



Messiah's Messenger

Messiah Lutheran Church

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April 2011

Kept in Christ: Sermon for Hilma Maddern

By Pastor Todd A. Peperkorn, STM

Family and friends of Hilma, both those who are here and those who are unable to be here, grace to you and peace from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ. Our text for today is from the Gospel Lesson just read from Psalm 121 verse 8, **The Lord will keep, your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forevermore.**

Hilma Irene Maddern nee Waldros was born on October 7, 1922 and was baptized on November 7 of that same year. She was married at the tender age of sixteen on November 24, 1938 to her dear husband, Clayton. They are blessed with four children. Hilma was confirmed in the at Zion Lutheran church in what is now Ironwood, Wisconsin on March 28, 1937. She died in Christ on March 17 in the year of our Lord 2011, where she awaits the resurrection of all flesh.

Blessed are the dead who die in this Lord from this time forth

and even forevermore.

It is nearly impossible to evaluate the life of someone eighty eight years old, who was married at sixteen, and lived to see sixty eight years of married life. They raised four children, one of whom, Marlayne, was her special child who suffered from Down's Syndrome until her untimely death in 2006, just a few short weeks after her husband, Clayton, died in Christ as well.

How would one describe Hilma? I suppose there are lots of words we could use. Words like charismatic or dedicated. Cheerful or faithful. I think I would use the word motherly. I'm sure each of you have your own descriptions.

It is also important to recognize that her life was not all roses and knitting. Taking care of her family was work, as any family knows. She could get discouraged and frustrated, even angry sometimes. Hilma was certainly a sinner, as are we all.

So what made things make sense for her? How did she survive the good times and bad, the lifetime of experiences that make up her story? The answer lies in her Baptism. Eighty Eight years ago she was baptized into Christ. When that happened, everything changed for Hilma. She was adopted into another family, a family far more wondrous than anything here on earth.

We prayed in Psalm 121 about a journey. Originally the Psalm was a traveling song. It was a song that the children of Israel would sing when they were to begin a journey. The song tells the story of how the first thing the Israelites would do is lift up their eyes and see that the beginning and end of the journey was in God.

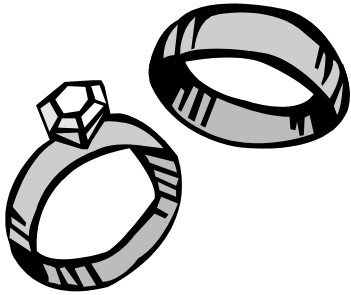
God is the one who would not leave her alone on these many travels. He does not sleep. He is her keeper. He is the one who kept her safe in so many trials

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Events/ Volunteers

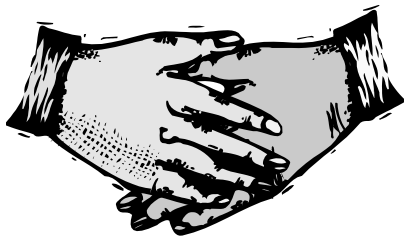
Wedding Anniversaries

- 4/19 Bill & Doris Colombe
- 4/27 Chuck & Anita Brothers



Ushers

- 4/3 Chuck Leisten & Mike Snodgrass
- 4/10 Keith & Jacob Kentala
- 4/17 Roger Jeschke & Mark Varvil
- 4/24 Tyler & Austin Nehls



Greeters

- 4/3 Gail Kulbacki
- 4/10 Mary Siebert
- 4/17 Mary Rusch
- 4/24 Toni Marshman

Birthdays

- 4/1 Hope Kentala
- 4/4 Ryan Stephans
- 4/5 Chuck Leisten
- 4/8 Jacob Kentala
- 4/10 Jacqueline Tauschek
- 4/11 Debra Snodgrass
- 4/12 Rick Zuehls
- 4/15 Marilyn Dissen
- 4/16 Bob Hagerman
- 4/22 Sam Braya
- 4/24 Becky Noble
- 4/29 Brandon Cleereman



