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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

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Pastor's Page

It hardly seems possible that twenty years ago, people were obsessing about “Y2K”. No one knew whether computers would die, planes would fall from the sky, and civilization would come to a blue-screen-of-death halt. This didn’t happen, of course, but at the passing of a calendar year, there is always the prospect of “change.”

This year, one change is evident: the pavilion in the back yard is no more.

Why? The pavilion has been there since the early ‘70s. It received a new roof fifteen or so years ago, but had the original sheathing under the tar paper and shingles. Over the years—especially over the recent very wet years—the sheathing rotted in many places.

In addition, the pilings and roof supports were original and had deteriorated considerably. Recent winds also tore off some of the east gable panels.

The pavilion was not in

good condition, and restoration would have been costly—and relatively pointless, for the congregation has not used it in years. Perhaps twenty years ago, we offered its use, free of charge, to members who wished to have family gatherings or picnics; the best anyone can remember, this never happened.

Besides the silliness of repairing a structure that doesn’t get used, we had another problem: the roof on the storage shed no longer keeps the rain out. This roof has always been problematic because of how the pavilion roof and shed roof bumped into each other.

With the pavilion gone, we can now build a simple peaked roof over the storage building. The Property Committee plans to undertake this job “in-house” with church volunteers this spring. If you would like to help, you will be welcomed with open arms. Watch the bulletins in springtime for an announcement, or speak to Harry Hatt re: the project.

Now, to other things . . . Carey and I would like to thank everyone who contributed to the congregation’s Christmas gift to us. Your kindness and generosity are very much appreciated. We are also very thankful for your Christmas cards and greetings. I’m sorry we can’t send a card to every one of you, but we truly appreciate that you remember us this way.

Now, as we prepare ourselves to write “2020” on everything and bid “19” good-bye, I’d like to thank you all for your Christian fellowship and service. I give thanks to God daily for the warmth found in the Messiah community, for the dedication of our servants in their areas of ability, and for the eagerness with which many strive to learn and grow in their faith. We are not large in numbers, but we are large in the love of Christ, of one another, and of neighbors near and far.

I look forward to our continued journey with Jesus in 2020.—*Pastor+*

Messiah Lutheran Church
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 Lebanon, PA 17042-5852
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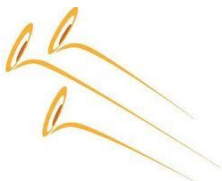
E-mail

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

Web Site: <http://www.messiahluthleb.org>
NALC Web Site: <http://www.thenalc.org>
AMR Web Site: <http://www.atlantic-nalc.org>

Membership Changes

Please **amend your directory** to reflect they who joined the Church Triumphant last November:



Carol Frantz
 1944-2019

Robert Lillie
 1921-2019

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 **FIVE** Sundays in 2020 that do not have a flower sponsor. Those dates are:

- January 5
- August 2
- August 16
- November 29
- December 6

Please contact Janet Gassert at 717-272-3757 if you are interested in sponsoring flowers or giving an additional contribution in lieu of flowers for any of these Sundays. Thank you.

FOOD COLLECTION SUNDAYS

January 5
February 2



All going to the Rescue Mission

HAPPY NEW YEAR

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
Gail Peters
- 24 Leah Connatser
Gayle Hoffman
- 25 Ernestine Batdorf
- 26 Michaela (Blouch) Swoyer
- 31 Betty Murray



February Birthdays

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



2020 Congregation Council

Nicholas Adams
Ernestine Batdorf
Karen Fox
Harry Hatt
Gayle Hoffman
David Machamer
Nancie Whelan
Karen Zivic

OUR SINCERE THANKS are due to outgoing Council member **Rita Savant** for her faithful leadership and important contributions throughout her terms of service. Those remaining on Council will miss serving with her.

We also thank **Harry Hatt and Teenie Batdorf** for returning for a new two-year term, and welcome newly elected members **Nick Adams, Dave Machamer and Karen Zivic**.

