



# Messiah's Messenger

## Messiah Lutheran Church

2026 22nd Avenue—Kenosha, Wisconsin

Church (262)551-8182  
Christ Lutheran Academy (262)697-6044  
www.messiahkenosha.org  
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Parsonage (262)551-0944  
Pastor's cell phone (262) 455-0255  
Email: info@messiahkenosha.org  
July/August 2013

## Freedom's Source

**B**eloved in Christ,  
There are so many ways in which we are blessed here at Messiah! We are called by God's grace and mercy to hear His Word preached, to be absolved of our sins for the sake of our dear Lord Jesus Christ, to eat and drink the true Body and Blood of our Lord, once crucified upon the cross for the sins of the world, and often distributed through this mystery of the Eucharist to those who by faith confess His saving name. We are called sons and daughters of the Almighty God, maker of heaven and earth, not because we have earned or merited the right and title, but solely by the grace and mercy of God, who put on our flesh, lived a perfect life, died for our sins and rose again for our justification. All of these great gifts are given freely and ONLY by God Almighty.

Because of His loving-kindness to us, we are freed from sin, death and the devil. It is only God who may free us in such a way. And yet, it is this time of year that we as a nation look to the freedoms we value so highly, freedoms that have been fought for and protected by many brave men and women over the years. Freedoms that need continuous protection, but ultimately, as our great nation has al-

ways declared, freedoms that come from our creator.

We do well to remember in our churches the sacrifices made to preserve and protect these great freedoms, most importantly the first freedom guaranteed in the Bill of Rights in the First Amendment to the Constitution. We are free to worship in our country freely, without any compulsion or intrusion by the government or anyone else. We are free to come to this sanctuary, to hear the Word preached rightly, in accordance with our Lutheran understandings, we are free to bring our babies to the font to receive the washing of rebirth and renewal of the Holy Spirit, we are free to kneel at the altar and boldly confess with Scripture and the blessed Apostles of old the true Body of Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ given for the forgiveness of sins. All of these freedoms have been protected by men, but ultimately are never given by men. It is for this reason that any national flag is not at the altar, in the holiest place of our Church, but rightly at the entrance to our sanctuary. This by no means denigrates or mocks the great cost of protecting our God-given freedom, but serves as an important reminder to all who come and go that we may do so without

harassment, without persecution because of brave men and women who have given so much to protect the First Freedom upon which our great country has stood for so many years.

As you come and go in the house of the Lord your God, look to the flag by the door and give thanks for all that has been sacrificed that you may receive from God's loving hands His blessings. For while God alone may call us to His holy altar, while God alone feeds us with His Word and Sacraments in all times and places, He has blessed our land with a love for independence and freedom and He has raised up brave men and women who have fought and died that our doors may stay open to all who would enter. May God ever continue to bless our native land with His grace and mercy, May He ever raise up protectors of the freedoms He readily gives! And may we ever be found eager to receive all He gives, through Jesus Christ our Lord!

Blessed indeed is the nation whose God is the Lord!

Pastor Roemke

# Commending to God what is His

**A**s we discussed in Adult Bible Class a few weeks ago, the Church has a certain language and way of dealing with the heartbreak and grief of sickness, death and dying. The last newsletter talked about the Church's way of addressing the sick and infirm, but what does the Church do at the deathbed? The rite for the Commendation of the Dying is beautiful in that, in its very name, it reminds us who is in control. We commend, that is give over, to God all things, all joys, all sorrows, even the sorrow of death. For it is God alone who has the power to give or take away life, and in Christ He even has taken the power to give and take away death.

## The Rite in Detail

The rubrics, or instructions, given before the rite tell us: *When a member of the Church is near death, the pastor **should** be called as soon as possible.* (emphasis mine). Note that the pastor **should** be called. I don't care what time of the day or night it may happen, I don't care where you are, I don't care if you are angry with God or me, I want to be there and I **should** be there! Why? Because I am God's called and ordained servant of the Word for you, and at death's bed if there is one thing you need more than all others, it is God's Word, even Jesus Christ our Lord.

As with most liturgies of the Church, our loving and holy Tri-

une God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, is called upon with the words of the Invocation. Again, even at death's door, we are called to remember the promise of life, salvation and the forgiveness of sins fulfilled upon the cross of Calvary and given in the waters of Baptism. After the invocation is the Salutation, another poignant reminder of God's abiding presence with us, even in the face of death.

Thus, reminded and assured of God's presence, we offer up our prayers, as dear children call upon their dear Father: Lord God, heavenly Father, look with favor upon Your child, *name*, forgive him all his sins, and comfort him with the promise of resurrection to life everlasting... You see what is done in the prayer? We are not given pious sounding, but empty words. We are not comforted by the unknown or half-truth. The dying and grieving are comforted by the forgiveness of sins and the promise of the resurrection and life everlasting. The Christian does not go into death blindly or with uncertainty, but boldly following the Good Shepherd, even through the valley of the shadow of death.