Elders

- 4/3 Don Moe
- 4/6
- 4/10
- 4/13
- 4/17
- 4/21
- 4/22
- 4/24



Baptisms

- 4/1 Gail Kulbacki, Lynda Koch, & John Scholz
- 4/5 Tyler Schmidt
- 4/8 Allison Stephans
- 4/12 Olivia DelFrate
- 4/13 Doris Colombe
- 4/14 Jeff Zuehls
- 4/15 Carrie Messersmith & Thomas Kochman
- 4/17 Chuck Leisten
- 4/18 Michael Brothers



Altar Guild

- Gail Kulbacki
- Kathy Capriotti
- Sarah & Katy Billings



Flower chart

- 4/3 Donna Primuth
- 4/10 Kentala family
- 4/17 Palms
- 4/24 Easter Lilies

The Snodgrass Family

By Kris Kochman

St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Union Grove was the home church for Mike and Debbie (Colombe) Snodgrass, before they moved to Kenosha and joined Messiah Lutheran Church. They are life long members of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod, and have been members at Messiah for about 23 years.

The couple was married in 1981 at St. Paul's and older son Mark, 26, was baptized there. Retired Pastor Ted Gundlach baptized son Eric, 23, at Messiah. Both sons were confirmed at Messiah and Eric was Pastor Todd Peperkorn's first confirmation – a class of one pupil.

Debbie's parents are Messiah members Doris and Bill Colombe, who moved to this congregation about five years ago. Mike's parents, Ray and Marilyn Snodgrass, are still members at St. Paul's. Ray

was president of the St. Paul's congregation for more than 40 years.

The ties to the home church remain strong, the Snodgrasses said. Thursday morning Bible study at St. Paul's is a longstanding tradition for Debbie and her mother.

But they have embraced their move to Messiah by getting involved with many church activities. Debbie has played the piano for choir for many years and ran the Vacation Bible School for two years and also taught Bible school. She is employed as a nurse in the G.I. lab at Kenosha Hospital.

Mike has served in a variety of church offices, including financial secretary, recording secretary, vice president and president (for the past four years.) He has served on the board of elders for seven years and is the current president of the Little Lambs Learning Center

board. Mike works in materials purchasing at Avalon Rail, Inc. in West Allis.

Mike said he has enjoyed his involvement with the Little Lambs

board, as the childcare center has moved through some changes --- which have been beneficial to the church, he said.

"Little Lambs, from what it was three years ago, has done almost a 180 degree turn," he said. "I think we're back on track to where we thought it should be: to a Christian pre-school. We kind of lost our way."

He credited the leadership of Messiah members, including Stephanie Zuehls and current director Mary Jo Jiter with turning the center around.

"The curriculum itself has gotten a lot better. It's not a daycare; it's a preschool. We have a very good set of teachers that are dedicated. I am very, very pleased with how that has turned out both spiritually and financially."

Mike said he would like to see

This article is the fourth in a series that Messiah member Kris Kochman will be writing for our anniversary year. Our goal behind this series is to hear the stories of members young and old, so that we may learn more of who we are, and how that will shape how we are to move forward.

Looking Back to Look Forward



Eric's baptism, 1988

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the church school, Christ Lutheran Academy, continue to grow as well.

“It’s a growing environment. We have the room to grow and expand,” he said.

While Messiah has some good facilities, keeping the funds to maintain them will continue to be a challenge, he acknowledged.

Debbie said she would like to see a return to the adult fellowship that was part of church life, including potluck dinners, dances and card games. She said there seems to be

some interest in moving in that direction again.

Mike said he has good memories of playing sports on church baseball and volleyball leagues with Pastor Gundlach.

“Pastor Gundlach was a sports nut,” he said. “He always had a volleyball team in the church league.”

There were fall and spring leagues, which included co-ed teams. Mike said he especially enjoyed playing on church teams with his son, Mark, in the 1980s and 90s.

“It was always fun. (Pastor Gundlach) was such a competitor. He

would get so mad at himself when he made an error. He loved to play, but he wasn’t the fastest guy on the field. He’d run to first and I’d



Mike & Debbie’s picture from the directory

tell him to take the plow off,” Mike said.

“When I first got here, one of first questions Pastor Gundlach asked me was if I played sports,” Mike recalled. “It was competitive but fun. He always had a smile on his face.”

