

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Acts Four Spirit	2
Monthly Schedules	3
PACCC Summer Meals	4
Our Graduates	5
Ministry Plan Report for April	5
Thank You Notes	5
Congregation Council Highlights	6
Summer Living in Faith classes	6
Birthdays and Anniversaries	7

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Upcoming Events (Page 4)
- Welcome Time (Page 4)
- Announcements (Page 6)
- Landscape Care Servants (Page 7)
- Congregation Council (Page 7)

Pastor's Page

Now the company of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one said that any of the things which he possessed was his own, but they had everything in common. ... There was not a needy person among them. ... (Acts 4:32, 34a)

What happens when we entrust our whole life to God?

Two things: first, our lives come under Divine protection, direction, and care. Second, our trust is assaulted in every available manner by our enemy the devil.

Shortly after the verses above, we encounter Barnabas, who cheerfully entrusted himself to God, sold property, and brought the proceeds to the apostles for their pastoral use in care of the needy. "Barnabas" means "Son of Encouragement," and his act served both to bless the needy and to show others a blessed way of living.

Right after this, though, we meet a married couple, Ananias and Sapphira. These two talked things over and decided they, too, would liquidate property. But they also conspired together to

conceal the true sale price, bring only a portion of it to the apostles, and claim this was everything they had received for their land.

You can read for yourself what happened to them in Acts 5.

One of the things that stands out in the account of the early Church is the spirit of trust in God's provident care, and how that trust guided people's actions according to this principle: *Choose to be faithful, and God will take care of everything that comes after.*

"Faithful," of course, means not only "having belief" but also "abiding in devoted ways."

Experience teaches us that a life of devotion comes from a heart which has been changed by God. Apart from this, people may act in ways that appear faithful (see "Ananias and Sapphira") but do not arise from a faithful spirit. When God changes our heart through the power of the Cross of Christ and His Resurrection, the transformation flows outward and is confirmed by our attitudes and priorities, words and deeds, choices and values. The *whole person* is

affected, because God's Grace *makes us truly whole.*

Part of this "wholeness" is the new spiritual sight through which we view all things—ourselves; others; the world; God; possessions. It's all God's, not ours.

Since God is supremely concerned with human wellbeing, He helps us learn to view what was formerly "ours" in the same light. This is true of things entrusted to us personally, and to things under our communal governance.

Thus, a good question to carry around with us is "How can I use this-or-that to bless? How can I (or we) bring the Acts 4 life of the Church to light today?"

It doesn't have to be complicated; sometimes it's just a matter of using what we have in a fresh way that yields a benefit. **Inside (page 2) you'll find an example of the Acts Four Spirit** in our little corner of the Church of Christ. I'd like to invite you to think, pray and converse together about more ways we can bring this Spirit to life among us. +

The Acts Four Spirit

The Acts Four Spirit at Work: Using things for good

While Carey and I were on vacation, our daughter and son-in-law suffered a “domestic casualty:” their upright freezer died. While it was, fortunately, still under warranty, the warranty was no help to the rapidly thawing food in the freezer. Some of it spoiled for want of “emergency freezer space.”

Messiah has an upright freezer, left behind when the Agency on Aging Adult Daycare operation ended. It’s almost empty (in fact we’ll soon turn it off to save electricity). But it’s here.

So . . . Let’s make it useful.

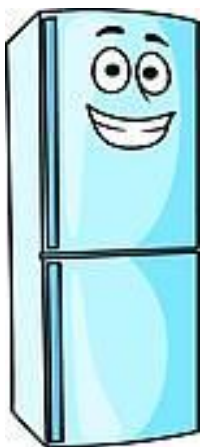
If your freezer quits, and you need “emergency freezer space,” bring your food to the church kitchen door and put it in the Messiah upright freezer rear corner of the kitchen) until yours is repaired or replaced.

Obviously you’ll have to get inside, and if the freezer is turned off, we’ll need to plug it in and cool it.

