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Pastor's Page

How to remain resilient in traumatic times such as these.

This phrase seems very relevant both as individuals as well as communally; especially for Messiah church members. You are going through tough times as you recuperate from the loss of your very long time pastor and shepherd.

"But my righteous one will live by faith. And I take no pleasure in the one who shrinks back." (Hebrews 10:38)

The epistle of Hebrews admonishes the first century believers who were living under the heavy weight of persecution both from the Roman Empire as well as from ecclesiastical authorities.

The author encourages believers not to grow weary but press on fixing their gaze on Jesus Christ who, for the joy set before Him, He endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand the throne of God (Heb. 12:2).

People try to adapt to traumatic circumstances in many ways. The danger of trials and tribulations is that it creates fear and confusion in the hearts and minds of those who go through difficult moments in their lives. Helpful and successful way of adapting to challenging times is when we come out stronger and resilient and ready to move forward with clear mission and vision.

Now, to your credit, you

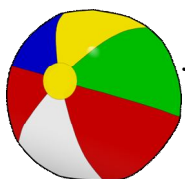
are preparing to form a call committee in search for your next pastor who can lead this church to move forward in the power of the Holy Spirit towards a better future. This can only be possible if you cooperate with one another and pray fervently for God to send a spiritual leader who is both committed and compassionate at the same time.

We all face challenges of various kinds in our lives. The true test of our character and maturity is how we handle or behave ourselves in the face of adversities. It is my hope and fervent prayer that Messiah will grow both spiritually and numerically in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Pastor Abera +



Thank You Notes



THANK YOU

Thank you notes were received from the Atlantic Mission Region of the NALC, the Rescue Mission, the Caring Cupboard, the North American Lutheran Church, the North American Lutheran Seminary, and Lutheran World Relief. They are available for you to read on the bulletin board outside the office.



The Altar Guild wishes to thank everyone who contributed towards the geraniums which decorated the chancel on Pentecost. It is greatly appreciated as we honored the birthday of the Church with floral tributes.

Dear Friends at Messiah,

Many thanks for the very delicious Super Bowl meal you delivered to the Rescue Mission on Super Bowl Sunday!

We missed your company but I am hopeful we will all be together again next year.

God's blessings be on each of you and your congregation.

Jenny Topping
Director of Food Services
Lebanon Rescue Mission



Prize Collection for Spang Crest

Every July Messiah has participated in the Friends of Spang Crest Prize Collection. The residents are very appreciative of your generosity as you provide them with fun and useful

prizes for them to choose.



During the month of July a box will be placed in the narthex to receive any of the items listed below. These are the **most requested things** that the residents

of Spang Crest pick for Bingo or racing prizes:

- Toothpaste
- Toothbrushes
- Tissues (boxes or packs)
- Hand lotion
- Hair brushes
- Hair items (barrettes, headbands, etc.)
- Long necklaces
- Gripppy socks
- Perfume/cologne/aftershave/body spray
- Chocolate bars
- Tic Tacs
- Sugar-free candy (hard and chocolate bars)
- Hard candy
- Small tablets
- Pens
- Snack packs of cookies
- Snack crackers (peanut butter or cheese)
- Pretzels (snack sized bags)
- Quarters to spend in the gift shop
- Small stuffed animals
- Coloring books for adults

Please contact **Nancie Whelan** with any questions. And thank you for continuing to support one of our local senior residences!



July 2022 Schedules

Assisting Minister

- 3 Ernestine Batdorf
- 10 Eugene Martin
- 17 Karen Fox
- 24 Charlotte Varone
- 31 Deborah Lutz



Lector

- 3 Nancie Whelan
- 10 Eugene Martin
- 17 Karen Fox
- 24 Charlotte Varone
- 31 Deborah Lutz



Greeters

- 3 **NEEDED**
- 10 **NEEDED**
- 17 **NEEDED**
- 24 Charlotte Varone
- 31 **NEEDED**



Finance Steward
Nicholas Adams

Head Ushers
Harry & Karen Hatt



Altar Guild

- Barbara Adams, chair
- Sherri Blouch
- Karen Zivic



Crucifer

- 3 Eugene Martin
- 10 Sandra Smith
- 17 Eugene Martin
- 24 Gayle Hoffman
- 31 Kathaleen Lilley



Acolyte

- 3 Ernestine Batdorf
- 10 Karen Zivic
- 17 Deborah Lutz
- 24 Ernestine Batdorf
- 31 Deborah Lutz



WELCOME TIME Sponsors

(Welcome Time is held the first Sunday of the month after worship.)

