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Pastor's Page

I would like to begin the New Year by thanking people for their efforts in the Name of Christ in 2018.

Thank you, Council President, officers and members of Congregation Council. You all work well together and enjoy one another. The work of Council can be challenging, especially in regard to managing with slim resources, but when you think about it, you accomplished a lot, including stepping out in faith to offer a new congregation the opportunity to get on its feet and extend the Gospel to people whose needs are great. Your defining question is always the right one: "What would be most pleasing to our Lord?" When believers ask this question and act accordingly, Christians cannot go wrong.

Thank you to the administrative servants of the congregation. Messiah is blessed with dedicated, experienced people who manage the congregation's financial assets responsibly and accu-

rately. Treasurers, Financial Secretaries and Auditors all do their part in timely and thorough ways.

Thank you, all those who "work unseen" to clean, repair, and maintain the property, inside and out. This year demanded at least twice the usual effort outside, given our record rainfall (and the consequent lack of good "outdoor working time"). Your efforts are truly appreciated and make a huge difference, making Messiah a welcoming place.

Thank you, musicians. You see to it that we have regular supply organists. You go the extra mile to plan music appropriate to the Day and season of the Church Year, even though you are compensated as substitutes, not regular employees.

Thank you to everyone who gives of their time, effort and means to foster warm hospitality and a spirit of community here. Greeters (we need more of these, please offer your service), Welcome Time

sponsors, Fellowship workers, and, particularly this past autumn, everyone who worked to make the Atlantic Mission District Annual Convocation a success. Special thanks to those who worked for hours (and hours and hours) to repaint main areas of the first floor to offer a bright, presentable facility for our guests.

Thank you, Robin the Office Manager. You aren't a Messiah member but you devote yourself to Christ's work here, in your congregation, and to your family and others.

Thank you, people of Messiah, for participating in worship, learning, mutual support and acts of Christian ministry in your own spheres of service. It is good to serve with you.

Finally, thank you for your kind Christmas gift. Carey and I appreciate it, and you, very much.

May God grant to us all a blessed 2019 with Him.

+

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 Lebanon, PA 17042-5852
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E-mail

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

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NALC Web Site: www.thenalc.org
AMR Web Site: www.atlantic-nalc.org

Membership Changes

Updated phone number:

Ray & Vivian Mayopoulos

717-867-4358. (Please make this change in your directory as the one published is incorrect.)

Please **amend your directory** to reflect she who joined the Church Triumphant in November:



Marjorie Beard
 1938-2018

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



Weekly Worship Schedule

SUNDAYS:

9 AM The Holy Communion
 10:30 AM Living in Faith Education Hour
 (4th Sunday of the month—Bible Reading Covenant)

WEDNESDAYS:

(as noted in the calendar and bulletin)
 10 AM Anointing and Holy Communion

Open Flower Dates



Altar Flowers

There are **NINE** Sundays in 2019 that do not have a flower sponsor. Those dates are:

- January 6
- February 17
- June 2
- June 23
- June 30
- July 28
- August 4
- August 11
- December 29

Please contact Janet Gassert at 717-272-3757 if you are interested in sponsoring flowers for any of these Sundays. Thank you.



Wintry Weather

In the event of wintry weather or power outages on Sunday mornings, please listen to WLBR radio 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.



January Birthdays

- 6 Mary Ann Hartman
Dorothy Martin
- 10 Jean Patschke
- 12 Dawn Stickler
- 18 Suzette Buffamoyer
- 19 Greg Field
- 22 Thomas Lilley
- 24 Leah Connatser
Gayle Hoffman
- 25 Ernestine Batdorf
- 26 Michaela Swoyer
- 31 Betty Murray



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



It's a Girl!



Congratulations to Dylan and Michaela (Blouch) Swoyer on the birth of

Addyson Rose Swoyer.

Addyson was born on December 9, 2018. She weighed in at 8 lbs. 3 oz. and was 21" long. May God richly bless this new family!

Congratulations are also extended to first time grandmother Sherri Blouch and the new great-grandparents Nick and Barb Adams.

2019 Congregation Council

- Ernestine Batdorf
- Karen Fox
- Harry Hatt
- Gayle Hoffman
- Rita Savant
- Nancie Whelan

OUR SINCERE THANKS to **Karen Fox, Gayle Hoffman and Nancie Whelan** for returning for a new two-year term.

