



Messiah

LUTHERAN CHURCH - ELCA

Worship, Ministries and Opportunities to Serve

Just as our bodies have many parts and each part has a special function, so it is with Christ's body... In his grace, God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well. So if God has given you the ability to prophesy, speak out with as much faith as God has given you. If your gift is serving others, serve them well. If you are a teacher, teach well. If your gift is to encourage others, be encouraging. If it is giving, give generously. If God has given you leadership ability, take the responsibility seriously. And if you have a gift for showing kindness to others, do it gladly.

Romans 12:4-8 (NLT)



Worship and Prayer Opportunities:



Messiah offers three weekend services:
Saturday at 5:00 PM (candlelight)
Sunday at 8:15 AM (Traditional) and
10:00 AM (Contemporary) for the summer,
10:30 AM for the fall/winter/spring.

All three worship services are streamed and one homily per weekend is archived on our website: www.messiahchurch.com. Child care is available during Sunday services during the school year.

Prayer Room

Messiah provides a prayer room for quiet reflection and prayer that is available anytime the church is open. Prayer and devotional books are available for use during your prayer time. Other books are available to borrow, please sign them out using the binder on the bookshelf.



Prayer Chain

Members notify the office with prayer requests which are then emailed to the Prayer Chain leader. The leader distributes the requests via email to the group.

Worship & Music Committee

The committee gathers to discuss upcoming worship events and seasonal changes, art and environment, music, altar set-up and sanctuary care. The committee also coordinates the midweek Lenten reflection series where members share the preaching moment on a particular verse and theme. Each year the worship and music committee coordinates a baptismal reunion for all children baptized in the prior year and also involves the congregation in the National Day of Prayer by encouraging people to pray in the building from 6:00AM to 10:00PM.

Senior Choir

The Senior Choir typically sings at the 8:15AM service and meets on Thursday evenings, September-May for practice.

Pewkeepers

This group meets on Thursday mornings and organizes the pew racks for weekend services.

Worship Service Ministries

The success of our weekend services depends upon the volunteer efforts of many people. The groups include altar ministers, greeters, ushers, communion assistants, readers and streaming volunteers. In addition to the Saturday and Sunday services, they also serve at special services for Ash Wednesday, Lenten Wednesdays, Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Hospitality ministers prepare Sunday treats which are provided by Messiah. From September through May, they host "Love, Laughter & Libations", a time of socialization following the 5:00pm service on the second Saturday of the month. Members enjoy wine, non-alcoholic beverages and snacks.

Children, Youth, Family Education & Ministry

Children's and Family Ministry (3 years through 4th grade)

Sunday School is the main focus of Children and Family Ministry and takes place at 9:30AM from September through April. Children are nurtured with stories and activities and have the opportunity to sing for the congregation, participate in the Christmas program and a Birthday for Baby Jesus. They also participate in service projects including creating Easter baskets and bags to share with the community.

Other Family Ministry offerings include preparation for First Communion, 3rd Grade Bible Blessing, Family Movie Nights and Trunk or Treat. All children are welcome to attend these events, even if they do not attend Sunday School classes.



Youth and Family Ministry (5th grade - 9th grade)

YOW (Youth on Wednesday Nights) is the main focus of Youth and Family Ministry. Our YOW program takes place from 6:00-7:30PM. Pre-Confirmation (grades 5-6) and Confirmation (grades 7-9) are embedded within YOW. Both programs are designed to encourage faith formation and exploration through small and large group discussions, community dinners, experiential learning opportunities and service and fellowship events.

Youth are welcome to attend Family Ministry events even if they do not attend YOW.

High School Youth: (9th-12th)

High school youth are encouraged to participate in service and fellowship events throughout the year. Youth and adults also participate in summer mission trips where they participate in home improvement projects, work with community service agencies and nursing homes, as well as assist with programming for children's groups.

Adult Education & Ministry

Adult Education

Adult Bible studies, theological education and day-long retreats are offered throughout the year.

Senior Adult Ministry (SAM)

The group is extremely active with two trips scheduled each year, monthly luncheons with a program September thru May, a Mallards Night baseball game, an apple pie baking fundraiser in October, volunteer work at Second Harvest Food Bank and other service projects.

Seasonal hikes in different Madison areas are hosted on a regular basis. SAM's coordinator is always looking for events that bring new Messiah members into the group to meet other members and feel welcomed.



