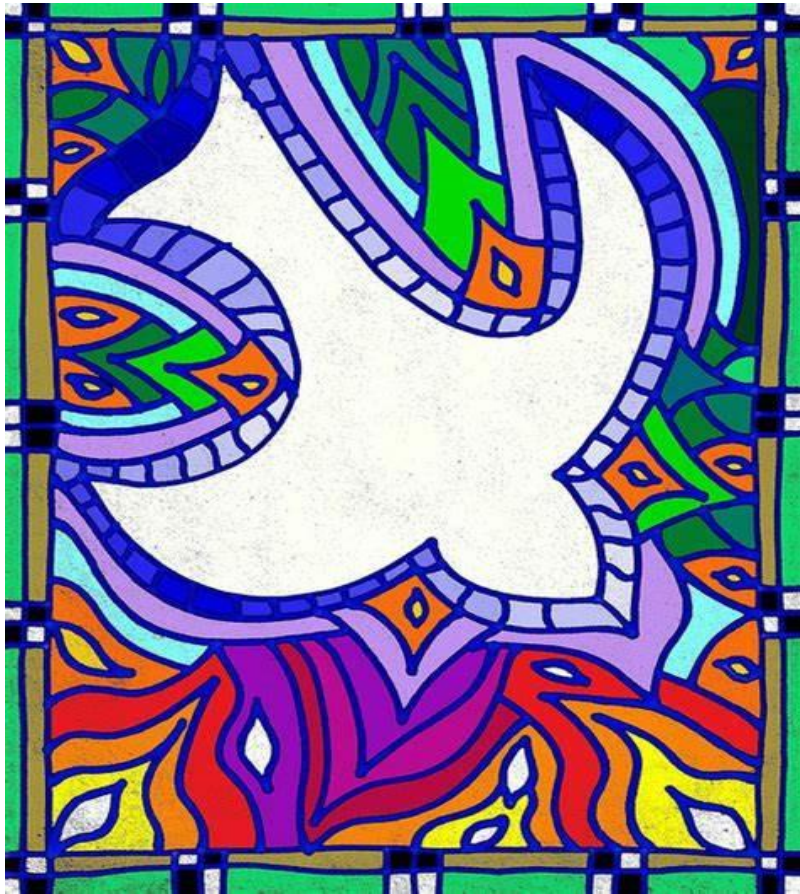




The Messiah

MESSENGER

May 2024 - Issue #667



Messiah Lutheran Church

Park Ridge, IL

Messiah Lutheran Church is an ELCA congregation that was incorporated on May 7, 1954.

Worship is at the heart of what we do together at Messiah. We meet every Sunday for in-person worship at 10:15 am. Our service of Holy Communion is live streamed as well, and is accessible below starting a few minutes before worship begins on Sundays.

Both our live stream and all previous worship services are also available on our [YouTube channel](#).

Pastor:

Reverend Aneel Trivedi

pastoraneel@messiahparkridge.org

Child Care Center Director:

April Mosier

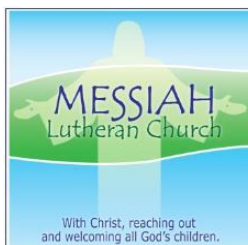
april@messiahchildcare.org

Messiah Child Care Center:

www.messiahchildcare.com

Office:

office@messiahparkridge.org



www.messiahparkridge.org

FROM THE PASTOR



This month, we're going to do some Q&A with the pastor:

Q: "What's going on with the parsonage?"

A: I hoped that after Messiah voted to move forward with our plan to transform the parsonage into a group home, we would capitalize on that momentum and move quickly. Unfortunately, the state of Illinois had other plans.

LSSI receives funding from the state to help run their group homes, and right now, Illinois is rethinking how it will fund homes based on their size. The parsonage has four bedrooms, but it may be to our benefit to restrict the home to three residents, rather than four. And so, LSSI's budget cannot be finalized until the state decides. And so we are in limbo.

The delay is frustrating, but LSSI has assured me they remain committed to the project. So, for now, we wait.

Q: "How's the Office Manager search going?"

A: Our search committee (Helen Levy, Carol Hrodey & Sara Trivedi) is flush with applicants, thanks to Teresa Lippert's excellent work sharing the ad widely on Facebook. Many candidates suffer through a first interview with me, and the best of the bunch move on to a second interview with the committee. I suspect that our next Office Manager is among the current candidates. More to come soon!

Q: "What's coming up this Summer?"

