

MESSIAH MESSENGER

MARCH 2026

Lent 2026



"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you." (Matthew 5:43-44)

When has religion become about who is in and who is out? When have we added to the requirements of what it means to be a 'good' Christian? Is it possible that the church and religion can not only help people, but hurt people? And can we pray for those who have been hurt by the church? Can we pray for those we don't agree with? Can we pray BOLD Prayers?

"BOLD Prayers" is our theme for Lent. A challenging theme. Who is it or what is it that you would least likely find yourself praying for, and can you pray a BOLD Prayer to see God in those things more clearly? Lord help me to see the people who I don't always see.

The largest impact my heart surgery had on my life, was my prayer life. I found it difficult to think that God might treat me differently because I had so many people praying for me.

How many times do you have to call on the name of Jesus to be healed? How many others does it take? Don't get me wrong, I pray these prayers all the time, for you. We pray these prayers in church. It is who we are, faith causes prayer, we cannot help but pray. We do it without thinking about it. God's Spirit has created in us a habit of responding to tragedy, by appealing to God.

And this was my final conclusion on prayer. Like the Sabbath, man was not made for prayer, but prayer was made for man. It is not up to us to pray the right prayer, or the right number of prayers, to achieve what God has already willed to do.

In fact the Bible tells us that we don't know how to pray. That is why the Holy Spirit intercedes on our behalf. It is comforting to me to know that God gets the intent of my heart even when my thoughts are selfish or misdirected. As Garth Brooks taught us – sometimes I do thank God for unanswered prayers. Or more precisely, that God is not limited by our ability to form the right thoughts in our minds and make the right request.

Like the Sabbath, my discovery has been that man was not made to produce prayers, but prayer was made to connect men and women to their Creator. Perhaps the most important part of prayer is the initial connection. That for at least some portion of our day we are looking to something other than ourselves for guidance. When that connection is made, when our head or our heart turns up to God, God already knows how He is going to shape us through that moment before the act of petition happens. Before a word is on our lips, You, O Lord, You know it altogether. (Psalm 139:4)

God is shaping us through BOLD Prayers.

In anticipation of what God does next,

Pr. 

pastor.hoover@mlcjoliet.org

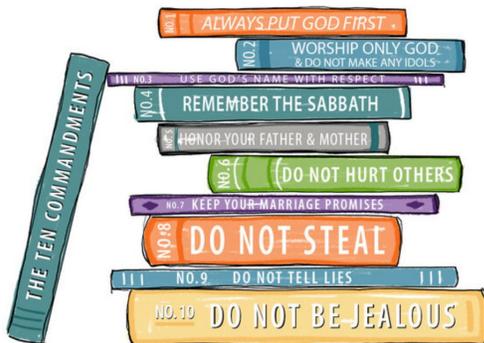


LENT AND EASTER AT MESSIAH



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.

Wednesdays in Lent *Catechism Study* **The Ten Commandments**



Maundy Thursday
and
Good Friday
Worship
at 7 p.m.

Celebration Sunday at Messiah

PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 29



We'll celebrate with a combined worship service
at 10 a.m. in the Family Life Center
and our annual Youth Parade.





Easter
Sunday

Celebrate Easter at Messiah!

Easter Breakfast is served from 7:30-10:45 a.m. in the FLC and is sponsored by our Head2Heart and FAM youth! Free will offering is appreciated. Here is just a taste of what you can look forward to:

A variety of delicious, homemade **Breakfast Casseroles** (vegetarian option too!)

Sausage

Fresh Fruit

Biscuits & Gravy

Donuts/Pastries

Irish Potatoes

Coffee/Fruit Juices

Easter Sunday Services

are at 8:30 and 10:45.

There is no Education Hour on Easter.

The church office will be closed on Easter Monday.

We are currently taking orders for *Easter Lilies*

with a deadline of March 11th.

The order form can be found on page 15 of this newsletter.



STEWARDSHIP

Palm Sunday marks Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem. The crowds laid down palm branches and cloaks on the road—a sign of honor, surrender, and joyful praise. Their actions remind us that stewardship begins with offering what we have to Christ.