Please keep all our Congregation Council members, in your prayers as they seek to serve our Lord and His people in leadership at Messiah. They welcome your prayers, your input into the life of our congregation, and your expressions of encouragement and appreciation for their efforts. +

2018 Year End Statements

Your 2018 year end statement will be available to pick up in the beginning of January. They will be located on the narthex table by the choir room.

FOOD COLLECTION SUNDAYS



January 6
February 3

All going to the Rescue Mission



November Congregation Council Meeting Highlights

The Messiah Congregation Council met on Tuesday, November 13, 2018.

- Sign-ups sheets are posted on the information Center for the luncheon on Saturday prior to the Annual Congregation meeting, cookie donations and the Lay Renewal workshop on December 2nd at Zoar Lutheran Church and after worship on December 3rd at Messiah.
- A surplus floor scrubber from Good Samaritan Wellspan was delivered at no cost to Messiah.
- The Agape Christmas Party will be held Sunday afternoon, December 2nd. A \$250 grant was received from Thrivent to purchase bedding and towels for the Agape Shelter.
- The Atlantic Mission District Convocation went very well thanks to all the volunteers. Appreciation was expressed on many fronts at the time of the Convo and following.
- The visitors from Vinemont Lutheran Church, Reinholds, PA were generous in their gifts of time to visit us and offerings to Messiah. A reciprocal visit in 2019 was discussed

December Congregation Council Meeting Highlights

The Messiah Congregation Council met on Tuesday, December 11, 2018.

- Cookie delivery to our shut-ins is going well.
- The Agape Christmas Party went well. There were many donations this year.
- Congregation Council approved sending the remaining tithe to be disbursed from the Zeller Trust for 2018 to ICII for cyclone relief.

Respectfully submitted,
 Karen Fox
 Congregation Council secretary

Ministry Plan Report for October & November

(Budgeted need per week for 2018: : \$3,483.79)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Offering received</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
10/7	\$3,432.00	53 + / 15 LiF
10/14	\$2,427.76	40 + / 15 LiF
10/21	\$1,838.00	38 + / 14 LiF
10/28	\$2,285.00	40 + / 17 Covenant
11/4	\$3,501.50	49 + / 16 Covenant
11/11	\$2,815.00	63 + / 29 LiF
11/18	\$2,926.00	49 + / 14 LiF
Thanksgiving Eve 11/21	(offering rolled into 11/25)	15 +
11/25	\$2,324.00	40 + / 16 Covenant

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



STEWARDSHIP
Managing God's Gifts To Us

Thank You Notes



Thank you notes were received from Lutheran World Relief, the Rescue Mission, and the Atlantic Mission District of the NALC. They are posted on the bulletin board outside the church office.



I would like to thank all those who baked and help to pack the cookies for the shut-ins. We had a very good response. We packed 15 containers of cookies.

Karen Hatt
Fellowship chair



Thank you so much to my Messiah Family for all the goodies that you gave to me for Christmas. They were delicious and Scott and I enjoyed them very much.

In Christian love,
Kitty Runkel



On behalf of my family, I would like to thank every one of you for your expressions of sympathy and support during my mother's illness and passing. We would also like to thank Pastor Kendall, Karen Fox and everyone who participated in the service. It was a beautiful tribute.

We are comforted in the knowledge that Mom's struggles are over and she is at peace with our loving Savior.

Thank you also for the delicious cookies.
Sincerely,
Lori and Rick Wert



A hearty thank you to the members of Messiah who contributed so generously to the needs of the children and mothers at the Agape House.

To hear about the party please see the article below.

Rita Savant
Social Ministry chair



I would like to thank the members of Messiah for the generous gift you gave me for Christmas. It is much appreciated!

I would also like to thank Harry Hatt for the beautiful wooden star ornament. It is simply lovely, and I will think of my Messiah Family every year when I hang it on my Christmas tree.

In Christian love and gratitude,
Robin Harris



Agape Family Shelter Christmas Party



On Sunday, December 2 the Social Ministry committee members delivered the gifts to the Agape House for a Christmas party with Pastor and Mrs. Kendall portraying the Christmas story and Mrs. Kendall singing a story from her childhood. The children participated as shepherds, animals, Mary and

Joseph and baby Jesus. Mrs. Kendall prepared a craft for the younger children. After the stories, all had punch and cookies for refreshments.

A huge thank you to the Hatt Family for obtaining a Thrivent grant in the amount of \$250 to purchase sheets, towels and cleaning supplies for Agape House.

Again, thank you to the congregation for participating in this annual event and to Pastor and Mrs. Kendall for giving their time to this Christmas charity.



