

MCOB Newsletter

Week of Palm Sunday, March 24, 2024

Pastoral Care: Pastor Amy 765.967.0657

Deacon on Call: Donna Ritchey Martin 301.473.3574

Prayer Concerns: *We welcome all to join in prayer...*

♥ We pray for the **friends, care team, and family** of **Jan Wilt** who died Tuesday, March 19, after a challenge with cancer. Jan re-entered our church family after her husband's death in 2023. Her service will be June 8 in the memorial garden.

♥ We pray with thanksgiving for **Jim Myer**, who spent time at Lutheran Hospital and had a stent put in at the back of his heart. Jim feels better than he has in a long time, and is back home at Timbercrest.

♥ We pray with celebration for **Raymond Johnson** who turns 50 on Tuesday, March 26. You can mail Raymond a card or letter here:

Raymond E. Johnson #207742

A-unit OSP Quad 4

PO Box 97 McAlester, OK 74502

♥ We continue to pray for **David Rogers** as his health improves.

♥ We pray for **those who worship with us through livestream**, who we may or may not know, but still hold close for the concerns they may be experiencing.

♥ We pray for all the **Manchester University Evermore Choir members**, and those from our congregation, as they begin to make preparations to come home from a wonderful experience of new friendships, beautiful music making, and cultural experiences.

♥ We pray for our **Pastoral Search Committee**, and the involvement of everyone by prayers and input.

♥ We pray for a **ceasefire in Gaza**, and that food resources will reach the food scarcity. We pray for **all** caught in deadly actions in Russia, and for the ceasing of war between **Russia** and **Ukraine**.

♥ We pray for our sister church in **El Salvador, Iglesia Bautista Emmanuel**.

♥ We pray with others in our district for the **Huntington Church of the Brethren** and the **Pacific Northwest District**.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

(office hours are 1-3 pm Monday - Friday)

MONDAY, MARCH 25

1:00 p.m. Pickleball | FLC

6:30 p.m. Ad Hoc Safety Meeting | Conference Room

6:30 p.m. FLC Reserved

6:30 p.m. Handbell Choir | Sanctuary

7:00 p.m. Deacon Meeting | Chapel

TUESDAY, MARCH 26

9:30 a.m. Preschool

1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting

3:30 p.m. Women's Book Group | Video Conference

6:30 p.m. Unsettling Truths Book Study | Vestibule

7:00 p.m. Volleyball | FLC

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27

Midweek Update | YouTube

9:30 a.m. Preschool

12:00 p.m. Pastors' Lunch at Timbercrest

1:00 p.m. Tennis | FLC

6:30 p.m. Fellowship Commission | Couches in Vestibule

THURSDAY, MARCH 28

9:30 a.m. Preschool

1:00 p.m. FLC reserved

5:00 p.m. Gun Violence Prevention | Chapel

6:00 p.m. [Love Feast Worship: Encounter/Encuentro at the Table](#) 6 PM FLC & NARTHEX

7:30 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

FRIDAY, MARCH 29

9:30 a.m. No Preschool: Spring Break

1:00 p.m. Pickleball | FLC

12:00 p.m. Community Good Friday Service | Zion Lutheran (Speaker: Audri Svay)

1:00 p.m. Pickleball | FLC

SUNDAY, MARCH 31 - *Easter Sunday*

7:15 a.m. Sunrise Service in the Memorial Garden

8:30 a.m. Easter Breakfast

9:30 a.m. [Worship: Encounter/Encuentro in the Garden](#)

Scripture: Mark: 16:1-8

12:00 p.m. FLC, Narthex, Kitchen Reserved

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL ON EASTER



The Community Good Friday service will be at **Zion Lutheran Church** this **Friday, March 29**, at **12pm**. Eel River Community Church of the Brethren Pastor, **Audri Svay**, will be the speaker. If you have never heard her speak, she is excellent. Our own **Nan Erbaugh** will also be involved. Don't miss it! *All are welcome.*



small groups
grow spiritually.

The Nurture Commission will be organizing **Small Groups** following Easter. Small groups are a good way to get to know other people in our congregation. Signup sheets will be available on **Sunday, April 7**.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

MARCH 20th BOARD MEETING UPDATE

Reports: Treasurer Katherine Haff presented the first month-end financials for 2024; not much to discuss given just one month of information. A rough draft of the 2024 Sing Me Home Festival concert series was reviewed; announcements about the first concert – to be held in May – will be coming out shortly. The Church Safety Planning Ad Hoc Committee membership was announced: Chuck Bell, Jan Fahs, Jack Fisher, Randy Self, Tim Terflinger (Property Commission liaison), and Lori Zimmerman. This group will begin their work with an organizational meeting on March 25.

Business items included: Approval of the transfer of membership for Judi Miller Brown to the Bridgewater Church of the Brethren; acceptance of designated funds for the pickleball lines project (on the FML floor); and, approval of the revised Gift Acceptance Policy.

