



THE MESSENGER

“Hearing the Word; Growing in Christ;
Serving God through Service to Others.”

**March 2010
Volume 10, Issue 3**

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This newsletter is also available online - www.galvalutheran.org.

Messiah Lutheran Church
317 SW Third Street
Galva, IL 61434
309-932-3346

Off. Hrs: Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-Noon
Em: messiahlutheran@mchsi.com
Web: www.galvalutheran.org

Pastor Linda Winkelman
H: 309-932-2370
Email: pastorlinda@mchsi.com

Council President:
Jack Engelsen H: 309-932-8705

Admin. Assistant:
Carol Ann Noble C: 309-525-5535
Em: messiahlutheran@mchsi.com

Custodian:
Harold Smith H: 309-932-3367

Time Changes!!!

**Spring ahead 1 hour
March 14 2AM**

Stewardship of Spirituality

Our Lenten Journey

Throughout the month of March we continue our Lenten journey to the cross, which stands at the center of this season.

To aid in preparation and renewal of our hearts, minds, and souls, the church of Galva invites you to mid-week worship services on Thursdays at 6 p.m., followed by a simple soup supper.

Come! Enjoy this time of preparing and waiting for new life!

This year we focus on “Sayings from the Cross”:

- Mar. 4 - First United Methodist Church, *“I thirst”*
- Mar. 11- Grace Methodist Church, *“Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise”*
- Mar. 18- St. John's Catholic Church, *“Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing”*
- Mar. 25- Messiah Lutheran Church, *“Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.”*

Holy Week

Again this year Messiah Lutheran will host several worship services in preparation for the risen Christ:

*Palm Sunday-Celebration and Passion
Receiving of 1st Communion*

Maundy Thursday-Christian Seder Feast, followed by a potluck supper

Good Friday-Solemn celebration of Christ’s victory on the cross

Pastor's Message

Then Jesus said, "There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country...

Luke 15:11-13a

Waiting...

At this time of year most are anxiously awaiting the arrival of spring. Especially after a long winter like this one, many have expressed their weariness of the cold and snow, and their desire for spring to come soon. I happen to prefer snow over brown, dried up grass and mud, but I understand the desire for warmer weather, green grass, and colorful spring flowers. We know that renewal is just below the surface, and this makes us all the more anxious for its arrival.

Lent is all about waiting. For 40 days we wait for what is to come. We know the Easter Resurrection with its promise of new life is just around the corner, and this makes us all the more anxious at this time of year.

But unlike the season of Advent, which can appear to fly by with its flurry of activity and preparation, the more solemn time of Lent—which may hint at spring but rarely produces it in full force—can appear to drag by. And so we plan and prepare—for vacations, gardens, or this year's crops, all of which focus on renewal and new life.

We long to be renewed. We get tired of the old and anxiously await the new. For, there's much joy in newness! It's hard, though, to really appreciate the new apart from the old. Without the contrast, the new is just bright and shiny; the old appears dull and drear. But compared one to the other, one can enhance and inform the other.

In the parable of the Prodigal Son, the son longed for the new. He couldn't wait, so he rushed the process, asking for his inheritance early. He then went off to enjoy the new. In the meantime, his father waited.

In the same way, God still waits for us. As we travel toward Easter, we may try to by-pass Good Friday and the cross. In our anxiety to experience the new life represented by the empty tomb, we may skip past the old rugged cross.

But one means nothing without the other! Without the passion and suffering of Christ, there is no redemption and resurrection through him, and unless we suffer and die to ourselves, we cannot be renewed. We need to recognize our need for the forgiveness and grace of the cross in order for the resurrected Christ to have any meaning.

Lent is a time of waiting. It's also a time of returning. We wait for renewal, but our Father waits for us to recognize our need for renewal and return to the Lord.

See you in worship,
Pastor Linda



Time Changes!!!

Spring ahead 1 hour March 14 2AM

Gifts for Ministry (01/31/10)	Income: \$ 11,941	Expenses: \$ 10,310
<i>Preserving for the Future: 100 Years and Beyond</i>	Immediate: \$2,223	Long Term: \$27,265
<i>Because of your generosity we are able to support the ministries at Messiah and in the broader community.</i>		

“To love is to give; to give is to grow”

Sharing the ministries of Stewardship and Hospitality

By now you should have noticed that the house next to the church office has been demolished and hauled away. The house is gone and the concrete floor and footing have been removed. Removal of the garage will be done as weather permits.