January 2019 Schedules

Assisting Minister

- 6 Kathaleen Lilley
- 13 Sandra Smith
- 20 Nancie Whelan
- 27 Michael Bowman



Lector

- 6 Mary Garrett
- 13 Sandra Smith
- 20 Nancie Whelan
- 27 Michael Bowman



Greeters

- 6 Tom & Janet Gassert
- 13 Kathaleen Lilley
- 20 **NEEDED**
- 27 **NEEDED**



Finance Steward
Gayle Hoffman

Head Ushers

Nicholas and Barbara Adams



Altar Guild

- Janet Gassert, chair
- Tom Gassert
- Lori Wert



Crucifer

- 6 Daniel LaRue
- 13 Eugene Martin
- 20 Ernestine Batdorf
- 27 Gayle Hoffman



Acolyte

- 6 Ernestine Batdorf
- 13 Harry Hatt
- 20 Nancie Whelan
- 27 Michael Bowman



WELCOME TIME Sponsors

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

January 6 — Deb Lutz



February 2019 Schedules

Assisting Minister

- 3 Daniel LaRue
- 10 Ernestine Batdorf
- 17 Karen Fox
- 24 Charlotte Varone



Altar Guild

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



Lector

- 3 Carey Kendall
- 10 Ernestine Batdorf
- 17 Karen Fox
- 24 Charlotte Varone



Crucifer

- 3 Sandra Smith
- 10 Andrew Hartman
- 17 Kathaleen Lilley
- 24 Robert Bowman



Greeters

- 3 Marion Bowman
- 10 **NEEDED**
- 17 **NEEDED**
- 24 **NEEDED**



Acolyte

- 3 Deborah Lutz
- 10 Ernestine Batdorf
- 17 Nancie Whelan
- 24 Mikayla Bowman



WELCOME TIME Sponsors

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

February 3 — Souper Bowl Team



Finance Steward
Harry Hatt

Head Usher
Rita Savant





www.theNALS.org

November 20, 2018

Messiah Lutheran Church
Rev. Barry Kendall
1800 Oak St
Lebanon, PA 17042-5852

Dear Pastor Kendall and the Congregation of Messiah Lutheran Church,

On behalf of the North American Lutheran Seminary, I am writing to thank you for your gift to the Theological Education Fund of the North American Lutheran Church in the past several years. Through your generosity, and that of many other friends, our students are able to learn and train here without accumulating significant debt.

Enclosed is a letter of thanks from a current student who has benefited from your wonderful gift, and is receiving a scholarship. We hope that you will feel more connected to the students by reading one of their stories, and that you will remember this student in your prayers.

Each of us at the NALS is thankful to God for you and your partnership with us. This year alone, we have 14 full-time students who are receiving scholarships! As you can see from the enclosed correspondence, it makes an enormous difference to all of our students.

Again, thank you! Should you have any questions about the enclosed letter, or about the NALS, please feel free to call me.

In Christ Jesus,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dr. Amy C. Schifrin".

The Rev. Dr. Amy Schifrin, STS
President, NALS



Ryan Henkel, NALS Seminarian



Dear Friend of the North American Lutheran Seminary,

Greetings! Grace and peace to you from our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. My name is Ryan Henkel, one of the NALC seminarians studying at the North American Lutheran Seminary (NALS) and Trinity School for Ministry (TSM) this year in Ambridge, PA. I wanted to take a moment and thank you personally for your support of the NALC Scholarship Fund to offset my expenses while attending the NALS at TSM. It is with pure gratitude and appreciation towards generous donors like yourself that seminarians can accept God's calling toward a life in ministry without financial burdens looming over them.

I have completed my first year at the NALS and am set to graduate at the end of this year. I started here with an advanced standing from my undergraduate program. My wife and I are anxiously awaiting the next step in the candidacy process this coming October for my Endorsement for Internship/Vicarage. We celebrated our first wedding anniversary this past July.

To tell you a little about myself and my wife, Natalie, I grew up in Pontiac, IL, in a farm community that I have known all my life. I was born and raised Lutheran. I have been a member of two congregations, the most recent in First Lutheran Church in Pontiac, IL, where I have been a member for the past 18 years. I heard God's call in 2013 to go into full-time ministry while attending Wartburg College. It was here that I was able to further my love for God and His people. I have traveled all over Europe singing with the Wartburg Choir on international tours as well across the United States. We graduated in May 2017. I have a Bachelor's of Arts in Religion with a concentration in Pre-Seminary Studies. Natalie has a Bachelor's of Arts in Elementary Education with endorsements in Early Childhood and Reading. My wife grew up in Cedar Rapids, IA. She and I have both worked at a Lutheran bible camp called EWALU (Eastern Iowa Lutheran Bible Camp) for the past several summers in Strawberry Point, IA, working as camp counselors, program coordinators, and assistant program director. These experiences have further honed my skills in ministry as we both prepare for full-time ministry in our future.

