

Pastor's Page

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens

Ecclesiastes 3:1



Pastor Kris Schroeder
pastor.kris@mlutheran.org

It is truly a time for new beginnings.

As a congregation, we come together hand-in-hand, heart-to-heart, and story-to-story. We come together as God's people to hear God's truth, offer our thanks and praise, and share the most powerful transformational story ever told... with the world!

Amazingly, we begin this chapter of our life together during the most transformative week in all of history: Holy Week. This provides for us the opportunity to "live" the full story of Easter, to live resurrection lives! Lives trans-

formed by the love, grace, and presence of the risen Jesus Christ!!!

As we approach our new beginnings and series of "firsts" together, may we focus our efforts on sharing the good news of Jesus Christ with the world. May this time of transition be one of newness and rebirth, patience and understanding, learning and growing, and transformation into who and what God desires.

I look forward to hearing the story of Jesus from and through each of you. God has placed us together to worship, learn, grow, and pray as our lives proclaim the good news of Christ's presence!

Hope & Joy-filled blessings,

Pastor Kris

April Highlights

Holy Week / Easter

April 2 - April 9

Special Congregation Meeting

April 11, 7 PM

Pastor Kris Installation

April 30, 2 PM

EDITOR'S NOTES

"Click & Connect "

on page 5 allows digital readers to explore more information on the event or activity listed.

Digital editions of the newsletters are maintained on

www.mlutheran.org/news

We continue to distribute the *Messiah Messenger* digitally except for those MLC households who wish to receive a printed copy. If you wish to receive a printed copy, please call the church office.

Printed copies will also be available at the welcome center.

- All are Invited to the -

INSTALLATION OF PASTOR KRISTINE SCHROEDER

Sunday, April 30, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. - Messiah Lutheran Church, Madison, AL

Reverend Jonathan Hemphill, Assistant to the Bishop - ELCA Southeastern Synod, Presiding

- Reception to Follow in the Parish Hall -

APRIL SERVICES OF WORSHIP

LBW = Lutheran Book of Worship | WOV = With One Voice
LS = Lord's Supper

Date: **Sundays at 8:30 a.m.** **Sundays at 11 a.m. & Livestreamed***

Note: All Services will include the Lord's Supper unless noted:

April 2	Palm/Passion LBW Setting 1	Palm/Passion LBW Setting 1
April 9	Easter / Resurrection of our Lord	Easter / Resurrection of our Lord
April 16	Chicago Folk	Contemporary Service
April 23	LBW Setting 2	LBW Setting 2
April 30	LBW Setting 1	LBW Setting 1

- Maundy Thursday Service of Worship w/LS: April 6 at 12 Noon and 7 p.m.
- Good Friday Tenebrae Service of Darkness (No LS): April 7 at 12 Noon and 7 p.m.

*All livestreamed services are available on www.mlutheran.org/online-services/





Claire Strand
Director of Outreach

claire@mlutheran.org

Contact Claire Strand if you would like to announce significant transitions in the life of our community of faith, including birth, death, Baptism, graduation, Confirmation, job change, relocation, engagement, marriage, or any other life passage!

Claire Strand also leads Messiah's Prayer Ministry. If you or a loved one needs to be lifted up in prayer, email claire@mlutheran.org

OUTREACH

PANTRY ITEM

Paper Towels

KIT MINISTRY

Single Toothbrushes

Members may also designate offerings to:

**Food Pantry
&
Kit Ministry**

Outreach

For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Ephesians 2:10 ESV

Life Passages

- + Andy Duessel's mother Mary Lou Duessel passed away on February 28th.
- + Eva Douglass' son-in-law Rafael Lopez Palma passed away on March 7th.
- + Pastor Diana Bottin's mother Inge Duerr passed away on March 18th.
- + Lee Seitz's father Karl Seitz passed away on March 18th.
- + Jeff Christensen's father Bob Christensen passed away on March 21st.

