

# **Messiah Lutheran Church – Congregation Meeting – February 15 2026**

## **Other Reports**

### **Elders' Report**

Each elder is assigned a number of members of the congregation to his or her personal care group for regular follow up. Maintaining open and meaningful communication with the congregation is very important to us.

Additionally in 2025 the elder board decided to also add regularly attending non members to our care groups lists. We felt it important they have access to the same spiritual care members of the congregation receive from the elders. If these non members decide later to become members of Messiah they will not transfer to another care group or elder, but will simply be added to the membership role. We have had good response to this change. Our elders will continue to work toward building solid relationships with guests and newcomers.

Starting in 2026 the elder board has decided to change our online Teams meeting schedule from quarterly to three times during the year. We feel this will still allow the elder board opportunity to cover all necessary business, while freeing up some time for other needs. In the event a pressing issue arises between scheduled meetings we will call a special meeting to handle that need. We are scheduled to meet on second Thursdays in April, August, and November.

Just as a reminder, an elder/care leader is available by the flower table in the right front pew of the sanctuary immediately following each worship service to pray with or for anyone with prayer needs. Please feel free to come forward after the service to share your prayer needs with a care leader who will pray with you and add your prayer request to the Essentials prayer list if requested.

If you ever have questions, feedback, or input relating to Messiah in any way please talk with one of the elders. We are here to serve you.

Bill Chase  
Head Elder

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### **Fellowship Report**

Fellowship has two events coming up.

**The chili cook off!!!!** Nine cooks have volunteered this year and a few side dishes are listed. I'm hoping we get a few more this week.

We are at the deadline.

We need to get servers to scoop!

Need to recruit a clean up detail!

I'd like to get a volunteer photographer so we can update our photo board in the lobby.

**Church yard sale** will be March 14 from 8am till noon.

There is a sign-up sheet with time slots to volunteer at the IC.

We need members to support this event because the customers can come in waves and it gets very busy.

I want to encourage members that during the sale they mingle. People think nothing of putting something in their pockets or purses. Last year an expensive drone was donated (new in box, never been used). It didn't sell and when we packed it up, the remote control was missing.

We need volunteers to stay to help box up all unsold items.

Leftovers will be donated to Cape Fear Rescue Mission

We also need someone to vacuum, put tables in place, empty trash. We want to leave the building ready for the next week

Carol Ernst