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Pastor's Page

First, I would like to express our thanks (Carey's as well as mine) to everyone who was part of the "Clergy Appreciation Day" surprise. Thank you to those who attended the after-worship reception, to everyone who prepared a treat for that time together, and to all of you who gave us cards. The personal notes were, we could see, from the heart and we appreciated them very much. Thank you all.

Second, a word about Christmas Eve worship. This year we will again hold two liturgies, at 4 PM and 7 PM (organ recital from 7-7.30, followed immediately by the liturgy).

In recent years, there has been a marked decrease in attendance at the later liturgy, and Congregation Council recently discussed whether we should continue holding two liturgies, or move to just one, since there are about three times more people attending the 4 PM. No decision has been made, but Council will continue to consider the question in light of attendance (though it was also pointed out that holding only a 4 PM liturgy would not serve the needs of those who must

work a full day on Christmas Eve before coming to worship).

You are encouraged to attend (in person if possible) the Christmas Eve liturgy of your choice.

Regarding sale of the lot at the NE corner of the property, all approvals have been received and it is only a matter of getting all the paperwork lined up and consistent. A new deed will have to be drawn up for the remaining church property, but this is good as it gives us the opportunity to re-define the north property line to the church grounds only—we found that the present deed shows the church owning half of Oak Street!

It is to our advantage to change this with the current opportunity to do so, in case the tax-exempt status of churches is ever threatened (we will then have less acreage for tax liability). I hope this will never happen, but one never knows.

Our denomination, the North American Lutheran Church, continues to grow, both because of congregations leaving the ELCA and due to

some new congregation starts in certain regions of the country. This growth has happened faster than was initially expected, and the NALC recently made some organizational changes better to serve its congregations.

We are blessed with a wonderful Presiding Bishop in the Rev. Dan Selbo, whose vision for the future is fully centered on Jesus Christ and the Church's mission. Our regional leader, David McGettigan, just finished his second term as Atlantic Mission Region dean, and will continue to serve the NALC in one capacity or another.

The new regional dean, W. Stevens ("Steve") Shipman, is a longtime acquaintance of mine who in the past served as pastor of my home church, Trinity Lutheran, Lemoyne PA. He is an energetic, articulate and well-informed pastor who will serve the AMR well and faithfully.

I often find myself giving thanks that as a congregation, we are part of a truly Biblical, Confessional, reverent and devout denomination. Why not invite your friends to discover the NALC too?+

Address Changes

Andy, Erin & Emily Trovinger

172 Camp Meeting Road
Jonestown, PA 17038
Emails & phone numbers remain the same

Judith Bechtold, Terri & Elizabeth Brightbill

1803 Martin Drive
Lebanon, PA 17046
Phone remains the same.
Emails are the same.



Greg & Linda Field

75 Valley View Drive
Lebanon, PA 17042
Email & phone remain the same.

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

Betty Murray
1927-2021



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

Cookie Cancellation

The Christmas cookie delivery to the shut-ins has been cancelled again this year. Thank you for your understanding as we endeavor to keep everyone safe.



Change Your Clocks!



Daylight Savings Time ends on **Sunday, November 7** 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 **TWO (2) open flower dates for 2022!**

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 either of these dates:



January 23

February 27

THANK YOU!

Upcoming Events

Annual Congregation Meeting

Saturday, November 20

Meeting will commence at **2 PM**

There will be desserts to enjoy afterwards.

The church office will be

CLOSED

on November 25 & 26.



AND

December 27 & 28.



Christmas Eve Organ Recital by Karen Fox

7 PM

Christmas Around the World



Please see page 7 for more information.

Congregation Council Meeting Highlights

The Messiah Congregation Council met on Tuesday, September 14, 2021.

- Reports were read and approved pending audit.
- Availability of Messiah tote bags and umbrellas for \$10 and \$15 respectively.
- Completion of shed; completion of the fire extinguisher inspection; completion of the painted parking lot lines.
- September 18 work day at the church.
- Removal of the old sign on the front of the property due to its deterioration.

The Messiah Congregation Council met on Tuesday, October 12, 2021.

- Financial, treasurer reports reviewed and accepted including the 2022 Ministry Plan.
- Pastor’s report reviewed/accepted.
- Preparation for annual Congregation Meeting on November 20 (including dessert and fellowship).

