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## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

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## Pastor's Page

The Festival of the Resurrection was later than usual this year, so we found ourselves busy with many springtime tasks. But what a beautiful Easter morning the Lord gave us to enjoy as we remembered His triumphant victory over sin and death.

The glories of Easter continue through the “week of weeks” comprising the Church’s Season of Easter, and we will continue to celebrate this Feast of Victory for our God each Sunday and, indeed, each day.

We are “People of the Resurrection,” heirs of the Promise of forgiveness, new life in Christ Jesus, and understanding of the Way upon which “those who are being saved” walk each day.

Let us thank God that we are not left “in the dark” about how to live. Through the example of Jesus, the teachings of the apostles, and the guidance of the Holy Spirit, The Way is not hard to find.

Though we will sometimes find it a challenge to stay on the path and not stray,

experience also teaches us that God’s Ways are truly the *best* of all ways, sparing us much pain and many false roads.

Instead, “because He lives, we, too, shall live”—not only “live” in the existential sense, but *live* in the fullest, most abundant sense, finding direction, purpose, value, and joy in each day God gives us, even in times of trial. We know the Risen One is, and ever shall be, with us, and we are His. Forever and ever, Amen! Christ is risen indeed!

On a more temporal note, I have been asked to provide some information to you regarding the congregation’s financial situation.

For the first quarter of 2019, the congregation’s expenditures totaled \$43,752.16. Receipts for the same quarter: \$32,893.18.

Shortfall: \$10,858.98.

For comparison purposes, in the same first quarter of 2018: expenditures, \$45,444.62; receipts, \$32,741.64.

Shortfall: \$12,703.08.

First quarter, 2017: expenditures, \$42,387.06. Receipts, \$36,986.71.

Shortfall: \$5,400.35.

While this is not the best news, two things must be noted. First, many Messiah members contribute faithfully to sustain Christ’s work here. Second, laypeople in the congregation have been growing in their ability to serve Christ effectively, study Scripture fruitfully, and teach one another and learn together in mutually beneficial ways. Much faithful discipleship is practiced here.

One more positive note: the Hispanic Mission Church active here is growing, and in addition to providing cleaning services, is now providing \$200/month to Messiah toward expenses. They are very grateful to us, and hope to increase this offering as they are able. They are reaching people and changing lives in powerful ways.

I give thanks for every way Messiah Church is able to serve our Lord. +

# Weekly Worship Schedule

## SUNDAYS:

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

## WEDNESDAYS:

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

# Invitation from Vinemont

# YOU'RE INVITED!

**SUNDAY, MAY 5** we have been invited by our friends at **Vinemont Community Lutheran Church** to worship with them. They also want to treat us to brunch following worship.

This is the congregation which, late last year, surprised us by cancelling their own Sunday worship and traveling here to surprise us with a Sunday morning visit.

Our NALC is a small denomination, with many small congregations, and it's important for us to build strong relationships with neighboring NALC congregations, particularly in our new Central Mission District.

Our Council has unanimously agreed to accept Vinemont's kind invitation and travel there on 5 May. We encourage everyone to take this opportunity for a special Sunday morning get-together with brother and sister Biblical Lutherans. Sign up sheets for carpooling are posted on the Information Board.

# Pentecost Geraniums

The Altar Guild is accepting donations for geraniums to decorate the chancel for Pentecost (**June 9**). Please put your donation in a plain envelope marked "geraniums" and place it in the offering plate or drop it in the church office.



# Membership Changes

## New member:

**Nancy Kline**

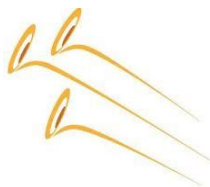
1040 Dogwood Drive  
PO Box 125  
Cornwall, PA 17016  
Phone: 717-274-5527



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

**Howard "Skip" Stickler**

1936-2019



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



# 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.



# May 2019 Schedules

## Assisting Minister

- 5 (Vinemont)
- 12 Karen Fox
- 19 Daniel LaRue
- 26 Deborah Lutz



## Altar Guild

- Karen Hatt, chair
- Barbara Adams
- Harry Hatt
- Karen Zivic



## Lector

- 5 (Vinemont)
- 12 Karen Fox
- 19 Daniel LaRue
- 26 Deborah Lutz



## Crucifer

- 5 (Vinemont)
- 12 Daniel LaRue
- 19 Eugene Martin
- 26 Sandra Smith



## Greeters

- 5 (Vinemont)
- 12 **NEEDED**
- 19 **NEEDED**
- 26 **NEEDED**



## Acolyte

- 5 (Vinemont)
- 12 Mikayla Bowman
- 19 Nancie Whelan
- 26 Deborah Lutz



**Head Usher**  
Gayle Hoffman

**Finance Steward**  
Karen Fox



## WELCOME TIME Sponsors

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



**NO WELCOME TIME THIS MONTH;** we will be visiting Vinemont Lutheran Church in Reinholds on May 5.



# June 2019 Schedules

## Assisting Minister

- 2 Michael Bowman
- 9 Kathaleen Lilley
- 16 Eugene Martin
- 23 Nancie Whelan
- 30 Charlotte Varone



