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Pastor's Page

A few weeks ago in a sermon, I asked those present to ask themselves a question: Why am I here, today?

As invited, most wrote their answer on a piece of paper and deposited it in an offering plate. Here are all that we received:

*Worship God. (3)
To worship God. (4)
To praise God.
To honor God.
To thank & praise God.
To be closer with God.
Worship God / Give praise and thanksgiving for my relationship with God.
For worship with Jesus & forgiveness of my sins.
To worship God, giving thanks to him and praise his Holy Name.
To worship the Lord and be refreshed for another week.
To hear God's word and share in worship.
Praise the Lord and give thanks.
To spend time with my savior!
Because I want to be/and hear the message and worship God.
To hear the word of God as it pertains to me.
To learn more about God.
To thank God for my blessing.*

To praise God for his gracious mercy.

To praise and thank the Lord for all that he has given.

Because I honor and love my Lord & want to be here to thank him for my blessings.

To be with other Christians / To be reminded what God has done for me.

Because it is the Lord's day and to give thanks for your love.

The Bible tells us to worship together—Jesus is here.

Just the right thing to do / the way I was raised.

Because I needed to receive His forgiveness and be part of the community of faith.

Gratitude for blessings—undeserved / To get strength for daily circumstances / To pray for family and friends.

I need constant renewal of my faith, and also to receive God's love thru the Sacraments.

Renewal thru Communion.

I'm here to receive the Body & Blood of Christ—nourished by him—(Jesus).

I am here today to hear God's word, to be with God's people and to enjoy

God's Communion & forgiveness.

To receive the Sacrament of the table and hear God's word /My family is here.

Hear the word of God / Receive the Eucharist.

Because God has commanded us to remember and keep the Sabbath holy, and because obeying blesses me in many ways.

As you can see, there were many heartfelt answers, involving many aspects of Sunday worship experience.

We pondered this question in order to “put a finger” on what matters to us, so much that we choose to be in God's House, with His people and at His Table, on a given Sunday morning.

I hope that amid all the events and situations in the waning months of this year, remembering what we reach out for on Sunday mornings will help us keep all things in a right spiritual perspective.

When all is said and done, God's people **always** have one best place to go, to belong, and to abide. See you in the Best Place.

Thank You Notes



Thank you notes were received from Water Missions International, Lutheran World Relief, the NAL Seminary, and the Atlantic Mission District of the NALC.

They are posted on the bulletin board outside the church office.

I wish to thank everyone for the prayers and kindness and for the beautiful flowers from the altar.

Your new friend,
Mrs. Rosemarie Keisch
(Anita's mother)



Our Saints

On Sunday, November 6 we remember our members who joined the Church Triumphant since the last All Saints' Sunday:



George Uhl
Joan Matthew
Olive Miller

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

Thanksgiving Eve Worship

**Wednesday, November 23
7:30 PM**

A chorale liturgy of Holy Communion for Thanksgiving

Come and give thanks to God for all His blessings.



November Birthdays

- 2 Lee Stickler
- 3 Calvin Austin
- 4 Richard Wert
- 6 Esther Jarrett
- 7 Hailey Hartman
- 8 Georgeanna Hanover
- 9 Lorraine Long
- 11 Janet Pазsik
- 12 Erick McGuire
- 15 Karley Roof
- 17 Dennis Brossman
Pr. J. Philip Kline
- 20 Karen Hatt
- 23 Fae Appleby
- 24 Kathleen Runkel
- 25 Debra Stickler
- 26 Sandra Smith
- 27 Leontine Vavrous
- 30 Steven Anspach



November Anniversaries

- 7 James & Lisa Lineaweaver
- 9 Joseph & Mary Hartman
- 16 Robert & Carol Frantz
- 18 Larry & Evelyn Shaak
- 20 Raymond & Carol Anspach
Harry & Karen Hatt
- 25 Dennis & Wendy Brossman



Change Your Clocks!



Daylight Savings Time ends on **Sunday, November 6** at 2 AM. Remember to turn your clocks back one hour before going to bed on Saturday night. See you in church.

Congregation Meeting Luncheon



On **Saturday, November 19** the Fellowship Committee is hosting a **soup, salad and sandwich luncheon at 12 noon** before the annual Congregation Meeting. A sign up sheet is posted on the Information Board on which you may sign up to

bring a soup, salad, buns, dessert or drink. A variety of lunch meats, cheeses and paper products will be provided.

So come on out and enjoy some good food and fellowship with your church family before we turn to business. See you there!



Annual Congregation Meeting



Reminder: The **annual congregation meeting** will be held on **Saturday, November 19 at 2 PM**. The day will begin with a soup, sandwich and salad luncheon which will be held at 12 noon (see above).

