



July 25 and 26, 2020
Pentecost 8

The LORD is Our Home



“Lord, You have been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the mountains were born Or You gave birth to the earth and the world, Even from everlasting to everlasting, You are God.”

-Psalm 90:1-2 (NASB)

Messiah Lutheran Church & School

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Affiliated with the Church of the
Lutheran Confession ~ CLC
www.eauclairemessiah.com

**Please take
the bulletin
with you.
Thank you!**

Large-print copies are by the guest book.

Today's Worship

For a printed liturgy, see the green liturgy folder, page 21.

Pre-Service Devotion: See bulletin cover.

Hymns: 1:1-3 1:4-5 113 46

Gospel Reading.....Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23 (NKJV)

^{13:1} On the same day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the sea. ² And great multitudes were gathered together to Him, so that He got into a boat and sat; and the whole multitude stood on the shore. ³ Then He spoke many things to them in parables, saying: “Behold, a sower went out to sow. ⁴ And as he sowed, some *seed* fell by the wayside; and the birds came and devoured them. ⁵ Some fell on stony places, where they did not have much earth; and they immediately sprang up because they had no depth of earth. ⁶ But when the sun was up they were scorched, and because they had no root they withered away. ⁷ And some fell among thorns, and the thorns sprang up and choked them. ⁸ But others fell on good ground and yielded a crop: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹ He who has ears to hear, let him hear!”

Letter ReadingRomans 8:18-25 (NKJV)

¹⁸ For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy *to be compared* with the glory which shall be revealed in us. ¹⁹ For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God. ²⁰ For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected *it* in hope; ²¹ because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. ²² For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now. ²³ Not only *that*, but we also who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body. ²⁴ For we were saved in this hope, but hope that is seen is not hope; for why does one still hope for what he sees? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we eagerly wait for *it* with perseverance.

Sermon Reading Psalm 90 (NASB)

A Prayer of Moses, the man of God.

1 Lord, You have been our dwelling place in all generations.
2 Before the mountains were born
Or You gave birth to the earth and the world,
Even from everlasting to everlasting, You are God.
3 You turn man back into dust
And say, "Return, O children of men."
4 For a thousand years in Your sight
Are like yesterday when it passes by,
Or as a watch in the night.
5 You have swept them away like a flood, they fall asleep;
In the morning they are like grass which sprouts anew.
6 In the morning it flourishes and sprouts anew;
Toward evening it fades and withers away.
7 For we have been consumed by Your anger
And by Your wrath we have been dismayed.
8 You have placed our iniquities before You,
Our secret *sins* in the light of Your presence.
9 For all our days have declined in Your fury;
We have finished our years like a sigh.
10 As for the days of our life, they contain seventy years,
Or if due to strength, eighty years,
Yet their pride is *but* labor and sorrow;
For soon it is gone and we fly away.
11 Who understands the power of Your anger
And Your fury, according to the fear that is due You?
12 So teach us to number our days,
That we may present to You a heart of wisdom.
13 Do return, O LORD; how long *will it be?*
And be sorry for Your servants.
14 O satisfy us in the morning with Your lovingkindness,
That we may sing for joy and be glad all our days.
15 Make us glad according to the days You have afflicted us,
And the years we have seen evil.
16 Let Your work appear to Your servants
And Your majesty to their children.

17 Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us;
And confirm for us the work of our hands;
Yes, confirm the work of our hands.

Sermon Theme:

"The Lord is Our Home"

Moses reflects on his life experiences with Yahweh. This turns him to ponder man's mortality and sinfulness in comparison to God's eternal nature and power. In the end Moses passes on what he has learned: Approach the Lord with humility and fear, but also with complete dependence and faith in the Lord's goodness and mercy.



Guest Preaching Today: Pastor Caleb Schaller



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Other worship Options: Services and Bible Classes are archived and available at eauclairemessiah.com ● PAC-TV channel 993, Sundays @ 9 am ● Request a DVD (pick up or delivery) and DVD player if needed.



