



# MESSIAH MESSENGER

March 2019

Volume 40 Issue 3

## Mid-Week Lenten Services

After Ash Wednesday, all services  
will be held on **Tuesdays**, 7:00 pm

**Think Globally... Cooperate Locally!**



Photo taken by Doreen Brewer

### Ash Wednesday Service

March 6 at Bethel Lutheran Church with Father Jacques Vaillancourt from St. Andrew's Anglican Church

### First Lenten Service

Tuesday, March 12 at Messiah Lutheran Church with Rev. John Helps from United Church

### Second Lenten Service

Tuesday, March 19 at Church of God with Pastor Bev Swanson from Messiah Lutheran Church

### Third Lenten Service

Tuesday, March 26 at Ukrainian Catholic Church with Pastor Deborah Ann Taylor from Bethel Lutheran Church

### Fourth Lenten Service

Tuesday, April 2 at United Church with Father Mark Bayrock

### Fifth Lenten Service

Tuesday, April 9 at St. Andrew's Anglican Church with Deacon Doug Tien from St. Francis Xavier Church

## SUNDAY SCHEDULE

**9:15 am  
Adult Class**

**9:30 am  
Friendship Class**

**10:30 am  
Sunday School**

**10:30 am  
Worship Service**

**11:45 am  
Coffee Fellowship**

## OFFICE HOURS

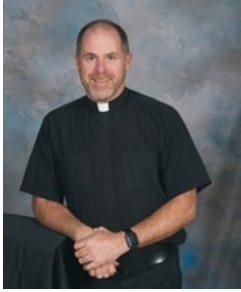
**9:00 AM - NOON  
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM**

**CHURCH BUILDING  
WILL BE OPEN**

**MONDAY TO FRIDAY  
8:00 AM TO 4:00 PM**

**SATURDAY  
9:00 AM TO NOON**

# Minister's Message



**How very good and pleasant it is  
when kindred live together in unity.**

Psalm 133:1 NRSV

March has us moving into the season of Lent. I encourage you to participate in as many of the elements of this season leading up to Holy Week and Easter as you can.

March 1<sup>st</sup> isn't a part of Lent yet, but we do get to gather together. This year March 1<sup>st</sup> is the World Day of Prayer. We, at Messiah, are hosting this time together based on a service prepared by Christian women of Slovenia of various denominations and organized by a few women from various parishes in Camrose. The service happens at 1:30 pm. I hope you can attend. Prayer and signs of solidarity with other Christians is important.

Shrove Tuesday on March 5<sup>th</sup> (not really a part of Lent either, but it **is** "pre-Lent") will have a number of opportunities for you to find a good pancake supper somewhere. I've been able to participate with the good people at CLBI for the last couple of years. This is the day historically to prepare for Lent by using up many of the food items in a household that were given up during Lent (butter, eggs, fat are some of those items).

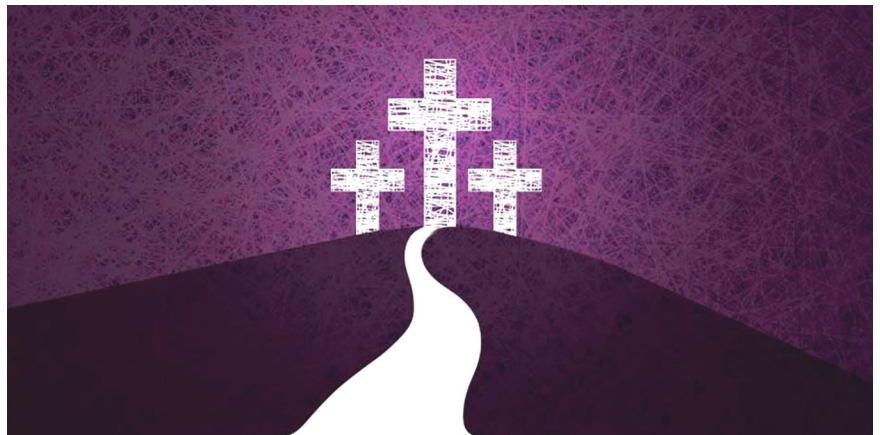
Ash Wednesday is on March 6<sup>th</sup>. We continue our tradition of mid-week services with other denominations who generally follow the church year practices: Anglican, Roman Catholic, Lutheran, Ukrainian Catholic, United and Church of God. This year, Ash Wednesday will be at Bethel Lutheran Church at 7pm. Mark it in your calendar and plan to attend. We use this time to remember our mortality and need for God. Tradition is to use the dried up palm branches used from the previous Palm Sunday to burn and use as ashes to mark our foreheads with the sign of the cross – a visible reminder of the mark of the cross on our brows given at our baptism.

We will continue to meet weekly on Tuesday nights (not Wednesday as we have in the past). The reason for this is scheduling issues for a number of our ecumenical partners. Again, mark Tuesday evenings at 7pm in your calendars and try to attend as many as you can. Our theme this year is "Think globally and act locally". It is valuable that we worship and pray together as a sign of our unity even in our diversity. Here's a list of dates and places all at 7pm:

- March 12 at Messiah Lutheran Church
- March 19 at Church of God
- March 26 at Ukrainian Catholic Church
- April 2 at Camrose United Church
- April 9 at St. Andrew's Church

We will complete this time together for the Easter Vigil on Saturday April 20<sup>th</sup> at Augustana Campus Chapel. More news about this later.

Again, come to as much as you are able. Mark it down, write it on your hands, whatever it takes to remind you to be a part of this time of Christian fellowship, worship and prayer.



May your time in Lent be one to remind you of the need you have of God and the graciousness with which God has and will treat you with.

Call me at 780-672-3444  
Email me at: [calvinskriver@gmail.com](mailto:calvinskriver@gmail.com)  
**Text or call me at 780-679-5976.**  
If I can't respond right away,  
I **will** get back to you soon.

Pastor Calvin

# Minister's Message



## My Help Comes from the Lord

Psalm 121 is a passage of scripture that I have been meditating on and sitting with the last week. Today I thought I would share it with you and invite you to join me in spending time with this passage. It is a Psalm reminding us of God's constant protection and presence in all aspects of our lives.

I am struck, in these words, by the care and presence of God in all places we find ourselves in. There are times when all we can do is look to our maker and creator to take care of us. And in some circumstances we struggle to trust this is true especially if we are in place in our lives where we cannot see or find God or even struggle to trust God is there for us.