At this meeting we will be electing new Congregation

Council members for 2017, going over the proposed Ministry Plan for 2017, 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 Com-

munion) and **one contribution of record** to Messiah (use your envelopes when making your offering at Messiah) in the current calendar year.



Ministry Plan Report for September

(Budgeted need per week: \$3,575.60)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Offering Received</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
9/4	\$2,674.00	49 + / 18 LiF
9/11	\$2,225.00	50 + / 30 Covenant Day
9/18	\$3,435.00	43 + / 13 Chrismon making
9/25	\$2,927.00	50 + / 24 LiF

Received to date: \$112,680.96
Needed to date: \$139,448.25

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



November 2016 Schedules

Assisting Minister

- 6 Ernestine Batdorf
- 13 Eugene Martin
- 20 Daniel LaRue
- 23 (7:30 PM) Nicholas Adams
- 27 Charlotte Varone



Altar Guild

- Rita Savant, chair
- Suzette Buffamoyer
- Carol Frantz
- Gayle Hoffman



Lector

- 6 Mary Garrett
- 13 Eugene Martin
- 20 Daniel LaRue
- 23 (7:30 PM) Nicholas Adams
- 27 Charlotte Varone



Crucifer

By Carol Artz

- 6 Michael Bowman
- 13 Gayle Hoffman
- 20 Michael Bowman
- 23 (7:30 PM) Gayle Hoffman
- 27 Andrew Hartman



Greeters

- 6 Marion Bowman
- 13 David Machamer
- 20 Harry & Karen Hatt
- 23 (7:30 PM) Rita Savant
- 27 Ernestine Batdorf



Acolyte

- 6 Ernestine Batdorf
- 13 Deborah Lutz
- 20 Keeley Hartman
- Mikayla Bowman
- 23 (7:30 PM) Harry Hatt
- 27 Nancie Whelan



Finance Steward

Nicholas Adams

Head Usher
Eugene Martin



WELCOME TIME Sponsors

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

November 6

The Andrew Hartman Family



General Fund Summary for September

September Year/date

Income	\$11,261.14	\$112,680.96
Expenses	\$13,929.85	\$132,473.46
Income-expenses	-\$2,668.71	-\$19,792.50

Income	September	Year/date	Expenses	September	Year/date
Regular giving	\$10,757.00	\$109,392.40	Staff	\$10,004.83	\$90,764.35
Jesus Tree envelopes	\$127.00	\$1,687.00	Administrative	\$187.78	\$2,708.22
Bowl of Blessings	\$0.00	\$374.00	Maintenance	\$1,928.90	\$21,575.89
Checking interest	\$0.14	\$1.56	Committee	\$0.00	\$0.00
Donations (use of church)	\$125.00	\$515.00	Additional	\$375.00	\$3,875.00
Other Gen. Fund*	<u>\$252.00</u>	<u>\$711.00</u>	Benevolence	\$1,333.34	\$12,650.00
Total Income	\$11,261.14	\$112,680.96	Loan Repayment	<u>\$100.00</u>	<u>\$900.00</u>
			Total expenses	\$13,929.85	\$132,473.46
Budgeted Year-to-date		\$139,448.25	Income less expenses	-\$2,668.71	-\$19,792.50

*initial envelope, altar guild, communion gifts, etc

Benevolence Giving

September 2016	Regular Giving Benevolence	Additional Designated Giving	Total Given to Charities
NALC	\$775.00		\$775.00
Atlantic Mission District	\$75.00		\$75.00
Water Missions International	\$54.17		\$54.17
North American Lutheran Seminary	\$54.17		\$54.17
Independent Church in India	\$54.17		\$54.17
PACC Caring Cupboard	\$54.16		\$54.16
NALC Disaster Response	\$54.16		\$54.16
Lutheran World Relief	\$54.17		\$54.17
Lebanon Rescue Mission/Agape Shelter	\$54.17		\$54.17
Lebanon Free Clinic	\$54.17		\$54.17
City of Lebanon (in lieu of taxes)	\$50.00		\$50.00
Total	\$1,333.34	\$0.00	\$1,333.34

Annual Altar Guild Meeting



You are invited to attend the annual Altar Guild meeting on **Saturday, November 12 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. If you have any questions please contact Janet Gassert at 272-3757.