During this sacred week, we are invited to consider what we are laying before the Lord. Our time, our talents, our treasures—each can become an act of worship when given in love and gratitude. Just as the people welcomed Jesus with what was in their hands, we too are called to welcome Him with generous and faithful hearts.

As we journey toward the cross and the empty tomb, may our stewardship reflect our devotion, honoring Christ not only with words of praise but with lives fully offered in His service.

With God's grace,

- *Gerry Boe*, Stewardship Director, stewardship@mlcjoliet.org



HELP! We are looking for help in updating our church history. We have the booklets from our 75th and 100th anniversaries, but need to update the last 25 years and maybe even collect more information dating back further! So, if you have any photos, flyers, letters, programs, booklets of the people and events that have transpired over the last 25 years here at Messiah, we would love to see them. If you have a memory

you would like to share, we would love to hear it directly from you or you can write it down for us. If you were part of an event or activity and have a great story or fun memory, we would love to hear that also!

We are gathering this information now. A basket labeled "Messiah Memories" is provided in the Narthex for you to drop your info in. If you have photos (or other memorabilia) and want them back, include your name and phone and we will return them to you. Also, if you are able to identify any or all of the people in a photo, that would be wonderful!

Original charter members of Hauge Norwegian Evangelical Lutheran Church:

Nels Nelson	Jacob Wetteland	Ole Eddy	Iver Eddy	A. Thorson
G. Stnerson	Alfred Johnson	Austen Jones	Christ Erickson	

Are you related to any of these people? Let us know! Be sure to check out the historical photos on the Community Board in the Narthex. You can contact Kathy Mueller, 815-953-6601 or scpbklane@aol.com for more information or questions on Messiah's 125th Anniversary!

Our 125th Anniversary: 1901-2026!

Our story continues--- During Pastor S.K. Knutson's pastorate (1915-1924), the Plattville Lutheran Church pulpit becomes vacant and pastor Knutson is asked to serve. This leads to one pastor serving two parishes (Plattville and Hunter Ave.) which existed until June 1977.

Pastor Dr. A.O. Mortvedt served as pastor from 1924-1943. He served during the depression and the start of World War II. He was very active in church affairs including church council, youth groups, ladies aid, business meetings, taught Bible School and always had devotions at the various meetings. In 1927 the congregation paid off its original mortgage. In 1943 the name of the church was changed to "HUNTER AVENUE LUTHERAN CHURCH."

In 1943, Pastor A.M. Hegre was called to our church. The church and parsonage were in need of repair and there was much discussion whether to repair or build. In the late 1940's a new organ was purchased, the church exterior remodeled, new oak pews and carpeting purchased and the original windows replaced with stained glass.

Hunter Avenue Lutheran Church celebrated its 50th Anniversary on November 18, 1951. The theme was "Forward With Christ". Pastor Ostrem served from 1947 to 1957 and during that time, new pews and stained glass windows and other repairs were made.

From the very beginning, Evangelistic meetings with guest speakers were held on a yearly basis lasting several days. These meetings were a way of emphasizing evangelism and focusing church members on a renewal of the spirit.

In the late 1950's under the direction of Pastor E. David Spencer, it was decided to remodel rather than to relocate. This increased worship space to 125-150, adding Sunday School and church office spaces. The parsonage was also remodeled.

Between 1961 and 1975, Pastors, Tweedt, Hesse, Fische and Anderson served Messiah. Pastor Tweedt encouraged the congregation to consider a church name that would reflect the teachings of God's Word. The four names considered were Messiah Lutheran, Calvary Lutheran, Gloria Day and Bethany Lutheran. In 1961 the name of the church was changed to "MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH."

1962 brings the construction of I-80 two blocks south of the church thus cutting off members homes from the church. The church is put in a survival mode.

In 1972 the church is struck by lightning sustaining heavy damage. Within minutes, members and friends respond. Rebuilding begins immediately and new windows are built from the salvaged broken stained glass.

In 1975, newly graduated seminary student, Pastor David Glesne arrived and marked a new beginning in the life of the Messiah Lutheran Church.

