



**February 13-14,
2021
The Sixth and final
Weekend after
Epiphany**



*And a cloud came and overshadowed them;
and a voice came out of the cloud, saying,
“This is My beloved Son. Hear Him!” Mark 9:7*

Messiah Lutheran Church & School

2015 N Hastings Way

Eau Claire, WI 54703 ~ 715-834-2865

Affiliated with the *Church of the Lutheran Confession* ~ CLC

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**Large-print copies are by the guest
book.
For hearing assistance, ask an usher.**

Today's Worship

For a printed liturgy, see the green liturgy folder, page 14.

Pre-Service Devotion: ³⁰ And behold, two men talked with Him, who were Moses and Elijah, ³¹ who appeared in glory and spoke of His decease which He was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. (Luke 9:30-31)

Hymns: 132:1-4 719 135 132:5

Old Testament Reading.....2 Kings 2:1-12a

¹ And it came to pass, when the LORD was about to take up Elijah into heaven by a whirlwind, that Elijah went with Elisha from Gilgal. ² Then Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here, please, for the LORD has sent me on to Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the LORD lives, and as your soul lives, I will not leave you!" So they went down to Bethel. ³ Now the sons of the prophets who were at Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that the LORD will take away your master from over you today?" And he said, "Yes, I know; keep silent!" ⁴ Then Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here, please, for the LORD has sent me on to Jericho." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as your soul lives, I will not leave you!" So they came to Jericho. ⁵ Now the sons of the prophets who were at Jericho came to Elisha and said to him, "Do you know that the LORD will take away your master from over you today?" So he answered, "Yes, I know; keep silent!" ⁶ Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here, please, for the LORD has sent me on to the Jordan." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as your soul lives, I will not leave you!" So the two of them went on. ⁷ And fifty men of the sons of the prophets went and stood facing them at a distance, while the two of them stood by the Jordan. ⁸ Now Elijah took his mantle, rolled it up, and struck the water; and it was divided this way and that, so that the two of them crossed over on dry ground. ⁹ And so it was, when they had crossed over, that Elijah said to Elisha, "Ask! What may I do for you, before I am taken away from you?" Elisha said, "Please let a double portion of your spirit be upon me." ¹⁰ So he said, "You have asked a hard thing. Nevertheless, if you see me when I am taken from you, it shall be so for you; but if not, it shall

not be so.” ¹¹Then it happened, as they continued on and talked, that suddenly a chariot of fire appeared with horses of fire, and separated the two of them; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven. ¹²And Elisha saw it, and he cried out, “My father, my father, the chariot of Israel and its horsemen!



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New Testament Letter.....2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2

¹²Therefore, since we have such hope, we use great boldness of speech— ¹³unlike Moses, who put a veil over his face so that the children of Israel could not look steadily at the end of what was passing away. ¹⁴But their minds were blinded. For until this day the same veil remains unlifted in the reading of the Old Testament, because the veil is taken away in Christ. ¹⁵But even to this day, when Moses is read, a veil lies on their heart. ¹⁶Nevertheless when one turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. ¹⁷Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. ¹⁸But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord. ^{4:1}Therefore, since we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we do not lose heart. ²But we have renounced the hidden things of shame, not walking in craftiness nor handling the word of God deceitfully, but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man’s conscience in the sight of God.

Sermon.....Mark 9:2-9

²Now after six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John, and led them up on a high mountain apart by themselves; and He was transfigured before them. ³His clothes became shining, exceedingly white, like snow, such as no launderer on earth can whiten them. ⁴And Elijah appeared to them with Moses, and they were talking with Jesus. ⁵Then Peter answered and said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; and let us make three tabernacles: one for You, one for Moses, and one for Elijah”— ⁶because he did not know what to say, for they were greatly afraid. ⁷And a cloud came and overshadowed them; and a voice came out of the cloud, saying, “This is My beloved Son. Hear Him!” ⁸Suddenly, when they had looked

around, they saw no one anymore, but only Jesus with themselves. ⁹ Now as they came down from the mountain, He commanded them that they should tell no one the things they had seen, till the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

