

JANUARY 2020 Newsletter

Messiah Lutheran Church

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2019 Council

Executive & Finance: Cheryl Bauer Hyde
Merv Bender
Jean Meyers

Caring Ministry & Community Service: Jean Meyers
Lois Manchur

Education Ministry: Merv Bender
Jean Meyers

Property Management Ministry: Dick Honch
Darren Sundbo

Worship Ministry: Colleen Bowen
Donna Meyers

Our Mission Statement:

“Through the hearing and sharing of God’s Word, we, as a worshipping community, encourage a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. In faith, we reach out with Christ-like caring for the community and the world in which we live.”

Jesus said, ¹²This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.” John 15:12-13

**OFFICE HOURS HAVE CHANGED:
TUESDAY – FRIDAY
10:00 A.M. 4:00 P.M.**

**January 18 – January 25, 2020
Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**



**Messiah is hosting this year’s
Week of Prayer for Christian Unity service on
Wednesday, January 22nd, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.**

The Central Lutheran Broadcast was first aired in 1956 and is the longest running radio broadcast by a single organization. The faithful listeners and supporters now see this ministry in its 63rd year. It can be heard each Sunday morning on CHAB 800 AM at 7:45am on the radio, or on cable and satellite providers. Our website is www.centrallutheranmj.com. There you can see our congregation happenings and listen to past radio services.

Our mailing address is Central Lutheran Church, 27 Hochelaga St. West, Moose Jaw, SK, S6H 2E9. Our phone number is 306-694-5575. And, if you happen to be in the area on a Sunday, our worship services are at 10:00am, in the heart of downtown Moose Jaw.

Hope-filled New Year's Resolutions

by Pastor Fran

Tell me, what is it you plan to do with your one wild and precious life?

- From "[The Summer Day](#)" by Mary Oliver

Happy New Year! Yes, it is another new year. And another opportunity to set resolutions, to make changes, or to let go of unhealthy habits. Do you make new year's resolutions? More importantly, like many memes on Facebook remind us: for how long will you keep those resolutions? No judgement. It is a question for reflection. As Christians, I might suggest that we do not have need of making these resolutions each year because we can do this each and every day. Luther wrote that we can begin every day anew, as we cross ourselves and are reminded of God's promises in our baptism in Christ Jesus. It is a new beginning!

This is a hopeful and hope-filled way to begin each day: to be reminded that God journeys with us; that God brings about change and transformation in us; and that by our baptism in Jesus Christ, God's promises are for now, and forever. In baptismal waters and throughout our lives, we are reminded that we are God's precious children. We walk wet in the world with these promises as a hope and guide, as a ground for all we say and do. We are empowered, sustained, and nurtured in those promises and each day begins anew.

So, setting those resolutions aside (because I know they work for some people), it is part of a poem from Mary Oliver that rattles around in my head while considering that each day we begin anew, affirmed by baptismal promises. Oliver's question speaks to me of intention rather than resolution. It speaks to me of a daily walk, a daily journey rather than a resolution that is so easily broken in short order year after year.

What are you going to do with your wild and precious life? Who do you want to be? To what and to whom will you give energy? What parts of your life fill your cup and give you and us, as the body of Christ, life and wholeness? What will, or what can, our consistent, persistent, determined efforts be as individuals and as a congregation so that we are clear in who we are as followers of Christ so that all will know the height and depth of God's love and grace for all?

May these questions be a starting point to guide our discerning as we look to a new year of ministry together in Jesus' name, trusting in God's baptismal promises and God's loving guidance in the journey.

O Holy God, we thank you for your promises given to us by our baptism into Christ Jesus our Lord. We thank you that each day is an opportunity to begin again and follow where you are leading. Give us wisdom in discerning your will, and the strength to carry that out, for we ask it in Jesus' name. Amen.



Messiah Church Council

Council Update – January 2020

Colossians 3:15:

"Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful."

As we begin the new year, peace throughout the world seems an elusive thing. Christ calls us to peace within our church body and the broader faith community. Each of us in many small ways can help to build peace at home, within our church family, and in our communities. Let us be examples of peace and harmony, and let that peace spread. It all starts by letting Christ rule in our hearts, and that is our prayer as we embark on a new year and decade.

'And be thankful'; we have much for which to be thankful. During Advent and Christmas, the congregation gave thanks in many ways – trees, memorial messages, candles, singing, music, kettle ringing, contributions of clothes, books and household items, financial gifts, and worship. Thanks to all who contributed and helped in any way, or, if you were able, by simply being present. You are a gift from God, and for that we give thanks.

New Year's blessings,

Messiah Church Council

Caring Ministry

The Caring Ministry and Community Services Team will meet January 29, 2020. If you indicated that you would like to be a part of this team we will be in contact with you. We are still looking for people who may be interested in being a part of a Care Team that will do visitations on behalf of the church. If you are interested please let Lois Manchur or Jean Meyers know.

"Thank You" to all who have made donations to our collection boxes for Children's Haven, Women's Shelter, and YWCA.

Lois Manchur and Jean Meyers

On behalf of the Caring Ministry and Community Service Team

The Men's Group

The Men's Group will meet at Chicken Chef at 9am on Saturday, January 25th, 2020. (If there is a change in date or time, Merv will be in contact with you.)

