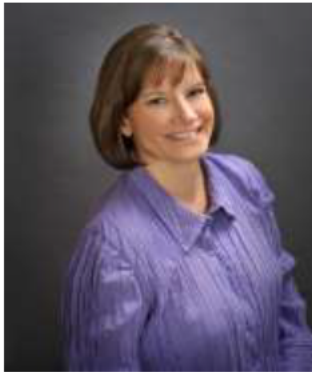


Pastor's Page

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. -John 20:1



Pastor Kris Schroeder
pastor.kris@mlutheran.org

We All Need A Little Jesus!

Together we celebrate the season of Easter! An affirmation that because Jesus rose from the dead, **EVERYTHING** changed!!!! Jesus the Christ changed the course for everything! Sin is forgiven. Eternal life is victorious over death. God triumphed over the grave!



On the very first Easter, the world began to discover that they **NEEDED** Jesus in their life. Now, if you and I are honest, we too will discover that our world now... in 2024... **NEEDS JESUS!** We live in a world that is filled with pain, disease, neglect, and loneliness, but all too often, we are blinded and forget or refuse to see Jesus.

Jesus is everywhere. Watching, waiting, hoping that we will choose to connect, to love, to dream, and to live! We **ALL** need a little Jesus!

Christ is Risen indeed!!!

-Pastor Kris

April Highlights

April 6 - Rummage Sale
8 a.m. to Noon
Parish Hall

Claire Strand's
Celebration of Mission and
Retirement BBQ and Potluck
April 21 - Noon
(See page 7)

Messiah Artreach Workshop
Sat. April 20
10:00 a.m.
Parish Hall
(See page 5)

Mini Handmade Market
April 21
Fellowship Hall
Between services

Men of Messiah (MoM)
Trash Panda Night
April 23
(See page 5)



Messiah Youngsters and their parents hunting for eggs on March 24 (B. Flowers)

APRIL SERVICES OF WORSHIP

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

All services will include the Lord's Supper unless otherwise noted.

Date	Services at 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. (also livestreamed) unless otherwise noted.
April 7	Chicago Folk w/LS
April 14	Now the Feast w/LS
April 21	WOV Setting 5 (Bread of Life) w/LS and Band Led w/LS (11:00)
April 28	LBW 1 w/LS





Claire Strand

Director of Outreach

claire@mlutheran.org

Contact Claire Strand if you have news to report in Life Passages.

Prayer Ministry

If you or a loved one needs to be lifted up in prayer contact Claire.

Sarah Walker

Nursery Attendant

nursery@mlutheran.org

Dana Burton

Council Representative for Outreach

outreach@mlutheran.org

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

- + Shannon Burgett's mother, [REDACTED], passed away [REDACTED]
- + Randall Fields' mother, [REDACTED], passed away [REDACTED]

Messiah Disaster Recovery Mission Trip Planned

Wanted: Volunteers who have willing hearts and are 16 years of age and older.

When: June 11 through June 15, 2024 (can be flexible)

If you've wanted to be part of a long term disaster recovery effort, now's your chance! Our potential area of service this year is Selma, AL, which is still recovering from the January 2023 tornadoes and is greatly in need of continued help. Griffin, GA or Calvert City, KY may be alternate locations. More details will follow. If interested, please contact Andrew King. Please pray for all those impacted by natural disasters and those responding to them.

Blessings! -Andrew King

Mission Spotlights: MLC's Special Meals Ministry

Calling All Cooks

MLC's Special Meals Ministry needs your help! The group provides meals to members in situations where a little extra help is needed due to health issues, the birth of a child, etc. This ministry became somewhat idle during COVID but is now picking back up.

We currently have two families in need of meals. Meals do not need to be elaborate - in fact, sometimes simple is best. If you are interested in becoming a part of this ministry, [REDACTED]

MLC Rummage Sale (With Plants, Too!)

"MLC Rummage Sale with Plants, Too!" is Saturday, April 6. Donations start Wednesday evening, April 3. Volunteers are needed Thursday, April 4 from 9-2 for setup; Friday, April 5 from 9-2 for pricing; the morning of Saturday, April 6 at 7 a.m. to work the sale; and at noon on Saturday for cleanup. Please tell Paulette McNamara when you can help.

All proceeds will be split between the Youth Travel Fund and Synod Disaster Response.

