

**INSIDE THIS  
ISSUE:**

Address changes 2

Protocols for Safe Worship 3

Our Saints 4

Ministry Plan Report 5

Annual Congregation meeting 5

Thank you Notes 6

November Schedules 7

December Schedules 8

Council Meeting Highlights 10

**SPECIAL  
POINTS OF  
INTEREST**

- Open Flower Dates (Page 2)
- Tree of Giving (Page 3)
- Thanksgiving Eve Worship (Page 4)
- Congregation Council members (Page 4)
- 2021 Offering Envelopes (Page 4)
- Altar Guild Mtg. (Page 5)
- Food Drive (Page 6)
- Birthdays & Anniversaries (Page 9)
- Christmas Worship (Page 10)

## Pastor's Page

Often this year, time seemed to crawl, but still, we are nearing the end of 2020. Soon another election cycle will be past, for better or for worse. Soon another holiday season will arrive (may these holidays be "for the better"! ). Soon we will have to remind ourselves to write "2021" instead of "2020."

The virus has not disappeared, as some had hoped, but we shouldn't be surprised. The "Hong Kong Flu" stayed around for a while; the "Spanish Flu" of a century ago lasted for 35 months. It is prudent to prepare for an extended period of extra caution, inconveniences and restrictions.

I hope that we will not again see restrictions on worship gatherings beyond those imposed in the spring, though nothing can be certain. We have followed health officials' instructions, with the dual goals of protecting each other's health and conducting our congregation operations in ways which will maximize the likelihood of remaining open for in-person worship. We have provided resources to allow home worship for those who are being cautious for the sake of

their health and pre-existing vulnerabilities.

I give thanks that those members who have contracted the virus have recovered (though full vitality only returns slowly). I am thankful that God has protected our health care workers in the congregation and sustained them in their important work.

I give thanks for all of you who continue to support one another, and your congregation community, with prayer, encouragement, and continued tithes and offerings. Let us continue to "walk and not be faint." In God's good time, when the restrictions are lifted, we can enjoy full fellowship again, and will be able to look back with clear sight to see the Hand of God in our midst during these trials.

As that time has not yet come, we must continue to make adjustments in how we worship and operate. With the established provisions for personal protection and spacing, we will celebrate the traditional Thanksgiving Eve liturgy this November. We will also hold the annual Congregation Meeting in person, in the nave, on the

appointed day (the third Saturday in November) at 2 PM. Please note that this year, there will be no fellowship meal or other social gathering on that day, only the meeting.

Christmas Eve will also be a bit different. After consideration, we have decided to offer both liturgies (4 PM and 7.30 PM) even though attendance is likely to be reduced due to Covid cautions. The reason for this is to allow the greatest possible safe spacing.

Unfortunately, we will not be offering a special time for children at the 4 PM liturgy, due to the necessity of safe distancing. I regret not being able to sit with the children up front and share some special time with them, but they would simply be too close to one another to be safe.

I pray that you and yours will be able to celebrate the holidays in a safe, healthy and joyful manner. Let us all pray that by this time next year, God will have delivered us from this scourge, but come what may, we know that He is, and ever will be, with us. This is the most important thing of all. May God bless and keep you, — Pastor +

# Address Changes

## Ray & Vivian Mayopoulos

7 Lakeview Drive  
Myerstown, PA 17067  
Vivian cell 717-507-1255 (no land line)  
Email remains the same

## Holly McGuire

12 Madeleine Drive  
Myerstown, PA 17067



## Jane Simone

127 Walden Road  
Lebanon, PA 17042  
Email and phone remain the same.

### New Email Address:

## Sherri Blouch

[sblouch917@gmail.com](mailto:sblouch917@gmail.com)

### Welcome Back!!

## Brenda Beegle

118 E. Queen St.  
Jonestown, PA 17038  
717-813-0804  
[diamonds3158@gmail.com](mailto:diamonds3158@gmail.com)



# Fellowship Cancellations

All Fellowship activities for the remainder of 2020 (meal after the Congregation meeting, caroling and Christmas cookie delivery to our shut-ins, and the November & December Welcome Times) have been cancelled. Be safe, everyone!