Please keep these, and 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. +

Directory Corrections

All of you received a copy of the new Messiah directory in November. Unfortunately there were several errors that were not discovered until after publication. Please make the following corrections and updates to your new directory:

Ray & Vivian Mayopoulos' correct email is rv.mayo@comcast.net.

Erin Trovinger's correct cell number is 717-389-2380.

Richard Gehret's new phone number is 717-273-3534. Also, his **mailing address** should be 701 Walnut St., 2nd floor, Lebanon, PA 17042.

Communion Gifts



July remains open for Communion gift sponsorship. Cost is \$30 for the month. If you are interested please contact Robin in the office.

November Congregation Council Meeting Highlights

The Messiah Congregation Council met on Tuesday, November 12, 2019.

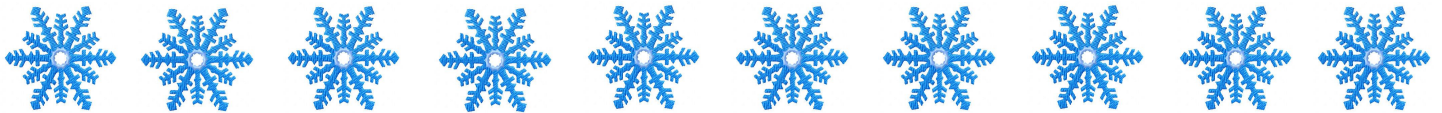
- Treasurer’s and Financial Reports accepted as written and pending audit.
- Thanks to everyone who helped install the flagpole.
- The AGAPE project will once again provide necessities for the women and children at the Agape shelter. Thanks to the congregation for their donations.
- Snow removal proposal was accepted for 2019-2020.
- Proposal for new hot water heater moved and accepted.

December Congregation Council Meeting Highlights

The Messiah Congregation Council met on Tuesday, December 10, 2019.

- Financial reports read and accepted.
- Rate established for continued use of facilities by the Liberti church.
- Distribution of keys for ushers on their assigned months.
- Property repair and updates provided.

Respectfully submitted,
 Gayle Hoffman
 Congregation Council secretary



Ministry Plan Report for October & November

(Budgeted need per week for 2019: \$3,346.31)

10/6	\$4,210.00	43 + / 14 LiF
*10/13	\$1,838.00	36 + / 13 LiF
10/20	\$4,012.00	50 + / 17 LiF
10/27	\$2,049.00	32 + / 17 Covenant
11/3	\$4,492.00	46 + / 14 LiF
11/10	\$4,120.02	71 + / no LiF
*11/17	\$1,653.00	46 + / 17 LiF
11/24	\$2,320.00	38 + / 28 Covenant
Thgv Eve 11/27	(offering rolled into 12/1)	23 +

NOTE: "+" denotes Worship
 LiF" denotes Living in Faith
 * denotes an A Cappella Sunday



STEWARDSHIP

Managing God's Gifts To Us

Thank You Notes



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

I would like to put a BIG Thank You to all the ladies and men who baked cookies for the shut ins. We had 17 different kinds this year! We were able to take cookies to the Agape Shelter and the Rescue Mission as well. Thank you!

Karen Hatt
Fellowship chair



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

Thank you also for your love and support for me as I work in the office. It is so nice to work for such a wonderful congregation.

In Christian love and gratitude,
Robin Harris

New Address

Michelle Blouch has a new address. It is:

1142 Ivystone Square, Apt. B
Chesapeake, VA 23320

Please update your directory.

New Acolyte Training



Please speak with Pr. Kendall if you are interested in being an acolyte in the new year. He will hold an acolyte training session for those who would like to serve. After he learns who all is interested he will work on setting a training date with a corresponding snow date "just in case."

2019 Year End Statements

Your 2019 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.

Agape Family Shelter Christmas Party



On December 5, 2019 members of the Social Ministry Committee (Teenie Batdorf, Rita Savant, Karen & Harry Hatt and Pastor Kendall) delivered the items collected for the Agape House from the Tree of Giving during the month of November. We did not have a party this year because there were no children old enough to hear the Pastor's Christmas story.

Collections for the babies included diapers, baby food, bath items and clothing.