Caring Cupboard Thanksgiving Meals



As in years past, we would like to provide each of our clients with a complete Thanksgiving meal. In order to do this we need YOUR help! You can help in several ways:

- Contribute a complete meal
- Contribute one or more components of the meal
- Provide cases of individual items
- Monetary contribution

What Is Needed:

- A 10-14 lb. turkey or an 8-10 lb. roasting chicken
- Stuffing mix, boxed
- Corn bread mix
- Dessert mix (cake, brownie, cookie or muffin—if providing cake mix please include frosting as well)
- Canned gravy/gravy packets
- Stick margarine or butter
- We DO NOT need canned vegetables, fruits or sweet potatoes. Please only focus on the items listed.

Please mark your donations

“Thanksgiving Meals.” Your donations can be dropped off at the Caring Cupboard **by November 21**. Our hours are:

Mon 9 AM-12 PM
and 3-6 PM
Wed 9-11:30 AM
and 5:30-7 PM
Fri 11:30 AM—2 PM

Questions? Call 838-9493



For Your Information

November 6 FOOD COLLECTION SUNDAY


The first Sunday of each month we collect food and personal care products for our neighbors in need. Unless there is a special request from a specific agency, the schedule is as follows:

November:
Caring Cupboard

PLEASE DO NOT MIX SOAP AND FOOD IN THE SAME BAG. Thank you.



Please sign up today to be a **Greeter!** All the dates for 2016 are filled—thank you! The sign up sheets for 2017 are posted.

The **Welcome Time** sponsor sheet for 2017 is posted on the Information Center in the narthex. 



If you purchased a pictorial directory make sure you pick up a **picture expansion pack** at the congregation meeting on November 19. Your **2017 offering envelopes** will also be available for you to pick up.

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 the Evangelism Committee: Deb Lutz, Mary Garrett, or Charlotte Varone.



Attention all bakers: The Living in Faith youth will be baking Christmas cookies during LiF time on **Sunday, November 27** in preparation for caroling and visiting the shut-ins. All helping hands will be appreciated!

Tree of Giving



Look for our **TREE OF GIVING** in the narthex all this month. This year we are collecting gifts for the **Agape House**.

Once again we are collecting bath items such as kid toothpaste, toothbrushes, kid body wash and shampoo, animal wash cloths or animal puffy scrubs and bath toys small enough to fit in a stocking. Bath items for the mothers include puffy scrubs, body wash, body lotion, shampoo, hand sanitizer, toothbrush, tooth-

paste and floss. The Social Ministry Committee has applied for a grant from Thrivent to help defray the costs of gift cards.

The Tree will be in the narthex **through Saturday, December 3**.

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.



Hospice Volunteers Wanted



The WellSpan Good Samaritan Health System hospice program is looking for volunteers to help hospice patients and their families. A wide variety of opportunities and flexible schedules are available. Volunteers do tasks including sitting with patients, assisting with meal preparation, running er-

rands for the patient or family and completing office or clerical tasks for the program. We are also looking for singing volunteers.

To become a hospice volunteer, individuals must complete twenty hours of training, which can be done via a home study program. Interested candidates may contact Shirley Wissler at 270-4861 or email swissler2@wellspring.org.



October Congregation Council Meeting Highlights

The Messiah Congregation Council met on Tuesday, October 11, 2016.

- Two members were excused.
- Devotions were presented by Rita Savant. Next month will be by Deb Lutz.
- Approved the transfer of \$5,000 from the Memorial Fund to cover routine expenses if needed.
- Approved the 2017 Ministry Plan to present to the congregation at the annual meeting.
- Moved next month's Council meeting to Tuesday, November 15 because of the use of the building as a polling place.

Submitted by Nick Adams
Congregation Council President

Messiah's 150th Anniversary Trivia Answers

Here are the answers to the Messiah anniversary trivia that was in last month's newsletter. How did you do?

1. \$2,052.20
2. Ruth Hoffman, 1970
3. 1928, Pr. Liebegott and a "quartet"
4. Parsonage phone changed to a private line from party line
5. The Electric Illuminating Co. installed lights
6. A cane, to be given to the "largest contributor by April 15"
7. 1986
8. A Rockaway coach for the pastor offered by an Annville man
9. Daylight Savings Time for the church's worship schedule
10. 1972
11. "the cancelled notes on the organ"
12. The W/C Committee for the parsonage and sexton's houses
13. 1968
14. A six-blade oscillating fan
15. \$4.30
16. That the Prelude is to be a quiet time in church
17. 1936
18. Hill Church Grove
19. Corpses
20. The outhouse
21. 1940
22. 1929
23. The missing church bell
24. Greet people at the door, "especially strangers"
25. Hold basketball practice
26. A steeple
27. 1884
28. \$39,775 (1960); \$320,289.75 (2016)
29. The choir
30. Appoint four members "to direct affairs in the event of a Sunday attack"



Fair Trade Fair

St. Luke Lutheran Church (1432 Heidelberg Ave, Schaefferstown) invites you to attend the SERVV Fair Trade Fair on **Saturday, November 5 from 8 AM—12:30 PM.**

This fair will feature fairly traded handcrafts from all around the world. Purchase a gift from our sale and you will provide income, dignity and hope to people in developing regions of the world. All profits will be donated to Lutheran World Relief.