# Change Your Clocks!



Daylight Savings Time ends on **Sunday, November 1** at 2 AM. Remember to turn your clocks back one hour before going to bed on Saturday night. See you in church.

# Weekly Worship Schedule

### SUNDAYS:

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

### WEDNESDAYS:

10 AM Communion by appointment  
10:30 AM Communion by appointment

# Open Flower Dates

There are **NINE (9) open flower dates for 2021!** Please contact Robin in the office or Deb Lutz at 717-273-1155 if you are interested in sponsoring the flowers or giving a donation in lieu of flowers for any of these dates:



January 3  
April 4 (Easter!)  
August 1  
September 5  
December 5

February 21  
July 11  
August 15  
October 31  
**THANK YOU!**

# Upcoming Events

## Annual Congregation Meeting

**Saturday, November 21**

Meeting will commence  
**at 2 PM**

There will no fellowship meal this year.

The church office will be  
**CLOSED**  
**on November 26 & 27.**



**AND**

**December 24 & 25**



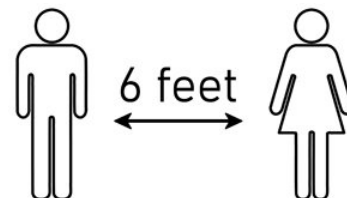
## GOODBYE, 2020 WELCOME TIME

has been scheduled for  
**Sunday, December 27**  
**at 10:30 AM**

Come, join us after worship for fellowship as we prepare to celebrate better things to come!

## Protocols for Safe Worship

- Doors are propped open before worship so fewer people will handle the door handles.
- Pews are marked at proper “physical distancing” intervals, with every-other-row seating including, if necessary, the choir loft as an “overflow space.”
- Offering plates are placed beside Communion cup trays to receive Sunday offering.



- All worshipers and worship leaders are asked to wear masks except during the sermon and to receive the Sacrament for the foreseeable future.
- Everyone will refrain from shaking hands or hugging during sharing of the Peace, while greeting each other or taking their leave from one another.
- Remember, if you cough or sneeze, to do so in the crook of your arm with your head tilted away from others. Wash your hands after you use the restroom. Restroom doors are propped open.



## Tree of Giving



Look for our **TREE OF GIVING** in the narthex during the month of November. Once again this year we are collecting gifts for the **Agape House**.

The wish list has changed from past years. This year the Agape House is requesting the following items:

- Plastic “under the bed” storage containers for the women (5)
- Crayons, markers, stickers and coloring books
- Christmas themed boxes large enough to hold coloring supplies & coloring books (6-8 boxes)
- Libman mop heads (the orange ones)
- Kitchen trash bags (small, not the big black ones)
- Mr. Clean or Spic & Span floor cleaner
- Lysol spray
- Bus passes from Lebanon Transit Authority

Please take an ornament from the tree, purchase your gift/gifts and return them to the church unwrapped.

The Social Ministry Committee has applied for a grant from Thrivent to help defray the costs of larger items.

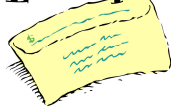
The Tree will be in the narthex **through Saturday, December 5**.

The Social Ministry Committee looks forward to the congregation’s generous response to the annual **TREE OF GIVING** and offers an advance “thank you!” to those who participate this year to help their neighbors in need.



## 2021 Offering Envelopes

### Offering Envelopes



The 2021 offering envelopes have arrived in time for our annual congregation meeting on November 21. Please take yours home with you at your earliest convenience. If you live close to a shut-in or someone who has not returned to in-house worship, please consider helping us out by delivering their envelopes too. Please note that the envelopes will be arranged in **ALPHABETICAL** order. Thank you.