If you can come during office hours, call the church (272-2922). We’ll crank up the freezer and open for you when you come.

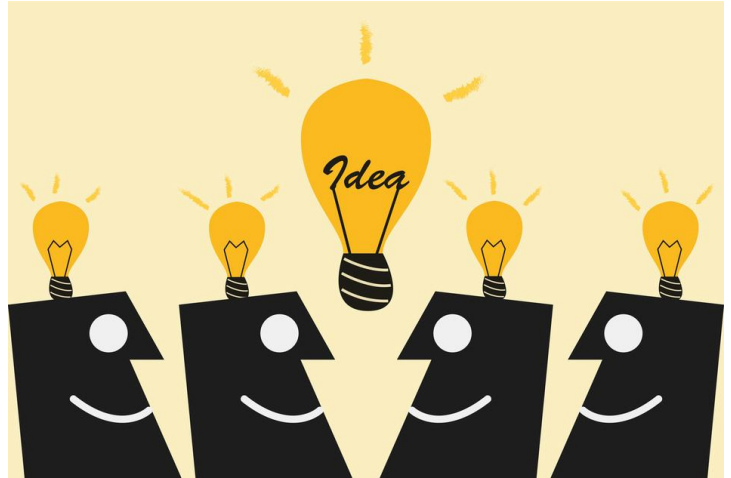
If it’s at another time, call a key holder: Council members, committee chairs, property committee members. We’re a small enough group that you know someone among these church workers, and in the Acts Four Spirit, they’ll be glad to help, meet you here, turn down the freezer, and so keep your frozen food safe.

Don’t be shy about asking. As a song in *My Fair Lady* says, “The Lord Above made man to help his neighbor.” Let your neighbor *be* a neighbor for you when you need one, and so help foster the Acts Four Spirit among us.



And if *your* neighbor’s freezer gives up the ghost, you can help them connect with our Acts Four Spirit and save their frozen.

They might even decide they’d like to be part of a congregation which has such a Spirit. That Spirit certainly produced growth in the early Church.



Do you have an Acts Four idea? It will help us all if you share it.

What is an “Acts Four idea?”

It’s an idea about how we can use material possessions, either those God has entrusted to us personally, or items around the church, in helpful ways.

Perhaps someone has a temporary need for a couple of card tables. We could publicize the need in the church bulletin, and ask if people might bring a card table or two that the borrower can take along after Sunday worship and then return. This is one simple idea.

If you have an idea, a suggestion for “Acts Four Spirit” ministries, write it on a piece of paper and put it in the offering plate, or call the office during hours (272-2922) and tell us about it.

If you’re not sure whether it’s a good idea, ask a fellow member what they think. Perhaps a good idea can be refined and made even better.

Or have a conversation among fellow church folks and see what ideas pop up.

No due dates, no deadlines. Good ideas can sprout up anytime. Besides, when the goal is to bless one another, God joins in and helps those ideas sprout. God has been inspiring good ideas from the moment Jesus first said *Love one another*.



June 2017 Schedules

Assisting Minister

- 4 Sandra Smith
- 11 Deborah Lutz
- 18 Ernestine Batdorf
- 25 Michael Bowman



Altar Guild

- Nancie Whelan, chair
- Karen Hatt
- Mary Whelan



Lector

- 4 Carey Kendall
- 11 Deborah Lutz
- 18 Ernestine Batdorf
- 25 Michael Bowman



Crucifer

By Carol Artz

- 4 Daniel LaRue
- 11 Kathaleen Lilley
- 18 Eugene Martin
- 25 Rita Savant



Greeters

- 4 Harry & Karen Hatt
- 11 Marion Bowman
- 18 Nicholas & Barbara Adams
- 25 Deborah Lutz



Acolyte

- 4 Nancie Whelan
- Mary Whelan
- 11 Ernestine Batdorf
- 18 Mikayla Bowman
- 25 Michael Bowman