Sermon Theme: The Mount of Transfiguration prepares us for Mount Calvary

I. Who is it that dies on the cross?

Jesus, Son of Man and Son of God

Witnesses: Peter, James, John and _____

II. Why does Jesus die on the cross?

For the sins of all sinners

Witnesses: Moses and Elijah

Preaching Today: Pastor Paul Tiefel



Communion Announcement: Since the Lord's Supper implies a unity of faith and confession, we ask that those who have not previously participated with us in the Lord's Supper meet first with the pastor to discuss our Scriptural doctrine before partaking of the Lord's Supper in our services. In this practice of closed communion, we seek to follow and obey the Word of God.

This Week at Messiah

Masks required indoors by government mandate.

Sunday services live-streamed/archived at eauclairemessiah.com.

- Sun, 2/14** 9:00 am Worship Service (Ushers #8, Counters E)
10:15 am Bible class/Sunday School/Young Adults
11:15 am Sunday School Teachers' Meeting
- Mon, 2/15** 5:00 pm Stewardship
- Tue, 2/16** 6:30 pm Board of Education
- Wed, 2/17** **Ash Wednesday**
4:30 pm Afternoon Catechism
6:30 pm Ash Wednesday Service (Ushers #7)
7:30 pm Deacons
8:00 pm Ruth's Retreat
- Thur, 2/18** 6:30 pm Council Building Committee
- Sat, 2/20** 6:30 pm Worship Service (Ushers #1)
7:45 pm Bible class/Sunday School
- Sun, 2/21** 9:00 am Worship Service (Ushers #2, Counters F)

10:15 am

Bible class/Sunday School/Young

Adults

6:30 pm

Voter's Special Meeting

- Coming Up:**
- Feb 28, Youth Group Snowshoeing
 - Mar 10, Spaghetti Feed for God's Kids Bible Camp

Announcements

Weekend Bible Class: After Paul left the Galatian churches to preach elsewhere, men came and tried to dismantle the Holy Spirit's work. Paul's letter is the Holy Spirit's response. This week we consider part 3 of 4 on Galatians starting with ch.4.

Young Adults Bible Study: How can Christians respectfully interact with those who hold radically different beliefs, and also remain faithful to the gospel? Join us Sunday morning for a series based on "*Uncommon Ground: Living Faithfully In a World of Difference*" by Timothy Keller and John Inazu. - Prof. Joel Gullerud

Ash Wednesday - this week: We are having only one mid-week service, at 6:30 pm. The school is using the sanctuary because of the social distancing needed because of COVID, so that eliminates our 1:00 pm service. This year's theme is entitled "An Inquest into the Death of Jesus" (see the related article in the bulletin.)

Voters' Meeting Next Week, Sunday Feb. 21 at 6:30 pm: The follow-up meeting to our recent annual meeting has a couple of key items of business:

1. Soul Care
2. Decision whether to begin building the school addition
3. Call for a teacher, if needed

Victory in Christ Jesus: In the early hours of February 12, the Lord Jesus fulfilled His promise and came again to receive Ed Trapp into the heavenly mansion. Ed was a former member at Messiah and presently a member of our sister congregation in the St. Louis, MO area. Ed was married to Carol nee Williams at Messiah in 1969 and they were blessed with three children, Nathan, Stephanie and Alicia. A victory service has tentatively been set for Friday February 26th here at Messiah. May God's Spirit do His very special work of comforting all who are

saddened by Ed's sudden deliverance from this vale of tears to perfect life in heaven. (TLH 201:1&5)

*Jesus lives! The victory's won! Jesus lives! and now is death
Death no longer can appal me; But the gate of life immortal;
Jesus lives! Death's reign is done! This shall calm my trembling
From the grave Christ will recall me
Brighter scenes will then commend when I pass its gloomy portal.
This shall be my confidence. Faith shall cry, as fails each sense*

Welcome to Our New Members: Dwight Gantt and Caleb Gantt transferred from Zion, Longville GA. Caleb Heinze transferred back from Gethsemane, Spokane WA. May the Lord bless our fellowship around Word and Sacrament.