July 3— David Machamer & Karen Zivic



August 2022 Schedules

Assisting Minister

7 Kathaleen Lilley
 14 Nancie Whelan
 21 Sandra Smith
 28 Eugene Martin



Lector

7 Mary Garrett
 14 Nancie Whelan
 21 Sandra Smith
 28 Eugene Martin



Greeters

7 **NEEDED**
 14 **NEEDED**
 21 **NEEDED**
 28 **NEEDED**



Finance Steward
 Michael Ernst

Head Usher
 Deborah Lutz



Altar Guild

Carey Kendall, chair
 Elizabeth Surmacz
 Lori Wert



Crucifer

7 Sandra Smith
 14 Gayle Hoffman
 21 Eugene Martin
 28 Kathaleen Lilley



Acolyte

7 Harry Hatt
 14 Nancie Whelan
 21 Karen Zivic
 28 Karen Hatt



WELCOME TIME Sponsors
 (Welcome Time is held the first Sunday of the month after worship.)



August 7 —Carol Anspach, Tammy Risser, and Karen Bickel



Ministry Plan Report for April & May

Budgeted need per week: **\$3,364.92**

	*4/3	\$3,542.00	15 LiF / 34 +
	4/10	\$2,077.00	14 LiF / 34 +
Maundy Thurs.	4/15	(rolled into 4/17)	27 +
Good Friday	4/16		34 +
Easter	4/17	\$3,570.00	no LiF/ 39 +
	4/24	\$2,930.00	14 LiF / 30 +
Lenten study 4/7 12			
	5/1	\$3,582.50	13 LiF / 34 +
	5/8	\$3,862.00	12 LiF / 30 +
	5/15	\$2,549.46	8 LiF / 27 +
	5/22	\$1,784.00	12 LiF / 26 +
	*5/29	\$1,704.00	12 LiF / 30 +

NOTE: LiF—Living in Faith Education Hour
 "+" denotes Worship
 * - A Cappella Sunday



STEWARDSHIP

Managing God's Gifts To Us



Congregation Council Meeting Highlights

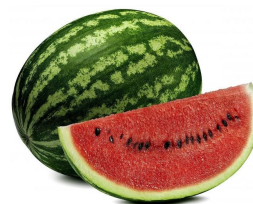
The Messiah Congregation Council met on Tuesday, May 10, 2022.

- Financial reports were read and approved pending audit.
- Committee reports were given.
- School supplies for Pastor Angel's Hispanic church will be collected in August.

The Messiah Congregation Council met on Tuesday, June 14, 2022.

- Financial report was read and approved pending audit.
- Committee reports were given.
- The process of forming a Call Committee will be starting in the near future.

Respectfully submitted,
 Karen Zivic
 Congregation Council Secretary



July Birthdays

- 3 Sherri Blouch
Christian Anspach
- 4 Carla Hartman
- 13 Beth Miller
- 14 Tammy Risser
- 15 George Felder
- 16 Elizabeth Surmacz



July Anniversaries

- 1 Greg & Linda Field
- 16 Edward & Karen Bickel
- 23 Rodney & Kathaleen Lilley
- 27 William & Judith Bechtold
- 28 Louis & Karen Zivic



2022 Congregation Council

Nicholas Adams, *President, Christian Ed. co-chair*

David Machamer, *Vice-President, Evangelism, Personnel, and Property chair*

Karen Zivic, *Secretary*

Ernestine Batdorf, *Finance Secretary*

Brenda Beegle, *Christian Ed co-chair*

Michael Ernst

Gayle Hoffman, *Stewardship and Volunteer Resources chair*

Deborah Lutz, *Publicity chair*

Non Council Committee Chairs and their positions:

Karen Fox, *Worship & Music chair*

Karen Hatt, *Fellowship Chair*

Kathaleen Lilley, *Treasurer and Finance Chair*

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

Nancie Whelan, *Assistant Treasurer*

August Birthdays

- 1 Judith Bechtold
- 10 Ruth DeLong
Harry Hatt
- 11 Karen Bickel
- 15 Benjamin Risser
- 18 Nicholas Adams
- 19 Carl Lutz
- 22 Betty Wetzel
- 27 Justin Lilley
- 29 Shael Connatser
- 31 Rachel Anspach



August Anniversaries

- 1 Carl & Rosanne Lutz
- 13 Robert & Debra Bowman
Lee & Rita Savant
- 15 Corey & Carla Hartman



Autumn Newsletter



The **deadline** for the September/October issue of the *Messiah Messenger* is **Friday, August 12**. This issue will cover events, meetings and schedules for the months of **September and October**. Please make sure you have all your information turned in to the office (and on the work room calendar) by this date. Thank you!

