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Pastor's Page

First things first . . . *What is that thing in the hole in the wall outside the glass doors?*

It's the back part of a "Knox Box." Although churches are exempt from the law, every business and three-units-or-more apartment building in the City of Lebanon is required to have one. We thought it's a good idea to add one for our safety too.

The Knox Box will hold a master key that opens every door in the building. Every piece of fire apparatus in Lebanon City has a locked key, activated by County dispatch or by the fire officer in charge. When that key is released, it opens the front of the Knox Box, giving access to the building key inside.

If there is an emergency inside the church, with a Knox Box the fire dept. can gain entry without breaking in. This can be beneficial when no one is here, but also if someone is inside but incapacitated. If that person cannot move but can make a call to 9-1-1 for help, then

emergency services can call for a fire truck to give them access. City fire will soon put our Knox Box in service and activate it with County dispatch, at which time the cover will be locked on.

Second first thing . . . Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, which this year is also Valentine's Day, 14 February. Make a date now to spend Valentine's Day with God; after all, God has done more for us than any human being ever could!

We will hold Lenten mid-week activities, beginning with a bread-and-soup supper, each Wednesday in Lent (weather permitting). The activity for this Lenten season will be a study of the *Didache* (pronounced DID-ah-kay; Greek for 'teaching'; also known as "The Teaching of the Twelve Apostles.")

The *Didache* is the oldest known "Catechism of the Church," thought to have originated in the first century A.D.

The *Didache* is comprised

of three main sections, dealing with Christian ethics, the Church's liturgical or ritual acts (Baptism, Eucharist, fasting, etc.), and Church order and organization. In some ways, the *Didache* brings to mind teachings of Jesus in the Gospel of Matthew.

Some early Church Fathers regarded the *Didache* as having equal standing to the Scriptures, but ultimately it was not included in the canon.

Over time, the *Didache* was lost to the Church, and was unknown for centuries. In 1873, Philtheos Bryennios, Metropolitan of Nicomedia, re-discovered a manuscript copy of the *Didache* within a much larger collection of early Christian works. A Latin version of the first five chapters was discovered by a Biblical scholar in 1900.

Each participant will have a copy of the *Didache* for our study, focusing on content rather than history during our five weeks together. See you there.
 Blessed Lent — Pastor +

Ministry Plan Report for December 2017

(Budgeted need per week: : \$3,483.79)

Date	Offering Received	Attendance
12/3	\$7,472.25	56 + / 22 LiF
12/10	\$3,219.45	39 + / 14 LiF
12/17	\$1,789.00	48 + / 30 Covenant study
12/24	\$5,835.75	54 + / no LiF
4 PM 12/24	(combined with morning offering)	94 +
7:30 PM 12/24	(combined with morning offering)	38 +
12/31	\$2,582.50	36 + / 12 Covenant study

NOTE: "+" denotes Worship
LiF" denotes Living in Faith



Weekly Worship Schedule

SUNDAYS:

9 AM The Holy Communion
10:30 AM Living in Faith Education Hour
4th Sunday—Bible Reading Covenant Study

WEDNESDAYS:

10 AM Anointing and Holy Communion
(except Ash Wednesday, 12 PM & 7:30 PM)
6 PM Soup and Bread Meal
6:45 PM Lenten Bible Study



Thank You Notes

Thank you notes were received from the Atlantic Mission District of the NALC, Lutheran World Relief, the NAL Seminary, the Rescue Mission and the city of Lebanon. They are available for you to read on the bulletin board outside the office.

Dear Messiah Congregation,
Thank you so much for your generous Christmas gift! It is so thoughtful of you. I feel blessed to be able to continue to play at Messiah, and truly enjoy worshipping with you. Thank you!

Erin Trovinger

In Case of Wintry Weather



In the event of wintry weather or power outages on Sunday mornings, please listen to WLBR radio (AM 1270) for information on worship schedules. If there is a power failure on a Sunday morning, worship will be held

in the Fellowship Hall. The emergency generator provides enough light in that area.

Also, in the event of adverse weather/road conditions, the office will open as soon as conditions allow us to travel safely. On a Wednesday morning, if

the Cornwall-Lebanon or Lebanon City school districts have a 2 hour delay or are closed, the Wednesday morning worship service is cancelled.



