



Family Praise & Worship
April 26, 2026
10:45 a.m.



Senior Pastor Kurt Hoover
Worship Coordinator Justin Brown
Technology Coordinator Nikolai Stier

40 Houbolt Rd.
Joliet, IL 60431

815.741.4488
www.mlcjoliet.org

WORSHIP TODAY

Call To Worship

Welcome

Worship Through Songs

Worship Through Giving

Children's Message

Leslie McFarland

Worship Through Hearing God's Word

Message

"The Church in Corinth"

Pastor Kurt Hoover

A manuscript for this sermon and those previous can be found in the Narthex.

Worship Through Song

Prayers of Intercession

Prayer of Confession & Forgiveness

Communion

The Lord's Prayer

Announcements

Closing Song

FIRST LESSON, 2 Corinthians 3:1-6 (ESV)

Reader: Molly Hoover

¹ Are we beginning to commend ourselves again? Or do we need, as some do, letters of recommendation to you, or from you? ² You yourselves are our letter of recommendation, written on our hearts, to be known and read by all. ³ And you show that you are a letter from Christ delivered by us, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts.

⁴ Such is the confidence that we have through Christ toward God. ⁵ Not that we are sufficient in ourselves to claim anything as coming from us, but our sufficiency is from God, ⁶ who has made us sufficient to be ministers of a new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit. For the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.

SECOND LESSON, Acts 18:1-11 (ESV)

¹ After this Paul left Athens and went to Corinth. ² And he found a Jew named Aquila, a native of Pontus, recently come from Italy with his wife Priscilla, because Claudius had commanded all the Jews to leave Rome. And he went to see them, ³ and because he was of the same trade he stayed with them and worked, for they were tentmakers by trade. ⁴ And he reasoned in the synagogue every Sabbath, and tried to persuade Jews and Greeks.

⁵ When Silas and Timothy arrived from Macedonia, Paul was occupied with the word, testifying to the Jews that the Christ was Jesus. ⁶ And when they opposed and reviled him, he shook out his garments and said to them, "Your blood be on your own heads! I am innocent. From now on I will go to the Gentiles." ⁷ And he left there and went to the house of a man named Titius Justus, a worshiper of God. His house was next door to the synagogue. ⁸ Crispus, the ruler of the synagogue, believed in the Lord, together with his entire household. And many of the Corinthians hearing Paul believed and were baptized. ⁹ And the Lord said to Paul one night in a vision, "Do not be afraid, but go on speaking and do not be silent, ¹⁰ for I am with you, and no one will attack you to harm you, for I have many in this city who are my people." ¹¹ And he stayed a year and six months, teaching the word of God among them.



MESSIAH
LUTHERAN
CHURCH
CELEBRATING 125 YEARS

VISITING THE CHURCHES
THROUGH

*The Letters
from Paul*

THE CONCLUSION OF ACTS

7-Week Sermon Series: April 12 - Pentecost

- Paul's conversion & first missionary journey
- Letters to the churches in...
 - ... Philippi
 - ... Thessalonica
 - ... Corinth
 - ... Ephesus
 - ... Rome

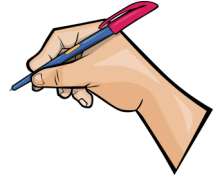


We welcome to the pulpit...

- Seminarian Mike Brown will preach at both services on May 3rd;
- Pastor Emeritus David Nygard will preach at both services on May 10th.

HAVE YOU SIGNED YOUR QUILT SQUARE?

As part of our 125th Anniversary Celebration, the Messiah Quilters are assembling a signature quilt. Each family has the opportunity to sign a 4" fabric square with your family members names. These will all then be sewn together to create a wall hanging for our church that will become a wonderful memory of all our families here at Messiah.



If you have not yet signed your square but wish to be included in the signature quilt, please contact me and I can write out your block for you. Final date for blocks is April 30th. Don't be left out! Kathy Mueller, scpbklane@aol.com, 815-953-6601.

SAVE THESE DATES FOR 125th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS!

Saturday, September 19th - Dinner Banquet (time TBD)

Sunday, September 20th - Reception Celebration between services

NEWS & OPPORTUNITIES TO GET INVOLVED

ADULT "INSIGHT" BIBLE STUDY

Join us in Fellowship Hall, Sunday mornings during Education Hour.

COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP TIME



Be sure to join us for coffee & good company on Sunday mornings in Fellowship Hall! Coffee will be available beginning at 8:30 a.m. and will continue until after the later service gets out. If you are an 8:30 attender - stay late! If Family Praise & Worship is your service - come early! Make new friends! If you'd like to help with Sunday morning coffee, please reach out to Joyce Pawlowski at 630-890-1203.

CONNECT WITH MESSIAH

You can use this QR code to let us know you're new, tell us that you're interested in next steps at MLC, submit prayer requests, fill out a Connect Card, and give online.

Scan here to connect with MLC:



Online Giving - There are two convenient ways to do it:

- 1) On our website at <https://www.mlcjoliet.org/give>.
- 2) Through the Church Center app on your phone or tablet, or scan the QR code above.

Our **online giving app** now offers some new features designed to streamline the process. You will have the option to split your donation between giving funds. It will be easier to donate via ACH (only a flat \$0.30 processing fee per transaction, versus the 2.15% plus \$0.30 for credit cards). Previous donations will be saved, and better security with identity verification. All to make it easier to donate online.

FAITH & BODY

Lace up your shoes and enjoy a walk in the Family Life Center, weekly on Thursdays (Sept-May) from 9-10 a.m. Everyone walks at their own pace and it's a great time for fellowship.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Please join Messiah's new Grief Support Group on the **first Thursday every month** at 1 p.m. in Room 101. This group offers caring and confidential space for those walking through loss. You are not alone. We are here to support one another. Questions may be directed to Pat Burke or Judy Fowler.

*Grief
Support
Group*

MEMORY BEARS



Messiah's Memory Bears Group normally meets the 4th Tuesday of every month from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Our next meeting is **April 28th**. We have jobs that do not require sewing! Text Cindi Souza at (815) 931-8478 or email regency118@comcast.net for more info.

OWLS (Older, Wiser, Loving Seniors)

OWLS meets on the second Tuesday of every month at noon, September-May. We enjoy a light lunch together, play trivia, and usually feature a guest speaker or entertainment! **Our final luncheon until fall is May 12th**. We ask that everyone sign up in the Narthex so we have a headcount and to let us know what finger food, appetizer, salad or dessert you will bring to share.



PRAYER CHAIN

Messiah uses an email-based Prayer Chain made up of people willing to pray for our members, community, and nation in times of crisis. Prayers are shared amongst the group via email and are kept confidential as much as possible. Text Cindi Souza at (815) 931-8478 or email regency118@comcast.net for more info.

PRAYER TEAM

Our in-person Prayer Team meets Thursday mornings in the Fireside Room from 10:15-11:15 to pray together over our prayer request list. For more info text Cindi Souza at (815) 931-8478 or by email regency118@comcast.net, or reach out to Beth Hohisel at bhohisel@hotmail.com.

PUBLICATION DEADLINES

Items for the bulletin are due by the end of the day each Tuesday, and newsletter material is due the 20th of each month.

QUILTERS - MAY 5th BONUS DAY!

Messiah Quilters meet the 3rd Tuesday each month from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. We have a lot of quilts ready to complete and if you can tie a knot, you can help us out! We even have jobs you can do sitting down. Think about stopping in and see what we do. If you are unable to join us and would like to sew at home, we have kits available and can show you how easy it is to sew a quilt top together.

Contact Kathy Mueller at (815) 953-6601 or scpbklane@aol.com for more information or any questions you may have. In May, we have added a **bonus day** on Tuesday, **May 5th**, in addition to our regular quilting day of **May 19th**! Hope to see you there!

STAY-N-PLAY

Our FREE weekly open gym play group for kids five and under ends for the season on April 28th and will be on break until September.



Bible Study: Our Wednesday afternoon Bible Study began a new six-week session on April 8th from 1-2:30 p.m. in the Fireside Room. We're following the book, "How Do You Walk the Walk You Talk," by Kay Arthur. This study of vital passages from Ephesians will help you discover what God says about the lifestyle of a true believer.

Spring Luncheon: Our spring luncheon is Sunday, **May 3rd** from noon-2 p.m. and will feature a salad bar, games and prizes! Get your tickets in the Narthex on Sundays, April 19th and 26th. Free will offering will be collected and childcare will be available.

For more info on Messiah Women's Ministries, please reach out to Sherri Unyi.

YOUNG ADULT "IGNITE" BIBLE STUDY

For those out of high school and older - Join us for coffee and Bible Study in classroom #101 Sunday mornings during Education Hour.