October 24th, 1976 was the 75th Anniversary Celebration. The theme was "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever." (Hebrews 13:8) It was standing room only with 298 persons attending morning worship. During these 75 years, congregational life included regular worship services, Christian instruction for the children via Sunday School, Vacation Bible School (which was run by the pastors for the first 50 years), confirmation classes, Sunshine Weavers and Luther League. Adult members activities include Bible groups, discussion groups, Junior/Senior choir and the Ladies Aid. In fact, the Ladies Aid was the mainstay of the church since 1900. Over the years, they helped finance a repair, contributed when giving ran low, met with each other for fellowship and provided mission work in many different forms. Also in 1976, Rose Ann Sochan began as our organist.

With a membership of 94 families, a study was begun in 1976 to "Relocate or Close." Average worship attendance was about 75 people and only street parking was available. The congregation had to answer the question to close up the church or perhaps relocate...

To be continued next month. Stay tuned!



GET READY FOR OUR CHURCH

★PICTORIAL DIRECTORY★

Be a part of our 2026 church directory! We will be taking pictures of our families for our directory **before and after services on March 22nd and 29th** in Fellowship Hall. (*The pictures will only be used for our directory and for our members only*). This will be a great time to confirm the information we have on file.

Our Messiah Quilters will be completing a **Signature Quilt** to celebrate our 125th anniversary. The squares will be next to the photo booth for you to sign before and after the services on March 22nd & 29th.



Messiah's Daily Devotional Podcast

Word Play!

God has a Word for you!



Hosted by Pastor Kurt Hoover and Nikolai Stier, you'll find a new podcast each weekday morning that delves into the Scripture readings for the coming Sunday, focusing on one word in each passage. We'll also feature occasional guest pastors from our area and other LCMC members.



Tune in as they exchange insights into the Word of God... along with some nerdy banter!

Each 7–8-minute podcast is available on [Spotify](#) here...



Jesus' words of grace are enough for you (2 Cor. 12:9).
Jesus says, "You have all you need. You are not missing anything."

COMMUNITY EVENTS

JOLET AREA CHRISTIAN WOMEN

You and your friends are invited to Joliet Christian Women's upcoming luncheon in Messiah's Fellowship Hall on Wednesday, **March 18th** at 11:15 a.m. \$22.00 includes a catered lunch, a special guest speaker/presentation and good fellowship. In March there will be a presentation on the Irish American Society of Joliet.

RSVP by March 11th by contacting Barb at 815-439-2076 or mrs.brutus56@gmail.com, or call Sonya at 815-727-1626. Check out their website at <https://www.stonecroft.org/>



FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

The Joliet Community YMCA is hosting a **free** Eggapalooza! event on Sunday, **March 14th**, 1-3 p.m. at the Salvation Army Community Center (300 3rd Ave. in Joliet). Hop on over for a fun-filled day for the whole family! There will be an Easter egg hunt, games, crafts, music, and sweet treats. Registration is required by visiting their website at jolietyymca.org. Questions may be directed to Keyanna Montgomery, YMCA Youth & Family Director, at 815-744-3939 x362.

FOR THE LADIES OF MESSIAH

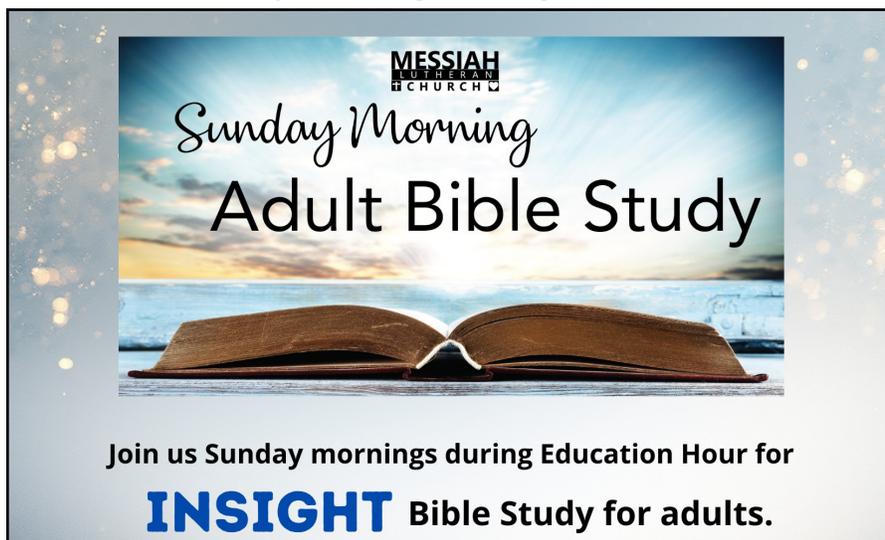
SPRING LUNCHEON

Ladies - Mark your calendar for our spring luncheon on Sunday, **May 3rd** at noon! Details to follow.