Many thanks need to be expressed: to Bob Green, Carl Nelson, Harold Smith, Bob Thuline, Tim Thuline, Wayne Troline, and Jack Engelsen who prepared the house for demolition and helped with cleanup; to Steve Bell, Brent Stewart and Dave Haga, who did the actual demolition and cleanup; to Duane Bell for providing the equipment and manpower to do the work; and to Art Apfel who paid for the tipping fee for disposal of the debris at the landfill.



Several hundred dollars have been added to the ‘parking lot fund’ from the recovery and sale of the aluminum siding, copper pipe, cast iron, and tin, which will bring the total in the fund to nearly \$3500.00. As weather permits, tree removal, stump grinding, grading work and the installation of rock will begin. Hopefully, our parking lot should be completed this summer, making our church a more welcoming place.

Phase two of *Preserving for the Future* will begin as funds allow. The church council recently identified the large stained glass window on the east side of the church as the primary goal of phase two. The church council will begin soliciting bids for the work in the near future. Your support of this project and commitment to honoring your pledges to the *Preserving for the Future* fund is truly appreciated.

A couple of fundraisers are also being planned, the first being a Pancake Breakfast on Saturday, March 13th, from 7-11 a.m. in Luther Hall.

Also, a Spring Clean-up Day has been scheduled for Saturday, March 27th.

Finally, memorial money has been given to pursue the project of making our bathrooms handicapped accessible.

Thanks to Rich Volkert who has been scraping and painting the radiators in the Narthex and Sanctuary. Many thanks to all who contribute in making and keeping our place of worship welcoming and accessible,

Your 2010 Church Council


March has come and it’s time for . . . Spring Cleaning!

Dust off your brooms and mops and grab your rubber gloves to join in Messiah’s spring cleaning! Many hands make work light . . . so mark your calendar for:

March 27, Saturday, 9:00 a.m.



Please come and help us prepare for Palm Sunday, Holy Week, and Easter.

	<p>All are invited to Messiah’s Pancake Breakfast Saturday, March 13th from 7-11 a.m.</p>	<p>Enjoy . . . pancakes, sausage, eggs, juice and coffee for a suggested donation of \$6.00 . . . and at the same time help support our <i>Preserving for the Future</i> fund.</p>	<p>Many helpers will be needed to help cook, serve, and clean-up. Contact Bob Green at 932-3411 if you can help.</p>
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In the Messiah Family

Congratulations!

to Roger and Paula Luft on the birth of their granddaughter, Elyse Salome Eichelberger on February 2. She is a healthy 8 lbs 12.9 ozs and 21 inches long.

Our Heartfelt Sympathies

Our deepest sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Archie (Bob) Olson, who died February 5.

May God comfort those who mourn with the hope of the resurrection.



OUR MISSION: To mobilize women to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ.

Sarah Circle will meet Tuesday, March 2, at 7:00 p.m in Luther Hall; Julie Beeler is hostess. We will continue our study of **A Gardener, Two Travelers and A Cheat.**

WELCA will continue to collect items for **Health Kits** to be sent to LWR to replenish their supply. Thank you to all who have helped "fill the baskets".

Watch for information on a kit-making day or night when we will assemble kits for the WELCA Spring Assembly at Messiah Lutheran on Saturday, April 24th, from 8-1 p.m.

Evangelism

Thank you to all who participated in Game Day February 21. A great time was had by kids and adults!

The Evangelism Committee will meet March 14 at 4:00 p.m. in the Parish House.

Don't' forget to recycle your ink cartridges . . .

This is an ongoing recycling project (box in Luther Hall) which helps to defray office expense.

Christian Nurturing

Sunday, March 7, the Sunday School children will share their faith by singing "Give me Jesus" during worship.

Our Sunday School program, Spark, encourages kids to open their Bibles each week and engage in Scripture! In March children pre-K through 6 grades will continue with the Last Supper and then explore Holy Week and Easter.

