and inspired by people like you! We hope to continue partnering with you in other ways ~Austin Regier”

If you would like more information about how to partner with STEPMc on a personal level, or if your group would like to supply a Monday night meal, see Pastor Amy or find them on facebook. On Sunday, October 13, Director Austin Regier will give a temple talk at the beginning of worship.

There will be a forum about **Healthcare in Lindsborg** with **Larry Van Der Wege** on Sunday, **October 27** at 11:00 a.m.

Talents Galore is Saturday, October 12 at New Gottland Lutheran Church. Coffee and cinnamon rolls served from 9-11:00 a.m. and lunch is from 11:00a.m.-1:00p.m. Crafts and baked goods will be sold!

A **BIG thank you to Verne Hubalek** for refinishing and refining our communion rails!

Service in Song at the **Assaria Lutheran Church** is **October 27, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.** Proceeds will go to **St. Jude’s Children’s Hospital** and refreshments will follow the program.

The ELCA is celebrating the completion of the *Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA*, the first comprehensive campaign for this church. Through the generosity of members and congregations across this church, ELCA ministries received \$250 million — \$195 million in cash and multiyear commitments, as well as \$55 million in planned gifts — to continue, strengthen and expand their work here at home and with our global companions around the world. **Thank you!** To see the final report, go to the url: https://www.elca.org/assets/Campaign/Campaign_Impact_Report/mobile/index.html . People committing to the mission and ministry of the church is an amazing gift! 😊

Messiah Lutheran Church Council Minutes
(these minutes will be approved at the October Council meeting)
September 18, 2019

Council Members present: Pastor Amy Truhe, President Pari Ford, Becky Anderson, Kirsten Bruce, Lois Carlson, Gavin Doughty, Chock Hefner, Ted Kessinger, Linda Lewis, Ingrid Pohl, Warren Olson. Absent: Muriel Gentine, Anya Pohl.

Opening Prayer: Pastor Amy Truhe

1. **Special agenda item:** Youth Director Jeannie Lucas spoke to the Council about the youth group's upcoming ski trip to Colorado, asking if monies left over in the youth program's budget item might be used for the ski trip. Five Messiah youth will go on the trip together with Bethany Church youth. Jeanne explained that each of the Messiah youth will be required to pay half the cost, about \$500, with ¼ paid by the church, and ¼ from group fund-raisers. The car-wash was very successful, with thanks to Bill Taylor for providing use of his commercial car wash equipment.
2. Lois made a motion to allow use of left-over budget monies for the ski trip, seconded by Linda. Motion carried. Mention was made of the value of such a trip for spiritual formation, religious identity, learning and bonding.
3. **Special agenda item:** Organist Tyler Brenneman spoke to the Council regarding an Organ Renovation Project. He had prepared a detailed report of his research and findings on the best way to preserve and renovate our current organ which was built 44 years ago. His recommendation is to install a Rodgers 599T Artist digital console which is currently available at the discounted cost of \$50,655. Tyler listed the problems plaguing the current organ console and the advantages of replacing it with a digital console. Tyler also suggested funding ideas, such as encouraging church members to "buy" a key or a stop or a pedal key. Tyler was thanked for his work on this matter. The Council will take his recommendation under consideration but recognizes more pressing priorities needing attention at the present time.

Reports:

Secretary: Minutes of the August 15, 2019 meeting M/S/P.

Treasurer: Report M/S/P. Chock expressed appreciation for the improved finances.

Pastor: Pastor Amy provided a written outline of activities for the month, including a three-week companion-synod trip to Papua New Guinea from August 27 to September 12. Her Sunday afternoon Book Study will begin in October on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month from 3:00

to 4:00. Office Manager Cindy Challans is resigning her position due to medical issues in her family. Juan Redmon is expanding his janitorial position to full-time, 15 hours per week. Bishop Munib Younan of Jordan will preach October 20, Reformation Sunday is October 27, and All Saints is November 3. The Bethany Women's basketball team will attend church November 10. Pastor's Report was approved.

Old Business: The dishwasher matter is not yet resolved. Alternatives, such as 3 sinks and/or an on-demand water heater were discussed. Becky mentioned new or more stringent regulations with which we may need to comply. Warren is to check with Sunflower Restaurant Supply regarding a used machine.

New Business:

Selection of new council members was discussed. Ted is not eligible for reelection. Chock agrees to stay on if the meeting time is changed to accommodate his young family. Warren moved that Council meet on Sundays at 11:00. Becky stated a need to be consistent and suggested the first Sunday of each month. Amended motion was seconded and passed. Ted suggested that each council member bring to our next meeting a couple of names of possible candidates for council.