Summer Sermon Series: Remember the account of the paralytic in Luke 5? He and his friends came seeking physical healing, but Jesus first granted the forgiveness of sins. Beginning August 1-2, we will have a seven-part sermon series entitled "*First Things First - Jesus Gives Greater Gifts than Those for Which We Ask.*"

Each week will feature a different gift from the LORD that was more valuable than the one requested. As we go, ponder the "first things first" that He gives to you!

Weekend Bible class: This weekend, Pastor Schaller will continue the series on the book of First John with part 4 of 5. Come hear what warnings and encouragements John had for the early church.

This Week at Messiah

The following worship schedule (regular Saturday/Sunday worship) is the basic schedule we will follow for the foreseeable future. –Board of Deacons

- Sun, 7/26** 9:00 am Worship (Ushers #12, Counters H) **Masks optional**, also streamed.
 10:15 am Bible Class. **Masks optional**, also streamed.
 6:30 pm Special Voters’ Meeting
- Sat 8/1** 10:30 am Graduation at ILHS Campus. Limited attendance, view online at ilc.edu
 6:30 pm Worship, with communion (Ushers #11). **Masks required**.
 7:45 pm Bible Class. **Masks required**.
- Sun, 8/2** 9:00 am Worship, with communion (Ushers #14, Counters A). **Masks optional**, also streamed.
 10:15 am Bible class. **Masks optional**, also streamed.

- Coming Up:**
- August 8-12 Porkies Youth Camp-out/Backpacking
 - August 9 - Church Picnic
 - August 8 - Messiah School Workday

Announcements

A special Voters’ Meeting will be held on Sunday, July 26th at 6:30pm in the sanctuary with social distancing. Items of business: 1) Membership matters; 2) Report from the Building Committee; 3) Report from the Bd of Ed. 4) Discussion of the PPP (government Payroll Protection Plan). Voters are encouraged to attend and participate in these important discussions. Those who would like view the live Voters’ Meeting from home may contact Pastor Naumann for a link.

Messiah’s Spiritual Building Project: Because we are in the midst of looking to expand our facility and add in particular classrooms for our school, it might be natural to think a discussion of Messiah’s Building Project would have details on the physical plant. But in truth, Messiah’s Building Project has always been about the preaching of the Gospel and the extension of Christ’s Kingdom of forgiveness from sin and victory over death. Our Savior has promised that even the gates of hell, and this includes COVID, cannot stop this building project. Last week we had a major addition, but one seen only by a very few. ● On July 23, a

*A faith that keeps the
 narrow way
 Till life's last spark is fled
 And with a pure and
 heavenly ray
 Lights up the dying bed.
 (TLH 396)*

patient, seemingly near the end of life at Dove West, requested a pastoral visit with baptism in mind. Because of our services at Dove West, a call was made to Messiah’s pastor. A visit was made and a devotion presented that focused on the person and work of Jesus Christ as God’s appointed Savior from sin and death. Also considered was the confession of the thief: "We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong" (Luke 23:41). Other passages on the topic of baptism were reviewed (John 3, Romans 6, and Titus 3). Then upon his request and confession, Adam Lee Burnell was baptized in the name of the Triune God in his room at Dove West, by Pastor Tiefel. We pray that God’s Spirit will continue to bring comfort, joy, and hope in Christ Jesus to Adam and to his wife and two small children. ● Lord Jesus, thank You for extending Your “building project” among us helpless sinners.

In-person VBS for August 3-7 has been cancelled, because of COVID requirements. We intend to make at-home VBS packets available for parents. Parents, please take the packet survey at www.tinyurl.com/vbspackets.

Thank-You from Waylyn Klatt: "I want to thank all those who have reached out by sending cards to tell me that they are praying for me and my daughter after I had found out the news about my health. I do have a long road ahead of me and want to praise the Lord because my doctor was able to find a medicine that has helped slow the effects down. You are all such a great blessing to us. Lyn Klatt"



Service Preview for the Upcoming Weekend

GOD’S WORD SERVING US:

Sermon Text – John 6:24-35
Bible Class – First John (5 of 5)

CHRISTIANS SERVING US:

Saturday 8/1 6:30 pm: Usher Team 11		Sunday 8/2 9:00 am: Usher Team 14	
Joel Carstensen	Dean Carstensen	Dave Rodebaugh	Caleb Noeldner
Dennis Oster	George Carstensen	Christian Schaller	Dan Kelly
Jack Mielke	Mike Fleischer	Dave Schrader	Jon Kelly
Randy Hulke	Steve Sydow	Seth Schaller	Tim Schaller
		Zach Mikesell	

Counters for the week following 8/2– A
 Jim Lau, Gary Meyer, Dan Kelly

Thank you!