All of the crafts sold at the Fair Trade Fair are handmade by artisans from countries around the world. At the fair you will find pottery, baskets, jewelry, woven goods (such as table linens and scarves), and seasonal items. Food items

include delicious Divine chocolate in a variety of flavors, coffee, spices, olive oil and vinegar. Catalogues for personal orders will also be available. Enjoy free coffee, tea and snacks while you browse our tables.

By supporting Fair Trade, we make choices in line with our beliefs and affirm human dignity by promoting fair wages, children's rights, women's rights, equal employment opportunities, and organic farming to protect people and the environment. Change lives while you shop! If you have questions please call Sue Donmoyer at 272-2443.



The Rickshaw You Provided in Pakistan

Dear Messiah Lutheran Church,

Greetings! I just wanted to send you some photos of Jacob for whom you provided the rickshaw in Pakistan. Pastor Asif's brother (Kashif) who bought and gave the rickshaw to Jacob said he was so happy beyond words. Jacob and his family give the biggest thanks to Messiah Lutheran Church for your love and support!

Jacob told us that since his problem with the persecution he and his family faced, and since his house was burned and everything that happened to him he was always feeling some kind of pressure and burdens on him. Jacob felt like he was trapped in some kind of depression because he felt so alone. All the time he went through circumstances it was a very long and painful experience, because he wanted to take better care of his wife and kids, but he could not. He never felt like anyone wanted to help him.

Jacob had been praying for his own business so he could get free from the terrible job of cleaning the sewages. Even though he worked hard every day with his horrible job it was never enough for his family income. Even his children had to work instead of going to school.

When Jacob got your gift of this rickshaw he was crying with excitement. Jacob shares: "I do not know how to give thanks to those who have helped me. I was feeling my whole life was so unbearable before this and I was always so heavy feeling about my life and family. But you delivered us from the fire. God sent you like an angel from heaven. I always knew that the LORD would deliver me one day, and He sent love in a shape of you!"

Thanks again so much for your help. You can really see the happy smiles on Jacob's face!

Kathy Smith
Independent Church in India

Jacob driving the rickshaw YOU provided.



Jacob gives you a salute to express his thanks!



Upcoming Events

BIBLE STUDY
Thursday, November 10
7 PM

Conference Room



We will be continuing our in-depth discussion of the Book of Romans.



EVENT NIGHT
Thursday, November 17

6:30 PM

Come on out for a fun evening of games and fellowship.

The church office will be
CLOSED
on November 24 and 25.



Address Changes



Please remember to notify the church office if you have **moved**, are planning to move, have a **new email address**, or have a **new phone number**. It is really important for the church office to stay current with addresses and phone numbers. Thank you for helping us keep our records up to date.

New Email Address for Erin (Kendall) Trovinger:

erin.trovinger@gmail.com. Please make this change in your address book.

Weekly Worship Schedule

SUNDAYS:

9 AM The Holy Communion
 10:30 AM Living in Faith Education Hour
 (Joint class on the 4th Sunday of the month)

WEDNESDAYS:

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

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>

2016 Congregation Council

Nicholas Adams, *President & Property co-chair*
 Charlotte Varone, *Vice President & Personnel chair*
 Nancie Whelan, *Secretary, assistant Treasurer & Christian Education chair*

Karen Fox, *Worship & Music chair*
 Harry Hatt, *Fellowship co-chair*
 Deborah Lutz, *Evangelism & Volunteer Resources chair*

David Machamer, *Property co-chair*
 Rita Savant, *Social Ministry chair & Financial Secretary*

Non Council Committee Chairs and their positions:
 Ernestine Batdorf, *Assistant Financial Secretary*
 Janet Gassert, *Altar Guild*
 Karen Hatt, *Fellowship co-chair*
 Gayle Hoffman, *Strategic Planning chair*
 Kathaleen Lilley, *Treasurer & Finance chair*

“Yes!” Tote Bags & Umbrellas



If you are thinking of a special gift for Thanksgiving or Christmas you might consider a Messiah tote bag or umbrella. The Evangelism Committee has tote bags for \$13 and umbrellas for \$20 for purchase. There are envelopes and a box on the table in the narthex for your convenience. You will receive your purchase in a timely manner from one of the ministry team members: Charlotte Varone, Deb Lutz, and Mary Garrett.