

# MESSIAH MESSENGER

**April 2019** 

Volume 40 Issue 4

### 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

# Mid-Week Lenten Services

Services will be held on **Tuesdays**, 7:00 pm

Think Globally...Act Locally

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

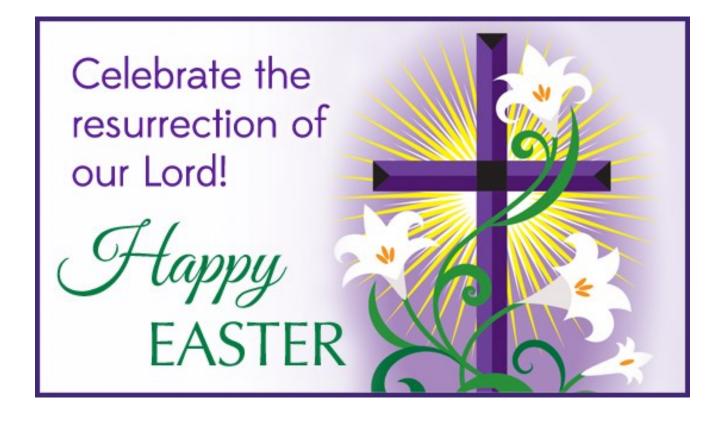
### **OFFICE HOURS**

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



Last month I encouraged you to attend Lenten services. I continue to encourage us all to attend the weekday services as we move into April. This year our "mid-week" services have been on Tuesdays and we continue this into April. April 2<sup>nd</sup> is at Camrose United Church and April 9<sup>th</sup> is at St. Andrew's Anglican Church. Please come out to both and worship with our sisters and brothers of other denominations in our community. We are supporting Sahakarini in our effort to "Think Globally and Act Locally". Sahakarini is a Camrose based organization, with many of our own members from Messiah participating in the charitable efforts in the world and in this community.

We move from these Lenten services into Palm Sunday and then Holy Week and the Three Days: Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Vigil. Palm Sunday remembers Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem and being hailed as the Messiah, the King to redeem Israel from the forces of the world (this time Rome) that had overcome them. We will wave palms and remember that Jesus is the one to save us. But "those people" were (as we are) fickle and before one knows it, the mood changes and Jesus is condemned to death instead of hailed as king.

Historically the "Three Days" have been imagined as a single liturgy service; each day flowing into the next and culminating with the wonder, joy, fear and confusion of Easter morning. Again, I encourage you to participate in all three elements towards our most holy of days. Missing out on some elements causes the impact of Easter Sunday to be "less" than it could be.

Maundy Thursday recalls the last supper that Jesus had with his disciples before his suffering and death. In the varying traditions of our gospels there is a meal (Matthew, Mark and Luke) that links to the Seder meal or there is a foot washing (John) where Jesus commands his followers to love one another. Each tradition offers a richness of its own for us. We will explore this time together on Thursday the 18<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at Messiah.

Good Friday (April 19<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at Messiah) is the day were we experience the passion of Jesus in his last hours and how we are a part of what happened to Jesus' as well as the purpose of Jesus' sacrifice for us. This is a day where we are lead to experience the depths to which God goes to reconnect with us and have us know that we are known and loved. Come and be a part of this redeeming experience.

Then comes the Easter Vigil. Historically this has been a service that has lasted through the night into dawn. It is a service of readings that trace the history of God and God's people. We will do some of that but in an abbreviated form. The intention here is to gather together in our anxiety and feelings of loss and to anticipate the light that shines in the darkness. The service begins at 7pm and will be at Augustana Campus.



I am also wondering if there is any interest in an Easter Sunrise Service. Call me if you are interested – I have some desire to do it, but don't want to do it alone or force anyone to come. Again... if you are interested, contact me in some way to let me know of your interest.

May we together move towards the wonder of the resurrection – that has been and will be.

Call me at 780-672-3444
Email me at: <a href="mailto:calvinskriver@gmail.com">calvinskriver@gmail.com</a>
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

Lent...The Journey to what is real...



