

# Messiah Messenger

**Gather....Grow....Go....Spread the Good News!**

*Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love (1 John 4:7-8).*

I love pizza.  
I love my wife.  
I love basketball.  
I love hiking.  
I love God.  
I love movies.  
I love my job.  
I love reading.

Love! It is a word that our society uses quite prolifically. I know that I too find myself regularly saying how much I “love” this or that. The object of my affection could be Jake’s pizza, or Ohio State Football, or...Jesus(?!?!). I find such usage of the word to be both confusing and absurd. Of course I don’t love pizza the same way I love God, but when the word is used so loosely its meaning can easily be lost and distorted.

Part of our difficulty in using the word derives from the limitations of the English language. Love is really the only expression English provides us with to describe our strongest affections, deepest desires, passions, etc. In Koine Greek, the language which the Bible was written in, there are three different words that represent three different kinds of love. The first word is philia. Philia stands for a type of brotherly or friendship sort of love (hence Philadelphia is known as the city of brotherly love). The second is eros. Eros primarily represents a physical sort of love. The third is agape. Agape is the deepest kind of love that can be experience. It is a holistic, unconditional sort of love. Agape is the word used to describe God’s love.

For us, the clearest depiction of God’s love is found in Jesus’ salvific acts on the cross: *God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us (1 John 4:9-12)* Jesus’ agape love conveys the depth of what real love is.

Now, I am not advocating that we start integrating the three Greek expressions of love into our language to help differentiate the type of love we’re talking about. But, I do hope you recognize that the way you use the word does really matter. God’s love for us is *vastly* different than our “love” for pizza—so let’s have our vocabulary somehow reflect that!

And, even more importantly, let’s have our actions reflect the love which our vocabulary often fails to do. As 1 John says, “If we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.” There is much less of a need to specify what kind of love you’re talking about if you already embody it in your daily life. Love, after all, is a verb.

To summarize my love tangents from within this reflection I say; “Be selective in how and when you use the word love. Be prolific in showing love to one another.”

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Michael

-Thank you to all who blessed me with some wonderful Christmas gifts. I ~~loved~~ **really liked** them! Thank you cards are still in process...

# YOUTH DIRECTOR

## "J-Files" REPORT

### THINGS TO KNOW SO YOUTH CAN GROW:

*Please check February Youth Calendar for Youth group dates and times! There are some great extra activities planned in February and also great opportunities for youth and families to serve this month!!!*

### SPECIAL NOTES:

6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Youth signed up for Summer WET & WILDERNESS TRIP will be meeting this Month on Wed. Feb. 15<sup>th</sup>, 7pm @ Messiah! Please plan on attending & Parents invited too for more info and fundraising ideas!

Attention Sr. High Youth: Stay tuned in February to hear opportunities for Summer Service Trip to Duluth & Fargo to do God's work this Summer! This will be a joint effort with Moe Sr. High Youth!

***4<sup>TH</sup>-6<sup>TH</sup> Grade Lock-In IS COMING TO A CHURCH (Messiah) NEAR YOU THIS APRIL, & 7-12 Grade Lock-In THIS MARCH! More Info to come SOON!***

***Volunteers needed for Youth Time Out Suppers and Youth Group Snacks! Sign up Sheets are on Youth Bulletin Boards or you can call Jay to sign up for a day to serve, thanks!***

### IMPORTANT DATES OF UPCOMING EVENTS:

Feb 8<sup>th</sup>: 7-12 Grade R.O.C.K. will be led by Pastor Michael & Student Leadership team

Feb 15<sup>th</sup>: **Pathways Bible Camp Ministries leading all Wed's Youth Activities @ Messiah!**

**Feb 22<sup>nd</sup> : Random Acts of Kindness night for 7-12 Grade R.O.C.K. @ Oak Crest Bingo-Night!**

March 2<sup>nd</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup>: 7<sup>TH</sup>-12<sup>TH</sup> GRADE SKI TRIP to Giants Ridge near Virginia, MN (More Info to come soon)

March 7<sup>th</sup>: Tentative Date for 7-12 Grade Lock-In

March 14<sup>th</sup>: 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade MALUNG Hill SLEDDING, SKATING & BROOMBALL PARTY

March 21<sup>st</sup>: 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grade Bowling with Moe Youth Group at Spare Time Bowling

**March 31st-April 1: Sr. High Youth Gathering @ Castaways in Detroit Lakes, MN**

**April 13<sup>th</sup>: Tentative Date for 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grade Lock-IN**

***JAY WILL BE GONE ON FEB 7<sup>TH</sup> THRU 12<sup>TH</sup> FOR National Youth Gathering Discipleship Training & Youth Ministry Training Extravaganza in New Orleans!***

# YOUTH CALENDAR



Wed, Feb. 1<sup>st</sup>: 2:15pm: 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grade Release Time  
3:30pm: 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grade Hang Time  
5:20pm: Youth "Time Out" Supper (Doug & Teri Magnusson Serving)  
6:00pm: 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation  
7:00pm: 7-12 Grade R.O.C.K. Group Special Activity (Come be Surprised)

Sun, Feb. 5<sup>th</sup>: 10:00am: Worship Service  
11:00am: Jr./Sr. High Sunday School  
12:00pm: Student Leadership Meeting Lunch  
No Praise Band Enjoy the Super Bowl!