This passage reminds us that God is indeed to be trusted at all times. There is no circumstance where we cannot look to our Lord to be our help. We are called in these words to simply look to God for help. This is indeed what God would have us each do.

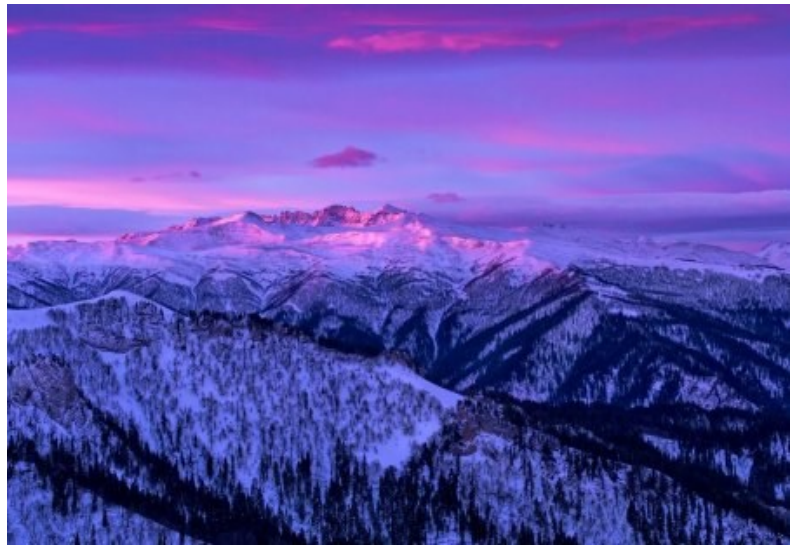
This humble prayer and childlike prayer is one that God welcomes. We so often first try to figure out things on our own forgetting to look to our Lord for help. When we do...We are held. We are loved. We are protected from all sides. And God is indeed with us...even in those moments when we do not feel it or trust it...

## Psalm 121 NRSV

### Assurance of God's Protection

#### A Song of Ascents

- <sup>1</sup> I lift up my eyes to the hills—  
from where will my help come?
- <sup>2</sup> My help comes from the LORD,  
who made heaven and earth.
- <sup>3</sup> He will not let your foot be moved;  
he who keeps you will not slumber.
- <sup>4</sup> He who keeps Israel  
will neither slumber nor sleep.
- <sup>5</sup> The LORD is your keeper;  
the LORD is your shade at your right hand.
- <sup>6</sup> The sun shall not strike you by day,  
nor the moon by night.
- <sup>7</sup> The LORD will keep you from all evil;  
he will keep your life.
- <sup>8</sup> The LORD will keep  
your going out and your coming in  
from this time on and forevermore.



May God richly bless you in all our going out and your coming in for your help indeed comes from the Lord.  
Pastor Bev



## Bishop's Message For Congregations and Lay and Rostered Leaders



Dear Beloved of God –

On the western slope of the Mount of Olives, just across the Kidron Valley from Jerusalem, sits a small chapel, *Dominus Flevit*, from the Latin: *Dominus* – “the Lord”; *Flevit* – “wept.” The name of the chapel comes from Luke’s Gospel, which contains not one but two accounts (13:31f; 19:41f) of Jesus weeping over Jerusalem. According to tradition, it was here, that Jesus wept over the city.

Inside the chapel, the altar is centered before a high arched window that looks out over the city of Jerusalem. Iron grillwork divides the view into sections, so that on a sunny day the effect is that of a stained-glass window except that what you see through the window is not colored glass, not an artist’s rendering of the holy city, but the city itself, with the Dome of the Rock in the bottom left corner and the Church of the Holy Sepulcher in the center (<https://www.seetheholyland.net/church-of-dominus-flevit/>).

Down below, on the front of the altar, is a picture, a mosaic medallion of a white hen with a golden halo around her head. Her red comb resembles a crown, and her wings are spread wide to shelter the pale, yellow chicks that crowd around her feet. There are seven of them, with black dots for eyes and orange dots for beaks. They look happy to be there. The hen looks ready to spit fire if anyone comes near her babies.

And around the edge of the medallion is a Latin text written in red: “Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing!”

The last phrase of this text is set outside of the circle, in a pool of red underneath the chicks’ feet: *you were not willing*. Jesus’ words of lament: “Jerusalem, Jerusalem...;” of yearning: “How often have I desired to gather your children...;” of rejection: “And you were not willing.”

Lament, yearning, rejection – for the city of Jerusalem, which Jesus sees across the valley, is a city like a chicken coop filled with pale, yellow chicks and at least one fox – Herod.

Jesus weeps over the city seeing that some of the chicks have taken to following the fox around. Others are huddled out in the open where anything with claws can get to them: helpless, unsafe, unprotected.

And Jesus, standing on the hillside, looking across the valley weeping, is like a white hen with a golden halo around her head who is clucking for all she is worth. Most of the chicks cannot hear her, and the ones that do make no response or ignore her clucking call.

Raised on the farm in the days when chickens often roamed freely around the chicken coop I have seen how a mother hen gathers her brood in protection if it began to rain or if the rooster was let loose or if it was dusk and time to settle down for the night or if the dog came to close. The hen’s wings were large and seemed to expand to cover a surprisingly large number of chicks. The hen would simply cluck and somehow the chicks would know to gather under her wings. And not once did I see a chick ignore the hen.

But here, Jesus laments because the brood is unwilling to be gathered. This hen clucks and raises her wings but they do not come, they do not gather. And Jesus weeps.

The depth of his love, his lament, is profound – beyond words. Wings spread, breast exposed, he stands open in the most vulnerable posture in the world. Vulnerable to the dangerous, fearful, deathly work of this fox in the chicken coop, for if the fox wants them the fox will have to kill the hen first.



Which the fox does, as it turns out. He slides up on her one night in the yard while all the babies are asleep. When her cry wakens them, they scatter. She dies the next day where both fox and chicks can see her – wings spread, breast exposed.

In a few short days, in Jerusalem, this lament, this weeping will echo throughout the city and throughout all time. The compassion of God will be exposed for the entire world to see. For in Jerusalem, Jesus, like a mother hen spreading her wings to gather and protect her chicks, will spread his arms on the cross, spread them wide enough to embrace the world, spread them wide enough to embrace us for all time.