OPPORTUNITIES TO GET INVOLVED!

ADULT "INSIGHT" BIBLE STUDY EDUCATION HOUR

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



ALTAR FLOWERS - Sign up in the Narthex



If you'd like to help beautify our Sanctuary and sponsor Altar flowers in honor of a special occasion, or to memorialize someone important in your life, the sign up chart is on the Connect Wall in the Narthex (outside the Fireside Room). Arrangements are \$25 each and may be taken home to enjoy after Sunday services have ended.

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 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 Sherri in the front office for more information.

FAITH & BODY THURSDAYS

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 Thursday, March 5th 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.

-Pat Burke & Judy Fowler



LIL LOVES MINISTRY

Lil Loves at Messiah aims to come alongside underserved parents and babies in the area by providing **FREE** assistance with diapers and much needed baby supplies. Lil Loves is available on a by-appointment basis, and those requesting assistance may sign up on our website.

Lil Loves thanks you for your donations of:

- *Diapers and Pull-ups
- *Wipes
- *Baby Wash/Shampoo
- *Baby Lotion
- *Toiletry items for the moms such as deodorant, toothpaste, feminine hygiene, etc.

Trial-sized toiletry items are especially appreciated, rather than full-sized. If you'd like to donate, please place your items in the black bin in the Narthex. Our Lil Loves Ministry has helped many, many families in need with care packages thanks to your loving generosity!



WE ARE NOT ABLE TO ACCEPT FORMULA OR USED ITEMS. Formula and used baby clothes are happily accepted at Living Alternatives Pregnancy Resource Center at 903 Infantry Dr., Ste. 600, in Joliet.

MEMORY BEARS



Messiah's Memory Bears Group meets at the church from 9 a.m.-noon, on the 4th Tuesday of each month. Did you know that we make stuffed teddy bears (and dogs) out of the clothing of people who have passed away, to comfort the grieving? We would love to have you join us! We have jobs that do not require sewing. Text Cindi Souza at 815-931-8478 or email regency118@comcast.net for more info. Hope to see you on **March 24th**!

MICRO PANTRY

Did you know that Messiah has TWO food pantries? Our indoor pantry is in the hallway across from the offices and our outdoor "Blessing Box" is on the sidewalk right outside the office! This ministry is 100% donation-driven, and you can help to support it through prayer, monetary and/or nonperishable food donations. Please leave your nonperishable food donations in the bin in the Narthex. **NO EXPIRED ITEMS, PLEASE.**



MLC OFFICE HOURS

The office is staffed Monday-Friday from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturdays and evenings are by appointment.

OWLS

OWLS meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at noon, September through May. Be sure to sign up in the Narthex.



MESSIAH
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

Older, Wiser, Loving Seniors

OWLS

Tuesday, March 10th
at noon

Beverages will be provided.

Sign up in the Narthex to let us know a headcount
and what appetizer/finger food, salad or dessert you will bring!

*Our March luncheon will feature guest speaker Luanne Jelm-Eickholtz
who will share about her recent mission trip to the Dominican Republic!*



Prayer Chain

Messiah uses an email-based (not in-person) 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 confidential and anonymous 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 at 10:15 in the Fireside Room for approximately one hour, to pray together over our prayer request list. For more info text Cindi Souza at 815-931-8478 or by email to regency118@comcast.net, or Beth Hohisel at bhohisel@hotmail.com.

PUBLICATION DEADLINES



Just a friendly reminder that **Sunday bulletin** material must be received in the front office by 2 p.m. each Tuesday. Material for the **newsletter** is due the 20th of each month.