Spring is a time for opening...for opening to what is real in our lives. It is a time to open for the places in our souls that need healing. It is a time when things are seen very clearly as we venture out of the cave of winter into the light. This what Lent is all about also.

We open and we see the darkness within so that the light can come into the places where we are in the dark spiritually and the places where we need new life...the life of resurrection...

This time of year the snow is beginning to melt and the sun is shining after what has felt like a long cold winter. As it does it reveals all the scars of the earth. We see trees without

leaves...not yet brought to life. We see the places in our land that was once buried under the snow...and once was green but is just brown. We noticed the dog and deer droppings that were once covered by snow... and we notice the fences and sidewalks that need repair. (That is in our yard anyways.) Snow has a way of making things look white and pretty...and now in Spring...all is revealed for what it truly is.

Our lives are like this also. The spring...in our souls first needs a revealing...and opening to what is in need of attention so that we might be open to the resurrection in our souls. Maybe we are needing a rest. Maybe we are struggling to know where God's love is present. Perhaps we are needing to pay attention to places where we need to be forgiven or where relationships are broken or to places where our humanity...is made known.

It is in this time of taking note of what is being revealed that we find our truest growth. Lent is a growing time...a time to pay attention...and to see clearly.

So often we get caught in the busyness of each season that we forget to be still enough to take note of that which needs attention in our spirit.

And as things are revealed...we can then open to the presence of God in our lives. We can then open to the healing forgiveness that is ever ready to enter our hearts and souls. And we can be more open than ever to the power of the resurrection as God reveals God's victory and power over all...including our failings and struggles.

This is a time to open and a time to heal and a time to grow.

May we remain open to the working of the Holy Spirit throughout the year...not just through Lent and Easter...but all year round.

The words of an old hymn come to my heart today. Maybe it can be our prayer as we continue to journey through Lent, Easter and all our days.

- 1. Open my eyes, that I may see glimpses of truth thou hast for me; place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp and set me free. Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see. Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!
- 2. Open my ears, that I may hear voices of truth thou sendest clear; and while the wavenotes fall on my ear, everything false will disappear. Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see. Open my ears, illumine me, Spirit divine!
- 3. Open my mouth, and let me bear gladly the warm truth everywhere; open my heart and let me prepare love with thy children thus to share. Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see. Open my heart, illumine me, Spirit divine!

The United Methodist Hymnal Number 454 **Text:** Clara H. Scott, 1841-1897 **Music:** Clara H. Scott, 1841-1897

Tune: OPEN MY EYES



Come oh God into this time and be our resurrection and our life.... As we journey together... Pastor Bev

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



Dear Beloved of God -

Following the meeting of our National Church Council, March 8-10, 2019, the Western Synod's Examining Committee will also meet in Winnipeg. This meeting is one of the highlights of my year as your synod bishop.

The committee, comprised of one member from each of the four Western Synods, a faculty member from Lutheran Theological Seminary and the candidate's bishop, will meet this year with five candidates two of whom are from the Synod of Alberta and the Territories.

In the Lutheran tradition, a person's call from God to public ministry is understood as both internal and external or mediated:

- 1. through an internal, personal sense of call that God is leading a person to public Christian ministry.
- 2. through public affirmation that the person has the character, commitment, preparation and ability to serve in a specific public ministry, either ordained or diaconal.
- 3. through the receipt and acceptance of a letter of call to serve in a particular ministry setting.

The responsibility for approval of candidates for rostered ministry in the ELCIC rests with the synods.

The final evaluation of candidates for rostered ministry is in two parts: the written examination (members of the committee are provided with the candidate's responses to a written examination, as well as all other pertinent material from the candidate's dossier) and the examination interview.

The final evaluation is to review and inquire in depth into the candidate's readiness for rostered ministry, and to determine that the candidate meets the requirements for ministry established by the National Church.

The areas of readiness reviewed during the interview are: theological and academic competence, spirituality and faith commitment, personal integrity and leadership abilities, and, call to ministry and ministry gifts.

