



"In all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us..." -Romans 8:37 (ESV)

Messiah Lutheran Church & School

2015 N Hastings Way Eau Claire, WI 54703 ~ 715-834-2865 Affiliated with the Church of the Lutheran

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 18.

Pre-Service Devotion: "In all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us ... neither death nor life ... nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord" (**Romans 8:37-39** ESV).

Hymns:	531	760	528:1-2,4-5,14-15
-		50	

Old Testament Reading......Genesis 22:1-18 (ESV)

¹ After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." ² He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you." 3 So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his voung men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. ⁴On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar. ⁵ Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over there and worship and come again to you." 6 And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together. ⁷ And Isaac said to his father Abraham, "My father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" 8 Abraham said, "God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So they went both of them together. "When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. ¹⁰Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. ¹¹But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." ¹² He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him,

for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." ¹³ And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. ¹⁴ So Abraham called the name of that place, "The LORD will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided." ¹⁵ And the angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven ¹⁶ and said, "By myself I have sworn, declares the LORD, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, ¹⁷I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies, ¹⁸ and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice."

New Testament Letter.....Mark 1:12-15 (NKJV)

¹² Immediately the Spirit drove Him into the wilderness. ¹³ And He was there in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan, and was with the wild beasts; and the angels ministered to Him. ¹⁴ Now after John was put in prison, Jesus came to Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, ¹⁵ and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel."

Sermon......Romans 8:31-39 (ESV)

³¹ What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³² He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? ³³ Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. ³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? ³⁶ As it is written,

"For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered." ³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

"More Than Conquerors in Christ"

1. In God's Courtroom 2. On Earth's Battlefield



Preaching Today: Pastor Caleb Schaller

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This Week at Messiah				
Masks required indoors by government mandate. Sunday services live-streamed/archived at <u>eauclairemessiah.com</u> .				
Sun, 2/21 9:00 am Counter	Worship Service (Ushers #2, rs F)			
10:15 am Adults	Bible class/Sunday School/Young			
6:30 pm	Votoria Crossial Masting			
	Voter's Special Meeting			
Wed, 2/244:30 pm 6:30 pm	Afternoon Catechism			
8:00 pm	2 nd Lenten Service (Ushers #4)			
	Ruth's Retreat			
Fri, 2/26 No Mes	siah School			
1:00 pm	Visitation for Edwin Trapp			
2:00 pm	Victory Service of Edwin Trapp			
Sat, 2/27 9:00 am	Church Workday			
12:00 pm Beaver	Youth Group: Snowshoeing at			
6:30 pm	Warehin Convice (Uchara #2)			
7:45 pm Bible	Worship Service (Ushers #3) class/Sunday School			
Sun, 2/28 9:00 am Counter	Worship Service (Ushers #6, rs G)			
10:15 am Adults	Bible class/Sunday School/Young			

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, defending

the apostleship of Paul and the core teaching of justification by faith. This week we consider part 4 of 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

Midweek Lent Services: 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."

POST-PONED God's Kids Bible Camp Spaghetti Feed: We still plan to do some kind of event to help everyone know what happens at this camp, and to give people opportunity to support this effort. So, watch for an announcement in the future!

Voters' Meeting, 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. The Deacons are not yet prepared to offer virtual voting at this meeting. If you wish to monitor the meeting via live computer feed, contact Pastor Naumann for the link at <u>brucenaumann@gmail.com</u>.

Our Call Accepted: "Dear Members of Messiah Lutheran Church, After prayerful consideration, the Lord has led me to accept your call to serve as 1st and 2nd grade teacher. Thank you for all your support, prayers and encouragement. I have prayed the Lord would send me the right call, and He has answered my prayers. I feel the Lord has been preparing me to serve in this manner, and the timing of this call is perfect. I am thankful, and I am joyfully looking forward to serving our congregation alongside His little lambs. Please keep me and my family in your prayers as I take on this great privilege and responsibility. Yours in Christ, June Schmid"

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

Bible Readings - Genesis 28:10-17, Mark 8:31-38 Sermon Text - Romans 5:1-11

Bible Class - Genesis, Part 5, Abraham Father of Believers

CHRISTIANS SERVING US:

Wednesday 2/24 6:30 pm: Usher Team 4

Dave Johannes Kevin Hulke Brent Rutz Carter Rutz Joel Gullerud Jeff Rutz Britten Rutz

Saturday 2/27 6:30 pm: Usher Team 3Gary MeyerBlane KnutsonLuke KnutsonTom BeekmanJon OsterJack Mielke

Sunday 2/28 9:00 am: Usher Team 6

Darin Oster Tim Oster Isaiah Plath Andrew Plath Ben Oster Jeremy Plath Gabe Plath

Counters for the week following 2/28 – G Mike Buck, Darin Oster, Jamie Quam

Thank you!