Respectfully submitted,
 Gayle Hoffman
 Interim Congregation Council secretary



Tree of Giving



Look for the Tree of Giving in the narthex all of November. As in years past we are collecting gifts for the Agape House.

Cynthia Smith of the Agape House has requested the following items for the children currently living there:

Boy (age 11):

- Hot wheels cars
- Science experiment kit
- Sweatshirts/sweatpants (adult L; he likes red or blue)

Girl (age 8)

- Pop-it fidget toys
- Mochi squishy fidget toys
- Sweatshirt/sweatpants (size 7; she likes purple)



Girl (age 4)

- Pop-it fidget toys



- Any educational game or toy
- Sweatshirt/sweatpants (size 6; she likes blue)

Girl (6 months)

- Pacifiers
- Any baby toy
- Warm pajamas, any color (size 6-9 mos.)

The gifts for the children are divided into three different parts so no one person needs to buy all for one child.

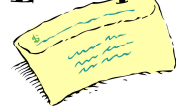
The Social Ministry Committee has applied for a grant from Thrivent to help with the cost of buying gift cards to Jubilee for the 5 women.

Please take an ornament from the tree, purchase your gift(s) and return them to the church unwrapped.

The committee looks forward to the congregation’s generous response to the annual Tree of Giving and offers an advanced “thank you” to those who participate this year to help their neighbors.

2022 Offering Envelopes

Offering Envelopes



The 2022 offering envelopes have arrived in time for our annual congregation meeting on November 20. 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.

2021 Contributions

REMINDER:

ALL year-end contributions **must be received by the last Sunday of the month (December 26)** to count for 2021. All contributions received after that date will be recorded for 2022.



Thanksgiving Eve Worship

**Wednesday, November 24
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
Robin Harris (office): messiahluthleb@epix.net
Web Site: <http://www.messiahluthleb.org>
NALC Web Site: <http://www.thenalc.org>
AMR Web Site: <http://www.atlantic-nalc.org>

2021 Congregation Council

- Nicholas Adams**, *President*
- David Machamer**, *Vice-President, Evangelism, Personnel and Property Co-Chair*
- Gayle Hoffman**, *Interim Secretary, Volunteer Resources*
- Ernestine Batdorf**, *Finance Secretary*
- Michael Ernst**
- Harry Hatt**, *Property Co-chair*
- Deborah Lutz**, *Stewardship Chair*
- Karen Zivic**

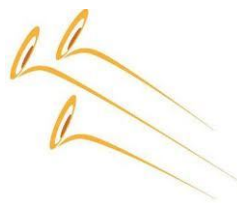
Non Council Committee Chairs and their positions:

- Karen Fox**, *Worship Planning*
- Karen Hatt**, *Fellowship Chair*
- Kathaleen Lilley**, *Assistant Treasurer and Finance Chair*
- Rita Savant**, *Assistant Finance Secretary and Social Ministry Chair*
- Nancie Whelan**, *Treasurer*



Our Saints

On Sunday, November 7 we remember our members who joined the Church Triumphant since the last All Saints' Sunday:



- Geraldine Bohr
- Richard "Dick" Markey
- Nancy Potteiger
- Robert Donmoyer
- Betty Murray

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 6 at 9 AM** in the conference room. 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: \$3,396.13)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Offering Received</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
8/1	\$3,222.00	33 + / 10 LiF
*8/8	\$4,176.00	34 + / 13 LiF
8/15	\$1,371.27	31 + / 13 LiF
8/22	\$1,349.00	34 + / 12 LiF
8/29	\$1,773.00	29 + / 13 LiF
*9/5	\$3,025.00	27 + / 11 LiF
9/12	\$4,224.00	33 + / no LiF
9/19	\$1,507.00	24 + / 11 LiF
9/26	\$2,365.00	32 + / 14 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 20 at 2 PM**. There will be desserts to enjoy after the meeting.

At this meeting we will be electing new Congregation Council members for 2022, going over the proposed Ministry Plan for 2022, 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, Lutheran World Relief, and the North American Lutheran Seminary. 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



Dear Pastor and Messiah Family,
The book signing on August 18 was awesome. Thank you for allowing me to come "home." The support was great. Please give my warm regards to everyone.