This past year, I started working part time at the NALS as Dr. Amy Schifrin's Administrative Assistant. It has been a true blessing to work underneath her as well as be a support network for donors as well as students. I work mainly with the Development, Advancement, and Recruitment departments here to further the mission of the NALS. To say we have been blessed is an understatement with the opportunities and adventures that God has taken us on since accepting His call into ministry.

Again, I want to extend my gratitude and thank you for your support toward the future of God's ministry at the NALS.

God's Blessings,

Ryan Henkel

2019 Souper Bowl of Caring

On **Sunday February 3rd** 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 3rd, 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 3) we will travel to the Rescue Mission to deliver

our donated items and throw a **pizza party** for the men while we enjoy watching the football game. We hope to see you there!

Come join us!

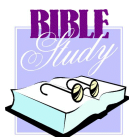


Upcoming Events

The church office will be closed on **Tuesday, January 1.**



There will be NO IN-DEPTH BIBLE STUDY in January



We WILL meet on Thursday, February 14 at 7 PM.



ASH WEDNESDAY
Wednesday, March 6
Liturgies at Noon and at 7:30 PM

Recycle Christmas Cards



Please recycle your Christmas cards by placing them in the box on the oak table in the narthex. They will be used to make Christmas books to be distributed to shut-ins next year. Thank you!

Help Wanted!



Please sign up today to be a **Greeter!** There are many open dates. The **Welcome Time** sponsor sheet for 2019 is posted on the Information Center in the narthex.

Messiah Lutheran 2019 Ministry Plan

	2019	2018	Net Change	Percent Change
Staff Ministries				
Pastor Salary	40,760 ¹	39,371	1,389	2.00%
Pastor Housing	30,000	30,000	0	
Pastor's Social Security	5,827	5,716	111	1.95%
Car Allowance	2,600	2,600	0	0.00%
Pension	9,852	9,852	0	0.00%
Medical/Dental/Disability/Survivor Insurance	16,000	16,000	0	0.00%
Pastor's Continuing Ed	100	100	0	0.00%
Secretary Salary	10,375 ²	13,300	-2,925	-21.99%
Secretary Social Security	794	1,017	-223	-21.96%
Workers Compensation Insurance	700	700	0	0.00%
TOTAL	117,008	118,655	-1,647	-1.39%
Percent of Total Plan	72.79%	73.13%		
Administrative Ministries				
Consumable Supplies	1,400	1,800	-400	-22.22%
Technology Support	0	0	0	0.00%
Non-Consumable Supplies	100	100	0	0.00%
Postage	100	100	0	0.00%
Worship Supplies	500	500	0	0.00%
Telephone & Internet	1,500	1,500	0	0.00%
Offering Supplies	400	450	-50	-11.11%
NALC Convocation	0	0	0	0.00%
TOTAL	4,000	4,450	-450	-10.11%
Percent of Total Plan	2.49%	2.74%		
Maintenance Ministries				
Electric	9,000	9,000	0	0.00%
Gas	3,500	3,500	0	0.00%
Water & Sewer	625	600	25	4.17%
Refuse Removal	400	400	0	0.00%
Equipment Service	3,000	3,000	0	0.00%
Grounds Care	4,400	4,400	0	0.00%
Facilities Services (Contractor)	3,600	3,600	0	0.00%
Snow Removal	1,500	1,400	100	7.14%
Janitorial - Non-paper Supplies	325	250	75	30.00%
Janitorial - Paper Supplies	200	300	-100	-33.33%
Property & Liability Insurance	5,100	5,000	100	2.00%
Organ/Piano Tuning/Repairs	1,300	1,300	0	0.00%
Chesapeake Bay Stormwater Runoff	500 ³	0	500	100.00%
TOTAL	33,450	32,750	700	2.14%
Percent of Total Plan	20.81%	20.19%		

The 2019 Ministry Plan was approved by those members in attendance at the November 17, 2018 Annual Congregation meeting.

