



MESSIAH MESSENGER

Messiah Lutheran Church, 415 S. 18th St., Aurora, NE 68818

Office Hours:

9 am—3 pm
Monday - Thursday
Closed Fridays

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Church Office

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Find us on
Facebook & Twitter!



@MessiahAuroraNE



Happy Birthday

June

Jun 1	Cathy Binfield	Jun 16	Brennah Farley
Jun 1	Elena Kuehner	Jun 17	Avrie Arndt
Jun 2	Barbara Berthold	Jun 17	Carmen Goertzen
Jun 3	Megan Faller	Jun 19	Craig Shaffer
Jun 3	Maevyn Kracl	Jun 21	MaryJane Jensen
Jun 4	Wyatt James	Jun 22	Bryce Arndt
Jun 5	Marc Groetzinger	Jun 23	Debra Miller
Jun 5	Connie Nicklasson	Jun 24	Barb Cox
Jun 6	Eloise Hiebner	Jun 24	Preslee Perry
Jun 7	Kyleigh Farley	Jun 25	Kassidy Hudson
Jun 7	Tony Marty	Jun 26	Dick Akerlund
Jun 8	Roger Scott	Jun 26	William Mersch
Jun 9	Tina Oswald	Jun 27	Jay Oswald
Jun 9	Dee Sautter	Jun 27	Rick Penner
Jun 10	Ed Rathje	Jun 30	Laura Jobman
Jun 14	Trevor Dvorak	Jun 30	Randy Luthy

Happy Anniversary

Jun 5	Mark and Laura Jobman	Jun 21	Scott and Dara Schuster
Jun 10	BJ and Shana Merrihew	Jun 21	Eric and Laura Sweeney
Jun 14	Jay and Kim Staehr	Jun 23	Ed and Claudia Rathje
Jun 15	Alvin and Ashton Voss	Jun 28	Steve and Marilyn Vrana
Jun 18	Lance and Sheila Hiebner	Jun 29	Mike and Holly Herzberg
Jun 20	Linda and David Strotman		

FIREWORKS

Buy your fireworks at the Messiah Fireworks stand which will be set up in the parking lot of the old Chuck's restaurant. This is west across the street from Pizza Hut.

Please consider working a shift at the Fireworks stand between June 25th and July 4th. A sign-up sheet is at the Information Center.

This is a great fundraiser, but it requires a lot of manpower. Adult and youth help would be greatly appreciated.

See you there!

A Word From Pastor Rudy

Grace and peace to you all from God, our Heavenly Father, and our Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.

June is here and that means summertime! I think it is important that we remember our students, teachers, and school staff that have finished this past year. Congratulations goes out to all of our seniors both in high school and college. We also celebrate all students who are advancing in grades, for those getting ready to start their senior years, and those attending new schools next year. We give thanks to all of the teachers who help to teach and guide our students in their academic careers. During this summer, I pray that our families are able to find time to gather and relax whether it's at home for a staycation, or a nice family trip. Sabbath from our busy lives is a gift from God that we are meant to celebrate and enjoy, refreshing our minds and bodies.

There will be a lot of activities this summer for our Messiah family. I will be leading a short, mini Confirmation Camp at Messiah. This will be during the day with the help of the parents. This will be a time to gather and look deeper at where our confirmands are in their faith journey. We will be able to share more stories and concentrate on our lesson that will focus on the book of Genesis. For our families, we will have a fun gathering at the end of the month with good food and games to be played so be on the lookout for more information about that. We will also have the privilege of a visiting musician, Daryl Mosley. This veteran of the Grande Ole Opry will be at Messiah on June 14 singing some of his songs. We have invited other area churches to this gathering and hope for a nice crowd. Our Sunday bible study will be taking a break for the summer. We have gone through the beginning of the Gospel of John and will pick back up in the Fall.

As members of our community make plans for travel, we pray that everyone stays safe. We continue to lift up our neighbors who have suffered losses due to inclement weather. We also take the time to give thanks to all of the first responders who have been present to help. It is important that we keep these folks in our prayers. All of the police, firefighters, EMTs, nurses, counselors, and those helping at shelters. This all reminds us that we are a big family even as we are all over the land, we are family. God reminds us of the importance of community, that we are called to look out for one another in times of joy and sorrow, in times of abundance and scarcity. Even if we are only able to lift our prayers for those in need, it matters, as we are guided by the Holy Spirit to do what we can for others.

May God's peace, that surpasses all understanding, be with you all. Amen.

