

# THE MONITOR

*Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church – Lindsborg, Kansas*

**Volume 111, Issue 11**

**November 2019**

Greetings, Church!

Last summer, I was blessed to attend my fifth Luther Academy of the Rockies. One of the speakers was Bishop Michael Burke, of the Southeast Iowa Synod, who was sharing things he had learned over his years as bishop.

In his sharing, he spoke about the importance of the sacraments. As Lutherans, we honor two sacraments: baptism and communion. Bishop Burke said several times that baptism gets a bum rap as we consistently focus on communion, ignoring the gift of baptism, saving it for special occasions in the assembly rather than lifting it up in its physical form. We talk about it, but we do not celebrate it as an equal sacrament. Baptism is often considered an entrance rite...a way people “become” Christians by washing in the cleansing, gift-giving water. Communion is the body and blood of Christ; this sacrament feeds us with Christ for the journey of our daily lives. Both sacraments come to us uniquely.

Communion comes at a table. We feast on the sacrament to gain strength, to be able to grow in our faith, to receive the nourishment of God in our very bodies. We meet one another at the table and receive the elements, wine and bread, Word and faith, knowing we are forgiven, we are loved, and we are all equal in the eyes of God. No one there needs a greater amount of forgiveness than another.

Baptism comes through water, Word, and faith. Here, our spirit is washed clean of all sin, of all the barriers we put between ourselves and God. In the water, Word, and faith mixture, we are seen as pristine by God; sin forgiven, gifts revealed, connection to the greater Church community—communion—is opened to our awareness.

Bishop Burke lamented that we do not wash ourselves in worship and wondered if it were possible to have people do this regularly, making the sacrament of baptism as much a focus as communion. We are doing this at Messiah. On the third Sunday of the month, we’ll celebrate baptism, recalling the promises and the meanings of our faith as heard in the baptismal rite. These things were said at your baptism, they were confirmed as you affirmed your understanding of them and took responsibility for your faith at Confirmation, and we are able to recall them daily when we use water on ourselves in our homes, when we wash our hands or clean the dishes.

Raising an awareness of the elements of the sacraments and thinking about the words around them when we are outside the church building is one way to deepen our discipleship and grow our faith in the world. To be God’s people is to live into these sacraments, to practice daily the Word we believe washes and feeds us. It does not sound like “enough” and yet it is what has continued the movement of the Gospel, and awareness of God’s love and mercy for us, for over 2000 years.

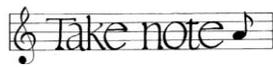
We are called in these sacraments to action. We are called to gift out our gifts, to share out forgiveness, to honor the image of God in every other person. This looks like what today is called “social justice.” It means feeding the poor, healing the sick, forgiving the rascals, and loving the stranger.

We are a people blessed to know God who is human, God who is Spirit, God who is Creative Love. We have the physical elements of the sacraments joined with Word and faith to bind us into the body of our Triune God.

What is our call as a congregation, to be the physical presence of God in our community, to Creatively Love our neighbor, to be the Spirit of mercy in our town and beyond? Individually, it might be easier to name where this activity of the sacrament moves us. As an assembled people, there must be people with passion and those who will support them as they lead us into the community.

Bishop Burke had an idea, named (again) for us “an identity in Christ as sacramental people.” We wash and we feast. Let us share the water, wine, and bread in our daily lives, with Thanksgiving to God for the greatness of God’s presence in, among, and through us.

Blessings be upon you! ~Pastor Amy

 *by Jeanne Ahlers*

At the recent Brookville Chicken Dinner fundraiser, diners were entertained by Messiah's *No SS Band*, which presented several selections. It was so appropriate, since the profits were to go to the youth ski trip. It was also a reminder of just how talented our young people are. With their colorful drums, and their enthusiasm, they really supplied that "something extra" that made the dinner memorable.

They are always a welcome addition when they take part in the Sunday worship services. There's something about being young, and eager for life, that comes through in their performances.

So -- on behalf of everyone who heard them -- thank you so much! Keep it up! We'll be listening!

