



**Pastor Kris Schroeder**

### SUNDAY SERVICES OF WORSHIP

#### March 1

2nd Sunday in Lent  
ELW 3 w/LS  
8:30\* & 11 a.m.

#### March 8

Third Sunday in Lent  
ELW 1 w/LS  
8:30\* & 11 a.m.

#### March 15

4th Sunday in Lent  
Bread of Life w/LS  
8:30\* & 11 a.m.  
(with the Band)

#### March 22

5th Sunday in Lent  
ELW 1 w/LS  
8:30\* & 11 a.m.

#### March 29

Palm/Passion Sunday  
ELW 4 w/LS  
8:30\* & 11 a.m.

ELW = Evangelical Book of Worship (Red)  
LS = Lord's Supper  
\*Livestream

*He who forms the mountains, who creates the wind,  
and who reveals his thoughts to mankind,  
who turns dawn to darkness and treads on the heights of the earth—  
the Lord God Almighty is his name.  
Amos 4:13*

## The Power of God Across Seasons

As I sit at my desk, especially in the winter months, and watch the barren branches of trees blowing in the air, I am reminded of the POWER of God: the power to continually create, the power to cause 20+ inch snowdrifts, the power to freeze water, the power to connect, the power to change, the power to heal, the power to restore, and the power to create all that is in nature, including you and me.

In this, God has created beauty. Yes, the rain, ice, wind, and snow have caused many things to come to a halt... but they also caused me to stop – to witness the glisten in the snow, the beauty and the color of a rainbow, the flowers emerging from winter soil. That is the power and the hand of God!

Fortunately for us, this powerful, all-knowing, all-loving God is also powerful for you and me. God is on our side. God continually stands up for us, desiring our well-being. The God of the universe is strong enough to save... you and me!

*Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid.  
The Lord, the Lord himself, is my strength and my defense; he has become my salvation.  
Isaiah 12:2*

## Lent & Holy Week

### *From Lost to Living: A Lenten Journey of Restoration*

#### March 4

2nd Wednesday of Lent  
Holden Evening Prayer  
*(The Adulterous Woman –  
God Restores the Broken)*  
Noon & \*7 p.m.

#### March 11

3rd Wednesday of Lent  
Holden Evening Prayer  
*(The Living Water – God  
Satisfies the Thirsty)*  
Noon & \*7 p.m.

#### March 18

4th Wednesday of Lent  
Holden Evening Prayer  
*(The Healings – God  
Mends What Is Wounded)*  
Noon & \*7 p.m.

#### March 25

5th Wednesday of Lent  
Holden Evening Prayer  
*(God of the Living – God  
Calls Us Into New Life)*  
Noon & \*7 p.m.

#### March 29

Palm Sunday with Egg Hunt  
\*8:30 & 11 a.m.

#### April 2

Maundy Thursday  
Noon & \*7 p.m.

#### April 3

Good Friday  
7 Last Words of Christ  
\*7 p.m.

#### April 5

Easter Sunday  
\*8:30 & 11 a.m.



**Randall Fields**  
Music Director;  
Choir Director



### Hymn Request Form

Want to hear a favorite hymn in worship? Place your request here:



### To volunteer for all service and outreach opportunities:

Click or scan the QR code to access SignUp Genius or call the office.



*You will sing as on the night you celebrate a holy festival; your hearts will rejoice like a flautist's playing a lively tune.*

Isaiah 30:29

## Musical Groups

**Contact Randall Fields to get involved in a music group:**

**Cherub Choir (Grades PK-1)** *Cherub Choir and Seraph Choir are currently on hiatus.*  
**Seraph Choir (Grades 2-6)**

We are in need of volunteers with musical experience to lead the Cherub and Seraph choirs. Whitney Morse is surveying parents of children in grades PK-6 to determine the best time for children to participate in choirs.



**Messiah Choir (Grades 7 - adult)** Randall Fields directs.  
Rehearses Wednesday night.

**Notabella (Bell Choir) (Grades 7 - adult)** Rhonda Gaede directs.  
Rehearses Sundays at 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Additional ringers are welcome.

**Instrumental Ensemble (Grades 7 - adult)**  
Upcoming rehearsal and worship schedule below:  
March 1 Rehearsal 12:15 - 1 p.m.  
March 8 Plays both services "Beneath the Cross of Jesus"  
March 22 Rehearsal 12:15 - 1 p.m.

