



MESSIAH MESSENGER

October 2020

Volume 41 Issue 9



SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Regular in-person worship resumed on September 13 at 10:30 am and will continue unless we hear otherwise.

For more information go to our website and click on 'In-Person Worship at Messiah Resumes'

We will be broadcasting live on YouTube search for MessiahCamrose or find a link on our website messiahcamrose.ca.

We will also continue to broadcast live on EastLink TV channels 10, 310 and 610 at 10:30 am Sunday morning and also rebroadcast on Wednesday at 5:30 pm.

Please call if you have any questions or concerns 780 672 3444 or email office@messiahcamrose.ca.

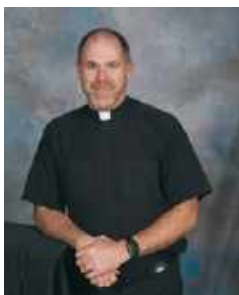
OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Friday
8:00 am - Noon
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

CHURCH FOYER WILL BE OPEN

Monday to Friday
8:00 am to 4:00 pm
(offerings can be placed through the mail slot on the inside office door during the lunch hour)

Minister's Message



I've been back from holidays (my much needed "comma") for a month now. In this time, we've re-started limited in-person worship

and Sunday School. We continue to broadcast on Eastlink and YouTube. We continue to meet in small physically distanced groups for coffee, campfires and some meetings. We use Zoom for the Alpha program and Men's Bible Study and some meetings. I hope you have been able to connect in some way that feels safe and helpful for you. If you have not, and would like to see something that would be safe and helpful, please give me a call!

Thank you to all who continue to support our ministry here at Messiah. It is heartening to know that people are praying and helping and giving so that we, together, will continue to "Share Jesus with All People". These have been difficult times for everyone. It is good to know that God enacts goodness through people like you. On the other hand, if you are in need in some way please let us know – maybe we can help.

Our First Lesson for this coming Sunday (October 4) is the Ten Commandments – "Words" spoken by God to those who were saved from slavery, thirst and starvation. These "Words" were intended to lead God's people into a bright and life-filled future. That includes us!

The first tablet is all about knowing the LORD and keeping that relationship healthy. If God is first in our lives, everything else falls into place. Luther reminds us that we are to "fear and love God so that..." because we need to be reminded to live with respect, trust and love of God who is first and blesses us with life.

The teaching of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul;

By them also your servant is enlightened,

and in keeping them there is great reward.

Psalm 19:7a, 11

The second tablet results from the first. It is all about caring for others. I very much appreciate how Luther talked about these "commandments" in a positive light. Beyond the "you-shall-not" admonitions is a deeper encouragement to care for others. We are to honor, help, and build up what others have (materially or relationally). We are to care for others, not simply "not harm" them.

That's a big ask from God. It is relatively easy to *not* actively harm someone else. But that has a definite limit because no one is completely independent. All of us have needs beyond what we can provide for ourselves. If all we do is avoid harming by leaving others alone - ultimately people will come to harm through our neglect.

We are called to care for others. It means finding out what they need/want which may be different from what we need or want. It means putting aside our agendas. We may be taken advantage of. We may misinterpret what others need. Others may not treat us in the same caring way we try to treat them. But this is God's way. It is the way to life and a "revived soul". God's way is ultimately the way that leads to "great reward". (Jesus talks about it as "abundant life" – John 10:10)

May we, together, continue to care for others. May we always be attuned to new ways that God is calling us to care. Then, let us act as Jesus would act (with Jesus leading and supporting us).

Call me at 780-672-3444

Text or call me at 780-679-5976

Email me at: calvinskriver@gmail.com



Minister's Message

LIVING WITH THANKFUL HEARTS



As the fall leaves hit the ground... we all seem to be hitting the ground running... As we do, I am reminded that this is the season we are reminded in a new way to STOP to give thanks as we move through our days, take a moment to breathe and to just thank God even for our very breath.

As I read in many places in scripture it is important to continually give thanks all the days of our lives. This does not for one single moment mean that we don't feel deep sadness or anger or frustration... or a myriad of other feelings.