Always,
Sister Vanessa Owens



Newsletter Deadline



The **deadline** for the January/February, 2022 issue of the *Messiah Messenger* is **Wednesday, December 15**. This issue will cover events, meetings and schedules for the months of **January**

and **February**. Please make sure you have all your information turned in to the office (and on the work room calendar) by this date. Thank you!



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 appointments scheduled for Communion are 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!



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).

Nick Adams
Congregation Council President

Christmas Eve Worship

The Nativity of Our Lord

Friday, December 24

4 PM and 7:30 PM

A liturgy of Holy Communion, carols
and candle lighting



Christmas Eve Organ Recital



This Christmas Eve our annual organ recital by Karen Fox will bring us music from around the world. As Christianity spread across the globe, so did people of all nations express their understanding of the Nativity through music. You may be surprised at all the familiar Christmas music that comes to us from other countries. Some you will recognize, there may be some that you didn't realize were from the country listed in the bulletin. Come join us in our part to celebrate Christmas around the world.

School Supplies for Hispanic Congregation

THANK YOU to everyone who participated in the school kit collection for Pastor Angel's congregation this past fall. We collected:

- * 16 backpacks
- * 21 notebooks
- * 9 folders
- * 4 pencil pouches & 2 pencil boxes
- * 11 plastic sleeves
- * 16 crayon boxes
- * 75 loose pencils & 10 packs of pencils
- * 15 scissors
- * 2 packs of markers
- * 3 packs mechanical pencils
- * 6 packs of pens & 20 loose pens
- * 12 rulers
- * 5 packs of colored pencils
- * 3 packs of 100 index cards
- * 21 glue sticks
- * 1 roll of scotch tape
- * 87 pencil top erasers & 10 pink erasers
- * 8 packs pencil sharpeners & 5 loose ones
- * 3 compasses
- * 2 calculators
- * 1 pack post-it tabs
- * 1 glitter tube
- * 1 pack of molding clay
- * 1 lunch bag



November 2021 Schedules

Assisting Minister

- 7 Sandra Smith
- 14 Kathaleen Lilley
- 21 Nancie Whelan
- 24 (7:30 PM) Daniel LaRue
- 28 Deborah Lutz



Altar Guild

- Rita Savant, chair
- Suzette Buffamoyer
- Gayle Hoffman



Lector

- 7 Mary Garrett
- 14 Kathaleen Lilley
- 21 Nancie Whelan
- 24 (7:30 PM) Daniel LaRue
- 28 Deborah Lutz



Crucifer

- 7 Kathaleen Lilley
- 14 Gayle Hoffman
- 21 Daniel LaRue
- 24 (7:30 PM) Rita Savant
- 28 Sandra Smith



Greeters

- 7 **NEEDED**
- 14 **NEEDED**
- 21 **NEEDED**
- 24 (7:30 PM) **NEEDED**
- 28 **NEEDED**



Acolyte

- 7 Deborah Lutz
- 14 Karen Hatt
- 21 Nancie Whelan
- 24 (7:30 PM) Daniel LaRue
- 28 Deborah Lutz



Finance Steward
Deborah Lutz

Head Usher
Eugene Martin



WELCOME TIME Sponsors

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

November 7
CANCELLED



December 2021 Schedules

Assisting Minister

- 5 Karen Fox
- 12 Eugene Martin
- 19 Charlotte Varone
- 24 (4 PM) Ernestine Batdorf
(7:30 PM) Deborah Lutz
- 26 Ernestine Batdorf



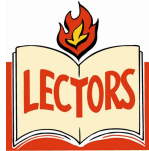
Altar Guild

- Deborah Lutz, chair
- Carol Anspach
- Raymond Anspach



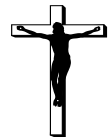
Lector

- 5 Carey Kendall
- 12 Eugene Martin
- 19 Charlotte Varone
- 24 (4 PM) Ernestine Batdorf
(7:30 PM) Deborah Lutz
- 26 Ernestine Batdorf



Crucifer

- 5 Eugene Martin
- 12 Gayle Hoffman
- 19 Daniel LaRue
- 24 (4 PM) Gayle Hoffman
(7:30 PM) Daniel LaRue
- 26 Rita Savant