Messiah Lutheran 2019 Ministry Plan

	2019	2018	Net Change	Percent Change
Committee Ministries				
Publicity/Advertising	0	0	0	0.00%
Christian Ed	50	100	-50	-50.00%
Evangelism	50	100	-50	-50.00%
Fellowship	25	25	0	0.00%
Social Ministry	40	40	0	0.00%
Stewardship	50	50	0	0.00%
Youth Ministry	0	0	0	0.00%
TOTAL	215	315	-100	-31.75%
Percent of Total Plan	0.13%	0.19%		
Additional Ministries				
Speakers & Substitutes	170	170	0	0.00%
Organist Substitutes	5,875	5,875	0	0.00%
Pastoral Care Resources	0	0	0	0.00%
Awards & Gifts	30	30	0	0.00%
VBS	0	0	0	0.00%
Library	0	0	0	0.00%
TOTAL	6,075	6,075	0	0.00%
Percent of Total Plan	3.78%	3.74%		
Future Ministries				
Organist Salary	0	0		
Organist Social Security	0	0		
Continuing Education	0	0		
Choir Director Salary	0	0		
Choir Director Social Security	0	0		
Continuing Education	0	0		
Chime Choir Director Stipend	0	0		
Chime Choir Dir. Soc. Security	0	0		
Music	0	0		
Choir Fellowship	0	0		
TOTAL	0	0		
Percent of Total Plan	0.00%	0.00%		
General Fund Total	160,748	162,245	-1,497	-0.92%
Benevolence Ministries				
NALC Benevolence	8,040	8,400	-360	-4.29%
Other Benevolence	4,020	6,000	-1,980	-33.00%
TOTAL	12,060	14,400	-2,340	-16.25%
Loan Repayment				
Loan - Repay endowment fund	1,200	1,200	0	0.00%
TOTAL	1,200	1,200	0	0.00%
GRAND TOTAL	174,008	177,845	-3,837	-2.16%

These figures are here for information only in the event that the congregation would hire an organist, choir director or cantor in the future.

* Total Benevolence Commitment: The congregation's tithes that is designated as this congregation's benevolence support will consist of 10% of offerings received in regular giving envelopes and other benevolences as specifically determined by Congregation Council.

Notes for 2019 Ministry Plan

1. Pastor's Letter of Call has been modified to set the 2018 total salary and housing amounts as the minimum salary guideline rate going forward. The 2019 salary amount reflects a 2% increase in salary and housing for 2019. The word "amount" refers to the minimum salary guidelines that are used to calculate Pastor's salary. Pastor Kendall made this recommendation to modify the Letter of Call.
2. In May of 2018, the Council took action to reduce the number of secretarial hours per week beginning Jul 2018. The 2019 salary amount reflects that 2018 reduced amount plus a 3% increase.
3. The City of Lebanon has assessed an additional annual fee for Chesapeake Bay stormwater run-off. The former line item for Deficit Reduction has replaced with Chesapeake Bay Stormwater Runoff.
4. In light of the deficit, this figure reflects one a Capella Sunday per month.
5. **Benevolence Breakdown for 2019:** The committee recommends the following benevolence amounts for 2019 as follows:
 1. NALC - \$8040 per year or \$670 each month (6.0%)
 2. Atlantic Mission District - \$600 per year or \$50 per month (.5%)
 3. NALC Partner Ministries (\$380 - divided \$95.00 per quarter (.4%)):
 - a. Ethiopian Church Relief Fund
 - b. The Great Commission Society
 - c. Water Missions International
 - d. Lutheran Bible Translators
 4. North American Lutheran Seminary-- (\$380 - divided \$95.00 per quarter) (.4%)
 5. Independent Church in India – (\$380 - divided \$95.00 per quarter) (.4%)
 6. Caring Cupboard - (\$380 - divided \$95.00 per quarter) (.4%)
 7. Lutheran World Relief - (\$380 - divided \$95.00 per quarter) (.4%)
 8. Lebanon Free Clinic - (\$380 - divided \$95.00 per quarter) (.4%)
 9. NALC Disaster Response - (\$380 - divided \$95.00 per quarter) (.4%)
 10. Lebanon Rescue/Agape - (\$380 - divided \$95.00 per quarter) (.4%)
 11. City of Lebanon (in lieu of taxes) - (\$380 - divided \$95.00 per quarter) (.4%)

TOTAL Estimated Benevolence Giving: \$12,060 (represents 10% of 2019 estimated giving)

6. *****Please Note:** In December of each year, the finance committee will review offerings given for the year to determine if there are additional offerings to send to each organization based upon our 10.00% tithe. The additional offerings will be divided according to the percentages listed above and sent to each organization.