

THE MONITOR

Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church – Lindsborg, Kansas

Volume 111, Issue 5

May 2019

Dear Church,

This month has been a very long month for me. In addition to the many calls of ministry, there have been some personal things going on in my world that have distracted me from all that happens in the public arena. That said, I am grateful for the engagement of the people at Messiah and the College that make all of the ministry happen. We have people who are willing to share their abundance by bringing food, trying new worship styles, and opening themselves to hear the message of God's Word in ways that compel them to serve through their gifts anew. We have colleagues in ministry that open their gifts with a willing heart to collaborate and share their abilities in ways we could not imagine! Truly, the Spirit is at work!

It is important that as we walk together, we remember a few of the things that Jesus and Paul share with us in the new testament. Jesus reminds us, in Matthew, Mark, and Luke to "love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, all your spirit. ...and to love your neighbor as yourself." It is a pet peeve of mine when people skip the "as yourself" part. All things in the Christian theology are Trinitarian. When we leave out loving ourselves, we are not taking care of the vessels through which God works—each one of us.

Our world promotes self-improvement; our world does not promote self-love. As followers of Christ, we recognize that God gifts each of us with abilities and talents that are unique to our beings. We recognize that every person is created in the image of God: every person. To love one's self and to seek to live into the gifts you're given is a difficult and amazingly transformative way of living. It is a gift we give ourselves, through the power of the Holy Spirit, as we follow God's call on our lives.

When we recognize that we have taken on a task that does not fit our gifts, or when we've done all that we can in a vein of service and need to hand over the fruits of our labor to others, we are also honoring and loving ourselves through the honesty and humility this action of letting go entails.

Paul writes, "¹²But we appeal to you, brothers and sisters, to respect those who labor among you, and have charge of you in the Lord and admonish you;¹³esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves. ¹⁴And we urge you, beloved, to admonish the idlers, encourage the faint hearted, help the weak, be patient with all of them.¹⁵See that none of you repays evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another and to all.

¹⁶Rejoice always, ¹⁷pray without ceasing, ¹⁸give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. ¹⁹Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰Do not despise the words of prophets, ²¹but test everything; hold fast to what is good; ²²abstain from every form of evil."
~1 Thessalonians 5.12-22

This passage has become a touchstone for me as I work with diverse groups of people, often people who seek different outcomes for the work we share. To respect the work of someone who does the work so very differently is to, again, practice humility. It is to be generous and to hear deeply that which is not my first way of hearing. It is hard and sacred work in the midst of everyday happenings.

As Church, as the hands and feet of Christ in this world that is so riddled with expectations of self-aggrandizement and promotion, we get to accompany one another through life as people who live in the love we've been given. Jesus died in the shame and pain of a cross that is so very visceral that we ignore the actuality of his death, sanitizing it so that we don't have to deal with the gross and horrific nature of his death. God knows intimately the difficulty of giving up ego, pride, and self-preservation. God knows the pain the world inflicts through our letting go and seeking new ways of being. God knows the bare essence of service and accompaniment. God forgives us when we live into the false hopes our social structures offer us and God loves us even so.

Friends in Christ, as we walk through this Easter season, celebrating Holy Communion weekly, offering our gifts in places where formerly we restricted them, offering others places to serve where formerly we were needing to be in charge, may we hear the message of Jesus as he came to the disciples, over and over after his resurrection, "Peace be with you." Such a simple blessing. Such a deep hope. Such a perilous way of life to our egos and our expectations.

Easter blessings be upon you. See you in worship!

~Yours in Christ, Pastor Amy

Sherry is Retiring!!!

After serving Messiah for 11 ½ years (give or take a few days), Sherry has announced her retirement will begin on July 1, 2019.

We are sad and will miss her greatly. On July 7, 2019, we will have a Fare-Thee-Well sending after worship! Join us to Bless her on her journey. ☺

LOOK FORWARD TO A SUMMER RETREAT

"Wonderfully Made", based on Psalm 139:14, is the theme of this summer's Central States Synod W/ELCA Convention. It will be held August 16, 17 and 18 at the Holiday Inn, Wichita East. All women are invited to be part of this inspirational weekend.