Outreach Spotlight: MLC Rummage Sale History and Mission

By Paulette McNamara

MLC's Rummage Sale is Saturday, April 22 from 8:00 AM to NOON Donations, Volunteers, and Shoppers Needed!

The funds raised by this year's sale will support MLC's Altar Guild (to replace aging paraments) and the Owen's House for Women & Children.

I am Paulette McNamara. I am the "Person in Charge" of Messiah's Rummage Sale. The first sale I remember was in July 1994. Tom and I had just moved here that May. Hazel and George Morgan usually sat in front of us in Church on Sunday morning. Hazel turned around to me and said, "Hello, I am Hazel Morgan, and I would like to invite you to our Church Yard Sale next Saturday!" I was so excited. How did she know I loved yard sales? Well, that was a match made in Church. I went to the yard sale and have been going ever since.

After a couple of years, SOMEONE... SOMEWHERE... SOMEHOW... talked me into being THE PERSON IN CHARGE! Annette Joens and I would spend three full days getting the tables set up, boxes off the stage and placed on the proper tables, and pricing items. Then, after the sale, we boxed up everything that was left and had it picked up. Many hands make light work, and we always had volunteers to help unpack and pack up again. Usually it was the Comforters that got involved the most, but there were always others willing to donate their time and talents to price items, pair shoes, put sets together, hang clothes, find parts to toys, keep tables straightened and clothes folded, and help collect money. It is hard work and tiring, but the results are well worth it.

As I said, the first sale was in 1994. We have had a sale every year except for 3 years: In 2011 because of the tornados that went through our area, and in 2021 and 2022 because of COVID-19. We soon outgrew the Fellowship Hall, and the sales are now held in the Parish Hall, as well as the hallway leading to the Parish Hall and outside!

(Continued on page 8)

Music & Worship Notes

... but be filled with the Spirit, as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.
-Ephesians 5:18b-20

Worship & Music Leadership

Laura Peterson

Council Representative
for Worship & Music
worship_music_rep
@mlutheran.org

Randall Fields

Interim Worship Music
Coordinator/
Choir Director
musicdirector@
mlutheran.org

Ric Birdsong

Interim Contemporary
Ensemble Coordinator

Maundy Thursday and Good Friday Services

We will have Communion at both noon and 7 p.m. on Maundy Thursday (April 6). The Good Friday (April 7) services will be Tenebrae services, at noon and 7 p.m.

Music Director Job Opening

Upcoming guest accompanists include Miriam Conrad, Amanda Weiland, and Steven Schneider. If you know someone who might be interested in applying for the position of Music Director, see the information below:

Messiah Lutheran Church in Madison, Alabama, seeks a part-time Music Director to accompany worship and integrate music into the congregation's mission. Together with the pastor and worship committee, the Music Director selects liturgy and hymns. Piano or organ proficiency is required. Job description and details for applying

for the position are at: www.elca-ses.org/classifieds. If you know someone who might be interested, please pass the word.

Music, Music, Music!

Come to sing, ring, and play instruments to the glory of God! Below are groups and locations.

Cherub Choir (PK-1 st)	Wed 6-6:30 p.m.	Room 7	Bonnie Flowers, director
Seraph Choir (2 nd -6 th)	Wed 6-6:30 p.m.	Room 11-12	Laura Simeone, director
Notabella (7 th -Adult)	Wed 6:30-7:30 p.m.	Fellowship Hall	Rhonda Gaede, director
Messiah Choir (7 th -Adult)	Wed 7:30-8:30 p.m.	Sanctuary	Randall Fields, director
Instrumental Ens. (7 th -Ad.)	Sun 12:15 p.m. (bi-wk)	Sanctuary	Larry Frakes, director

The Instrumental Ensemble is always looking for more players, but is especially in need of high (trumpet) and low (baritone, euphonium, tuba) brass.

Music Camp June 2023

Mark your calendars for June 5 – 9 with presentations of the musical on Sunday, June 11. The musical is **Sam, the Shams, and the Shepherd King**. The musical tells the story of how the child Samuel learns of God's purposes and promises and serves the Lord as judge and prophet, ushering the way for Israel's greatest king, David, and his promised descendant, Jesus.