If you are needing more information, please contact Merv Bender at merv.bender@sasktel.net.

Messiah Lutheran Women

ML Women Annual General Meeting: January 19th following worship service – Peace Chapel.

NAOMI CIRCLE – meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month in the Peace Chapel at 7:00 p.m. This year we are studying the 12 Women of the Bible.

FAITH CIRCLE – meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month in the Peace Chapel at 1:30 p.m.

For January, Faith Circle will be have a potluck lunch. Bring a little something to the table!

Sunday School - January

During the month of December the Sunday School children have donated toward a **'Gift from the Heart', Tiny Hearts**, a CLWR (Canadian Lutheran World Relief) program. Donations were collected and we will keep you posted as to what was purchased.

Sunday School teachers are needed! If you can spare a Sunday, please contact Jean Meyers or the office.

Calling ALL youth!

February 9th we'll have Youth Service and we're looking for your ideas, input, and energy. In preparation, we'll have **two meetings after service on Sunday, January 26 and Sunday, February 2** (grab food from potluck lunch on this Sunday). All youth are invited to attend these meetings, parents can stay if they wish.

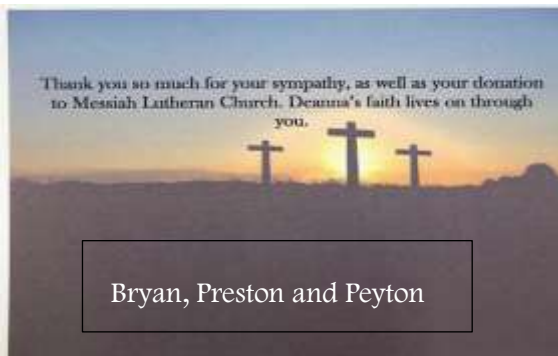
**H2H Confirmation resumes on
Sunday, February 9th at 6:45pm – 8:30 p.m.
Mark it on your calendar!**

Moment of Prayer - 12:15 pm.
We meet each Tuesday in the Peace Chapel.



Baby News

- ♥Born to Erin & Tim Nyborg is son, Finn Kaldor Nyborg (great-grandson to Victor & Signe Johnson, grandparents are Shannon and Bob Johnson). Finn was born on December 17, 2019.
- ♥We also welcome Karina Lynn Stolee, daughter to Kristi & Ian Stolee. Karina was born on January 4, 2020. Congratulations to parents, siblings and grandparents on your new arrival.
- ♥Congratulations to great-grandparents Millie & Wilf Litzenberger on the arrival of Kinley Charlene Weinert. Kinley was born on January 6, 2020 and proud parents are Craig & Veronica Weinert from Stettler, AB.



Thank You

GET A WEEKEND AWAY AT THE YOUNG ADULT'S RETREAT!

Join us for the Young Adult's Retreat January 17-19 and get a weekend of fellowship, relaxation, fun, and learning about God! With chapel messages by Pastor George Hind, the retreat will be the refreshing weekend you need after the holidays! Cost is \$55/person. The retreat is open to those out of high school and older. Visit [our website](#) to register now, or [email Faith](#) for more information! found website www.kinasao.ca, or emailing out the attached image and job posting to your congregation.



2020 Registration is now open!

Summer 2020 registration is now open! Visit our website to choose your program and register now! Join us this summer as we celebrate Kinasao's 80th year of ministry and learn about how God is Faithful Forever. Information and register now at <http://www.kinasao.ca/camp-kinasao/weekend-retreats>, or by emailing faith@kinasao.ca Faith VerBruggen, Program Director.

TOGETHER AND DISTINCT: THE FUTURE OF THE SASKATOON THEOLOGICAL UNION

The schools of the Saskatoon Theological Union are pleased to share the joyful news that we will be locating together in a single building on the University of Saskatchewan campus, beginning in the summer of 2020.

The College of Emmanuel & St. Chad (Anglican Church of Canada); Lutheran Theological Seminary, Saskatoon (Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada); and St. Andrew's College (United Church of Canada) will occupy adjacent portions of the current St. Andrew's College facility, on College Drive beside the hospital and medical complex.

At present, Emmanuel & St. Chad (ESC) and Lutheran Theological Seminary (LTS) are in a large building owned by LTS, at the northwest corner of the university campus, at a distance from their St. Andrew's partners and from academic portions of the campus.

The move will enable ESC, LTS, and SAC to cooperate more closely. More shared classes are likely. We envision greater interaction among faculty, staff, and students, both formally and informally. Greater resource-sharing will be possible. Together, we will be stronger and more efficient.

The three library collections will be physically unified in the SAC library area, while remaining distinct in the records. Currently, we share a library director, but the ESC and SAC collections are in separate portions of the SAC library facility while the LTS collection is in the LTS building. Combining our libraries will increase access to the books, enabling students from all STU schools to find volumes on a single set of shelves. Service and efficiency will also improve, with the library director serving fewer locations and, therefore, more available to students.

No decision has yet been made about the future of the existing LTS buildings, which are owned by LTS and located on land leased from the University of Saskatchewan.

The college communities are excited by the prospect of sharing space, convinced that God's mission is drawing us into fresh partnership, and ready to discern how this new opportunity will enable us to respond to God's call.

- News Release from Lutheran Theological Seminary