



**Family Praise & Worship**  
**July 19, 2026**  
10:45 a.m.



*The one who sowed  
the good seed is  
the Son of Man.*



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

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# **WORSHIP TODAY**

**Call To Worship**

**Welcome**

**Worship Through Songs**

**Worship Through Giving**

**Children's Message**

Kersten Stier

**Worship Through Hearing God's Word**

**Message**

**"Discipleship: Ministry Among the Weeds"**

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, Isaiah 44:6-8 (NIV)**

Reader: needed

<sup>6</sup> "This is what the LORD says— Israel's King and Redeemer, the LORD Almighty: I am the first and I am the last; apart from me there is no God. <sup>7</sup> Who then is like me? Let him proclaim it. Let him declare and lay out before me what has happened since I established my ancient people, and what is yet to come— yes, let them foretell what will come. <sup>8</sup> Do not tremble, do not be afraid. Did I not proclaim this and foretell it long ago? You are my witnesses. Is there any God besides me? No, there is no other Rock; I know not one."

## **SECOND LESSON, Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43 (NIV)**

<sup>24</sup> Jesus told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. <sup>25</sup> But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. <sup>26</sup> When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also appeared.

<sup>27</sup> "The owner's servants came to him and said, 'Sir, didn't you sow good seed in your field? Where then did the weeds come from?'

<sup>28</sup> "'An enemy did this,' he replied.

"The servants asked him, 'Do you want us to go and pull them up?'

<sup>29</sup> "'No,' he answered, 'because while you are pulling the weeds, you may uproot the wheat with them. <sup>30</sup> Let both grow together until the harvest. At that time I will tell the harvesters: First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn.'"

<sup>36</sup> Then he left the crowd and went into the house. His disciples came to him and said, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds in the field."

<sup>37</sup> He answered, "The one who sowed the good seed is the Son of Man. <sup>38</sup> The field is the world, and the good seed stands for the people of the kingdom. The weeds are the people of the evil one, <sup>39</sup> and the enemy who sows them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the harvesters are angels.

<sup>40</sup> "As the weeds are pulled up and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of the age. <sup>41</sup> The Son of Man will send out his angels, and they will weed out of his kingdom everything that causes sin and all who do evil. <sup>42</sup> They will throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. <sup>43</sup> Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Whoever has ears, let them hear.

# **NEWS & OPPORTUNITIES TO GET INVOLVED**

## **125<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS - Save the dates!**

Saturday, September 19<sup>th</sup> - Dinner Banquet at 5:30 p.m.    RSVP here:  
Sunday, September 20<sup>th</sup> - Reception Celebration between services



## **ADULT "INSIGHT" BIBLE STUDY**

Our Sunday morning Bible Study for adults is at 9:40 in Fellowship Hall. The current topic is "Resurrection of the Body."

## **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.

## **MEMORY BEARS**



Messiah's Memory Bears Group normally meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of every month from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Our next meeting is **July 28<sup>th</sup>**. We have jobs that do not require sewing! Reach out to Cindi Souza at [regency118@icloud.com](mailto:regency118@icloud.com) or 815-931-8478 for more info.

## **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. Reach out to Cindi Souza at [regency118@icloud.com](mailto:regency118@icloud.com) or 815-931-8478 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, reach out to Cindi Souza at [regency118@icloud.com](mailto:regency118@icloud.com) or 815-931-8478, or Beth Hohisel at [bhohisel@hotmail.com](mailto: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 20<sup>th</sup> of each month.

## **QUILTERS**

Messiah Quilters meet the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday each month from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. **Please note that we will not meet in July.** 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](mailto:scpbklane@aol.com) for more information or any questions you may have. Hope to see you on **August 18<sup>th</sup>**!

## **SCHOOL SUPPLIES CAMPAIGN**

We are collecting monetary donations for our annual School Supplies Campaign throughout the month of July. Scan the QR code to give electronically, or by cash or check using an envelope available in the Narthex.



## **MESSIAH KIDS** (pre-K to 5<sup>th</sup> grades)

### **MESSIAH KIDS WEDNESDAYS (MKW) SUMMER PROGRAM**

Our MKW program has been canceled for this summer.

### **NATIONAL BIBLE BEE**

The National Bible Bee has been canceled for this summer.

### **SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Our summer session for K-8<sup>th</sup> graders will run through August 16<sup>th</sup>. We meet upstairs in the Kidz Club.

For more info on ministries for kids pre-K through 5<sup>th</sup> grade, email Leslie McFarland, Children's Min. Director, at [childrensmin@mlcjoliet.org](mailto:childrensmin@mlcjoliet.org) or Megan Kuhn, Christian Ed. Director, at [christianed@mlcjoliet.org](mailto:christianed@mlcjoliet.org).

## **MESSIAH STUDENT MINISTRIES** (6<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grades)

### **BIBLE STUDY (SUNDAY MORNINGS)**

Bible Study for high schoolers is in the Fireside Room continues year-round.

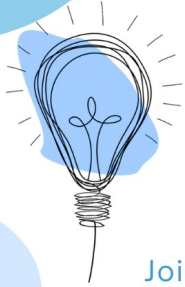
### **SUMMER S.A.L.T. (for both FAM and H2H groups)**

This summer we're meeting in a combined format for 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders! Our summer program meets at church on Wednesday evenings from 6-8 through August 5<sup>th</sup>.

For more info on ministries for students 6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade, email Kersten Stier, Youth Director, at [stumin@mlcjoliet.org](mailto:stumin@mlcjoliet.org).



# Digging DEEPER



September 11<sup>th</sup> 6:00-8:30pm  
September 12<sup>th</sup> 9:00am-2:00pm  
Fellowship Hall - food provided!

Join us for this dynamic, two-day event led by Pastor Kurt and Kersten Stier where we'll discuss your questions about the Bible, Scripture, Lutheran Doctrine and Christianity.

All ages event! Scan this code to submit questions:



## SCHOOL SUPPLIES CAMPAIGN



WE ARE COLLECTING MONETARY DONATIONS  
THROUGHOUT THE MONTH OF JULY.

You may give electronically in Church Center. Special envelopes are available in the Narthex if you'd like to donate by check or cash.

**THANK YOU!**

Donate here:



## **ALTAR FLOWERS**

Altar flowers are provided by John & Leah Kewenig in celebration of their 54<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and by Judy Fowler in loving memory of Ron.

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, July 19**

8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship  
9:40 a.m. Education Hour for all ages  
10:45 a.m. Family Praise & Worship

### **MONDAY, July 20**

n/a

### **TUESDAY, July 21**

6:30 p.m. PPC Meeting

### **WEDNESDAY, July 22**

6 p.m. Summer SALT (6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders)

### **THURSDAY, July 23**

10:15 a.m. Prayer Group  
12 p.m. Staff Meeting

### **FRIDAY, July 24**

n/a

### **SATURDAY, July 25**

9 a.m. Worship Team Rehearsal

### **SUNDAY, July 26**

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

## **ATTENDANCE**

### **LAST WEEK:**

8:30: 95  
10:45: 43  
Online: 12  
Kids: 3  
MSM: 2  
HS: n/a  
Insight: 24

## **2026 GIVING**

Operating Budget: \$694,359  
YTD Operating Budget: \$373,886  
YTD Giving Received: \$284,271  
Needed Each Week: \$13,353  
Received Last Week: \$8,992

## **STEWARDSHIP VERSE OF THE WEEK**

### **2 Corinthians 4:15-16**

All this is for your benefit, so that the grace that is reaching more and more people may cause thanksgiving to overflow to the glory of God.

Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day.

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