Discussion items: The Spring Council Meeting was reviewed with gratefulness for thorough reports and good discussion. Concerns were expressed about attendance; what has been the attendance trend, how can we encourage folks to attend, would alternative days/times make a difference, and is meeting in the Narthex a possibility? All things to consider when planning the Fall Council Meeting.

The 2024 Approved Budget was discussed, and commission chairs were encouraged to track spending carefully.

Pastoral Search: The Search Committee is collecting input from the congregation through the Congregational Profile Survey. Paper copies of the survey are available in the Narthex and a link to the online survey is available through the newsletter and Sunday worship emails. [Surveys](#) are due by **March 31, 2024**. Surveys can be accessed [HERE](#). Or, you can type the following link into your browser:

<https://forms.gle/P7yojkmGQvM8YJPRA>

Please contact **Jim Shively** (260-438-0919) or **Lila Hammer** (260-578-0393) if you need additional information.

Congregational Profile Survey

This survey provides all Manchester Church of the Brethren participants an opportunity to provide important information in our Pastoral Search process. Your responses will provide valuable information to prospective candidates regarding the characteristics (nature) of our congregation and our expectations.

Paper copies and online submissions are due by **March 31, 2024**.

Please contact **Jim Shively** or **Lila Hammer** for additional information regarding the completion of this survey.

(you can also reach out to the church office with any questions or concerns)

The Fellowship Commission needs assistance with food donations for a light breakfast Easter morning. Commission provides granola (including gluten free granola), and gluten free bagels.



Easter Breakfast Food Sign-up

Sign-up online...
or contact the church office!

Signup online [HERE](#)

MESSENGER

It's one of our favorite annual events here in the church office...the [Messenger subscription renewals](#)! For those up for renewal, the office needs to be notified whether you want to *continue or cancel* your current subscription by end of day **Monday, May 13**. The list of people that are due this year can be found online [HERE](#), and you can simply mark the box yes or no to update your renewal status. If you choose to renew, **payments are due by June 1**. → 1-year **\$14.50** or 2-year **\$27** Please make checks payable to MCoB with "Messenger" in the memo line.

If you are not on the list of individuals that are up for renewal, this means you either have a 2-year subscription, or you are not subscribed through the church to receive your Messenger magazine. If you would like to sign-up with the church to start receiving the Messenger subscription at our club costs above, please contact Kayla in the church office no later than **Monday, May 13**.



SHEPHERD'S CENTER SPRING SCHEDULE

All programs are at 9:30am in the Blocher Room at the NM Public Library.
AiL means "Adventures in Learning".

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3

AiL: HEATHER CRUZ, Executive Director of Manchester Alive



**ONLINE REGISTRATION
 NEW 2024 ACCOUNT SETUP**

Go to www.campmack.org.
 Click the "Register" button at the top right of the page.

**ONLINE REGISTRATION
 INSTRUCTIONS**

- Click "Register" next to the name of the participant.
- Select the program you wish to attend. Click on the "Info" button for more information. Click "Register."
- If registering another family member for an event, click "Yes." If not, click "No, continue registration."
- Confirm participant information and emergency contacts, and choose session options (if applicable).
- Fill out the required form(s) and sign the waiver, click Next
- Click "Proceed to Payment." to use MCOB church camper codes, click "+Add sponsorship/promotional code" and enter the code **39MA1** for **returning campers** or **39MA5** for **first time campers**.

Song & Story Fest is in Michigan this year: **at Camp Brethren Heights, July 7-13**, right after the Annual Conference. Registration is available using [this online form](#). More details about Song and Story Fest can be found [here](#).

All are welcome to attend for the full or partial week.

Local folks involved: **Brian Kruschwitz** and **Chris Good** are 2 of this year's musicians. **Anna Lisa Gross** is a storyteller, along with MCOB's former pastor, **Susan Boyer**. **Tina Rieman** and **Chris Good** are on the planning committee. **Arlene Kindy** and **Judy Gump** will be the cooks!

Email songandstoryfest@gmail.com with any questions!

We hope to see you all at Camp Brethren Heights, July 7-13!

~ Tina, on behalf of the entire planning committee

ALL COMMUNITY GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

Friday, March 29th
@ 12pm
Zion Lutheran Church
113 W Main St.
N. Manchester

Message by
Rev. Audri Svay

Song Leader
Rev. Nan Erbaugh

Solo
Watch The Lamb

CENTURY CELEBRATION

FOR
JOE MASON

APRIL 4 2-4 PM
Assembly Room
Timbercrest

Stop by any or all of the time to visit, eat cake,
and share stories

No gifts please.....Cards Welcome!

MANCHESTER CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN 
1306 Beckley Street | PO BOX 349
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Continuing the work of Jesus. Peacefully. Simply. Together.