May you be sustained in your Lenten journey knowing this expansive, loving embrace.

In Christ Jesus –

Shalom,  
+Bishop Larry Kochendorfer

*“The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.” (Romans 15:13)*

Messiah received a very nice letter from Bishop Kochendorfer, which will be posted on the Bulletin Board, expressing his appreciation for “the warm and genuine hospitality” during Kathy and his visit to Messiah on January 20. To quote “We appreciated very much the warm welcome of those participating in the Adult Education time around World Missions and the opportunity to “live again” our experience with the delegation who journeyed to our Synod’s Global partner in Columbia. We also had the opportunity to view some of the many numbered displays of ministry which Messiah is connected with. What a great idea!”  
Submitted by Odell Olson, Council President

## Pastoral Acts

### Funerals:

**Rod Madison**

**James Gainer**

**Laurette Campbell**

**Clarence Servold**

**Alf Olsen** *(Rob Lewis Presided)*

**Michael Kopperud**



## Pastoral Acts

### Baptism:

**Liam Hatch**

### Memorials

Special gifts since last reported in memory of:

**Rod Madison**

**Clarence Servold**

**David Wold**

We recognize the monthly  
Baptismal Anniversaries of the children  
in the *Splash* program:

**No recent March baptismal anniversaries.**

*Let your light so shine before others  
that they may see your good works  
and glorify your Father in heaven.*



# Church Council Highlights from February 19, 2019

- Jonathan Hawkins opened the meeting with a reading from 'God is in the Small Stuff' by Bruce Bickel and Stan Jantz, based on Hebrews 10:25. The authors remind us that the 'church' is not just a place, activity, or institution, but that rather the essence of the church is our Christian family – all the people who follow Christ. Everyone has a role and a way to contribute as part of an interactive relationship between people with Christ as a common bond. The reading seemed appropriate given Messiah's many volunteers, undertaking a wide variety of roles...and with the imminent appointment of a new nominating committee...as well as with what feels like the ongoing arrival of new faces/people who can each bring their own presence and skills to our part of the wider 'church'. The meeting then opened with the Lord's Prayer.
- Council reviewed the discussions from the February 10 Planning meeting. Questions posed included: are there particular topics/directions we should focus on, or is there a broader picture we can define for future priorities? Should we look to an external facilitator to assist in the process? Do we need to devote a longer session to meet/discuss this? It was felt that the five foci introduced at the meeting could be useful to launch further discussions (1. Care and inclusion of all people; 2. Strengthen the faith of people of all ages; 3. Encourage service beyond Messiah's door by providing human and material resources; 4. Be alert to issues of sustainability of our facility and finances; 5. Cultivate ways to enhance our use of technology for service and outreach). A broader planning discussion will be launched in the Fall.
- Odell will begin to compile Committee bylaw revision submissions, noting what changes have been recommended, and what further considerations need to be made (for example, do some activities need to be placed under new groups or delegated to the office?).
- Council approved the 2019 Nominating Committee, with Marie and Jim Brager, Lavona Broen, Elaine Taylor, and Gail Stolee as members, with Gail as Chair.
- Council received a letter from the Bishop, thanking Messiah for his recent visit. The letter will be placed on the bulletin board and an abbreviated version placed in the Messenger.
- Support Committee is beginning to prepare for roof repairs. Estimates are for a cost of around \$90,000 sometime in the next 5-10 years. Support recommends trying to raise and/or set aside \$15,000 a year for the next several years. Ivar suggested using the Special Projects fund to house this money.
- Support Committee reviewed a list of possible projects including office phone upgrades, sound system upgrades, and upgrades to improve sound for those using hearing aids. The priorities were discussed. Council thought hearing aid support and sound system upgrades were probably the priorities. Support will obtain further information.
- Council set the date for the Annual General Meeting on Sunday, June 9.
- Odell asked Bev to close the meeting in prayer.
- The **Next Regular Council Meeting is Thursday, March 21, 2019** at 5:15 pm. Note that this date has changed to avoid the March 19 Lenten service.



## LunchFEST Sunday, March 10

11:45 am in the Fellowship Centre  
Support Committee  
will be serving  
ALL ARE WELCOME

## MLW Highlights

We hope everyone is enjoying our Bible Study this year on Prayer. "God's power is unleashed through prayer. So pray often, anywhere, anytime." from Bible for Women.

Quilting times are the third Wednesday of the month. Please bring your lunch. 9:00 a.m.

Remember March events: March 1st. 1:30 p.m. World Day of Prayer at Messiah Lutheran Church. The program was prepared by the World Day of Prayer Committee of Slovenia. We are providing lunch.

March 3rd. Hastings Lake Bible Camp fund raiser with a concert by Bruce Rawling. Lunch is provided by several area congregations including MLW. Time 2:30 p.m.

Bible Study briefing: March 5th at 7:00 p.m. We have several Bible Study books left if you are interested in receiving one (\$12.00) call Diane Scarisbrick.

Stay warm,  
MLW Executive

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## MLW GENERAL MEETING

**Saturday, March 30 at 9:30 am (Note change of date)**

**Light brunch at 9:30**

**Lenten emphasis**

**Special presentation by Stacey Strilchuk  
(Executive Director of Primary Care Network)**

**All ladies invited**

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## FOOD BANK SUNDAY March 17

Remembering God's love for us,  
let us give generously and fill  
the empty cart with Love.  
Your gifts of groceries and  
other daily needs products  
will be much appreciated.



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Have you ever wondered why some people get stuck in their grief while others are able to experience joy again following the death of a loved one?

What myths do we harbour about grief that keep us  
from experiencing all that God has for us in our next chapter?

(see page 14 for a workshop opportunity at Messiah)



# Pipe Organ Magic

Did you know the Pipe Organ is the most complex machine built before the Industrial Revolution? That it is the largest instrument in the world played by a single person? That it used to be the accompaniment for Silent Movies and create the mood for your shopping experience at the mall?



Grand, magnificent, awe-inspiring...there are many descriptions we could give the Organ, but Mozart summed it up the best when he said, "To my eyes and ears the organ will ever be the King of Instruments!"

**The King of Instruments will be collaborating with some of Camrose's finest musicians Saturday, March 9 at 7:00 pm.**

This amazing line-up features collaborations with the French Horn (Juanita Hohm), Vocals (Charlene Brown, Michelle Kennedy Hawkins, Colden Palo, Keysha Swanson), Drums (Lucas Brown), Trumpet (Len Busse & Lael Olson) & Piano (Carolyn Olson) from genres spanning the Baroque period all the way through to favorite hymns and contemporary music from movies and musicals.

