



Pastor Kris Schroeder

AUGUST SERVICES OF WORSHIP



Starting August 3, the livestream will be of 8:30 a.m. service. You can still watch anytime online.

August 3

Chicago Folk w/LS
8:30 a.m.* and 11 a.m.

August 10

ELW 1 w/LS
8:30 a.m.* and 11 a.m.

August 17

Bread of Life w/LS
8:30 a.m.* and
11 a.m. (Band-Led)

August 24

ELW 3 w/LS
8:30 a.m.* and 11 a.m.

August 31

ELW 10
Chorale Mass w/LS
8:30 a.m.* and 11 a.m.

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

Pastor's Page

"Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars."

Psalm 148:3

Pause to Praise

It's hard to believe that August is upon us. The days of summer are quickly fleeing and in just a few short days our children and grandchildren will be back to school for another year of learning and growth. As we wind down in anticipation of cooler weather and all that is before us, let's take a moment to ponder the state of our spirituality and make sure we take time to "smell the roses," and pause.

Too often we make an effort to cram every last desire into our summer months, that we neglect our relationship with the One who created us.

So, pause.

- Take time to sink your toes in the sand.
- Set an alarm and stand on your porch at sunset, soaking in the natural beauty that often just flits by without us noticing.
- Breathe in the fresh air that surrounds you and closely watch as the leaves on the trees reflect the light of the sun as they flicker back and forth with the force of the wind.



The operative word here is **pause!**

Allow the unimportant parts of this life to pass you by. Instead, focus on the one who not only created all but also put everything into motion. Be mindful. After all, God speaks to us in moments just like these. Instead of letting them slip by, allow them to strengthen and challenge our faith.

Praise Him, oh people of God!!!!

Too Many Forms!?

With our new website, we loaded all our existing forms and saw how many there were!

So we consolidated to make things easier. We combined these forms all into one:

- Space Reservation
- Event Request
- Fundraiser Request
- Publicity Request
- Calendar Addition

You provide the info, and we will handle the rest. Visit the "Forms" page to find it.

Scan or click
to access:





Randall Fields
Music Director;
Choir Director

August Choir & Band Schedule

August 3

Choir Rehearsal: 8 a.m.

August 10

Choir Rehearsal: 10 a.m.

August 17

Choir Rehearsal: 8 a.m.
Band-led Worship:
11 a.m.

August 24

Choir Rehearsal: 10 a.m.

August 31

no choir rehearsal

Hymn Request Form

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



Music Notes

*"Addressing one another in psalms and
hymns and spiritual songs, singing and
making melody to the Lord with your heart."*

Ephesians 5:19

Musical Groups

Contact Randall Fields to get involved in a music group:

Cherub Choir (Grades PK-1)

Rehearsals resume Wednesday, September 3

Additional volunteers are requested.

Seraph Choir (Grades 2-6)

Rehearsals resume Wednesday, September 3

Messiah Choir (Grades 7- adult)

Regular rehearsals resume Wednesday, September 3.

Summer Schedule in left column.

Notabella (Bell Choir)

Rehearsals resume Sunday, September 7.

Instrumental Ensemble

Rehearsals resume Sunday, August 24 at 12:15 p.m. Additional players are welcome. Mike Mabry directs.

The Band

Leads contemporary worship during the 11 a.m. service on the third Sunday each month. Rehearsal is the same Sunday morning at 9:45 a.m. and the Saturday before at 10 a.m. Additional instrumentalists and vocalists are always welcome.



News Flashes

ArtReach Moving to Thursdays

ArtReach is moving to Thursdays, starting in August. It will still be the first and third of the month, just Thursdays now.

The first Thursday meetup will be August 7 at 11 a.m.



Usher Coordinator



We are in desperate
need of an Usher
Coordinator.

The Usher Coordinator serves on the Worship and Music Committee to make sure usher roles are filled each week.



Pub Theology



Where Faith is Always on Tap

August 5
6:30 p.m.

Pastor Kris's
Home

August 19
6:30 p.m.

Fellowship Hall
(BYOB)

News Flashes, cont.

Pub Theology: First & Third Tuesdays

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.

Messiah Dinner Theater Postponed



Thank you to everyone who signed up and offered to help put on this year's Dinner Theater! Unfortunately, we did not have enough performers to fill the cast, and have decided to postpone the performance that was planned for Sept. 27. We hope that we are able to reschedule at some point with a full cast of performers.



