

July 10-11, 2021 Pentecost 7



Messiah Lutheran Church & School

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

www.eauclairemessiah.com

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 28.

Pre-Service Devotion: "Behold My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself. Handle Me and see, for a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see I have." (Luke 24:39)

At this time, offering plates are not passed during the service. The plates are located on a stand at each church entrance. You may also give electronically – see the "eGive" button at eauclairemessiah.com



"So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver." (2 Cor. 9:7)

Hymns: 363 762 513 (bulletin) 441:1-2 742

Old Testament Reading Ezekiel 2:1-5

¹And He said to me, "Son of man, stand on your feet, and I will speak to you." ²Then the Spirit entered me when He spoke to me, and set me on my feet; and I heard Him who spoke to me. ³ And He said to me: "Son of man, I am sending you to the children of Israel, to a rebellious nation that has rebelled against Me; they and their fathers have transgressed against Me to this very day. ⁴ For they are impudent and stubborn children. I am sending you to them, and you shall say to them, 'Thus says the Lord God.' ⁵ As for them, whether they hear or whether they refuse—for they are a rebellious house—yet they will know that a prophet has been among them.

Epistle Reading 2 Corinthians 12:7-10

⁷And lest I should be exalted above measure by the abundance of the revelations, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, a messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I be exalted above measure. ⁸ Concerning this thing I pleaded with the Lord three times that it might depart from me. ⁹ And He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness." Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. ¹⁰ Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ's sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

Then He went out from there and came to His own country, and His disciples followed Him. ² And when the Sabbath had come, He began to teach in the synagogue. And many hearing Him were astonished, saying, "Where did this Man get these things? And what wisdom is this which is given to Him, that such mighty works are performed by His hands! ³ "Is this not the carpenter, the Son of Mary, and brother of James, Joses, Judas, and Simon? And are not His sisters here with us?" And they were offended at Him. ⁴ But Jesus said to them. "A prophet is not without honor except in his own country, among his own relatives, and in his own house." ⁵ Now He could do no mighty work there, except that He laid His hands on a few sick people and healed them. ⁶ And He marveled because of their unbelief. Then He went about the villages in a circuit, teaching.

"The Hands of the Master"

- I. They tell the story of His humanity
- II. They tell the story of His divinity
- III. They tell the story of His grace

Preaching Today: Pastor Bruce Naumann



Adapted from TLH 513

- 1. Are you weary, are you troubled, are you sore distressed? "Come to Me," says One, "and, coming, be at rest."
- 2. Has He marks to lead me to Him, since He is my Guide? "In His feet and hands are wound-prints, and His side."
- 3. Has He kingly crown upon Him, that His head adorns? "Yes, a crown, in truth He wore it, but of thorns."
- 4. If I find Him, if I follow, what will happen here? "Many a sorrow, many a labor, many a tear."
- 5. If I still hold closely to Him, what shall come at last? "Sorrow vanquished, labor ended, Jordan passed."
- 6. Finding, following, keeping, struggling, is He sure to bless? "Saints, apostles, prophets, martyrs, answer, 'YES!""







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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

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

Sun, 7/11	9:00 am Worship Service (Ushers #4, Counters B)		
	10:00 am Dove West 10:15 am Heritage Assisted Living 11:15 am Heritage Court	1:00 pm Dove South	
	10:15 am Heritage Assisted Living	2:00 pm Veterans	
	11:15 am Heritage Court		

6:30 pm Evening Bible Class

Mon, 7/12 – Fri, 7/16	Vacation Bible School – Session 1, 9:00-Noon
	(Held at ILC Academic Center)

Tues, 7/13	9:00 am	Koffee Klatsch
	6:30 pm	Board of Elders

Wed, 7/14	4 1:45 pm Lake Ha		2:30 pm Our House
	7:00 pm	Outreach	

Thu, 7/15	5:00 pm	Subcommittee: Board of Education
	6:00 pm	Board of Education
Sat, 7/17	6:30 pm	Worship Service (Ushers #5)

Sun, 7/18	9:00 am	Worship Service	(Ushers #6, Counters C)

9:40 am Dove West	11:15 am Heritage Court
10:30 am Heritage Assisted Living	1:00 pm Dove South

6:30 pm Evening Bible Class

Upcoming Dates at Messiah:

- July 25th, Quarterly Voters' Meeting
- August 2-6, VBS Session 2 at ILC
- August 8, Church Picnic
- August 11-15, Youth Group: Porkies Camp-Out
- August 14, VBS in the Park (Riverview)

Announcements

Evening Bible Class: Sat/Sun morning Messiah Bible class has been recessed due to construction. So, we've decided to hold a Bible Class in the sanctuary on Sunday evenings, **beginning this Sunday, July 11 at 6:30 pm.** We'll be studying the Gospel of Matthew. We'll gather each Sunday at 6:30 pm, except for a 5:00 pm start time on July 25, due to the Voters' meeting.

Our new Photo Directory – Thanks to those who organized and participated in the photo portraits at Messiah during this past week. Those who did not get a professional portrait taken are asked to submit a photo for the directory. You may email your photo to church.office@ecmessiah.org, drop one off at church, or send it by regular mail. Thank you!

July Basketball Camp Nights: The Immanuel Athletic Boosters (IAB) is sponsoring Basketball Camp nights held at the ILC gym. These nights are open to all youth.

Girls: Mondays, next night **July 12**th - 6:30-8 pm, 7th – High school Contact Jim Sydow, jasydow@yahoo.com or 715-723-2459

Boys: Tuesdays and Thursdays, next nights July 13th & 15th.

• 5-6:45 pm, 5th-8th Grade • 7-9 pm, High School

Contact John Radichel, john.radichel@yahoo.com or 715-704-0820 (Please note: No Basketball on Monday July 19th or Tuesday July 20th)

CLC News: Mrs. Shantel Hocum, a member of St. John's Lutheran Church of Clarkston, WA has received and accepted the call to be the primary teacher at Valley Bible Academy - St. John's Lutheran. • Pastor Stefan Sonnenfeld of Faith, Manchester, MO, has accepted the call to Redeemer, Sister Lakes, MI.

Building Project Update: Concrete was being poured this week in the new section, and framing has begun. Also, major work is being done on the leaky roof over the existing classrooms. Work also continues on the existing interior. See the updated pictures in our project photo album at tinyurl.com/m-build-pics.

It's not too late to register for VBS! We will have two sessions on the campus of ILC, July 12-16 and August 2-6, 9 am-12 pm for Pre-K (4 yrs) through 8th grade. To register, click on the banner at www.eauclairemessiah.com. There are also paper registration forms in our narthex. We need to staff the second session, August 2-6. Please contact Amanda Roth at 715-577-0190 if you can help with teaching, crafts, snacks, recess, etc.

Messiah's next quarterly voters' meeting will be held on Sunday, July 25 at 6:30 pm. Voters, please do your best to be present for our work together for the LORD.

In the hospital: Anita Matysik was in the hospital for treatment of anemia last weekend, and has since returned home. Both Leanne Boyea and Beth Fleischer have been discharged from the hospital, and continue their recovery at home.

Messiah Shut-ins: 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 ~ July 3-4, 2021

Weekend Worship: (Sat. 74 – Sun. 200) 274 Communion (Sat. 63 – Sun. 125) 188

Weekend Online: 147

Dove West: 9 Heritage Court: 21 Dove South: 5 Heritage Assisted: 7 Lake Hallie: 19 Our House: 7

Weekly Offering Information

Offering Summary	Home Budget	Missions (CBP)
2021 Budget	\$778,000.00	\$200,000.00
YTD Budget	\$403,962.00	\$103,846.00
YTD Offerings	\$368,636.27	\$103,222.25
Weekly Need	\$16,375.00	\$3,871.00
Last Week (7/4)	\$13,901.71	\$3,574.50
Amount Still Needed	\$409,363.73	\$96,777.75

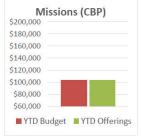
Building Fund	
\$450,000.00	
\$519,993.36	Received to Date
\$1,420.00	Last Week (7/4)

Given in memory of...