Experience Bach's Toccata & Fugue in person like you've never heard it before! Watch the Phantom come alive before your eyes as he inspires Christine to sing to new heights. Sink into the comfort of the beloved old hymn tunes. Be enthralled by the haunting strains of the French horn.

As J.S. Bach said, "There is nothing to playing the organ. You only have to hit the right notes at the right time and the instrument plays itself."

A free will offering will go to support the music program of Messiah Lutheran Church and the ongoing maintenance of the organ.

"Listen, and for organ music thou wilt ever, as of old, hear the Morning Stars sing together." – **Thomas Carlyle**

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## Rick Bergh is Coming to Messiah

On **Saturday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>**, 2019, Messiah will be hosting a Grief Workshop with Rick Bergh. The event will be from 9am-4pm, with lunch provided. A freewill offering will be collected in lieu of a registration fee.

Pastor Rick will be equipping us with the tools we need to support others who are grieving using the practices of Narrative Therapy. We will learn how to enter more fully into the stories that need to be told – stories that are necessary for joy to be restored and new chapters to be written on our lives.

On Sunday morning, Pastor Rick will present a bible study during Adult Class. With Rick, we will explore loss through the eyes of Ruth. We will expand our knowledge on the myriad of losses that we need to notice as we companion each other in grief.

Both events are open to anyone who would like to attend, however we ask that you register for the Saturday workshop by contacting the church office 780-672-3444.



**RB**  
**RICK BERGH**  
COUNSELOR • PASTOR • THANATOLOGIST

# News from El Salvador: Nayib Bukele – The new President



February 03, 2019

The polls were right all along. Nayib Bukele, the young businessman turned politician whose favorite communication medium is Facebook Live, won the presidency of El Salvador on Sunday with a 23 percentage point lead over his next closest rival, Carlos Calleja of ARENA. There will be no second round election.

## **And now: An Extract from Rev. Brian Rude's Response:**

It was a monumental victory for many, a monumental defeat for others.

With this drastic shift away from bi-partisan presidential government, those loyal to the traditional two parties of the past three decades are anticipating the worst. Those who voted for the new-comer, GANA, first-round winners, are hoping for the best. With few policy pronouncements to go on, it's anybody's guess which direction El Salvador might head. Will this government align itself with big business, the corporate sector? Or will it listen to and respond to the disadvantaged majority of the population? Whom will they consult? Whose interests will be given priority?

For decades, I have been intent on ministry among the most marginalized sectors of this society. This current administration has made such ministry virtually impossible, to the point of criminalizing it.

For three decades, Salvadorans have been led to believe, by successive governments, the major media, and the police, that Salvadorans want ever harsher treatment of youth, particularly gang-related youth, particularly prison inmates.

It has been three-and-a-half years since our prison ministries were suspended by this government's authorities. I have, in previous newsletters, applied Jesus's words from Matthew 25 to the restrictions on prison visitation in El Salvador. With the prison doors so firmly closed, shutting out all of us who would otherwise be visiting, it is timely to do so once again.

Jesus envisioned the possibility, even the likelihood, that there would be those who did not visit prison inmates. It seems that he did not contemplate the more extreme Salvadoran reality, where it is the prison authorities who prevent others from visiting prison inmates--not once, not twice, but for more than three years. This would be a special kind of goat, extending the imagery Jesus uses in his parable.

As an unfailing observer in Salvadoran elections, I was once again impressed with the competence and calm with which these elections were conducted. The elevated civic spirit was evident throughout the country throughout the day. If an election observer were looking for "excitement" on Election Day, El Salvador proved once again that this would not be the country to come looking for such. If one were seeking a rich, lo-o-o-ng day of interaction with a broad cross-section of marvelous Salvadoran citizens, I would highly recommend such an immersion.

**A gratified election observer,  
Brian Rude**

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In the April *Messenger* there will be a further commentary from Rev. Rude on these recent elections. In the meantime, our prayers can certainly be directed toward what Rev. Rude is hoping for as a new environment in which to carry out the ministry to which he has been called. RTB

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No one wants it, but everyone will experience it at some point. Loss. It's a guarantee in our lives. What role might grief play in our lives following a loss? What does Jesus teach us about mourning? Come and discover how Jesus' teaching on loss is a game-changer.

(Call or email the office to register for the workshop)

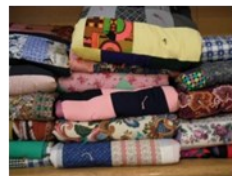
# NEWS BRIEFS



Canadian Lutheran  
World Relief

## WE CARE PROJECTS

These cold winter months are good times to spend sewing, knitting, quilting and assembling We Care kits for the April shipment. Directions are on the CLWR bulletin board.



## PNEUMONIA VESTS



CLWR does not have an outlet for these at the present time, but Connie Landstrom, who spoke here recently, has personally distributed them in Africa. God willing, Connie plans to visit Tanzania again in the fall, and she would love to fill her suitcase with pneumonia vests which she takes to an isolated hospital where they are given to the most needy families for their newborn babies. The matching caps are also welcome. Connie plans to be in Camrose in May, so this would be a good time to pass them on to her. Directions for these are also on the bulletin board.

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## Library News

We are excited to have added a few brand new books to our Messiah library:  
Christian fiction is our most borrowed category

Dead Sea Rising by Jerry B. Jenkins

Seven Brides for Seven Texans -- A Romance Collection

The Hawaiian Quilt by Wanda E. Brunstetter and Jean Brunstetter

Memoir: I Can Only Imagine by Bart Millard. (The true story that inspired the hit song and major motion picture)

Biography: The Faith of Dolly Parton by Dudley Delffs

Inspirational: Beloved, Henry Nouwen in Conversation by Henry Nouwen. (Includes CD)

As well we are always adding donated books, please come and check out the library at the back of the church. Happy Reading!

Shellie Carson and Loya Steinwandt  
(your unofficial librarians)



...from Messiah's Learning Committee...

## Sunday Morning Adult Class

for the month of March

**Time:** 9:15 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.

**Place:** Messiah Basement Auditorium

### Sunday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>:

*"Hastings Lake Bible Camp"*, presented by Pastor Bev Swanson and Donny Loewen

A place to experience God's love and grow in faith and service in community. Pastor Bev Swanson and Donny Loewen will share their experiences of the ministry at Hastings Lake through the eyes of Pastor and cook.

### Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup>:

*"Medical Assistance In Dying"*, presented by Jennifer Willes, RN

### Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup>

*"Out of the Darkness – A Redemption Story"*, presented by Rob and Kirsti Luz

A 10-year veteran of the RCMP, Rob Luz was diagnosed with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and Major Depressive Disorder after years of exposure to trauma, including an officer-involved shooting. Rob and Kirsti want to share their testimony of faith, redemption, and healing so they can help others identify and persevere through the range of critical issues that law enforcement officers and their families face.

### Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup>:

*"Loss Through the Eyes of Ruth"*, presented by Pastor Rick Bergh

Pastor Rick will continue to guide us in exploring the myriad of losses that we need to notice as we companion each other in grief. This session is not a continuation of the workshop on March 23<sup>rd</sup>. Please join us even if you were unable to attend Saturday's workshop.

### Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup>:

*"Living a Life of Happiness in Times of Adversity"*, presented by Ron Baier

Ron Baier is a retired educator and administrator who, after spending 35 years in that profession is now managing the Safeway seafood department. Ron has been battling a pituitary tumour for 27 years which has included a myriad of medical interventions including three neurosurgeries, countless scans and injections as well as daily medications. He will talk about the power of prayer, faith, having a positive attitude and experiencing moments of Grace.

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### Canadian Tire Dollars



Canadian Tire has moved to a "points" system. You may now support Messiah Lutheran Church through the points system. If you wish to donate your points to Messiah Lutheran Church, just give the church's phone number 780-672-3444 to the teller and she will add the points to Messiah's points card. Sheila Becker's name may show up on their system, but it is Messiah's account.

**NOTE: The Wednesday Workers group & custodian use the points to purchase much needed items for our church.**

## Lent...

### What's it about?



What's it really all about? What are we living for? Are my values Godly values? Is the way I spend my precious, finite minutes of life really the best? And what does God want from me, anyway?

Ash Wednesday asks and answers all these questions. Specifically the part of Ash Wednesday when the pastor makes two swipes of a dirty thumb across my forehead and says, "Remember, human, that you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

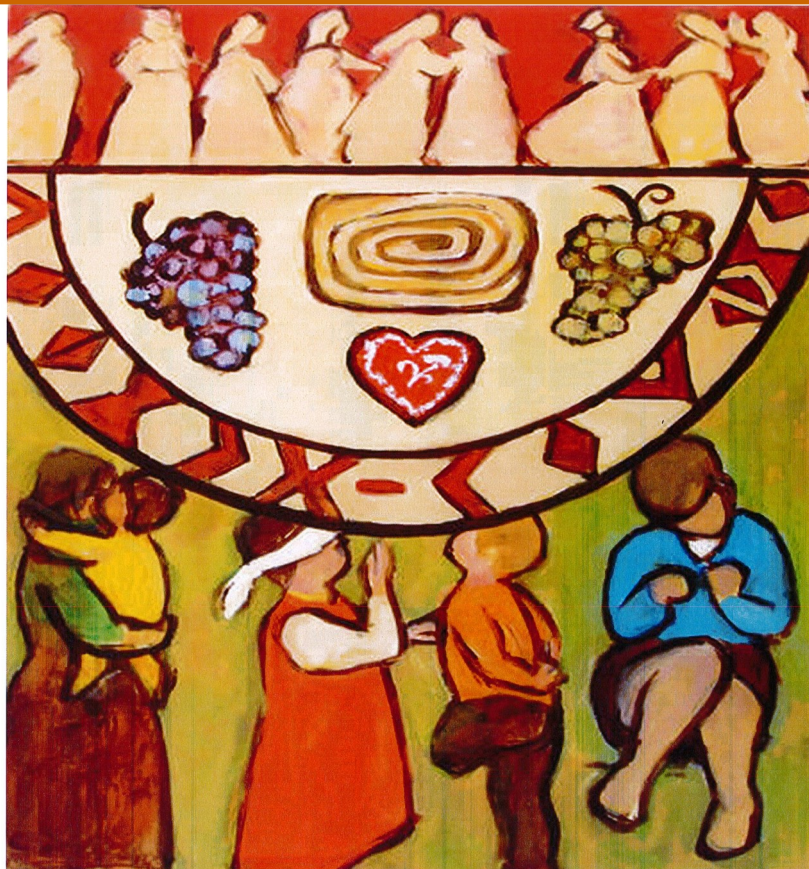
The gesture and the words express our lowly condition: Time will destroy us despite the defensive ramparts and barricades we construct with our money, our fame, our beauty, our power, and so on. Since death and dust are inevitable, Ash Wednesday asks us, why do we human beings build our silly defenses AS IF they will protect us? Why put up barriers when instead we can use our time, our wealth, our creativity and power to live free, abundant lives for God's purposes?

Ash Wednesday declares us guilty of the great sins of failing to love the Lord Our God with all our being and failing to love our neighbor as ourselves. Lent calls us to repentance and self examination. And exactly this is the meaning of repentance — to turn away from sin and towards God.

How we use our lives and what we are living for — these are, ultimately, issues of stewardship. Ash Wednesday dramatically condemns us, all of us, for being poor stewards of the bountiful lives that God gives us. Ash Wednesday reminds us that we are "dead people walking" and sets the tone for our Lenten self examination.

Of course, Ash Wednesday isn't the end of the story. But for now, meditate on these words: "Remember, human, that you are dust, and to dust you shall return!"

*Gleaned from Stewardship of Life, Rev. Robert Blezard*



## World Day of Prayer 2019

*Come Everything is Ready!*

Service written by the World Day of Prayer Committee of Slovenia

### Messiah Lutheran Church

**Friday, March 1, 2019, 1:30 pm**

**Freewill Offering Everyone Welcome**

*Augustana Chaplaincy*  
Invites you to...