Mrs. Luft's Pre-K students, Sarah Kaiser and Cooper Bates, prepared their version of "The Last Supper," complete with invitations, name tags, place cards, plates, napkins, wine glasses, flowers, and, of course, "bread and wine." As you can see by the smiles on their faces, the students thoroughly enjoyed "preparing the table" and "sharing the meal."



NOTE: There is no Sunday School on Easter, April 4.

FIRST COMMUNION CLASSES

Second and third grade students who have not received instruction for Holy Communion are invited to attend class of Wednesday, March 17th, from 3:30-5:30 p.m.

Fourth, fifth, and sixth grade students who have not received instruction are invited to attend class on Wednesday, March 24th, from 3:30-5:30 p.m.

Classes will be held in the sanctuary. Participants will receive First Communion on Palm Sunday. If you are planning to attend the 1st communion classes, please let Pastor Linda know by March 10th.

C. R. E.

Looking for something to get you out of the house and connected with other Lutherans? Then consider attending the **Congregational Resourcing Event** on March 20th from 9:30-3:15 at Kishwaukee College in Malta, IL.

This year's theme is "Becoming a Missional Church," with keynote speaker Dr. Craig Nesson, professor at Wartburg Theological Seminary. Choose from a variety of helpful, informative workshops to attend. Lunch is included in the registration fee.

If interested, contact Pr. Linda or the church office.

In the Messiah Family

Youth & **MISSIONS** — **Combating World Hunger**



Thank you so much for supporting our Youth and the Souper Bowl of Caring!

On Sunday, February 7, the youth of Messiah mobilized to fight hunger and poverty in Galva. \$330.05 was collected through Souper Bowl of Caring for the Galva Food Pantry.

5th Annual Youth Chili Luncheon

THANK YOU! Messiah Lutheran Youth Group hosted their annual chili luncheon on February 21. The Youth Group would like to thank everyone who donated to the chili luncheon and all of those who came to support our luncheon. We had a wonderful turnout and made \$502 of which 10 percent will go to World Hunger. The donations were very generous and we really appreciate all of your support!

Thanks again, Youth Group

Missions Bake Sale

Messiah Missions held a bake sale for World Hunger in conjunction with the Youth Chili Lunch on February 21. Many donated their delicious baked and homemade cakes, cookies, snacks, etc. to the success of this event. Proceeds of \$300.00 will go to fight World Hunger. Many thanks to all who helped make this a success!

Coin Banks



World Hunger coin bank mission will conclude this part of our World Hunger mission on Sunday, March 28. As always, Messiah Missions is glad to receive gifts throughout the year.

It is *truly amazing* to see how much these little boxes hold and to read about the work our offerings do when we combine them with those from people throughout the world.

Pastor's Note

I would like to express my personal thanks to the Youth Group and all who have helped with the chili lunch and world hunger efforts. Your involvement with these ministries is much appreciated!

Pastor Linda

Congregational Life!

Sunday, April 11
CHURCH BASEMENT
LADIES 2:
A SECOND HELPING



Rating: PG

A sequel to the most popular show in Circa '21's history! The year is 1969; and the world is changing. As folks protest the Vietnam war and women are demanding equal pay for equal work, in their small rural Minnesota community, the ladies of the church basement kitchen are dealing with changes of their own. **Church Basement Ladies 2: A Second Helping** takes us from serving the high school students at the Luther League Banquet to a church sponsored Missionary Night and the rise and fall of a Viking's Super Bowl Sunday. From the elderly matriarch of the kitchen to the young mom-to-be, these women find strength in one another. As always, you'll laugh until your side dish hurts with their hilarious antics and down-to-earth charm from within the church kitchen.

Our Congregational Life Committee has reserved 24 tickets for members and guests for the discounted price of \$42.50 each. Doors open at 3:45 p.m.

Contact Evelyn Troline for ticket reservations and additional information. All tickets must be paid for by March 21.

Youth

Youth Group Ice Skating
Sunday, March 21, 2010

At Owen's Center
2218 N. Prospect Road, Peoria

Skating from 3 to 4:45 p.m.