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.

An updated *Messiah Membership Directory* for 2021 will soon be printed and distributed to church mailboxes (1 per household). Extra copies will be available on the kiosk, and in the narthex entry by the Communion supplies. You may also get an electronic (PDF) copy at this address: <u>tinyurl.com/21-mess-mem</u>

Youth Group Snowshoeing Date Change! Please join us for snowshoeing this <u>Saturday</u>, <u>February 27th</u> at Beaver Creek Reserve from noon to 3 pm. Families are welcome to attend! The cost for this event is \$3 per child and \$5 per adult. We will meet at Beaver Creek at noon and have a devotion and then head out on the trails. If possible, please RSVP on the Facebook page or to Amanda Roth (715-577-

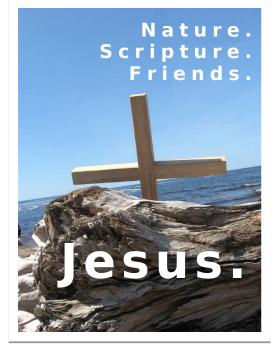


0190) if you are coming and what size snowshoes you will need. You can still come even if you do not RSVP, but it will save us some time if you can let us know beforehand. If you have any questions before or during the event you can reach out to Amanda Roth. Hope to see you there!

The Porkies Youth Camp-Out:

- August 11-15, 2021
- For Grades 8-12
- Camp fee \$85 (from EC) or \$95 (from MN). Lodging and meals are included in this fee.

We'll camp at the Union Bay group campsite on Lake Superior. Activities will include devotions, group discussions, hiking, swimming, beach time, lots of different games, and may other activities. It's okay if you



haven't camped before, we'll help you learn! We have a limit of 48 campers. Registration deadline is Monday, July 5th. Transportation will be provided from Eau Claire, WI. Once registration has closed, we'll send packing lists and forms to be completed by a parent or



guardian. Check out the **Porcupine Mountains Camp-Out** Facebook page to see pictures of previous outings. You'll find a registration link on the Facebook page, or you can scan this code. **Questions?**

Contact Adam Schmid: (608) 386-3714 aschmidy2003@gmail.com

CLC Financial Report Operating Funds	Balance 7/1/2020	YTD Revenue	YTD Disbursed	Budget 7 Months	Balance 1/31/2021
General Fund	0	588,442	615,884	640,150	- 27,442
ILC Operations (incl. CLC subsidy)	0	835,876	740,562	803,915	95,314
Auxiliary Funds					
ILC Improvement Fund (IIF)	201,448	15,251	124,243		92,456
ILC Building Projects (AC/Dorm)	14,542	2,077,523	1,068,856		1,023,209
Mission Development Fund (MDF)	84,054	145,828	109,222		120,660
Kinship	86,093	109,788	79,517		116,364
Church Extension Fund (CEF)	1,914,371	1,749,037	146,310		3,517,098
Student Aid Fund (SAF)	84,280	80,082	79,673		84,689
Reserve Fund	294,092	26,232	0		320,324
Total	\$2,678,880	\$4,203,741	\$1,607,821		\$5,274,800

CLC Financial Report - January

General Fund – January offerings were \$91,588 vs disbursements of \$97,374, resulting in a net shortfall for the month of \$5,785, and increasing the General Fund deficit to -\$27,442. Offerings to date are falling short of our CBP estimates by \$51,708, but General Fund disbursements are \$24,266 less than budgeted expenses. While large special offerings have certainly been a blessing from the Lord for our General Fund Budget, let us not forget that Jesus called to the attention of His disciples the generosity of even the widow's offering of 2 mites, noting that though it looked small, it was all she had, even all her livelihood! Jesus considers every offering of faith for His Kingdom work is "big." Praise the Lord who moves hearts to consider His gracious blessings to them, both spiritual & material, and then to bring thank offerings of faith commensurate with the material resources He has entrusted to them. Then He blesses those resources of every size, for the work of His Kingdom!

ILC Operations – ILC revenue of \$140,602 (incl \$49,500 subsidy) vs disbursements of \$110,534. Seven months through the fiscal year, disbursements are \$63,000 below estimated annual needs.

