MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH
CELEBRATING 125 YEARS

Family Praise & Worship
October 25, 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

Children's Choir
"Word of the Lord," led by Season Lawler

Worship Through Songs

Worship Through Giving

Children's Message
Pastor Kurt

Worship Through Hearing God's Word

Message
"Kingdom Life: ----------"
Pastor Kurt Hoover
A manuscript of this sermon can be found in the Narthex.

Worship Through Song

Prayers of Intercession

Prayer of Confession & Forgiveness

Communion

The Lord's Prayer

Mile Marker of Faith Celebration
Confirming My Faith

Announcements

Benediction

Closing Song

FIRST LESSON, Revelation 14:6-7 (ESV) Reader: Lori Spielman

6 Then I saw another angel flying directly overhead, with an eternal gospel to proclaim
to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people. 7 And
he said with a loud voice, "Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his
judgment has come, and worship him who made heaven and earth, the sea and the
springs of water."

SECOND LESSON, John 8:31-36 (ESV)

31 So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, "If you abide in my word, you are
truly my disciples, 32 and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

33 They answered him, "We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved
to anyone. How is it that you say, 'You will become free'?"

34 Jesus answered them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave
to sin. 35 The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. 36 So
if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

Congratulations to our Confirmands!

At this morning's 10:45 service, we celebrate the confirmation of
Julia Spielman, Daniel Wieher, Michael Wieher, and Caleb Winters.

October is Pastor Appreciation Month, and Messiah Lutheran Church is truly blessed by the faithful service & steadfast dedication of Pastor Kurt Hoover, Pastor Emeritus Dave Nygard, and Deployed Pastor John Nelson. We are grateful for the countless hours they give through love, prayer, teaching, encouragement, and spiritual leadership. Their ministry and commitment to our congregation are a blessing to us all. Please take a moment this month to express your appreciation and let Pastor Kurt, Pastor Dave, and Pastor John know how much their service means to you and to the Messiah family. *"Give honor to whom honor is due."* -Romans 13:7

NaperVoice
SING WELL. DO GOOD.™

NaperVoice's fall 2026 concert is Sunday, **November 15** at 4 p.m. at Grace United Methodist Church in Naperville. Admission is $21.50 for adults, $16.50 for seniors, $6 for students 13 and older.

Purchase your advance tickets now as they do sell out, and please **select Herb Alexander** as the credited choir member. Tickets are available at: www.napervoice.org.



Wednesday, November 4 at 7 p.m.

Please bring a photo of your loved one
to place on the Altar before the service.

NEWS & OPPORTUNITIES TO GET INVOLVED

ADULT "INSIGHT" BIBLE STUDY

Our Sunday morning Bible Study for adults is at 9:40 in Fellowship Hall. Our newest series is entitled, "The Ten Commandments."

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.

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.

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 Grief Support Group on the **first Thursday every month** (Sept-May) at 1 p.m. in Room 101. This group offers caring and confidential space for those

currently walking through loss or those who have suffered loss in the past. You are not alone - We are here to support one another. Questions may be directed to Pat Burke or Judy Fowler.

INTERVARSITY VISION CONFERENCE - Volunteers needed
InterVarsity's annual Vision Conference is November 6-8 at Messiah, and they are looking for volunteers to serve the college students in the name of Jesus. For more information, reach out to Leslie McFarland.

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 **October 27.** Machine sewists are needed! Reach out to Cindi Souza at regency118@icloud.com or 815-931-8478 for more info.

MESSIAH APPAREL & ACCESSORIES
Check out the Messiah apparel and accessories display in the Narthex!
Purchase clothing, hats, mugs & more by scanning this QR code:

OWLS (Older, Wiser, Loving Seniors)
OWLS meets the 2nd Tuesday of every month at noon, September-May. We enjoy a light lunch together, play trivia, and usually feature a guest speaker or entertainment!