Hiring Nursery Attendant

We are looking for a teenager or adult who would like to serve as nursery attendant during Sunday

morning worship service and Sunday school, plus other family activities during the week. Pay is \$16 per hour.

Contact Glen Long for more information

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

1 Kinsley Dorminey	6 Connor Campbell	13 Mike Doubleday	19 Bill Holbrook
2 Matthew DeMarsh	6 Tom Irvin	13 Erin McDaniels	19 Lori Mahanna
2 Jacob Mahafza	6 Barbara Walker	14 Julian Boehme	19 Kyle West
3 Linda Boehme	6 Henry Zomkowski	14 Mary Mast	21 Tracy Porter
3 Joshua Shipman	7 Micayla Dondorp	14 Lizzie Palmer	23 Walker Goebel
3 Meghan Thompson	8 Luke Myers	14 Olivia Sullivan	23 Kristine Schroeder
4 Kathy Ramsey	8 James Zesinger	17 Malakai Doubleday	23 Eva Wessels
4 Isaiah Vande Griend	9 John Shriver	17 Wren Doubleday	28 Christopher Shriver
5 Beth Mumaw	11 Bruce Peter	17 Emily Montgomery	29 Jim Daniel
5 Mark Thompson	11 Noah Pitchko	18 William Starkloff	31 Christina Zarazua

If you or a loved one needs to be lifted up in prayer, please contact the office or Pastor Kris.



Council Update

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Messiah Lutheran Church is a busy, active place, and the Council wants to ensure everyone is informed about what's happening behind the scenes. I hope to communicate some of our updates on a monthly basis. Here is what we have been working on during the summer:

- **Faith Formation Leader:** Our Call Committee met with the Synod in July, and discussed the length of the call process (18-24 months on average). This is longer than any of us really wanted, so the Call Committee proposed a “hybrid” option, where we could hire a part-time rostered leader to support congregational needs and a non-rostered Faith Formation leader. Council is investigating this option as a parallel path to the current call process.
- **Outreach:** Dana Burton has agreed to step back into the role of Outreach Council Representative. Thank you, Dana! This means our Fellowship Council Representative role is now vacant. If you feel called to help foster the “spiritual communion within the congregation,” please reach out. Fellowship is essential in our life as a community faith! Even if you aren't stepping into an official role, we can help you organize a fellowship opportunity.
- **Parking lot:** Just before this project was scheduled to start, we learned that the paving contractor was behind schedule. Stay tuned for a planned rescheduled date. We appreciate your flexibility and understanding as we work with the contractor.
- **Reorganizing the education wing:** We have been moving, updating, and reorganizing some of the classrooms and offices to better make use of our available space. As part of that, we now have an office for our Music Director! Signage has been updated to reflect the changes. *A huge thank you to everyone who helped with this effort, especially Joe and Bobbey Huwalt!*
- **Parish Hall kitchen refrigerator:** Sadly our Parish Hall kitchen refrigerator needs to be replaced. Faced with a third repair in a year, Council approved purchasing a replacement using funds from the Capital Improvement Fund. Your contributions to this fund make quickly addressing emergent needs such as this possible! *Thank you!*
- **Endowment Fund:** The Endowment Committee is working to establish an endowment fund for MLC. Once the details are finalized, more information will be communicated.
- **Membership Update:** We are reviewing and updating our membership records. We haven't updated our roster in several years, so we are reaching out to those who haven't been active within the past year to understand if life circumstances have changed or if they need spiritual support. We want to remain connected, but also need to maintain accurate records. This also provides an opportunity for us to learn and discern what we as a congregation can do to improve those connections.
- **Long Range Planning:** We will be establishing a Long Range Planning Committee to plan for the future of Messiah Lutheran Church. The last long range plan was done in 2016, so it's time. Your input and involvement will be needed as part of this process! Stay tuned for more info.

As always, I look forward to all the Spirit has in store for us as we continue to be “God's People, Reaching Out.”

Yours in Christ,

-Andrew King

MLC Council President



"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

New Stephen Ministers

These four dedicated individuals completed the initial training to be certified to be Stephen Ministers to provide high-quality, one-to-one, Christ-centered care to people in our congregation experiencing life difficulties. They will be commissioned at both services on August 17, 2025.

