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Pastor's Page

This year, we've seen a number of our fellow members experience significant changes in their life situation. Several have given up driving. Others experienced major illnesses which left them with diminished mobility.

In at least one case, a very close couple must live separately at present because of the level of care required by one of the spouses.

Several Messiah members also live at considerable distances from family, or have lost family.

It goes without saying that such changes bring with them a sense of loss, sadness, loneliness, and a loss of joy in living.

It must also be said that often, people to whom such things happen don't want to impose on others or burden other people with their sorrows. "Other people have troubles of their own," they often tell me.

It's true that most of us face challenges in life. It's also true that Jesus knew this is so, yet called on us to "love one another" without ceasing.

The apostle Paul wrote: "Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ."

That law is the New Commandment given by our Lord on Maundy Thursday: *Love one another as I have loved you.*

This month I'm asking you to take up this Commandment in a particular way.

I am asking everyone who is able to hear God's call to "love one another" to respond to that call by offering to visit with at least one of those I've described here on a regular basis. You will come to them as a Christian friend bringing the precious gift of the Love of Christ.

You might visit someone you've known for a long time, or someone you have only known by name or by sight. The main thing is, they will have a visitor. Someone whose presence shows that they are remembered, by God and by their brother or sister in faith.

Your visit would bring the Good News to them in a tangible, blessed way: you will be *living proof* that

however their life has changed, God's love, and agape love, still find them.

Only those who have experienced the loneliness of immobility, or isolation, or diminished health and reduced social opportunities, can know how great a blessing it is to be remembered and visited AS a friend, BY a friend.

Sometimes, it takes a CHRISTIAN friend to remind us, in the midst of hard challenges, that life is still a blessing; that joys still come.

Will you be such a messenger of loving reminder? I hope you'll prayerfully consider saying YES.

To help you get started, on the first and second Sundays in Advent we'll gather during the Living in Faith hour to talk about what people experience in times of "diminishing change," and how to be prepared to minister to such folks as a visiting friend.

The blessings of such a ministry are not only for the one visited. Only God knows, now, what blessings you also will receive. Say "Yes!" and find out! +

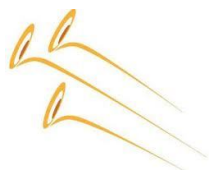
Thank You Notes



Thank you notes were received from Water Missions International, Lutheran World Relief, NALC Disaster Response, the Rescue Mission, and the Atlantic Mission District of the NALC. They are posted on the bulletin board outside the church office.

Our Saints

On Sunday, November 5 we remember our members who joined the Church Triumphant since the last All Saints' Sunday:



Reuben Miller
Esther Jarrett
Fae Appleby

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 22
7:30 PM



A chorale liturgy of Holy Communion for Thanksgiving
Come and give thanks to God for all His blessings.

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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>
AMD Web Site: <http://www.atlantic-nalc.org>

November Birthdays

- 2 Lee Stickler
- 4 Richard Wert
- 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
- 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 5** at 2 AM. Remember to turn your clocks back one hour before going to bed on Saturday night. See you in church.



Christmas Cookies Needed!



The Fellowship Committee is seeking bakers from the congregation to make Christmas cookies for our fellow members. These cookies will be distributed during the Advent season.

If you would like to help bake and/or pack the cookie containers please sign up on the sheet that is posted on the Information Board. We will be **packing the cookie containers on Saturday, November 18 at 9 AM** before the Spaghetti Miracle at noon.

Thanks in advance for your help! If you have any questions please contact Karen Hatt.



We are asking for volunteers to bake a variety of cookies at home (have a child help!). We will NOT be baking at the church this year. Please bring your cookies to the church before or on the morning of November 18 so they may be packed in containers. We ask that your cookies be already bagged six (6) to a bag. We would like 5-6 dozen of each variety of cookie, so any help would be welcome!

Congregation Meeting Luncheon



On **Saturday, November 18** the Fellowship Committee is hosting a **Spaghetti Miracle at 12 noon** before the annual Congregation Meeting. Bob Bowman will be cooking for us! A sign up sheet is posted on the Information Board where you

may sign up to bring a salad, dessert or drink.