## Altar Guild

- Nancie Whelan, chair
- Karen Hatt
- Mary Whelan



## Lector

- 2 Robert Bowman
- 9 Kathaleen Lilley
- 16 Eugene Martin
- 23 Nancie Whelan
- 30 Charlotte Varone



## Crucifer

- 2 Gayle Hoffman
- 9 Rita Savant
- 16 Andrew Hartman
- 23 Ernestine Batdorf
- 30 Kathaleen Lilley



## Greeters

- 2 **NEEDED**
- 9 **NEEDED**
- 16 **NEEDED**
- 23 **NEEDED**
- 30 **NEEDED**



## Acolyte

- 2 Michael Bowman
- 9 Harry Hatt
- 16 Deborah Lutz
- 23 Nancie Whelan
- 30 Ernestine Batdorf



## WELCOME TIME Sponsors

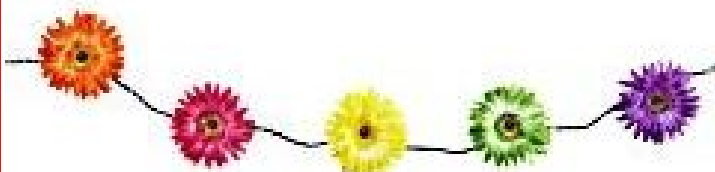
(Welcome Time is held the first Sunday of the month at 10:30 AM.)

**June 2** — Fellowship Committee



**Head Ushers**  
Raymond & Carol Anspach

**Finance Steward**  
Deborah Lutz



# Congratulations, Graduate!



**Mikayla Bowman** will be graduating from Lebanon HS on June 6. She will be attending Lebanon Valley College in the fall. She plans to do the 5-year Masters Degree program for Athletic Training.

# National Day of Prayer

You are invited to join our community in the National Day of Prayer which will be held on **Thursday, May 2** on the steps of the municipal building (400 S. 8th St, Lebanon) at **11:45 AM**. We will join together in prayer at 12 noon. Prayer time will end at 12:30 PM. The prayer theme will be *love one another*.



# Ministry Plan Report for February & March

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

<u>Date</u>	<u>Offering received</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	
2/3	\$4,455.00	50 + / 16 LiF	
2/10*	\$1,483.00	35 + / 15 LiF	
2/17	\$2,913.00	47 + / 12 LiF	
2/24	\$2,032.00	40 + / 15 Covenant	
3/3	\$3,193.00	36 + / 13 LiF	
Ash Wed noon 7:30 PM	3/6 (offering rolled into 3/10)	36 + 18 +	<b>Wed. Lent Study</b>
3/10	\$2,737.50	39 + / 11 LiF	3/13 21
3/17	\$2,762.00	41 + / 17 LiF	3/20 23
3/24*	\$1,616.00	41 + / 18 Covenant	3/27 19
3/31	\$3,128.20	45 + / 19 LiF	

**Note:** + - worship  
LiF - Living in Faith Education Hour  
\* - A Cappella Sunday



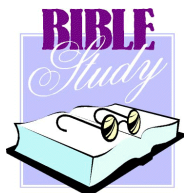
## STEWARDSHIP

*Managing God's Gifts To Us*

# Upcoming Events

### THURSDAY EVENING IN-DEPTH BIBLE STUDY

May 9  
at 7 PM



There will be **NO**  
**In-depth Bible study in June.**

### BIBLE READING COVENANT

**Sunday, May 26**

Matthew 4:1-11

The Temptation of Jesus

**\*Sunday, June 30**

Matthew 4:1-11 continued

10:30AM

in the Fellowship Hall

*\*5th Sunday*



### SUNDAE BAR

With homemade ice cream and toppings (hot dogs, too)

**Saturday, July 6**

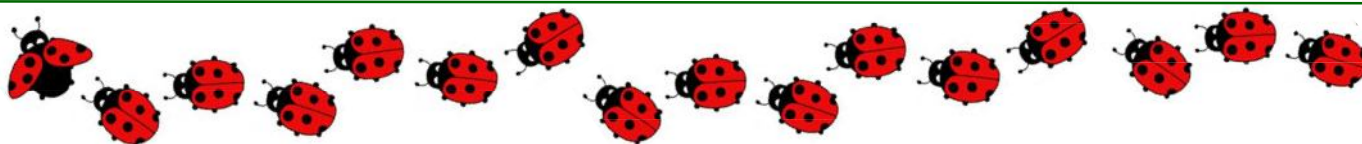
Watch your bulletins for more details of this fun and delicious fellowship event!

