

**God Loves Marriage**  
April 25-27, 2025



Enrich your relationship with your spouse. Learn unique insights and tools that can reignite your love by improving your communication skills! Lutheran Marriage Encounter is a weekend of learning that can help you reap joyful long-term rewards for your relationship, your family relationships, and your faith journey. Your relationship Deserves Marriage Encounter. April 25-27, 2025 at Fairfield Inn & Suites in Streetsboro, Ohio. Apply now at [GodLovesMarriage.org](http://GodLovesMarriage.org) Questions? Contact Dale & Ruth Mortensen [d.r.mortensen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:d.r.mortensen@sbcglobal.net) (440) 734-6312. Meals and side dishes will be catered by local Honey-baked Ham and Ruby Tuesday Restaurant. Registration is \$100 per couple. Pre-registration is required to secure your room and meal reservations—don't miss out!

**Save The Date**

Save the date for Messiah's annual Tee It Up golf outing on June 7. We are returning to Grey Hawk Golf Club in LaGrange. Look for registration information in the near future. This outing is quite popular and registration fills quickly, we are limited to 144 golfers. We look forward to seeing you on the greens. In the meantime, direct questions to Darlene Waugh [dwaugh@messiahfp.org](mailto:dwaugh@messiahfp.org).



**This Week at Messiah**

Sunday 3/23	<b>8:30 am</b> 9:45 am 9:45 am <b>11:00 am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b> Education Hour Congregational Meeting <b>Holy Communion</b>
Monday 3/24	7:00 pm	Joy Ringers
Wednesday 3/25	9:00 am 10:00 am 5:30 pm <b>7:00 pm</b>	School Chapel Morning Bible Study Soup Supper <b>Lenten Evening Worship</b>
Thursday 3/27	6:00 pm 7:00 pm 8:00 pm	Laundry Love—The Wash House Choir Rehearsal Bible Study Via Zoom
Sunday 3/30	<b>8:30 am</b> 9:45 am <b>11:00 am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b> Education Hour <b>Holy Communion</b>



**Do you pay Ohio income tax?  
There is a way to pay less.**

Not only is it legal, but it is ethical, and it is a way to benefit Messiah Lutheran School. This year, when you prepare your tax returns, do the following:

1. Take a look at line eight on your Ohio Individual Tax Return—do you have a tax liability?
2. If yes, would you like to reduce it by \$750 (or \$1500 if filing jointly)
3. If yes, don't file your taxes just yet, but do the following:
  - a. Go to [LSGOohio.org/givetomessiah](http://LSGOohio.org/givetomessiah) and follow the links to donate \$750 (joint filers have to do it separately for each filer)
  - b. Be certain to select Messiah Lutheran as the recipient
  - c. When you receive your official letter of receipt, enter your donation as a Non-refundable Credit on your Ohio tax return and subtract it from what you owe
  - d. Now file your taxes, sit back and wait for your refund

Owe less than \$750 (\$1500 joint) in Ohio Taxes, simply give Messiah School (through LSGO) what you do owe, then you pay nothing to Ohio.

Last year, your fellow Messiah Church members transferred their taxes of \$37,400 to Messiah School. Come join them.



**2025 Lenten Devotion Book**



A Lenten Devotional Guide has been assembled, *A Gift of Hope, Faith and Love*, by your very own members of the Messiah community. Each day of Lent, a Messiah member, faculty, or friend offers a scripture, prayer, and brief reflection. Copies are available on the table outside of the Church office. Special thanks to all those who contributed to this project. We pray you will listen to and take comfort from God's Word as it reminds you of God's never-ending mercy. For the full booklet visit: [mfp.fyi/Devotion](http://mfp.fyi/Devotion)

**Lent at Messiah**

Lent is a forty-day season of penitence and preparation for the Three Days of Holy Week and Easter Sunday. The forty days begin on Ash Wednesday (3/5) and end on the Saturday Easter Vigil (4/19). This Lent, we focus on Christ opening our life to what he would have it be. "It is the duty of every Christian to be Christ to his neighbor" (Martin Luther).



