



April 10-11, 2021
Second Weekend of
Easter

**Spring Mission
Festival**



Messiah Lutheran Church & School

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

**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 8.

Pre-Service Meditation: "To what shall we liken the kingdom of God? Or with what parable shall we picture it? It is like a ... seed" (Mark 4:30-31 NKJV)

Hymns:	776	765	767	442:2
		780		

Old Testament Reading.....Acts 3:12-20 (ESV)

¹²And when Peter saw it he addressed the people: "Men of Israel, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we have made him walk? ¹³The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified his servant Jesus, whom you delivered over and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he had decided to release him. ¹⁴But you denied the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, ¹⁵and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶And his name—by faith in his name—has made this man strong whom you see and know, and the faith that is through Jesus has given the man this perfect health in the presence of you all.

¹⁷"And now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸But what God foretold by the mouth of all the prophets, that his Christ would suffer, he thus fulfilled. ¹⁹Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out, ²⁰that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus,

New Testament Reading.....1 Peter 3:13-18a (ESV)

¹³ Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good? ¹⁴ But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, ¹⁵ but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, ¹⁶ having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷ For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil.

¹⁸ For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God,

Sermon Text.....Mark 4:26-34 (NKJV)

²⁶ And He said, "The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground, ²⁷ and should sleep by night and rise by day, and the seed should sprout and grow, he himself does not know how. ²⁸ For the earth yields crops by itself: first the blade, then the head, after that the full grain in the head. ²⁹ But when the grain ripens, immediately he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come."

³⁰ Then He said, "To what shall we liken the kingdom of God? Or with what parable shall we picture it? ³¹ It is like a mustard seed which, when it is sown on the ground, is smaller than all the seeds on earth; ³² but when it is sown, it grows up and becomes greater than all herbs, and shoots out large branches, so that the birds of the air may nest under its shade."

³³ And with many such parables He spoke the word to them as they were able to hear it. ³⁴ But without a parable He did not speak to them. And when they were alone, He explained all things to His disciples.

"HOW THE KINGDOM OF GOD GROWS"

Guest Preaching Today: Professor Mark Weis



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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, 4/11 Spring Mission Festival

9:00 am

Communion Service (Ushers #2,
Counters E)

10:00 am

Dove West

10:15 am

Bible Class/Sunday School/Young
Adults

11:15 am

Sunday School Teachers' Meeting

11:15 am

Special Voters' Meeting

1:30 pm

Dove South

Wed, 4/14 4:30 pm Afternoon Catechism

6:30 pm

Elders

Thur, 4/15 6:30 pm Deacons

Fri, 4/16 9:45 am

Pastors' Study Club

4:00 pm

Board of Property

Sat, 4/17 6:30 pm Worship Service (Ushers #1)

7:45 pm

Bible Class/Sunday School

Sun, 4/18 9:00 am Worship Service (Ushers #4,
 Counters F)
10:00 am Dove West
10:15 am Bible Class/Sunday School/Young
 Adults
1:30 pm Dove South



Announcements

Spring Mission Festival: is this weekend April 10-11. Prof. Mark Weis, who also served in the pastoral ministry, is our guest speaker. A special offering envelope has been designated for the Cooperative Budget Plan which supports our joint synodical work both on the campus of Immanuel and in missions in the United States and overseas. The fact that Jesus died for the sins of all and conquered death sends every Christian on a mission to share the Gospel. We hope you will be able to join us.

Bible Class: In Bible Class we will talk about "Practical Evangelism." Part of this is learning how to navigate in real conversations about religious topics. The other part of this will be looking at Bible examples of believers talking to others about the Gospel. Join the conversation!

Young Adults Bible Study: Join us Sunday morning for our continuing series based on *"Uncommon Ground: Living Faithfully In a World of Difference"* by Timothy Keller and John Inazu. - Prof. Joel Gullerud

A Special Voters' Meeting is being called for next Sunday, April 11 at 11:15 am right after Sunday School and Bible Class. Agenda includes:

- Membership matters
- Calling for a 5-6th grade teacher
- Election of delegates for this year's convention (June 24-27) in Eau Claire and Delegate Conference (June 7-8) in Fond du Lac.