The thing is... giving thanks is not necessarily a feeling and honestly it does a lot for our hearts. It is an action that can happen no matter what we are feeling. It is an action that can help us to see the blessings even in the midst of our tears. It is an action that can change our perspective and even our feelings sometimes.

I believe that giving thanks changes our hearts. We can even feel better about someone who is frustrating us if we choose instead to give thanks for something we appreciate about them instead of criticizing them in our minds. We can feel better about a situation in our lives just because we give thanks.

Some days giving thanks is much harder than others.

Other days giving thanks is way easier.

And yet it seems to help to lift our spirits if we can manage some thankful thoughts because it turns our minds and hearts to the faithful goodness of our Lord.

As I ponder this concept of giving thanks, I realize that so often we are very good at giving thanks for the big things that happen in our lives. But...in our scripture we are called to give thanks in all things: whether big or little.

In fact if we look, we will see God's wee gifts in front of us all day long. We just don't see them because we do not look! It's easy to see the big things that God does for us in our lives... but it's those little things that quite often go unnoticed...

.. the bird that sang in the morning and the little bluebird that just sat on the tree outside our campsite this summer

... or the moon in the sky each night as it changes

... or the smile on the faces of our children

...or the comfort of the voice of someone we care about

... a comforting call in the midst of deep grief

...the little text that someone sends your way... to just say hi

... or the moment where God speaks gently to you in the quiet of the morning

... a letter that comes in the mail just at the right time... bringing just what we need for encouragement

...or just the warm sun shining in the window in the morning

There are so many blessings that fill our days that so often they go unnoticed.

As we open our day and if we open our eyes, God will show us the many blessings that are hidden in the corners of each of our moments.

Scripture constantly reminds us to give thanks to God just for God's goodness and love; for God being who God is.

Psalms 100: 4-5 says this "Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations."

What happens for me when I give thanks is that MY attitude changes and sometimes even my mood. Giving thanks shifts and changes even my feelings. I believe it is actually healthy to learn to practice thankfulness. Perhaps this is why we are reminded so often to give thanks in all things.

In Philippians 4: 8 we hear these words, "whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if there is excellent or praise worthy—think about such things" And it goes on to remind us that if we focus our thoughts on these things... "the God of peace will be with you."

Indeed, if our mind and hearts and thoughts are focussed on seeing things with thankful hearts... we will experience God's peace in ways we cannot imagine.

As we begin this fall season... let us be reminded to always give thanks in all things... and to thank God for constant faithfulness and goodness to us throughout our lives. Living with thankful hearts takes practice... Let's start today!

In thanks for you... and for all of God's incredible goodness and the gift you are to me and to God's world.

Pastor Bev

Feel free to contact me anytime at

780 672 3444
(office)

Or text or call me at
780 678 7830 (cell)

Email bev@breatheopenlove.com





Bishop's Message

For Congregations and Lay and Rostered Leaders



Dear Beloved of God –

Please permit me a bit of grandparent boasting time. This is new – for me, for my spouse, Cathy, for our family, and for our granddaughter.

She arrived several weeks early. I predicted the date, early as it was. I just had a feeling.

Teighan Rhylee Kochendorfer arrived Thursday, July 9th, the anniversary of my ordination 31 years ago.

Teighan was in the NICU for several days, then transferred to another hospital for monitoring – all in the midst of COVID-19 hospital restrictions. We finally saw her nearly two weeks after her birth.

Though I guessed her birthday, I was a bit off on the time, convinced she would be born in the wee hours of the night, and I was off by a few ounces. She was 4 pounds, 9 ounces at birth, lost weight after, and was a staggering 4 pounds 7 ounces when she was discharged and I was able to first cradle her in my arms.

I have been pondering these past weeks. Wondering what it might be for me to be a Papa, and Cathy a Nana. Reflecting on this remarkable, mysterious gestation, germination, quickening, and birth. It feels very much like the remarkable, mysterious gestation, germination, quickening, and birth of this coronavirus adventure. A journey, an opportunity that invites us to where we do not determine the route, the result, or the final outcome. Where we walk in the midst of disorientation and anxiety, frustration and uncertainty, and through resiliency, imagination, generosity, experimentation, and learning.