Collected for the mothers were bath items, toothpaste and toothbrushes, deodorant, hand sanitizer, and bus passes.

Pastor Kendall supplied the ingredients for a holiday punch. We also gave them a supply of cookies for the holidays, and we received a resounding "thank you!!"

Thank you to Harry and Karen Hatt for obtaining a Thrivent grant in the amount of \$250 to purchase sheets, towels, toilet paper, paper towels and cleaning supplies for the Agape House.

Thank you, Harry, for the use of your truck to help deliver these items. And thank you, Messiah, for your generous agape love to the less fortunate of our community.



January 2020 Schedules

Assisting Minister

- 5 Daniel LaRue
- 12 Ernestine Batdorf
- 19 Sandra Smith
- 26 Kathaleen Lilley



Lector

- 5 Nancie Whelan
- 12 Ernestine Batdorf
- 19 Sandra Smith
- 26 Kathaleen Lilley



Greeters

- 5 Lori Wert
- 12 **NEEDED**
- 19 Lori Wert
- 26 **NEEDED**



Finance Steward
Nicholas Adams



Head Ushers

Nicholas and Barbara Adams



Altar Guild

- Janet Gassert, chair
- Tom Gassert
- Lori Wert



Crucifer

- 5 Gayle Hoffman
- 12 Daniel LaRue
- 19 Ernestine Batdorf
- 26 Andrew Hartman



Acolyte

- 5 Deborah Lutz
- 12 Ernestine Batdorf
- 19 Nancie Whelan
- 26 Harry Hatt



WELCOME TIME Sponsors

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

January 5 — Deborah Lutz



February 2020 Schedules

Assisting Minister

- 2 Deborah Lutz
- 9 Eugene Martin
- 16 Karen Fox
- 23 Michael Bowman
- 26 12 PM Charlotte Varone
- 7:30 PM Nancie Whelan



Lector

- 2 Robert Bowman
- 9 Eugene Martin
- 16 Karen Fox
- 23 Michael Bowman
- 26 12 PM Charlotte Varone
- 7:30 PM Nancie Whelan



Greeters

- 2 **NEEDED**
- 9 Nicholas & Barbara Adams
- 16 **NEEDED**
- 23 **NEEDED**
- 26 12 PM **NEEDED**
- 7:30 PM **NEEDED**



Finance Steward

Harry Hatt

Head Ushers

Rita Savant



Altar Guild

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



Crucifer

- 2 Robert Bowman
- 9 **NEEDED**
- 16 Kathaleen Lilley
- 23 Eugene Martin
- 26 12 PM Ernestine Batdorf
- 7:30 PM Gayle Hoffman



Acolyte

- 2 Deborah Lutz
- 9 Harry Hatt
- 16 Ernestine Batdorf
- 23 Michael Bowman
- 26 12 PM Karen Fox or Pastor
- 7:30 PM Nancie Whelan



WELCOME TIME Sponsors

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

February 2 — Souper Bowl Team



2020 Souper Bowl of Caring Pizza Party

On **Sunday February 2nd** 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 2nd**, 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 2) 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 **Wednesday, January 1.**



There will be NO IN-DEPTH BIBLE STUDY in January



We WILL meet on Thursday, February 13 at 7 PM



ASH WEDNESDAY
Wednesday, February 26
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 2020 is posted on the Information Center in the narthex.