Stephanie Gillespie, Music Camp's Music Director for nearly a decade has accepted the position as Music Camp Director.

Registration is open now! Check your E-News and the Music Camp website at:

<https://musiccamp.mlutheran.org/>



Messiah Youth

**Junior & Senior Youth:
Interim Youth Director
Vicar William Strand**
youth@mlutheran.org

MOES:

Currently Vacant

MLC's Youth Groups

**MOEs (Messiah Older
Elementary)** - grades 3-5
Junior Youth - grades 6-8
Senior Youth - grades 9-12

Christian Education**Bonnie Flowers**

*Council Representative for
Youth & Education*
education_rep@mlutheran.org

Janet Sullivan/Chris Berry

*Co - Sunday School
Superintendents*
sundayschool@mlutheran.org

Messiah Youth & Faith Formation

MLC Youth Group Meetings:

Each Sunday, Junior and Senior Youth Groups meet from 5:00-6:30 unless otherwise noticed.

- **April 2:** Sharing highs and lows of the week, group activity, planning for Holy Saturday Prayer Stations, and Easter Breakfast decorations and food.
- **April 8 (Saturday):** From 11:00-4:00, we will be setting up and monitoring the Holy Saturday Prayer Stations and preparing for the Easter breakfast
- **April 9: No Youth Group (Easter Breakfast in the morning)** Easter Breakfast will be prepared and served by the youth from 9:00-11:00 as a fundraiser for youth activities and mission trips such as the National Youth Gathering.
- **April 16:** Sharing highs and lows of the week; Group activity; split into groups
- **April 23: (5:00-7:00):** Fourth Sunday Dinner
- **April 30:** Sharing highs and lows of the week.

Youth News & Notes:

March 24-26: SESLYO - MLC had 3 students attend the SESLYO Assembly this year! Madelyn and Hadley Oltmans and Natalie Zesinger. We are proud of them for taking on this leadership role and look forward to hearing about their experiences.

Thank you to all who came out to volunteer at House of the Harvest on Saturday March 18! We had 18 Messiah youth and parents there to volunteer! We will be sponsoring breakfast and volunteering at House of the Harvest again on April 1 and April 22. There will be MLC folks and youth there to help get you oriented. House of the Harvest is located at 9144 Wall Triana Hwy, Harvest, AL 35749. If you have questions, please contact Bonnie Flowers, Sarah Walker or Claire Strand.

HOORAY!

A special THANK YOU to Rachel Fry, who has agreed to teach the Senior High Sunday School class each Sunday at Starbucks for the remainder of the school year.

We Still Need:

- Teachers for a new class for ages 2-3
 - Substitute teachers to fill in when a teacher is sick or traveling
 - Youth Group assistant
- If you are willing to help with this ministry, please contact Janet Sullivan or Bonnie Flowers.

Messiah Faith Formation Updates:

April 2: Easter Party - crafts and activities, Easter Egg Hunt - *no regular Sunday school this day.*

April 9: Easter Breakfast - *no regular Sunday school.*

April 16, 23, 30 - Regular Classes

CLEAR STORAGE BINS WANTED - If anyone has clear storage bins with lids that are no longer being used, please consider donating them. We are trying to organize materials based on seasons, events, etc. We need large bins (~58Qt/55L) and small bins (~6Qt/5.7L). Storage bins may be dropped off in the Faith Formation room. Please talk to Bonnie Flowers or Janet Sullivan if you have questions.

Looking Ahead: The last day for Faith Formation classes of the 2022-2023 academic year is May 21!

WELCOME VICAR WILLIAM STRAND, Interim Director of Faith Formation & Youth

Vicar William Strand has accepted a temporary appointment at MLC to serve MLC's youth and children while he interviews for his first call. Once he receives the call, there will be an ordination service for him. Vicar William recently served his internship in Grand Marais, MN and did additional chaplaincy work in Superior, Wisconsin. He currently is affiliated with the South Carolina Synod of the ELCA.