By the time you read this April Message the Western Synod's Examining Committee will have met and I am hopeful that I will be in conversation regarding Calls to parish ministry and Services of Ordination.

Thank you for your continuing prayers for all candidates for rostered ministry across the ELCIC and for those prayerfully considering candidacy, for members of our ELCIC's Program Committee for Leadership for Ministry, for our seminaries, and for candidacy committees.

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)



### **Pastoral Acts**

Marriage: Christine Shuman & Lowell Dahlman

> Funeral: Audrey Hitman





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

# Ellis Nester - April 24

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

# **Holy Week**



Thursday, April 18, Maundy Thursday service, 7:00 pm
Friday, April 19, Good Friday service, 7:00 pm
Saturday, April 20, Easter Vigil, 7:00 pm, Augustana Chapel
Sunday, April 21, Easter Sunday

- 9:00 am Easter Breakfast Basement Auditorium
- 10:30 am Easter Sunday Holy Communion service

# Church Council Highlights from March 21, 2019

David Larson focused on planning and worrying, opening with a reading about worry and how to move away from being too focused on it. 2 Cor 5:17 – anyone in Christ is a new creation – life is all about change and learning to accept that. He then shared a devotion from 'The Tacklebox of Hope', specifically on how the jitterbug lure, used for many years, originally did not work as intended, but, after being reshaped, it became incredibly successful. We are jitterbugs, remolded by God. David opened in prayer.

The Nominating Committee is still looking for a Secretary or Vice Chair, a Worship Committee Council representative, 1 member for the Learning Committee, 1 or 2 for the Service Committee and 1 for the Worship Committee. The Witnessing and Support Committee have a full complement of members. There was a discussion about limits on consecutive term limits. Some members of Witnessing and Support are coming close to the end of their terms but would happily continue if they could. The Nominating Committee is having trouble finding people and usually talks to every member without being able to fill all the positions. We could encourage people to turn over on committees after a lengthy period of service but remove the actual limits on the number of terms. A draft change to the Bylaws will be prepared and brought to the AGM.

Council reviewed the changes requested by committees. Council agreed with proposals from Worship and Learning. Odell will meet with Witnessing representatives to clarify some of the recommendations forwarded by Witnessing. A draft of all bylaw changes will be prepared for the April Council Meeting.

Ivar reported that the Budget Group would meet next week to prepare a budget.

The Responsibility for "Stewardship" was discussed. Donny and Calvin will talk to the Learning Committee again about possible solutions.

The Synod sent information about a Congregational Life event in Red Deer on Saturday April 6.

Calvin passed out material about the "Natural Church Development" program. It would require a group of 30 people to fill out a survey as a starting point. The Goal is to help identify what is going well, and where more attention might be needed. Calvin will see if any other congregations in the region, other than Bawlf, have used this material.

A motion was passed changing "Splash" to "Baby Ministry" in the Governance Manual as recommended by the Learning Committee.

Chris told us of a project that the Service Committee has started holding informal discussion groups around a meal

Support has requested a person to come to explain and cost additions to the sound system that would provide better sound for those who use hearing aids.

Council tabled changes to the posting of minutes on the web site until they have heard from all committees.

Council accepted the decision of the MLW to have a flat rate of \$50 for the use of the Lower Kitchen.

We continue to have about \$25,000 more expenses than income for this fiscal year.

Ivar will bring more information and a recommendation for options for our Endowment Fund investments to bring to the AGM to the next meeting.

The next Regular Council Meeting will be on Tuesday April 16, 2019 at 5:15 pm. We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

ege.	Monetary view to February 28, 2019 (83% budget year)			
Revenue Designated	\$329,190 \$34,544			
Total	\$363,734			
Expenses	\$394,283			
Net income	\$-30,549			

# **MLW Highlights**

We were asked to add some of our activities to this report. I know not everyone receives the annual report so here is a short listing of some of our giving.