All members also need to be talking about budget and to submit budget numbers to Muriel by the end of September.

Committee Reports:

As TACOL liaison Linda submitted a written report from the September 12 TACOL meeting. The Thrift Store is thriving financially but is desperately in need of more volunteers. Linda's report was accepted after noting the need for correcting the place of the Hyllningsfest worship service and clarification about City Council Prayer.

Other discussion:

Noisy Offering buckets will be kept at the front of the church and given to the children after the children's sermon.

Devotions: Lois led devotions based on Chapter 5, Love changes people.

Linda will lead devotions next month on Chapter 6.

Next MELC Council Meeting: Sunday, October 6 at 11:00 am. (Respectfully submitted by Lois Carlson in Muriel's absence+)

Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church Calendar October 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 6:00 am Yoga - Pari Ford	2 10:30 am Chapel 3:35 pm KICK @ BLC 7:00 pm Fellowship Meeting	3 9:00 am Women's coffee at church 12:00 pm Mom's in Prayer at Barbara Peterson's 3:00 pm Coffee-visit @ assisted living	4 10:30 am No Chapel - Fall Break	5 8:00 am Men-Bible Study	
6 10:00 am Service of the Word 10:45 am Fellowship 11:00 am Council 4:00 pm Bible Study - God's Promises/Heaven	7 Organ Tuning - All Day 10:30 am Chapel Break	8 6:00 am Yoga - Pari Ford	9 10:30 am Chapel Break 3:35 pm KICK @ BLC 7:00 pm Worship and Music	10 9:00 am Women's coffee at church 12:00 pm Mom's in Prayer at Barbara Peterson's 5:30 pm Bishop Mumb Younan Dinner & Panel Discussion	11 10:30 am Bishop Younan - Chapel Break 11:30 am Bishop Lunch in Levin Room 1:00 pm Bishop Public Address 2:00 pm Bishop @ Maybee Welcome Center	12 8:00 am Men-Bible Study
13 9:30 am Bishop Younan preaching 10:45 am Holy Communion 10:45 am Fellowship 3:30 pm Bible Study - Pastor Amy	14 10:30 am Chapel Break 3:30 pm Executive Board	15 6:00 am Newsletter Deadline Yoga - Pari Ford	16 10:30 am Chapel Break 3:35 pm KICK @ BLC	17 9:00 am Women's coffee at church 11:00 am Funeral - Cathleen Robinson 12:00 pm Mom's in Prayer at Barbara Peterson's	18 Hyllingsfest No Chapel - Fall Break	19 8:00 am Men-Bible Study 11:30 am Bethany Alumni Basketball - Clair Oleen
20 9:30 am Temple Talk 10:45 am STEPMC Austin Register 10:45 am Service of the Word 10:45 am Fellowship 4:00 pm Bible Study - God's Promises/Heaven	21 10:30 am Chapel Break	22 6:00 am Yoga - Pari Ford	23 10:30 am Chapel Break 3:35 pm KICK @ BLC 7:00 pm Messiah Church Women	24 9:00 am Women's coffee at church 11:00 am Bishop Gathering w/Conference Pastors 12:00 pm Mom's in Prayer at Barbara Peterson's	25 10:30 am Chapel Break	26 8:00 am Men-Bible Study
27 9:30 am Holy Communion 10:45 am Fellowship 11:00 am Forum - Healthcare in Lindsborg - Larry Van Der Wege 3:30 pm Bible Study - Pastor Amy	28 10:30 am Chapel Break	29 6:00 am Yoga - Pari Ford	30 10:30 am Chapel Break 3:35 pm KICK @ BLC	31 9:00 am Women's coffee at church 12:00 pm Mom's in Prayer at Barbara Peterson's		

Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church



Contact Us

Office: 785-227-3977
mlchurch@mlc.kscoxmail.com
www.melclindsborg.org
office hours: 9am-12:00pm
Call for appointment with Amy

Messiah Church Staff

Pastor Amy

Truhe

Office Manager Cindy Challans

Custodians Juan Redmon

Youth Directors Jeanne Lucas, *with Ericka Lysell of Bethany Lutheran Church*

Organist Tyler Breneman

Sr. Choir Director Dr. Mark Lucas

Treasurer Christine Reinert

MELC's Guiding Principles

Jesus is Lord ♦ Everyone is welcome ♦ Love changes people ♦
Everyone has gifts to offer ♦ God sends us as servants to the
world ♦ We commit to grow in faith

MESSIAH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

402 N. First Street
Lindsborg, KS 67456