“There used to be tons of trophies on top of the mailboxes.”



Debbie, Eric, Mark, and Mike

Social Welfare Collections for 2011

The social welfare committee is continuing to take collections this year to donate to area shelters. Each month we will be collecting different items to donate. Donations can be dropped off in the designated area in the fellowship hall. The monthly donations are listed here, and will be listed in the bulletin as well. If you have any questions, or would like to help, please contact Kelly Pederson at 553-9035.

- April:** Liquid laundry detergent & liquid hand soap
- May:** Socks & slippers of all sizes
- June:** Hand towels, bath towels, & washcloths
- July:** Foot powder & deodorant (for men & women)
- August:** School supplies
- September:** Pajamas for women & children of all sizes
- October:** Spaghetti sauce, noodles, cereal, oatmeal & peanut butter
- Nov./Dec.:** Christmas gifts

(Continued from page 1)

and tribulations. Every step of her life, God was there. Beginning, middle and end.

I was blessed to speak communicate with Pastor LaPlant, who has served Hilma since she moved up to Minnesota several years ago. So I know that God was still with her, blessing her, giving Hilma His own Son's body and blood for the forgiveness of sins. Pastor LaPlant told me, "Every time she heard the Gospel lesson she would respond, 'Oh - that is beautiful.'" I can hear her saying it even now. The Gospel is beautiful.

And dear friends, Hilma is now reunited with our Lord, and with Clayton, with Marlayne, with her parents and brothers and sisters and everyone who has gone before us and died in the faith. And there will come a time when she will hear the voice of Her Savior again. He will say to her, "Come, dear sister and daughter, come and rise up." And all of the dead in Christ will rise again. Perhaps Job put it best so long ago when he wrote,

For I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last he will stand upon the earth. And after my skin has been thus destroyed, yet in my flesh I shall see God, whom I shall

see for myself, and my eyes shall behold, and not another.

My heart faints within me!

Job 19:25-27

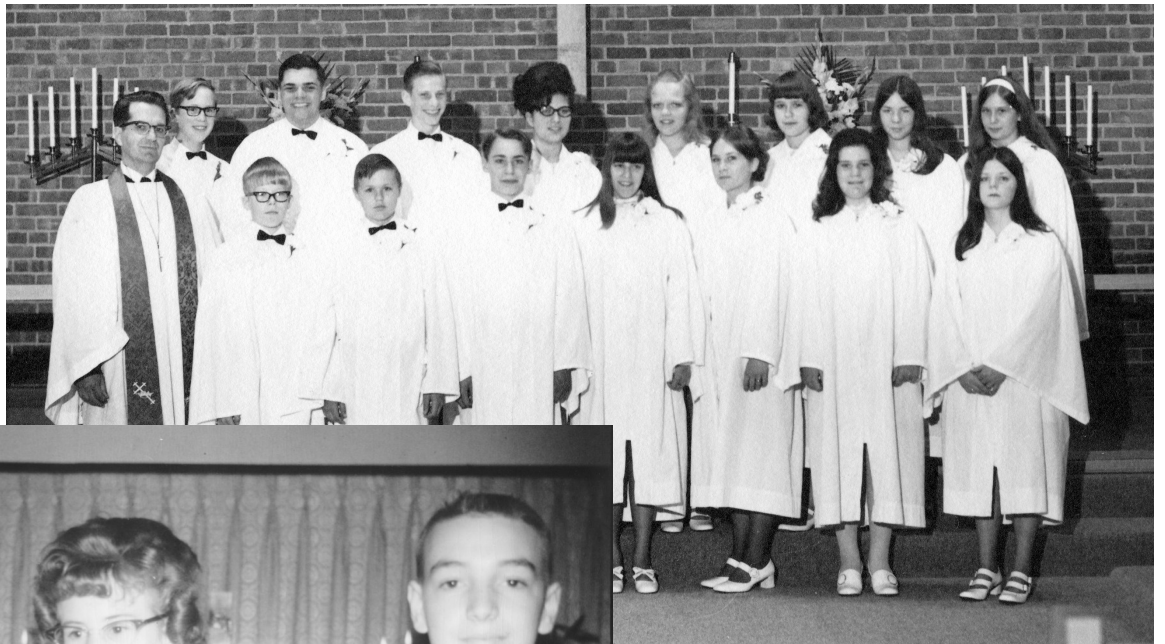
The day is coming, beloved, when Christ will come again. Until that time, we weep at losing Hilma. She has been our companion and friend and mother and grandmother for many years. But we weep with hope. Because Christ is risen from the dead, Hilma will rise as well. It is okay. Jesus Himself wept at the death of His friend, Lazarus. But weep with hope. Your weeping will come to an end. This world will be left behind. There will be joy and rest that only He can give us.