# March Congregation Council Meeting Highlights

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

- **Fellowship:** The bread and soup suppers continue every Wednesday night through April 10<sup>th</sup>. Easter breakfast tickets (\$2.00) will be sold starting March 21. These will be sold by Karen and Harry Hatt after church service.
- **Property:** Harry Hatt gave a report on seeking estimates for kitchen window replacement and parking lot improvements.
- **Volunteer Resources:** Pastor Kendall discussed that Vivian and Ray Mayopoulos will be checking the AED viability on a regular basis (making sure the batteries are still working; new pads will be paid for from the memorial fund).
- **Worship/Music:** The organist schedule was discussed in lieu of impending maternity leave for Erin Trovinger and Karen's vacation schedule.
- \$12,000 from the Joan Prestegord Bequest was approved to apply towards the roof loan principal reduction.
- Motion made and approved to transfer \$10,000 from Dorothy Daub Bequest to the General Fund.
- Motion made and approved for the Gerhard Fund to pay for a supply organist for May and October.

Respectfully submitted,  
Gayle Hoffman  
Congregation Council Secretary



# April Congregation Council Meeting Highlights

The Messiah Congregation Council met on Tuesday, April 9, 2019.

- **Correspondence:** Letter read re: NALC District Meeting on May 4th in Lancaster was discussed. The Pastor and a lay representative from Messiah are asked to attend.
- It was reported that the Hispanic Congregation offered a \$200 donation to Messiah for the use of the facilities.
- It was noted that the deficit for the first quarter (Jan, Feb, March 2019) is \$10,858.85. This is income less expenses.
- **Worship/Music** –Karen Fox reported that the organ was tuned on 4-1-19.
- Harry Hatt reported that the Surmacz family will be taking the old organ.
- Motion made and approved to accept the Turf Corps contract for lawn mowing and weed control for 2019.

Respectfully submitted,  
Gayle Hoffman  
Congregation Council Secretary

# Why Write Your Own Prayers?

Do you ever find yourself too tired to pray? Or is your mind too wound up, or upset or just too full of the day's plans that you can't think of what to pray? If so, Welcome to the club.

This is why after some reflection; I decided to write several prayers of my own: a morning and an evening prayer. Normally I "ad lib" most of my prayers and still do, but for help in those times when I just cannot get started on my own, there is plenty of guidance. It's not necessary to "reinvent the wheel" for many men and women of the past have written prayers for all occasions. There are prayers written in our **Lutheran Book of Worship** or other denominations' worship books like the Anglicans' **Book of Common Prayer** or non-denominational books such as **The Oxford Book of Prayer**. I attended a Presbyterian college, so I also used that denomination's book of worship. And don't forget that Bible has its own book of prayers; the Psalms by David, Asaph, the "sons of Korah" and others have been used in prayer by the Jews for millennia.

So when I decided to write a Morning Prayer and an Evening Prayer to use in my devotions, I turned to these sources among others. I wanted to include four parts in each prayer. First, thanksgiving. Many prayers I've read in the Bible and elsewhere begin with thanksgiving....and thanks for definite things, like bringing me home safely to my own bed, or for hot water for a shower (how many people don't have hot water whenever they want around the world?) or for food in the refrigerator, not to mention being adopted into God's family, for the faith to believe, for all the promises of the Bible.

Then there is confession of sins. We unhappily sin each day in various ways...some days worse than others. Again I wanted to be specific, like the grouchy thoughts I have for some irritating people at work or the impatience I may have in heavy traffic, or wandering eyes.

This is followed by prayers of intercession. I like Augustine's prayer and lifted many of the words directly from his prayer. "Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work or watch or weep this night, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ, give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous and all for your love's sake." Then I thought..."what of the lost and the prodigals?" and added these words of my own, "Be with those who are prodigals, seek out all the lost sheep of your flock, and return them to the fold." One can include prayers for the nation, prayers for current events, etc.

Finally prayers of intercession for me, first not to fall into sin. I liked a prayer that I found in **The Lutheran Book of Worship** and use it in my morning prayer. "Direct us in all we do and fulfill your purpose in us. This day we'll begin ventures of which we cannot see the ending, through paths as yet untrodden, through peril unknown, not knowing where we go. Give us faith to go out with GOOD COURAGE, for you have promised that you will never leave us nor forsake us" pages 136, 137 adapted. One of my greatest prayers for myself is for good courage for in our world so many have lost courage.