Wed, Feb. 8<sup>th</sup>: 2:15pm: 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grade Release Time  
3:30pm: 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> Grade J.A.M. Youth Group (Snacks Served by Michelle Weber)  
5:20pm: Youth "Time Out" Supper (Need Family to prepare & serve meal)  
6:00pm: 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation Classes (8<sup>th</sup> Grade meets with 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Class for "Luther" Movie!)  
7:00pm: 7-12 Grade R.O.C.K. (Led by Pastor Michael & assisted by Student Leaders)

Sun, Feb. 12<sup>th</sup>: 10:00am: Worship Service  
11:00am: Jr./Sr. High Sunday School

Mon, Feb 13<sup>th</sup>: 5:30pm: Church Council  
6:00pm: Youth Committee Meeting

Wed, Feb 15<sup>th</sup>: 2:15pm: 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grade Release Time (Led by Pathways Bible Camp Staff)  
3:30pm: 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grade Hang Time Youth Group w/Moe @ Messiah Lutheran led by Pathways Bible Camp Staff  
5:20pm: Youth "Time Out" Supper (Need Family to prepare & serve meal)  
6:00pm: 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation Classes  
7:00pm: Jr. High WET & WILDERNESS meeting for youth who signed up for trip & their parents, too!  
7:00pm: 7-12 Grade R.O.C.K. Led by Pathways Bible Camp Staff

# YOUTH CALENDAR CONTINUED

Sun, Feb. 19<sup>th</sup>: 10:00am: Worship Service  
11:00am: Jr./Sr. High Sunday School  
6:00pm: Student Leadership Meeting  
7:00pm: Youth Praise Band

Wed, Feb.. 22<sup>nd</sup>: 2:15pm: 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grade Release Time  
3:30pm: 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grade Hang Time (Need someone to bring snacks)  
5:20pm: Youth "Time Out" Supper (Need Family to prepare & serve meal)  
6:00pm: 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation  
6:30pm: Ash Wed Worship Service  
7:30pm: 7-12 Grade Oak Crest Bingo & Game Night & Acts of Kindness Night!

Sun, Feb. 26<sup>th</sup>: 10:00am: Worship Service  
11:00am: Jr./Sr. High Sunday School

Wed, Feb.. 29<sup>th</sup>: 2:15pm: 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grade Release Time  
3:30pm: 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grade Hang Time Movie & Popcorn Special Afternoon (Will meet until 5:30pm when movie is over)  
5:30pm: Lent Supper @ Moe Lutheran Church  
6:00pm: 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation Classes Meet @ Moe Lutheran Church & then attend Lent Service at 6:30pm  
6:30pm: Lent Worship Service @ Moe Lutheran Church  
7:30pm: 7-12 Grade R.O.C.K. Small Groups Night or Movie Night @ Messiah

**REMINDER TO ALL YOUTH, EVERY THURSDAY MORNING AT 8AM IS STUDENT LED PRAYER TIME @ ROSEAU SCHOOL OLD CAFETERIA! I HOPE YOU TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS AND COME PRAY!!!!!!**

PLEASE CONTACT JAY @ 242-2221 IF ANY QUESTIONS, THANKS!

# SERVING SCHEDULE

## Holy Communion and Lay Reader Schedule

	<u>Holy Communion Servers</u>	<u>Lay Reader</u>
February 5	Mark Wilson, Micky Slater, Carolyn Sabourin	Shelley Galle
February 12	Alma Stotts, Barb Erickson, Gloria Skrutvold	Jeff Galle
February 19	Jon & Bonnie Hagen, Marlene Nelson	JoAnne Thompson
February 26	Dick & Diane Dorwart, Marsha Hagen	Laurie Jo Vilwock

# MUTUAL MINISTRY

This month Pastor Michael's Mutual Ministry team will begin their work. Here are some of the team's goals:

- \*Welcome and walk with the pastor
- \*Provide a safe place for the pastor to speak openly and frankly about ministry priorities, blessings, and disappointments.
- \*Reflect together on ministry
- \*Listen in a caring and concerned way.
- \*Pray for the Pastor
- \*Be a supportive sponsor, a consultant, a faith sharer, and a parishioner actively involved in the ministry partnership and the life of the congregation.