## 2020 Contributions

### REMINDER:

**ALL** year-end contributions **must be received by the last Sunday of the month (December 27)** to count for 2020. All contributions received after that date will be recorded for 2021.



## Thanksgiving Eve Worship

**Wednesday, November 25  
7:30 PM**

A chorale liturgy of Holy Communion for Thanksgiving

*Come and give thanks to God for all His blessings.*



### Messiah Lutheran Church

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

### E-mail

Pastor Kendall: [messiahpastor@epix.net](mailto:messiahpastor@epix.net)  
Robin Harris (office): [messiahluthleb@epix.net](mailto:messiahluthleb@epix.net)

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

## 2020 Congregation Council

**Karen Fox**, *President and Worship Planning*

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

**Gayle Hoffman**, *Secretary*

**Nancie Whelan**, *Treasurer*

**Nicholas Adams**

**Ernestine Batdorf**, *Assistant Finance Secretary and Volunteer Resources Chair*

**David Machamer**, *Evangelism and Property Co-Chair*

**Karen Zivic**

### Non Council Committee Chairs and their positions:

**Karen Hatt**, *Fellowship Chair*

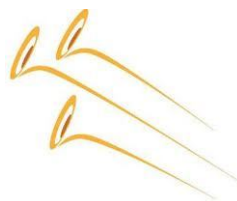
**Kathaleen Lilley**, *Assistant Treasurer and Finance Chair*

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



## Our Saints

On Sunday, November 1 we remember our members who joined the Church Triumphant since the last All Saints' Sunday:



Carol Frantz  
Robert Lillie  
Jacqueline Dohner  
Irma Long  
Janice Hartman

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



# Annual Altar Guild Meeting



You are invited to attend the annual Altar Guild meeting on **Saturday, November 7 at 9 AM** in the nave. Please wear a mask and sit physically distanced from one another. All members of the Altar Guild should attend, and

any members of the congregation who would like to join or know more about the Altar Guild are welcome. We have some openings to fill, so any help will be most welcome. If you have any questions please contact Deb Lutz at 717-273-1155.

Thank you!

## Ministry Plan Report for August & September

*(Ministry Plan need per week: \$3,327.52)*

<u>Date</u>	<u>Offering Received</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
8/2	\$3,454.00	33 + (no LiF)
8/9	\$2,902.00	36 + (no LiF)
*8/16	\$1,754.00	45 + (no LiF)
8/23	\$2,595.00	34 + (no LiF)
8/30	\$2,446.00	35 + (no LiF)
9/6	\$2,456.00	34 + (no LiF)
*9/13	\$3,560.00	31 + (no LiF)
9/20	\$1,280.00	32 + (no LiF)
9/27	\$2,495.00	32 + (no LiF)

\* denotes A Cappella Sunday  
 "+" denotes Worship  
 "LiF" denotes Living in Faith



**STEWARDSHIP**  
*Managing God's Gifts To Us*



## Annual Congregation Meeting



The **annual congregation meeting** will be held on **Saturday, November 21 at 2 PM.**

There will be NO fellowship meal before or after the meeting.

At this meeting we will be electing new Congregation Council members for 2021, going over the proposed Ministry Plan for 2021, and discussing other church business.

Active (voting) membership is defined by our Constitution as making **four Communion**

**of record** (completing the Communion record card when you receive Holy Communion) and **one contribution of record** to Messiah (use your envelopes when making your offering) in the current calendar year.



# Thank You Notes



*Thank you notes were received from the Caring Cupboard, the Rescue Mission, Water Missions International, and the Atlantic Mission Region of the NALC. They are posted on the bulletin board outside the church office.*

Thank you to everyone who donated school items back in August for Pastor Angel's congregation. There were 110 items collected. A big THANK YOU to all who donated.

Karen Hatt  
Fellowship Committee Chair



Thank you for the altar flowers and for the continued prayers for my husband Ken. I am thankful to God for my church family!

In Christian love,  
Kay Zellers



To Pastor Kendall and members of the congregation,

Thank you so much for the cards and best wishes for my 90th birthday. It made it special for me.