### The Band

Stephen Strand leads contemporary worship on the third Sunday each month. Rehearsal is the same Sunday morning and the Saturday before at 10 a.m. Additional instrumentalists and vocalists are always welcome.

### Cantors

You see them up front on Sundays, but you might be surprised by how accessible the role of cantor actually is!

**Responsibilities:** The cantor supports the congregation by singing the liturgy, starting at the Kyrie. It is usually a lighter role, but there are special times (like Chicago Folk or evening services) where the cantor leads prayers or the benediction.

**Time Commitment:** Short and sweet! On most Sunday mornings, the cantor's responsibilities are complete before the first Bible reading.

Whether it's a simple service in which you only lead the Kyrie, or a more involved Sunday, we would love your help in leading our worship.

Contact Randall Fields if you are interested in becoming a cantor. Training is available for anyone interested.



## Life Passages



Condolences to the family of **Roger Joens** who died January 31.

## Council Minute

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

### Faith Formation Leader

The Call Committee received a new Rostered Minister Profile (RMP) from the Synod and recently identified and presented this candidate to the Church Council as Messiah’s Primary Candidate. The Church Council will soon be meeting this person via Zoom so that both parties can get acquainted and prayerfully discern next steps. We ask for your continued prayers for this process, the congregation and the candidate.

In a separate tag-up with the Synod in January, Pr. Jonathan Hemphill mentioned that our call is tailored specifically for a rostered minister of faith formation. While that can be a good thing, there may be other great candidates who can provide that emphasis on faith formation, but don’t want to be focused solely on it. We may want to consider a broader position, such as one for “Faith Formation, Community, and Care” that allows a candidate to see themselves in a larger role in our ministry.

### Long Range Planning

The Long Range Planning Committee will be kicking off in March! Council approved a charter that includes questions to help focus the direction of the committee and guide us in discerning how God is calling us to be the church over the next 5-10 years. Please stay tuned for how you can be involved in this process.

I look forward to where this year takes us as we continue to discern how best to be “God’s People, Reaching Out” and continue shining our light in a hurting world.

Yours in Christ,  
-Andrew King  
MLC Council President

## Synod Revival Days: 2026

The ELCA Southeastern Synod invites members to register for Synod Revival Days, designed to jumpstart a revival through the church by offering fresh ideas and tool kits to revive congregational ministries and community collaboration.



Details and registration:



**March 14**  
Messiah  
Lutheran Church  
Knoxville, TN

**April 25**  
St. John  
Lutheran Church  
Nashville, TN



### Sunday Service Needs

Each of our worship services relies on at least **seven volunteers** (in addition to staff).

Our late service is especially in need of some helping hands. Whether you've served before or are brand new, we'll provide all the training you need.

If you feel called to serve, there are lots of easy ways to get involved:

- Download the app and join the groups that interest you
- Sign up through SignUp Genius
- Call or email the church office
- Talk to Laura Peterson



### Messiah Mugs

Fellowship is a large part of who we are as God's people. It is a vital time to get to know one another, share stories and struggles, and give and receive care.



In order to keep the momentum going for Sunday Coffee, we need your help!

We're looking for volunteers to pitch in with cleanup once a month. It only takes 15-20 minutes, and you can choose to help either before the second service or after it ends.

Please consider joining our team so we can sustain this ministry!

Contact Emily Reed to sign up: [emilyfmreed@gmail.com](mailto:emilyfmreed@gmail.com)



### Dinner Theater Casting Call

We are planning for Messiah's next Dinner Theater performance: The Tragedy of Orpheus: A Comedy, and are casting for all roles (actors, tech, and crew).

Casting and rehearsals will be this spring, with the performance in early August.

Adults and youth (ages 10+) and who are interested in being involved should contact Pastor Bill at [pbillschroeder@gmail.com](mailto:pbillschroeder@gmail.com).