**Approximate number of people who used Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church during the month of October:**

- Worship Services **311**
- Others in October **532**
- Daily (includes staff, daycare & coffee groups) **52**

**November Anniversaries**

- |                          |       |
|--------------------------|-------|
| Holly & Matt Toll        | 11/25 |
| Gretchen & Randy Norland | 11/29 |

**November Birthdays**

- |                  |       |
|------------------|-------|
| Jeanne Ahlers    | 11/02 |
| Doris Carlson    | 11/05 |
| Sharon Doughty   | 11/06 |
| Beau Atkinson    | 11/07 |
| Cayson Lindquist | 11/07 |
| Teddy Atkinson   | 11/09 |
| Rylee Lawson     | 11/12 |
| Marla Elmquist   | 11/14 |
| Barb Malm        | 11/25 |
| Gretchen Norland | 11/29 |

**CHRISTMAS FOOD BASKET:** The Sunday School children and Christian Ed committee ask you to please remember the less fortunate of Lindsborg this holiday season with the following: Paper towels, 4 pack pkgs. of toilet paper, Kleenex, children's tooth paste and brushes, shampoo, deodorant, peanut butter, cereal, and all sizes of children's socks. We will be collecting items in baskets in the sanctuary, as a kind of "cornucopia" of sorts. Please have all the items donated by **Monday, Dec. 9, 2019! Thank you for your support and participation in giving back to our community!**

**Angel Tree:** The local banks will have the **Angels** by Nov. 20, 2019. You may take an angel off the tree and buy a Christmas gift of about \$20.00, then return the wrapped gift to the bank where you received the angel. ALL gifts MUST be returned by **Friday, Dec. 6, 2019!**

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**Calling all middle aged Lutherans** - are you interested in service or fellowship? If so, consider joining **LOL**, Lutherans of Lindsborg! We'll meet on Nov.10th, 12 noon at the Swedish Crown, adults only. Let's get together to brainstorm a fun service project. Questions call Joyce Peterson 785.227.2201, Karna Peterson 785.227.5007, Ingrid Pohl 785.452.8786 , or Chris Reinert 785.212.0061.

**Help is needed** to 'set out and clean up' **KICK** meal (approximately 5:15 to 6:45) on Nov.13, and 20, Dec. 4, and 11. Please let us know if you can help. We are also searching for people to **help with coordinating meals** in **January and February**. Please contact Rachel Ann Atkinson (785) 212-0113 or Joyce Peterson (785) 820-033

## What's Up in November



- **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, November 7, 3:00pm - Visiting at Bethany Home Assisted Living.** We get together to enjoy time with residents and each other. Drop by and enjoy a cup of coffee with new and old friends. (Men & Women invited.)
- **Sunday, November 17, 9:30** – Thankoffering envelopes in the Bulletin
- **Wednesday, November 20, 6:30** – Messiah Church Women in the Fellowship Hall.
- **Sunday, November 24,** - Thankoffering Ingathering.



**Wednesday, November 20 6:30** Messiah Church Women will meet in the Fellowship Hall for our November/December get together. Come enjoy some soup, crackers and cinnamon rolls. A warm invitation is extended to all. After a short Thanksgiving/Christmas devotional we will be doing two service projects; working on Christmons and something for our Messiah college students. John Heywood's quote "Many hands make light work" will apply to our evening. The more who are able to come, the more we will accomplish! Thanks! If you are unable to join us for soup, feel free to come around 7:00 to help with our projects.

### Thankofferings

Continuing the tradition going back to the late 19th century

**We will be collecting our Thankoffering envelopes at our November 20th meeting and during our Sunday worship on the 24th.**

Thankofferings show gratitude for God's blessings and give us an important and tangible way to express that gratitude. It is a tradition grounded in our celebration of community, of meeting together to joyfully give thanks for what God has given us. Thankofferings have always been, and still are, our opportunity to say thank you to God in both significant and ordinary moments."