"The State of Christendom in the New Century" will be the topic of our weekend Bible Class starting on April 17 and 18. This is a portion of a larger work on church history by retired Pastor and Professor David T. Lau. This will be followed, at a later date, by "The State of Lutheranism in the New Century," also by Pastor Lau. If you would like to get a preview of this subject, there is a booklet with both sections available in the back of the fellowship hall, or you may find it at tinyurl.com/lau-christendom.

Care Facility Services Restarted, Help Needed: With the increase in vaccinations at various area nursing homes, restrictions are beginning to relax. We once again have the opportunity for our "in-person" weekly services at 3 senior care facilities, with more to follow. We need volunteer preachers, musicians, as well as helpers to assist residents to the services. If you might be available to help, please contact Coordinator Lawrence Bade at (612) 963-5374 or lmsbade@gmail.com.

Personal Loans to Help Save Money for the Building Project: We are still receiving offers for personal loans for our upcoming building project. These loans help to reduce the amount we need to borrow from the CLC's Church Extension Fund. A lower interest rate on personal loans means significant, long-term savings for the congregation. We would like to hear from our members about this by April 15. You may find the loan offer form at tinyurl.com/m-loan-req. You may also contact Treasurer Steve Lentz at 715-497-8436 or slentz1952@gmail.com. Thank you.

Blessing Bags and Food Pantry: "Blessing bags" have been assembled and are available for you to have in your car for occasions when someone may be in need of basic necessities, as well as inspiration from the Bible. You may

pick up one or more from the table under the coat rack. We also have a **restockable food pantry** in the narthex entryway (between the double glass doors).

Little Church Libraries - We have three ready to put up. These little libraries have a variety of good Christian books free for the taking. If you would like one, please contact Josh Gurgel (715-379-7917) or Pastor Naumann (715-864-3465) or Pastor Tiefel (715-829-2000). There is a crew that will dig the hole and set everything up.

After Banquet Party: Parents of Immanuel Lutheran High School students are presently working on this year's After Banquet Party to be held May 8, 2021. The ILHS Banquet is held at a local venue with the After-Banquet Party immediately afterwards in the high school gymnasium. The After-Banquet Party is held to provide a fun and safe place for the students to enjoy this special evening honoring the senior class. The gym is decorated to a theme with games, prizes, refreshments and entertainment provided at NO cost to the students. Nearly every student attends the After-Banquet party, even if they don't attend the Banquet. We rely on donations from the parents, families and local businesses. We are able to buy some prizes at local businesses, but if you would like to donate gift cards or prizes, that would be greatly appreciated. If you have any questions regarding prizes and/or donations, please contact: Jennifer Radermacher, imjenrad44@gmail.com Monetary donations may be sent to: ILC After-Banquet Committee, c/o Immanuel Lutheran College, 501 Grover Road, Eau Claire, WI 54701. Thank you for considering! - ILHS Parents' Association/After Banquet Committee

CLC News: Eric Libby accepted the call from Immanuel, Mankato, MN to the Assistant Principal/Counselor position. ● Mrs. Carrie Reim has been called to teach with primary emphasis on kindergarten at Messiah, Hales Corners, WI.

CLC Youth Camp registration currently is open to those entering 9th through 12th grade this Fall. Registrations for 8th graders will be accepted starting at 4:00 PM Central, this Sunday, April 11th. We will still be abiding by a lower-than-usual capacity, so it is our recommendation that you register your campers right away when it opens. If we receive any 8th

grade registrations prior to 4:00 PM CT on Sunday, they will be voided. Also, please note that we will not be running a bus service this year. Camp is June 13-19 in Pillager, MN. Cost is \$180 per camper. Link to register: <https://youthcampclc.wixsite.com/camp/register> . Please feel free to contact the camp directors with any questions- youthcamp.clc@gmail.com



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



Sermon Text - Luke 24:36-49
Bible Class - The State of Christendom in the New Century

CHRISTIANS SERVING US:

Saturday 4/16 6:30 pm: Usher Team 1

Joel Carstensen	George Carstensen
Dennis Oster	Jason Zimmerman
Ryan Zimmerman	Rich McGeorge

Sunday 4/17 9:00 am: Usher Team 4

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

Counters for the week following 4/18 – F

Andy Buck, Mark Franson, Josh Gurgel

Thank you!