Messiah Chair fund	\$3,500.00 plus \$1,000.00	
Refugee fund	\$1,500.00	
Messiah's capital fund	\$1,500.00	
Hastings Lake Bible Camp	\$1,000.00	
H.L.B.C from garage sale & Faith Life	\$2,340.00	
Thankoffering	\$3,855.00	(\$1,000.00 to World Mission Prayer
· ·		nce between the Watts family and CLWR)
Chaplaincy (Augustana)	\$1,000.00	,
Seminary		
Hospice		
CLBI		
Eagles Wings	\$500.00	
Merry Christmas Fund		
From our Dec offerings		each to Brian Rude ministry;
-	Sa	maritan fund; Connie Landstrom

32 boxes of kits and quilts were sent to CLWR.

Women who belong to Messiah also are members of our MLW. We would love to have you join us in our monthly circle meetings. Even if you are not a member please join us in our circles.

This year our Bible Study is on Prayer. A wonderful uplifting journey.

This is just a small overview in our Mission statement "Sharing Jesus Christ with all people through Bible Study and Service".

MLW Executive

### **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



LunchFEST Sunday, April 14

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

Volunteer Recognition & Appreciation Sunday



will be on Sunday, April 7. The Service Committee will be providing and serving cake at Coffee Fellowship.

All are welcome!

# **FOOD BANK SUNDAY** April 21

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.





Thank you to all of you who braved the bad weather to come to Rod's funeral, also thanks to those unable to come for keeping us in your thoughts and prayers that day.

Thank you to for the many sympathy cards, hugs, and the assurance of your prayers for all of us.

It all meant so much to us.

Love, Vi Madison and family

Thank you to Tova Olson, musicians and assistants for creating an evening of Pipe Organ Magic on March 9! What an amazing effort - we are eagerly anticipating another concert in the future.

Photo credit to Doreen Brewer anticipating another concert in the future.





...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 31st:

"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.

### Sunday, April 7th:

"Jesus' Self-Understanding of His Death" presented by Pastor Craig Wentland

How might have the Hebrew Scriptures and historical events in the life of Israel informed how Jesus understood that his vocation would lead to the cross?

### Sunday, April 14th:

"DELIGHT: A Pathway for Change", presented by Pastor Brian Krushel

Drawing on the wisdom of the psalmist David, Pastor Brian Krushel will share how the Lord guides us through our most challenging transitions.

### Sunday, April 21st:

### Easter Sunday - No Adult Class

### Sunday, April 28th:

"The Accidental Pilgrim", presented by Anna Harder

In 2012, Anna Harder first heard about the Camino de Santiago, a 800 kilometre medieval pilgrimage route across northern Spain, and was smitten with the idea of a walking trail that spanned an entire country. Anna spent 12 life changing days on the Camino in the Fall of 2013, certain she would return to travel the complete distance. This past Fall, a 32 day trek brought to fulfillment this amazing endeavour. Anna looks forward to sharing this experience with us.

# Opportunities For Designated Giving

As a part of the ongoing maintenance and improvements at Messiah Lutheran Church the Support Committee, with the approval of Church Council, is informing our members of two projects that are in need of financial assistance going forward.

- 1) Improvements to our sound system beginning with the installation of a T coil that will assist the hearing of those with hearing aids that have a setting that connects to this system. Other improvements to the sound system will be made as we can fund them.
- 2) Starting and building up a designated fund over a number of years for the replacement of the shingles on the sanctuary roof, as well as for the replacement of the covering on the flat roof areas will prepare us for this inevitable cost.

These are major projects that will require significant financial resources so we must prepare in advance. More specific dollar amounts will be supplied later for your information.

Just a reminder that your REGULAR GIVING should not be used for these projects, since our operational budget continues, but as you are able your designated gifts will make these projects possible.

Messiah congregation has successfully use this method over the years to fund many important projects. Contact any of us on Support with questions or ideas. Thank you for your support!

The Support Committee

# Celebrate Easter!



Chocolate candy. Easter egg hunts.

Getting a picture taken with the Easter bunny. Buying new spring clothes. Chances are these are the responses most children would give if asked how they were preparing for Easter.