# What's Cookin'? Soup Supper

*With the annual theme: LOVE ACTUALLY*

**Come share a simple meal with friends to celebrate and support the difference chaplaincy makes to students, Augustana, and the community.**

**Sunday March 3, 2019 at 5:00 pm**  
**The Augustana Chapel, Faith and Life Center**

**The evening's program includes a soup meal, silent auction, speeches from the student chaplains, and Augustana's Dean Allen Berger as the guest speaker.**

Tickets are \$10/adults and \$5/students  
Available from student chaplains, Wiseman's Way, or the Augustana chaplaincy office (2-140)  
For more information contact Katelynn Cook (780-679-1597 or email [augchap@ualberta.ca](mailto:augchap@ualberta.ca))

Our reactions to loss can be gut-wrenching. They can also be life-changing if we let them teach us about what's important. How can you move from brokenness to a meaning-making perspective? Where does God fit into your loss picture? (see workshop on page 14)



# MUSIC THROUGH THE CENTURIES

SATURDAY MARCH 9, 2019

@ 7:00 PM

4810 50 ST CAMROSE



FEATURING THE PIPE ORGAN  
OF MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH & TOVA OLSON

with guest artists

Lucas Brown -drums	Lael Olson-trumpet
Carolyn Olson-piano	Len Busse-trumpet
Charlene Brown-vocal	Colden Palo-vocal
Juanita Hohm-french horn	Keysha Swanson-vocal
Michelle Kennedy Hawkins-vocal	

~FREE WILL OFFERING~

## BRUCE RAWLING LIVE IN CONCERT



SUNDAY, MARCH 3 AT 2:30PM  
MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH, CAMROSE AB

A FUNDRAISER FOR  
HASTINGS LAKE BIBLE CAMP

ADMISSION BY FREE WILL OFFERING



about time  
productions.ca  
780.672.0893

March 1-6, 2019

FRI March 1 @ 7:00pm  
SAT March 2 @ 7:00pm  
SUN March 3 @ 2:00pm  
TUES March 5 @ 7:00pm

Centra Cam & CAFCL  
RELAXED, INCLUSIVE PERFORMANCE\*

WED March 6 @ 2:00pm  
\*ASL interpreters, relaxed light and sound, freedom to move and make noise during show, and so much more call for more info 587-322-0185

tickets

\$25 adult

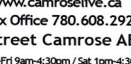
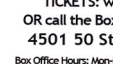
\$20 snr/stu

\$15 child

lyrics by TIM RICE  
music by ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER

**JOSEPH**  
and the amazing  
TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT

**McCLELLAN  
WHEATON**  
CHEVROLET BUICK GMC



TICKETS: [www.camroslive.ca](http://www.camroslive.ca)

OR call the Box Office 780.608.2922  
4501 50 Street Camrose AB

Box Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9am-4:30pm / Sat 1pm-4:30pm



*Music Heals Day  
with SingAble,*

Dr. Ardelle Ries, Director, community music ensembles and anyone who loves to sing! Featuring Roger Admiral, piano; Erik Olson, guitar; Steve Hartman, string bass and percussion. There is no charge for admission. All are welcome.

Saturday, March 2 1:30 pm Afternoon Tea

2:00 pm Community Sing, Bethany Group Auditorium



# Grief Workshop

*with Rick Bergh*  
*using narrative therapy practices to*  
*support those who are grieving*

*Learn how to enter more fully into the stories  
that need to be told — stories that are neces-  
sary for joy to be restored and new chapters to  
be written in our lives.*

Rick Bergh is a Thanatologist (CT),  
Narrative Therapist (NT), ordained minister,  
speaker and best selling author.

Rick's wisdom on the topic is much more than theoretical-his practical  
information comes out of his own personal experience. Rick and his four  
children used these principles following the death of his first wife, Pam,  
when she died at age 47 of ovarian cancer.

Rick lives in Victoria, BC with his wife Erica.



Rick Bergh  
[www.rickbergh.com](http://www.rickbergh.com)

Thank you to our sponsors:  
Burgar Funeral Home & Weber Funeral Home

**Saturday, March 23, 2019—9am-4pm**

**Messiah Lutheran Church , 4810-50 Street, Camrose, AB**

*(lunch provided-a free will offering will be taken in lieu of registration fee)*

*To register call (780) 672-3444 or email [office@messiahcamrose.ca](mailto:office@messiahcamrose.ca)*

*before March 17.*

*Event open to all but we ask for registration.*



## Join us for Sunday Adult Class with Rick Bergh

### Loss Through the Eyes of Ruth

Rick Bergh is a Thanatologist (CT),  
Narrative Therapist (NT), ordained minister,  
speaker and best selling author.

Rick's wisdom on the topic is much more than theoretical-his practical  
information comes out of his own personal experience. Rick and his four  
children used these principles following the death of his first wife, Pam,  
when she died at age 47 of ovarian cancer.

Rick lives in Victoria, BC with his wife Erica.



Rick Bergh  
www.rickbergh.com

**Sunday, March 24, 2019—9:15 am**

**Messiah Lutheran Church , 4810-50 Street, Camrose, AB**  
Basement Auditorium

## AID FOR BOTSWANA

HELP THE POOREST  
OF THE POOR

### NEEDED:

- GENTLY USED CLOTHING & SHOES  
(ALL AGES)
- SCHOOL SUPPLIES
- EYE GLASSES

### BRING DONATIONS TO:

**HARBERG WOOD GARNETT RADCHENKO LLP**  
**CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS**  
4602 - 49 AVENUE CAMROSE, ALBERTA T4V 0M6  
WEEKDAYS 8:00AM TO 4:30PM

**DEADLINE**  
**FEBRUARY 28, 2019**

FOR QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT UNA  
780-394-0621

**DONATION DEADLINE EXTENDED**  
**TO MARCH 31, 2019.**



ROOTING THE CALL FOR **PERSONAL RENEWAL**

**ISAIAH**  
43:18-19

...SEE, I AM DOING A NEW THING! NOW IT SPRINGS UP,  
DO YOU NOT PERCEIVE IT? I AM MAKING A WAY IN THE  
WILDERNESS AND STREAMS IN THE WASTELAND.