God bless all of you!  
Betty Wetzel



Thank you to all those who donated flood buckets, baby kit items, school kit items, Bibles, gift cards, and blankets to the Central Mission District's Stuff the Truck event in September. All the donations that were collected were immediately put on the NALC Disaster Response truck and sent to Pensacola, FL to help those in need in the aftermath of Hurricane Sally.

Thank you, and God bless you!  
Mary Bates  
NALC Disaster Response Coordinator



# 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.



# Food Drive

The **Rescue Mission** is sponsoring a **food drive through the month of November**. Please bring in any of the following to Messiah all that month:

- Pasta/stuffing/rice
- Canned fruits
- Canned tomatoes and tomato sauce
- Canned vegetables
- Juice
- Peanut butter & jelly
- Soup
- Canned meat or tuna
- Dried beans
- Coffee & tea
- Sugar & creamer
- Condiments
- Oatmeal packets
- Cereal

All of the food collected will fill their pantry for the year and will provide emergency support for other local agencies. Thank you!



# November 2020 Schedules

## Assisting Minister

- 1 Charlotte Varone
- 9 Kathaleen Lilley
- 15 Karen Fox
- 22 Sandra Smith
- 25 (7:30 PM) Daniel LaRue
- 29 Nancie Whelan



## Lector

- 1 Mary Garrett
- 9 Kathaleen Lilley
- 15 Karen Fox
- 22 Sandra Smith
- 25 (7:30 PM) Daniel LaRue
- 29 Nancie Whelan



## Greeters

- 1 Charlotte Varone
- 9 Kathaleen Lilley
- 15 **NEEDED**
- 22 **NEEDED**
- 25 (7:30 PM) **NEEDED**
- 29 **NEEDED**



**Finance Steward**  
Gayle Hoffman

**Head Usher**  
Eugene Martin



## Altar Guild

- Rita Savant, chair
- Suzette Buffamoyer
- Gayle Hoffman



## Crucifer

- 1 Daniel LaRue
- 9 Sandra Smith
- 15 Gayle Hoffman
- 22 Kathaleen Lilley
- 25 (7:30 PM) Rita Savant
- 29 Ernestine Batdorf



## Acolyte

- 1 Harry Hatt
- 9 Nancie Whelan
- 15 Deborah Lutz
- 22 Michael Bowman
- 25 (7:30 PM) Daniel LaRue
- 29 Karen Hatt



## WELCOME TIME Sponsors

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

**November 1**  
CANCELLED



# December 2020 Schedules

## Assisting Minister

- 6 Michael Bowman
- 13 Eugene Martin
- 20 Kathaleen Lilley
- 24 (4 PM) Ernestine Batdorf  
(7:30 PM) Deborah Lutz
- 27 Charlotte Varone



## Lector

- 6 Nancie Whelan
- 13 Eugene Martin
- 20 Kathaleen Lilley
- 24 (4 PM) Ernestine Batdorf  
(7:30 PM) Deborah Lutz
- 27 Charlotte Varone



## Greeters

- 6 **NEEDED**
- 13 **NEEDED**
- 20 **NEEDED**
- 24 (4 PM) **NEEDED**  
(7:30 PM) The Bowman Family
- 27 **NEEDED**



**Finance Steward**  
Dorothy Martin



## Head Ushers

Raymond and Carol Anspach



## Altar Guild

- Carol Anspach
- Raymond Anspach



## Crucifer

- 6 Eugene Martin
- 13 Michael Bowman
- 20 Daniel LaRue
- 24 (4 PM) Gayle Hoffman  
(7:30 PM) Robert Bowman
- 27 Kathaleen Lilley



## Acolyte

- 6 Harry Hatt
- 13 Karen Zivic
- 20 Nancie Whelan
- 24 (4 PM) Ernestine Batdorf  
(7:30 PM) Nancie Whelan
- 27 Deborah Lutz