DONATIONS

PANTRY ITEM

Cereal

KIT MINISTRY

4 oz. Bars of Soap

Members may also designate offerings to:

**Food Pantry
or
Kit Ministry**

Music & Worship Notes



*Then those who sing as well as those who play the flutes shall say,
"All my springs of joy are in you." -Psalm 87:7*



Staff & Leadership

Randall Fields

Music Director/
Choir Director
musicdirector@
mlutheran.org

Melanie Payne

Organist
melanie.payne@
mlutheran.org

Laura Peterson

Council Representative for
Worship & Music
worship_music_rep
@mlutheran.org

Favorite Hymns

Randall Fields wants to know your favorite hymns! He would like to incorporate them as they are appropriate to the message for each Sunday. Suggest a hymn at:

<https://form.jotform.com/MLCmadison/hymn-request>

Musical Groups

Please join us in making a joyful noise to the Lord!

Cherub Choir (Grades PK-1)

Rehearsals on Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. Director: Bonnie Flowers

Seraph Choir (Grades 2-6)

Rehearsals on Wednesdays -at 6:00 p.m. Director: Laura Simeone

Notabella

Rehearsals on Sundays at 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Director: Rhonda Gaede

Instrumental Ensemble

Rehearsals on 1st and 3rd Sundays at 9:45 a.m. Interim Director: Larry Frakes

Messiah Choir (Grade 7- adult)

Rehearsals on Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. in Sanctuary. Director: Randall Fields

Band Led Worship

Rehearsals on April 20th at 9 a.m. and April 21st at 9:45 a.m. They will lead worship at the 11:00 a.m. service on April 21st.

Music Camp

This year Music Camp presents "Say What?" directed by Stephanie Gillespie. Camp will run June 3-8 with a single presentation on June 9 at 9:30 a.m. during a special worship service in the Parish Hall.

Stephanie is requesting help, particularly with the afternoon activities and the non-dramatic/non-musical tasks in the morning. There will be a fee of \$100 per child, with a family plan of \$80 for a second child and \$60 for a

third child per family. To volunteer, please contact Laura Peterson at worship_music_rep@mlutheran.org, Stephanie, or Randall Fields.

Worship and Music Committee

The committee's next meeting is May 7th at 7 p.m., probably in the library. This meeting is open to anyone who might be interested in attending.

Usher Guidelines

The Usher Handbook has been updated and distributed electronically. There are a few hard copies available at the Welcome Center.

Wedding Policy

New guidelines have been developed and approved by the Council.

Many hands make light work!

Please contact Laura Peterson at worship_music_rep@mlutheran.org if you would like to serve in worship in any capacity. We would love to help you serve.

Messiah Youth & Faith Formation

Messiah Youth

Junior & Senior Youth:

Junior Youth - grades 6-8

Senior Youth - grades 9-12

youth@mlutheran.org

POC: Bonnie Flowers

MLC's Youth Groups

MOEs (Messiah Older

Elementary) - grades 3-5

POC: Whitney Morse

Moes_youth@mlutheran.org

Christian Education

Bonnie Flowers

Council Representative for

Youth & Education

education_rep@mlutheran.org

Janet Sullivan

Sunday School

Superintendent

sundayschool@mlutheran.org

Sunday School

Regular Sunday School through May 12

May 19 - Last day of Sunday school and end of year party!

Adults: The adult class with Dottie Hanson will continue to study the book of Luke between the services each Sunday.

Youth Group Meetings for April

The senior high and junior high youth groups meet on Sunday evenings from 5:00-6:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted. They begin as a large group in the Parish Hall and then split for other activities.

April 7, 14 - Regular Youth Group

April 20-21 - A tentative lock-in is planned for late Saturday afternoon into Sunday morning. Watch for further details

April 28 - Fourth Sunday Dinner

MOES (Grades 3-5)

April 28 - Strawberry picking at Brown Farms!

Next Youth Committee Meeting: Tuesday, April 16 at 5:45 p.m.

ELCA Southeastern Synod Youth Events

Southeastern Synod Lutheran Youth Organization (SESLYO)

SESLYO (Southeastern Synod Lutheran Youth Organization): Olivia Sullivan and Natalie Zesinger

represented MLC at the SESLYO Assembly on March 22-24 at Lutheranch. They had a workshop on homelessness presented by Pastor Michael of The Collective and elected board members for the coming year. Congratulations to Olivia, who will serve as the chaplain this year! Enjoy this group photo of the SESYLO Board Members, below right.