Messiah Lutheran 2020 Ministry Plan

	2020	2019	Net Change	Percent Change
Staff Ministries				
Pastor Salary	40,760	40,760	0	0.00%
Pastor Housing	30,000	30,000	0	0.00%
Pastor's Social Security	5,827	5,827	0	0.00%
Car Allowance	2,600	2,600	0	0.00%
Pension	9,852	9,852	0	0.00%
Medical/Dental/Disability/Survivor Insurance	17,000	16,000	1,000	6.25%
Pastor's Continuing Ed	100	100	0	0.00%
Secretary Salary	10,583	10,375	208	2.00%
Secretary Social Security	810	794	16	2.00%
Workers Compensation Insurance	600	700	-100	-14.29%
TOTAL	118,131	117,008	1,123	0.96%
Percent of Total Plan	73.94%	72.79%		
Administrative Ministries				
Consumable Supplies	1,400	1,400	0	0.00%
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	400	0	0.00%
NALC Convocation	0	0	0	0.00%
TOTAL	4,000	4,000	0	0.00%
Percent of Total Plan	2.50%	2.49%		
Maintenance Ministries				
Electric	9,000	9,000	0	0.00%
Gas	3,500	3,500	0	0.00%
Water & Sewer	625	625	0	0.00%
Refuse Removal	400	400	0	0.00%
Equipment Service	4,000	3,000	1,000	33.33%
Grounds Care	4,400	4,400	0	0.00%
Facilities Services (Contractor)	0	3,600	-3,600	-100.00%
Snow Removal	1,800	1,500	300	20.00%
Janitorial - Non-paper Supplies	325	325	0	0.00%
Janitorial - Paper Supplies	200	200	0	0.00%
Property & Liability Insurance	5,300	5,100	200	3.92%
Organ/Piano Tuning/Repairs	1,300	1,300	0	0.00%
Chesapeake Bay Stormwater Runoff	500	500	0	100.00%
TOTAL	31,350	33,450	-2,100	-6.28%
Percent of Total Plan	19.62%	20.81%		

The 2020 Ministry Plan was approved by those members in attendance at the November 16, 2019 Annual Congregation meeting.

Messiah Lutheran 2020 Ministry Plan

	2020	2019	Net Change	Percent Change
Committee Ministries				
Publicity/Advertising	0	0	0	0.00%
Christian Ed	50	50	0	0.00%
Evangelism	50	50	0	0.00%
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	215	0	0.00%
Percent of Total Plan	0.13%	0.13%		
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	3.80%	3.78%		
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	159,771	160,748	-977	-0.61%
Benevolence Ministries				
NALC Benevolence	8,040	8,040	0	0.00%
Other Benevolence	4,020	4,020	0	0.00%
TOTAL	12,060	12,060	0	0.00%
Loan Repayment				
Loan - Repay endowment fund	1,200	1,200	0	0.00%
TOTAL	1,200	1,200	0	0.00%
GRAND TOTAL	173,031	174,008	-977	-0.56%

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 tithe 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 2020 Ministry Plan

Pastor's Letter of Call was modified in 2018 total salary and housing amounts as the minimum salary guideline rate going forward. The 2020 salary amount reflects a 0% increase in salary and housing for 2020 from the 2019 amounts. The word "amount" refers to the minimum salary guidelines that are used to calculate Pastor's salary. Pastor requested no increase in salary for 2020.

The secretary's salary amount reflects a 2% increase for 2020.

In light of the deficit, this figure reflects one a Capella Sunday per month.

Benevolence Breakdown for 2020: The committee recommends the following benevolence amounts for 2020 as follows:

NALC - \$8040 per year or \$670 each month (6.0%)

Atlantic Mission District - \$600 per year or \$50 per month (.5%)

NALC Partner Ministries (\$380 - divided \$95.00 per quarter (.4%)):

Ethiopian Church Relief Fund

The Great Commission Society

Water Missions International

Lutheran Bible Translators

North American Lutheran Seminary– (\$380 - divided \$95.00 per quarter) (.4%)

Independent Church in India – (\$380 - divided \$95.00 per quarter) (.4%)

Caring Cupboard - (\$380 - divided \$95.00 per quarter) (.4%)

Lutheran World Relief - (\$380 - divided \$95.00 per quarter) (.4%)

Lebanon Free Clinic - (\$380 - divided \$95.00 per quarter) (.4%)

NALC Disaster Response - (\$380 - divided \$95.00 per quarter) (.4%)

Lebanon Rescue/Agape - (\$380 - divided \$95.00 per quarter) (.4%)

City of Lebanon (in lieu of taxes) - (\$380 - divided \$95.00 per quarter) (.4%)

TOTAL Estimated Benevolence Giving: \$12,060 (represents 10% of 2020 estimated giving)

***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.