Admission to the Spaghetti Miracle is one box of pasta and one jar of sauce per family. All of this will be donated to the Lebanon Rescue Mission and Agape House. 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 18 at 2 PM**. The day will begin with a Spaghetti Miracle which will be held at 12 noon (see above).

At this meeting we will be electing new Congregation Council members for 2018, going over the proposed Ministry Plan for 2018, and discussing other church business.

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

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.



November 2017 Schedules

Assisting Minister

- 5 Nancie Whelan
- 12 Eugene Martin
- 19 Kathaleen Lilley
- 22 (7:30 PM) Daniel LaRue
- 26 Charlotte Varone



Lector

- 5 Mary Garrett
- 12 Eugene Martin
- 19 Kathaleen Lilley
- 22 (7:30 PM) Daniel LaRue
- 26 Charlotte Varone



Greeters

- 5 Marion Bowman
- 12 **NEEDED**
- 19 **NEEDED**
- 22 (7:30 PM) Carey Kendall
- 26 Deborah Lutz



Finance Steward

Nicholas Adams



Head Usher
Eugene Martin



Altar Guild

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



Crucifer

By Carol Artz

- 5 Gayle Hoffman
- 12 Andrew Hartman
- 19 Daniel LaRue
- 22 (7:30 PM) Kathaleen Lilley
- 26 Kathaleen Lilley



Acolyte

- 5 Harry Hatt
- 12 Michael Bowman
- 19 Ernestine Batdorf
- 22 (7:30 PM) Nancie Whelan
- 26 Deborah Lutz



WELCOME TIME Sponsors

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

November 5

Laurite Vranesic



General Fund Summary January — September

Income & Expenses At-A-Glance

	<u>Year-to-Date</u>
Income	\$107,167.79
Expenses	\$128,689.44
Income Less Expenses	-\$21,521.65

Total Income	
Total Giving	\$107,167.79
Expenses	
Staff	\$88,375.89
Administrative	\$2,791.52
Maintenance	\$21,122.03
Committee	\$0.00
Additional	\$3,825.00
Benevolence	\$11,675.00
Loan Repayment	\$900.00
Total Expenses	\$128,689.44
Income Less Expenses	(\$21,521.65)

Benevolence Giving

January—September, 2017	Regular Giving Benevolence	Additional Designated Giving	Total Given to Charities
NALC	\$6,750.00		\$6,750.00
Atlantic Mission District	\$675.00		\$675.00
Mission Partners*	\$475.50		\$475.50
North American Lutheran Seminary	\$475.50		\$475.50
NALC Disaster Response	\$475.50		\$475.50
PACC Caring Cupboard	\$495.50		\$495.50
Independent Church in India	\$475.50		\$475.50
Lutheran World Relief	\$475.50		\$475.50
Lebanon Rescue Mission/Agape Shelter	\$501.50		\$501.50
Lebanon Free Clinic	\$475.50		\$475.50
City of Lebanon (in lieu of taxes)	\$400.00		\$400.00
Total	\$11,675.00	\$0.00	\$11,675.00

* Water Missions International, Lutheran Bible Translators, Ethiopian Church Relief Fund, and the Great Commission Society

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:

- Boxed potatoes/mashed potato flakes
- Canned potatoes
- Stuffing mix, boxed
- Dessert mix (cake, brownie, cookie or muffin—if providing cake mix please include frosting as well)
- Fresh potatoes and sweet potatoes
- We DO NOT need canned vegetables or fruits . 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 10**. Our drop-off hours are:

Mon 8 AM-11 AM
and 3-5 PM
Wed 8-11:30 AM
and 5:30-7 PM
Fri 8 AM—2 PM

Questions? Call (717) 838-9493



For Your Information

November 5 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!** There are dates still open for 2017, and the 2018 list is posted and ready for you to sign up to serve next year.

The **Welcome Time** sponsor sheet for 2018 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 18. Your **2018 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. 



KIDS' WINTER CLOTHING DRIVE

On **Tuesday, November 7** we will sponsor a winter clothing drive for children and youth sizes. These clothes will benefit kids in our area.

