

# The Messiah Messenger

Newsletter of

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE MESSIAH

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Website: [www.messiahlutheranlewistonny.org](http://www.messiahlutheranlewistonny.org)

**Sunday Worship Service: 9:15AM Sunday School: 10:30AM Adult Bible Study: 10:45AM**

Messiah Pre-K School: Ms. Sue Ann Ross, Director Phone (716) 754-7755 or 754-8570

Carla's Latchkey Learning Center – 807-7711, Carla Fasso

Sunday School Superintendent – Terry Walck Kindermusik – Amy Teal 628-3454

**MARCH 2009 - #55**

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## FROM YOUR PASTOR

### A LOOK AT LENT

The season of Lent is a time when we prepare our hearts, minds and souls for the sacred observances of Christ's death on Good Friday and his resurrection on Easter. In Lent, we recognize we are simply dust and ashes without Christ, we confess our sins to God, and we follow Christ to the cross, where we are made whole again. In the early Church, the six weeks of Lent were a time of training and instruction for converts to Christianity who were preparing to be baptized on Easter. The English word "Lent" is derived from the Germanic root for "long," because Lent occurs in spring, when the days lengthen.

**Forty Days.** Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday. Sundays are excluded from the counting of the 40 days because they still remain "little Easters" even during this solemn season. The number 40 is significant because, at the start of his ministry, Jesus spent 40 days fasting, praying and resisting temptation, as we are called to do during Lent.

**Three Disciplines.** Traditionally these three disciplines are associated with Lent:

**Fasting.** Skipping a meal once a week or refraining from eating certain foods affords us the opportunity to spend more time feeding on the Word of God and being spiritually nourished through prayer and meditation.

**Abstinence.** Removing a particular bad habit, sinful indulgence or guilty pleasure from our daily routine frees us to engage in activities that are God-pleasing and reflects in a small way the self-sacrifice that Christ endured for us.

**Aimsgiving.** Giving something extra during this time – to our church, to the poor and needy among us, to charities or other service organizations – is a way to remember that Christ gave up everything to

save us from sin, death, and the devil and to free us to live a new life in him.

**One Focus.** Our focus during Lent is solely on the cross of Christ. For it was on the cross that the sinless Son of God suffered and died for us that we might be fully forgiven and live forever with him in heaven. Reading Scripture verses about the events leading up to Christ's crucifixion and putting a cross in a prominent place where we can see it often keep our focus strong.

### Ashes, Ashes

On Ash Wednesday, worship leaders place a cross of ashes on our foreheads as a visible reminder that we are dust and to dust we shall return. (See Genesis 3:19.) "For all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God," Scripture says. (Romans 3:23). But though we have all fallen down because of our sins, we shall be lifted up one day to heaven, because Christ was lifted up for us on the cross.

### Pondering the Passion

The word "Passion" in the context of Lent does not refer to intense romantic love, but to the sufferings of Christ from the night of the Last Supper to His death on Good Friday. Scriptural accounts of these last days in Christ's life are called Passion narratives. Make an effort to read some portion of one of the Passion narratives (listed below) each day of Lent. Then spend five to ten minutes simply pondering the words you have just read.

Matthew 26:14 – 27:66

Mark 14:1 – 15:47

Luke 22:14 – 23:56

John 18:1 – 19:42

### Songs of the Season

The words of the hymns of the season of Lent are rich with imagery that stirs our spirits with new understanding of Christ's sacrifice for us. And

the music of many of these hymns creates a somber yet reverent atmosphere in which to commune with Christ. Sing or simply read the words of these Lent hymns as part of your regular devotions. Here is some background information on some of the most well known Lent hymns.

**When I survey the Wondrous Cross.** Written by Isaac Watts in 1707, this hymn was one of the first "hymns of human composure, "because it was based only on personal feelings, not on the repetition of a Psalm.

**O Sacred Head, Now Wounded.** Attributed to Bernard of Clairvaux, this hymn was part of a lengthy poem that addressed the various parts of Christ's body as he suffered on the cross. Other sections of the poem reflected on his feet, knees, hands, side, breast, heart and face.

**Abide With Me.** Henry F. Lyte, an Anglican pastor, wrote this hymn shortly before dying of tuberculosis. His inspiration for the hymn came from the King James Version of Luke 24, where the risen Jesus walks with the two disciples on the road to Emmaus. "Abide with us," the disciples say to Jesus, just before he makes himself known to them (v.29).