Caleb Gantt
3202 Brian St. #8
Eau Claire WI 54701
770-710-7241

Dwight Gantt
3202 Brian St.
#8
Eau Claire WI
54701

Caleb Heinze
9205 Hwy 53
Fall Creek, WI
54742
(715) 210-2831

New Address Changes for Existing Members:


Maxine Culver
1231 Maleda Dr
Eau Claire, WI 54703

Nancy Greene
1231 Maleda Dr
Eau Claire, WI

CLC News: Grace of Sleepy Eye, MN has called Nathan Wales to serve as principal and upper grade teacher. Mr. Wales left the CLC teaching ministry a few years ago and lives in the West Columbia, SC area.

Outreach Blessing Bags: The outreach committee is in the beginning stages of a new project called Blessing Bags. We will be putting together care packages for members to keep in their car to be able to hand out to the homeless, or others they see in need. They will have food, supplies, uplifting passages, and in invitation to meet with one of our pastors. At this stage we are asking for donations of the following: Travel size toiletries, hand warmers, mini water bottles, non-perishable ready to eat snacks i.e, granola bars, crackers, cookies, etc. We will also be accepting monetary donations to purchase supplies. If you would like to donate please contact Joey Meilke joey.beekman6@gmail.com, or Jared Swyter jared.swyter@gmail.com so we can track what items we still need. If you would like a porch pickup please let us know and we can arrange that.

Andrew Roehl call: “To the members at Messiah in Eau Claire, After prayerful consideration, I am returning the call to serve as principal and teacher at Grace Lutheran Church in Sleepy Eye, MN. I am very thankful to be able to serve the Lord in this congregation. Thank you also for your shared thoughts and prayers. May the Lord provide workers for His harvest. Your brother in Christ, Andrew Roehl”



Service Preview for the Upcoming Weekend
GOD’S WORD SERVING US:


Bible Readings - Genesis 22:1-18, Romans 8:31-39, Mark 1:12-15
Bible Class - Galatians (4 of 4)

CHRISTIANS SERVING US:

Wednesday 2/17 6:30 pm: Usher Team 7
Tom Joos Charles Wittorp
Levi Wittorp Jeremy Gurgel
Gerald Oster Sam Oster

<i>Saturday 2/20 6:30 pm: Usher Team 1</i>	<i>Sunday 2/21 9:00 am: Usher Team 2</i>
Joel Carstensen	Dan Sydow
Dennis Oster	Ethan Sydow
Ryan Zimmerman	Adam Schmid
George Carstensen	Steve Mielke
Jason Zimmerman	Bryce Sydow
Rich McGeorge	Noah Sydow
	Jerry LeDuc

Counters for the week following 2/21 – F
Andy Buck, Mark Franson, Josh Gurgel



Thank you!

Messiah's 2020 Yearbook are in your church mailboxes. Extra copies are also available on the narthex kiosk, and in church entryway near the Communion kits. The Yearbook provides numbers and statistics, a description of current programs being implemented for God's kingdom, and a starting point for prayer. Download a copy at: tinyurl.com/annrpt-2020

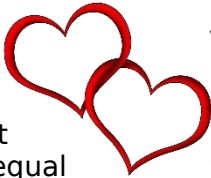
God’s Kids Bible Camp is set for July 5-8, 2021. Zack Sippert and Emily Zimmerman are stepping down as co-directors **after** 2021. We are looking for two new directors (one male, one female) to be counselors in 2021, to shadow Emily and Zack, in order to co-direct in 2022. Co-directors participate on the planning committee, recruit counselors/volunteers, conduct counselor orientation, assign cabins, plan camp activities, and manage day-to-day camp operations. If you are interested, and

you are between the ages of 17-early 20's, please contact Pastor Caleb or Anne Vaver @ 715-456-3418.