Here's a brief introduction to our new Stephen Ministers:

Gretchen Perry (23-year member of MLC)

After experiencing extreme loss, I wanted to reach out and help other people who are hurting. I hoped to learn how to be the most effective caregiver possible, but I did not expect to enjoy the training process as much as I did. Through the training I got to know some of my fellow congregants better, not only as people I go to church with, but also as friends. I hope to use the tools I learned to grow as an instrument of God and make a difference in the lives of others.



Jay Perry (23-year member of MLC)

I have had a number of life experiences over the past seven years that have shown me how important relationships are when navigating hurt and challenges. Stephen Ministry is a way to support others who don't have helpful relationships to help them through challenging times. I hope that I can use these new skills to be there for someone who needs support, and meet them where they are in life.

Beverly Berry (5.5-year member of MLC)

Through the Stephen Ministry training, I have learned how to help those who need someone to talk to without being judgmental. I wanted to learn how to help those going through a difficult time. I learned to just be there for someone, instead of trying to solve their problems or push for action. I didn't expect that part to be so hard...With this training, I hope to be there for those that need emotional support.



Christine Berry (20-year member of MLC)

I see hurting souls and want to help them, so I've been interested in Stephen Ministry for years. I wanted to join to become a more reflective listener, so that people can pour out their stories to me and feel supported. Throughout the process, I learned just as much (or more) from the other students as I did from the official training materials.



Stephen Ministry Questions?

Contact Mike or
Peggy Mabry by
email:
stephenministry@
mlutheran.org.
Call the church
office or catch
them at church.

You will be blessed
seeing God work
through you!

To volunteer for all service and outreach opportunities:

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





Sun.

Mon.

Tues.

Wed.

Thurs.

Fri. Sat.

August

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3 Chicago Folk 8:30 a.m.* Worship w/LS & Backpack Blessing 9:45 a.m. Rally Day & Adult Sunday School 11 a.m. Worship w/LS & Backpack Blessing	4 5 p.m. Endowment Committee Meeting	5 9 a.m. Comforters 6:30 p.m. Pub Theology (off-site)	6	7 11 a.m. ArtReach 6:30 p.m. Kit Ministry	8	9
10 ELW 1 8:30 a.m.* Worship w/LS, Dean Burgett Baptism 9:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages 11 a.m. Worship w/LS 4:30 p.m. SR/JR Youth Group (Messy Games)	11	12 9 a.m. Comforters	13	14 6:30 p.m. Kit Ministry 7 p.m. Church Council Meeting	15	16
17 Bread of Life Stephen Minister Commissioning & Quilt/Kit Blessing 8:30 a.m.* Worship w/LS 9:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages 11 a.m. Worship w/LS (Band Led) Noon MOES & MESY Kickoff 4:30 p.m. SR/JR Youth Group	18 6:30 p.m. Women's Book Club	19 9 a.m. Comforters 6:30 p.m. Pub Theology (MLC)	20 5 p.m. Confirmation Class	21 6:30 p.m. Kit Ministry	22	23
24 ELW 3 8:30 a.m.* Worship w/LS 9:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages 9:45 a.m. Load LWR Truck 11 a.m. Worship w/LS 4:30 p.m. SR/JR Youth Group: Kickoff Dinner for youth and parents	25	26 9 a.m. Comforters 5:30 p.m. Men of Messiah (MoMs)	27 5 p.m. Confirmation Class 6 p.m. First Communion Instruction	28 6:30 p.m. Kit Ministry	29	30
31 ELW 10 Chorale Mass 8:30 a.m.* Worship 9:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages 9:45 a.m. Youth Committee Meeting 11 a.m. Worship	ELW = Evangelical Book of Worship (Red) LS = Lord's Supper *Livestream <div>  Starting August 3, livestream will be of 8:30 a.m. service. You can still watch anytime online. </div>					



Faith Formation



Sunday Morning Bible Study

Discuss the book of John with Dottie Hanson on Sunday mornings at 9:45 a.m.

Sunday School Superintendent Needed!

Janet Sullivan is stepping down after three very productive years as Sunday School Superintendent. We greatly appreciate all her time, dedication, and organizational skills, as well as her way of approaching everything with a sense of humor. Janet will be glad to help someone get started through the coming year.

Sunday School Teachers

Additional Sunday School teachers are needed in the youngest age group, and substitute teachers are always needed. Please consider participating in this important ministry. For more information, contact Bonnie Flowers.

Youth

Rally Day: Sunday, August 3

Sunday School classes for kids age 3-Grade 12 will resume August 3. The theme for this year is "Zoom in on God's Love."