To apply for a grant application, due May 15, please pick up a form on the table in the Fellowship Hall. Other registration forms are due later: voting members by June 12, and other participants by July 1.

What's Up in May

- **Thursdays** 9:00 at church Women's Coffee (Come as you are - stop in for a few minutes or stay a while.)
- **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**, May 3, 3:00 Purlettes (visiting at Assisted Living). Sharing a cup of coffee, listening and talking with residents and with each other - always a special time. Come when you can.
- **Wednesday, May 22, 7:00pm**, MESSIAH CHURCH WOMEN FELLOWSHIP AND BIBLE STUDY will meet at Carolyn Brock's home, 539 Westview Ct. Linda Lewis will lead the Bible study.

A SMALL GIFT CAN MEAN SO MUCH

Every day we hear of more displaced persons struggling to survive. We often feel overwhelmed by their needs. However, we can make a difference in even one person's life by providing a towel, a bar of soap, a toothbrush, a comb or nail clippers.

Here are the items being collected for Lutheran World Relief. Please bring any or all of them to the Fellowship Hall and place them in the container there:

- One light-weight bath-size towel (maximum 52" x 27") dark color recommended
- Two bath-size bars of soap (4 to 5 oz.) in original wrapping
- One adult-size toothbrush in original packaging
- One sturdy comb, remove packaging
- One metal nail clippers (attached file optional) remove packaging

Quilters and Wannabees Workshop

"Those who sleep under a quilt, sleep under a blanket of love." - Lutheran World Relief

A quilting workshop is planned for Monday and Tuesday, May 13 & 14, 2019 from 9:00am to 9:00pm.

Maybe you are a quilter, or maybe not - but you are invited to be part of this exciting congregational effort. It promises to be worth your time and fun, too - as we all work together - men and women and youth - to provide quilts for those in need somewhere in the world.

You are welcome to come to the Fellowship Hall for as little or as long as you can stay. Someone will direct you as to how you can "pitch in". You could cut fabric squares, arrange squares, sew strips of squares together, press seams, cut elastic from mattress pads, tie finished quilts - or something else. You are also invited to just stop by and watch the "action".

The coffee pot will be on to keep us going! If you are unable to come to the workshop there are other ways you can help. Donations of fabric are needed, sturdy and washable, such as cotton, cotton blends, twill, corduroy, polyester knits and fleece. Used sheets can become quilt backs, and used blankets and mattress pads can become fillers. Crochet cord is needed to tie the finished quilts. Donations can be placed in the container in the Fellowship Hall. Don't forget to go through your stash of fabric, blankets, etc. or ask your friends to donate fabric! Another way you can help is to donate money for supplies. Checks can be made to Messiah Church, marked "quilting supplies" in the memo.

Questions? Talk to Sherry Peterson, Carolyn Brock or Sharon Hoffman.

"Many hands make light work."

May Birthdays

Gene Holdsworth	5/02
Olivia Ford	5/04
Rachel Loder	5/04
Kristen Prater	5/05
Tom Toll	5/11
Merlyn Hilt	5/14
Annie Reinert	5/15
Dwight Ford	5/16
Daniel Norland	5/18
Nikie Rogers	5/25
Bill Brock	5/27
Allison Forsberg	5/28
Megan Forsberg	5/28
Cheryl Rothgeb	5/28

May Anniversaries

Jeanne and Mark Lucas	5/20
Pari and Dwight Ford	5/29
Sharon and Gavin Dougthv	5/30

Lindsborg City Wide

GARAGE SALE



Saturday, May 4th

Rain Date: Saturday, May 11th

Get maps at Kickoff Breakfast from 6:30am-10:00am (or gone) at First Bank Kansas, 118 N. Main

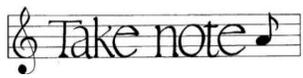
Registration forms can be picked up at Nex-Tech Wireless or Fuqua Insurance. Please drop completed forms with payment off at either business. Deadline for registration is Tuesday, April 30th.