**FEB 28**  
"RENEW"  
JOHN 4  
REV BOYD HOPKINS

**5:30 PM**  
DINNER  
**6:30 PM**  
SESSION

Free will offering is taken. Please RSVP if attending the  
meal. For more information and/or to RSVP, contact the  
clbi office at 780.672.4454 or email at info@clbi.edu  
4837 52a Street Camrose, AB T4V 1W5

**MAR 14**  
"RELIANCE"  
ISAIAH 43  
IMPACT TEAMS

**7:30 PM**  
O&A  
**8:00 PM**  
COFFEE  
& DESSERTS

**CLBI**  
PLUS+

*Camrose & District Community Band in Concert,  
Tom Spila, Director - The Augustana Connection.*

Sunday, March 24, 2:00 pm,  
Lougheed Centre (Cargill Theatre)

Special musical guest is the Festival City Winds  
Intermediate I Concert Band, directed by Wendy  
Grasdahl. These ensembles will perform a variety of  
selections, from standard concert band literature and  
marches, to jazz and movie themes. The Camrose &  
District Community Band is comprised of musicians  
from Camrose and area, as well as a significant number  
of Augustana students. Admission by donation.



# NEIGHBOR AID NEWSLETTER

TAKE A CLOSER LOOK

## Neighbor Aid Needs your help.

### We need Drivers ...

To drive clients to and from specialty medical appointments in Edmonton. Call 780-679-3220 or drop by the office at 4524 - 54 st. for more info & a volunteer form.

#### Specialty Medical Appointment Drives

Year	# of Clients
2016	74
2017	85
2018	124

**Our Core Values:**

1. We are Christian
2. We are committed to the poor
3. We value people

**Our Commitment:** We recognize that value cannot be legislated; they must be lived. No document can substitute for the attitudes, decisions and actions that make up the fabric of our life and work. Therefore, we covenant with each other, before God, to do our most utmost individually and as a corporate entity to uphold these Core Values, to honour them in our decisions, to express them in our relationships and to act consistently with them.

Food Bank Year	# of Clients	Martha's Table Year	# of Clients
2015	1,831	2015	4,243
2016	2,489	2016	3,898
2017	2,536	2017	3,526
2018	2,365	2018	4,205

**FFK - Breakfast Club** are offered in the following  
Schools: Our Lady Mt. Pleasant, Chester Ronning, COMP  
High School, Sparling, Charlie Killiam & Sifton.

### We need phone people...

We need a Monday phone person and a Friday phone person. Commitment to every Monday or Friday 9 am - 12 noon. Drop by to pick up a volunteer form and more information.

Hands linked in  
Christ's name to  
meet the needs of  
others.

Check out our website [www.neighboraid.ca](http://www.neighboraid.ca)

Hours: Monday - Friday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

CALL 780-679-3220 FOR VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES \* DRIVERS FOR SPECIALTY MEDICAL

APPOINTMENTS NEEDED \* PHONE PEOPLE NEEDED

## Phone Volunteers Needed

Immediate openings for a Monday phone person.  
Commitment every Monday from 9 am - 12 noon

Camrose Neighbor Aid  
**Call: 780-679-3220**

## Drivers Needed

Specialty Medical Appointment  
Drives into Edmonton

• GAS VOUCHER PROVIDED - POLICE CHECK REQUIRED

Camrose Neighbor Aid  
**Call: 780-679-3220**

WORSHIP • GAMES  
BRING A BIBLE!

CLBI  
LIT  
EVENT

SNACKS • BRING A FRIEND!

**FAST & FURIOUS:  
GOD'S PURSUIT**

MARCH 22ND // 6:45 - 9:00PM // @ CLBI  
4837 52A STREET, CAMROSE, AB.



RELIGION AND PUBLIC LIFE IN TODAY'S GLOBAL WORLD:  
**AN EVENING WITH CHRIS HEDGES**

**TUE. MARCH 26 | 6:00PM**

Lougheed Performing Arts Centre  
Cargill Theatre (Augustana Campus)

Pulitzer-prize winning journalist Chris Hedges is the 2019  
Augustana Distinguished Lecturer, and will be giving this  
year's Chester Ronning Lecture on Religion and Diplomacy.

This event is free to attend and open to the public.  
\*A PHYSICAL TICKET IS REQUIRED FOR ENTRY\*

Reserve yours at [aug.ualberta.ca/hedges](http://aug.ualberta.ca/hedges)  
or call the box office at 780-608-2922



Chester Ronning Centre  
for the Study of Religion and Public Life



**To God Be the Glory!  
Let's Celebrate!**



- On Saturday evening, May 4<sup>th</sup> you are invited to a catered banquet in the church auditorium. Reserve your seat for this event by signing up on March 31, April 7, 14, or 28. The cost will be covered by donations. Donate when you arrive at the banquet.
- Former pastors have been sent invitations.
- Entertainment and guest speaker have been booked.
- After the banquet a symbolic burning of the debt on our facility will take place outdoors.
- A linden tree will be planted to replace our weeping birch.
- You are invited to stay for singing camp songs around a fire pit.
- A celebratory service is being planned for Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup> followed by a coffee fellowship.

**Want to know more? Talk to Donny Loewen, Holly Olson,  
Loya Steinwandt or Pastor Bev Swanson.**



**What does God have in store for us now?**

Your story is important to God.  
Every person's story is a precious gift and deserves to be told.  
Come and learn what questions to ask that will unlock these stories  
and help you companion others as you help them share their narrative.  
Jesus was all about story and questions. Let's learn from Him together.  
(Join us at Messiah on March 23)



**SPRING  
FORWARD!**

*Don't forget to move  
your clocks ahead an  
hour on March 10 !*

# Prayers of the People



**Gracious and loving God**, we thank you for Lenten journeys and being with us always.

Lord, we are blessed by our Pastors, Calvin Skriver and Bev Swanson. Thank you for their ministry among us. We ask your continuous care for them and their families, as they minister to us. Thank you too for our Bishops – Larry Kochendorfer and Susan Johnson. Renew them daily and equip them to be the leaders you desire.

We lift up the staff to You: Sheila Becker, Doreen Brewer, Lowell Dahlman, Ruth Jensen, Lori Mokry, Carolyn Olson, Lloyd Olson, Tova Olson and Marlys Sorenson, who use their gifts to help the Messiah function from day to day. Father, we have many talented and generous people, staff and volunteers, in this community of faith. We ask your continued blessing and guidance on each one of them as they go about their work in the world around them and in our congregation. Grant them joy in their service.

We ask your blessing on our Sunday School students, Confirmation students, senior youth and students in post-secondary education. May they be a blessing to others. Inspire teachers and all who are part of the work and witness of the Church in the world.

Please grant wisdom and discernment to our Church Council and Committees. May they feel fulfilled in their work. We also pray for our City Council, Provincial and National Governments may they govern with strength and integrity.