MLC News Flashes...

+ HOLY WEEK +

Sunday, April 2, 2023 - Palm / Passion Sunday

Services at 8:30 & 11:00 AM*, Easter Egg Hunt 9:45 AM

April 6 - Maundy Thursday

Services at Noon & 7 PM* with the Lord's Supper

April 7 - Good Friday Tenebrae

Services at Noon & 7 PM*

April 8 - Holy Saturday Prayer Station Vigil

Prepare your hearts and minds for Easter by visiting the prayer stations from 1:00—3:00 PM

Prepared and organized by MLC Youth

April 9 - Resurrection Sunday / Easter

Services at 8:30 & 11:00 AM*,

MLC Youth Brunch Fundraiser 9 to 11:30 AM

* These services are available online at

NEW P.O. BOX FOR MAILED OFFERINGS

Messiah Lutheran Church

P.O. Box 526,
Madison, AL 35758

Please do not send checks or other sensitive information to our 7740 Hwy 72 W address. That locked mailbox was recently broken into. Please call the office if you have questions or have mailed in an offering late March. Thank you.

WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

Here are the dates and books for this spring's book club meetings! Meetings typically start at 6:30 p.m.

Apr. 24 – *Channel of Peace* – Host Bonnie Flowers
May 15-ish – Social Only
POC: Janell Zesinger

MLC COMFORTERS

Tuesday mornings 9:00 a.m.—Noon

Interested in being a Comforter? Contact
Jeanette Beamer

KIT MINISTRY

Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.
Prefer to help at home? There are many ways to be a Kit Ministry "minion."
POC: Rhonda Gaede

Click & Connect...

Click each of the graphics for more details & info.



Expanded Breakfast Times
9:00 AM - 11:30 AM
PLEASE RESERVE YOUR TIME SLOT

<https://form.jotform.com/MLCmadison/Easterbreakfast>

or Sign Up at Welcome Center
Free will offerings support
MLC Youth Mission Trips such as National Youth Gathering

SALE MERCH & VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Item drop-off starts
April 19 - 7 p.m.
Parish Hall Stage
POC: Paulette
McNamara.
Details click right.



RUMMAGE
SAT., APRIL 22
8 AM - 1 PM
SALE
MISSION FUNDRAISER

SPRING HANDMADE (MINI) MARKET

Spring Handmade Market Sunday Morning, April 23 - Fellowship Hall (except during worship)
100% of sales support Lunches for Learning. Come and shop a wide range of crafted goods perfect to give that special teacher, friend, or neighbor or enjoy for oneself. If you are a crafter and would like to donate items to the sale, contact Elaine Shriver.



Click the banner above to go to MLC SignUp Page!

If you do not see the signup you are looking for, browse the tabs at the top of the page. There are also additional tabs to the left and right of what is shown.

"RUSH TO SERVE" - MAY 14

Rush to Serve will be **May 14th** between services from **9:30am until 10:45am** in the **Parish Hall**. The event will provide the Congregation an opportunity to see what opportunities are available at MLC to become involved in. We will have handouts that summarize the information for people to take home. We will also attempt to get Time and Talent Survey information to capture people's names. Additional details to follow! POC Tim Pitchko.

Parsonage Sale Update...

The Parsonage is Under Contract! On the 3rd day of being on the market, MLC's parsonage went under contract above asking price. The closing is scheduled for mid-April.

It was a surprise to learn from our closing attorney that to satisfy Alabama statutes, MLC's Congregation must act on a resolution approving the sale of the property at a special congregation meeting.

A Special Congregation Meeting is planned for Tuesday, April 11, at 7 PM via Zoom and in MLC's Sanctuary.

Official notice with links to the resolution drafted by the closing attorney is found on our password protected Church Documents page.

Please plan on attending this brief yet very important meeting! There is only one item on the agenda and that is to act on the resolution.