QUILTERS

Messiah Quilters meet monthly on the 3rd Tuesday from 9–2. 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**, 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.

Contact Kathy Mueller at 815-953-6601 or scpbklane@aol.com for more information or any questions you may have. Thank you to everyone who supports us with time, materials and monetary donations! Hope to see you on **March 17th**!



SANCTUARY CHOIR

Our Sanctuary Choir sings on Sunday mornings at the 8:30 service, September through May. Rehearsals take place on Thursday evenings from 7:15-8:45. We are always looking for new members! If you'd like to join in, please contact our Sanctuary Choir Director, Herb Alexander, at halex12240@gmail.com.

STAY-N-PLAY

Stay-N-Play is our **FREE** weekly play group that opens our gym for kids five and under along with their parent/guardian. We meet on Tuesday mornings (September-May) in the FLC from 9:30-11! Please like our Facebook page ([MLC Stay-N-Play Playgroup](#)) for additional information, and share with your friends and neighbors!

Stay-N-Play is in need of hosts! Contact Sherri Unyi if you are available to serve as an MLC Stay-N-Play Ambassador to help set up toys, make coffee, greet our guests and answer questions. Guests are required to supervise their own children.

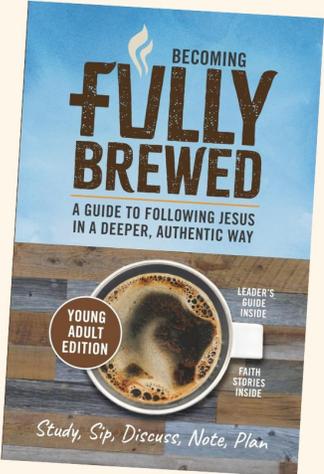
YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY

IGNITE!

YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY

FOR THOSE POST-HIGH SCHOOL AND OLDER

SUNDAY MORNINGS DURING EDUCATION HOUR IN CLASSROOM #101



MESSIAH KIDZ CLUB (K-5TH GRADE)

Parents of children (K-5th grade) can join the Messiah Kids group on the Remind app by texting the code mlcmk to 81010, or by going to: <https://www.remind.com/join/mlcmk>



We'll send reminders/notifications about Sunday School and events!



CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Children's Choir will perform on **March 22nd** and **April 26th** during the 10:45 service. Please contact Season Lawler for more information.



J-Church is the 3rd Sunday of every month (except December) at 10:45 in the Family Life Center!



MESSIAH KIDS WEDNESDAYS (MKW)

MKW is Wednesdays from 6-8 p.m. through April 8th, 2026. For more info, contact Beth Hohisel at bhohisel@hotmail.com or (815) 735-7897.

Register here:



MILE MARKER WORKSHOPS

First Communion (4th grade) March 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th; Communion on Maundy Thursday, April 2nd at 7 p.m.

Register here:



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.

Free event
Ages 5 and up!

**Ready
Aim Fire!**

**March 14th
1-3pm
in the FLC**

We will have:
target practice,
capture the flag,
zombie freeze,
prizes and treats!

Dudes, you're invited to an epic
showdown! Bring your partner and
NERF gun and we will provide the
ammo and safety gear!

Questions? Contact Megan Kuhn
christianed@MLCJoliet.org

MESSIAH
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

Registration is open:



SUNDAY SCHOOL EDUCATION HOUR

Pre-K through 5th grade groups meet at 9:40 upstairs in the Kidz Club, 6th-8th in the Youth Room!

Register here:



VBS 2026

...an Irish adventure through Psalm 23, providing hope to an anxious generation.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR
EMERALD CROSSING VBS!

JUNE 22-26

REGISTRATION
OPENS IN EARLY MARCH.
Volunteers
are needed!

MESSIAH
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

Get this on
your
calendar
and tell
friends!



MESSIAH
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

HOP ON OVER FOR OUR

Easter Egg Hunt

on
March 28th, 1-3 p.m.