Care Facility Services Thank-You: As part of our “Satellite Services” at the Care Centers, we have recently started providing printed bulletins and a DVD to have a virtual service at HeatherWood Assisted Living and Memory Care. We received this “thank you” note: *Messiah Lutheran – Thank you so much for providing the virtual church service for our residents. We truly appreciate it. Warm regards, HeatherWood Assisted Living and Memory Care.*

Update on Messiah School Reopening Plans:

The Board of Education continues to work toward reopening our school. Several options are being considered; the following is a summary from the sub-committee for reopening.



In-person Plan - Our goal is to start with in-person, socially distanced instruction for K-8 students for five days a week. In order for this to work we will need to spread our classroom space (making use of the fellowship hall and church sanctuary) and add enough teaching hours to cover our fourth grade students each afternoon—this will require Voter consideration.

Hybrid or Online Only Plan - The faculty is preparing to begin in-person but is also exploring ways to provide learning opportunities for students that are quarantined at home while in-person instruction is happening at school. If the situation arises where we are unable to continue with in-person learning we plan to use the same distance learning format that we used in the spring, incorporating improvements.

We still have many questions about how the school day will look, but here is a preview of what it could look like:

- There will be screening requirements for students to be at school.
- We may be required to restrict parent access to the school building.
- The bus company is encouraging families to drive students to school, leaving space on the buses for students whose parents can't drive them to school.
- Students will probably need to wear masks during hallway transitions, but not during socially-distanced classroom instruction.
- How recess will function is still a question; more information about guidelines will be forthcoming from the health department.

Other notes - The Board will be considering the possibility of pushing back the start of our school year because of the extra preparations that are necessary this year and the uncertainty of the part-time position request. If we end up using the fellowship hall for an upper grade classroom it will be difficult to offer PreK. We do not know if we will be able to offer school programs like Lego league, athletics, choir or band.

Ways to Help - The school will be in need of items such as extra masks, tissue packs, and hand sanitizer, and disinfectant wipes. We will also need to add a substantial amount of technology to prepare for potential hybrid instruction. We may also need extra help transitioning students between vehicles and school – before and after school. If you would like to donate items or funds, or volunteer your services, please contact Principal Schaller at seth.schaller@ecmessiah.org or (715) 577-6276. **Please keep our school in your prayers!**

Attention Messiah Motorcyclists: Please join us on a motorcycle ride through the beautiful roads of rural Wisconsin! The date is Saturday, August 1 with a rain date of Saturday August 8. We will meet in the front parking lot at church. Please arrive before 12:45 with a full gas tank. Kickstands up at 1:00. The ride will last approximately 3 hours, including stops. PLEASE RSVP so we know how many to plan for! Please direct questions and RSVP to Matt Kelly. Email: yak467@yahoo.com or 715-497-4222. Please feel free to invite others, member or non-member. Let's enjoy some great riding and Christian fellowship!

Outreach Efforts: Some of our long-standing projects have been sidetracked: VBS, parades, Northern Wisconsin State Fair, Here We Grow Again. Yet our fellow human beings need the Gospel now as much as before. And the present health crisis has caught people's attention and they are eager for good news and hope and comfort. There is no greater news in the world than the message that Jesus has conquered sin and death and hands out freely eternal life. With this in mind the Outreach Committee is trying three projects: **1)** Finish the installation of the Little Church Libraries (see the one down by the church mailbox). We have two members waiting for one, but have four that could still go out. Are you interested? **2)** Podcast: The Committee is making our weekly sermon audio podcasts more accessible by distributing them to various platforms such as Itunes, Google play, Spotify, etc. **3)** Promotion in the newspaper and on social media of our pamphlet entitled "Bible-Centered Devotions, for the Person who Wants to Know More about God and Life with God." **And of course,** we encourage all of our members to be ready to give an answer to the hope that we have in Jesus Christ. (1 Peter 3:15) Pray for the spread of the Gospel in these trying times.