Cost is \$3.75/person (includes skate rental)

Please R.S.V.P. to Nikki Coné
at 932-3030.

BRING YOUR FRIENDS!

We will carpool from the church-time to be announced.

Drivers will be needed

if any youth parents would like to volunteer.



Letters

Dear Friends,

Today marks one month since the earthquake in Haiti. The assessment team for our long-term response has arrived and they report that Lutheran generosity is already making a difference in Haiti.

Because of your generosity and the partnership of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, LWR has again increased our commitment to the people of Haiti. Our pledge of \$4 million to support recovery efforts in Haiti will mean more communities have access to clean water, temporary shelter and food. This additional support will also meet the long-term needs of overwhelmed and underserved rural communities in Haiti.

Nearly 470,000 people have fled to rural areas, with 300,000 going to rural areas north of the capital where LWR has worked for over 14 years. While many aid groups are focusing on emergency food supplies in Port-au-Prince and the surrounding urban areas, far fewer organizations are helping communities affected by the mass migration to already struggling rural areas in the north. LWR is filling this gap by partnering with local organizations to meet immediate and long-term needs.

For all that you have done, and all that you will do, we give thanks to God, who animates our accompaniment of Haitian communities this month and for years to come.

In Christ,

John A. Nunes

President and CEO, Lutheran World Relief

Dear Pastor Linda and Congregation:

Despite the late date, I would like to thank you on behalf of the Galva Ministerial Association for participating in our 2009 Red Kettle Drive. The funds raised through the donations to kettles all over town are now available to Galva Residents in need of assistance in this time of need.

The total collected through the campaign this year was \$2, 438.69. Despite the cold and snowy weather and the difficult economy this total runs just a little behind our 2008 total.

We know through experience that donations go up when someone is standing at the kettle seeking donations. Everyone who helped stand at the kettle did God's work and made an impact on the lives of those who need assistance here in Galva.

Again, thank you for your participation and your concern for the community of Galva.

Your sister in Christ,

Pastor Ann Champion

Campaign Chairperson



PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Messiah Ministries at Work The Power of *Praying for others*



Church & World	Bishops Mark Hanson and Gary Wollersheim; those in leadership positions; the Council and Committee members; Arusha Diocese in Tanzania; Arcot Lutheran Church, India; Randy & Carol Stubbs, All men and women in the Armed Services. <i>Congregations of the SW Conference who are in the call process.</i>
Health Concerns	Audrey Anderson, Gail Anderson, Jean Anderson, Jacob Baumgartner, Steve Bell, Amanda Bricker, Mike Byers, Sr., Virginia Brock, Hope Fuller, Jeanne Harland, Kristine Hemphill, Kalie Hook, Wendy Mass, Jay Morrell, Jacob Mundy, Leann Nash, Tom Nelson, Wendy Nystedt, Glenn Rushing, Evan Schiller, Kirk Stevens, Jared Thompson, Donna Wilkens
Homebound	Audrey Anderson, Lillian Cederberg, Ray Davidson, Darlene Holevoet, Olivia Hultgren, Esther Lindberg

As a Christian courtesy before adding someone to the prayer list, please ask their permission first before submitting their name. You may use the prayer cards in the attendance books and/or call the church office with your requests and updates. Please do not put information on the attendance sheets. **Please contact the church office with updates, 932-3346.**

Calendar of Events for March 2010

Sunday	Mon.	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat.
WORSHIP Saturday 5:30 PM Sunday School 9:00 AM Sunday 10:15 AM Fellowship 11:20 AM	1	2 7PM Sarah Circle	3 8:30 AM Bible Study	4 6:00 PM Lenten Service— First United Methodist 7:15 PM Choir	5	6
7 10:15 AM SS children sing	8	9 7:15 PM Worship/ Music	10 8:30 AM Bible Study 6:30 PM Council	11 6:00 PM Lenten Service— Grace Methodist Church 7:15 PM Choir	12	13 PANCAKE BREAK- FAST 7-11 AM
14 4:00 PM Evangelism Com. 5:00 PM Adult Study	15	16	17 8:30 AM Bible Study Newsletter deadline	18 6:00 PM Lenten Service— St. John's Church 7:15 PM Choir	19	20 CRE
21 tbd —Youth Group Roller Skating Party	22	23	24 8:30 AM Bible Study	25 6:00 PM Lenten Service— Messiah Lutheran	26 10:00 AM Mailers	27 Clean-up Day at Church
28 PALM SUNDAY First Communion	29	30	31		Office Hours: M—F 9AM—Noon Unless otherwise	



