



In this Issue

- Page 1 From the Pastor*
- Page 2 From the Elders*
Pastoral Acts
- Page 3 From the Congregation President*
- Page 4 Within Messiah*
- Page 5 Family Ministry*
LWML
- Page 6 Preschool*
- Page 7 Birthdays & Anniversaries*
- Page 8 Calendar*



From the Pastor

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

April begins April 1, the day after Easter Sunday. With April fools being April 1 fortunately, for us, the joke is not on us but on the devil. The devil thought he won with the crucifixion of Jesus but through the cross and the empty tomb sin, death, and the devil has been defeated. Through Christ we have the forgiveness of sins and the promise of life everlasting. Everything that happened throughout the season of Lent was intended to prepare our hearts and minds for the celebration of our Lord's Resurrection on Easter Sunday. And now we are in the Easter season where we continue to hear that – **He is Risen! He is Risen indeed! Alleluia!** Our faith rests on the fact that although we are sinful, we are forgiven and assured of everlasting life through Christ's death on Good Friday, and His resurrection on Easter Sunday.

Easter is the story of life – spiritual life now and eternal life with Jesus in heaven. It is comforting to know that we may not have all of the answers, but God does. Our life here in this world will always be plagued with uncertainties and fears. God will be with us here in this world and forever in heaven.

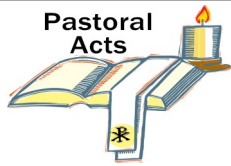
If Easter is the story of life how can that resurrection life be lived out in our world today. The ministries that we have at Messiah need to convey the Good News of forgiveness and life eternal won for us by Jesus Christ. May we always remember that in the midst of all that we have going on in our lives and in our church, Easter is the story of life, and we want to share that life with everyone. We all have a Savior who loves us and promises to always be with us. Let us never lose sight of the importance that the resurrection has on our lives now and on our lives forevermore. Let us also continue to seek ways to share our excitement with others. We live in a world where many people are feeling lost and alienated. They see no purpose in life and have no hope for the future. There are many things that we can do about that. Invite family members, neighbors, and friends to the services and events that our congregation provides whether in person or online. Let us open our eyes to opportunities to share the love of Jesus with others. Think about how we can build and nurture relationships with other people – especially with people who need to hear and see the love of Jesus. The hope that we have is too special to keep to ourselves.

May God bless you and your family as together we rejoice in our Risen Lord and Savior. **He is Risen, He is Risen indeed.** And He is alive within you and me. In Jesus' name.

Pastor Allen Stuckwisch

Upcoming Events

April 14 Messiah Book Club
April 16 Messiah OWLS meet
April 24 Fidget Mats workshop at Zion Lutheran
April 27 CPR training class
April 28 LWML zone meeting at Amazing Grace
May 5 One Service—Voters' Meeting
May 31/June 1 Church Rummage Sale
June 24-28 Vacation Bible School



Our prayers and sympathies to the family and friends of **Anne Nolan** (died February 27, 2024). The funeral service was held at Messiah on March 9, 2024.



Clifton Clef Music

Music at Messiah:

*The Clifton-Clef Music Club will meet at
Messiah on*

Tuesday, April 2 at 1:00 p.m.

*Come hear a program
featuring
piano and voice music..*

Join us for a concert and dessert



From the Elders

Inward Reflection Outward Action

As we emerge from the season of Lent and bask in the radiance of Easter's dawn, let us take a moment to reflect inwardly on the profound significance of Christ's resurrection. In the light of this glorious event, let us examine how we have responded to the call of our Lord in our lives.

If we pause to consider honestly, we will find instances where our actions faltered, where the flame of our faith flickered amidst life's trials. Where we did not do the good we should have, where we took the easy road. Yet, take heart for even in our frailty, we are cradled in the tender embrace of divine grace. Even in our imperfection, we are not abandoned; we are not without hope.

The resurrection of Jesus brings us the incredible message of redemption: we are not condemned by our mistakes or omissions. Christ, in his boundless love, has interceded on our behalf. He has paid the debt we could never repay.

So, as we enter the Easter Season, let us fully embrace the gift of redemption bestowed upon us by Christ. Let us demonstrate His love to all those around us—our neighbors, our families, our friends—through our words and deeds.