Bus drivers are needed at ILC for sporting events and school activities. License requirements: Class A or B CDL, Passenger, and Air Brake endorsements. ILC can give more information and details about training and licensing. For more information contact: Mark Kranz 715-450-0241, mark.kranz@ilc.edu or Paul Heinze 715-456-7194, ilcmaintenance@ilc.edu.

A new way to update your Messiah membership directory information: We now have an online form that you can use to submit a new address or phone number for the Messiah Membership Directory, found at this Internet address: www.tinyurl.com/messiah-update. You can also contact a pastor, or Dennis Oster at (715) 210-6893 or dcoster620@gmail.com. We appreciate our members' efforts to keep current with contact information!

Book 3 in the "Steeple in the Distance" series available - Take a refreshing walk, basking in the Sunshine. Deborah Ude's third book, "Sunshine in Shadows," is now available. This book paints the dark miasma of this life's valley of tears but shows the Light from above is shining. By faith we too must continually struggle, yet we do not walk in shadows but in the light of Christ's empty tomb. Though part of a

series, this book stands on its own. Here is the link to its sale on Amazon: www.tinyurl.com/SunshineinShadows. (The digital version is \$2.99 and the printed paperback is \$11.99.) All three of Deb's books are also available in printed form at the CLC Bookstore or directly from John Ude, john.ude@ilc.edu.



Highlights from the July 16, 2020 Church Council meeting:

<> **The meeting began** at 6:30 pm with a devotion based on Psalm 13. There were 10 members present, including church officers, board chairmen and pastors. <> **Elders:** Changes to our church family: transfer in of Bethanie Gantt and Prof. Mark Weis, both from St. Luke's, Lemmon, SD.; transfer out of Jacob, Dani, Zoey, Emmy, Clara, and Charlie Ohlmann to Grace, Valentine NE; and Bryan, Hannah, Hailey, Aydan, Riley, and Jayse Hallahan to Peace thru Christ, Middleton, WI. Motion carried to recommend to voters the termination of Jacob, Andrew, and Samuel Gullerud by bylaw 2.08c at their request. Peter Johnston has completed instruction, requested membership, and received as a communicant member by Council resolution. Motion carried to bring to the voters the reinstatement of the membership of Burgess and Janice Huehn by bylaw 2.09 at their request. With deacons, the elders have been addressing concerns for member safety in church due to COVID. <> **Deacons:** we are getting back to a regular service schedule. We are not currently pursuing 60th anniversary activities or pictorial directory, but will defer these to 2021. We declined to host the ILC choir concert at church the night before ILHS graduation, due to COVID concerns. The church picnic is moving forward on August 9th. We recently purchased a new camera to improve quality of service streaming. A church Security Committee has been meeting and putting plans in place to secure our facility during worship services. <> **Pastors:** The pastors continue to meet weekly to coordinate schedules and vacations. Pastor Naumann is guest preaching at Fridley this weekend. Adult instruction classes have been hit and miss. Pastor Naumann will teach catechism and Pastor Schaller will teach Bible History this school year. The church camping trip is coming up July 24-26. Pastor Naumann will go to Rochester for the committal service for Phyliss Green on July 25. A new summer sermon series begins that weekend of July 25-26, entitled "First Things First." Pastors have been working with members on a number of difficult counseling situations. <> **Outreach:** We are podcasting audio from sermons. More "Little Church Libraries" are ready to be installed. We are designing a new VBS yard sign that's more durable, using money that would have been spent on other cancelled events. <> **Property:** Disinfection and cleaning occurs between services and as requested. Each group that meets is responsible for cleaning after their own meeting. Monthly workdays are restarting this month on Saturday, July 25th. <> **Board of Education and Principal:** The August VBS session cancelled, we are coordinating the distribution of materials. We are looking into in-person SS. The school athletics schedule for the fall is uncertain. There are plans to replace two classroom