Note the spaghetti meal that is being prepared by the Committee to help fund the Camp and is set for Wednesday March 10th, just before the midweek service.

A True Valentine of Love:

Unequal Love



It is idle to say that men are of equal value. If value is taken in a worldly sense – if we mean that all men are equally useful or beautiful or good or entertaining – then it is nonsense. If it means that all are of equal value as immortal souls, then I think it conceals a dangerous error. The infinite value of each human soul is not a Christian doctrine. God did not die for man because of some value He perceived in him. The value is zero. As St. Paul writes, to have died for valuable men would have been not divine but merely heroic; but God died for sinners. He loved us not because we were lovable, but because He is Love. It is true that He loves all equally – He certainly loved all to the death. If there is equality, it is in His love, not in us.

- *A Year With C.S. Lewis*, p.46

Christ's Explorers Camp, Aug. 12-15, in TN - Holy Trinity of West Colombia, SC is excited to announce that we will be conducting Christ's Explorers Camp for students entering grades 3-9. The camp will be held in Pigeon Forge, TN, from August 12-15. The camp's theme this year will be "Fix your eyes on Christ." We have 6 (3 male, 3 female) junior counselor spots available for students entering grade 10 or higher. The applications will be due on Sunday, April 4. The camp will cost \$75, and this will include all lodging, meals, and activities. This camp will be limited to the first 50 campers, so be ready to register when registration opens on May 1. Please feel free to contact Sara Kloke at runsforfun@aol.com or Karen Howell kdhowell32@gmail.com for more information.

Youth Group Snowshoeing: Sunday February 28th from noon – 3:00 pm. Cost is \$3 per child and \$5 per adult. More details in next week's bulletin.

Why Build?

On February 21st, the Voters will decide whether we should proceed with the proposed building project: this is the third of four inserts to explain how this building project will meet the needs of our growing school and church. A project of this size (\$1.7 million) will need the support of the whole congregation.

Part III:

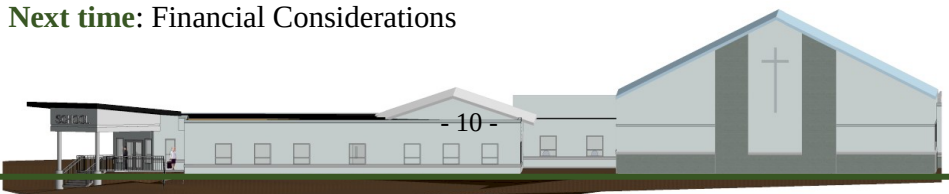
Resolving Long-standing Issues with the Old Building

For over 30 years we have had issues with the hallway and three classroom addition (East Wing) that was added in the late '70's. This addition created a "trough" between roofs which has given us repeated leaks in the roof. This problem has been addressed several times in different ways, but never fully resolved. Those three east classrooms are heated with electric heat, the only option at the time, but one that continues to be both expensive and inefficient. There also is no central air conditioning or even an air exchange system. The electrical panel in the storage closet have been endangered by roof leaks. The boy's bathroom has no direct heat source.

We have long recognized these issues as a problem needing a fix. We tried to include it in the sanctuary building project, but ran out of funds. It seems wise to include it in this project and we can do so by installing a new roof over the whole section, a roof that will connect to the new addition and will allow us to install new heating and air conditioning in those three classrooms. The plans are to move the electrical panel into a new storage room as it is also upgraded.