Like children, we would rather concentrate on the positive, happy things like spring, bunnies, chicks, candy and colored eggs, than the suffering and sacrifice Jesus made for each one of us on the cross.

Crowds flock to church on Easter Sunday, where only a few days earlier, congregations were sparse on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. People like to hear good news. Easter declares the good news that Christ is Risen!

During Lent, we are called to deepen our spiritual lives through prayer and reading the Scriptures — to examine how we are using our talents and skills in the service of others and our giving to the poor. We are called to live as true disciples of Christ. We could look at Lent as a 40-day crash course in how to live a life as a steward of God's gifts.

As a steward entrusted with such gifts and good news of a risen Christ, what might we do in response? In St. Paul's 2nd letter to the Corinthians he writes, "He will always make you rich enough to be generous at all times." Will we take the many opportunities to share our gifts of money, our talents and our time? Is it time to take God's promise of abundance seriously and be generous stewards of his gifts?



Happy Easter!

### ATTENTION HEARING AID USERS

We will be testing a hearing loop system beginning next week.

Contact your hearing aid provider to see if your hearing aid is

T-coil compliant. If so, obtain the instructions for activating it.

The Support Committee

### **CARE GROUP...**

# Would you like to be a part of a care group in our church?

We are aware that caring comes in all kinds of ways... so I am gathering a group of people who might like to give care in a variety of ways... There are so many ways to share the love of God with others

- Visiting
- ♦ Helping people move
- Helping people with repairing or building things they cannot do on their own because of mobility or health difficulties or age.
- Driving people to medical appointments
- Taking people for walks
- Having tea or coffee with someone lonely
- Being a prayer partner for people who need extra prayer
- Or anything else you can think of that will show God's love and care

We will meet to talk about how we want to form this group so we can show love and care in our midst. Our first meeting with be April 4 at 10:30 am.

In Service to our Lord... Pastor Bev



CLWR is launching two new emergency responses this Lenten season to help families in crisis in Central African Republic and South Sudan. Though neither crisis has made much news here in Canada, millions of people have been misplaced and are desperate for emergency assistance. Partners of CLWR in these areas are identifying those who most need support – like families with malnourished children, children who have lost

parents, pregnant and nursing women and the elderly.

Just \$17 provides a week's worth of support to a family in Central African Republic to help them manage while they wait for peace and can again begin to build.

Remember that another shipment will be sent to CLWR in April, so it's time to

finish assembling those We Care kits and get some more quilts finished. The last quilting day before packing will be on April 17. The need for supplies is great.



### **Further News from Rev. Brian Rude Concerning:**

### Presidential Elections in El Salvador, February, 2019

(On February 3<sup>rd</sup>, Nayib Bukele was elected president; this represents a drastic shift away from the two traditional parties which have dominated the last three decades. What follows are further observations by Rev. Rude on possible implications for ministry of this potential shift in government attitudes.)



Though there were some worthwhile social programs implemented by the current president, the majority of voters are eager to see a change of administration, for numerous reasons:

- --corruption;
- --alignment with the right wing, economically and politically;
- --administration became a new oligarchy;
- --continuation of neoliberal economic policies;
- --distance from the people who elected them, not listening or responding (including the loud message in last year's legislative and municipal elections);
- --loss of the revolutionary spirit which formed them and brought them to government leadership in the executive branch ten years ago.

I have other reasons, which likely don't resonate with the general voting population.

I would hope that now, such ministry among the marginalized, the trampled, could be resumed. I would hope that:

- --youth would no longer be seen and treated as delinquents by the police, but as national treasures, valued for their current and future potential, to be supported and developed, and that they be heard and given ample opportunity to give society all that they have to offer;
- --prison inmates, whether gang-related or "civilian" (non-gang-related), or awaiting trial, would no longer be isolated and demonized by the administration, but be seen and treated as human beings, whatever their criminal record, also with much current and future potential, and much to offer society; --those who are forcibly displaced, becoming migrants within the country or beyond its borders, be
- --young, poor, women who have suffered a miscarriage or stillbirth not be sentenced to up to thirty years in prison for aggravated homicide;
- --employment be safe, dignified, and adequately remunerated, not making unemployment seem like a healthier, safer alternative.