Let us heed the words of Ephesians 4:32: ***"Be kind and tenderhearted to one another, forgiving each other just as in Christ, God forgave you."***

Let us strive to be imitators of God, as beloved children, walking in love as Christ loved us and offered Himself for us as a fragrant sacrificial offering to God (Ephesians 5:1-2).

With Easter blessings, The Elders





From the Congregation President

He is risen! Alleluia! This is the best time of year, in my humble opinion. We celebrate the victory of our Lord. Long term warm weather is just around the corner. Flowers are starting to bloom. Beauty is all around. Take it in. Depending on when this is printed, we either have the Easter breakfast coming up on 3/31, or we already had it on 3/31. If you're seeing this before Easter morning, come join us between services for the youth lead breakfast. There will be pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs, casseroles, fruits, pastries and probably some other stuff that I'm forgetting. If you're seeing this after Easter morning, thank you for coming out and supporting the youth!

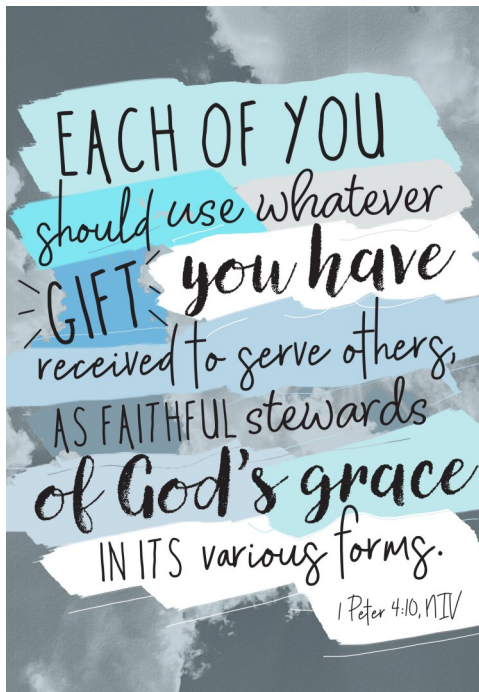
April 27th at 9am, there will be an **CPR training**, free to the congregation. The only caveat is that **you MUST sign up** beforehand. It will last approximately 2.5 hours. The sign-up sheet is in the Narthex.



Our **May voters' meeting** will be on **May 5th**, following worship. The agenda will be available in a few weeks. All members 18+ are encouraged to attend.

We have several upcoming fellowship events. Be on the lookout for more information on those, as their dates get closer.

Blessings,
Shawn Horner





Book Club will meet on Sunday, April 14 at 2:30 p.m. at the home of **Bunny Doebling**, 88 Julep Lane, Greenhills to discuss "A Million Reasons Why" by Cincinnati author **Jessica Strawser**. When two strangers are linked by a mail-in DNA test, it's an answered prayer—that is, for one half sister. For the other, it will dismantle everything she knows to be true. Should be a lively discussion. Extra copies of the book will be in the church office.

OWLS will finally get to hear about the **Clooney Sisters** from Museum Center presenter **Ken Rawlings** on Tuesday, April 16 at 12:30 p.m.. A singer will be there to entertain us with some of the songs we know and love. Dessert and coffee will be provided, so please come and bring a friend. It will be a great presentation.



Blanket Brigade – We have 4 large bags of finished baby blankets, bibs and small kimonos for still born babies to give to University Hospital. **Many, many thanks** to the following ladies for stepping up this year: **Becky Coffey, Barb Degenhardt, Carol Morison, De Stuckwisch, and Jan Johnson** (pre-school director).

Tri-County SOUL Ministries – Thanks to **Bev Roppel** for joining the team this past month. **Becky Coffey** has also joined the Messiah group, working both in the clothing department with **Lora Budke** and as a shopper with clients as well. **Joan Rieger, Sandy Walter, Jean Floyd and April Gottula** also help with grocery shopping. **Bunny Doebling** is the treasurer as well as desk captain several days a week. Please continue to bring salad dressing (any size any brand) as well as your empty grocery bags to the cart in the narthex. Donations are much appreciated, thanks in advance!