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

Messiah ILHS Student Grant Fund: Proverbs 22:6 *“Train up a child in the way he should go, And even when he is old he will not depart from it.”* The members of Messiah recognize the importance of Christian education for the youth of our congregation, and the blessing of having Immanuel Lutheran High School (ILHS) available to aid in that education for our children. For this reason, Messiah has established the ILHS Student Grant Fund for those families that need financial assistance for their children to take advantage of the Christian education available through ILHS. If you intend to apply for financial aid from the Messiah ILHS Student Grant Fund, an application **MUST** be submitted to the ILHS Student Grant Fund Committee by May 1. You may contact Pastor Tiefel or David Johannes (715-379-9987 or Bitbybitcomputer@gmail.com) for more information.

ILC High School Visitors Day: Immanuel Lutheran High School in Eau Claire, WI will host an in-person High School Visitors Day on Friday, April 30, 2021, starting at 9:00 am for students grades 8 and up. Please register students and chaperones at www.ilc.edu by Friday, April 23. A live theater performance *Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch* will take place on Friday at 1:30 pm for those attending Visitors Day and for families of performers. A limited live audience may attend the Saturday performance at 7:30 pm. Both performances will be livestreamed at youtube.com/ilcvideos. An outdoor band concert will be open to the public on Friday at 3:30 pm. For additional information please contact Prof. Joel Gullerud (joel.gullerud@ilc.edu 715-544-8446).

Health update from CLC Missionary Peter Evensen in Togo, Africa: "I just returned from seeing the doctor and according to the results of my second blood test everything is now normal. No malaria parasites were detected this time, whereas 480 parasites per microliter were detected 2 weeks ago (that equates to 480,000,000 per litre of blood). Malarial symptoms are caused by these parasites, which are transmitted from an infected person to another person by one certain species of mosquito. Since this second test was negative for the parasites, the 3-day course of high-level combined anti-malarial parasite medicine appears to have killed all the parasites. Thanks be to God! There are four kinds

of malaria parasites. I was diagnosed with the most common (and most deadly): Plasmodium falciparum. This type can be cured and all the malaria parasites cleared from one's body, so the fact that no more were detected by this second test is very good news! According to the first test I did not have the kind that can "hide" in the liver and causes relapses (that is, I did not have Plasmodium vivax or P. ovale parasites). Thank you all for your prayers, and if you have shared my malaria diagnosis with your congregations, please share this good news and thank them all for their prayers as well. In Christ, Peter Evensen"

CLC Financial Report - March

CLC Financial Report Operating Funds	Balance 7/1/2020	YTD Revenue	YTD Disbursed	Budget 9 Months	Balance 3/31/2021
General Fund	0	744,511	786,002	823,050	- 41,491
ILC Operations (incl. CLC subsidy)	0	1,075,725	973,235	1,033,605	102,490
Auxiliary Funds					
ILC Improvement Fund (IIF)	201,448	18,926	124,243		96,131
ILC Building Projects	14,542	2,121,718	1,074,441		1,061,819
Mission Development Fund (MDF)	84,054	200,361	133,800		150,615
Kinship	86,093	162,482	99,636		148,939
Church Extension Fund (CEF)	1,914,371	1,898,027	458,376		3,354,022
Student Aid Fund (SAF)	84,280	112,675	98,004		98,951
Reserve Fund	294,092	30,686	0		324,778
Total	\$2,678,880	\$4,544,875	\$1,988,500		\$5,235,255

General Fund – March offerings: \$90,773 vs disbursements: \$94,990, resulted in a net shortfall for the month of \$4,217, which increased the General Fund deficit to –\$41,491. Offerings to date are falling short of our CBP estimated revenue needs by \$78,539, but YTD General Fund disbursements are \$37,048 less than estimated expenses, partly due to our boards' efforts to hold down expenses.