Gestation: a silent, mystifying coming together. Conception. Watching and waiting. Listening. Deep observation. Listening. A place of impulse and intuition. And, listening.

Germination: a hushed, still gathering. Sprouting and incubating. A place of dreams and possibility, aches and wonders. Where imagination and ideas are whispered, tried, and set aside. Where words are too inadequate for what one is trying to describe.

Ah, the **Quickening:** a magical moment. The first fluttering movement, like a butterfly, proving that life has drawn together. A poke from a limb. For months, the cells have been growing until it's clear: something new is here. Still unknown, nameless, and unfamiliar. A journey for months – perhaps years – moving toward a new season. Some clarity. An awareness of the opportunity. A coming into being. Something coming, but not yet arrived.

Birth: an effort of deep pain and instant love. A labor of shedding pain and turning to that which is alive, new. The wondrous becoming familiar. And new energy and gifts and passion, for what might be.

I am reflecting on this remarkable, mysterious gestation, germination, quickening, and birth of Teighan Rhylee Kochendorfer. And, this Papa's love that knows no bounds.

I am also continuing to ponder this parallel coronavirus adventure. And the grace and mercy of God's promised presence on the journey, and the love of God, which knows no bounds.

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

In Christ Jesus – Shalom, +Larry



PASTORAL ACT

Funeral

Elaine Olson



SPECIAL GIFTS RECEIVED

Memorials

Elaine Olson

Arlene Person

Council Highlights

We are open for worship! Approximately 22 worshipers joined 18 staff and volunteers on Sunday, September 13 for the return to public worship. Attendees reported feeling safe and cared for. Thank you to the Worship Committee for all your thoughtful work and attention to detail.

Alpha has begun!

Sunday School began on September 27.

Lectio began on September 21 - Monday's at 10:30. Entry is through the Link door.

Adult class will be deferred to the new year.

There are openings on both the Learning and the Service Committees. Please give serving on one of these your prayerful consideration. Contact the office or Council President, Charlene Brown, if you are moved to serve in this way.



News from the World Mission Scene

World Mission Month as part of Messiah's Life

Each year the World Mission Group has organized "World Mission Month" during which speakers are brought in to the Basement Auditorium for a presentation during the Adult Class 9:15 - 10:15 on Sunday mornings in January.

The purpose is to keep before the congregation examples of how the Good News is being proclaimed far and wide in our world in which $\frac{2}{3}$ of the inhabitants do not name Jesus as LORD.

What are your suggestions of how this worthy goal might still be pursued within the corona virus limitations?

Jesus says, Go , proclaim... (Matthew 28)

You are welcome to participate in this discussion at the next World Mission Group meeting on Monday, October 5 at 2:00 p.m. via ZOOM. Just let the undersigned know of your interest so that a ZOOM invitation can be sent to you.

Respectfully submitted,
Ray Blacklock Chairperson,
World Mission Group
780-672-7902



Connecting in the Word

Check out our brief recorded inspirational messages twice a week.

One with Pastor Bev and then with Andy the puppet for a message for the kids!