A: First, in June and July, we'll gather for another all-congregation book read. This year, we're reading "A Farewell to Mars", by Brian Zahnd. It's a reflection on the message of Jesus in contrast to the drumbeats of war and violence we hear all around us. In this time of war, protest, and our own blessing of violent retribution, Pastor Brian Zahnd considers what it means to follow the Prince of Peace.

And second, I'm excited about bringing back a regular bible study at Messiah. I have some ideas about how to make it happen, but I'd love to hear from you all as well. Would you participate? What days/times work best for you? Reach out and let me know.

Grace & Peace,
Aneel

COMING IN MAY

Child Care Fun Fair

Come on out
to the
Child Care Center
Fun Fair
on Saturday, May 4th!!
Lend a hand,
greet our guests,
have fun!!

10:00 am – 1:00 pm

Silent auction will be set up in Multi-
Purpose room & ready for bids on
Wednesday, May 1st!



Spring Cleaning at Messiah!

Help us clean up Messiah! This year, we're focusing on the balcony (Sat. 5/11 @ 2:30 pm), the work room (Wed. 5/8 @ 1 pm), and the choir room (TBD - still in search of a leader). Reach out to Pastor Aneel for more information and to volunteer.



Mother's Day!

Celebrate the important women in our
lives on Sunday, May 12th!



Chicago Metro Synod Lay Leadership Day

The Chicago Metro Synod is planning a Lay Leadership Day on Saturday, May 18th!



Lay Leadership Day
Saturday, May 18 9 a.m. -1:30 p.m.
Our Saviour's, Naperville

Practical & Innovative Leadership

Know your community
Respond to your community
Lead & Serve in your community

Workshops
Climate Justice
Stewardship of Space
Lay Leadership & Equipping
Church Governance

Nominal fee of \$10 made possible by Carlmark Fund

This is an awesome opportunity for current and future leaders of Messiah to meet lay leaders from other congregations and learn together.

There are some amazing workshops, including church governance, lay leadership, and stewardship of space, all extremely relevant to Messiah. Pastor Aneel highly encourages church members to consider attending the Lay Leadership Day!! Contact him if you plan to attend or if you have questions.

From the Synod:

Thanks to the Carlmark Fund, we're able to gather lay leaders for a morning of learning and inspiration. The day includes brief worship, workshops, a keynote speaker and a boxed lunch. All for a nominal fee of \$10. Registration is now open! The workshop intends to equip attendees with the knowledge they need to ask the next right questions and take the next right step in using their space for God's work in their piece of the world.

Pentecost Sunday – May 19th

Pentecost was the celebration of the beginning of the early weeks of harvest that the Old Testament Hebrews held. It was the celebration of the beginning of the early wheat harvest, which meant that Pentecost always fell sometime during the middle of the month of May or sometimes in early June.

Modern Christians observe Pentecost as a holiday, not to celebrate a wheat harvest, but to remember when the Holy Spirit invaded the Church in Acts 2.

On Pentecost Sunday, Peter stands up and says, "And let me tell you about the Messiah, who is the eternal protection for all of humanity. Let me tell you who he is." And so Pentecost becomes this marker in history to really what many people would say, "And that's the moment that church is born."

That is when thousands come into the faith. And it goes from this little sect of believers who followed a Jewish rabbi from Nazareth who died and rose again, and suddenly the church breaks forth into the culture. Suddenly it is that unstoppable force that no one can really deny any longer. Pentecost has taken on a new significance for us. It, at one point, is just a historical memory. Now it is the living reality of the moment that the spirit of God seemingly burst forth.

Excerpts from an article on christianity.com: [What is Pentecost and Where Did It Come From? \(christianity.com\)](https://www.christianity.com/faith-life/pentecost-what-is-pentecost-and-where-did-it-come-from/)



Regular Monthly Activities

Men's Brotherhood Breakfast

Men's Brotherhood continues to meet on the 2nd Saturday of every month at 9:00 a.m. at Jimmy's Restaurant in Des Plaines located at 1440 Rand Rd. The next breakfast gathering will take place on Saturday, May 11th. All Messiah men and friends are invited to participate. Contact Rich Seggeling or Paul Holzer if you have questions.

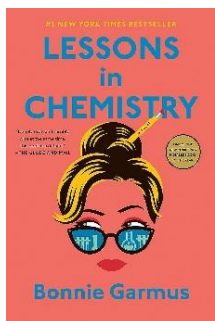


Messiah Book Club

The next meeting of the Book Club will be Thursday, May 16th at 7:00 pm in the Friendship Place or on-line.