ILC Operations – March revenue: \$126,915 (incl \$49,500 subsidy) vs disbursements: \$121,567, a positive cash flow of \$5,348. YTD ILC disbursements are \$60,370 less than YTD estimated needs.

ILC Building Projects – March offerings of \$1,300 vs disbursements of \$5,017 for the Building Planning Committee expenses. Earnings (dividends/interest) for 9 months are \$55,718. The Committee will bring a recommendation for the June 24 CLC Convention for a new gym and repurposing ILC's 50-year-old gym for ILC/CLC gatherings: Musicals, Graduation, Conventions, etc.

CEF – March revenue: \$28,148 (congregation monthly loan payments) vs disbursements: \$30,566, including \$24,730 for several CEF personal Notes paid off. The Trustees received a CEF loan application from Messiah, Eau Claire for a new school addition, adding 3 classrooms, offices, workroom, meeting room, restrooms, replace an aging HVAC system, repair & extend roof between the church & school. The estimated \$1.8M project is proposed to be funded by a CEF loan, member loans, & volunteer labor. Prince of Peace, Loveland is preparing an application for a CEF loan for expansion of its church facility to begin in June at an estimated cost of \$130,000.

MDF – March offerings: \$36,133 vs disbursements: \$12,956, which includes the 10th \$10,000 construction grant (of 12 planned) for the Nepal Bible Institute classroom building and quarters.

SAF – March receipts: \$22,821 (\$19,261 loan payments) vs disbursements: \$9,397 for student loans & grants. SAF Endowment Account earnings (Div/Int) for 9 mo \$31,753 on a portfolio of \$1,481,407.

ILC PMPG – Public Ministry Prep Grants: YTD receipts: \$38,836 vs grants of \$32,400 to 9 teacher & 6 pastor students this school year, preparing to be CLC teachers & pastors. The PMP Endowment investments of \$1.83 million has provided earnings of \$39,030 to the PMPG for FY21 year to date.

Kinship – Sponsors/Offerings: \$30,340 vs disbursements: \$19,520 (Admin, Orphans, Sem students).

James E. Sandeen, CLC Treasurer

Thomas J. Lentz, Chairman, CLC Board of Trustees

The Latest on the Building Project

May 30th Ground breaking Service

June 1st Royal Construction on site

(They will have days of preliminary staging beforehand.)

Members of Messiah will be needed to prep for Royal. The more we can do, the more we can save. Tom Beekman is leading this aspect of the project.

A lot is happening, and quickly so.

- A large storage unit is on site
- Over 50 boxes have been packed – and more each day
- Temporary church office is being set up in the nursery (former Pre-K room)
- On-going Building Committee meetings with the architect & contractor
- “Wiring” for the temporary church office

Our next major deadline is April 17th.

A lot of help is needed to move items around.
Students from Immanuel have volunteered to help.
Contact Tom to volunteer and to get times help is needed.

After April 17th:

- School library to be packed up
- Art room, VBS, SS, Outreach room to be moved
- Demo of Principal’s office, Riso room, and ...

After May 21st (last day of school):

- Teachers “summer”ize their classrooms
- Demo of the two oldest classrooms (Kindergarten and Mrs. Mielke’s)

All along the way: tree removal

To offer your help, please contact Tom Beekman.

thomasbeekman1961@gmail.com / cell phone 715-491-2025

Be a "Messiah School Builder"!



In the Hospital: Curtis Sandeen underwent a follow-up surgery for his heel yesterday. We pray for his successful recovery and return to full mobility. ● Heath Williams was hospitalized for several days over Easter weekend for treatment of an infection following a foot injury. He has since returned home. We ask God to grant him a swift and full recovery.]