If possible, the dying may then confess his or her sins, knowing that they will be forgiven freely for the sake of Christ Jesus our Lord. The Word of God has promised to absolve our sins, and it will accomplish what it is tasked

with. The dying is then washed in the balm of the Word as the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm is read, prayers, more of God's Word and the peace it accomplishes.

The Creed is confessed after the Word has been heard. Here in the Creed, whether or not the dying are able to hear or confess it, we take strength in the communion of saints, knowing that our dear brothers and sisters who have died in the faith are not dead, but awaiting with all creation the new heavens and the new earth. After the Creed, as the communion of saints, more prayers are offered for the dying in the Litany for the Dying. The Litany again and again puts the prayer on our lips "Lord, have mercy!" For what else can we cling to in the hour of death but the tender mercy of God?

Just as in Baptism, so at the time of death, the pastor places his hands on the dying Christian and all pray the prayer our Lord taught us, trusting that our Father will hear us for the sake of His Son, by whom we have been made sons and daughters of God.

*Continued on page 7*

Kenosha / Racine Area

# Lutheran Confessions Study

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## WHAT?

An informal reading group for the purpose of studying and discussing the Book of Concord, the Lutheran Confessions

## WHEN?

The third Saturday of the month beginning May 18 at 9:30 am

## WHERE?

Messiah Lutheran Church  
2026 22nd Ave. Kenosha, Wisconsin

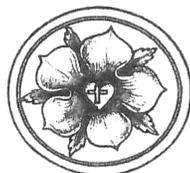
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The reading group begins with Matins at 9:30 and then study of the Confessions until noon.

You are invited to join us for lunch at a local eatery after the study.

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Please bring a copy of the Book of Concord, preferably *“Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions, A Reader’s Edition of the Book of Concord”* available at: [www.cph.org](http://www.cph.org) or [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)



# CHRIST LUTHERAN ACADEMY

The final month of school was a whirlwind for the students and teachers at Christ Lutheran Academy.

The last days of school are always filled with fun and this year was no exception. There was a frigid whole school field trip to Bong State Park and laughter and music during the Fine Arts Program and Music Recital. There was strategizing for the all-school kickball game and fantasizing about the deliciousness of the family picnic. There were countdowns, hymn sings, final projects, and the ritual of desk cleaning (or excavation in the case of some students).

This year also ended with a touch of sadness as well as celebration. This year Christ Lutheran Academy had three graduates: Josh Christiansen, Chris Hughes, and Nicholas Tauschek. Although their humor, height, and handiness will be missed, we are certain about their success as they enter high school.



## CHRIST LUTHERAN ACADEMY

### NOW ENROLLING FOR 2013-2014

Education alone cannot prepare children for the future. It is only through our walk with God that we are able to meet the challenges of life.

If your current school is not meeting the needs of your **WHOLE** child: intellectual, emotional, social, physical, *and* spiritual, consider enrolling in

### **Christ Lutheran Academy.**

We have openings Pre-K 3 through 8th grade. Contact Debi Tauschek, headmaster, to schedule a tour or form more information. (262)697-6044 or [headmaster@christlutheranacademy.com](mailto:headmaster@christlutheranacademy.com)

## A Fun Kickoff to Summer!

Top right clockwise. The three last day of school kickball game, end of year picnic, and 2nd Annual Lamb of God/Messiah Lutheran church softball game.

### Mark Your Calendars:

**Even if you do not have students in CLA, there are plenty of opportunities for you to become involved with the school and school family.**

**July 13th: Harbor Market information booth. Help the community know about our hidden gem of a school!**

**July 19th: Ravinia Night fundraiser, an evening of music and fellowship at the Scholz's**

**August 10th: Harbor Market Information booth**

**September 8th: Opening Service**

**September 14th: Golf and Gala at Maplecrest CC**

## Commending to God what is His (continued)

Finally, the dying Christian is commended to God: *Name*, go in peace. May God the Father, who created you, may God the + Son, who redeemed and saved you by His blood, may God the Holy Spirit, who sanctified you in the water of Holy Baptism, receive you into the company of saints and angels to await the resurrection and live in the light of His glory forevermore. Amen.

The Nunc Dimittis is spoken or sung, and the dying Christian and those who grieve are reminded of the mystical union of Christ's Church at the altar of our Lord. Finally, the hymn is sung: *Lord, let at last Thine angels come, To Abr'ham's bosom bear me home, That I may die unfearing; And in its narrow chamber keep My body safe in peaceful sleep Until Thy reappearing. And then from death awaken me, That these mine eyes with joy may see, O Son of God, Thy glorious face, My Savior and my fount of grace. Lord Jesus Christ, My prayer attend, My*

*prayer attend, And I will praise Thee without end.*

The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.  
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and + give you peace. Amen.