windows. The School work day will be on Saturday, August 8. The Board accepted nonmember enrollment of Jasper Zona in PreK, however, due to COVID space needs it is not certain that PreK will be held. The school is looking at getting Chromebooks for all upper graders from the "textbooks" line item of MSF funds for about \$6-8K. The Board of Education, Principal, and Faculty have been working to develop a plan for the reopening of the school. The goal is to begin with in-person, socially distanced, instruction. To make this work it looks like classrooms will need to be moved around and the fellowship hall and church will need to be used for classrooms. For this plan to be implemented the teaching staff would need to be increased by a part-time position to allow lower-grades to be single level for the entire school day. There are six applicants so far for the school secretary position. <> **Treasurer:** For the first 6 months of 2020, receipts are up about \$15,000 over last year and disbursements are up about \$2,000 over last year. We have received 48% of budgeted needs through June (same as last year), have spent 46% of the budget. CBP offerings are up about \$8,000 over last year, and are at 50% of our goal. Total receipts are up 5% over last year. Some funds are down from last year, like the Messiah School fund and the Messiah ILHS Student Grant Fund. Comparison of 2019 to 2020 during shutdown: home budget contributions are \$10,000 higher than last year and CBP is up \$5,700. <> **PPP loan:** A motion carried to recommend to the voters that we vote, by paper ballot, either to return the PPP money now or keep it for potential use. <> **Building Committee:** The Committee is narrowing down the design. They have met again with the architect and builders, and are getting input from subcontractors. At the July 26 Voters' Meeting they will present a drawing that represents layout and a better cost estimate. The next decision on this project will likely be December when we have completed plans. We hope to be able to begin construction in the spring of 2021. <> **The next Council meeting** is scheduled for Monday, August 17th at 6:30 pm. <> **A Special Voter's meeting** is scheduled for July 26th at 6:30 pm. <> **The meeting adjourned** at 8:45 pm with the Lord's Prayer & Benediction.

CLC Call News: Pastor Richard Kanzenbach, Morning Star, Fairchild; Peace with God, Onalaska; and Trinity, Millston, WI has accepted the call to St. Luke's, Lemmon SD.

ILC Maintenance Position: A full-time position has opened in the maintenance department of ILC following the faithful service of John Fox. In service to the LORD and for the welfare of our students, the responsibilities include: 1) the maintenance and improvement of the grounds and roads on the campus (e.g., mowing, tree trimming, plowing, road repair, etc.); 2) the repair, maintenance, and improvements of the buildings on the campus (e.g., equipment maintenance, plumbing, electrical, furnace and boiler care, building improvements, furniture repair, etc.); and 3) being available for certain scheduled 'on call' evenings, nights, weekends, and holidays. Those who are interested may contact Prof. Dan Schierenbeck (dan.schierenbeck@ilc.edu/660.864.9231) who can provide more

details along with compensation. Applications will start being reviewed on August 15, 2020.

A group trip to Israel is planned for January 13-22, 2021 with a possible three day extension to Jordan for those interested. Currently 17 members of CLC congregations are registered for the trip, and over a dozen more have expressed interest. The tour company is expecting that our tour will be possible, but they do have options available for us if it has to be cancelled. You are invited to join this group as we see the places where God stepped into History to fulfill His plan of salvation for sinners! The trip will include visits to Caesarea, Mt. Carmel, Nazareth, Cana, Capernaum, Jerusalem, the Dead Sea, En Gedi and more. We will visit traditional sites associated with Jesus' ministry as well as those of the prophets and apostles. Have questions or need more information? Contact Pastor Nathanael Mayhew at nnmayhew@sleepyeyelutheran.com or (404) 729-4602 or check out the following link... <https://tinyurl.com/IsraelTrip2021>