The next selection is *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus, a book about Elizabeth Zott who is not your average woman. In fact, Elizabeth Zott would be the first to point out that there is no such thing as an average woman.

All are welcome to join the discussion. Please see Paul Holzer with questions



Quilts & Kits Wednesday

Our next Quilts & Kits Wednesday will be Thursday, May 23rd at 10:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. Come join us and stay a couple of hours or bring your lunch and stay for a few!

Contact Trudi Handzel or Carol Hrodey if you have any questions.



Weekly Lunches at Messiah:

Monday Lunch: Every Monday from 11 am - 12:30 pm, Messiah's Assistance Ministry serves a hot meal to the surrounding community. Whether you're in need of a meal or just looking for fellowship and a way to give back, come be a part of this important ministry. Reach out to Pastor Aneel if you'd like to know more.

Center of Concern "Lunch With Us": Lunch with Us is a senior lunch program run by the Center of Concern that promotes the health and well-being of older adults in the community. Residents throughout the Chicagoland area are invited to attend. The meal is available to all people 60 years of age and older, and to their spouses regardless of age. A suggested donation of \$2.00 per meal is greatly appreciated! Join us in person for lunch Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday each week from 12:30 to 2:30 PM at Messiah Lutheran Church. Please pre-register for your meal here: <https://centerofconcern.org/lunch/>



Church Calendar

Our campus is very busy every day! If you are in need of using any space, it is imperative that you check with the church office to schedule.

The church <https://www.mychurchevents.com/calendar/73983233>

Important Dates to Remember:

- Saturday, May 4th – Child Care Fun Fair – Plan to come out and help & greet our guests!
- Monday, May 6th to Monday, May 13th is "Spring Cleaning" week at Messiah! We'll be tackling (among other things) the balcony, the main floor closets, and the outdoor space. (see page 4)
- Saturday, May 11th – Brotherhood Breakfast 9:00 am
- Sunday, May 12th – Mother's Day
- Monday, May 13th – Church Council Meeting 7:00 pm
- Tuesday, May 14th – Child Care Center Board Meeting 7:00 pm
- Wednesday, May 15th – Quilts & Kits 10:00 am Fellowship Hall
- Thursday, May 16th – Book Club 7:00 pm
- Saturday, May 18th – 2024 Lay Leadership Day (see page 5)
- Sunday, May 19th – Pentecost

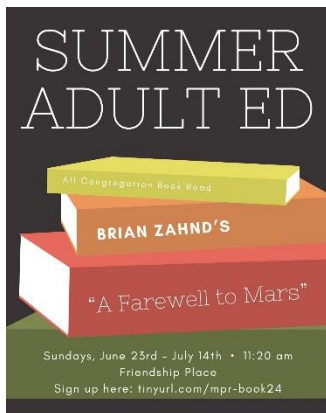
Save the Dates:

- Saturday, June 1st – **Take a walk with Pastor Aneel!!** The Adult Down Syndrome Center at Lutheran General is doing a fundraiser & fun run/walk. Let's support our neighbors! Information and registration can be found here:
https://secure.aahgiving.org/site/SPageNavigator/2024_ADSC_Run/2024_ADSC_Fun_Run.html



- 6/23 - 7/14: Summer All Congregation Book Read - "A Farewell to Mars", by Brian Zahnd. Check out details on next page.
- 7/3 – Park Ridge Fireworks – come on out for fellowship and a spectacular fireworks display – details about parking to come!





Summer Adult Ed!

Join us for our 2024 all congregation book read from Sunday June 23rd through July 14th. This year we're reading "A Farewell to Mars", by Brian Zahnd.

Sign up to participate and buy your book

here <http://tinyurl.com/mpr-book23>.

Get your book early, and be ready to join an essentially conversation about war and the Prince of Peace.

Happy 70th Anniversary Messiah!



Save the Date for a Celebration!

The date has been set for a Celebration Service and Reception to celebrate Messiah's 70th Anniversary! We'll gather on Sunday, October 6th with a special worship service and reception to mark this joyous milestone in Messiah's history!

More details to come!

If you have contact information for former members of Messiah and/or ideas for the celebration, reach out to Carol Hrodey, Helen Levy or Sue Kopij

Did You Know?