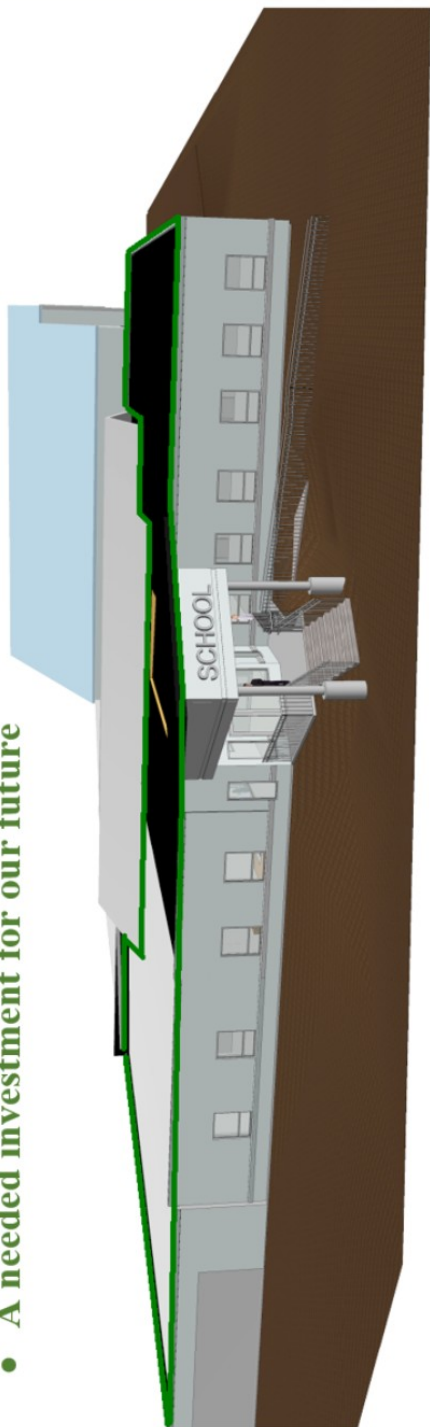
While some of this work is not directly related to providing school and office expansion (see Parts I and II), it seems appropriate to do this work now while it can be coordinated with the new project and save money from having to do major repairs in the future, more of which might occur in the next few years. Yet this obviously will add to the cost of the overall project.

Next time: Financial Considerations



Roofing System for New and Existing Building

- Resolves leaking problems
- New electrical
- New heating and AC
- A needed investment for our future



Messiah Shut-ins: Ida Drews (2455 Sawgrass Place #213, Altoona), Marge Eckel (1431 Peterson Ave.), Shirley Johnson (2512 New Pine Dr. Altoona), Mae Noeldner (3706 Damon St. #17), Ellen Knuth (Care Partners, 887 Brian Lane, Altoona), Connie Larson (1500 S. Edgewater Dr.), Tom and Linda Larson (3134 Eldorado Blvd.), Betty Nolting (HeatherWood Assisted Living #213), Mavis Thelen (418 N. Barstow), Paul Tiefel, Sr. (2455 Sawgrass Rd #419, Altoona), Johanna Williams (2118 Augusta St.) and Shelly Williamson (Bellevue, IA).

Oh, wondrous type! Oh, vision fair
With shining face and bright array
Of glory that the Church may share,
Which Christ upon the mountain shows,
Where brighter than the sun He glows.

W.S. 721:1&3

Fruits of Faith Last Week ~ February 6 & 7, 2021

Weekend Worship: (Sat. 64 - Sun. 91) 155

Communion: 47

Bible Class: (Sat. 24 - Sun. 39) 63 Sunday School: (Sat. 4 - Sun. 28) 32

Online: (Worship: 262, ILC Streaming: 20, Bible Class: 77)

Young Adults: 11

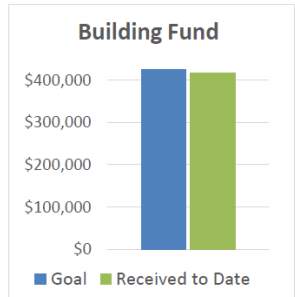
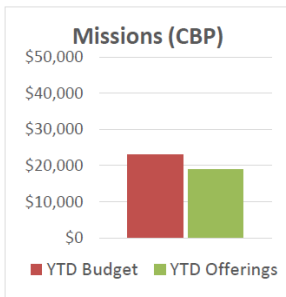
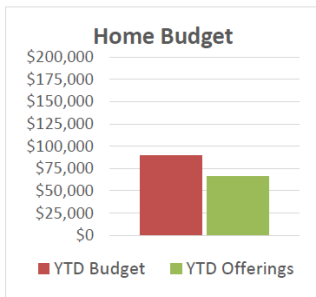
Weekly Offering Information