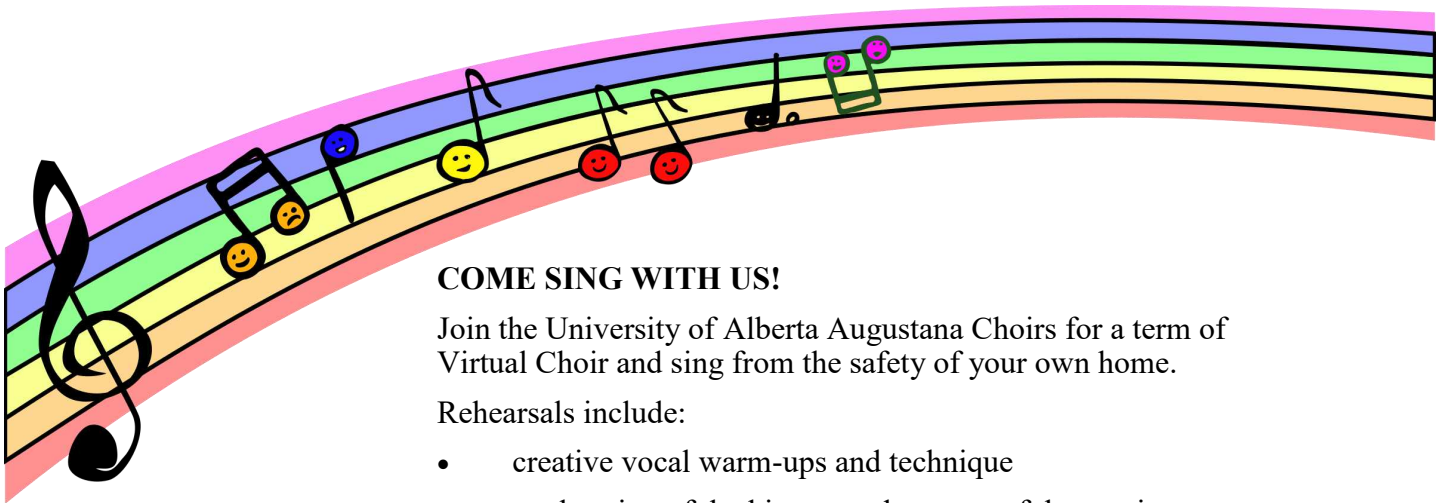


Go to messiahcamrose.ca to find the link called

' Connecting in the Word '

Join us in this time of making safe connection
with one another around God's word.

We welcome your responses.



COME SING WITH US!

Join the University of Alberta Augustana Choirs for a term of Virtual Choir and sing from the safety of your own home.

Rehearsals include:

- creative vocal warm-ups and technique
- exploration of the history and context of the music
- guest conductors and composers
- great repertoire
- registration fee \$50.

Mannskor (Augustana's Men's Choir)

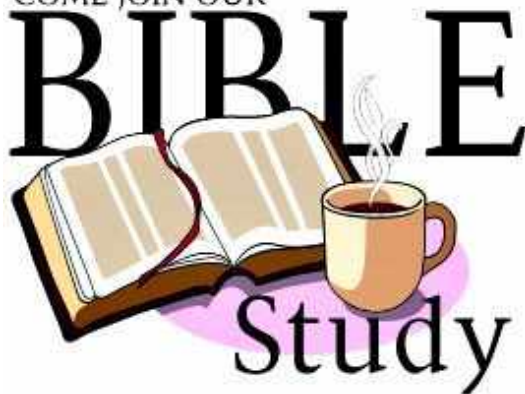
Mondays, 7:30-9:00 p.m. – begins September 21

Sangkor (Augustana's Women's Choir)

Thursdays, 7:30-9:00 p.m. – begins September 24

For more information or to Register, contact Dr. John Wiebe at jhwiebe@ualberta.ca, 780 994 6539

COME JOIN OUR



Bible Study & Fellowship Opportunity For Men of All Ages. A study of the lessons for the next day's worship service takes place each Saturday morning at 9:00 am. All Men are Welcome for Study, Fellowship, and Encouragement in the Faith.

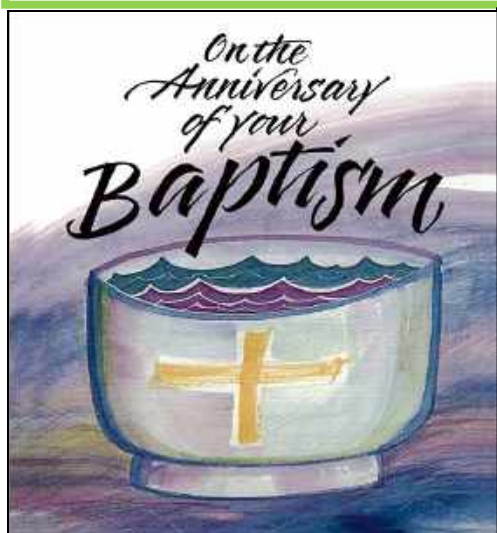
Men's Bible Study has resumed using the ZOOM program. If you would be new to this group, you would be most welcome, and should contact Ray Blacklock at 780-672-7902 to be included on ZOOM.