**See Matthew 25:41-45** 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 inmatesnot 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.

### A gratified election observer, Brian Rude

recognized, acknowledged and assisted;

Donations in support of "In Mission with El Salvador" total \$3,720 to the end of February for the financial year ending on April 30.

Yellow envelopes are available at the Welcome Centre to facilitate contributions.

All donations are received with thanks!!

Submitted by Ray Blacklock



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



- On Saturday evening, May 4th you are invited to a catered banquet in the Basement Auditorium. Reserve your seat for this event by signing up on April 7, 14, or 28 at the back of the church or call the Church Office 780-672-3444 by May 1. The cost will be covered by donations. Donate when you arrive at the banquet.
- 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 5th followed by Coffee Fellowship.

Want to know more?

Talk to Donny Loewen, Holly Olson,

Loya Steinwandt or Pastor Bev Swanson.

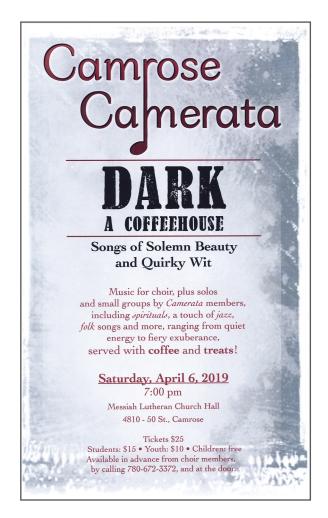


What does God have in store for us now?

# A note from Sheila Becker -

If you read Eternity for Today and look at the author's names - yes, Mark is my brother. He and his wife wrote the devotions for April 1-7.







Camrose Music Festival at Messiah

1. Junior & Senior Piano

Come and enjoy some up and coming local talent on Wednesday, April 10 and Thursday, April 11,

9 am - noon, 1:30 pm - 4:30 pm.

Piano players of all ages will be able to showcase their skills on our magnificent instrument here at Messiah.

2. Camrose Community Choirs

Choirs from our community, including Messiah's Kuimba Youth choir, will perform Wednesday, April 10, 6:30 pm - 9:30 pm.







### **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 or YouTube.

# Your Changing Seminary

Join Bishop Larry Kochendorfer and ABT Synod as we welcome

The Rev. Dr. William Harrison, President

Calendar of presentations, Synod of Alberta & the Territories:



Edmonton and Area 7 p. m. St. Paul's Lutheran Ellerslie, Edmonton (sanctuary)

Wednesday, April 3, 2019:

Red Deer and Area 10 a. m. at Good Shepherd, Red Deer

Wednesday, April 3, 2019:

Calgary and Area 7 p. m. at Prince of Faith Lutheran, 2523-56 St NE Calgary

Thursday, April 4, 2019:

Brooks and Area 1 p. m. at Spirit of Grace Lutheran Church, hosting at JBS Canada Centre Board Room Brooks

For more information:

Pastor Fran Schmidt: development.office@usask.ca

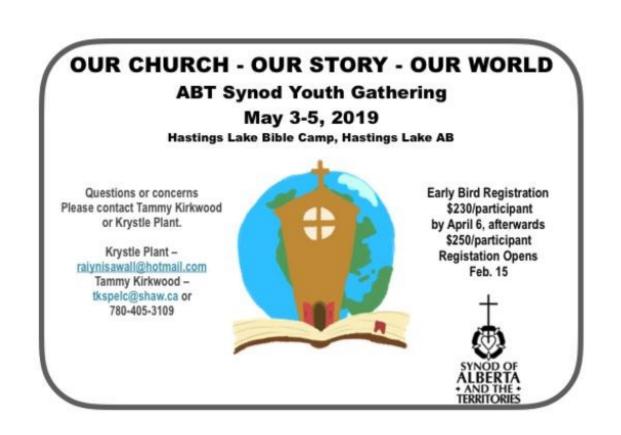


Information on the changes at LTS can be found in the Winter Newsletter online at:

http://www.usask.ca/stu/luther/documents/Newsletter/LTS\_newsletter\_winter2019\_low\_res,%20final.pdf







# **Prayers of the People**



Gracious and loving God, we thank you for the Resurrection and hope for Eternal life with you.