If after reading the resolution and attachments. you have questions, please direct those to me or the Council's Parsonage Subcommittee members: Lisa Evers, Lee Smith and Jay Perry.

Thank you for your participation in the meeting!

Greg Kilby
 Congregation Council Vice-President

Month in Pictures

MARCH MONTH IN PICTURES
[VIEW THE ONLINE GALLERY](#)



Above Right: Girl Scout Sunday was Sunday March 5. Thank you to all the young ladies who are Girl Scouts and lent a hand to serve as greeters, lectors/worship assistants, ushers, acolytes! **Below Left: SESLYO** participants (see page 4 for details) **Below Right:** Claire Strand and Andrew King were part of a crew that sharpened pencils, dusted bibles, and organized the pew spaces between services on March 12 in preparation for Easter guests! More pictures on the online gallery, above!



Prayer Families

Please lift these Messiah households in your daily prayers. **On Sundays and holidays, please remember to pray for the groups or individuals listed in *bold*.**

Month in Pictures, *Continued*



Above: 18 MLC adult and youth volunteers came to House of the Harvest Food Pantry service day on Sat. March 18. Sarah Walker, Stephanie Kokan, Claire Strand & Andrew King were on hand with a number of MLC youth who helped distribute food. We are also serving on April 1 & April 22. See page 4. Below: Vicar Strand supervises youth preparing their monthly "Fourth Sunday Dinner." The youth both plan and prepare meals which they enjoy together as a faith community.



April Birthdays

(Continued from page 2)

The money we make on these sales is usually between \$1,000 and \$2,000. Here are some of the things we have used the money for: We have given to the Outreach Committee four years, the Fellowship Committee two years, On Eagles Wings, playground equipment for Messiah two years, four years to our local Habitat for Humanity builds, Lunches for Learning WELL project in Honduras, a youth trip to Germany, Comforter supplies, Music at Messiah, new bell cases for the bell choir, gold candlesticks and replating the altar Bible stand for the Altar Guild, and the electronic sign. This year, the Altar Guild has asked for help purchasing new altar Paraments.

There is always a need for the money the Rummage Sale brings in, and even with all the work, time spent, and volunteer hours, we enjoy doing this for Messiah Lutheran Church.

We would appreciate any help we can get to set up the sale. That will be Thursday and Friday, April 20 and 21. We will begin sometime around 10 a.m. After everything is unpacked and properly placed, we will begin pricing the items.

We will begin the sale at 8 a.m. on Saturday, April 22, so if you plan on helping the day of the sale, please be here by 7 a.m. We ask you to please wear a Thrivent t-shirt the day of the sale so shoppers can pick us out in the crowd to ask for help, etc. After 12 p.m., we will begin boxing up the leftovers and donating them to a thrift store. They will pick the boxes up from church.

Please let me know if you can help set up, price items, or work the day of the sale. Any help we can get is appreciated.