Thus, the dying Christian, through the liturgy of the Church in the Commendation of the Dying, has heard nothing but God's Word for them. What a wonderful way to be commended to Him who holds us all in His loving hands?



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## Church Picnic



**T**he Church Picnic is scheduled for Sunday, July 21st, following the church service. If you are interested in helping organize the event, please talk to Allison Stephans.

We will also need people to help set up the tent and tables the day before, Saturday, July 20th. We will set up around 3:00. Please let Allison know if you can help out on that day.

You can contact her at 262-305-4336, [astephans22@gmail.com](mailto:astephans22@gmail.com), or leave a message on the church's answering machine.

# July 2013

July 2013							August 2013						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Jun 30</b> 9:00am 10:15am Divine Service	<b>Jul 1</b> 7:00pm 8:00pm Youth Group (Lamb of God)	<b>2</b> 6:00pm 7:00pm Parish Planning 7:00pm 8:00pm Spiritual Life (Messiah Lutheran Church)	<b>3</b> 9:00am 10:00am Women's Bible Study Meeting	<b>4</b> Independence Day 6:30pm 7:30pm Midweek Divine Service	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> Isaiah Isaiah Isaiah
<b>7</b> 9:00am 10:15am Divine Service	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> 9:00am 10:15am Divine Service	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Ruth Ruth Ruth	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 6:30pm 7:30pm Midweek Divine Service	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Elijah Elijah Elijah Elijah 9:30am 12:00pm Luthe 12:00pm 1:00pm Optio
<b>21</b> Ezekiel Ezekiel Ezekiel Ezekiel 9:00am 10:15am Divine 10:30am 2:00pm CHUR	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 6:30pm 7:30pm Midweek Divine Service	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> Johann Sebastian Bach Johann Sebastian Bach Johann Sebastian Bach Johann Sebastian Bach 9:00am 10:15am Divine Service	<b>29</b> Mary, Martha, and Lazá Mary, Martha, and Lazá Mary, Martha, and Lazá Mary, Martha, and Lazá	<b>30</b> Robert Barnes, Confess Robert Barnes, Confess Robert Barnes, Confess Robert Barnes, Confess	<b>31</b> Joseph of Arimathea Joseph of Arimathea Joseph of Arimathea Joseph of Arimathea	<b>Aug 1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Jul 28 - Aug 3</b>	<b>Jul 21 - 27</b>	<b>Jul 14 - 20</b>	<b>Jul 7 - 13</b>	<b>Jun 30 - Jul 6</b>		

# August 2013

September 2013

Su	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Mo	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Tu	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
We	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Th	29	30	31				
Fr							
Sa							

August 2013

Su	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Jul 28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>Aug 1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
				6:30pm 7:30pm Midweek Divine Service		Joanna, Mary of Cleopas Joanna, Mary of Cleopas Joanna, Mary of Cleopas Joanna, Mary of Cleopas
<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
9:00am 10:15am Divine Service				6:30pm 7:30pm Midweek Divine Service		Lawrence, Deacon and
<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
9:00am 10:15am Divine Service			9:00am 10:00am Women's Bible Study Meeting	6:30pm 7:30pm Midweek Divine Service	Isaac	Johann Gerhard, Theologian 9:30am 12:00pm Lutheran Confessions Study 12:00pm 1:00pm Option lunch after st
<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
9:00am 10:15am Divine Service	Bernard of Clairvaux, H	Samuel		6:30pm 7:30pm Midweek Divine Service		
<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>
9:00am 10:15am Divine Service	Monica, Mother of Aug		Augustine of Hippo, Pa	6:30pm 7:30pm Midweek Divine Service		

Jul 28 - Aug 3

Aug 4 - 10

Aug 11 - 17

Aug 18 - 24

Aug 25 - 31

# Upcoming Events at Messiah



Mon. July 1st	Youth Group at LOG	7:00 p.m.
Tues. July 9th	Parish Planning	6:00 p.m.
	Spiritual Life	7:15 p.m.
Sat. July 20th	Lutheran Confessional Group	9:30 a.m.
	Set up for Church Picnic	3:00 p.m.
Sun. July 21st	Church Picnic	10:30 a.m.
Sat. Aug. 17th	Lutheran Confessional Group	9:30 a.m.

Summer Midweek services are every Thursday evening at 6:30 p.m., except for July 4th.



## Messiah Lutheran Church

Christ Lutheran Academy  
2026 22nd Ave., Kenosha, WI 53140