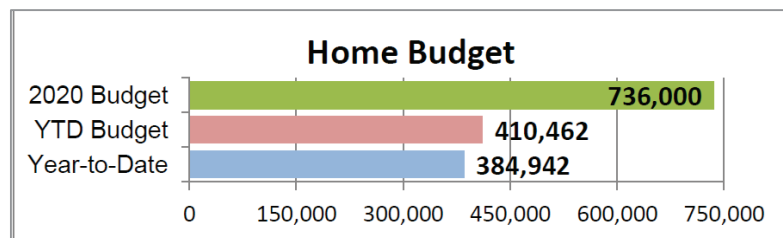
In the Hospital: Walt Schaller had successful hip surgery this past week and has returned home to recover. **Messiah Shut-ins:** Marge Eckel (1431 Peterson Ave.), Ida Drews (2455 Sawgrass Place #213, Altoona), Arvilla Hays (Care Partners, 3337 Birch St.), Shirley Johnson (832 Kari Dr.), Mae Noeldner (3706 Damon St. #17, Eau Claire), Ellen Knuth (Care Partners, 887 Brian Lane, Altoona), Tom and Linda Larson (3134 Eldorado Blvd.), Connie Larson (address unknown), Paul Tiefel, Sr. (2455 Sawgrass Rd #419, Altoona), Mavis Thelen (418 N. Barstow), Johanna Williams (2118 Augusta St. EC) and Shelly Williamson (Bellevue, IA).

Fruits of Faith Last Week – July 18 & 19, 2020

Saturday Service 7/18: 62 In-Person
 Saturday Bible Class 7/18: 9 In-Person
 Sunday Service 7/19: 100 In-Person, 229 views online
 Bible Class 7/19: 25 In-Person, 81 views online

Weekly Offering Information:

Offering Summary	Need/week	7/19/20	Year-to-Date
Messiah Home Budget	15,263.00	13,343.47	384,941.65
CLC Missions (CBP)	3,468.00	3,738.58	105,225.63



Daily Bible Readings for Home Devotions; July 27-Aug. 1, '20.

Mon Isaiah 55:10-11 This earthly illustration gets us thinking about cause and effect (10). Plants depend on water (the universal solvent) to transport vital nutrients to their roots, nourishing them to produce fruit and seeds for consumers. Which illustrates how God sends His word down from heaven to transport His grace and mercy so that souls may flourish, grow to maturity, and bear fruit to eternal life. That's why we drink God's Word.

Tues Matthew 13:1-9 From a floating pulpit Jesus gave an agronomy lesson. More specifically, a lesson about the grain farmer suffering loss of seed; loss by predatory birds, loss in stony soil, and loss by competition from weeds. So why bother farming? Because when seed does fall on good/cultivated soil, God sees to it that seed can overcome all obstacles and flourish to harvest (8). Human survival depends on God's hand in the process. Stay tuned.

Wed Romans 8:18-25 During our own season of growth, we hear ourselves groaning, lamenting, and sighing—and for good reason. We put up with our aches and pains, our shortages, our losses—because we see light at the end of the tunnel. We groan within ourselves because we want to get past the barriers; we are eager for our reunion with our Lord and Savior, Jesus, who has promised that we can be WITH Him, fully and forever. Yes and Amen!

Thurs Psalm 65 approaches God with praise—praise especially because God has provided atonement for our transgressions (1-4). We ask Him to find time for us (5) among His other activities as Creator (6-8) and Preserver of life via H₂O (9-10). We depend on God to keep Earth in orbit season after season, to bless pasture, vineyard, orchard, and grassland—which join us in praising You, O God, in this little corner of Your kingdom (11-13). Hallelujah!

Fri Matthew 13:18-23 The success ratio for God's Word may seem low, for His Word gets discarded by lack of understanding, is thwarted by ungodly appetite, stunted by passing fancies, and suffocated under adversities. Yet God doesn't quit broadcasting His Word, for success comes wherever people read the Bible, understand what God is doing via Jesus, are nourished by the Spirit, and produce fruits of faith. Thanks be to God!

Sat Acts 14:1-18 *Now it happened* is an understatement, for Jesus was seeing to it that His Word was sown, sprouted, and bore fruit (1). However, wherever Jesus is winning souls, Satan stirs up trouble (2-4), and soon the missionaries realized it was time to move on (6-7). Lesson #1 for idolaters: Jesus is responsible for performing genuine miracles (8-11); Lesson #2: Idolatry and God's religion are incompatible, as is perfectly clear to those who know God—though it's not clear to those who don't (12-18).