Bethany College Baccalaureate 2019: This year BC's Baccalaureate falls on May 19. ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton will be preaching at the service! Messiah has a long tradition of singing "Go My Children" as the graduates walk by our church on their way to the service. This year, the Oratorio Society will be singing at Baccalaureate. With these uniquenesses in mind, Council has resolved to have our congregation meet at 10:00 a.m. sharp, pray and collect our offerings, then sing on the steps as is typical. Join us! Your voice is important...even if you think you cannot sing...the Holy Spirit intercedes in amazing ways when we sing in community!

After the 10:30 worship at Presser, Messiah is hosting a **sloppy joe fund raiser** in our fellowship hall. With the Swedish Crown being closed and graduates having their families here, we hope to give travelling congregations an option for food and fellowship before they head home. If you would like to help with the food preparation, setup, serving, and cleanup of the meal, please talk to Barb Malm (785.906.0089). We have received a Thrivent Action Team grant to supply the food and the table service. All proceeds will go towards our congregational sponsorship of a Tomah Shinga Camp Counselor this summer. Their earnings are set at \$2500 for the summer and we hope to raise most of that through this meal! Join us as you are able!

Messiah has received a grant! Messiah received a grant from the Nutt Foundation in the sum of \$10,000! The efforts of Warren Olson, Kirsten Bruce, and Pastor Amy combined to write up a request for monies to help our beginning renovations of the sanctuary. This first amount will begin on the outside with the sealing of the brick on the south and west sides of the church as well as the bell tower—sealing and painting it! Thank you so much for the efforts of these grant writers, and to Mr. Nutt who wanted our community to be blessed with the treasures he acquired!

Council's next thoughts on our building include re-doing the interior plaster in the sanctuary as well as re-framing and re-leading the stained glass windows, all of which are in need of great repair and maintenance. We are also looking at replacing our air conditioning units in the next few years as the Freon they use is no longer available. Please pray for our service to the community through our building as we approach these much needed stewardship projects.



by Jeanne Ahlers

When we sing hymns in church, it's likely that we don't even look at the author's or composer's names, but a great many texts of the German hymns were translated by Catherine Winkworth.

Who was she?

She was born in London on September 13, 1827 and spent more of her life in Manchester, but in 1845 she went to Dresden, Germany, to stay for a year. This led to an interest in German hymns, and in 1853 or 1855 she published a collection of these hymns, translated into English, called Lyra Germanica. This was followed by a second series in 1858, which went into 12 editions. In 1863 she published The Chorale Book for England and in 1869, Christian Singers of Germany.

Her work is one of the principal means by which the great German chorale tradition of the 16th through 18th centuries came into English-language worship.

In addition to translating hymns, she was deeply involved in promoting women's rights, and was the secretary of the Clifton Association for Higher Education for Women, a supporter of the Clifton High School for Girls, and a member of the Cheltenham Ladies' College. She died suddenly of heart disease near Geneva on July 1, 1878.

The Harvard University Hymn Book says she "did more than any other single individual to make the rich tradition of German hymnody available to the English-speaking world."

News from our seminarian, Kaylie Ines

Hello, Messiah Church Friends and Family!

I hope all is well back in Lindsborg! It was great to see some of you all when I came back for a brief visit! Seminary is going well; I experienced my first Holy Week working in the church. It was a good experience, and I learned a lot about planning each service. Three other colleagues and I planned a joint Good Friday service between three of the Lutheran Churches in Berkeley. It was so much fun collaborating with other students, and we worked hard on creating both a creative and contemplative service that featured Stations of the Cross and a Narrative reading from Mary, the mother of Jesus. This semester and year have gone quickly; I am now halfway done with my studies! I am getting excited and eager to be back in Kansas and start CPE. Thank you all for investing in my calling and walking with me through this journey. I appreciate all of your love, prayers, and support. I look forward to visiting in person soon!