Women's Ministry

This ministry offers two breakfast/speaker programs per year, provides book studies, and offers yoga sessions with donations benefitting local charities.

The Ladies Lunch Bunch meets once a month at local restaurants for socialization and an opportunity to try new dining experiences.

BreadBreakers

BreadBreakers is an adult fellowship opportunity. Groups of 6-8 members are formed each September. The groups may include couples or singles who take turns hosting each other for a meal in their homes. They share brunch, dinner or lunch, fancy or casual food, on whatever schedule works best for the group members. The only rule is to have fun and get to know each other over food and conversation.

Service/Outreach

Social Outreach Ministry

The group meets about four times per year. It hosts the Fall Craft Sale with proceeds donated to local charities. Other collections include St. Stephen's Food Pantry, The Road Home, Jail Ministry, Care Net, and Christmas collections for needy families. They also conduct the Mountain of Food collection, Just Bakery Sales, sock collection for The Triangle Ministry, Christmas pudding collection for the East Side Community Center at Truax, and a Christmas Mitten/Hat collection for the Salvation Army.



Prayer Shawl Ministry

The group meets once a month to make prayer shawls that are given to newly baptized babies and are available for anyone in need of comfort and prayer.

Homeless Meals

Messiah members volunteer to prepare and/or serve meals at Healing House and Triangle Community Ministries. Both service opportunities are held several times during the year. The food and supplies are paid for by Messiah.

Habitat for Humanity

Each year a team travels for a week to support a Habitat for Humanity project. Team members work Monday through Thursday on a home already in progress, or other times they construct walls for new builds or do projects at a Habitat ReStore.



Dignity Project Ministry

This group makes sani-panis (washable pads) for Little Dresses for Africa so that young girls can still go to school. The group holds a workshop once a month to get together and sew.

Racial Justice Team

Messiah has a very active Racial Justice Team which is involved in MOSES (Madison Organizing in Strength, Equality and Solidarity) whose mission is to promote criminal justice reform. The group is also involved in the South Central ELCA Synod Racial Justice programs. They offer book studies on racial justice topics and offer a lending library of racial justice books so members can read about issues faced by people of color.

Annual Backpack Collection

Each July and August Messiah organizes a backpack and school supply collection. Donations from members are distributed to local schools and organizations on the east and north sides of Madison.



Visitation Ministry

Members who are home bound receive a visit and communion on a regular basis. There are 35 congregation members who are part of the Visitation Team.

New Member Visitation Team

This team visits all new members. They bring them a welcome bag and answer any questions the new members have regarding groups and activities at Messiah.

Reconciling In Christ



Messiah has embarked on a process of becoming an active member of Reconciling in Christ (RIC) working for the full acceptance and inclusion of people of all sexual orientations and gender identities and expressions in the life of the church.

Adopt a School Program

Messiah and Kennedy Elementary School have an Adopt a School Partnership through the Madison Public Schools Foundation. The goal is to improve student achievement. Over the years, the needs of Kennedy families have increased and Messiah has responded with time, financial and material support.

Messiah/Gunderson Blood Drive

Each year Messiah and Gunderson Funeral Home sponsor a Red Cross blood drive here at Messiah. Members volunteer to greet and visit with people as they donate, as well as host the snack area.

Stewardship

Stewardship Committee

The Committee administers the Gundlach Family Fund which matches many collections within the church as well as offering a Rental Assistance Program for non-members screened by the Community Action Coalition (usually assists with over \$20,000 in rent assistance). The committee also coordinates the fall Stewardship Drive.

Memorial Fund Committee

The Committee monitors monies donated to the church in memory or honor of members and non-members. They record names of donors in the Memorial Book located in the office. They coordinate the purchase of any items that are supported by memorial money and have plaques engraved for the donor boards.

Joan E. Shropshire Education Grant Fund

The fund was created in memory of Joan who passed away July 18, 2015. The purpose is to provide one-time financial support to students pursuing higher education through either a four-year college or technical college.

Building Service

Property & Grounds Committee

The Committee meets monthly to keep the Messiah grounds groomed. They also coordinate the summer mowing and snow removal programs, work on special needs within the building, and help maintain the streaming program.

**Messiah is blessed by many volunteers
that assist in our building and
outside in our community.
They are the hands and feet of Jesus.**



Staff and Ministry Contact Information



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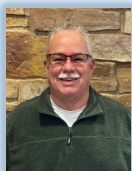


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