AFFIRM

AFFIRM, a youth event of the ELCA Southeastern Synod, will be held at the University of West Alabama June 9-14 for youth who have completed grades 6-12. AFFIRM nurtures faith, equips youth leaders for today and tomorrow, and trains youth in discipleship skills.

The deadline to register is April 30. More information can be found at <https://www.sesyouth.org/affirm>.



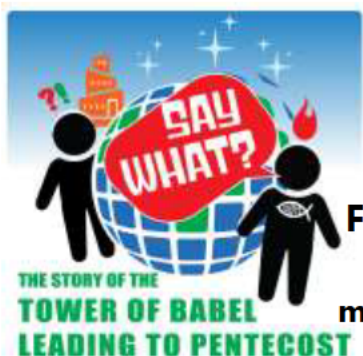
MORE YOUTH & ED NEWS ON PAGE 6

(Continued on page 6)

MLC News Flashes...

Mini Handmade Spring Market Sunday, April 21 - Fellowship Hall 9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

This spring market will feature handmade items perfect for gift giving to teachers, mothers, graduates and other special people in your life - including you! **100% of the proceeds support Lunches for Learning in Honduras.**



Music Camp 2024

Registration
is now open!

For information and to
register visit
musiccamp@mlutheran.org

MoMs Trash Pandas Night April 23

The Men of Messiah (MoMs) are planning a group get-together to attend the Tuesday, April 23rd Trash Panda's game (first pitch at 6:05 p.m.). We will begin figuring out logistics, tickets, and plans—stay tuned for details.

If anyone is interested in the game or would like to be added to our MoMs distribution, please contact

Women's Book & Social Club

Contact Janell Zesinger if you're interested!
jzesinger@knology.net

April 22 – *Where the Crawdads Sing* – Host TBA

May 13 – *Trials to Triumph* feat. Pastor Kris joining us to discuss her book!

Comforters

have their regular meetings on Tuesdays at 9:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome!
POC: Jeanette Beamer

Kit Ministry

Meets on Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Prefer to help at home? There are many ways to be a Kit Ministry "minion" that you can do at home.
POC: Rhonda Gaede/Diane Davis

Click & Connect...

Click the underlined text or box for details.

SUNDAY MORNING VOLUNTEERS



Wednesday Night Dinner Volunteer Sign Up

NEW! HYMN REQUEST FORM!

See Page 3 for Details

"Messiah Artreach"

April 20 | 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Craft Focus: Painted & Hand-Colored Cards

Come enjoy a morning of card crafting, fellowship, and creativity. *Feel free to bring a sack lunch of an appetizer to share. Come for as much time as you have! No cost to attend.*

POC Peggy Mabry / Meredith Kilby.

April Reminders & Notes:

- **Members -- Do you need a church directory?** Please just call or email the church office and one can be printed or emailed to you.
- **Please mail church offerings to MLC's Official Post Office Box!**
Messiah Lutheran Church
P.O. Box 526
Madison, AL 35758

March 2024 Month in Pictures

Thank you to all of Messiah's members who snap photos of MLC happenings. If you have pictures to share just let Meredith Kilby know at communications@mlutheran.org and she will send you a link. Gmail accounts work best!



Clockwise from the top: On March 16, Messiah's new Artreach crafting group gathered to make Easter cards and "Thinking of You" cards for Messiah members. On March 17, MLC youth gathered to stuff easter eggs with the Bible verses that members provided. On March 23, MLC youth gathered to serve at the House of the Harvest food pantry. On Palm Sunday (March 24) a Messiah youngster shows off his Palm Sunday Cross at the Easter Party. Children also enjoyed making stained glass wind chimes. An Easter Egg hunt for different ages took place in Messiah's two courtyards. **Check out the full photos at the online gallery!**