In my evening prayer I include a request for a peaceful night by reminding myself that my worries and fears are safe in the Lord's hands, for He is awake all night anyway and promised to take care of me in all my needs. I remember the presence of the enemy of my soul and pray for his work and power be hindered. Many people go about the night to work mischief and I pray for them to be frustrated in the pursuit of evil so that they also may be led to the Lord.

Finally, this is all to "prime the pump". Once I pray the prayers, the written prayers lead to spontaneous prayers and other subjects that the Spirit may bring to my mind that aren't written down. I'd encourage all the readers of these words to consider doing this for themselves. Doubtless you'll find prayers that I didn't find and prayers that minister more to your needs than mine. It was a good exercise that lasted about a month, a month of pondering, writing things down, erasing some of them and whipping them into a form that I liked and finally printed out to use with my Bible in daily prayers. I have collections of prayers and there are some in the library that you can use to browse through them and think about them to use in your own prayer efforts.

# Summer Newsletter



The **deadline** for the summer issue of the *Messiah Messenger* is **Friday, June 14**. 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!

# 2019 Congregation Council

Karen Fox, *President and Worship & Music Chair*

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

Gayle Hoffman, *Secretary and Volunteer Resources Chair*

Nancie Whelan, *Assistant Treasurer and Christian Education Chair*

Ernestine Batdorf, *Assistant Finance Secretary and Publicity Chair*

Rita Savant, *Finance Secretary and Social Ministry Chair*

Non Council Committee Chairs and their positions:

Karen Hatt, *Fellowship Chair*

Kathaleen Lilley, *Treasurer and Finance Chair*



*Pentecost  
Sunday  
June 9*

# Thank You Notes



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

Thank you so much to all who made or donated money towards the Lent soup and bread suppers and for the help in setting and cleaning up. Also, a big thank you to all who helped to set up, cook, prepare and clean up for the Easter breakfast. All help was greatly appreciated!

Karen Hatt  
Fellowship Chair

Thank you again for the many get well cards, inspirational letters from Karen Fox, telephone calls and beautiful altar flowers delivered by Wendy Brossman that I received while recuperating from my third knee operation. I was also thankful for the chicken enchiladas that Laurite

and Chic Vranesic made and delivered. What a tasty treat. I also received St. Patrick's Day cookies and peanut butter eggs from Carol Anspach which were decorated so pretty and tasted delicious.

Thank you for all the prayers and encouragement from Pastor Kendall and members of the congregation which have given me strength to get through this last operation. I thank God for all of you because you are truly an example of what kindness, generosity, and compassion means. You cannot imagine how much strength your support has given me during this difficult time.

This third recovery is not going well, and my knee is again not straightening. I will have outpatient surgery on March 19 which will involve getting three injections into the bone of my right knee. Hopefully this will help the pain and allow me to be with you all in church very soon. God has blessed me with so much, and He continues to shower my life with blessings from my Messiah family and friends.

Love and Blessings,  
Janet Gassert





# May Birthdays

- 2 Avery Fox
- 3 Abbey Hartman  
Jill Hartman
- 5 Rita Savant
- 8 Matthew Lutz
- 9 Eileen Ledger
- 10 Mia Lutz
- 16 Joseph Hartman  
Mary Whelan
- 28 Annabel Karnes
- 30 Evelyn Shaak
- 31 Janet Grun



# May Anniversaries

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



## Messiah Lutheran Church

1800 Oak Street  
Lebanon, PA 17042-5852  
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 Website

<http://www.thenalc.org>

### Atlantic Mission District Website

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

# June Birthdays

- 1 David Machamer
- 2 Ray Mayopoulos
- 3 Kathaleen Lilley
- 5 Michelle Blouch  
Karen Munford
- 7 Vicki Schimminger
- 13 Janet Gassert
- 14 Mike Adams
- 16 Laura Ebright
- 18 Sue DeSendi
- 24 Wendy Brossman
- 26 John Dolheimer  
Andrew Lutz
- 27 Eugene Martin
- 29 Charlotte Varone



# June Anniversaries

- 3 John & Sherri Dolheimer
- 11 Peter & Holly McGuire  
Andrew & Elizabeth Surmacz
- 24 Daryl & Karen Artz  
Eugene & Beth Martin  
Richard & Lori Wert
- 27 Kenneth & Dorothy Martin
- 28 Bernard & Ernestine Batdorf



*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.*



## FOOD COLLECTION SUNDAY

June 2

All donations will be given to the Rescue Mission.