Congregational Prayer Time

Please join us in a time of prayer each day at 9 am or 9 pm (or both) to pray for each other, our world and our church. Just take a moment if you are able and know that others are joining to form this unique prayer circle from Messiah.



We recognize the monthly

Baptismal Anniversaries

of the children

in the *Splash* program:

Jack and Zoey Kowalczyk - October 15

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

FOOD BANK DONATIONS

Food bank donations are still needed and can be placed in the cart at the back of the sanctuary or dropped off at the Neighbor Aid Food Bank located at 4524 54 Street - Mon to Fri from 9 am to Noon and Tues, Wed, Thurs 1 - 4 pm.

Monetary donations are also greatly appreciated and can be made at atbcares.com



Dear Messiah Family,

I would like to thank you for the generous retirement gift. A gift certificate for Greenland Garden Centre could not have been more perfect!!

Where have the past 14 years gone? Messiah was a wonderful fit for my personality and I loved every minute of working in the office. Thank you to the Pastors and the many volunteers that helped me in the office over the years doing various jobs. It was fun working with each of you.

Just a little history of when Messiah came into my life. Forty-seven years ago, a dashing young man brought me to church one Sunday. Two years later Ed and I were married at Messiah by Pastor Carl Kopperud. In 1977 Shane was baptized, 1982 Jordan was baptized and 1984 our daughter Jayla was baptized. Our children were fourth generation members of Messiah and the fifth generation continued with the baptism of our five grandchildren. God is so great!

God has richly blessed us with a wonderful family and an amazing church family! Thank you for your prayers over the past 14 years. I sure have appreciated them.

May God continue to bless Messiah and each one of you.

In Christ,

Doreen Brewer



Financial Update to August 31 (4 mo.)

Offerings and other receipts \$117,649

Budgeted \$139,517

Expenses 129,480

Excess of Expenses -11,831

Designated Offerings 17,502

Other financial notes:

Roof repair funds needed \$46,000

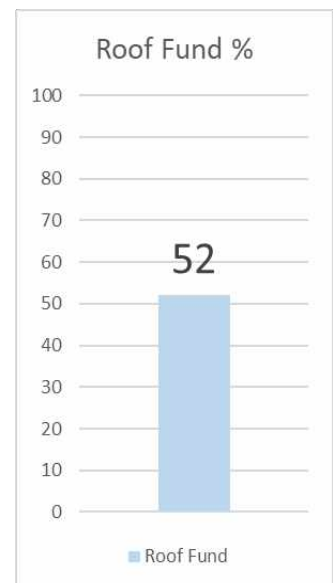
ROOF FUND

The updated goal
is

\$92,341

Received as of
Sept 27:

\$47,770





We are able to accept
E-transfers at the following
email address:
offering@messiahcamrose.ca



Wednesday Coffee Time

*Coffee Fellowship every Wednesday at 10 am is
continuing in the
Fellowship Centre.
Please bring your own coffee cup!*



BURUNDI HUNGER CRISIS

Many families were forced to flee their country and have now returned, some to find their land and livelihoods have disappeared. Without a source of income or the resources to grow their own food, many families are on the brink of a hunger crisis. The coronavirus has only worsened the situation by restricting movement and preventing access to markets, workplaces and land.

The George Watts family is just in a state of waiting until they are able to return to their work in Burundi, so this project becomes more personal.

JUST \$35 SENDS TWO WEEKS OF EMERGENCY FOOD, PLUS THE TOOLS AND TRAINING TO BECOME SELF-SUFFICIENT.

Other CLWR Projects are on-going.