Thank you! Paulette McNamara



Left: Service and Fellowship! MLC's Comforters enjoy an Easter Potluck Lunch on March 27. In addition to making quilts for Lutheran World Relief, the group makes items to support local shelters and prayer shawls to comfort loved ones.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>April 2023</h1>						1 7:15 AM House of the Harvest Serving
2 Palm / Passion Sunday 8:30 a.m. Worship: Palm/Passion LBW Setting 1 9:45 a.m. Sunday School for adults 9:45 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt/ party for youth 11:00 a.m. Worship & Livestream: Palm/Passion LBW Setting 1 4:00 p.m. 1st year Confirmation class 5:00 p.m. Junior/Senior Youth Group Meeting	3 8:30 a.m. AARP Tax Session 4:45 Owen's House Kitchen Serving	4 9:00 a.m. Comforters	5	6 8:30 a.m. AARP Tax Prep MAUNDY THURSDAY Services at Noon & 7 p.m. 7:45 p.m. Messiah Choir	7 GOOD FRIDAY Services at Noon & 7 p.m.	8 HOLY SATURDAY Prayer Stations 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.
9 Resurrection Sunday / Easter 8:30 a.m. Worship: Easter Service 9:00 a.m. Easter Breakfast 11:00 a.m. Worship & Livestream: Easter Service	10 8:30 a.m. AARP Tax Prep	11 9:00 a.m. Comforters	12 5:30 Wed Night Dinner 6:00 p.m. Cherub Choir 6:00 p.m. Seraph Choir 6:30 p.m. Notabella 7:30 p.m. Messiah Choir	13 8:30 a.m. AARP Tax Prep 7 p.m. Church Council Meeting 7 p.m. Kit Ministry	14	15
16 8:30 a.m. Worship: Chicago Folk Service 9:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages. 11:00 a.m. Worship & Livestream: Contemporary Service w/LS 4:00 p.m. 1st year Confirmation class 5:00 p.m. Junior/Senior Youth Group Meetings	17 4:45 Owen's House Kitchen Serving	18 9:00 a.m. Comforters	19 5:30 Wed Night Dinner 6:00 p.m. Cherub Choir 6:00 p.m. Seraph Choir 6:30 p.m. Notabella 7:30 p.m. Messiah Choir	20 7 p.m. Kit Ministry Rummage Sale Set up	21 Rummage Sale Set up	22 7:15 AM House of the Harvest Serving RUMMAGE SALE 8 a.m. to NOON
23 8:00 Mini Handmade Market 8:30 a.m. Worship: LBW Setting 2 9:45 a.m. Sunday School All Ages 11:00 a.m. Worship & Livestream: LBW Setting 2 4:00 p.m. 1st year Confirmation class 5:00 p.m. Junior/Senior 4th Sunday Dinner	24 8:30 p.m. Women's Book Club	25 9:00 a.m. Comforters 5:30 p.m. Men of Messiah Fellowship	26 5:30 Wed Night Dinner 6:00 p.m. Cherub Choir 6:00 p.m. Seraph Choir 6:30 p.m. Notabella 7:30 p.m. Messiah Choir	27 7 p.m. Kit Ministry	28	29
30 Installation Sunday 8:30 a.m. Worship: Bread of Life 9:45 a.m. Sunday School 9:45 a.m. WFP Packing 11:00 a.m. Worship & Livestream: Bread of Life 2:00 p.m. Installation Service 5:00 p.m. Junior/Senior Youth Group Meeting	LOOKING AHEAD: May 7 - Congregation Meeting - Elections (Time TBD) May 14 - Rush to Serve Stewardship / Time and Talent May 21 - Last Day of Faith Formation Classes					

Messiah Lutheran Church
7740 Highway 72 West
Madison, Alabama 35758
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Messiah Lutheran Church (ELCA) is located at 7740 Highway 72 West, just east of Hughes Road. **Sunday Services of Worship are at 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.** Sunday School is at 9:45 a.m. Staffed nursery and hearing assist devices available. Our website is www.mlutheran.org. Church office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., staffed by our Office Managers. The Church telephone is (256) 721-0041. Email: office@mlutheran.org.
Newsletter submissions may be sent to Rebecca Mast at newsletter@mlutheran.org
Submissions are typically due the 3rd Sunday of every month. Submit photos to communications@mlutheran.org



The monthly newsletter and calendar for Messiah Lutheran Church (ELCA) Madison, Alabama

MESSIAH

Messenger

April 2023
Volume 36, Issue 4

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Contact Information Messiah Lutheran Church mlutheran.org

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Phone: (256) 721-0041
Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Monday – Friday

Staff

Pastor Kristine Schroeder.....Pastor
Claire Strand.....Director of Outreach Ministries
Bobbey Huwaldt.....Office Manager
Meredith Kilby...Communications Director, Office Manager
Randall Fields..... Messiah Choir Director
William Strand.....Interim Director/Faith Formation
Katrina Strand..... Nursery Attendant

Find up-to-date information at www.mlutheran.org