Greeters

- 5 **NEEDED**
- 12 **NEEDED**
- 19 **NEEDED**
- 24 (4 PM) **NEEDED**
(7:30 PM) **NEEDED**
- 26 **NEEDED**



Acolyte

- 5 Karen Zivic
- 12 Harry Hatt
- 19 Karen Hatt
- 24 (4 PM) Teenie Batdorf
(7:30 PM) Nancie Whelan
Mary Whelan
- 26 Ernestine Batdorf



Finance Steward
Michael Ernst

WELCOME TIME Sponsors

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

December 5

CANCELLED



Head Ushers

Raymond and Carol Anspach



Convocation Recap

Seventy-seven disciples of the Atlantic Mission Region gathered over two days at Holy Cross Evangelical Lutheran Church, Nazareth, PA on October 22 & 23, 2021 for the annual regional Convocation. The theme for this year was “The Fullness of God’s Worship.” Seventy-three gathered in person and four attended virtually.

Election of a new Regional Dean: The Rev. Steve Shipman (Dillsburg, PA) was elected by the assembly as our new Regional Dean. He is succeeding the Rev. David McGettigan who has retired.

WORSHIP was the theme of this year’s Convocation. The Convocation opened with a traditional-style Eucharist featuring the Rev. David McGettigan as preacher. We closed Friday evening with a contemporary Evening Prayer service and worshiped again on Saturday with a contemporary-style Eucharist featuring the Rev. Dr. Eric Riesen as preacher.

The Rev. Dr. Eric Riesen, president of the North American Lutheran Seminary, presented at the first plenary session in which he discussed the Overall Theology of Worship. **The Rev. Christopher Porter** (pastor at Lebanon Lutheran Church, Lebanon Church, VA) presented the second plenary session on Traditional Worship. **The Rev. Jay Jackson, Jr. and Ryan McAllister** (pastor and worship leader respectively at Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Joppa, MD) presented the third plenary session in which they discussed Contemporary Worship. **Seminarian Lara Bhasin** (Briarcliff, NY and student at the NALS) gave the final plenary session as a Reflection of a Future Worship Leader.

The 2022 Ministry Spending Plan was approved. The assembly approved the \$50,500 Ministry Plan as presented.

World Mission Prayer League was the spotlight Ministry Partner this year. Missionary Kathleen Lutz spoke to the assembly about her experience in Kenya and the good work that is being done there.

Retiring AMR Dean David McGettigan was honored at the business meeting with the inception of a new **Seminarian Debt Relief Fund** created in his honor. This surprise gift from donations received by congregations and individuals of the AMR totaled \$10,525.

Other **financial gifts** were given to the World Mission Prayer League (\$1,000), NALC Disaster Response (\$7,114), and the NALS (\$10,000).

We heard a presentation from the Renewal & Discipleship Ministry Team re: **Discipleship Guide training**. We also heard an update on **NALC Disaster Response** by Pr. Mark Werner.

Stuff the Truck for NALC Disaster Response! The truck was filled with health kits, school kits, flood buckets, blankets, Bibles, and gift cards. THANK YOU! All donations were taken to the warehouse in MD.

Mission District Meetings: The assembly broke into Mission Districts on Friday night and discussed a Bible study on discipleship written by the Rev. David McGettigan while enjoying fellowship with each other.

New AMR logo selected! Carolyn Frye of Lebanon Lutheran Church, Lebanon Church, VA designed the winning logo at our logo design contest (see above).

Women’s Conference: The Women of Atlantic Mission Region held their third Women’s Conference on Friday morning in which they worked together to assemble 172 health kits and 88 school kits for NALC Disaster Response. They also enjoyed worship together, a virtual visit from NALC Disaster Response coordinator Mary Bates, and fellowship.

The 2022 AMR Convocation will be held on October 21-22 at Annapolis Evangelical Lutheran Church, Edgewater, MD. A **Women’s Conference** is also being planned for October 21 prior to the Convocation. Mark your calendars!

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
- 18 Alyson Hartman
- 22 Debra Miller
- 24 Donald Munford
- 25 Mikayla Bowman
- 26 Beckett Lutz
- 31 Mary Ellen Dietrich
Gary Dohner



November Anniversaries

- 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 7

December 5

All donations will be given to the Rescue Mission.



Please sign up today to be a **Greeter!** The sheets for 2022 list are posted and ready for you to sign up to serve next year.

Greeter duty description cards are available. They are in an envelope on the Information Board.

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).