Pastor Rudy



Nebraska Synod Assembly

Pastor Rudy, Carol Flores, and Todd and Julie Jensen will represent Messiah at the Synod Assembly in Kearney June 1st and 2nd. Please pray for God's guidance as they vote on assembly business, the budget, and consider resolutions. They will have opportunities for continued learning, fellowship, and interaction with our Synod ministry partners.

Council Minutes

Messiah Lutheran Council Meeting April 15, 2024

Present: Pastor Flores, Mike Herzberg, Melissa Griffith, Todd Jensen, Allissa Marty, Kim McCain, Troy McCain, Nancy Obermeier, Eric Sweeney, Scott Werner, Dixie Ziegler

Devotion and Prayer – Mike opened the meeting with prayer.

Call Meeting to Order – The council meeting was called to order by Council President Mike Herzberg at 6:32pm.

Minutes of previous meeting – The council reviewed the minutes from the March regular council meeting, special council meeting, and council retreat. Corrections were made to the meeting attendance and wording. Dixie motioned to approve the minutes, the motion was seconded by Nancy, and it carried.

Treasurer's Report – The Treasurer's Report for March 2024 was reviewed.

Checking account balance--\$62,739.85

Current--\$61,768.43

Building--\$6,390.60

Outstanding--\$5,419.18

Money Market balance--\$31,175.36

Helping Hands balance--\$4,385.56

Youth Group balance--\$14,341.22

Fireworks Stand Account balance--\$1,795.90

Mission Investment balance--\$16,553.68

Mission Investment 1 year CD - \$25,000.00

Building Loan Balance as of 3-31-24 \$88,946.18

The Lent service offerings totaled \$1,757.00. A discussion was held on different options for people to give offerings to the church. Questions were also asked about the budget.

-----Eric made a motion to accept the treasurer's report. It was seconded by Troy. All were in favor, motion carried.

Pastor's Report

Many special services were held in March leading up to and including Holy week and Easter. Thanks to everyone who helped make the services meaningful.

During Lent, a special Bible study was held after church and was well attended. Next, a study on the gospel of John is being planned.

First Communion was celebrated. They prepared special bread for the Maundy Thursday service and again it was used on Easter morning.

On April 28th, a special music-filled service is being planned with hand bell music and music by Little Learners. Communion will also be served.

The Youth Group is having a lock-in at Messiah with Pastor making the preparations and the Confirmation class is planning a year-end celebration led by the parents.

Cards—30

Calls/Texts/Emails—21

Visits—15

Committee's Reports

Property – Eric Sweeney

Spring cleanup is planned for Saturday, April 27th. We will be replacing LED bulbs, cutting tall grass, spraying weeds, and cleaning inside the church.

A doggie clean-up station for \$220 will be placed by the playground. Dixie made a motion to use playground funds to pay for the clean-up station, Mellissa seconded. The motion carried.

A discussion was held on the idea of a Prayer Garden. Eric will meet with the memorial committee to gain background information and ideas on what might go into this project.

Council Minutes continued

Summer mowing sign up is under way with a Google doc sent out to the mowers.

Door codes will be changed in the near future.

Lawn applications for the parsonage will be addressed.

Worship – Dixie Ziegler

On June 2nd, when it is Synod Assembly, we will hold church at 9:00am.

A discussion on the use of the railings at the altar was held.

Education – Allissa Marty

The different education groups are winding down for the year. Youth Group will end April 17th, GLOW and

Confirmation ends April 24th, Little Learners and Shine end on April 28th.

VBS may take place the same week as the pool party in July.

Stewardship – Todd Jensen

Todd shared a document on stewardship that addressed time, talents, and giving. After a discussion, Todd will come up with a plan to publish the information on the church slides and newsletter.

Time and talent sheets will not be utilized this year.

The Parma Werner scholarship was discussed and changes will be made for next year's application.

Fellowship – Nancy Obermeier

Thanks to George and Tammy Chaney and their committee for the wonderful Easter Egg Hunt with 39 children participating.

On April 14th, JOY held a Mystery Garden Party with 44 people in attendance.

May 5th we will honor the graduates.

A Cinco de Mayo celebration for all ages is being planned as well as other summer activities.

Outreach – [Melissa](#)

Scott and Melissa will presale t-shirts after church on April 21st.

We are planning on having a float in the A'ROR'N Days Parade.

Laura Jobman will help secure the Pool Party date.

Unfinished Business

- Finalize church calendar for the year

On June 14 in the evening, a bluegrass musician will perform at the church.

Emergency preparedness update

No report

- Committee group meetings

Internal Committee—Dixie recapped six major ideas that come from the committee. They included reengaging inactive members, provide more fellowship opportunities, group and mentoring support, Glow support night, activity fair, and theology type activities.