April 2024

"And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth." ~ John 1:14

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 4:45 p.m. Owen's House Kitchen Duty	2	3 5:00 Confirmation Class 5:30 Wed Night Dinner 6:00 p.m. Cherub Choir 6:00 p.m. Seraph Choir 7:30 p.m. Messiah Choir Rummage Sale Setup -Start	4 1:00 Prayer Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Kit Ministry Rummage Sale Donations	5 Rummage Sale Set Up	6 8 - Noon Rummage Sale
7 8:30 a.m. Worship: Chicago Folk w/LS 9:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages. 9:45 a.m. Instrumental Ens. 11:00 a.m. Worship & Livestream: Chicago Folk w/LS 5:00 p.m. Junior/Senior Youth Group Meeting 6:30 p.m. Notabella	8	9 9:00 a.m. Comforters	10 5:00 Confirmation Class 5:30 Wed Night Dinner 6:00 p.m. Cherub Choir 6:00 p.m. Seraph Choir 7:30 p.m. Messiah Choir	11 6:30 p.m. Kit Ministry 7:00 p.m. Church Council Meeting	12	13
14 8:30 a.m. Worship: Now the Feast w/LS 9:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages. 11:00 a.m. Worship & Livestream: Now the Feast w/LS 5:00 p.m. Junior/Senior Youth Group Meeting 6:30 p.m. Notabella	15 4:45 p.m. Owen's House Kitchen Duty	16 9:00 a.m. Comforters 5:45 p.m. Youth Committee mtg.	17 5:00 Confirmation Class 5:30 Wed Night Dinner 6:00 p.m. Cherub Choir 6:00 p.m. Seraph Choir 7:30 p.m. Messiah Choir	18 1:00 Prayer Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Kit Ministry	19	20 10:00 Artreach Workshop 9:00 a.m. Band- led worship team setup and rehearsal
21 8:30 a.m. Worship: WOV Setting 5 Bread of Life w/LS 9:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages 9:45 a.m. Handmade Market 9:45 a.m. Band-led worship team rehearsal 9:45 a.m. Instrumental Ens. 11:00 a.m. Worship & Livestream: Band-led service w/LS 12:00 p.m. Claire Strand Potluck 6:30 Notabella	22 6:30 p.m. Women's Book & Social Club Meets	23 9:00 a.m. Comforters 6:00 p.m. Men of Messiah Trash Pandas night	24 5:00 Confirmation Class 5:30 Wed Night Dinner 6:00 p.m. Cherub Choir 6:00 p.m. Seraph Choir 7:30 p.m. Messiah Choir	25 6:30 p.m. Kit Ministry	26	27
28 8:30 a.m. Worship: LBW Setting 1 w/LS 9:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages 11:00 a.m. Worship & Livestream: LBW Setting 1 w/LS 12:00 p.m. MOEs strawberry picking 5:00 p.m. Junior/Senior Youth Fourth Sunday Dinner 6:30 p.m. Notabella	29	30 9:00 a.m. Comforters	Looking Ahead: May 5 - Congregation Meeting with Elections May 15 - WND Ends May 19 - Last Day of Sunday School Pre-K to Gr 12 May 19 - Pentecost (Confirmation / Grad. Recognition) June 3 - Music Camp - "Say What?" June 11- Disaster Relief Mission Trip June 17 - VBS at St. Matthews Episcopal			

Executive Committee

Pastor Kris Schroeder (Ex-Officio of All Committees)

President: Neda Ballard—council_president@mlutheran.org

Vice President: Rhonda Gaede—vicepres@mlutheran.org

Treasurer: Lee Smith— treasurer@mlutheran.org

Secretary: Joe Huwaldt—secretary@mlutheran.org

Council Representatives

Worship and Music: Laura Peterson worship_music_rep@mlutheran.org

Outreach: Dana Burton outreach_rep@mlutheran.org

Stewardship: Janell Zesinger stewardship_rep@mlutheran.org

Education and Youth: Bonnie Flowers education_rep@mlutheran.org

Fellowship: Kari Pitchko fellowship_rep@mlutheran.org

Property: Lisa Evers— property_rep@mlutheran.org

Finance: Dennis Fry—finance_rep@mlutheran.org

Youth Representative: Ana Ballard - youth_rep@mlutheran.com

Non-Council Positions / Committees

Sunday School Superintendent: Janet Sullivan — sundayschool@mlutheran.org

Personnel Committee: Laurie Campbell—personnel.committee@mlutheran.org

Financial Secretary: Marc Neely—finance_sec@mlutheran.org

Members! MLC staff, officers, or council reps will never solicit you directly for cash, gift cards, etc.

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 (256) 617-8530.



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

MESSIAH
Messenger

April 2024
Volume 37, Issue 4

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7	April Birthdays, Claire Strand Retirement
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10	Contact Details Staff, Council

**Contact Information
Messiah Lutheran Church
mlutheran.org**

7740 Highway 72 West Madison, AL 35758

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
 Bobby Huwaldt.....Office Manager
 Meredith Kilby...Communications Director, Office Manager
 Randall Fields..... Music Director, Choir Director
 Melanie Payne Organist/Accompanist
 Sarah Walker Nursery Attendant

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