In Peace  
Pastor Mason

### UPCOMING SERVICES

**Tuesday, March 3,**

6:00 PM – Potluck Supper – Italy  
7:00 PM – Lenten Service

**Tuesday, March 10,**

6:00 PM – Potluck Supper – U.S.A.  
7:00 PM – Lenten Service

**Tuesday, March 17, Corned Beef**

6:00 PM – Potluck Supper - Ireland  
7:00 PM – Lenten Service

**Tuesday, March 24,**

6:00 PM – Potluck Supper - Mexico  
7:00 PM – Lenten Service

**Tuesday, March 31,**

6:00 PM - Potluck Supper - Poland  
7:00 PM – Lenten Service

**Sunday, April 5** – Distribution of Palms

**Thursday, April 9 – Maundy Thursday**

6:00 PM – Observance of Christ's Pascha

7:00 PM – Worship Service HOLY COMMUNION

**Friday, April 10 – Good Friday**

Noon – 2:00 PM – Quiet Time

2:00 PM – Litany/Bidding Prayer

**Saturday, April 11 – Holy Saturday**

5:00 PM – Easter Eve Service Re-adornment of Altar, Blessing of Easter Baskets

**Sunday, April 12 – Easter Sunday**

6:30 AM - Ecumenical Sunrise Service Fort Niagara

8:00 AM – Worship Service-Holy Communion

9:00 AM – Easter Breakfast

10:00 AM – Worship Service-Holy Communion

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS

March 1 Breakfast to support world hunger  
11:30 Worship & Music Meeting

March 23 Council Meeting

March 29 1:00PM Spring Fling Luncheon and Fashion Show

### CONGREGATIONAL CONCERNS

**Olaf Erickson** fell and broke his wrist.

**Tillie Mason** fell and broke her foot.

**Jerry Walck & Terry Walck** both underwent cataract surgery.

**Sharon Wittkopp** is in the hospital recovering from knee replacement surgery.

**Andy Zucco** is home from a stay in the hospital.

### HOW WE ARE DOING!

*January 2009*

Planned Income	\$17,390.00
Total Receipts	14,352.10
Planned Budget Expenses	\$17,390.00
Actual Expenses	16,884.39

Barb Bunce, Treasurer

## THANK YOU NOTES

Dear Messiah:

*Thank you for the lovely flowers and your prayers during my recent confinement.*

My recovery is slow but nevertheless quite positive so I should be back with you soon.

Thanks again.

Jack Morgan

## PRE-K CORNER

We are having a "wonder-full" month of February learning about LOVE and caring and sharing!

We were 'practicing' our lesson that 'nobody likes to be left out'...and we don't ever want to 'leave someone out'. For our Valentine's Party we gave a card and candy to every student. We used heart shapes in many projects. Several 'collages' were exciting free art expression. Bubble painting was fun too.

Our Presidents, 'never telling a lie', history of our country, Betsy Ross, and Washington, D.C. have now been studied. It is amazing and amusing what a 4 year old will retain!!!

We already have inquiries about our program for September 2009. Please spread the word for anyone interested to phone for an application and to visit our school.

Ms. Sue Ann Ross and Mrs. Lisa Landers

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Happy Anniversary to those celebrating the date of their marriage in March

03-04-78	Larry & Lorene Near
03-12-05	Hayden & Melissa Mathieson
03-14-08	Ted & Barb Bunce
03-30-84	Terry & Jeanette Collesano

## CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Georgia Buerger  
450 East Lane Left  
Lewiston, N.Y.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Happy Birthday to those celebrating their birthday in March

03-03 Patricia Nashwinter  
03-03 Stephanie Myers  
03-03 Kyle Nablo  
03-05 Richard Amantia  
03-06 Pastor Tom Mason  
03-11 Glenn Carroll  
03-12 Sabrina Colburn  
03-12 Abigail Curcione  
03-12 Andrew Curcione  
03-12 Samantha Shumaker  
03-14 Fannie Supple  
03-15 Ashley Proietti  
03-16 Judith Ann Spira  
03-19 Jennifer Stachowski  
03-21 Melanie Krajewski  
03-21 Jackie Sutherland  
03-22 Joan Waterstrat  
03-23 Hailey Guard  
03-23 Alesha Lymburner  
03-24 Autumn Ashley  
03-24 Jeffrey Perry  
03-24 Julie Smithson  
03-26 Christine Maddalena  
03-26 Natalie Payne  
03-26 Randy Bennion  
03-26 Betty Zucco  
03-27 Terry Collesano  
03-27 Michael Hanrahan  
03-27 Lynn Waterstrat  
03-28 Donna West  
03-29 Matthew Buerger  
03-29 Gretchen Morgan  
03-29 Stephen Perri  
03-30 Kenneth Ashley  
03-30 Christopher Guard  
03-30 Gloria Montondo  
03-31 Ed DeVantier

## OUR SYMPATHY

Our sincere sympathy to those who lost loved ones recently.