**Important Dates:**

March 26 April 2 & 9 - Soup Supper @ 5:30 pm & Lenten Evening Worship 7 pm



**Soup Supper**  
**Midweek Service & Soup Supper**  
**March 26—April 9 at 5:30 pm**

Join for the five Wednesdays during Lent at 5:30 pm to enjoy a relaxing social hour in the Fellowship Hall and a hot supper with a bowl of soup, bread, a beverage, and dessert. **Soup Supper precedes the 7 pm Lenten worship services on March 26, & April 2, & 9.** Join on April 9 as Messiah hosts Family Night during Soup Supper. Everyone is invited to bring soup, bread, or dessert to share.

**First Communion**

Classes for those interested in receiving their First Communion, classes are offered during Lent:

**Who:** Current 4th & 5th graders  
**When:** Sundays during 9:45 am education hour 3/23 through 4/6  
**Where:** Messiah's school library, for an "upper room" experience

First Communion will be celebrated on the following dates:

- Maundy Thursday, April 17, at the 7 pm worship service
- Sunday, April 27, at the 11 am worship service

Questions? Contact Deaconess Ruth Mortensen at [d.r.mortensen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:d.r.mortensen@sbcglobal.net)

**Pierstorf College Fund** **Have a college age student? Apply to the Pierstorf College Fund**

**Applications open April 15**

The Pierstorf College Fund is a one-of-a-kind pan Lutheran financial aid program that provides interest-free loans to all Lutherans pursuing a higher education who live in the State of Ohio.

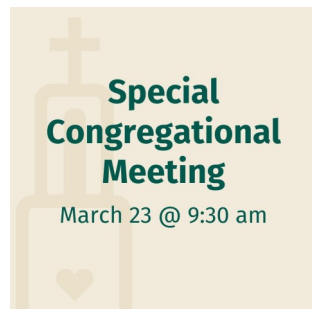
For more information visit [www.Pierstorf.org](http://www.Pierstorf.org) to complete the online 2025-2026 Application.

**Special Congregational Meeting**

**Sun. March 23 @ 9:45 am**

There is a special Congregational meeting on Sunday, March 23 at 9:45 am in the church Commons. The purpose of this meeting is to provide a financial update from the Administration/Finance Committee and highlights from the Mission/Ministry and Education/Enrichment Council Committees. Additionally, there will be information provided about numerous building-related expenditures, necessary repairs, and improvements in addition to a Sacred Spaces grant opportunity the church is pursuing. Your presence in hearing this information is critical to the ongoing need to take care of our blessed Messiah spaces.

Please contact Council President Bob Zalac with any questions - [rpzi@ameritech.net](mailto:rpzi@ameritech.net)



**Thrivent Members**  
**Direct Your 2024 Thrivent Choice Dollars to Messiah Church & School**  
**Deadline: March 31, 2025**

If you are a Thrivent member you may have Choice Dollars to direct to Messiah Church & School. Choice Dollars are free to members and provide an opportunity to give back to a charitable organization. It's a gift that costs you absolutely nothing. Messiah is registered as one of the many charities in this program. Log into your Thrivent account or call (800) 847-4836. This is free money for Messiah Church & School and is likely already sitting in your account waiting to be donated. If you need additional help, call the church office (440) 331-2405.

**Laundry Love**

**Mar. 27 @ The Wash House 6-8pm**  
**Apr. 12 @ Leo's 10 am - Noon**



Two opportunities to come alongside people who are struggling financially by assisting them with paying for their laundry. If this event resonates with you, please join us to offer Love, Dignity, and Detergent to our neighbors in a unique, meaningful and relation way. Email Janice Snyder at [jsnyder@messiahfp.org](mailto:jsnyder@messiahfp.org) for more information!

**Where:** The Wash House & Café (15149 Lorain Ave. Cleveland)

**When:** Thursday, March 27

**Time:** 6—8 pm

**Where:** Leo's Laundromat (20210 Lorain Rd, Fairview Park)

**When:** Saturday, April 12

**Time:** 10 am—Noon

**Altar Guild Flowers**

Would you like to sponsor altar flowers for a week? Or light the presence candle in remembrance? The 2025 sign up calendar is on the table outside the church office with available dates. The flowers can be for a celebration or remembrance of a loved one and can be taken home after the Sunday's late service.

**The cost is \$40 for flowers. Light the presence candle for \$15.**

Questions? Contact Debbie Luekens at 440-829-5612 or [Luekens111@gmail.com](mailto:Luekens111@gmail.com)

