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## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

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## Why We Sing the Hymns We Sing

Why are we singing this hymn??? Why indeed. Selecting appropriate hymns for a particular Sunday or occasion starts and ends with studying Scripture. Reading and checking various references starts the process but that is only the beginning. There are a number of resources available to us as we plan. These references tell us which Scripture pertains to each hymn in both the LBW and WOV.

After determining what hymns are appointed for the day, they are referenced to a given Scripture text, we set about studying the hymns. Some hymns are un-singable. Don't ask me why they were included! Some hymns we don't know or are relatively new. This is where you sometimes will see "alt. tune" behind the hymn title. That means we will use a familiar tune so that we can actually sing the hymn and focus on the words, rather than struggle with the music. We had that experience this past Sunday.

There are seasons of course, that have certain hymns set aside for that purpose only. But, here again, there may be an oc-

casional where the text of a hymn for another season fits the lessons for the day, despite its' designation for the other season. We had that occasion the Sunday our prospective pastor was here. We sang it because it fit the lessons for that day.

Now you may think that this is easy, no sweat, simple, just plug in some hymns. Not true. It sometimes takes 2 hours to find appropriate hymns for one Sunday. Studying hymn after hymn to see if it fits. Yes, it is frustrating at times. You think you will not come up with anything. But God is always with us, guiding, leading in the right direction. That's when the Holy Spirit intervenes and helps with the right choice, or the best choice for that Sunday or occasion.

Look at the designations in the upper left corner of the page, or upper right corner of the page of both hymnals to find what season, or what occasion that hymn is appointed for. Not only Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, but also Justification, Stewardship, Trust, Commitment, and Praise. Those are just a few of the categories in

the hymnals.

There are numerous sections in the back of each hymnal that help guide the planning process. But these sections, plus the other references available to the planners, helps to make the process run smoothly. Then there are the "Aha" moments where the idea only comes from God. A hymn is not referenced but it is appropriate just the same.

All our planning is to guide the worshiper to better understand God and our role in service to Him. As I often say...

***Soli Deo Gloria!***  
(to the glory of God alone)

Karen Fox,  
Cantor Emerita



## May Birthdays

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



## May Anniversaries

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



## Information Needed

If you or a loved one are graduating from high school, college, graduate school, trade school, etc. we would love to let your church family know all about it! For your convenience there is a small form available on the oak table in the narthex that asks for all your pertinent information. Please fill it out and leave it with Robin in the church office so she may include your graduation information in next month's *Messiah Messenger*. And congratulations!



## 2023 Congregation Council

**Brenda Beegle**, *President, Christian Ed. co-chair*

**Nick Adams**, *Vice President, Christian Ed co-chair, and Personnel chair*

**Karen Zivic**, *Secretary*

**Ernestine Batdorf**, *Finance Secretary*

**Michael Ernst**

**Deborah Lutz**, *Publicity and Volunteer Resources chair*

**David Machamer**, *Evangelism and Property chair*

**Non Council Committee Chairs and their positions:**

**Karen Fox**, *Worship & Music chair*

**Karen Hatt**, *Fellowship Chair*

**Kathaleen Lilley**, *Assistant Treasurer and Finance Chair*

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

**Nancie Whelan**, *Treasurer*

## Supply List for May

May 7—Karen Fox

May 14—Nicholas Adams

May 21—Kathaleen Lilley

May 28 (Pentecost Sunday) - Pr. James DeLong



## 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 2023 Schedules

## Assisting Minister

- 7 Kathaleen Lilley
- 14 Nancie Whelan
- 21 Karen Fox
- 28 Sandra Smith



## Altar Guild

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



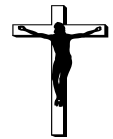
## Lector

- 7 Mary Garrett
- 14 Nancie Whelan
- 21 Karen Fox
- 28 Sandra Smith



## Crucifer

- 7 Eugene Martin
- 14 Sandra Smith
- 21 Andrew Surmacz
- 28 Eugene Martin



## Greeters

- 7 Rita Savant
- 14 Rita Savant
- 21 Harry & Karen Hatt
- 28 **NEEDED**



## Acolyte

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



**Head Usher**  
Gayle Hoffman



## WELCOME TIME Sponsor

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

May 7 — David Machamer



**Finance Steward**  
Deborah Lutz



# Thank You Notes



*Thank you notes were received from the Rescue Mission, Lutheran World Relief, and the Caring Cupboard. They are available for you to read on the bulletin board*

*outside the office.*

Thank you to all who made soup or donated money to purchase soup for the bread and soup suppers this past Lent.