- 1 David Stradley
- 3 David Cobb
- 3 Rose Zomkowski
- 4 Shane Peterson
- 4 Mark Zesinger
- 5 Nora Musser
- 6 Linda Heideman

- 8 Phillippe Reed
- 10 Trista Kuske
- 11 LeeLinda Baggett
- 11 Eli Finch
- 12 Heather Root
- 13 Janice Aldaco
- 14 Claudia Havard

- 15 Mark Bartel
- 15 Natalie Zesinger
- 16 Reburta Spinas
- 17 Adam Ballard
- 17 Gary Heideman
- 18 Miles Bennett
- 21 Rebecca Meyer

- 21 Blakeley Williams
- 26 Alison Bartel
- 27 Katelyn Saari
- 29 Kit Baker
- 30 Katrina Strand
- 31 Lydia Simeone



# Faith Formation

### Pub Theology



Where Faith is Always on Tap

**March 3 & 17**  
**6:30 p.m.**

The format is simple: **Beer, Conversation, and God.**

Whether you're exploring faith, philosophy, or life's big questions, this is your chance to share, listen, and enjoy a drink (soda, tea, beer, or wine).

Every voice is valued, and all perspectives are welcome. Engage with people from diverse religious traditions, philosophical perspectives, and life experiences. It's more than just a discussion—it's a journey of shared discovery and mutual respect. Monthly potluck takes place March 11th.

### Sunday School: Children & Youth

- March 1, 8, 22** Regular Sunday School classes
- March 15** NO SUNDAY SCHOOL (Spring Break)
- March 29** Easter Egg Hunt and party

### Sunday School: Adults

Dottie Hanson leads a discussion of *Luther's Small Catechism, An Explanation*.

Open to anyone who is new to Lutheran theology or who is looking for a refresher to join the class. Questions? Email Dottie Hanson at [mark5h@att.net](mailto:mark5h@att.net).



### Secondary Youth Groups: Junior Youth (Grades 6-8) & Senior Youth (Grades 9-12)

Most youth group activities are Sunday evenings at 5 p.m. We start as a big group and then split for separate Junior and Senior Youth activities.



### MOES & MESY Hub

**March 22**  
Noon-2 p.m.

**MOES Meetup:**  
Tie Dye Sweatshirts!

Keep up to date on events and activities for our elementary youth here:



**Sunday, March 1** Paintball!  
3-5 p.m.

**Saturday, March 7** Chili Cookoff: Youth will plan and lead carnival games for the kids during the judging period of the evening.  
4-8 p.m.

**Sunday, March 8** NO YOUTH GROUP

**Sunday, March 15** NO YOUTH GROUP

**Sunday, March 22** Youth Group: Prep for Easter Egg Hunt  
5 p.m.

**Sunday, March 29** Assist with the Easter Egg Hunt  
9:45 a.m.

### Confirmation Class Wednesdays at 5 p.m.

Confirmation classes with Laurie Campbell and Justin Walker every Wednesday from 5-6 p.m. in the youth room (room 5). If you have a young person who is entering grade 8 or above who would like to participate, please contact Pastor Kris or Laurie Campbell.

### Southeastern Synod Events

**March 20-22** SESLYO (Southeastern Synod Lutheran Youth Organization) Assembly  
**St. Mark's Lutheran in Huntsville**



*The most important one is this: 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.'*

*The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these.*

Mark 12: 29 - 31

### Grant Bolsters Weekend Food Program!

Our Weekend Food Program received a \$500 Daily Bread Grant from the Southeastern Synod Hunger Team to support our contributions to the Food Bank of North Alabama.

The Food Bank of North Alabama Weekend Food program receives support from 34 groups to provide food to children across 80 schools who are experiencing food insecurity at home.

Our Weekend Food Program provides food to children at these schools:

- Liberty Middle School
- Monrovia Middle School
- Morris P-8



Because nearly one in four children in North Alabama faces hunger, this ministry isn't just about providing "daily bread" for our neighbors experiencing hunger. It's also about investing in the health, wellness, and future of our entire community.

### Winter Collection Results

Thanks to the contributions of our members, we were able to make 18 deliveries of cold weather gear to the North Alabama Coalition for the Homeless this season! We delivered all these items:

--Jacquie Fry



### Souper Bowl Results

**And the winner is.....House of the Harvest!**

Thanks to all the generous donations, we exceeded our goal and collected more than 250 of each food item, plus lots of plastic bags and cash donations!

The youth group delivered the items when they volunteered at House of the Harvest on Feb. 21.