So rest well, Hilma. Rest until we are reunited again with Him in heaven. Rest well, until we rise again with you.

In the name of Jesus. Amen.



Confirmation Classes in Years Past



April Themes:

April 4th—8th: Farm Animals

April 11th—15th: Butterflies & Insects

April 18th—22nd: Easter

April 25th—29th: April Showers, Bring May Flowers



News for Ewes

Little Lambs Learning Center



Register Now for Fall!

Are you looking for a preschool for your 3-5 year old child, or for before or aftercare for your CLA student? If so please set up an appointment with Mary Jo Jiter, the director of Little

Lambs Learning Center. She would be happy to set up a tour to share more about the programs that Little Lambs offers for Kindergarten Readiness, Preschool and before and aftercare for preschoolers and CLA students. Call 262-551-8167 or email llc@messiahkenosha.org



At the beginning of March we had a blast reading the many classics of Dr. Seuss. We made the traditional green eggs and ham, decorated socks like the ones worn by Fox in Sox, and found that many of us have personalities much like Gertrude McFuzz and Yertle the Turtle.



One of the “Yummiest” units of the year was in March when we learned about the food pyramid and nutrition. The children made creative salads, tried new foods, and created their own muffin by adding their favorite mix-ins.



We have been talking about the weather...during the month of March everywhere you go people are talking about the weather, here at Little Lambs we are not an exception. We talked about rain, mud, and rainbows, and got a little messy in the process while pudding painting and m playing with “clean” mud.



April Center Updates:

- **Early Registration Discount!** If you register for fall by June 1st, 2011 you will receive a 25% discount off your child’s registration fee. Registration is first come, first serve. Packets are available in the classroom or in the directors office.
- **Registration for our summer session is now open.** This summer we will be running an early childhood program for children Preschool – 3rd grade. We will be open at 6:30 AM for before care and our program will run from 8:00—11:30 AM. We will provide aftercare until noon. The summer session will continue to have a structured program with weekly thematic learning units. Just like our school year policy, children can enroll two, three, four, or five morning sessions. Call Mrs. Jiter for additional details or to pick up a registration packet. Summer session hours begin Tuesday, May 31st.
- **Good Friday:** Little Lambs Learning Center will be closing at Noon on Good Friday.
- **Kindergarten Readiness Program:** There will be no Kindergarten Readiness Program on Tuesday, April 26th. LLLC will be open for preschool and extended care on Monday the 25th and Tuesday the 26th even though many area schools are closed for the Easter break.
- **Spring Fundraiser:** Information will be passed out in April for a spring fundraiser. This fundraiser will help us to offset the cost of a bus to take us to the Racine Zoo in May.
- **Singing Invitation:** The Little Lambs preschool children have been invited to sing on Sunday, April 10th here at Messiah Lutheran Church for the 9:00 AM Divine Service.



Update on Pastor Ted Gundlach

So many of you have asked so often for updates on my dad. Here is a summary, up to the latest news, but please realize how things change from day to day and sometimes from hour to hour.

Some time in December, he started having issues with swallowing. This progressed to the point where he needed a feeding tube, which was put in on January 27. After several weeks of trying to determine the cause of this problem, and then hopefully find a solution to it, his team of doctors determined that the culprit was Parkinson's Disease (PD). He was diagnosed with PD around 3 1/2 years ago and had experienced little progression of the disease, but the way that this presented itself was atypical and they needed to do a lot of other testing to rule out other causes. Meanwhile, he started experiencing other problems: slurred speech, confusion, balance issues, loss of strength, increased and thickened mucus production and, because of the mucus and swallowing problems, pneumonia. Over the past several weeks, he's been in and out of Mt. Sinai hospital and under the care of a great PD specialist, Dr. Leo.