Members of the Mutual Ministry Team include:

Sue Grafstrom (chair)

Aimee Wilson

Helen Bergland

Bill Wagner

Keith Okeson

Karyn Santl

# WELCA

Since the first of the year a dedicated crew of quilters have been meeting every Monday afternoon & all day on Tuesdays working very industriously at turning out labors of love in the form of quilts to share with others. This is definitely a work of outreach to those in need both locally as well as far from Roseau. On Monday, February 13<sup>th</sup> those of us who may have an interest in quilting but are not able to join the group regularly will have an opportunity to do just that. Please join us at 5 p.m. that day for an hour of quilting followed by a light supper & a brief business meeting.

Our 2012 Partners in Ministry Books should be available by that February 13<sup>th</sup> meeting (possibly before) for distribution. The most important item of business is the election of officers for 2012-it does need to be a democratic process. We will also have 2011 Distribution of Funds/Financial Report available for your review at that meeting.

Looking ahead later this month lent begins on February 22<sup>nd</sup> with Ash Wednesday services & weekly Lenten Suppers .

We thank God for the ability to serve & worship Him.

Your sisters in Christ,

Mavis Wahlberg

Roxanne Fabian

Barb Erickson

## Direct Contribution Plan: A New Element

One of the biggest questions surrounding the direct deposit program is, “What does a direct depositor do when the offering plate comes around”? This is a great question because the passing of the plate is a very important element of our worship service. It serves a practical purpose in that through the offering we collect the funds which enable the church to fiscally operate. But, the passing of the plate is also a powerful liturgical symbol. When we place our financial gifts in the plate we are literally offering something to God. I think this reality is best summarized in one of the traditional offertory prayers: Blessed are you, O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord.

So, going back to the initial question, “What does a direct depositor do when the offering plate comes around”? Well, a direct depositor could participate in this liturgical act by placing an empty offering envelope in the plate. However, that wastes envelopes and is a continued expense for the church. **As a result, Andrea and I have designed some generic laminated cards that identify one as a direct depositor. They can be easily picked up in the narthex each Sunday, placed in the offering plates, and reused every week.**

If you are interested in joining the direct contribution plan please see the information within this insert. Pastor Lisa and I have recently signed up at both Moe and Messiah and it will save us writing over 100 checks every year!

However you choose to give, thank you for sharing your financial blessings with the church!

# MID-WEEK LENTEN SCHEDULE

February 22	6:30p	Ash Wednesday Service @ Messiah
February 29	5:30p	Light Supper @ Moe
	6:30p	Worship Service @ Moe
March 7	5:30p	Light Supper @ Messiah
	6:30p	Worship Service @ Messiah
March 14	5:30p	Light Supper @ Moe
	6:30p	Worship Service @ Moe
March 21	5:30p	Light Supper @ Messiah
	6:30p	Worship Service @ Messiah
March 28	5:30p	Light Supper @ Moe
	6:30p	Worship Service @ Moe
April 5	6:30p	Maundy Thursday Worship Service (Moe & Messiah have separate services)
April 6	noon	Community Good Friday Service @ Moe

## PATHWAYS BIBLE CAMP

Pathways Bible Camps sent out an urgent message to those who wish to attend camp this summer at Lake of the Woods Bible Camp (LOWBC). The Pathways staff will be using the early bird registration date, **March 15th**, as a deadline to make a decision whether or not to program their planned weeks at LOWBC. They write, "It is important to note that for Pathways to responsibly move forward with summer programming at LOWBC, we will need to meet a minimum amount of registrations by this date." Please turn in your registrations before **March 15th**. More information about the upcoming summer at camp can be found at [www.pathwaysbiblecamps.com](http://www.pathwaysbiblecamps.com), in brochures found in the church, or by calling 218-751-4208.

Representatives from Pathways will be sharing their gifts and energy with Roseau youth on Wednesday, February 15th both at Release Time and youth groups that day.

Messiah Lutheran Church

December 12, 2011

Meeting called to order by President Duane Erickson

Members Present: Aimee Wilson, Bill Jennings, Sharon Grafstrom, Yhone Magnusson, Duane Erickson, Roxanne Fabian, Jay Ostgaard, Paul Grafstrom, Jodie Janzen and Pastor Michael

Devotions done by Bill Jennings on "Isaiah chapter 9". "Walking into Darkness"

Sharon made a motion to adopt agenda with the addition to the addition to New Business on voting of the Bishops replacement. seconded by Bill

Pastor- Everything is going well! Will be on vacation December 26th - January 1st. Dave Grafstrom will be preaching January 1st at both Messiah and Bethel. Pastor Karen Holmberg-Smith will be available for emergency pastoral care. January 12th - 15th will be off for a required first call Theological Event in Moorhead. Jay will be preaching at both Messiah and Bethel that day.