# MARCH

Click or scan  
for our up-to-  
date online  
calendar:



**Sun. Mon. Tues. Wed. Thurs. Fri. Sat.**

<p><b>2nd Sunday in Lent</b> <b>ELW 3 w/LS</b> 8:30 a.m.* Worship 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship 3 p.m. SR/JR Youth Group 6:30 p.m. Notabella Rehearsal</p>	<p><b>1</b></p>	<p><b>2</b> 9 a.m. Comforters 6:30 p.m. Pub Theology</p>	<p><b>3</b> Noon Lenten Service 5 p.m. Confirmation Class 6 p.m. Wed. Night Dinner 7 p.m. Lenten Service 7:45 p.m. Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p><b>4</b> 11 a.m. ArtReach 6:30 p.m. Kit Ministries</p>	<p><b>5</b> <b>6</b> 5 p.m. Chili Cookoff</p> 
<p><b>3rd Sunday in Lent</b> <b>ELW 1 w/LS</b> 8:30 a.m.* Worship 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship Noon Youth Committee Meeting 6:30 p.m. Notabella Rehearsal</p>	<p><b>8</b></p>	<p><b>9</b> 9 a.m. Comforters</p>	<p><b>10</b> Noon Lenten Service 5 p.m. Confirmation Class 6 p.m. Wed. Night Dinner 7 p.m. Lenten Service 7:45 p.m. Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p><b>11</b> 6:30 p.m. Kit Ministries 7 p.m. Church Council Meeting</p>	<p><b>12</b> <b>13</b> SES Revival Knoxville, TN</p>
<p><b>4th Sunday in Lent</b> <b>Bread of Life w/LS</b> 8:30 a.m.* Worship 9:45 a.m. Sunday School (adults only; no youth classes) 11 a.m. Worship (with the Band) 6:30 p.m. Notabella Rehearsal</p>	<p><b>15</b> 6:30 p.m. Women's Book Club</p>	<p><b>16</b> 9 a.m. Comforters 6:30 p.m. Pub Theology Potluck</p>	<p><b>17</b> Noon Lenten Service 5 p.m. Confirmation Class 6 p.m. Wed. Night Dinner 7 p.m. Lenten Service 7:45 p.m. Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p><b>18</b> 11 a.m. ArtReach 6:30 p.m. Kit Ministries</p>	<p><b>19</b> <b>20</b> SESLYO Assembly, St. Marks, Huntsville AL</p>
<p><b>5th Sunday in Lent</b> <b>ELW 1 w/LS</b> 8:30 a.m.* Worship 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship Noon MOES Meetup 4:30 p.m. SR/JR Youth Group 6:30 p.m. Notabella Rehearsal</p>	<p><b>22</b></p>	<p><b>23</b> 9 a.m. Comforters 11 a.m. Worship and Music 5:30 p.m. Men of Messiah (MoMs) Meet-up</p>	<p><b>24</b> Noon Lenten Service 5 p.m. Confirmation Class 6 p.m. Wed. Night Dinner 7 p.m. Lenten Service 7:45 p.m. Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p><b>25</b> 11 a.m. ArtReach</p>	<p><b>26</b> <b>27</b> 9 a.m. Spring Landscape Clean-up Day</p>
<p><b>Palm/Passion Sunday</b> <b>ELW 4 w/LS</b> 8:30 a.m.* Worship 9:45 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt &amp; Party 11 a.m. Worship 6:30 p.m. Notabella Rehearsal</p> 	<p><b>29</b></p>	<p><b>30</b> 9 a.m. Comforters</p>	<p><b>31</b></p> 	<p><b>Mark Your Calendar!</b> Music Camp 2026 is set for June 1-7 with the theme: <i>Rescue in the Night: The Story of Daniel in the Lion's Den.</i> Registration coming soon!</p>	



## Recent Photos

Messiah Lutheran Church proved it's got talent (and generosity) during the annual MLC Talent Show!



This year, an art gallery displayed 2- and 3-dimensional works including quilts, photography, cross-stitching, and granite etching.

The choir opened the evening with with apropos "Another Op'nin', Another Show" by Cole Porter, from *Kiss Me, Kate*.

Grayson Pitchko got into character to play the Jurassic Park theme on piano.

The event raised \$876, split equally between LWR Disaster Response and the 2027 Youth Gathering.



ArtReach and our Youth Group combined their skills to create Valentine-themed magnets for those receiving food from House of the Harvest.



Our Youth (with adult supervision) spent an evening with some of our youngest members for Parents Night Out on Saturday, Feb. 14.