We will kick things off with lots of Rally Day fun! Between the worship services, students will meet their teachers and then head outside for fun and games. During each service of worship, students will receive backpack blessing tags for this year.

Register your child in PreK through Grade 12, so that we have up-to-date adult contact information and important health information in our records.



Scan or click
to register



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

Youth group activities are Sunday evenings. We start as a big group and then split for separate junior and senior youth activities.

Aug. 10 Messy Games! Tentatively at Creekwood
4:30-6:30 p.m. Park near the Indian Creek Greenway

Aug. 17 Devotion and Games
5-6:30 p.m.

Aug. 24 Kickoff Dinner for youth and parents! Making
4:30-6:30 p.m. pizza, brainstorming ideas for the year, and parent meeting

Confirmation Class

Starting Wednesday, Aug. 20 at 5 p.m.

Fall '25 confirmation classes with Laurie Campbell and Justin Walker will begin Wednesday, August 20. If you have a young person who is entering grade 8 or above and would like to participate, please contact Pastor Kris or Laurie Campbell.

Full Schedule
of Youth
Activities:



Elementary Youth Group MESY & MOES (Grades PK-5)

Sunday, Aug. 17 at Noon
MOES and MESY kickoff event

First Communion Class

Wednesday, Aug. 27
6-7:30 p.m.

Any youth age 7 (grade 2) or older who has yet to receive First Communion instruction is invited to join in this interactive class to prepare for their First Communion on Sunday, Sept. 7.

A parent or guardian must remain present for the class. Children younger than 7 may attend after meeting with Pastor Kris. Older youth and adults can also join to receive a refresher on this Lutheran sacrament.

Please RSVP by Sunday, August 24 by emailing office@mlutheran.org. Questions may be directed to Pastor Kris at pastor.kris@mlutheran.org.

Full Schedule of
Elementary
Activities:





VBS: Jesus League

During this year's VBS, 27 young disciples from Messiah Lutheran Church and St. Matthew Episcopal Church learned that we are all invited to join the Jesus League by being believers like Mary Magdalene, bold like Peter, and transformed like Paul.

THANK YOU to the REAL superheroes of VBS: the volunteers who made it all possible!!





*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 Michael Montgomery Bonnie Flowers vacant 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 MESY (Messiah Elementary Student Youngsters) MOES (Messiah Older Elementary Students) Personnel Committee Financial Secretary Stephen Ministry	vacant Whitney Morse vacant Marc Neely Mike & Peggy Mabry	sundayschool@mlutheran.org Moes_youth@mlutheran.org personnel.committee@mlutheran.org finance_sec@mlutheran.org stephenministry@mlutheran.org
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Staff

Office Manager Music Director, Choir Director Organist/Accompanist Nursery Attendant Communications Director IT Director	Jill Casey Randall Fields Melanie Payne Katrina Strand Jan Morrison Chris Elegante	office@mlutheran.org musicdirector@mlutheran.org melanie.payne@mlutheran.org nursery@mlutheran.org communications@mlutheran.net tech@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**.

1	Pat Gilliland	17	Commissioning of Stephen Ministers
2	Heidi & Ian Goebel (Walker)	18	Bill Holbrook
3	All Learners, Teachers, and Parents	19	Jimmy Hong
4	Melanie Grashot (Lucas; Elise)	20	Daniel & Deidre Hopkin (Dock; Helen)
5	Cynthia Gravdahl (Dillan; Donald)	21	Joe & Bobbey Huwaldt (Jonathan; Jacob)
6	Toni Gregory	22	Ross & Kelley Ingram (Ella; Hunter)
7	Benedict Gremillion	23	Tom & Muriel Irvin (Dylan; Maisie)
8	Jack & Debbie Gulden	24	Lutheran World Relief
9	Robert & Audrey Gustafson	25	Jon-Erik & Lauren Jaegersen (Torben; Adalynn; Rafe; Magnus)
10	School Administrators, Staff, Counselors, and Tutors	26	Derelene & John Jeter
11	Kirk & Lisa Evers Hamlet	27	Roger Joens
12	Peggy Hanna	28	Russell & Casie Joens (Elizabeth; Matthew)
13	Mark & Dottie Hanson	29	Gary Johnson
14	Bill & Claudia Havard	30	Marilyn Johnson
15	Gary & Linda Heideman	31	All Who Labor
16	Doug & Gloria Zalatan Hendrick (James; Madison)		

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.



Messiah Messenger

August 2025

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Messiah Lutheran Church 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/>