**What are some ways we are helping others through our Thankofferings?** Our Thankofferings support the total outreach of the organization. **The entire congregation is encouraged to give to the ministry efforts of our women** which include communication ministries, justice and advocacy work, triennial conventions, and other programs including global education, crisis-cultural experiences, stewardships and so much more. **"A Thankoffering is gratitude in action."** (taken from the W/ELCA website)

There will soon be a large decorated box for **Christmas gifts for Bethany Home residents** for their party on December 12<sup>th</sup>. Please do not wrap gifts. **The deadline is November 24, if possible!** There are **28 men** and **68 women**. Below is a helpful list of gifts:

500 piece puzzles, cross stitch, bead arts & crafts, Chapstick, spray perfume, spray cologne, women's body wash, men's body wash, women's lotion, men's lotion, body sprays for men and women from Bath & Body Works or Ross, Slip-grip socks, men's and women's deodorant, men's pajamas, body pillows, cookies, candy, chocolate, nail polish, clear nail polish, 4x men's undershirts, 1x men's undershirts, Pop – Root Beer, Pepsi, Diet Pepsi, crossword puzzles, extra large print word search books, KS Buffet gift cards, gift cards to Walm-Mart, Dollar Store, Lowe's, Painting supplies and canvas, electric razors.



# PARIS TO PITTSBURGH

THURSDAY, NOV. 21 | 6:30 P.M. | FITZPATRICK AUDITORIUM, KWU

## Documentary Presented by KWU and Redeemer Lutheran Church

“Paris to Pittsburgh” is a 2018 documentary film directed by National Geographic and produced by Bloomberg Philanthropies, National Geographic and RadicalMedia. The film spotlights the cities, states, businesses and citizens taking action from coast-to-coast, including in America’s heartland, while exploring the very real social and economic impacts of climate change-fueled disasters. “Paris to Pittsburgh” features voices from local leaders and ordinary Americans, presenting the stories of resiliency and recovery from disaster.

**A roundtable discussion featuring local environmental leaders will follow.**

**Admission is free, but seating is limited so tickets are required.**



RESERVE YOUR SPOT AT:  
[www.kwu.edu/boxoffice](http://www.kwu.edu/boxoffice)

# Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church Calendar November 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<b>1</b> 10:30 am Chapel Break	<b>2</b> 8:00 am Men-Bible Study
<b>3</b> 8:00 am March in the Saints Sk Fun Run 10:00 am Service of the Word 10:45 am Fellowship 11:00 am Council 4:00 pm Bible Study - God's Promises/Heaven	<b>4</b> 10:30 am Chapel Break	<b>5</b> 6:00 am Yoga - Pari Ford	<b>6</b> 10:30 am Chapel Break 3:35 pm KICK @ BLC 7:00 pm Fellowship Meeting	<b>7</b> 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	<b>8</b> 10:30 am Chapel Break	<b>9</b> 8:00 am Men-Bible Study 11:00 am Funeral for Eleanor Anderson
<b>10</b> 9:30 am Holy Communion 10:45 am Fellowship 3:30 pm Bible Study - Pastor Amy	<b>11</b> 10:30 am Chapel Break 3:30 pm Executive Board	<b>12</b> 6:00 am Yoga - Pari Ford	<b>13</b> 10:30 am Chapel Break 3:35 pm KICK @ BLC 7:00 pm Worship and Music	<b>14</b> 9:00 am Women's coffee at church 12:00 pm Mom's in Prayer at Barbara Peterson's	<b>15</b> 10:30 am Chapel Break	<b>16</b> 8:00 am Men-Bible Study
<b>17</b> 9:30 am Service of the Word 10:45 am Fellowship 4:00 pm Bible Study - God's Promises/Heaven 5:30 pm Thanksgiving Dinner	<b>18</b> 10:30 am Chapel Break	<b>19</b> 6:00 am Yoga - Pari Ford	<b>20</b> 10:30 am Chapel Break 3:35 pm KICK @ BLC 6:30 pm WELCA Meeting - Fellowship Hall	<b>21</b> 9:00 am Women's coffee at church 12:00 pm Mom's in Prayer at Barbara Peterson's	<b>22</b> 10:30 am Chapel Break	<b>23</b> 8:00 am Men-Bible Study
<b>24</b> 9:30 am Holy Communion 10:45 am Fellowship 4:00 pm Bible Study - Pastor Amy	<b>25</b> 10:30 am Chapel Break	<b>26</b> 6:00 am Yoga - Pari Ford	<b>27</b> 10:30 am Chapel Break 3:35 pm KICK @ BLC 7:00 pm Messian Church Women	<b>28</b> 9:00 am Women's coffee at church 12:00 pm Mom's in Prayer at Barbara Peterson's	<b>29</b> 10:30 am Chapel Break	<b>30</b> 8:00 am Men-Bible Study