To donate:

Call CLWR at 1-800-661-2597

On-line at <https://clwr.donorshops.com/BurundiAppeal>

Cheque payable to CLWR and mailed to

CLWR

600-177 Lombard Ave.

Winnipeg, MB R3B 0W5



Kuriakos has joined together with our fellow Lutheran Camps in Canada to offer weekly Bible Studies for Adults through October and November.

In October, join Rev. Dr. Anna Madsen as we delve into the meaning of Joy.

In November, Rev. David Saude will take us on a journey through Leviticus to understand the Israelites' connection to the Land, and explore our calling to care for creation.

Registration is free - see their website kuriakos.ab.ca, but participants are encouraged to make a donation to their Local Bible Camp.



Snow Removal at Messiah

Fourteen volunteers are needed to take a shift this winter to remove snow from the back, side and front sidewalks around the church building. Please leave your name at the church office if you are willing to serve in this way, 780-672-3444

USHERS & GREETERS NEEDED

Who? Those who are able to assist with greeting and ushering at our in-person worship services.

More Information? Call Darlene Dahle at 780 672 8488



Lectio...

Journeying through Prayer

Mondays at 10:30 am.

Come in the Link door and go to the Nursery.

For more information contact Jane Arial

780 672 7982



Confirmation

will resume in October

please contact the office at

780-672-3444 and connect with Pastor Bev

if you have a child who will be 12 and up

in this school year.

Care Group!!

We would like to start up a care group. COVID has created a lot of distancing which creates separation, but the needs of people are still important and perhaps even more intense in this time of isolation. So, if you are able and willing to be a part of a care group we would welcome you to call the church office and put your name on a list for our Care Group or talk with one of our pastors about what you might be willing to do to help.

These things might include helping with some basic things that might need fixing, calling someone regularly to check in on them, driving someone to an appointment in town or in the city, going for a walk with someone, delivering groceries... to name a few things.

Give Pastor Bev or Pastor Calvin a call at the office 780 672 3444 if you are interested!!! We would love to have you join our care group.



Sunday School

We had our first fall Sunday School Sept. 27th. It was very good to see each other, and our time went smoothly. We will have classes again on October 4th. There are no Sunday School classes on Thanksgiving Sunday (Oct. 11th) but we will meet again on Oct. 18th and 25th.

Students and parents will enter from the west entrance and after checking in will be seated in the open pews on the west side of the sanctuary. (The church service begins at 10:30 a.m.)

- The children will remain with their parents until after the Children's Time. Rather than come to the front to hear the story, they will watch it on either the front or back screen.

- After they have heard the children's story, the children will follow their teachers down the west stair case to the Sunday School area.

- While in the large Sunday School assembly area the children will participate in large group activities. This might include viewing the video of the day's lesson, watching a puppet play and having a prepackaged snack. They will be seated physically distant from one another on carefully spaced dots on the floor

- After that the children will go to one of the three classroom areas. There will be a class for the preschool children, those in Kindergarten to grade 2 and another for those in grades 3-6.

- Teachers as well as the children in grades 4-6 will wear a mask, which is their situation at school.

- After the service, the children will be met, by a parent or guardian, in the Sunday School area.

- An adult will distribute hand sanitizer both at the beginning and ending of Sunday School.

- Custodian, Carolyn Olson, will disinfect the classrooms every Monday.

Nursery: The toys and furnishings that cannot be safely used during COVID-19 time will be removed from the nursery and stored until it is safe to use them again. The Nursery will be only for children age three and under and they must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

If you have any questions, contact Michelle at 780-678-5815 (call or text), or email mkennedyhawkins@gmail.com

Michelle Kennedy Hawkins

Children's Sunday School





Round 2 of Camp Puzzles are Now Available!

OPTION ONE



This first puzzle, “Pieces of Camp” (pictured beside), will be used as a lovely way to remember and honour those we love. When you donate \$50, the name of your honouree, and their birth date if you like (up to 26 characters) will be written on the back of a puzzle piece. When all pieces have been spoken for, this memento will hang in Trinity Lodge with both sides visible.