Until then, With Peace and Love, - Kaylie Ines



Bethany College invites members of your congregation, pastors, deacons, Parish Ministry Associates to attend Bethany College's Baccalaureate Service on **Sunday, May 19 at 10:30 a.m.** in Presser Hall. Presiding Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Bishop Elizabeth Eaton is preaching at this worship service. Messiah Lutheran in Lindsborg will offer a meal immediately following the service. A free will offering will be used to support a Tomah Shinga Counselor. Later in the afternoon, pastors, PMA's and deacons are encouraged to attend a reception for Bishop Eaton at **5:30 p.m.** at the Sandzén Gallery on the college campus. Bishop Eaton will share remarks at **6:00 p.m.** Heavy hors d'oeuvres will be served.

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

- Worship Services (includes Lenten services, and Special Lent and Easter week services) **599**
- Others in April: (includes outside groups who reserve the facility for special events) **259**
- Weekly (average during school year 2nd semester) **115**
- Daily (includes staff & coffee groups) **19**

Messiah Lutheran Congregation Council Minutes
(these minutes will be approved at the May council meeting)

April 24, 2019

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

Opening Prayer: Pastor Amy

Reports:

Secretary: Approval of Minutes from March **M/S/P**.

Treasurer: **M/S/P** to approve the Treasurer's report as presented.

Pastor: see written report

President: No report

Old Business:

Dishwasher – Mark Flynn and Gavin Doughty will follow up with getting the dishwasher from the Methodist Church and Mark will schedule the installation. Cost for installation is estimated at \$1,200. Gavin will speak with Dixie Mattas regarding the use of memorial funds to cover installation.

Council/College Liaison Persons – Pastor Amy, Kirsten Bruce, Ted Kessinger, Warren Olson

New Business:

May 19 - Bethany College Baccalaureate & Graduation – MELC will prepare lunch for those traveling from out of town and others attending the service and graduation. A freewill offering will be taken to support Camp Tomah Shinga. We received an Action Team Grant from Thrivent to help with purchasing the food. **MSP to donate \$2,500 to Camp Tomah Shinga and MELC will make up the difference should the lunch donations fall short of the \$2,500.**

Messiah members will meet at 10:00 for prayer and to receive the offering. We will sing to the graduates and then go to Baccalaureate where Bishop Eaton is preaching and Oratorio singers are singing at the service.

David Nutt Foundation: MSP to proceed with the contract from Jerry Shearhart to seal the exterior brick and paint the bell tower. The contract estimate is \$9,880. Check will be received on May 2.

Secretary – Sherry Peterson retiring June 30; working on job description for transition of this position.

Custodian – Ken Peterson retiring July 31; working on job description for transition of this position.

Committee Reports:

Christian Ed – Pari Ford – VBS at Bethany Lutheran Church May 28 – May 31. Kirsten Bruce will write grant to cover food expenses at VBS. Summer Outside Social (SOS), Wednesdays in June & July at 7 p.m. Sally Hefner is new chair of this committee.

Fellowship – Gavin Doughty

Finance & Stewardship – Warren Olson

Global Mission – Lois Carlson

Outreach & Caring – Ingrid Pohl

Property – Chock Hefner

Staff Relations – Kirsten Bruce

TACOL – Linda Lewis

Worship & Music – Becky Anderson – no meeting in April; will review Holy Week services at next meeting.

Youth – (Jeanne Lucas) Anya Pohl

Memorial – (Dixie Mattas)

Sprout House Update: no report

Next Executive Committee Meeting: TBD

Next MELC Council Meeting: Thursday, May 23 at 5:00 p.m.

Devotions: Warren Olson

Messiah Worship Assistants– May 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.