*“Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness.”*

2 Corinthians 9:10

## Executive Committee

Pastor (Ex-Officio of All Committees) President Vice President Treasurer Secretary	Kris Schroeder Andrew King Lee Smith Rhonda Gaede Joanne Weber	Pastor.Kris@mlutheran.org council_president@mlutheran.org vicepres@mlutheran.org treasurer@mlutheran.org secretary@mlutheran.org
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## Council Representatives

Worship and Music Outreach Stewardship Education and Youth Fellowship Property Finance Youth Representative	Laura Peterson Dana Burton -- Bonnie Flowers -- Peter Woods Dennis Fry Hannah Seitz	worship_music_rep@mlutheran.org outreach_rep@mlutheran.org stewardship_rep@mlutheran.org education_rep@mlutheran.org fellowship_rep@mlutheran.org property_rep@mlutheran.org finance_rep@mlutheran.org youth_rep@mlutheran.org
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## Non-Council Positions / Committees

Sunday School Superintendent <small>MESY (Messiah Elementary Student Youngsters)</small> <small>MOES (Messiah Older Elementary Students)</small> Personnel Committee Financial Secretary	-- Whitney Morse -- Marc Neely	sundayschool@mlutheran.org Moes_youth@mlutheran.org personnel.committee@mlutheran.org finance_sec@mlutheran.org
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## Staff

Office Manager Music Director, Choir Director Organist/Accompanist Nursery Attendant Communications Director	Jill Casey Randall Fields Melanie Payne Hannah Seitz Jan Morrison	office@mlutheran.org musicdirector@mlutheran.org melanie.payne@mlutheran.org nursery@mlutheran.org communications@mlutheran.net
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***MLC staff, officers, or council reps will never solicit you directly for cash, gift cards, etc.***



# Prayer Families



Please lift these Messiah households in your daily prayers. On Sundays and holidays (including staff vacations), please pray for the groups or individuals **listed in bold**.

<b>1 Justice for Women Worldwide</b>	17 Steven & Donna MacTaggart (Lauren)
2 Gary Johnson	18 Cory & Lori Mahanna (Michael)
3 Marilyn Johnson	19 Craig & Holly Martin (Aleczer)
4 Mike & Judy Kidd	20 Jack & Mary Mast (Mikayla)
5 Greg & Meredith Kilby	21 Rebecca Mast
6 Andrew King	<b>22 Small, Family-Owned Businesses</b>
7 Nancy & John Knox	23 Tom & Paulette McNamara
<b>8 Families in Distress / Change</b>	24 Bradley & Theresa Meyer (Rachael Shiely; Rebecca; Drake)
9 Tim & Stephanie Kokan (Caroline; Matthew)	25 Dagmar & Patrick Miller (Ryan; Colleen)
10 Mike & Trista Kuske (Cooper Irvin; Charlea)	26 Jennifer & Michael Montgomery (Robert; Emily)
11 Scott & Robin Lakso	27 Whitney Morse (Amelia)
12 Tien & Joy Le (Alex)	28 Beth Mumaw
13 Judy Lindsey	<b>29 Those Feeling Lost, Lonely, or Depressed</b>
14 Glen & Rhonda Gaede Long (Jeffrey; James)	30 Jan Murphy
15 <b>Quilters, Crafters, Artists, Creatives</b>	31 Nora Musser
16 Bruce & Karen Machamer	

**If you or a loved one needs to be lifted up in prayer, please contact the office or Pastor Kris. For the prayer chain, please contact the church office or email [prayerchain@mlutheran.org](mailto:prayerchain@mlutheran.org).**

Messiah Messenger Newsletter is distributed monthly by Messiah Lutheran Church.

Submissions are due the third Sunday of every month for inclusion in the next month's newsletter. Submit information and photos to [newsletter@mlutheran.org](mailto:newsletter@mlutheran.org).



# Messiah Messenger

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## Prayer Families

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### Messiah Lutheran Church [mlutheran.org](http://mlutheran.org)

7740 Highway 72 West  
Madison, AL 35758  
Phone: (256) 721-0041  
Office Hours:  
8:30 a.m.: Noon  
Monday: Friday

Please mail church offerings to MLC's official Post Office Box and not our church physical address:

Messiah Lutheran Church  
P.O. Box 526  
Madison, AL 35758

More information on our website: <https://mlutheran.org/> 