**Messiah Lutheran Church Council Minutes**  
(these minutes will be approved at the November Council meeting)

**October 6, 2019**

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

**Opening Prayer:** Pastor Amy Truhe

**Reports:**

**Secretary:** Minutes of the September 18, 2019 meeting M/S/C.

**Treasurer:** Report M/S/C. Chock asked for clarification of expenses of \$12,000.

**Pastor:** As written

**President's report:** Attended Vital Congregations workshop in Kansas City on small churches.

**Old Business:** Warren will check with Sunflower Restaurant Supply regarding the cost of a triple sink. An on-demand water heater was recommended.

**New Business:**

Names were submitted for new council members. Ted will follow up with these names. Pari has agreed to remain on council.

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

Personalized letters will be sent to all inactive members to determine the status of their church membership.

Smoky Valley Foundation and Nutt grants are due by Nov. 1.

**Committee Reports:**

Property – Chock will have a report at the November meeting.

**Devotions:** No devotions

Linda will lead devotions next month on Chapter 6.

**Next MELC Council Meeting:** Sunday, November 3 at 11:00 am.

## Messiah Worship Assistants – November 2019

*Thank you for your time of serving. If you are unable to serve on your assigned Sunday, please trade with someone and call the church office at 227-3977 by noon on Wednesday.*

<b>November 3, 2019</b>	<b>Service of the Word</b>
Acolyte	Matt Lucas
Lector	Ellise Peterson
Liturgist	Carol Gusenius
Nursery Attendant	Olivia Ford
Ushers	Andy Carlson, capt; Bill Brock, Bill Lindholm, Larry Elmquist, Dixie Mattas
Altar Steward	Pari Ford
Counters	Harvey Daniels and Arne Reinert

<b>November 10, 2019</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>
Acolyte	Anya Pohl
Lector	Warren Olson
Liturgist	Carol Gusenius
Nursery Attendant	Macie Carlson
Ushers	Harvey Daniels; capt, Matt Toll, Julie Aeschliman, Dwight Ford,
Communion Assistant	Ingrid Pohl
Altar Steward	Pari Ford
Counters	Arne Reinert and Ingrid Pohl

<b>November 17, 2019</b>	<b>Service of the Word</b>
Acolyte	Cayson Lindquist
Lector	Gavin Doughty
Liturgist	Carol Gusenius
Nursery Attendant	Anya Pohl
Ushers	Brian Anderson, capt; Don Anderson, Ken Peterson, Marc Anderson
Altar Steward	Pari Ford
Counters	Arne Reinert and Ingrid Pohl

<b>November 24, 2019</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>
Acolytes	Jake Lucas
Lector	Ingrid Pohl
Liturgist	Carol Gusenius
Nursery Attendant	Cayson Lindquist
Ushers	Dwight Swisher, capt; Arne Reinert, Ron Wilson, Aaron Yoder, Harvey Daniels
Communion Assistant	Ingrid Pohl
Altar Steward	Pari Ford
Counters	Ingrid Pohl and Julie Aeschliman

# Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church



## Contact Us

Office: 785-227-3977  
mlchurch@mlc.kscoxmail.com  
[www.melclindsborg.org](http://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