OPTION TWO

In keeping with our Pieces Of Camp campaign, you can purchase high quality Hastings



#1 . Lakeside



2. Wide Game

500 piece \$150 + gst
300 piece \$140 + gst
200 piece \$130 + gst



3. Pool



4. Campers and Staff

Note: tax receipts will only be issued for option ONE

Puzzles will be ordered for buyers in batches on Oct. 1, Oct. 15 & Nov. 1.
Please allow 3 weeks for delivery. Email: info@hastingslake.com
Phone: 780 662 2557



Messiah Church Council

Charlene Brown, President
 David Dahle, Vice-President
 Gail Stolee, Secretary
 Chris Hohm, Treasurer

Members at Large:	Liaising With:
Lael Olson	Worship Committee
Donny Loewen	Learning Committee
Dave Larson	Support Committee
Carolyn Andersen	Witnessing Committee
Vacant	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
office@messiahcamrose.ca

Pastoral Ministry Team:

Calvin Skriver
 Bev Swanson

Administrative Assistant: Lori Mokry
 Part-Time Administrative Assistant: Shirley McFall
 Audio Visual Ministry Coordinator: Lowell Dahlman
 Bookkeeper: Sheila Becker
 Custodians: Carolyn & Lloyd Olson
 Music Ministry Coordinator: Tova Olson
 Youth & Confirmation Ministry: Bev Swanson

Messiah Messenger

Published 11 times a year – September to July
 Also available online at: www.messiahcamrose.ca
 To request email delivery or to submit articles by email,
 Write to: office@messiahcamrose.ca
 Messenger Editor: Dena Grue

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: November 2020
 Material due: October 21
 Delivery date: October 30

























**Sunday morning in-person worship
 service has resumed. We will
 continue to broadcast on Eastlink
 channels 10, 310 & 610. Rebroadcast
 Wednesdays at 5:30 pm.**

**Our services are LIVE streamed
 on YouTube. Search for
 MessiahCamrose. There is also a
 link for the live stream on our
 website messiahcamrose.ca.**



**Previous Sunday's services may also be found on
 YouTube or on our website at messiahcamrose.ca
 and under the Worship Service tab you will find
 "Worship Services Archived."**

October 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 6:30 Confirmation Parent Meeting	2 Messenger Delivery	3 9:00 Men's Bible Study by ZOOM 
4 Pentecost 18 10:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service 7:00 Last Campfire	5 Office Closed for Staff Retreat 10:30 Lectio  2:00 World Mission Group by ZOOM 	6  6:30 Alpha Course by ZOOM	7 10:00 Coffee Fellowship  7:00 Worship Committee	8 10:00 Staff Meeting 4:30 Learning Committee  6:30 Confirmation @ Messiah 7:00 Support Committee	9	10 NO Men's Bible Study 2:00 Michele Beaulieu/ Garrett Zimmer Outdoor Wedding
11 Thanksgiving Food Bank Sunday NO Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service 3:00 Dianne Amundson Private Celebration of Life	12 Office Closed for Thanksgiving Day NO Lectio 	13 Committee Minutes Due for Council Reporting 5:00 Witnessing Committee  6:30 Alpha Course by ZOOM	14 10:00 Coffee Fellowship 	15 10:00 Staff Meeting  6:30 Confirmation @ Messiah	16	17 9:00 Men's Bible Study by ZOOM 
18 Pentecost 20 10:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service	19 10:30 Lectio 	20  6:30 Alpha Course by ZOOM	21 Messenger Articles Due 10:00 Coffee Fellowship  7:00 Church Council	22 10:00 Staff Meeting  6:30 Confirmation @ Messiah	23	24 9:00 Men's Bible Study by ZOOM 
25 Reformation Sunday 10:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service 	26 10:30 Lectio 	27  6:30 Alpha Course by ZOOM	28 10:00 Coffee Fellowship 	29 10:00 Staff Meeting  6:30 Confirmation @ Messiah	30 Messenger Delivery	31 9:00 Men's Bible Study by ZOOM 