Help us to reach out in meaningful ways to newcomers in our community. Help us to be a welcoming community. Please bless the work of the Refugee Centre here at Messiah, and that of the co-operating congregations. We welcome the newest member of Messiah through baptism - Liam Hatch, may you and your family walk daily with God.

We ask your care for shut-ins and all who worship via Cable 10, 310, 610 TV and YouTube internet streaming. Thank you for our enlarged ministry through this network, may the viewers be blessed by Word and music. We ask for strength for the lonely and the emotionally or physically ill and those who care for them, you know all our needs even those that are unseen.

We pray for the family and friends of Rod Madison, James Gainer, Laurette Campbell, Clarence Servold, Alf Olsen, and Michael Kopperud as they adjust to life without their loved ones presence. Be with them as journey through their grief. Please be with all those who are grieving the loss of a loved one or other losses we are not aware of, you know Lord and you care.

Father, we ask you to sustain us in this world that seems to continue to challenge our faith and pull us into despair as we look around us. We ask a special blessing on those experiencing natural disasters around the world. Comfort those subjected to human caused tragedies and persecution.

Lord, we thank you for Brian Rude and his ministry in El Salvador. We ask your presence with the George and Susan Watts family in Burundi, Ryan and Siobhain Cole with Mission Aviation Fellowship in Papua New Guinea, Charles and Anita Jackson of WMPL and Connie Landstrom. Keep all of them safe and bless their ministries. We pray your grace and love and protection for all who share your Word around the world.

We offer our thanks, and praise in the name of Jesus,  
Amen



## Sharing Jesus Christ With All People...

**LIVE** broadcast of worship service on Eastlink TV channels 10 & 310 & 610.



Rebroadcast of worship service on Tuesday at midnight & Wednesday at 2:00 pm.  
The previous Sunday's worship service is rebroadcast on Sundays at 7:00 pm.

**LIVE** streaming of worship service on YouTube; search "MessiahCamrose"

Archived services are available on the website [www.messiahcamrose.ca](http://www.messiahcamrose.ca) or YouTube.

# Messiah Church Council

Odell Olson, President

Gail Stolee, Vice-President

Jonathan Hawkins, Secretary

Ivar Saugen, Treasurer

Members at Large:

Darlene Dahle

Donny Loewen

Dave Larson

Carolyn Andersen

Chris Hohm

Liaising With:

Worship Committee

Learning Committee

Support Committee

Witnessing Committee

Service Committee



## Messiah Lutheran Church

*Sharing Jesus Christ with all People*

**4810-50 St. Camrose AB T4V 1P5**

**Phone: 780-672-3444; Fax: 780-672-3716**

[www.messiahcamrose.ca](http://www.messiahcamrose.ca)

[office@messiahcamrose.ca](mailto:office@messiahcamrose.ca)

### **Pastoral Ministry Team**

**Calvin Skriver**

**Bev Swanson**

Administrative Assistants: Doreen Brewer, Lori Mokry

Administrative Assistant part time: Ruth Jensen

Audio Visual Ministry Coordinator: Lowell Dahlman

Bookkeeper: Sheila Becker

Record's Clerk: Marlys Sorenson

Custodians: Carolyn & Lloyd Olson

Worship, Music & Senior Youth Ministry: Tova Olson

Youth & Confirmation Ministry: Bev Swanson

## Messiah Messenger

Published 11 times a year – September to July

Also available online at: [www.messiahcamrose.ca](http://www.messiahcamrose.ca)

To request email delivery or to submit articles by email,

Write to: [office@messiahcamrose.ca](mailto:office@messiahcamrose.ca)

Messenger Editor: Lori Mokry

Members, staff, committees and groups are encouraged to submit articles so that we are aware of who we are as a congregation, and where we are going in our congregation.

**Next Issue: April 2019**

**Material due: March 19**

**Delivery date: March 29**

# MARCH 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1  1:30 World Day of Prayer & Coffee Fellowship	2 8:45 Men's Bible Study  10:00 Shuman/Dahlman Wedding Rehearsal  7:00 Shuman/Dahlman Wedding
3 <b>Transfiguration of Our Lord</b> 9:15 Adult Education NO Friendship Class 10:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service 11:45 Coffee Fellowship  2:30 Hastings Lake Benefit Concert	4  10:30 Lectio  2:00 World Mission  7:00 Camerata	5  10:00 Staff Meeting   7:00 MLW Bible Study Briefing	6 <b>Ash Wednesday</b>  4:45 Learning Committee 7:00 Ash Wednesday Service @ Bethel	7  10:30 Handbells  12:00 All Staff Mtg.  NO Confirmation 7:00 Messiah's Choristers	8	9 8:45 Men's Bible Study   7:00 Organ Concert Music Through the Centuries
10 <b>Lent 1 Daylight Savings Time</b>  9:15 Adult Education 9:30 Friendship Class 10:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service 11:45 LunchFEST	11 <b>Council Report Due</b>  10:30 Lectio  5:00 Witnessing Committee 7:00 Camerata	12  10:00 Staff Meeting   7:00 Lenten Service @ Messiah	13	14 10:30 Handbells  3:00 Kuimba Choir  6:45 Confirmation 7:00 Messiah's Choristers	15	16 8:45 Men's Bible Study
17 <b>Lent 2 Food Bank Sunday</b>  9:15 Adult Education 9:30 Friendship Class 10:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service 11:45 Coffee Fellowship	18  10:30 Lectio  7:00 Camerata	19 <b>Messenger Articles Due</b>  10:00 Staff Meeting  7:00 Lenten Service @ Church of God	20  9:00 Quilting	21 10:30 Handbells  5:15 Church Council  6:45 Confirmation 7:00 Messiah's Choristers	22	23 8:45 Men's Bible Study  9:00 Rich Bergh Grief Workshop 
24 <b>Lent 3</b>  9:15 Adult Education NO Friendship Class 10:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service 11:45 Coffee Fellowship	25  10:30 Lectio  7:00 Camerata	26  10:00 Staff Meeting  7:00 Lenten Service @ Ukrainian Catholic	27	28 10:30 Handbells  NO Confirmation 7:00 Messiah's Choristers	29 <b>Messenger Delivery</b>	30 8:45 Men's Bible Study  9:30 MLW General Mtg.
31 <b>Lent 4</b>  9:15 Adult Education 9:30 Friendship Class 10:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service 11:45 Coffee Fellowship  7:00 Kuimba Choir						