Gilbert & Valborg Radichel

100.00 Messiah Building Fund









Service Preview for the Upcoming Weekend God's Word Serving Us:

Sermon Text - Ephesians 1:3-14 Sunday Evening Bible Class - Gospel of Matthew

Christians Serving Us:

Saturday 7/17 6:30 pm: Usher Team 5 Mike Markus Jim Sydow Jim Lau

Mark Kranz

Mark Franson Ben Thurow Andy Buck

Sunday 7/18 9:00 am: Usher Team 6 Darin Oster Ben Oster

Tim Oster Isaiah Plath Andrew Plath Jeremy Plath Gabe Plath

Counters for the week following 7/18 – C

Mike Markus, Tom Joos, Barry Schlegelmilch

Thank you!



Deborah Ude's "Shadows in Sunshine," now available, is Volume 4 in the "Steeple in the Distance" series. All four of Debi's books are available in printed form directly from John Ude, john.ude@ilc.edu, at the CLC Bookstore, or on Amazon. Amazon's Deborah K. Ude author page can be viewed at: tinyurl.com/DeborahUde. Debi actually wrote six books before joining Jesus and all the saints. These are not being published to make money, but to honor Jesus' gift in Debi.

Address Changes:

Stacy and Kari Behlmer & family 9345 Blue House Road Apt 7102 Ladson SC 29456-4099

John Duehlmeier 1025 Pine Beach Road Apt. 138 Marinette, WI. 54143

Pacific NW Family/Youth Camp will be held at Alta Lake State Park in Washington State on August 1-5, 2021. Campers can register either as individual youth (grade 6 thru college) or families. Food and campground costs are included in the registration fee (\$100 for individuals, \$175 for families). Find more details and the online registration at: redemptionclc.com/pac-nw-camp/.

Reminder: the CLC Women's Retreat West will be held September 17-19, 2021 at Chadron State Park in Chadron, Nebraska. Please register by August 10; the Registration Form can be mailed to Candy Ohlmann, 822 West 3rd Street, Valentine, NE 69201. If you have any questions please email WomensRetreatWest@gmail.com. The brochure can also be downloaded from the CLC Ladies page on Facebook.

Continuing Under God's Grace:

Reflections on the Past 60 Years

Part 5: Messiah in Cyberspace

When we think of all the miraculous ways that God has spread His Word throughout history, the speaking of tongues at Pentecost certainly stands out. As we read in Acts, "the multitude came together, and were confused, because everyone heard them speak in his own language" (2:6). As one would expect, the crowd was "amazed and marveled" (Acts 2:7) that the apostles, these lowly and rustic Galileans, were able to speak all these different languages. One mocking attempted explanation was that the apostles were drunk. Peter's defense of the apostles, though, demonstrated that God was fulfilling His Word by pouring out His Spirit on them. Clearly, this highly personalized and effective means of communication was the work of God rather than of humans, and its purpose was in spreading His Word.

When Messiah was founded 60 years ago, if any of those members could have seen into the future to see the technology used by Messiah now to spread God's Word, surely they, like the crowd in Acts, would have been amazed. Indeed, our current members may also marvel over the rapid changes in technology, especially over the last twenty years or so. In addition to contemplating the wonder of how technology has changed communication, we can also look throughout the years to see the Lord's hand in using His servants to spread God Word's by implementing various technologies.

In the last 60 years, since Pastor L.W. Schierenbeck's radio broadcasts or Pastor David Lau's appearances on PAC-TV, Messiah's use of technology definitely has come a long way. By the mid-1990s, Messiah had begun audio recording of sermons and exploring the use of video technology as ways to improve upon Ministry by Mail. Indeed, as early as 1994, Messiah had set aside a category in their special gifts for video cameras for special occasions and video ministry. By 2000, Messiah was providing both audio and video recordings of services and had purchased a video-camcorder and five VCRs, making seven copies of each sermon that had been videotaped. The videotapes were then mailed out to members who lived at a distance from Eau Claire. By that time, Messiah had also begun discussing how to utilize PAC-TV, where services are still broadcast today. In 2007, when the new sanctuary was built, the audio and video systems were updated as well.

The Messiah Lutheran Church and School Yearbook, 1999-2000 also provides the first mention of a web page. In looking at Messiah's online presence today, we can be thankful for the resources the Lord has provided us in terms of technology and especially appreciative of the dedicated members who provide their time, skills, and expertise in making sure all the technology works together as seamlessly as possible. Members and nonmembers have access to the most current information about the church and school and to services that have been recorded and archived. Messiah also has a Facebook page, which regularly provides Bible passages and short notes that are beneficial not only to members but also in providing the Gospel message to a larger community.