Head Usher
Carol Anspach

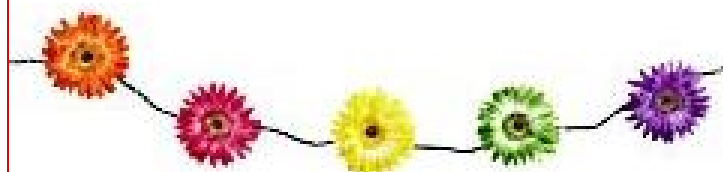
Finance Steward
Harry Hatt



WELCOME TIME Sponsors

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

June 4 — Wendy Brossman and
Kelly Roof



Messiah Lutheran Church

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

E-mail

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

Web Site

<http://www.messiahluthleb.org>

NALC Website:

<http://www.thenalc.org>

Atlantic Mission District website

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

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.

PACCC Summer Meals



The Caring Cupboard is sponsoring their summer lunch program again this year. Please check out the flyer on the oak table in the narthex for needed items that you may donate. Other "wish list" items are included on the flyer as well. Please check the drop off hours so you will know when they are open. Thank you for supporting our local food bank!

Summer Newsletter



Wanted!

The **deadline** for the summer combined issue of the *Messiah Messenger* is **Thursday, June 15**. This issue will cover events, meetings and schedules for the months of **July and August**. Please make sure you have all your information turned in to the office (and on the work room calendar) by this date. Thank you!

Welcome Time

We still need sponsors for the **July 2, August 6, September 3 and November 5 Welcome Times!** Please prayerfully consider giving of your time and talents for these Sundays. If no one signs up for these Sundays then there will be **no Welcome Time** (and that happened in April!).



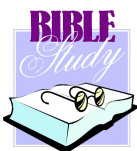
Pentecost Sunday

June 4

Upcoming Events

BIBLE STUDY

Thursday, June 8
 7 PM



We will be continuing our study of the Book of Romans.

There will be **NO GAME NIGHT** this month.



Trip to the Cornwall Furnace and Patches Family Creamery



Saturday, July 29
 9:30 AM

More details to follow in the summer newsletter.

Congratulations, Graduates!



Keeley Hartman graduated from Cedar Crest HS on June 1. She will be attending Indiana University of PA for Pre-Pharmacy this fall.

Seo Yeon Lee (“Anna” - the Korean exchange student living with Nancie and Mary Whelan) graduated from New Covenant Christian School on June 3. She will be returning to South Korea on June 5. Many blessings on a safe journey!

Mary Whelan graduated from New Covenant Christian School (as Valedictorian) on June 3. She will be attending Grove City College in the fall and plans to study English.

Steven Galbraith graduated from Juniata College on May 13 with a B.S. in Sociology. He hopes to work with troubled youth as a teacher/counselor/coach.

Thank You Notes



Thank you notes were received from the Atlantic Mission District of the NALC, the Rescue Mission, 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 donated towards the purchase of geraniums to decorate the chancel for Pentecost.

Janet Gassert

Weekly Worship Schedule

SUNDAYS:

9 AM The Holy Communion
10:30 AM Living in Faith Education Hour
(June 25—Joint class—Bible Reading Covenant)

WEDNESDAYS:

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



Ministry Plan Report for April

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

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Offering Received:</u>	<u>Attendance:</u>
4/2	\$2,964.00	52 + / 11 LiF
4/9	\$3,372.50	54 + / 24 LiF
Maundy Thurs. noon	4/13 (offering rolled into 4/16)	18 +
Maundy Thurs 7:30 PM	4/13 (offering rolled into 4/16)	30 +
Good Friday	4/14 (offering rolled into 4/16)	24 +
Personal prayer	4/15	11 +
	4/16	90 + / no LiF
	4/23	45 + / 19 joint LiF
	4/30	49 + / 21 Hebrew class
Soup supper & Lenten Study Series	4/5	18 / \$5.00
	4/19	14 / \$0.00

NOTE: "+" denotes Worship

"LiF" denotes Living in Faith



May Congregation Council Meeting Highlights

The Messiah Congregation Council met on Tuesday, May 9, 2017.