Dr. Leo has been trying to get just the right combination of PD medications to address the problems. Of course, every drug contributes side effects to the equation, so this is basically a tightrope sort of situation. Thinking that they had a good dosage of medications and that rehabilitation would offer the best chance for improvement, they released him to the Lutheran Home in Wauwatosa last Friday (3/25). There, they did an evaluation and set up a schedule for occupational, physical and

speech therapy to begin yesterday (that is, Monday, 3/28). Over the weekend, we were frustrated by the care he received there, and at his first physical therapy session in the morning, he passed out and was taken to the ER at Mt. Sinai. He has pneumonia again and was admitted to the hospital yesterday afternoon.

Dr. Leo examined and met with Dad, then talked to my mom, Jon and me, and then again to the 4 of us about his condition. Almost all of Dad's energy is being spent on breathing, complicating the question of therapy. Dr. Leo recommended a tracheostomy, basically a hole in the throat that will relieve the breathing and allow for better clearing of the mucus problem. Dad has agreed to have this surgery, and we expect it to be done either today or later this week. He will be unable to speak for a few days but otherwise Dr. Leo expects him to have a much better quality of life that he would have if the procedure were not done. Dad will be hospitalized for a couple of weeks, and we'll work together with Dr. Leo to determine the best course of action once he is released.

By far the most difficult thing we've heard, though, is that there may be more at work in him than just PD. Two tests for ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease) have come back sort of inconclusive, and given some of the symptoms and how they have presented themselves, there is a chance that Dad also has this awful disease. Very few people have been diagnosed with both PD and ALS, but if you have known my parents any length of time, you know that he tends toward the atypical. We will probably not have an answer to the

ALS question for 3 months. Dr. Leo told my brother Tim that he thinks it's more likely that it's PD. But we just don't know right now.

Meanwhile, my parents' house is not handicapped-accessible, and so it will be going up for sale soon. My dad has two wishes: to eat, and to go home. Only the Lord knows whether either of these will be granted, but my family and I ask for your prayers during this unbelievable difficult time.

If you want to send cards, it's probably best to send or give them to me or my mom and we can take them to the hospital.

Ted Gundlach
1135 Blaine Ave.
Racine, WI 53405
or

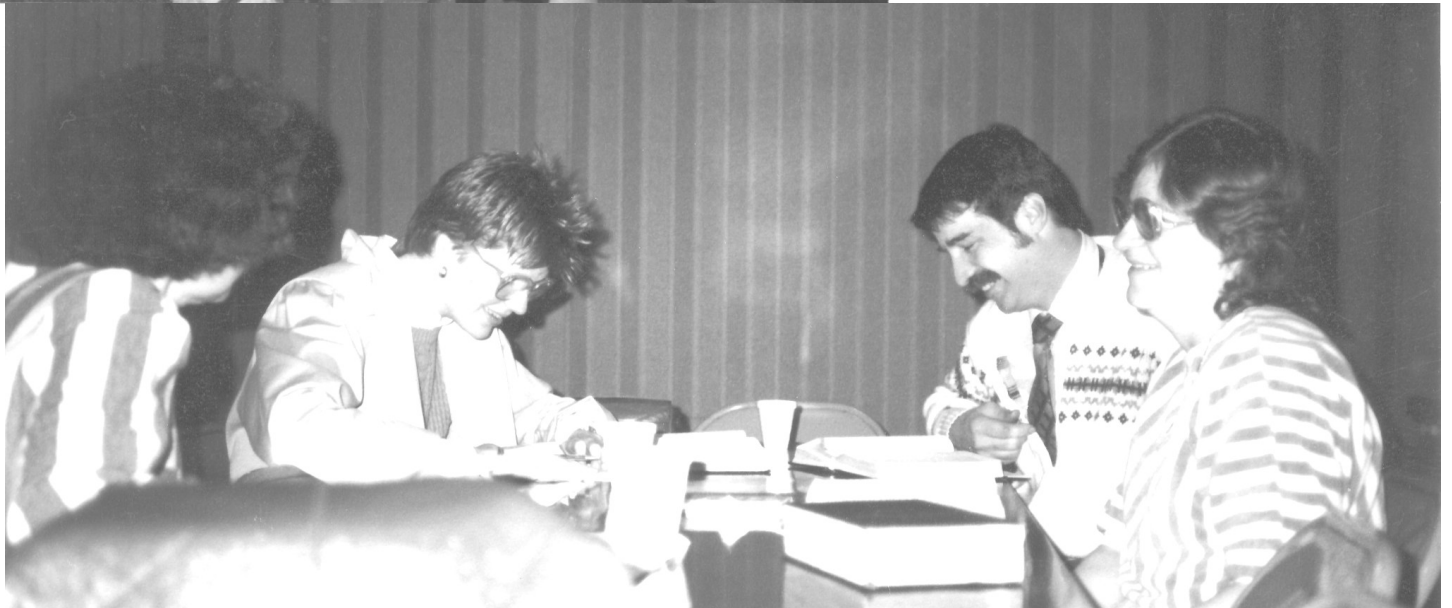
Ted Gundlach c/o the Billings family
5903 83 St.
Kenosha, WI 53142.