May 5, 2019	Service of the Word
Acolyte	Cayson Lindquist
Lector	Ellise Peterson
Liturgist	Kirsten Bruce
Nursery Attendant	Olivia Ford
Ushers	Andy Carlson, capt; Bill Brock, Bill Lindholm, Larry Elmquist, Dixie Mattas
Altar Steward	Pari Ford
Counters	Pari Ford and Kelly Carlson

May 12, 2019	Holy Communion Palm Sunday
Acolytes	Olivia Ford
Lector	Warren Olson
Liturgist	Kirsten Bruce
Nursery Attendant	Jake Lucas
Ushers	Harvey Daniels; capt, Julie Aeschliman, Dwight Ford, Matt Toll
Communion Assistant	Linda Lewis
Altar Steward	Pari Ford
Counters	Kelly Carlson and Brian Anderson

May 19, 2019	Holy Communion Easter Sunday
Acolyte	Jake Lucas
Lector	Marla Elmquist
Liturgist	Kirsten Bruce
Nursery Attendant	Cayson Lindquist
Ushers	Brian Anderson, capt; Don Anderson, Ken Peterson, Marc Anderson
Communion Assistant	Linda Lewis
Altar Steward	Pari Ford
Counters	Kelly Carlson and Brian Anderson

May 26, 2019	Holy Communion
Acolytes	Ellise Peterson
Lector	Macie Carlson
Liturgist	Kirsten Bruce
Nursery Attendant	Olivia Ford
Ushers	Dwight Swisher, capt; Arne Reinert, Ron Wilson, Aaron Yoder, Harvey Daniels
Communion Assistant	Linda Lewis
Altar Steward	Pari Ford
Counters	Brian Anderson and Harvey Daniels

Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church Calendar

May 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5 8:15 am Choir Rehearsal 10:00 am Holy Communion-Youth Sunday Fellowship Bible Study - Biblical Heaven 10:30 am Fellowship 4:00 pm Bible Study - Biblical Heaven	6 10:30 am BC Chapel	7 6:00 am Yoga - Pari Ford	8 10:30 am BC Chapel 11:00 am Senior Lunch 7:00 pm Worship and Music	9 9:00 am Women's coffee at church 12:00 pm Mom's in Prayer at Barbara Peterson's 4:30 pm Yoga - Pari Ford	10 10:30 am BC Chapel	11 8:00 am Men-Bible Study
12 8:15 am Choir Rehearsal 9:30 am Holy Communion Fellowship 10:30 am Fellowship	13 9:00 am Women of ELCA 9am-9pm Quilting Day 3:30 pm Executive Board	14 6:00 am Yoga - Pari Ford 9am-9pm Quilting Day 9:00 am Women of ELCA	15 Newsletter Deadline	16 9:00 am Women's coffee at church 12:00 pm Mom's in Prayer at Barbara Peterson's 1:00 pm Dixie and Carol work in Kitchen 4:30 pm Yoga - Pari Ford	17	18 8:00 am Men-Bible Study
19 9:15 am BOS Rehearsal at Presser Hall 10:00 am Prayers at Messiah Church 10:30 am Baccalaureate at Presser Hall 11:45 am Meal at Messiah Church for All - Fundraiser for Tomah Shinga 4:00 pm Bible Study - Biblical Heaven	20	21 6:00 am Yoga - Pari Ford	22 7:00 pm Messiah Church Women	23 9:00 am Women's coffee at church 12:00 pm Mom's in Prayer at Barbara Peterson's 4:30 pm Yoga - Pari Ford 5:00 pm Council Retreat at MELC	24	25 8:00 am Men-Bible Study
26 8:15 am Holy Communion 10:30 am Choir Rehearsal Fellowship	27 Memorial Day office closed	28 6:00 am Yoga - Pari Ford 9:00 am VBS @BLC	29 VBS @BLC	30 VBS @BLC 9:00 am Women's coffee at church 12:00 pm Mom's in Prayer at Barbara Peterson's 4:30 pm Yoga - Pari Ford	31 VBS @BLC	

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 Sherry Peterson

Custodians Ken Peterson and 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