Last month marked the 59th anniversary of the start of the Child Care Center! Since Messiah's roots grew from the need of a Sunday School in the area, it seems fitting that the congregation would identify the need for a program of Christian education. Here is a timeline of the history of Messiah Lutheran Child Care Center:

- In April 1965 the congregation voted to establish a Nursery School program of Christian education. A committee under the Board of Christian Education began studying how to establish such a program.
- By September 1966 Messiah Lutheran Nursery School classes began with Judy Bengsten serving as the first teacher/director. The Committee consisted of Jean Berthold, Vera Koehler, Sue Trestrail, Mrs. Herbert Skarie, Ed Bowman, Art

Newell and Pastor Luther Keay. The school's first budget was \$9400. Alyce Benson and Marion McCauley Harker also eventually served as teacher/directors.

- Over the years inquiries from the community demonstrated the need for full day, year-round Christian day care that was added in October 1975 with one student. Julie Millar served as the first director. In 1977 Barbara Berthold became the director and in November of that year Karen (Trestrail) Clark (Black) joined her as co-director, eventually becoming the sole director full time. Marion Harker remained the pre-school director. At that time the school's enrollment increased to approximately 40 nursery school students and 20 day care students.
 - In September 1979 a kindergarten class was added with Terri (Trestrail) Hogan assuming the role as kindergarten teacher, a position that she still holds today.
 - In 1980 the specific designations of "day care" and "nursery school" were eliminated and the name of the school was changed to Messiah Lutheran Child Care Center. The school was merged into a unified organization with a single director, Karen Black.
 - The school has continued to evolve and remains active today under the leadership of April Mosier who assumed the position of Director in 2022.
 - The school is licensed by the Department of Children and Family Services and is managed by the Child Care Center Board.
 - The Child Care Center is full of activity and energy every day. A highlight of every week is a classroom visit, as well as a chapel service led by Pastor Aneel.
 - We are very proud of our dedicated, loving teachers and staff and the work they do. They provide a nurturing, educational, Christian environment in which the children can grow and develop to their full potential.
-

MESSIAH MINISTRIES

Messiah Lutheran Child Care Center

CCC's Fun Fair (May 4th) will raise money to buy toys and games that promote STEM. A STEM room promotes Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics.

The Fun Fair theme is Star Wars/Galaxy! The fair will include a Silent Auction, Cake Walk, Arts and Crafts, DJ. Silent Auction will open on May 1st in the Multi-Purpose Room. Plan to come out and help greet our guests!!

Meanwhile, Registration for Messiah's Childcare Center for the 2024-25 school year and summer camp is open! Help get the word out about this amazing place, run by amazing people!! Call 847.825.3767 for further information or to schedule a tour.

For more information on CCC Activities and Programs contact CCC Office at 847-825-3767 or see the website at www.messiahchildcare.com





Gloria Dei Choir

If you are interested in joining the choir, come for rehearsal at 10:00 am prior to the scheduled service or talk with one of the choir members!

Assistance Ministry

April has been a busy month for the Assistance Ministry team. The Scouts canvassed the neighborhood for food for our food pantry. To be able to have room for an influx of food donations,, we had Maine Township Food Pantry pick up all of the food in our donation area. They were pleased with our donation and the Scouts filled our shelves and then some! Wonderful how many persons were able to benefit from their service!



Kaelyn Yager is going organize the food donations as a Scout project she is working on. Thanks to all of our Scouts and leaders!

We also found out that we are a recipient of a City of Des Plaines Social Service grant for our food program. This will be quite a help for this ministry! Thanks to Patsy Smith, one of our volunteers for suggesting we apply for this since most of our guests live in Des Plaines. (Patsy is a Des Plaines Alderman). And thanks to Julie for writing the grant for us.

We also received a check from Redeemer Lutheran Church for Assistance Ministry from the joint Lenten service. We value their partnership.

Once again, we'd like to encourage you to help us out from time to time. We welcome volunteers- doesn't have to be weekly ...we're very flexible!

Thanks, Connie Kaufman



Check out the article about the Des Plaines Social Service grant:

<https://tinyurl.com/mpr-grant2024>





Quilts & Kits

Another Facebook post from Martha Piedrasanta, an administrator from Lutheran World Relief Quilts & Kits ministry:

Natalia Chernenka had nowhere else to go when Russia invaded Ukraine in February 2022. So, she has stayed in her home, even during the harrowing time when soldiers occupied her community. Even after a missile blew off her roof, shattered all her windows and destroyed everything. Whatever belongings didn't burn up have turned moldy, because water leaks under the tarps she uses as a roof. "We built everything," she says, "and now we have nothing." Lutheran World Relief Quilts & Kits, handmade and assembled by Lutherans in the U.S., have been part of LWR's humanitarian response efforts since the 1940s. These items are used to provide comfort, dignity and blessing to people going through crises such as war or natural disaster.