Messiah Family Celebrations in March 2010



March Birthdays

1	Barbara Nelson, Erin Rossell, Shailor Webber	19	Roger Carlson, Margaret Robbins, Bradley Werkheiser
2	Greg Peterson, Sally Goodale Rogers	20	Arthur Apfel, Steven Love
3	Alan Corkill, Wayne Troline, Patty Werkheiser	21	Brad Kuster, Knute Larson
4	Lynne Fallor, Kathy Feltes	23	Joe Anderson, Leighton Holt, Emilyann Wexell
5	Matthew Hagerty, Kyle Moore	25	Dale Spiegel
6	Myrna Quanstrom,	26	Chad Larson, Ronald Bell
7	Jeanine Peterson	27	Robert Anderson, Pam Foley, Curtis Appell, Beth Ann Lindberg
10	Kraig Townsend, Dorothy Nelson	28	Richard Bell, Janet Johnson
11	Robyn Gentle, Don Hamerstrand	29	Virginia Brock, Jane Lindquist
15	Jack Engelsen, Collin Landis	30	David Peterson
17	Margo Luymes, Don Philips	31	Jessica Anderson, Dorothy Carlson, Zachariah Cederberg
18	Margaret Appell, Randy Hagerty		

March Anniversaries

23	Scott and Tracy Lindquist	30	Don and Barbara Phillips
24	Jerry and Teresa Byers, Greg and Jeanine Peterson, Chad and Rose Wexell		



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 309/932-3346

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 RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

THE BULLETIN BOARD

- Adult Study (Romans) 5:00 p.m. 3/14
- Church Council Meeting 6:30 p.m., 3/10
- Evangelism Committee 4:00 p.m. 3/14
- Newsletter deadline Noon, 3/17 (Wed.)
 Mailers meet **10:00 a.m., 3/26 (Fri.)**
- Sarah Circle 7:00 p.m. 3/2
- Wed. Bible Study 8:30 a.m. 3/3, 10, 17, 24
- Worship/Music Com. - 7:15 p.m., 3/9
- Youth Group Ice Skating Party 3/21
 (time to meet will be announced later)

March Special Events

3/4 Lenten Service— First United Methodist 6PM
 3/7 Worship-SS Children singing
 3/11 Lenten Service— Grace Methodist Church 6PM
3/13 Pancake Breakfast—Luther Hall
 3/18 Lenten Service— St. John's Church 6PM
 3/21 Youth Ice Skating Party
 3/25 Lenten Service— Messiah Lutheran 6PM
3/27 Spring Clean-up Day at Church
 3/28 Psalm Sunday Worship & First Communion

Server Schedule for March 2010

SATURDAY	3/6	3/13	3/20	3/27
Saturday Accompanist	Debbie Miles	Rose Wexell	Katie Anderson	Ann Larson
SUNDAY	3/7	3/14	3/21	3/28
Flowers	NO	FLOWERS	IN	LENT
Acolytes	Dexter Ingels Emma Wallace	James Hopping David Jeffries	Brennan Foley Rhett Holt	Collin Landis Trevor Melton
Ushers	Collin Landis Mike Landis Matt Miles Mike Miles	Collin Landis Mike Landis Matt Miles Mike Miles	Collin Landis Mike Landis Matt Miles Mike Miles	Collin Landis Mike Landis Matt Miles Mike Miles
Lectors	Julie Beeler	Lynda Anderson	Melissa Bates	Debbie Miles
Communion Assistants w/acolyte	Brian Robbins Sami Robbins	Brian Robbins Sami Robbins	Brian Robbins Sami Robbins	Brian Robbins Sami Robbins
Coffee Hr.- COUNCIL	Evelyn Troline	TBA	TBA	Jack Engelsen