Steve tells me that he often thinks of my dad's last sermon. He reminded us in that sermon that when he dies, he will be in heaven because he is a forgiven sinner, a baptized child of God. Praise be to God for that assurance!

-Sarah

UPDATE ON THE UPDATE: *As of April 1, Pastor Gundlach is still in intensive care at Sinai Hospital in Milwaukee. He is recovering from the tracheostomy surgery, and they are hoping to move him back to the Parkinson's wing sometime this weekend. Please continue to keep him and Jane and all their families in your prayers. -Pastor Peperkorn*

Can You Name These People?



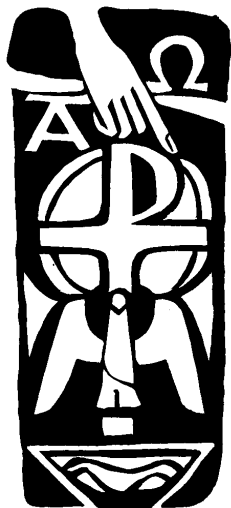
April 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 GUEST PREACHER: Re... Oculi (Lent 3) 9:00 AM Divine Service 10:15 AM SS & Bible Class 6:00 PM SEWPA in fellow- ship hall	28 Pastor's Day off 7:00 PM KALEA Parent Meeting	29 8:15 AM Matins	30 8:15 AM Divine Service 9:00 AM Women's Bible Study 6:00 PM Soup Supper 7:00 PM Lent Midweek Service	31 10:30 AM LLLC Chapel 1:45 PM Confession and Absolution 7:00 PM Parish Planning	1 8:15 AM Matins	2
3 Laetare (Lent 4) 9:00 AM Divine Service 10:15 AM SS & Bible Class 4:30 PM SEWPA	4 Pastor's Day off	5 Spring Elections 8:15 AM Matins	6 8:15 AM Divine Service 9:00 AM Women's Bible Study 6:00 PM Soup Supper 7:00 PM Lent Midweek Service	7 10:30 AM LLLC Chapel 1:45 PM Confession and Absolution	8 8:15 AM Matins 6:00 PM Game Night	9
10 Judica (Lent 5) 9:00 AM Divine Service 10:15 AM SS & Bible Class	11 Pastor's Day off	12 8:15 AM Matins	13 8:15 AM Divine Service 9:00 AM Women's Bible Study 6:00 PM Soup Supper 7:00 PM Lent Midweek Service 7:45 PM LLLC Board	14 10:30 AM LLLC Chapel 1:45 PM Confession and Absolution 6:00 PM Parish Planning 7:00 PM LWML Meeting 7:00 PM Spiritual Life	15 8:15 AM Matins	16
17 Palmarum (Palm Sunday) 9:00 AM Divine Service 10:15 AM SS & Bible Class	18 Monday of Holy Week Pastor's Day off	19 Tuesday of Holy Week 8:15 AM Matins	20 Wednesday of Holy Week 8:15 AM Divine Service 9:00 AM Women's Bible Study	21 Maundy Thursday 10:30 AM LLLC Chapel 1:45 PM Confession and Absolution 7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Service	22 Good Friday 8:15 AM Matins 7:00 PM Good Friday Service	23 Holy Saturday (Easter ...)
24 Easter 9:00 AM Divine Service 10:30 PM EASTER BRUNCH	25 Easter Monday Pastor's Day off	26 Easter Tuesday	27 8:15 AM Divine Service 9:00 AM Women's Bible Study	28 10:30 AM LLLC Chapel 1:45 PM Confession and Absolution 6:30 PM KALEA	29 8:15 AM Matins	30