LWR met Natalia during a quilt and kit distribution in Ukraine. To date, 60,492 Lutheran World Relief Mission Quilts, 10,960 School Kits, 63,340 Personal Care Kits and 6,720 Baby Care Kits have been distributed in Ukraine to those whose lives have been shattered by war.

"Thank you for not forgetting us," Natalia said after receiving a quilt and hygiene supplies. "Thank you very much."

Read the full report on our humanitarian response to date here: <https://bit.ly/3IH9pZ4>

If you want to check out the whole Quilts & Kits program at Lutheran World Relief, go to <https://lwr.org>.

Come join us once a month to help create more quilts & kits and enjoy the fellowship!

Our next gatherings are scheduled for:

- Thursday, May 23rd
- Wednesday, June 19th
- Wednesday, July 17th
- Thursday, August 8th

Trudi Handzel & Carol Hrodey

**"Thank you for
not forgetting us."**

Natalia Chernenka, Quilt Recipient in Kharkiv, Ukraine



Delivered so far in Ukraine:

- **60,492** Mission Quilts
- **10,960** School Kits
- **63,340** Personal Care Kits
- **6,720** Baby Care Kits



Focus on Graduates



The end of the school year is filled with laughter, family gatherings to celebrate graduations, and wishing graduates good luck on their next step. The following students have worked hard to reach another phase in their education, so we want to acknowledge their achievements and celebrate their special milestones with them! Congratulations to all of you and may God bless you in your next adventure! And congratulations to the families of these graduates for your love and support of them in their education journey!

Child Care Center Junior Kindergarten & Kindergarten Graduates



Aadhirai Vinoth
Inaaya Raj
Kristoff Derner
Madeline Manolache
Maverick Johnson-Craft
Nicholas DiVito

Anthony Corvo
Isaac Garcia
Lila Mendez
Noelle Barrera

Chloe Pukas
Julian Mendez
Lilly Figura
Martin Gilbert
Mavis Neuman
Luca Acebes

Kyle Hauser

Kyle will graduate from Maine South High School on May 19th. He is a member of the National Honor Society. Kyle plans to study Graphic Design in college and will be making his decision soon on which university to attend.

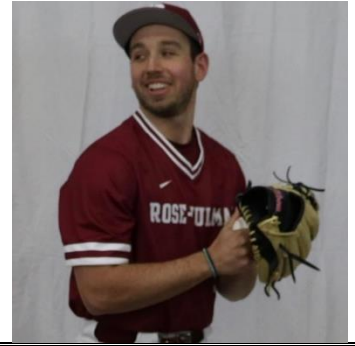


Ryan Hauser

Ryan will graduate from Northeastern Illinois University on May 10th with a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Studies. While at NEIU, he was included on the Dean's Honors list and interned at River Trail Nature Center. After graduation, he hopes to gain employment related to his major, possibly within the forest preserve system.

Michael Yager

Michael will graduate May 25th from Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology with a double major in Mathematics and Data Science – summa cum laude, no less! Michael was also a southpaw pitcher for Rose’s varsity baseball team for four years. He has accepted a job at Edgile in Indianapolis as a cybersecurity consultant/analyst!



Nikolaus Ryczek

Nikolaus Ryczek will graduate from the MBA program at St. Louis University program at their Chailetz School of Business on May 18th. He has accepted a position in the Business Applications Practice at the St. Louis offices of RSM US LLP, an accounting and consulting firm.

MESSIAH UPDATES

Look What’s New!!

Hope Advent purchased two comfortable chairs for the Friendship Place!
Thanks Hope Advent!



Church Council Corner:

The Church Council met on April 8th. Discussion centered around financial updates, Office Manager, CCC update, Property Team updates including Spring Cleaning, Anniversary Committee update and upcoming events.



Ways to Help Pay the Bills!



Contributions to Messiah can be submitted through a variety of means as outlined on Messiah's website on ways to contribute:

<https://www.messiahparkridge.org/contribute.html>

Of course checks & cash work! And a new option for donating online to support Messiah's ministries has been set-up. You can <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z6WA/home>, or jump to the giving page by using this QR code or go Messiah's website under contributions!



