

ORGANIZED



OCTOBER 30, 1867

**Grand Chapter  
Order of the Eastern Star  
Of Michigan  
March 2024**

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Our two exemplifications in February were amazing and well attended. The Abbey-Hoekstra grand family sincerely appreciates the attendance and support of our members as we initiate new members into our Order. Larry and I are so thankful for all the work the hosting chapters put into these special evenings. Your planning and efforts to make these events so successful is evident and we are so thankful to you. Our March activities offer many more opportunities to enjoy the friends and fellowship that are so important to all of us. Watch for pictures from our visit to Niagara, Ontario for the Canadian/American exchange in the Starliner Journal in April.

Our [www.MIOES.org](http://www.MIOES.org) website has now been updated, and the new interactive calendar is now ready for your chapter events to be added. There is a form on the lower part of the calendar page that you can use to send in special events, dinners, and fundraiser information that you would like added to the calendar. These event forms come directly to me, and once they are approved for publishing, will be added to the calendar. It is a work in progress, and if you have any questions, suggestions or concerns regarding the web page, please feel free to contact me.

For those chapters who were dark in January and February, welcome back! We hope that your secretary will at least share our letters to the chapters those months. We have many members who are hospitalized, home bound or in need of a cheerful phone call or card. Please take time this Easter and Passover season to spread some cheer to those sisters and brothers. It only takes a few kind words to make someone's day a little brighter.

I'll close with an Irish blessing.... May you always find three welcomes in life  
In a garden during summer,  
At a hearth during winter,  
And in the hearts of friends throughout all your years.

With a HUG,

*Denise M. Abbey*  
Denise M. Abbey  
Worthy Grand Matron

*Larry D. Hoekstra*  
Larry D. Hoekstra  
Worthy Grand Patron

# *Easter Greetings*

*"Easter Is...*

*Joining In A Birdsong,*

*Eyeing An Early Sunrise,*

*Smelling Yellow Daffodils,*

*Unbolting Windows And Doors,*

*Skiping Through Meadows,*

*Cuddling Newborns,*

*Hoping, Believing,*

*Reviving Spent Life,*

*Inhaling Fresh Air,*

*Sprinkling Seeds Along Furrows,*

*Tracking In The Mud.*

*Easter Is The Soul's First Taste Of Spring."*

*~ Richelle E. Goodrich*

*Wishing you all a very happy spring, Easter and Passover!*

*Denise Abbey  
Worthy Grand Matron*

*Larry Hoekstra  
Worthy Grand Patron*

*Jan Cross  
Grand Secretary*



# Easter Vesper 2024

SUDDENLY IT IS EASTER

AND THE STORY STARTS,

ADAH- God of healing, You come among us in unexpected ways. Send us to those who hide in fear or question your love. Be a healing presence for those who are isolated. You prepared the disciples for ministry by calming their fears and granting them your peace. Give them a spirit of peace and hearts that burn for justice, and that their leadership will reflect your Love.

RUTH- God of rebirth. The good news of your resurrection brings refreshment to a weary world. Following the women at the tomb, empower us to boldly share your radical love through our words and the working of our hands. As you breathed your Spirit of healing upon all creation. Nourish the earth with sufficient rains. Strengthen us counter the effects of pollution and destruction.

EASTER- God of light. White, the color of fresh snow, purity of the soul, due to the reflection of most wave length's of visible light. The white light is made up of all the colors of the rainbow together, as can be seen when we shine it through a prism. White light can represent wholeness, a unity that includes and depends upon diversity of its colors as facets of the whole. Remove one color away and the light is no longer white.

MARTHA- God of strength. As you met the disciples on the road to Emmaus, show us your presence along our journey. Bless our doubts and questions. Provide trusting and safe relationships for all ages, to nurture our connection to you and towards one another. You bring us to new life every day. Thank you for blessing us with companions on our faith journey. Strengthen us with the eternal peace of your promises.

ELECTA- God of ultimate Love. Let the children come and celebrate having life in Jesus's name. Help us keep the needs of those most vulnerable, bless all those in our military keep them safe as they keep our freedom free, those who are homeless provide them with caring and nurturing friends.

WORTHY PATRON- You will call your sheep by name and will lead them, strengthen us to proclaim your gospel, guide us into all truth. Draw us closer to you and clothe us in your power.

WORTHY MATRON- After many weeks of somber introspection, Easter is a season of bright rejoicing! The general sense of Easter is joy in Christ's victory over death and the ultimate defeat of sin's power. For the season (40 days) of lent we have not used the word ALLELUIA it has been absent, it is back on our lips and we can almost not say ALLELUIA enough. If in doubt, toss in an ALLELUIA or two into your prayers.

LET US PRAY

CHAPLAIN- God of harmony, as you drew your son to your side, you draw us to you, and unite us with one another. Weave us together in a web of mutual love for the sake of the world. You will empower all people with the fire of your Spirit. Care for all your children. We give thanks that that we serve as your body in the world, sharing your abundant gifts.