**Fremont C. Ferchen**, brother-in-law of Ralph (Joan) DeVantier, passed away on Jan. 25.

**Isabel B. Helfrich**, charter member of Messiah passed away on Feb. 9.

**Suzanne T. Shafer Koepsell**, daughter of Roy and Patricia Shafer, passed away on Jan. 30.

**EASTER PARADE  
Fashion Show & Luncheon**

**Sunday, March 29 1:00 PM**

**Lutheran Church of the Messiah**

Donation \$15.00

Fashions by Dress Barn  
50/50 Split Basket Raffle  
Wear a hat and receive a free raffle ticket

Anyone interested in volunteering please contact  
Kathy Harold, Chairperson at 754-4584

**CONGRATULATIONS**

**Brandie Lord** gave birth to a baby girl, Isabella, on Wednesday, February 18, 2009. Both Mom and baby are doing well.

**DATES AVAILABLE FOR ALTAR FLOWERS**

March 8, 15	August 2
April 5, 26	October 11
May 17, 31	November 8
June 28	December 6, 20, 27
July 12, 19	

**EASTER LILIES**

Please assist us in beautifying our Sanctuary at Easter by subscribing to our Easter Lily Program. \$6.00 per plant. Envelopes are in the pews and must be in no later than April 5th. You may take your plant(s) home after the later service on Easter morning.

**CONFIRMATION FOR CONTEMPORARY LIVING**

10:30 AM ALL ARE WELCOME

03-01-09 New Testament Study – The Lord's Prayer  
03-08-09 "Inside the Church" – Guest Lecturer Paul Schmidt  
03-15-09 New Testament Study – The Last Supper  
03-22-09 The Sacraments – Guest Lecturer – Judy Condino  
03-29-09 New Testament Study-"Christ and the Cross"

**F.Y.I.**

Lenten Devotional Booklets are on the table in the narthex. Please use the coin cards in the narthex and/or use the Lenten envelopes provided in your box of offering envelopes.

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Cell Phone Numbers went Public. All cell phone numbers are being released to telemarketing companies and you will start to receive sales calls. You will be charged for these calls. To prevent this, call the following number from your cell phone 888-382-1222. It is the National DO NOT CALL LIST. It blocks your number for 5 years. You must call from the cell phone number you want to have blocked.

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Should anyone have any manual typewriter ribbons that you would like to get rid of, I would be most appreciative to receive them.

Paul Schmidt.

We are accepting food items for the Easter Baskets to be given out Holy Week. If anyone knows of someone who may need one, please see Pastor Mason. Please place your food items in the basket in the narthex.

**WE ARE PRAYING FOR**

**Those who are ill or shut in:**

Ralph & Vivian Austin, Sandy Person Butte, Martin Darmstedter, Audrey DiMatties, Terry Garner, Gordon C. Gladden, Mary Hartman, Thomas Hill, Fran Horning, Lynne Jensen, Mary & Clifford Joell, Bob & Shirley Knowles, Savilla Kress Jr., Josh Maddox, Jerry Nashwinter, Craig Peterson, Michelle Reeler, Donald David Shulenburg, Robin Stevens, Ethel Thomas, Rosemary Thompson, Doris Volk, Winifred Walton, Alma Watkinson, Carol Wegener, Sharon Wittkopp, Laurie Yaw, Andy Zucco

**Those who are caregivers**

**Those who serve our country:**

Airman Jim Bane, Carol & Rene Cevaer, Sgt. Tanya Bills, Lt. Cdr. James Condino, Lt. Joseph Condino, CWO Randy Evans, Lt. Daniel Gusich, S. Sgt. Joseph Jones, Michael Lammerts, Sgt. Ben Lord, MM3 Jeremy Lymburner, Pvt. Jonathon Serianni, S. Sgt. Bailey Sutherland, S. Sgt. Ty Sutherland, Sr. Airman Mark R. Tupper, Pam Waller, T. Sgt. Melody Yates

**Chaplains from Upstate New York Synod:**

Greg Hager, Curt Heydt, Dan Nagle, Jean Vargo



## **MESSIAH'S BULLETIN BOARD**

### **ATTORNEY – GENERAL PRACTICE**

George S. Adamson, Esq., 777 Cayuga St., Suite #4, Lewiston, N.Y., Phone: 754-7954 [gsadamson@verizon.net](mailto:gsadamson@verizon.net). Estate Planning/Elder Law, Probate and Estate Administration, and Real Estate Closings.

### **BABBSCO CARSTAR COLLISION**

Quality Collision Repair and Refinishing. 5-year nationwide warranty. Free estimates. 8624 Niagara Falls Blvd., Niagara Falls, N.Y. 297-9451. Mike Duckett.