Church Office Manager Position

The Church Council has completed an update position description for the Office Manager position including job duties and hours. The new description can be found at tinyurl.com/mpr-omjob24.

We're in the process of receiving resumes and interviewing. The goal is to find the right person to fill this position so if you know anyone looking for a part time position, please share the position description and give them the church contact information!



Worship Service:

As a reminder, if you're unable to attend in person, church services will continue to be available through two different online avenues. All the services are posted on the Messiah Facebook page as well as our YouTube channel under the name Messiah Park Ridge. The YouTube channel can be found at this web address, <https://www.youtube.com/user/holzerp>.



THIS MONTH IN WORSHIP

To view the scripture verses (and more) for each service, go to the following link for the "The Revised Common Lectionary"; <https://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/>



PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We pray for each other, our congregation, our families, our community, our state, our country and the world during these challenging times.

Those who are ill, in recovery, or facing adversity:

The Dumerer Family	The Hauser Family	Diane Wilson	Mary Jane Kovach
Trudi & Jim Handzel	Richard Levy	Carol Hrodey	Dave Hanson
The Bonilla Family	Carole Johnson	Aly Allemeier	Sandy and Bill Downie

Rebekah Dembowski, Martha Jacobs, and Eric Forss (*family and friends of the Decker's*)
Katie Brandon and Carol Rudy (*friends of Dotti Burger*)
Ted, Gordon, and the Corkill Family (*friends and family of the Jensen Family*)
Sandy, Steve & Pat, Nancy, Ed, J.T., Donna, Mark, Carmelina, Bev, and Mark (*family & friends of the Handzel's*)
Patrick Brennan & son Nicholas (*family of Patti Daniels*)
Brady Nelson (*family friend of Alaine Wong*)
Honey V. Michaels (*friend of Marilyn Duckett*)
Robert Hughes (*grandfather of a CCC student*)
Lorraine Maslanka. (*aunt of Rita Kotowski*)



Those who are homebound:

Arlene Baranowski Barb Loverme Christine Ruterschmidt

Those serving in the armed services and first responders:

(those known to us & all those who serve)

Brandon Ajyek	Tim David	Tyler Daye	Jarred Engvall
Jenni Hanson	Claudine Ward	Jason Koesler	Joey Rosequist
David Nagel	Brian Nagel	Bobby Hanson	Eric Nagel
Matt McGannon	Andreas Johnson		

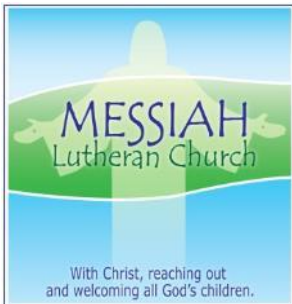
Those attending college and graduate school:

Haley Lippert	Ryan Hauser	Kevin Kovach	Nikolaus Ryczek	Michael Yager
Caitlin Levy	Mikey Hanson	Evelyn Allemeier	Noa Trivedi	

Those who celebrate:

Happy Birthday: Nancy Herak 5/8, Trygve Jensen 5/10, Aneel Trivedi 5/11, Darrell Eckert 5/12, Helen Levy 5/17, Joe Levy 5/20, Jim Handzel 5/22, Aly Allemeier 5/23, Brad Kovach 5/29

Happy Anniversary: Jennifer & Vince Manzella 5/23 (14 years), Kristin & Floyd Yager 5/23 (25 years)



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Anniversary Update
Messiah Ministries
Messiah Updates
This Month in Worship
Prayers of the People*

THE MESSIAH MESSENGER

Worship begins at 10:15 am Sunday mornings. All are welcome!

Child Care Center

Year- round 3-K

Monday - Friday 6:30 am - 5:30 pm

Other Schedules

Pastor's Office Hours

Monday, Wednesday 8:00 am - 3:00 pm

Thursday by appointment

Church Office

Mondays, Wednesday, & Fridays

9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Assistance Ministry

Monday 11:00 am - 12:30 pm



ELCA.org

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Living in God's amazing grace

MESSIAH
Lutheran Church

**1605 Vernon Avenue
Park Ridge, Illinois 60068**

Phone: (847) 823-6984

E-mail: Office@messiahparkridge.org

Pastor E-mail: pastoraneel@messiahparkridge.org

Homepage: www.messiahparkridge.org

Child Care Center Phone: (847) 825-3767

Child Care Email: office@messiahchildcare.org

Child Care Homepage: www.messiahchildcare.com

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