ILC Building Projects – January offerings were \$850 vs disbursements of \$5,615 for the Building Planning Committee expenses. The Committee intends to present a recommendation for consideration by the June 24 CLC Convention for a new gym and to repurpose ILC's 50-year-old gym for ILC chapels, band/choir practices, plays, musicals, and CLC Conventions & large gatherings.

CEF – January revenue was \$23,714 from CEF monthly loan repayments vs disbursements of \$3,780 in debt service & admin expenses. The \$3.5 million balance will fund several anticipated loans. In Feb \$100,000 (of a \$137,500 loan) goes to Grace-Sleepy Eye to purchase a teacherage.

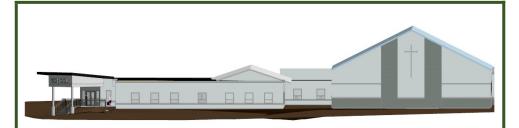
MDF – January offerings of \$20,291 vs disbursements of \$12,019, which includes the 8th \$10,000 construction <u>grant</u> (of 12 planned) for the Nepal Bible Institute classroom. (Note: these are MDF <u>grants</u> for the projects, <u>not</u> loans, as previously reported.

IIF - January offerings of \$730 vs \$1,393 disbursements for more ILC building security updates.

Kinship – Congregation offerings of \$12,712 vs disbursements of \$18,545 (\$8,400 orphans; \$8,530 foreign seminary students; \$90 widows.

"Not unto us, O LORD, not unto us, but to Your name give glory, because of Your mercy, because of Your truth." (Psalm 115:1)

James E. Sandeen, CLC Treasurer Thomas J. Lentz, Chairman, CLC Board of Trustees



Why Build?

On February 21st, the Voters will decide whether we should proceed with the proposed building project. This is the last of four inserts to explain how this building project will meet the needs of our growing school and church. A project of this size will need the support of the whole congregation.

Part IV: Financial Considerations

Earlier, the Planning Committee and Building Committee proposed an extensive master plan which went far into the future. It did not take long to realize that we could not afford to do the whole plan now, so the voters asked the Building Committee to work with a \$1.5 million limit. That figure was based on raising at least 25% in contributions before building, with the expectation that we could fit the monthly mortgage payment within our operating budget. The CLC lowered the interest rate on a 30-year loan from the synod's Church Extension Fund to 3.5%. The voters approved going to \$1.7 million, since the mortgage payment would remain about the same.

The Building Committee has been working hard on a final cost estimate. The cost of construction materials has risen unexpectedly. The Committee is trying to offset the increase by choosing a less expensive (but still quality) option for floor covering, along with other savings options. It has considered what we could do ourselves with volunteer labor or what we might delay for future completion. The Committee is recommending that the voters approve a \$1.8 million maximum project budget, with the hope that we will be able to come in significantly under this ceiling.

The Publicity and Finance Committee has informed the congregation that we should reach our initial goal of \$425,000 (25% of \$1.7 million) soon. At our voters' meeting on February 21, we will be considering these factors:

- If the final budget is \$1.8 million, our initial goal of 25% before groundbreaking would rise to \$450,000.
- Low-interest personal loans from members of the congregation may allow us to reduce the amount borrowed from the CEF, and help to reduce monthly mortgage costs.
- In addition to our regular offerings, greater involvement by our members in the Scrip program could provide a substantial benefit in repaying our debt. For more information, see <u>tinyurl.com/mls-scrip</u>

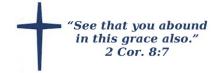
As we have seen, we have great needs for a better facility for the Christian education of our children. We are proceeding confidently, using the gifts and talents of our members which the LORD has provided, always with the prayer that "not our will, but Yours be done, O LORD." We encourage our voters to be present this Sunday evening for these important decisions, and we welcome concerns and comments from all. \$425,000 **GO**! \$400,000 \$375,000 \$350,000 \$325,000 \$300,000 \$275.000 \$250.000 \$225,000 \$200,000 \$175,000 \$150,000 \$125,000 \$100.000 \$75,000 \$50,000 \$25,000

Goal to Start: \$425K for \$1.7M project \$450K for \$1.8M project Current Total: \$417,811 (as of 2/7/21)



In the Hospital: Jane Seeley was hospitalized with breathing troubles and is now back at home.

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).