External Committee—Mike reported on the activities of the external committee which included updating the church website, making church t-shirts available for purchase, visitation cards, updating signage on the highway and church.

Insurance Update

Diane Gowen was present to share information on church insurance. She gave us a report of the companies that were contacted. Auto Owners was the only company willing to insure Messiah. After some discussion and clarification of the terms, Scott made a motion to accept the premium and deductible buydown not to exceed \$24,000. Troy seconded the motion and it carried. The fee will be paid in one lump sum like in previous years.

Brotherhood Mutual will provide the Workers Compensation Insurance. Dixie made the motion to accept their proposal and Nancy seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Mike will share this information with the church members through an email and announcement in church.

New Business

Senior Graduation Sunday – May 5, 2024

Mike will be available to help hand out gifts to the graduates.

Greeters at church

Anyone in the congregation may volunteer to be greeters.

Council Minutes continued

Next Meeting – May 20, 2024 – 6:30pm

Closing Prayer – Eric closed the meeting with prayer.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:16pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kim McCain

Secretary

TREASURER'S REPORT

April 2024 Checking Account and Building Loan Summary

	<u>Beginning</u>	<u>Offering Income</u>	<u>Other Income</u>	<u>Expense</u>	<u>Ending</u>
Current	\$ 61,768.43	\$ 18,458.47	\$ -	\$ 35,450.89	\$ 44,776.01
Building	\$ 6,390.60	\$ 2,262.50		\$ 3,100.00	\$ 5,553.10
Money Market	\$ 31,175.36	\$ 500.00	\$ 23.06	\$ -	\$ 31,698.42
Helping Hands	\$ 4,385.56	\$ -		\$ -	\$ 4,385.56
Fireworks Stand Account	\$ 1,795.90		\$ 0.22		\$ 1,796.12
Mission Investment Fund	\$ 16,553.68		\$ 318.85		\$ 16,872.53
Mission Investment Fund - CD 1 year term	\$ 25,000.00	\$ -		\$ -	\$ 25,000.00
Total	\$ 147,069.53				\$ 130,081.74

	<u>Beginning</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Ending</u>
Building	\$ 88,946.18	\$ 472.14	\$ 2,627.86	\$ 86,318.32

OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

It's Pool Party Time - Free Swim Night!

Messiah has reserved the Aurora Aquatic Center for a free community swim night on **July 10th**. Please invite your family and friends to join us for a fun fellowship evening!



School Supplies Campaign 2024 is Coming!



The Outreach Committee is gearing up for "School Supplies Campaign 2024". This is our annual campaign to provide school supplies to students in need in Hamilton County. We plan to launch the campaign on Sunday, July 7th. Please be watching Messiah's July newsletter for more information. We prayerfully ask that you consider donating to this very important project!



FELLOWSHIP ACTIVITIES

Family Backyard BBQ



Date: June 30

Time: 3:00 PM till ???
Food starts at 5:30 PM



Place: Lynn & Debb Miller's Home
210 S 8th Street
Aurora, NE 68818
3 blocks South of the fairgrounds

Sign-up by June 23rd!

Come have some fun in the sun! There will be yard games, horseshoes, swimming, a cannonball contest, fireside smores, and more!

The meat for the BBQ will be provided, please bring a side dish or dessert to share. Table service, water, iced tea, and lemonade will be provided for all!



**Save the Date for Ribs (meat) by the Lake!
Saturday, July 13th!**



FOUR!!! Messiah is planning it's 3rd Annual Golf Tournament to take place in August. This is for members and friends. So hit the driving range and we hope to see you out on the links! More information will be coming soon.

CHILDREN'S AND YOUTH ACTIVITIES

VBS Planning Volunteers NEEDED!

It will be a 2 night program this year. Please reach out to Allissa Marty at allissamarty@gmail.com or 308-370-1188 if you are interested or have any questions. VBS is always a fun and rewarding time!

Date: July 8th & 9th
Time: 5:30 PM to 8:00 PM
Ages: 4 years old and up

We will now have ages 4 and up!

Scan the QR code or go to the address below to sign up!

<https://forms.gle/kPJkJSStzEgbJhwp8>



Confirmation Camp in June

Our confirmation students, along with Pastor Rudy, will be attending Confirmation Camp at Messiah Lutheran Church on June 10th and 11th. This is a great fellowship, team building, faith growing, and fun opportunity for all!

**On May 5th, we celebrated our 2024 High School Seniors!
Congratulations and Best Wishes to
Naela, Tyson, and Alexa!**



Pray for growth in our children's and youths' faith journey!