Free Event!
Bring a basket and a friend!
Ages pre/k -5th
1-2 p.m. story walk in Fellowship Hall
2-3 p.m. egg hunt, outside (weather permitting)
Questions ? Reach out to Megan Kuhn, christianed@MLCJoliet.org



MESSIAH
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

**CANDY
DONATIONS
NEEDED**

WE KINDLY ASK YOUR FAMILY TO
DONATE UNOPENED CANDY FOR OUR
UPCOMING EASTER EGG HUNT

**Donations can be placed in the drop
box in the Narthex.
We will be collecting candy until
March 22nd!!!**

Any questions can directed to Megan Kuhn
christianed@MLCJoliet.org

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-12TH GRADE)

BIBLE STUDY EDUCATION HOUR (SUNDAY MORNINGS)

- 6th-8th grade Bible Study meets in the Youth Room at 9:40!
- Bible Study for high schoolers is in the Fireside Room!



FRIENDS AND MENTORS (FAM) FOR HIGH SCHOOLERS

Mid-week Bible Study and much more! Connect with peers, play games, learn life skills, pray, sing praise and enjoy fellowship! FAM runs Wednesdays from 6-8 p.m.!

HEAD 2 HEART

Our H2H (Confirmation) program for 6th-8th graders Wednesdays from 6-8 p.m.!

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

A graphic for online giving. At the top center is the 'MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH' logo. Below it, the text 'ONLINE giving' is written in a large, blue, sans-serif font, with 'ONLINE' in all caps and 'giving' in a script font. To the left is an illustration of a tablet with a pencil, and to the right is a smartphone. Below the main text, it says 'Two convenient ways to give online:'. Then, it lists two ways: '1) On our website at www.mlcjoliet.org/give.' and '2) Church Center app on your phone or tablet.' To the right of the second way is a QR code. Below the list, the words 'Fast', 'Simple', and 'Secure' are written in a blue, script font. At the bottom left is a lightbulb icon with the text 'DID YOU KNOW?'. To the right of the lightbulb, it says 'Download the Church Center app! It's not just for online giving.' Below this, it says 'You can also:' followed by three bullet points: '· View our church calendar!', '· Receive event notifications & reminders from MLC directly to your phone (with notifications enabled)!', and '· Register for events that request sign-ups!'.

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES & BIRTHDAYS



- | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 - Jamie Dykstra | 9 - Matthew Fiday | 27 - Anita Schultz |
| 2 - Janice Holmes | Randy Rzeszutko | 29 - Gabrielle Anderson |
| 3 - Prudencia Moore | 13 - Pat Burke | Ray Anderson |
| William Johnke | 14 - Angie Mitchka | Rose Sochan |
| Ryan Kittler | 15 - Rowan Hedden | Jeanette Wegemer |
| Ken Skinner | Michael Poole | 30 - Barbara Culinovic |
| 4 - Jerry Buchenau | 19 - Leah Melton | |
| 6 - David Nygard | 20 - Eva Hauge | |
| Katie Snider | Dominic Hester | |
| 7 - Kathy Sievers | 25 - Julie Bajt | |



- | |
|-----------------------------|
| 3 - Terry & Joy McClintock |
| 6 - Paul & Shannon Capps |
| 7 - Gerry & Pat Boe |
| 12 - Leonard & Lisa Winters |

MARCH SERVERS

***Please note that on Palm Sunday, 03/29, there will be a single service at 10 am.**

Counters

- | | |
|-----------|-----------------------------|
| 03/01/26 | Ken Skinner, Dan Stukel |
| 03/08/26 | Gayle Arko, Bob Miller |
| 03/15/26 | Stan Buhr, Joy McClintock |
| 03/22/26 | Judy Fowler, Zach Hoelscher |
| 03/29/26* | Ken Skinner, Dan Stukel |

Ushers 8:30

- | | |
|-----------|----------------------------|
| 03/01/26 | Jerry Buchenau, Dan Stukel |
| 03/08/26 | Bill Unyi, Alan Costello |
| 03/15/26 | Wayne Lauffer, Bob Miller |
| 03/22/26 | Craig Stone, Paul Allen |
| 03/29/26* | Alan Costello, Bill Unyi |

Ushers 10:45

- | | |
|----------|---------------------------------|
| 03/01/26 | Gary Phillips, Jeff Holmes |
| 03/08/26 | Tom & Tammie Eigenbauer |
| 03/15/26 | Jeff Holmes, Josh Johnke |
| 03/22/26 | Darryl Hoelscher, Gary Phillips |