Fruits of Faith Last Week ~ February 13 & 14, 2021

Weekend Worship: (Sat. 84 - Sun. 90) 174 Bible Class: (Sat. 16 - Sun. 27) 43 Sunday School: (Sat. 2 -Sun. 14) 16 Online: (Worship: 236, ILC Streaming: 9, Bible Class: 63) Young Adults: 19 Ash Wednesday 2/17 6:30 pm: 115, Online: 137, ILC Streaming: 31

Weekly Offering Information

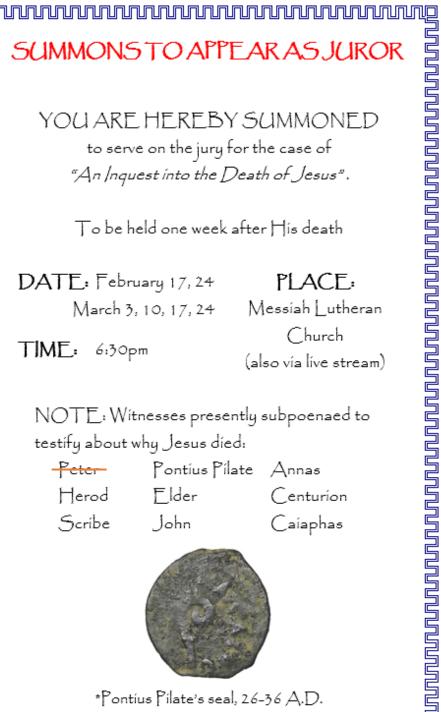
Offering Summary	Home Budget	Missions (CBP)	
2021 Budget	\$778,000.00	\$200,000.00	
YTD Budget	\$104,731.00	\$26,923.00	
YTD Offerings	\$78,093.64	\$22,436.25	
Weekly Need	\$15,553.00	\$3,946.00	
Last Week (2/14)	\$11,700.75	\$3,508.75	
Amount Still Needed	\$699,906.36	\$177,563.75	

Building Fund				
\$425,000.00 Goal				
\$421,910.99	Received to Date			
\$3,089.01	Still Needed			
\$1,100.00	Last Week (2/14)			

Given in memory of... Ed Trapp

20.00 Mission Development Fund





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 (also via live stream)

TIME: 6:30pm

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



Flder John

Pontius Pilate Annas Centurion Caíaphas



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

Mon Genesis 22:1-18 You may have heard someone say (in an irritated tone) "I can't believe in a God who would do such an awful thing to a father!" Well, we sympathize with Abraham, but he left everything in God's hands, and so do we. God selected Mt. Moriah for this event, the same place where He would ordain sacrifices at the Temple altar in Jerusalem; and Isaac resembles Jesus as the beloved son and in being resurrected from the dead (Hebrews 11:19)! God blessed Abraham in this test of his dedication to His will.

Tues Mark 1:12-15 What does *immediately* mean? It means that right after the Holy Spirit descended on Jesus, He put Jesus through "basic training" to toughen Him for His line of work. It was the same line of work that got John into serious trouble, but Jesus was up to the job because He was prepared for it. [Question: Are we tough enough on ourselves for <u>our</u> line of work?]

Wed Romans 8:31-39 The Father was tough on His Son because Jesus had to face a tough adversary <u>and survive</u>. Note: Jesus was taken away from us when He died, but after He returned from the grave, we are reunited with Him. That's what the word WITH means in this context. Yes, Jesus is <u>with</u> us all the way through the worst of circumstances and times (33-39).

Thurs Psalm 6 David went through some hard times, partly his own fault and partly the fault of others. Whichever, David went to the only One who could help, and he depended on God to do the helping—in whatever way He would choose (1-5). It seems to be night time in vv. 6-7, and it's the next morning in vv. 8-10, when David faces the world again with a refreshed spirit, ready to take on all adversaries and endure all adversities.

Fri Joel 2:12-13 For what good reason were the prophets, apostles, and Jesus so emphatic about *repentance*? God doesn't want anyone to go to hell due to un-repented sin, so He reaches out and tries to turn them around. *Turn to Me with all your heart* . . . *return to the LORD your God, for I am gracious and merciful* . . . *and of great kindness*. [It's not only them; it's us, too.]

Sat Acts 21:26-36 Talk about getting into trouble because you're a Christian! In this case, "religious" people misinterpreted what Paul was doing in the Temple, so they agitated a mob to drag him out of church and slam the doors shut (26-30). The city police barely rescued Paul from being lynched and put him into protective custody (31-36). *Away with him* means what it says: "Get him as far away as possible: out of our sight, away from Jerusalem and from life itself. We want him dead!" Lord Jesus, direct civil authorities to protect Your spokesmen—our pastors, missionaries, and teachers—from those who want to silence them; and stand guard over them with Your angels. Amen!