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 postsecondary education. May they return from Spring Break rested and renewed so that 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 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.



Pour out a special blessing on Lowell Dahlman and Chris Shuman who were recently united in Holy Matrimony. Bless their marriage and life together and let them be your light in the world.

We pray for the family and friends of Audrey Hitman as they adjust to life without her loving 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 Pastor Brian Rude and his ministry in El Salvador. We ask your presence with the George and Susan Watts family in Burundi and for Cecelia Watts as she travels to Burundi to visit with them; 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 in their work and travels 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

Mark your calendar! Messiah's Annual Meeting will be on Sunday, June 9 following a potluck lunch.

### **Messiah Church Council**

Odell Olson, President

Gail Stolee, Vice-President

Jonathan Hawkins, Secretary

Ivar Saugen, Treasurer

Members at Large: <u>Liaising With:</u>

Darlene Dahle Worship Committee

Donny Loewen Learning Committee

Dave Larson Support Committee

Carolyn Andersen Witnessing Committee

Chris Hohm Service Committee



### Messiah Lutheran Church

Sharing Jesus Christ with all People

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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

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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: May 2019 Material due: April 16 Delivery date: April 26

# April 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 10:30 Lectio 2:00 World Mission @ Blacklocks 2:00 Refugee Centre  7:00 Camerata 7:00 MLW Bible Study Briefing	2 10:00 Staff Meeting 7:00 Lenten Service @ United Church	7:00 ATP Musical Rehearsal	4 10:30 Handbells 10:30 Care Group 12:00 All Staff Meeting 3:00 Kuimba Choir 6:45 Confirmation 7:00 Messiah's Choristers 7:00 Support Committee	6:00 Camerata Dress Rehearsal 6:30 Junior Youth	6 8:45 Men's Bible Study 7:00 Camerata Coffee House Concert
7 Lent 5 9:15 Adult Education 9:30 Friendship Class 10:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service 11:45 Coffee Fellowship	8 Committee Minutes Due For Council Reporting 10:30 Lectio 5:00 Witnessing Cmt. 7:00 Camerata	9 10:00 Staff Meeting 7:00 Lenten Service @ St. Andrews Anglican Church	10 9:00 Music Festival Junior Piano  1:30 Music Festival Junior Piano  4:45 Learning Cmt.  6:30 Music Festival Community Choirs	11 9:00 Music Festival Senior Piano  10:30 Handbells  1:30 Music Festival Senior Piano 6:45 Confirmation 7:00 Messiah's Choristers	12	13 8:45 Men's Bible Study
14 Passion/Palm Sunday 9:15 Adult Education NO Friendship Class 10:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service 11:45 LunchFEST	15 10:30 Lectio 7:00 Camerata	16 Messenger Articles Due  10:00 Staff Meeting  5:15 Church Council	17 9:00 Quilting	18 10:30 Handbells 6:45 Confirmation 7:00 Maundy Thursday Service ? 8:00 Messiah's Choristers - check with Tova	19 Good Friday Office Closed  7:00 Good Friday Service	20  NO Men's Bible Study  7:00 Easter Vigil @ Augustana
21 Resurrection of Our Lord, Easter Sunday 9:00 Easter Breakfast 10:30 Worship Service 11:45 Coffee Fellowship	22 Easter Monday Office Closed	23 10:00 Staff Meeting	9:00 MLW Packing Day	25 10:30 Handbells 6:45 Confirmation 7:00 Messiah's Choristers	26 8:30 CLBI Grad Rehearsal	27 8:45 Men's Bible Study 10:00 CLBI Graduation
28 Easter 2 9:15 Adult Education 9:30 Friendship Class 10:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service 11:45 Coffee Fellowship	29 10:30 Lectio	30 10:00 Staff Meeting				