Jay submitted report and is going on vacation December 20th and December 30th!

Sharon made a motion to accept the Secretary's report with no additions or changes

Roxanne made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report and seconded by Yhone. Financial letter came out on Friday and we already received a positive response for the loan payment

MWELCA- seeking new leadership in ALL areas.

Evangelism

Financial

Parish Ed

Stewardship

Worship and Planning- no communion January 1st and the 15th.

Property- Yhone will contact B and B to fix the urinal and 1/2 bath at the parsonage. He will also contact Sheldon Vatsndal to fix the sign and install a light on the exterior at the parsonage. Also, would like to find out where and when we got the two pianos that are not being used in the education wing. Anyone with any information needs to talk to council or property

Old Business:

Nominating Committee- still working to fill positions

Mutual Ministry team will need to be listed on ballot for the annual meeting

Synod Ballot

Jay will be a co-liaison for the replacement for the Pathways liaison. He will ask some people who he thinks may be interested in being involved with Pathways

Jay was able to get hold of Vance Butler who will be coming either Thursday and Friday to go through the sound system with him and figure out the sound board. There was complaints that the Sunday 12/4/11, Pastor Michael was heard on the radio but, no other sounds were heard. He will receive quotes and report back to the council

Budget- Is being worked on

Committee reports need to be turned into the office by January 5, 2012

Annual meeting is January 22, 2012

The search is continuing for a secretary. Andrea is working on a month by month commitment.

Membership list is being still updated.

New Business:

"Food for the Poor" is coming up

An anonymous donation of \$ 250 is going to be given for what is needed. Pastor has permission to talk to person and let him know what thoughts were discussed at council

Congregational member purchased Christmas trees for the sanctuary. When she turns in the receipts, she will be reimbursed for the amount.

Yearly evaluations for all employees will be done in October 2012

Devotions done in January by Jodie

Duane made a motion to adjourn seconded by Bill

Closed with the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted by Jodie Janzen, secretary

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

Messiah Lutheran Church  
502 9th Ave NE  
Roseau, MN 56751

Phone: (218) 463-1648  
Fax: (218) 463-3732

\*\*\*\*\*  
Martha Circle meets Wednesday, February 8<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am at Judy Lund's.  
\*\*\*\*\*

The Messiah quilters have kits ready to sew! The kits are located on the coat shelf at the North end of the hallway. Pick up one, or more, and give our quilters a boost. Thanks "sew" much!  
\*\*\*\*\*

The annual Quilting Bee at Messiah will take place on Monday, February 13<sup>th</sup> starting at 5:00 p.m. at the church. There will be a light supper and dessert served at 6:30 p.m. We hope the earlier time will work better for those who might want to attend. Please come for quilting and fellowship.  
\*\*\*\*\*

Men's Bible Study at the Guest House continues every 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month. This month we will gather on February 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:45am.  
\*\*\*\*\*

The subcommittee for cooperation (made up of members of Moe's council and Messiah's council) is cooking up a joint fellowship gathering on **March 25<sup>th</sup>** following worship. Be on the lookout for more details in the March newsletter.  
\*\*\*\*\*

5th Graders will be celebrating Holy Communion on Maundy Thursday. We will gather during March to learn, discover, and ask questions about this wonderful gift from God. If you are the parent of a 5th grader, please email Pastor Michael (pastormichael@gmail.com) by the end of February so that we can get our group together at a time and date that works for everyone. Thank you.  
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Fishermen (& fisherwomen) please continue to save some of your walleye for our annual Good Friday Fish Fry.  
\*\*\*\*\*

The next men's group meeting will be on February 27<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at the church.  
\*\*\*\*\*

**PASTOR**

**Michael Beery**  
Parsonage: (218) 463-3678  
pastormichaelbeery@gmail.com

**Youth Director**

**Jay Ostgaard**  
(218)463-1648  
jjostgaard@gmail.com

**Secretary**

**Andrea Tveit**  
(218) 463-1648  
Messiah@wiktel.com

Worship Service:  
10:00a.m. Sundays  
11:00a.m. Sunday School

**The mission of  
Messiah  
Lutheran  
Church is to  
glorify Christ  
by  
nurturing our  
faith, sharing  
His love and  
teaching His  
Word.**