Offering Summary	Home Budget	Missions (CBP)
2021 Budget	\$778,000.00	\$200,000.00
YTD Budget	\$89,769.00	\$23,077.00
YTD Offerings	\$66,392.89	\$18,927.50
Weekly Need	\$15,470.00	\$3,936.00
Last Week (2/7)	\$14,570.50	\$3,941.25
Amount Still Needed	\$711,607.11	\$181,072.50

Building Fund	
\$425,000.00	Goal
\$417,810.99	Received to Date
\$7,189.01	Still Needed
\$4,105.00	Last Week (2/7)

Given in memory of...

Warren Fanning	25.00 Messiah Building Fund
Warren Fanning	50.00 ILC Student Aid



Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions; Feb. 15-20, '21.

Mon 2 Kings 2:1-12 Elijah was leaving Canaan along the route of Israel's entry; Gilgal, Bethel, and Jericho lay within a few hours' walk through this revered territory (1-4). Elisha wanted to stay close to Elijah before he left this world behind (no stopover in the cemetery), whereas Elijah wasn't so sure God wanted his departure to be a spectator event. Even so, God allowed Elisha to not only see Elijah's ascension but also to walk in his footsteps (12).

Tues Mark 9:2-9 Three disciples were eye-witnesses of His Transfiguration—which was the point of Jesus taking them along; besides, they would also hear the Father say, *"This is my beloved Son; so listen up!"* Now, what were Moses and Elijah doing there? Luke tells us that they conversed with Jesus about the decease/death which He was about to accomplish in Jerusalem, God's method to deliver human souls from punishment.

Ash Wednesday 2 Corinthians 5:20-6:2 Which is the more important thought in these verses? 1) God pleading with sinners to surrender? 2) Jesus being the sin-bearing Substitute for us sinners? 3) God crediting righteousness to us sinners in/ because of Jesus? 4) God pleading with sinners to appropriate His grace before it's too late? Well, everything is tied together in one big bundle of God's love for sinners – from beginning to end. Praise our gracious God!

Thurs Isaiah 59:12-20 Once-a-year repentance isn't enough, nor is once per week—simply because our transgressions *multiply* 24/7, and we know it (12). (Details in vv. 13-15.) So God decided to end the debacle, using His own Son to *establish His own righteousness* (16-17), and thereby set things right for all humanity (18-19). To be more specific,

the *Redeemer will come to Zion*—which means that Jesus will come to God’s repentant people (20).

Fri Luke 18:9-14 Humility and repentance are precious in God’s sight, and while a self-righteous fraud will humiliate others in order to make himself feel superior, God humbles us in order to elevate us to Himself. So the sinful pride and sanctimony of the Pharisee needed to be brought down, whereas the repentant IRS officer was already being elevated by God’s loving hand.

Sat Acts 21:15-25 The Apostle Paul packed his on-board luggage and headed for Jerusalem—where Christians received him gladly (11-18). However, they wanted clarification about Paul’s practice in matters of sanctification (19-22). So they put Paul to the test—to demonstrate that he did not disregard the ceremonial law in his own religious life (23-24). It was a different matter with gentile converts: Paul’s practice was approved—that gentile converts were under no obligation to observe Jewish customs, but they should stay clear of idolatry, not offend Jewish sensitivities, and avoid sex sins (25). Stay tuned.

SUMMONS TO APPEAR AS JUROR

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED

to serve on the jury for the case of
"An Inquest into the Death of Jesus".

To be held one week after His death

DATE: February 17, 24

March 3, 10, 17, 24

PLACE:

Messiah Lutheran

Church

TIME: 6:30pm

(also via live stream)

NOTE: Witnesses presently subpoenaed to
testify about why Jesus died:

Peter

Pontius Pilate

Annas

Herod

Elder

Centurion

Scribe

John

Caíaphas



*Pontius Pilate's seal, 26-36 A.D.