MESSIAH KIDS (pre-K to 5th grades)

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Our Children's Choir will share their final performance for this season during the 10:45 service on Mother's Day, **May 10th**. *(Please note date change from April 26.)* For more info please reach out to Season Lawler.

J-CHURCH

J-Church is the third Sunday of every month (except December) at 10:45 in the FLC.

MESSIAH KIDS WEDNESDAYS (MKW) SUMMER PROGRAM

MKW has ended for the program year. Our **summer MKW kickoff is on June 17th** and runs through July 29th (except during VBS week). We'll meet Wednesday evenings from 6-8 p.m. in the upper level Kidz Club!

NATIONAL BIBLE BEE

Messiah will once again host the National Bible Bee this summer, **June 10th** through August 12th from 5-6 p.m.! Registration is open at BIBLEBEE.ORG. For more info please reach out to Leslie.

SUNDAY SCHOOL SUMMER SCHEDULE

Pre-K through 5th groups meet upstairs in the Kidz Club, 6th-8th in the Youth Room! We'll wrap up our program year on **Field Day, May 17th**! Our summer session will run July 5th through August 16th for k-8th.

For more info on ministries for kids pre-K through 5th grade, email Leslie McFarland, Children's Min. Director, at childrensmin@mlcjoliet.org or Megan Kuhn, Christian Ed. Director, at christianed@mlcjoliet.org.

MESSIAH STUDENT MINISTRIES (6th to 12th grades)

BIBLE STUDY (SUNDAY MORNINGS)

Bible Study for high schoolers is in the Fireside Room and will continue year-around.

FRIENDS AND MENTORS (FAM) AND HEAD2HEART (H2H)

FAM AND H2H will continue meeting on Wednesday evenings from 6-8 through **May 6th**. We'll then have a few weeks off until Summer SALT begins.

SUMMER S.A.L.T. KICKOFF PARTY

This summer we will meet in a combined format for 6th-12th graders! Our **kickoff party** will be on Wednesday, **May 27th** from 6-8 p.m. at the Stier's home. Our summer program will meet at church from 6-8 p.m. June 3rd through August 5th. *Please note that we will not meet on 07/22 or 07/29.*

For more info on ministries for students 6th through 12th grade, email Kersten Stier, Youth Director, at stumin@mlcjoliet.org.



VBS is June 22-26! **Registration is OPEN!**

Calling for VBS volunteers! There will be a **Volunteer Workshop** on **Sunday, June 7th** at 9:40 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. Questions? Email Stephanie at VBS@mlcjoliet.org.

Register here:



Volunteers are also asked to register!

To the Army of Prayer Warriors - Thank you!

Your prayers were felt before, during and after my surgery last week. What a comfort you bring to all you pray for.

Blessings,
Pat Boe

ALTAR FLOWERS

Altar flowers are provided by Lynn & Rich Tapella
in celebration of their 53rd wedding anniversary.

If you would like to sponsor Altar flowers, please sign up in the Narthex
or call the office at 815-741-4488. Arrangements are \$25 each.

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

SUNDAY, April 26

8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship
9:40 a.m. Education Hour
10:45 a.m. Family Praise & Worship
1 p.m. Cristo Rey Worship

MONDAY, April 27

n/a

TUESDAY, April 28

9 a.m. Memory Bears,
Stay N Play (end date)

WEDNESDAY, April 29

1 p.m. Women's Bible Study
6 p.m. FAM, H2H

THURSDAY, April 30

9 a.m. Faith & Body Challenge
10:15 a.m. Prayer Team
12 p.m. Staff Meeting
7:15 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

FRIDAY, May 1

n/a

SATURDAY, May 2

9 a.m. Worship Team Rehearsal

SUNDAY, May 3

8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship
9:40 a.m. Education Hour
10:45 a.m. Family Praise & Worship
12 p.m. Women's Luncheon
1 p.m. Cristo Rey Worship

ATTENDANCE

LAST WEEK:

8:30: 112
10:45: 42
Online: 21

2026 GIVING

Operating Budget: \$694,359
YTD Operating Budget: \$213,649
YTD Giving Received: \$162,309
Needed Each Week: \$13,353
Received Last Week: \$7,844

1st Quarter 2026

Actual Income vs. Expense:
-\$14,823

STEWARDSHIP VERSE OF THE WEEK

Ephesians 5:20

Always give thanks to God the Father
for everything, in the name of our
Lord Jesus Christ.

Messiah office hours are Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.,
otherwise by appointment. Please call (815) 741-4488.