Thanks to everyone who helped out at the recent work day. We got a lot of important projects completed as we prepared out facility for the spring and summer coming up. Specific thanks to **Jerry and Shelly Rice, Frank Floyd, Randy Gross, Sharon Schmetzer, Chris, Karen, Silas, and Jonah Berndt, Chuck and Barb Degenhardt, Carole Baldwin, Rick Rutz, Randy Green, John Michael, Tim Wolford, Joan Rieger, Becky Coffee, and Julie Mayer, Larry and Jackie Bird**. If you could not attend but would still like to help see **Rick Walter**.

Music—March brought many opportunities to participate in Messiah's music ministry as we observed Lent and Holy Week. We heard a variety of soloists and ensembles. Thank you to all who shared their talents.

I am scheduling music for the Voluntary for April and May including the Saturday services and Sundays at 8:30. If you would like to play or sing, either in an ensemble or as a soloist, please contact **Cathy Carson**. Interested in playing handbells? Let Cathy know.
cathycarson82@gmail.com 513-824-1241



College - Student - Round-up: Messiah would like to send a small package to your college student. Please let the church office know a name & current address.

MUSIC RECITAL Messiah member, **Diane Magill**, will host flute and piano recitals with her colleague, **Mary Rekers**, on April 26 and 27. Students ranging from age four all the way through adult will perform short selections of classical and popular music. Feel free to join us for one or more of these times:

Friday, April 26 7:00 PM Saturday, April 27 10:00 AM Saturday, April 27 12:00 Noon





From Family Ministry

Sunday School-

Children and youth meet together every Sunday for music and other activities. Some Sundays, we divide into two groups and our teachers lead students in age appropriate activities. During March, we explored the Gospels, talked about the church year, practiced learning the books of the Bible, and learned about St. Patrick.

Vacation BibleSchool

JOIN THE FUN

June 24-28, 9-Noon



Registration for volunteers and participants **April 15**.
Contact **Cathy Carson**
cathycarson82@gmail.com
513-824-1241



Outreach Ministry

March 13th we served 92 meals to the homeless at **Prince of Peace Lutheran Church** in Over-the-Rhine. **Joan Rieger** made Johnny Marzzeti Pasta and **Sandy Walter** made homemade brownies. **Chuck and Barb Degenhardt, Rick and Mark Walrer, Joan Rieger and Jim Worachek** served the meal, We were assisted serving the meals by **8 students on spring break from Iowa State University**

2024 Outreach Calendar

Mar 19	Primary Election - Snacks & Poll Worker Lunch
May	Greenhills Coop Preschool Teacher Appreciation Lunch
Jun 12	Prince of Peace Dinner
Jun 28	VBS Closing Cookout
July 17	Prince of Peace Cookout Dinner
Aug 6	Special Election - Snacks & Poll Worker Lunch
Sept	Greenhills Coop Preschool Meet the Teacher Night
Sept 11	Prince of Peace Dinner
Oct	Greenhills HarvestFest
Oct 19	Messiah Oktoberfest Community Meal
Oct 23	Prince of Peace Oktoberfest Style Dinner
Nov 5	General Election - Snacks & Poll Worker Lunch
Nov 20	Prince of Peace Pre-Thanksgiving Dinner
Dec	Greenhills Light-up the Commons
Dec 11	Prince of Peace Dinner



Prince of Peace Dinner and Election Photos



LUTHERAN WOMEN!

Help make FIDGET MATS* for local Memory Care Centers

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

1175 Birney Lane, Cincinnati, OH 45230

April 24, 2024 (Wed.) 10:00 - 1:00



Fidget mats engage and calm people with dementia and/or Alzheimer's Disease by giving them something to do with their hands. They have been shown to be very therapeutic. Mats will be donated to local care centers in cooperation with the Cincinnati Alzheimer's Association.

- Bring your creativity, ideas, and friendship. Sewing machines will be available but ability to sew not necessary. Others are willing to sew your created ideas to the fidget mat.
- The mats, as well as notions, ribbons, buttons, zippers, beads, trim, anything that can be washed and sewn on the mat, will be furnished. Donations of items you may have around the house and no longer want are always welcome.
- If you have a sewing machine you would like to bring, please contact Dorothy.