You can reach Cassie Wineteer, Faith Formation Coordinator, and Allissa Marty, Education Committee Chair, at "education@messiahaurora.org".

PROPERTY UPDATE

- Lawn mowing season is gearing up. We are excited that all of the slots for mowing have been filled! The help is truly appreciated!
- Spring clean up was held April 29th. Thank you to the volunteers who came out to help.



WOMEN OF MESSIAH (WELCA) NEWS

LWR Kits & Quilts

During the month of June, we will focus on collecting **dark colored light-weight bath towels** that will be used for the LWR health kits. We will also be happy to continue to receive toothbrushes, wide-toothed combs, and bars of soap.

There has been a great need around the world for these hygiene kits. We hope to be able to put together a large number of these kits again this year. This will be the last month we will focus on personal health kit items before we switch to school kits in July. Thank you for your continued support of LWR.

Messiah Quilters

The Messiah Quilters meet the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Tuesdays of the month. All are sewers and those able to tie a knot are welcome!



Prayer Shawls



Our knitters and crocheters have been busy making prayer shawls to provide warmth and comfort for those needing a show of love. The shawls are available for anyone to pick up to take to a friend or family member. Several shawls are displayed in the narthex. Please feel free to take one if you know of someone who could benefit from your

BIBLE STUDY

Men's Bible Study

Men's Bible Study is meeting Friday, **June 2nd** at 6:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. This is a time of fellowship and study as we ponder God's word and what it means to us today.



Women's Bible Study

Women's Bible Study will not meet in June. When they resume in July, it will be on Thursday at 3:00 pm in the Mission Room. They are studying Max Lucado's "Ten Women of the Bible". New members and drop ins are welcome. We would love to have you join us!



Using Bibles During Our Scripture Readings

In order to add to our Scripture readings during our services, we are encouraging you to look up the passages in the pew Bibles or your personal Bible. We will add the approximate page number where you can find the scripture. It is hoped this will add to your understanding of our Bible lessons and familiarity with our Bibles.



Weekly Messenger Prayer List

We will start over with a new list of Weekly Messenger "In Our Thoughts & Prayers" each quarter (January, April, July, October). **If you would like someone to remain on the Weekly Messenger Prayer list or be added, please contact the office.**



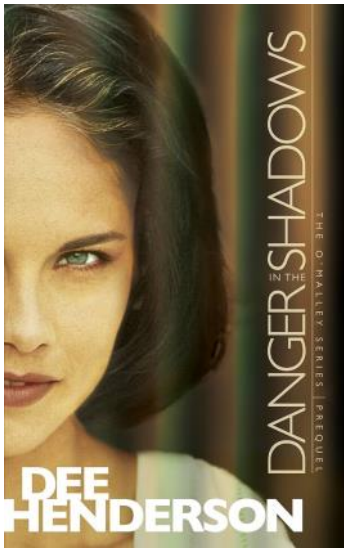
June Book of the Month

With the summer months here, it is a great time to start reading! Thanks to Connie Nick for sharing an awesome series.

“Danger in the Shadows” by Dee Henderson is the first book in The O’Malley Series.

Introducing the O'Malleys, an inspirational group of seven, all abandoned or orphaned as teens, who have made the choice to become a loyal and committed family. They have chosen their own surname, O'Malley, and have stood by each other through moments of joy and heartache. Their stories are told in CBA best-selling, inspirational romantic suspense novels that rock your heart and restore strength and hope to your spirit. These books are not in Messiah’s library but all are available at the local Aurora Library.

“Sara is terrified. She's doing the one thing she cannot afford to do: fall in love with former pro-football player Adam Black, a man everyone knows. Sara's been hidden away in the witness protection program, her safety dependent on staying invisible and loving Adam could get her killed!”



“Danger in the Shadows” emphasizes that God is in control, but you may get scared anyway!! This book is recommended for anyone who likes romantic suspense. You might not want to read it all alone, in the darkness of night, tho.

Each of the other six brothers and sisters all have varying professions which add to the uniqueness of the series.

I, personally, enjoyed this series and certainly hope that you do, too!!



What are your summer plans?

Maybe you can take a Flat Jesus picture with you!

Summer time fun is right around the corner. If you are traveling somewhere or just having fun at home, take a Flat Jesus picture with you on your adventures.

Decorate your Flat Jesus and send us a photo of you with Flat Jesus to messiah@hamilton.net to post on our church bulletin board. Let’s see how many fun pictures we can collect. It will be exciting to see what our families are doing this summer. Remember that Jesus is always with you! We’ll have Flat Jesus picture copies at the Information Center.

Messiah Lutheran Church

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MESSIAH  LUTHERAN

June 2024