Also a Big Thank You to all who helped to set up and tear down for the Easter breakfast and to those who helped to set up the chairs for Pastor Angel's congregation afterwards. Thank you also to those who donated eggs for the Easter breakfast. It was enjoyed by all.

Another Big Thank You goes out to all who helped to set up for the prospective pastor's luncheon and to those who made cakes for the luncheon. And a final thank you to those who helped with the food when the Council met the prospective pastor.

All help was greatly appreciated!

Karen Hatt  
Fellowship Committee chair

A grateful and heartfelt THANK YOU to all who helped make this important weekend (April 15-16) here at Messiah happen:

- ⇒ Starting on Friday with setting up for our meeting on Saturday with our prospective pastor.
- ⇒ To Karen Fox for the delicious variety of muffins.
- ⇒ To those who helped set up the tables and chairs for the meet & greet luncheon for our prospective pastor and his family on Sunday
- ⇒ To those who ordered and served the food with such precision.
- ⇒ And to those who made the delicious deserts.

A special thanks goes to Karen and Harry Hatt, Deb Lutz, Robin Harris (who keeps everyone on track) and to Pr. Angel for relocating his Sunday service on our behalf.

There were many hands, many workers, and such love for our Messiah family to go forth in our mission given to us by God!

In Christian love to all,  
Charlotte Varone  
Call Committee Chair

## Ministry Plan Report for March

***(Budgeted need per week: \$2,820.44)***

<u>Date</u>	<u>Offering received</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
3/5	\$3,063.00	15 LiF / 42 +
3/12	\$2,302.00	8 LiF / 32 +
3/19	\$2,163.00	13 LiF / 35 +
3/26	\$2,487.00	14 LiF / 44 +
Soup supper & Lenten Bible Study	3/2	17
	3/9	12
	3/16	10
	3/23	10
	3/30	10

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



# April Congregation Council Meeting Highlights

The Messiah Congregation Council met on Tuesday, April 11, 2023.

- Call Committee chair Charlotte Varone presented the profile of the prospective pastor to the Congregation Council.
- Treasurer's and financial reports were given and accepted pending audit.
- Committee reports were given.

Respectfully submitted,  
Karen Zivic  
Congregation Council Secretary

## Intentional Prayer



Prayer petitions for the month of May as we travel through the Call Process:

- ⇒ Omniscient Lord, we as a congregation are disappointed and frustrated with the outcome of the call extended to the prospective pastor. Renew our faith and trust that you indeed have a plan for us that will supply our needs.
- ⇒ We ask for guidance in how to proceed in this process. Help us to be patient and willing to accept your timing for a resolution to our situation.
- ⇒ We ask that in this time of waiting that you will supply pastoral support for our spiritual needs and inspire our Messiah community to become more fully engaged in the life of the congregation.
- ⇒ We continue to pray that agape love will rule our hearts and behavior as we strive to worship and live together as a community of faith.

## Head Usher Needed

Please prayerfully consider serving as a head usher during September. Serving with a friend would be fun! Please see Robin if interested.



## Geraniums for Pentecost



The Altar Guild is accepting donations for geraniums to decorate the chancel for Pentecost (**May 28**). Please put your donation in a plain envelope marked "geraniums" and place it in the offering plate or drop it in the church office. Thank you!

## Weekly Worship Schedule

### SUNDAYS:

- 9 AM Living in Faith Education Hour
- 10:30 AM Liturgy of Holy Communion

### Messiah Lutheran Church

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### E-mail

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Robin Harris (office): messiahluthleb@epix.net

### Web Site

<http://www.messiahluthleb.org>

### NALC Web Site

<http://www.thenalc.org>

### Atlantic Mission District Web Site

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