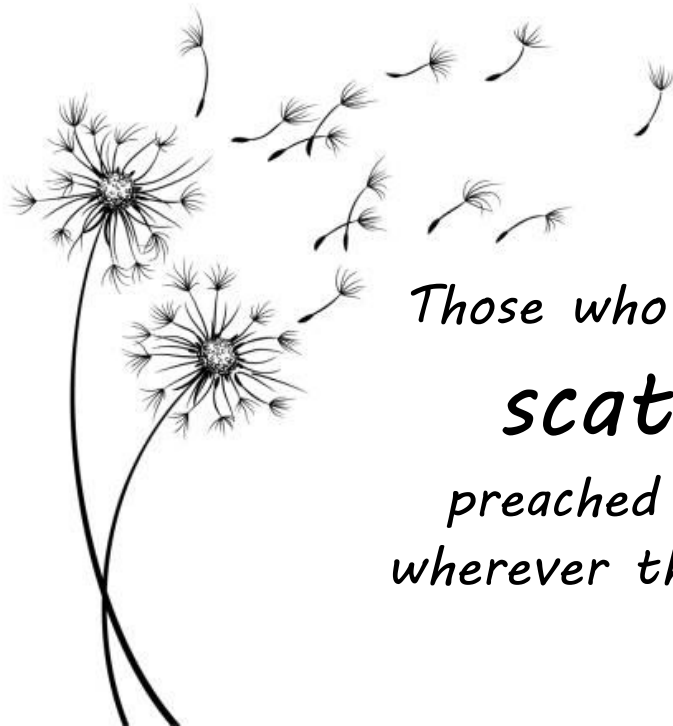


MESSIAH
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

Family Praise & Worship
February 8, 2026
10:45 a.m.



Those who had been
scattered
preached the word
wherever they went.

Senior Pastor Kurt Hoover
Pastor Emeritus David Nygard
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

"Our God Heals" (How God Works In Us and Through Us)

Pastor David Nygard

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, Acts 8:4-8 (NIV)

Reader: Molly Hoover

⁴Those who had been scattered preached the word wherever they went. ⁵Philip went down to a city in Samaria and proclaimed the Messiah there. ⁶When the crowds heard Philip and saw the signs he performed, they all paid close attention to what he said. ⁷For with shrieks, impure spirits came out of many, and many who were paralyzed or lame were healed. ⁸So there was great joy in that city.

SECOND LESSON, Acts 9:32-43 (NIV)

³²As Peter traveled about the country, he went to visit the Lord's people who lived in Lydda. ³³There he found a man named Aeneas, who was paralyzed and had been bedridden for eight years. ³⁴"Aeneas," Peter said to him, "Jesus Christ heals you. Get up and roll up your mat." Immediately Aeneas got up. ³⁵All those who lived in Lydda and Sharon saw him and turned to the Lord.

³⁶ In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (in Greek her name is Dorcas); she was always doing good and helping the poor. ³⁷ About that time she became sick and died, and her body was washed and placed in an upstairs room. ³⁸ Lydda was near Joppa; so when the disciples heard that Peter was in Lydda, they sent two men to him and urged him, "Please come at once!"

³⁹ Peter went with them, and when he arrived he was taken upstairs to the room. All the widows stood around him, crying and showing him the robes and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was still with them.

⁴⁰ Peter sent them all out of the room; then he got down on his knees and prayed. Turning toward the dead woman, he said, "Tabitha, get up." She opened her eyes, and seeing Peter she sat up. ⁴¹ He took her by the hand and helped her to her feet. Then he called for the believers, especially the widows, and presented her to them alive. ⁴² This became known all over Joppa, and many people believed in the Lord. ⁴³ Peter stayed in Joppa for some time with a tanner named Simon.



WEDNESDAY EVENING

LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS & WORSHIP

Soup Supper 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.
Worship 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.
on
Ash Wednesday, February 18th
Wednesdays February 25th, March 4th, 11th, 18th and 25th

Easter Sunday
April 5th, breakfast starting at 7:30 a.m.
Worship at 8:30 and 10:45 a.m.



Lenten Sermon Series



BOLD
Prayers



How to engage the tough prayers.

*"...grant to your servants to continue to speak your word with all **boldness**." Acts 4:29*

New series
begins
February
22nd!

NEWS & OPPORTUNITIES TO GET INVOLVED

ADULT "INSIGHT" BIBLE STUDY

Join us in Fellowship Hall, Sunday mornings during Education Hour. We are currently studying the Book of Acts, which will continue throughout the Season of Epiphany.

COFFEE & FELLOWSHIP TIME



Be sure to join us for coffee & good company on Sunday mornings in Fellowship Hall! Coffee will be available beginning at 9:40 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!

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.

DAYBREAK SHELTER - WILL YOU HELP SAVE OUR PARTNERSHIP?

For 35 years Messiah has prepared & served dinner once a month to those less fortunate at Daybreak Homeless Shelter in Joliet, from 5:30-7:00 p.m. on the second Monday of each month. Our long-time coordinator, Karen Rebuehr, has discerned the need to step down and we are looking for a volunteer (or two) willing to take the baton. This would entail coordinating volunteers & food donations, light shopping, and communicating with Daybreak staff as needed. **Please reach out to Karen or call the front office for more information.**

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.