Warning! How to Spot a “Phishing” Email

Email phishing has become a nuisance and a problem in today's fallen world. Phishing is defined as “the fraudulent practice of sending emails purporting to be from reputable companies (or persons) in order to induce individuals to reveal personal information, such as passwords and credit card numbers or to purchase gift cards on their behalf.”

Some of you may have received such an email in the past. Recently a bogus email from “Rev. David McGettigan” (our former AMR dean) was being circulated.

Nobody connected with the North American Lutheran Church or Seminary and nobody connected with the Atlantic Mission Region will EVER send you a request to purchase gift cards and read the numbers to them. This is a common scam dishonest people use to collect money from unsuspecting and trusting victims.

Most of those emails will greet you by your name, then ask you for a favor. They will tell you not to call because the sender is busy in a meeting or something similar. Oftentimes the English is stilted or they use grammatically incorrect words and/or signatures.

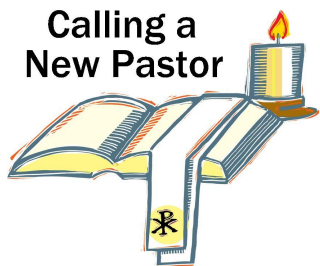
If you receive one of these emails, DO NOT respond (reply). Email or call the supposed sender at a known phone number or email address to alert them of the scam using their name.

Be vigilant and recognize the signs to keep yourself safe from this common scam.



Call Committee Forming

Calling a New Pastor



Is God calling YOU to serve on the Call Committee? Please refer to the letter you should have received lately for what being on the Call Committee entails!

Messiah Lutheran Church

1800 Oak Street
Lebanon, PA 17042-5852
Office Phone 717-272-2922

E-mail

Pastor Abera: pastor.hellemo@gmail.com
Robin Harris (office): messiahluthleb@epix.net

Website: www.messiahluthleb.org
NALC website: www.thenalc.org
Atlantic Mission Region website:
www.atlantic-nalc.org

For Your Information



FOOD COLLECTION SUNDAYS

July 3

August 7

All going to the Rescue Mission



Congregation Council, Committee Chairs & Spouses:

Tuesday, August 9

6 PM

Covered dish picnic

7 PM

Congregation Council meeting

Worship Schedule

SUNDAYS:

9 AM Living in Faith Education Hour
10:30 AM The Holy Communion



Summer vacation is a great break for everyone. But the needs of the church never take a vacation. Please remember your offerings, gifts and tithes to Messiah when you are on vacation. Thank you.

School Supplies Needed

The Fellowship Committee is sponsoring a school supply drive that will benefit the mission church that worships here at Messiah (Pr. Angel's church) from **August 7—21**.

A box will be placed on the table outside the sanctuary for you to place any of the following:

- Back packs
- Spiral notebooks (wide or college ruled)
- Pencils (if mechanical then also supply the lead)
- Pencil sharpeners
- Erasers
- Pens
- Crayons
- Rulers
- Glue sticks
- Blunt scissors



Thank you in advance for your generosity!



AMR Annual Fall Convocation



The Atlantic Mission Region's annual fall Convocation is currently being planned to be held in person on **Friday, October 21 & Saturday, October 22** at Annapolis ELC, Edgewater, MD.

The Convocation's theme this year will be ***Trust in the Lord in Anxious Times***. We've all been through a lot in the past couple of years, and how to work through anxiety and fear as a person of faith will be the focus.

Each congregation in the AMR will be gifted ***The Emergency Preparedness Handbook: An All-Hazards Handbook for Places of Worship*** which will cover things like floods, fires, active shooters, medical emergencies, etc. Police Officer Dan Schaefer, Jr. will be our presenter.

Pastor Dan Schaefer will also be leading a panel discussion on ***A Christian Response to***

Anxiety and Fear. Pastor Dan is also a licensed counselor so he and his colleagues will be able to give the attendees good advice from a Christian and Scriptural perspective.

We will meet our **new Assistant to the Bishop for the Eastern Area**, the Rev. Dr. Bill White, who will be preaching on Saturday, and sharing with us his new role as Assistant to the Bishop.

A morning-long **Women's Conference** and **informal pre-Convocation Bible Study** (led by Pastor White) plus **Stuff the Truck** will be included in the 2-day event.

Everyone is invited to attend this event. Much more information and registration sheets will be available in mid-August. Look for them in your bulletins and the fall newsletter!

We hope you will join in the fellowship!