- Six members and one guest were present; one member was excused.
- Approved the estimate from Blatt & Myers for new LED lighting in the sanctuary to reduce cost and heat.
- The estimate for new LED lighting in the Education Wing was too high and we clarified our needs. Blatt & Myers will be getting back to us with other options.
- The motion & light detector spot light that will be placed outside the kitchen door for safety purposes was approved.
- Approved the monthly financial report be removed from the newsletters and posted on the Information Board quarterly. This report will be simplified for easier understanding.
- Approved the purchase of a new copier and print/maintenance contract with Stratix Systems. Edwards Business Systems (our current copier provider) will be given 30 days notice of termination of contract. The copier will be purchased out of Dorothy Daub's bequest. This change will save us hundreds of dollars per year.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancie Whelan

Summer Living in Faith Classes



This summer Pastor Kendall will be leading "Stories for God's Children" for all children and interested adults during the Living in Faith Education Hour. We will be

reading, talking about and acting out stories from the Bible. While Pastor is leading this class Dan LaRue will be leading a discussion on the Book of Proverbs for the adults. Everyone is invited to participate in either of these classes.

For Your Information

June 4

FOOD COLLECTION SUNDAY

The first Sunday of each month we collect food and personal care products for our neighbors in need.



**June:
Rescue
Mission**

Please do NOT mix food and soap in the same bag.

OPEN FLOWER DATES

There are five Sundays this year that still do not have a flower sponsor:

July 2
August 6
August 13
December 10
December 31



If you are interested in sponsoring flowers for any of these dates please contact Janet Gassert at 272-3757.

NEW EMAIL ADDRESS!

Please change **Matt Lutz'** email address in your directory. His new email address is lutz1930@comcast.net.

Pr. Phil Kline's email was incorrect in last month's newsletter. The CORRECT email address for him is jkline1040@comcast.net (drop the middle initial "P" from the address listed last month.)

June Birthdays

- 1 David Machamer
- 2 Ray Mayopoulos
- 3 Kathaleen Lilley
- 5 Michelle Blouch
Karen Munford
- 6 Judith Austin
- 7 Amber Lineaweaver
Kate Lineaweaver
Vicki Schimminger
- 13 Janet Gassert
- 14 Mike Adams
- 15 Lisa Lineaweaver
- 16 Laura Ebright
- 24 Wendy Brossman
- 26 John Dolheimer
Andrew Lutz
- 27 Eugene Martin
- 29 Charlotte Varone



Landscape Care Servants



As in previous years, we again invite you to serve God and neighbor by signing up to care for a portion of Messiah's grounds. The area chart and sign-up form are posted on the Information Center in the narthex. Tools and mulch will be available. Your offerings of time and energy are greatly appreciated.

June Anniversaries

- 5 Lee & Debra Stickler
- 7 David & Suzette Buffamoyer
- 22 Steven & Rachel Anspach
Richard & Beth Miller
- 27 Joseph & Janice Hartman
Rick & Pam Knouff
- 28 Ray & Vivian Mayopoulos
Nicholas & Barbara Adams



2017 Congregation Council

- Harry Hatt, *President & Property chair*
- Gayle Hoffman, *Vice President, Personnel & Strategic Planning chair*
- Karen Fox, *Secretary & Worship and Music chair*
- Rita Savant, *Assistant Financial Secretary & Social Ministry chair*
- Charlotte Varone, *Publicity chair*
- Nancie Whelan, *Assistant Treasurer & Christian Education chair*

Non Council Committee Chairs and their positions:

- Ernestine Batdorf, *Financial Secretary*
- Karen Hatt, *Fellowship chair*
- Kathaleen Lilley, *Treasurer & Finance chair*
- Deborah Lutz, *Evangelism/Stewardship & Volunteer Resources chair*