In March 2020, when it became impossible to hold in-person services, our technology team moved amazingly quickly to resolve technical issues, thus enabling Messiah to pivot rapidly to livestreaming services. Since then, this technology has allowed people who are not able to attend because of health concerns to participate in services from their own homes. While watching a service at home does not provide the same fellowship experience as being able to meet face-to-face with fellow Christians, we certainly have been blessed to have such high-quality streaming and recording of services and Bible classes available for members to ensure they have regular access to the preaching of God's Word.

As we look back at how much has changed regarding technology over the last 60 years, it is easy for us to be amazed by the different ways we can reach people with the God's Word today. Similarly, those who heard God's Word preached in different languages were rightfully amazed with this miracle. In both cases, though, what remains truly miraculous is the wonderful faith that the Holy Spirit works in the sinful hearts of humans through the pure and simple Word of God. So, whether we utilize old, new, or yet-to-be discovered tools that God provides to spread His Word, we need to be sure to keep our focus not on the amount of clicks our web page gets or on the production value of our videos, but on the "still small voice" of God (2 Kings 19:12). One of the challenges of technology is that we may never know those whom our church's Facebook post may reach, or who watches one of our services online. We can be assured, though, of the effectiveness of God's Word: "So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to me void, But it shall accomplish what I please, And it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it" (Isa. 55:11).

Messiah Stewardship Committee July 2021



Messiah During COVID - How Technology Helped Us Cope



Streamed Services during the Lockdown



Sunday Bible Class Streaming



2020 Confirmation



Virtual School from Home, Followed by Masks and Chromebooks Onsite



Saturday Evening Outdoor Worship, with Drive-in FM Broadcast



Bible Class with Group Interactive Video

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

Mon Ezekiel 2:1-5 follows upon the vision that knocked Ezekiel flat on his face (which disabled him), so God picked him up and stood him at attention to receive his assignment. "Tell the Hebrews that though they have turned their back on Me, and despite their impudent and stubborn refusal to bow before Me, I am not done with them yet." God had lots more to say to them, and Ezekiel was His mouthpiece. We listen up and pay attention to God too.

Tues Mark 6:1-6 We see these as rhetorical questions, for the answers are obvious. Of course, Jesus' skill set was heavenly, superseding His carpenter skills, and as second Person in the Trinity, Jesus put His siblings in the shade (1-3). Further, when Jesus doesn't get the credit He deserves, He may pack up and go where others will provide a more receptive audience (4-6).

Wed 2 Corinthians 12:7-10 Whatever the infirmity was, God allowed it as a *messenger of Satan* to repeatedly knock the wind out of Paul. Why? Because pride over one's spiritual gifts or religious adventures <u>is still pride</u>, in utter contrast to the humble demeanor God wants from us. P.S.: Our weaknesses ought not bother us, for Jesus' power flourishes in our weaknesses (9-10).

Thurs Psalm 143 Summary: "O Lord, I really need You (1-2). The old evil Foe is in my face and on my case (3-4) even while I am trying to hold tightly to You (5-6). But I still can't handle what is happening in my life (7), so please take control of my life (18)! Cancel out all my negatives (9) and fortify Your positives in me (10). Lord Jesus, I really need You (11-12); help me!

Fri Mark 6:4-5 It's human nature for childhood chums to remember us as we were back then—classmates and buddies. That familiarity may hinder their accepting us as Sunday School or VBS teacher, or even as pastor or parochial day-school teacher. Jesus ran into that obstacle, too, sad to say.

Sat Acts 28:17-27 Though his civil trial was on hold, Paul was willing to state his case and share his convictions with the local Jewish officials. They accepted his invitation and listened to his testimony. What was really on trial was the basic issue—whether Jesus of Nazareth was God's choice as the Messiah long-promised to Abraham and his descendants (20). From personal experience Paul knew that Jesus was in heaven and was seated there with His Father for good reason—for He had paid the price required by God's Law, and His performance squared our account with God. Perfectly. Finally.

Now then, who dares ignore God's own good judgment and reject His gracious benediction (23)? Those who react that way against the Holy Spirit are committing spiritual suicide (25-27). Lord, have mercy!