February 2018 Schedules

Assisting Minister

- 4 Michael Bowman
- 11 Sandra Smith
- 14 12 noon Ernestine Batdorf
7:30 PM Nancie Whelan
- 18 Eugene Martin
- 25 Karen Fox



Lector

- 4 Pr. James DeLong
- 11 Sandra Smith
- 14 12 noon Ernestine Batdorf
7:30 PM Nancie Whelan
- 18 Eugene Martin
- 25 Karen Fox



Greeters

- 4 Marion Bowman
- 11 Nicholas & Barbara Adams
- 14 12 noon **NEEDED**
7:30 PM **NEEDED**
- 18 Harry & Karen Hatt
- 25 **NEEDED**



Finance Steward

Karen Fox

Head Usher

Rita Savant



Altar Guild

- Ernestine Batdorf, chair
- Holly McGuire
- Louise Scaramuzzino
- Nancie Whelan



Crucifer

- 4 Kathaleen Lilley
- 11 Andrew Hartman
- 14 12 noon Rita Savant
7:30 PM Gayle Hoffman
- 18 Daniel LaRue
- 25 Eugene Martin



Acolyte

- 4 Michael Bowman
- 11 Ernestine Batdorf
- 14 12 noon Ernestine Batdorf
7:30 PM Nancie Whelan
- 18 Harry Hatt
- 25 Mikayla Bowman



WELCOME TIME Sponsors


(Welcome Time is held the first Sunday of the month at 10:30 AM.)

February 4 — Souper Bowl Team



Ash Wednesday

The vital penitential season of Lent begins on **Ash Wednesday, February 14**. On Ash Wednesday, you will have the option of attending either a mid-day liturgy, with proclamation and

 the imposition of ashes beginning at 12 noon, or the customary evening liturgy at 7:30 PM.

Both liturgies will feature the same sermon. The noon litur-

gy is to make the time easy to remember, and to make attendance possible for people who might take time at lunch, for those who do not drive at night, or who must work a late shift.

Lenten Bible Study



Messiah's Lenten discipline will be observed on Sunday mornings as well as **WEDNESDAY**

evenings from 6:45 to 8:15 PM with a Bible study series on ***How Did the Early Christians Learn the Faith?*** We will be looking at the *Didache*, the source the early Christians used to teach the faith to the Gentiles.

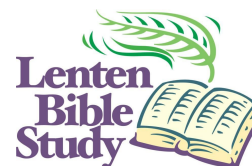
Dates are as follows:

- February 21
- February 28
- March 7
- March 14
- March 21

We will begin our Wednesday evenings with the **"Bread and Soup Supper" meal at 6 PM followed by study and discussion from 6:45 to 8:15 PM**. If the soup schedule does not suit then you are welcome to attend only the study portion of the evening.

In accord with our mission ***"to bring Christ to people and people to Christ,"*** you are invited and encouraged to bring friends with you to experience the renewing power of the Season of Lent and its glorious fulfillment in the celebration of the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Our Lord.

Bring your Bible!



Lenten Bread and Soup Meals

Every Wednesday evening in Lent the Fellowship Committee will be sponsoring a soup and bread supper beginning at 6 PM. Everyone is invited to attend.



We need **volunteers** to either make soup or to give a donation to Karen Hatt so soup may be purchased. We would like to have **two varieties of soup per Wednesday**, so we would prefer two volunteers per week. The committee will

supply the bread, drinks and paper products. We are posting **sign up sheets** in the narthex for each week so we may get a head count. This sheet will also list the soups that will be provided for that week.

Please consider joining us for nourishment and fellowship prior to our Lenten study series. It's food for the body and soul!



For Your Information



FOOD COLLECTION SUNDAY

FEBRUARY 4

Rescue Mission

2017 Year End Statements

Your 2017 year end statement is available to pick up. They are located on the narthex table by the choir room.

OPEN FLOWER DATES

There are five Sundays that do not have a flower sponsor this year. Those dates are

- April 29
- July 1
- August 5
- August 12
- December 30



Please contact Janet Gassert if you are interested in sponsoring flowers for any of these Sundays. Thank you.

June Communion Gifts

Sponsoring the Communion gifts for the month of June is now available.



Cost is \$30 for the month, and you may sponsor them in honor or in memory of whomever you would like. If you are interested in sponsoring the Communion gifts in June please contact Robin in the office.

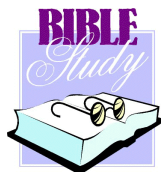
Upcoming Events

Super Bowl Party at the Rescue Mission

Sunday, February 4



Meet at the Rescue Mission (1223 Bittner Blvd., Lebanon) at 6:15 PM for an evening of pizza, fun, fellowship and football!



IN-DEPTH BIBLE STUDY

On the **Book of Romans** will continue on

Thursday, February 8

7 PM

Bring your Bible!

GAME NIGHT Friday, February 16

6:30 PM

Come on out for a fun evening of games and fellowship.



Membership Changes

Please **amend your directory** to reflect she who joined the Church Triumphant last month:

Joan Prestegord
1931-2018



If we have died with Christ, we shall also live with Him; if we are faithful to the end, we shall reign with Him.