## WELCOME TIME Sponsors

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

## December 6

CANCELLED





## November Birthdays

- 2 Lee Stickler
- 4 Richard Wert
- 7 Hailey Hartman
- 8 Georgeanna Hanover
- 9 Lorraine Long
- 12 Erick McGuire
- 15 Karley Roof
- 17 Dennis Brossman  
Pr. J. Philip Kline
- 20 Karen Hatt
- 24 Kathleen Runkel
- 25 Debra Stickler
- 26 Sandra Smith
- 27 Leontine Vavrous
- 30 Steven Anspach



## December Birthdays

- 1 Jacob Anspach  
Nolan Anspach
- 5 Holly McGuire  
Walter Shirey
- 7 Eileen Lutz
- 8 Andrew Hartman
- 9 Barbara Adams  
Susan Galbraith
- 10 Clyde Peters
- 12 Nancy Potteiger
- 18 Alyson Hartman
- 22 Debra Miller
- 24 Donald Munford
- 25 Mikayla Bowman
- 26 Beckett Lutz
- 31 Mary Ellen Dietrich  
Gary Dohner



## November Anniversaries

- 9 Joseph & Mary Hartman
- 18 Larry & Evelyn Shaak
- 20 Raymond & Carol Anspach  
Harry & Karen Hatt
- 25 Dennis & Wendy Brossman



## December Anniversaries

- 6 Barry & Brenda Beegle



Hope  
Peace



Love  
Joy

### FOOD COLLECTION SUNDAYS

**November 1**

**December 6**

All donations will be given to the Rescue Mission.



Please sign up today to be a **Greeter!** The sheets for 2021 list are posted and ready for you to sign up to serve next year.

The **Welcome Time** sponsor sheet for 2021 is posted on the Information Center in the narthex.



Volunteers are needed to set up the **luminaries on Christmas Eve** before the 4 PM service and to remove them after the 7:30 PM service. If you can help please contact any member of the Congregation Council (see page 4).



## Staff Christmas Gifts



*Christmas is coming, and our custom has been to request donations towards Pastor Kendall's Christmas gift. As we did last year, we are also asking that you donate towards gifts for our other staff members (Robin, Karen, Erin and Alyssa).*

*As you know, there has been a deficit in congregation giving for the past several years, and we are not able to budget an appropriate amount for our employees. Please help us to give each of our employees a generous Christmas gift. Please give your contribution to any Council member or officer (see list on page 4).*

*Karen Fox  
Congregation Council President*

## Christmas Eve Worship

### ***The Nativity of Our Lord***

***Thursday, December 24***

***4 PM and 7:30 PM***

*A liturgy of Holy Communion, carols  
and candle lighting*



## Congregation Council Meeting Highlights

The Messiah Congregation Council met on Tuesday, September 8, 2020.

- Reports were read and approved (pending audit) for the July and August time frame.
- Fellowship activities for the remainder of 2020 were cancelled due to COVID-19 precautions (we are looking forward to 2021!).
- Money from the Zeller Trust Fund will be disbursed to the ICII New Life Leprosy Colony for Christmas gifts and ongoing sustenance.
- The baby grand piano has been sold.
- A new sound system is being researched for the Living in Faith Education Hour.
- Everyone is to be commended for wearing their masks and keeping socially distant. We are helping to keep everyone healthy!

The Messiah Congregation Council met on Tuesday, October 13, 2020.

- Reports reviewed, discussed, and accepted (pending audits).
- The shed project is progressing and hopefully will have a new roof soon. Thanks to the people who assisted!
- The Tree of Giving for the Agape House will be available in November for those who would like to donate.
- Janet Gassert's resignation from the Altar Guild was accepted. Many thanks to Janet and Tom for their dedicated service (50 years!).
- We will continue to suspend all events/activities within the church building due to the pandemic.
- Thanks to all for wearing their masks and social distancing!

Respectfully submitted,  
Gayle Hoffman  
Congregation Council secretary