Communion Assistants 8:30

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| 03/01/26 | Nancy Bertnik, Darryl Hoelscher, Joy McClintock |
| 03/08/26 | Nancy Bertnik, Rowan Hedden, Cindi Souza |
| 03/15/26 | Paul Allen, Bev Korby, Joy McClintock |
| 03/22/26 | Marvina Allen, Rowan & Diane Hedden |
| 03/29/26* | Terry Anzalone, Rowan Hedden, Darryl Hoelscher, Bev Korby, Suzy Prybell, Cindi Souza, Lynn Tapella |

Communion Assistants 10:45

- | | |
|----------|--|
| 03/01/26 | Terry Anzalone, Darryl Hoelscher, one needed |
| 03/08/26 | Terry Anzalone, Pat Burke, Darryl Hoelscher |
| 03/15/26 | Terry Anzalone, Darryl Hoelscher, one needed |
| 03/22/26 | Terry Anzalone, Pat Burke, one needed |

Readers 8:30

- | | |
|-----------|---------------|
| 03/01/26 | Marcy Vickers |
| 03/08/26 | Jane Costello |
| 03/15/26 | Angie Mitchka |
| 03/22/26 | Paul Allen |
| 03/29/26* | Laurel Ling |

Readers 10:45

- | | |
|----------|---------------|
| 03/01/26 | Jeff Holmes |
| 03/08/26 | Molly Hoover |
| 03/15/26 | Jeff Holmes |
| 03/22/26 | Kate Richmond |

Greeters 8:30

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| 03/01/26 | Pat Boe, one needed |
| 03/08/26 | Darryl & Cindi Souza |
| 03/15/26 | Marty Hohisel, Bev Korby |
| 03/22/26 | two needed |
| 03/29/26* | Pat Boe, Darryl & Cindi Souza, Lynn Tapella |

Greeters 10:45

- | | |
|----------|--------------------------|
| 03/01/26 | Beth Hohisel, one needed |
| 03/08/26 | Lynn Tapella, one needed |
| 03/15/26 | Donna Stier, one needed |
| 03/22/26 | Lynn Tapella, one needed |

**Help beautify
our Sanctuary
with lilies this Easter!
Fill out the form
below to order
your Easter lily.**



**Deadline to order is
March 11th**

Name _____

Phone _____

Number of Lilies
(cost per lily \$17) _____

Total Amount _____

In Honor/Memory of _____

Easter Lily

***Please make checks payable to Messiah
Lutheran Church and mark "Lilies" on the
memo line. Thank you!**

For Office Use
Giving # _____ Ck # _____ Amt _____

VIRTUAL WORSHIP AND SUNDAY BULLETINS

Can't make it to church this week? The 8:30 a.m. service is live-streamed online on our Facebook and YouTube pages. Links to both are at mlcjoliet.org/worship (please scroll to the bottom of the page). You can also view or print the bulletin, if you'd like to follow along!

**SPRING FORWARD
Daylight Saving Time!**

Daylight saving time will begin for 2026 on Sunday, **March 8th at 2 a.m.** local time, when our clocks will go ahead one hour.



You're invited to worship with us this

Easter

04/02 ~ Maundy Thursday 7:00 p.m.
 04/03 ~ Good Friday Tenebrae Service
 & Choir Cantata 7:00 p.m.
 04/05 ~ Easter Sunday 8:30 & 10:45 a.m.

Easter breakfast is served
 beginning at 7:30!

MESSIAH
LUTHERAN
CHURCH
 40 Houbolt Road, Joliet
 815-741-4488
 www.MLCJoliet.org

Senior Pastor Kurt Hoover
 Bookkeeper Sherril Unyi
 Organist Rose Ann Sochan
 Sanctuary Choir Director Herb Alexander
 Tech Coordinator Nikolai Stier
 Youth Director Kersten Stier
 Worship Coordinator Justin Brown
 Building Liaison Kate Richmond
 Children's Choir Director Season Lawler
 Children's Ministry Director Leslie McFarland
 Office Coordinator Vicki Dallmann