> Turkey, gravy, mashed potatoes, and beverages will be provided for **our November 10** luncheon as we celebrate our veterans, and we'll feature a guests speaker from the Will County Health Dept. to talk about diabetes and hypertension. We ask that everyone sign up in the Narthex so we have a headcount, and to let us know what you will bring to share.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD
Boxes are now available in the Narthex!

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 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 or 815-931-8478, or 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. The next quilting day is October 20. 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. 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 backs for our quilts. There is a collection basket in the Narthex. 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 **October 20**!

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 10-11:30. Bring the littles for play time! Adults enjoy coffee on us! Please like our Facebook page (MLC Stay-N-Play Playgroup) for additional information, and share with your friends and neighbors!

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY
Join us for Women's Bible Study on Wednesday afternoons at 1 in the Fireside Room!

YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY
Those post-high school and older are invited to join us for Bible study on Sunday mornings during Education Hour in classroom #101. Coffee and occasional breakfast treats will be provided.

MESSIAH KIDS (pre-K to 5th grades)

CHILDREN'S CHOIR
For information please reach out to Season Lawler.

MESSIAH KIDS WEDNESDAYS (MKW)
MKW meets Wednesday evenings from 6-8 p.m. in the upper level Kidz Club! Join us for family dinner beforehand, starting at 5 p.m.

SUNDAY SCHOOL
We meet upstairs in the Kidz Club during Education Hour at 9:40 a.m.

MESSIAH STUDENT MINISTRIES (6th to 12th grades)

BIBLE STUDY (SUNDAY MORNINGS)
Bible Study for high schoolers is in the Fireside Room continues year-round.

FRIENDS & MENTORS (FAM) FOR HIGH SCHOOLERS
Join us for mid-week Bible Study, connect with peers, play games, sing praise and more! FAM meets on Wednesday evenings (Sept-April) from 6-8. Join us for family dinner beforehand, starting at 5 p.m.

HEAD 2 HEART (H2H)
Our H2H Confirmation Program for 6th-8th graders runs on Wednesdays evenings (Sept-April) from 6-8. Join us for family dinner beforehand, starting at 5 p.m.

MAFIA NIGHTS - Attention 6th-12th graders!
Join us fort Capture the Flag/Tag in the Dark! Mark your calendar for our next MAFIA night on **November 13** from 6-10 p.m. Bring friends, and $5 per person if you'd like to join us for pizza.

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. For students **6th through 12th grade** email Kersten Stier, Youth Director, at stumin@mlcjoliet.org.

BLOOD DRIVE AT MESSIAH!

Sunday, November 1, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Sign up list/QR link can be found in the Narthex.

Dear Messiah family,

I wish to thank you all for your prayers and friendship during this difficult time. I am deeply touched by your kindness with cards, flowers, calls, and most of all your love for Bob and I.

Sincerely, Gayle Arko

ALTAR FLOWERS

Altar flowers are provided by Pat Burke in loving memory of Tom.

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, October 25
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

Monday, October 26
n/a

Tuesday, October 27
9 a.m. Memory Bears
10 a.m. Stay-n-Play

Wednesday, October 28
1 p.m. Women's Bible Study
5 p.m. Family Dinner
6 p.m. FAM, H2H, MKW

Thursday, October 29
9 a.m. Faith & Body
10:15 a.m. Prayer Group
12 p.m. Staff Meeting
7:15 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Friday, October 30
n/a

Saturday, October 31
9 a.m. Worship Team Rehearsal

Sunday, November 1
8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship
9 a.m.-1 p.m. Blood Drive
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: 70
10:45: 32
Online: 23
Insight: 29
K-5: 11
MSM: 0
HS: 2
Young Adult: 0
MKW: 6

2026 GIVING

Operating Budget: $694,359
YTD Operating Budget: $560,828
YTD Giving Received: $454,248
Needed Each Week: $13,353
Received Last Week: $9,370

STEWARDSHIP VERSE OF THE WEEK

Luke 12:20-21
But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God.

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