### **CARLA'S LATCHKEY LEARNING CENTER**

New York State licensed Latchkey program accepting children before and after school ages 5 to 12. Lutheran Church of the Messiah, Lewiston. Call Carla Fasso 807-7711

### **CONSTRUCTION – LANDERS & SON**

Owned by Robert Landers, 4641 Model City Road, Model City. Phone 754-2352. Bulldozing, sewer lines, water lines, septic systems, septic tanks cleaned. Free estimates.

### **DESIGN, PUBLISHING, ADVERTISING, ELECTRONIC MEDIA**

More than 25 years experience in print advertising and design; electronic media; Web design and implementation; editing and proofreading; and magazine, book, and newsletter design and publication. Also Macintosh computer troubleshooting and repair. We're in Youngstown. Visit [www.ljsquared.com](http://www.ljsquared.com) or contact Kristin or Lloyd Lathrop at [ljathrop@ljsquared.com](mailto:ljathrop@ljsquared.com) or by phone at (716) 531-9075.

### **FINANCIAL SERVICES**

Colin L. Smith, 4698 N. 5th St., Lewiston. Phone 565-3013 or 888-806-0733. Financial Planning.

### **HONEY FOR SALE**

See Bruce Smithson at Messiah

### **HEARING AIDS AND AUDIOLOGICAL SERVICES**

Jill G. Mazur – The Hearing Aid Center, 549 Fourth Street, Niagara Falls, NY, 14302 Phone 282-4130

### **HAIRDRESSER**

Janice Montie-Wayland, 1248 Cain Road, Youngstown, N.Y. 14174. Phone: home 745-7969, cell 695-8384.

**LONG TERM HEALTH CARE AND LIFE INSURANCE** – Dave Stevens, 779 Scovell Drive, Lewiston, N.Y. Phone 754-4734

### **MPI MANAGING PROFIT IMPROVEMENT**

Owned by Bill Faetz, 2424 Michigan Ave., Niagara Falls, N.Y. 14305. Phone 297-2935. Computerized tax & accounting service, business plans, financing, counseling.

### **MUFFLERMAN**

Wholesale prices ... mufflers, pipes, shocks, brake service. No appointment necessary. 2517 Military Road, Niagara Falls, N.Y. 297-6611. Gary Balcom – Manager.

### **OLDE TIME BARBER SHOP**

Luxury At Its Best, Stylish Haircuts, 478 Center St., Lewiston, N.Y. Terry & Chris Collesano. Phone: 754-2505.

### **PAYNE'S CARPET OUTLET**

Family owned and operated-free estimates. Jonathon Payne – Vice-President. 2406 Military Road, Niagara Falls, N.Y. Phone 298-0455 Fax 298-0457.

### **PRE-K at MESSIAH**

Outstanding learning program for 3 – 4 year olds. Classes Monday, Wednesday & Friday. Ms. Sue Ann Ross, Director and Teacher, Mrs. Lisa Landers, Assistant Teacher. Phone 754-7755 or 754-8570

### **RED CROSS CERTIFIED BABY SITTER**

Please call Amanda Buerger at 754-1429.

### **RETIREMENT, EDUCATIONAL & ESTATE PLANNING** – Peter

D. Spira, CFP, Financial Advisor with UBS Financial Services, Inc., Buffalo, N.Y. Phone 716-849-3813 or 1-800-537-7398. [www.UBS.COM/FA/PETERSPIRA](http://www.UBS.COM/FA/PETERSPIRA).

### **RON'S PLACE FOR HAIR**

Family Hair Care, 2910 Pine Avenue, Niagara Falls, N.Y. Ron and Jean Muckley. Phone 284-2072.

## MARCH LAY MINISTRY

	<u>ACOLYTES</u>	<u>ASSISTING DEACONS</u>	<u>COMMUNION DEACONS</u>
March 1	Abby Nashwinter Samantha Shumaker	George Spira	Joan Spira
March 8	Mackennah Fellure Allison Brock	George Adamson	
March 15	Alexandra Westadt Tiffany Montie	Peggy Harold	Lee Nassoiy
March 22	Rosie Spira Matthew Spira	Linda Schilk	
March 29	Michael Tamul Julie Smithson	Bruce Smithson	

USHERS –

GREETERS –

LECTOR – George Spira

COUNTERS –

ALTAR GUILD – Linda Schilk

**The Mission of the Lutheran Church of the Messiah is to proclaim our faith to Jesus Christ  
by daily witness through prayer, service and thanksgiving.**

***Next newsletter deadline: Sunday, March 15, 2009***