May 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 St. Philip and St. Jam... 9:00 AM Divine Service 10:15 AM SS & Bible Class	2 Pastor's Day off	3 Kindergarten Shadowing 8:15 AM Matins	4 8:15 AM Divine Service 9:00 AM Women's Bible Study	5 Cinco de Mayo 10:30 AM LLLC Chapel 1:45 PM Confession and Absolution	6 8:15 AM Matins	7
8 First Communion Sun... Misericordias Domini... Mother's Day 9:00 AM Divine Service 10:15 AM SS & Bible Class	9 CLA Music Recital Pastor's Day off	10 8:15 AM Matins	11 8:15 AM Divine Service 9:00 AM Women's Bible Study	12 10:30 AM LLLC Chapel 1:45 PM Confession and Absolution 7:00 PM LWML Meeting	13 8:15 AM Matins 6:00 PM Craft Night	14
15 Jubilate (Easter 4) SING AT LAMB OF GOD 9:00 AM Divine Service 10:15 AM SS & Bible Class	16 Pastor's Day off	17 8:15 AM Matins	18 8:15 AM Divine Service 9:00 AM Women's Bible Study	19 10:30 AM LLLC Chapel 1:45 PM Confession and Absolution 6:00 PM Spiritual Life 7:00 PM Parish Planning	20 8:15 AM Matins	21
22 Cantate (Easter 5) 9:00 AM Divine Service 10:15 AM SS & Bible Class	23 Pastor's Day off	24 8:15 AM Matins	25 8:15 AM Divine Service 9:00 AM Women's Bible Study	26 10:30 AM LLLC Chapel 1:45 PM Confession and Absolution 6:30 PM KALEA 7:00 PM Closing Service at Lamb of God	27 LAST DAY OF SCHOOL 8:15 AM Matins	28
29 John F. Kennedy's Birt... Rogate (Easter 6) 9:00 AM Divine Service 10:15 AM SS & Bible Class	30 Memorial Day Pastor's Day off	31	1 Justin, Martyr 9:00 AM Women's Bible Study	2 Ascension 10:30 AM LLLC Chapel	3	4

Upcoming Events at Messiah



Sun. Apr. 3rd	Fellowship Hall in use	4:30-7:30 p.m.
Tues. Apr. 5th	Spring Elections	All Day
Wed. Apr. 6th	Soup Supper/Lent Service	6:00 p.m. /7:00 p.m.
Fri. Apr. 8th	Game Night	6:00 p.m.
Sat. Apr. 9th	Altar Guild Cleaning	9:00 a.m.
Wed. Apr. 13th	Soup Supper/Lent Service	6:00 p.m./7:00 p.m.
Thurs., Apr. 14th	Parish Planning	6:00 p.m.
	Spiritual Life	7:00 p.m.
	LWML Meeting	7:00 p.m.
Thurs. Apr. 21st	Maunday Thursday Service	7:00 p.m.
Fri. Apr. 22nd	Good Friday Service	7:00 p.m.
Sun. Apr. 24th	Easter Service	9:00 a.m.
	Easter Brunch	10:30 a.m.
Thurs. Apr. 28th	KALEA meeting	6:30 p.m.



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