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 ~ April 3 & 4, 2021

Maundy Thursday: 136, Online: 228

Maundy Thursday Communion: 112

Good Friday: 158, Online: 197

Weekend Worship: (Sat. 128, Sun. 9:00 - 134, Sun. 11:00 - 130)
392

Private Communion: (Sat. - 6, Sun. 9:00 - 2, Sun. 11:00 - 1) 9

Weekend Online Service: 236

Ruth's Retreat: 12

Dove West: 17

Dove South: 13

Veterans: 13

Weekly Offering Information

Offering Summary	Home Budget	Missions (CBP)
2021 Budget	\$778,000.00	\$200,000.00
YTD Budget	\$209,462.00	\$53,846.00
YTD Offerings	\$196,389.27	\$50,431.50
Weekly Need	\$15,306.00	\$3,936.00
Last Week (4/4)	\$23,308.80	\$4,613.75
Amount Still Needed	\$581,610.73	\$149,568.50

Building Fund	
\$450,000.00	Goal
\$470,225.04	Received to Date
\$6,035.00	Last Week (4/4)

Given in memory of...

Gordy Bellig	20.00 Messiah Building Fund
Bill Davis	250.00 Messiah Home Budget
Joe Eder	50.00 Messiah Building Fund
Roy Lillo	50.00 Messiah Building Fund
Ron & Eunice Roehl	20.00 Messiah Building Fund
Alvin Sieg	25.00 Messiah Building Fund
Ed Trapp	20.00 Messiah Building Fund

Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions; April 12-17, '21

Mon Acts 3:11-20 Predictably, Easter opened the floodgates, and the waters of salvation poured out. Repentant Peter clarified that Jesus was God's Choice (though rejected by His countrymen) and had opened the heart of the derelict to receive healing (13-16). *"As for you, repent of your sins against Jesus and receive God's forgiveness as your first step into new life (17-20)."*

Tues John 20:19-31 Peter knew what he was talking about, for Jesus had rescued him and equipped him for service (19-23). Thomas, however, held out until Jesus removed his doubt (24-29). Indeed, Jesus had performed enough miracles, and John has put enough evidence into the written record to substantiate Jesus as our Savior, deserving our trust forever (30-31).

Wed 1 John 5:1-6 Since we are convinced that Jesus is God's Chosen One, we love our brothers/sisters (1) and are happy to follow our Father's house rules (2-3). Being God's dear children, He has brought us into the winners' circle - and living as God's children inoculates us against the sin-pandemic that has brought our world to its knees. Lord, have mercy on us!

Thurs Psalm 16 This is my story; this is my song (1): I claim no credit for being a member of God's family (2-3), for turning my back on ungodliness (4) and for laying claim to God's

goodness (5-6). I simply relax in the LORD (7-8), happy that Jesus came through His ordeal and left the cemetery behind (9-10). I am relying on Jesus to *show me the path of life* as I live in His *presence*, and to hold me close (11). This is my story; this is my song!

Fri Mark 16:12-14 Jesus tilled stony ground in the hearts and lives of His disciples, walking with two of them and taking time to explain Scripture prophecy. These two grasped it (12); Hallelujah! But there was more hard-packed ground to cover (13), so He rolled up His sleeves and used as much muscle as the situation required. (Jesus knew how to do it.)

Sat Acts 22:30-23:10 Jesus supported Paul all the way, so when the centurion made arrangements for a Jewish (not a civil) court trial (30), Paul appeared before his accusers but declined to be intimidated (1-5). When Paul put the Resurrection of Jesus on the table (6), that sabotaged the prosecution, for the modernist Sadducees did not agree with the Scripture or with the Pharisee's traditionalist stance on that crucial theological issue (7-9).

Jesus had better plans for Paul than his being mauled or killed, so He orchestrated Paul's rescue via the Roman officer with his troopers (10). God's good reason for placing secular authority over a country's citizens is to protect law-abiders – and punish law-breakers. So far, so good.

Stay tuned for further developments.