Volunteers who sewed baby blankets

We would like to celebrate your efforts in sewing 500 blankets this year and offer quilters the opportunity to select from more than 800 flannel remnants averaging 4x30 inches in size

LUNCH WILL BE SERVED

Questions: Email Deb Cropp debcropp1952@gmail.com (Fidget Mats)
or Dorothy Surdick surdjj@zoomtown.com (baby blankets and sewing machines)



Missions In Motion

Spring is just around the corner — **it is time for Cincinnati Zone's annual Mission in Motion.**
Where: **Amazing Grace Lutheran**, 9961 New Haven Rd, Harrison, Oh 45030 on **April 28th from 2pm-4pm**

Speakers: **Pastor Ritchie** will be doing the devotion and giving a brief talk on his "tent ministry" and then we will hear about the work of Leja Bulela from **Jacky Kalubi**. In short, Leja Bulela provides dignity to girls in the Democratic Republic of the Congo as they enter puberty.

We will be doing an ingathering for Leja Bulela. See the poster on the narthex bulletin board for details on needed items.

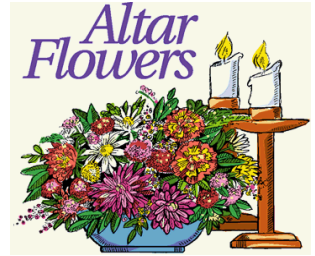
All are welcome to come and be a part of this outreach mission.



3 Madge Mueller
 3 Ken Schuesler
 5 Randy Schuerman
 6 Jonah Berndt
 6 Coral Horner
 6 Sharon Schmetzer
 7 Grace Judd
 10 Jared Beckman
 10 Shelley Rice
 13 Barb Degenhardt
 13 Joan Ramahi
 13 Courtney Weikert
 14 Carlyn Swisher
 18 Nicholas Michael
 20 Lucy Wilhelm
 21 Matthew Floyd
 22 Beverly Roppel
 23 Mark Walter
 24 Heather Rutz
 25 Bunny Doebling
 27 Sandie Wunnenberg
 30 Addison Edelstein
 30 Cassie McFadden
 30 Chelsea Todd



5 Neil and Beth Hopper
 12 Jerry and Shelley Rice
 20 Scott and Tammie Schuesler
 25 Gregory and Lois Braun
 26 Charlie and Stephanie Neffle



Altar Flowers

The following families have signed
 up for April
Rice and Hiler

Please remit your payment of **\$40**
 to

**"MESSIAH
 ALTAR
 SOCIETY"**

and place in the
 Altar Society mailbox
 in the church office.

Thank You!

The flowers must be paid for
 before the order is placed



MESSIAH'S 2024 RUMMAGE SALE

Messiah's Rummage Sale is coming
 on May 31st and June 1st.
 You may begin bringing your items
 after April 2nd.

No clothes, baby equipment or TV's are wanted.

*Reminder - clothing can be donated to TCSM or
 Matthew 25 (box in parking lot).

Messenger Deadline for the May
 issue is

April 15.

Send articles to clherron1@gmail.com

April 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 7:30pm Band and Vocals	3 10:15am Ladies' Bible Study	4	5	6 8:00am Men's Prayer Breakfast 9:00am Elders 5:30pm Traditional Communion Service
7 8:30am Traditional Communion Worship Service 9:30am Education Hour 10:45am Contemporary Communion Service	8	9 7:30pm Band and Vocals	10 10:15am Ladies' Bible Study	11	12	13 9:00am Leadership Board 5:30pm Traditional Communion Service
14 8:30am Traditional Communion Worship Service 9:30am Education Hour 10:45am Contemporary Communion Service 2#0pm Book Club	15	16 12:39pm OWLS 7:30pm Band and Vocals	17 10:15am Ladies' Bible Study	18	19	20 5:30pm Traditional Communion Service
21 8:30am Traditional Communion Worship Service 9:30am Education Hour 10:45am Contemporary Communion Service	22	23 7:30pm Band and Vocals	24 10:00am Fidget Mats at Zion Lutheran 10:15am Ladies' Bible Study	25	26	27 9:00am CPR Class 5:30pm Traditional Communion Service
28 8:30am Traditional Communion Worship Service 9:30am Education Hour 10:45am Contemporary Communion Service 2:00pm LWML= Missions in Motion Amazing Grace Lutheran	29	30 7:30pm Band and Vocals				