Messiah Lutheran Church

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Office Phone 717-272-2922

E-mail

Pastor Kendall: messiahpastor@epix.net
Robin Harris/office: messiahluthleb@epix.net

Web Site

<http://www.messiahluthleb.org>

NALC Web Site

<http://www.thenalc.org>

Atlantic Mission District Web Site

<http://www.atlantic-nalc.org>

General Fund 2017 Year-End Summary

Income & Expenses At-a-Glance				
				Year-to-Date
Income				\$151,739.95
Expenses				\$167,987.58
Income Less Expenses				-\$16,247.63

Income	Year-to-Date
Total Giving	\$151,739.95
Total Income	\$151,739.95
Ministry Plan Needed to Date	\$181,157.00
Expenses	
Staff	\$117,740.41
Administrative	3,453.47
Maintenance	26,565.48
Committee	0.00
Additional	5,475.00
Benevolence	13,553.22
Loan Repayment	<u>1,200.00</u>
Total expenses	\$167,987.58
Income Less Expenses	-\$16,247.63

Benevolence Giving

2017	Regular Giving Benevolence	Additional Designated Giving	Total Given to Charities
NALC			\$7,418.98
Atlantic Mission District			\$811.76
Mission Partners*			\$605.67
NALC Seminary			\$605.67
NALC Disaster Response			\$605.67
Lebanon Rescue Mission/Agape Shelter			\$610.00
Lebanon Free Clinic			\$605.67
PACC Caring Cupboard			\$605.67
Lutheran World Relief			\$605.67
Independent Church in India			\$605.67
City of Lebanon			\$472.79
Total	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$13,553.22

*Ethiopian Church Relief Fund, The Great Commission Society, Water Missions International, Lutheran Bible Translators

February Birthdays

- 2 Michael Bowman
Vivian Mayopoulos
- 7 Mary Garrett
- 9 Margaret Shirey
- 10 Kacie Mullen
Scott Runkel
- 13 Ramona Roush
- 15 Erin Trovinger
- 16 Sherri Dolheimer
- 21 Karen Fox
Rodney Ledger
- 23 Nancy Cramp
- 24 Marion Bowman
- 25 Kelly Roof
- 27 Pastor Kendall



2018 Congregation Council

Harry Hatt, *President and Property Chair*
Gayle Hoffman, *Vice-President and Personnel Chair*

Karen Fox, *Secretary and Worship & Music Chair*
Nancie Whelan, *Treasurer and Christian Education Chair*

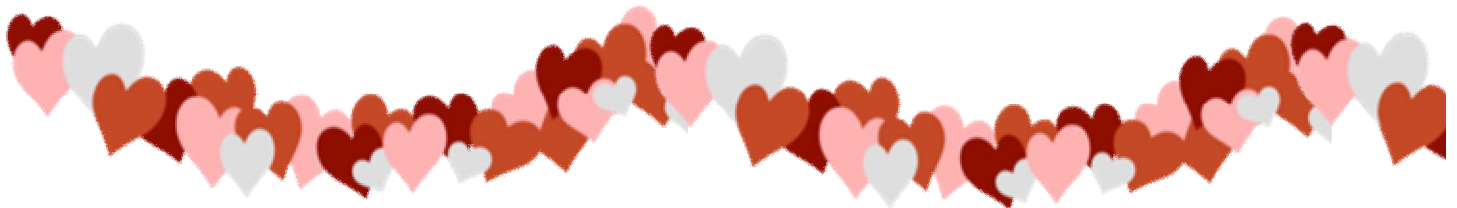
Ernestine Batdorf, *Finance Secretary, Publicity and Volunteer Resources Chair*

Rita Savant, *Assistant Finance Secretary and Social Ministry Chair*

Non Council Committee Chairs and their positions:

Karen Hatt, *Fellowship chair*

Kathaleen Lilley, *Assistant Treasurer and Finance Chair*



2018 Souper Bowl of Caring Pizza Party

On **Sunday February 4th** 140 million Americans will tune in to the Super Bowl football game. There will be parties with abundant food, friendship and fellowship. At the same time, there will be people worrying about staying warm, finding shelter and a warm meal.

Please join young people around the country as they demonstrate God's love by loving their neighbors through the Souper Bowl of Caring. It's a simple, yet significant act of caring for others.

During the **Sundays in January and on February 4th**, we will be collecting food

items and monetary donations for the Lebanon Rescue Mission as part of Messiah's Souper Bowl of Caring. Please support our efforts to tackle hunger.

Then on Super Bowl Sunday (February 4) we will **meet at the Rescue Mission at 6:15 PM** and deliver our donated items and throw a **pizza party** for the men while we enjoy watching the game. We hope to see you there!