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. next meeting is **February 24th**. 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 next luncheon is on **February 10th** and we'll welcome special musical guests, the **Ukelele Strummers!** 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

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.

We are in need of clean sheets of any size, flat or fitted (no stains or holes) to be used as the backs of our quilts. You can drop them off in the basket provided in the Narthex. Thank you, in advance!

Contact Kathy Mueller at (815) 953-6601 or scpbklane@aol.com for more information or any questions you may have. Hope to see you on **February 17th**!

STAY-N-PLAY

Our FREE weekly open gym play group for kids five and under (along with their caretaker) meets in the Family Life Center every Tuesday morning (Sept-May) from 9:30-11. Bring the littles for play time! Adults enjoy coffee on us!

WEDNESDAY EVENING FAMILY DINNER & FAMILY PRAISE NIGHT



Wednesday Family Dinners take place the first Wednesday of every month at 5:30 p.m. Your RSVP is important to us - a sign up list is posted in the Narthex. We can also use help with setup and cleanup. If you are able to assist, please sign up in the Narthex.

Family Praise Night, also the first Wednesday of every month, is from 6 -6:30 p.m. (right after dinner) in the cafe area of the FLC. Join our children and student ministries for a time of praise, kids' showcase, and a short message! ***Please note that on March 4th, we'll have Lenten Soup Supper & Worship.***



WOMEN'S MINISTRIES

Women's Bible Study will wrap up on February 11th, and we plan to begin a new series after Easter. Details coming soon. For more information please reach out to Sherri Unyi or Laurel Ling.

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 perform during the 10:45 service on January 25, February 22, March 22, and April 26. For more info please reach out to Season Lawler.

DADDY DAUGHTER DANCE

Mark your calendar for our second annual Daddy Daughter Dance on **February 21st** from 6:30-8:30 p.m. for young ladies pre-K and older, along with their dad or chaperone. Registration is now open in the Church Center app or by following the QR.



J-CHURCH

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

MESSIAH KIDS WEDNESDAYS (MKW)

MKW meets Wednesday evenings from 6-8 p.m. in the upper level Kidz Club!

MILE MARKERS

- My New Bible (2nd grade) presentation February 15th.
- First Communion (4th grade) March 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th, Communion April 2nd.

Registration is open in the Church Center app or here:

1st Communion



NERF BATTLE



Dudes (5 and up), you're invited to an epic showdown! Bring your partner and NERF gun and we will provide the ammo and safety gear! We will have target practice, capture the flag, zombie freeze and prizes and treats. The battle will take place on Saturday, **March 14th** from 1-3 p.m. in the FLC. *Registration will open February 12th.*

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Pre-K through 5th groups meet upstairs in the Kidz Club, 6th-8th in the Youth Room!

Help Wanted! Our Christian Education team is looking for substitute teachers for Sunday School during Education Hour. Must be high school age or older. Please inquire with Leslie McFarland or Megan Kuhn.

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.

FRIENDS AND MENTORS (FAM) FOR HIGH SCHOOLERS

FAM meets on Wednesday evenings from 6-8.

HEAD 2 HEART (H2H)

Our H2H (Confirmation) program for 6th-8th graders runs on Wednesdays evenings from 6-8.

MAFIA NIGHT

6th-12th graders - mark your calendar for our next MAFIA NIGHT! Friday, **February 27th** from 6:30-10 p.m. Bring \$5 if you'd like to join us for pizza! Invite friends!

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



SANCTUARY CHOIR

rehearses on Thursdays from 7:15-8:45 p.m.
and performs weekly during the 8:30 service.
If you'd like to join in, reach out to Herb Alexander
or call the church office.

ALTAR FLOWERS

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, February 8

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

MONDAY, February 9

n/a

TUESDAY, February 10

9 a.m. Stay-N-Play
12 p.m. OWLS
2 p.m. "Chosen" Bible Study

WEDNESDAY, February 11

1 p.m. Women's Bible Study (ends)
5:30 p.m. FAM, H2H, MKW

THURSDAY, February 12

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

FRIDAY, February 13

n/a

SATURDAY, February 14

9 a.m. Worship Team Rehearsal

SUNDAY, February 15

8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship
9:40 a.m. Education Hour,
New Member Class
10:45 a.m. Family Praise & Worship,
J-Church
1 p.m. Cristo Rey Worship

ATTENDANCE

LAST WEEK:

8:30: 90
10:45: 60
K-5th: 11
6th-8th: 6
High School: 3
Ignite: 0
Insight: 28
Online: 26

2026 GIVING

Operating Budget: \$694,359
YTD Operating Budget: \$66,765
YTD Giving Received: \$54,902
Needed Each Week: \$13,353
Received Last Week: \$12,300

STEWARDSHIP VERSE OF THE WEEK

2 Corinthians 2:14

But thanks be to God, who in Christ
always leads us in triumphal
procession, and through us spreads
the fragrance of the knowledge of
Him everywhere.

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