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, toothbrushes, tooth-

paste and floss. The Social Ministry Committee has applied for a grant from Thrivent to help defray the costs of larger items such as sheets, towels, cleaning supplies, etc.

The Tree will be in the narthex **through Saturday, December 2**.

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.



October Congregation Council Meeting Highlights

The Messiah Congregation Council met on Tuesday, October 10, 2017.

- Harry Hatt presented the display board for the Atlantic Mission District Convocation in Camp Hill this weekend.
- A sign-up sheet is located on the Information Board requesting cookies for the annual Advent shut-in distribution.
- A sign-up sheet is located on the Information Center for the Spaghetti Miracle to be held on Saturday, November 18 at noon, to be followed by the annual congregation meeting at 2 PM.
- The Finance Committee recommended the 2018 Ministry Plan, with a needed congregation vote to modify the Pastor's Letter of Call for a reduction in salary for 2018.
- The Tree of Giving for the Agape Shelter will go up at the end of October requesting simple gifts for mother and children residing at the Agape Shelter. Harry Hatt applied for and has received matching funds from Thrivent to benefit the Agape Shelter.
- Harry Hatt and Rita Savant have agreed to run for a second term to serve on Congregation Council. Charlotte Varone is completing her third 2-year term and is ineligible to run. The committee will be talking to other congregation members interested in serving on Congregation Council.
- The Atlantic Mission District Convocation will be hosted by Messiah on October 19 & 20, 2018 with help from St. John (Fredericksburg), Zoar (Mt. Zion) and Christ (Bellegrove).

Submitted by Karen Fox
Congregation Council Secretary

Ministry Plan Report for September

(Ministry Plan need per week: \$3,483.79)



<u>Date</u>	<u>Offering Received</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
9/3	\$3,157.50	34 + / 9 LiF
9/10	\$1,893.00	34 + / 12 ICII presentation
9/17	\$2,585.00	43 + / 18 Kline presentation
9/24	\$2,978.40	48 + / 21 Covenant Day

Year to date received: \$107,167.79

Needed to date: \$135,867.75

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

Annual Altar Guild Meeting



You are invited to attend the annual Altar Guild meeting on **Saturday, November 4 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 717-272-3757.



Fair Trade Fair

St. Luke Lutheran Church (1432 Heidelberg Ave, Schaefferstown) invites you to attend the SERVV Fair Trade Fair on **Saturday, November 4 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.

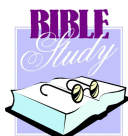
By supporting Fair Trade, we make choices in line with our beliefs and affirm human dignity by promoting fair wages, children's rights, women's rights, equal employment opportunities, and organic farming to protect people and the environment. Change lives while you shop! If you have questions please call Faith Thunberg at 717-949-2869.



Upcoming Events

BIBLE STUDY
Thursday, November 9
7 PM

Conference Room



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



GAME NIGHT
Friday, November 17

6:30 PM

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

The church office will be
CLOSED
on November 23 and 24.



Membership Changes

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

Fae Appleby
 1929-2017



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

Please also **remove from your directory** the following:

Ashley Artz
 Calvin & Judy Austin
 Steven Galbraith
 Matt Knouff
 Tim & Stacy Lutz

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.



2017 Congregation Council

- Harry Hatt, *President & Property chair*
 Gayle Hoffman, *Vice President, Personnel & Strategic Planning chair*
 Karen Fox, *Secretary & Worship and Music chair*
 Rita Savant, *Assistant Financial Secretary & Social Ministry chair*
 Charlotte Varone, *Publicity chair*
 Nancie Whelan, *Assistant Treasurer & Christian Education chair*
- Non Council Committee Chairs and their positions:
 Ernestine Batdorf, *Financial Secretary*
 Karen Hatt, *Fellowship chair*
 Kathaleen Lilley, *Treasurer & Finance chair*
 Deborah Lutz, *Evangelism/Stewardship & Volunteer Resources chair*

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

Children's Choir



A children's choir is being developed at Messiah! **Beginning on Sunday, November 5** Deb Lutz and Laurite Vranesic will teach the children familiar Bible songs during the Living in Faith hour in a second floor Sunday School room. Please plan to bring your children and/or grandchildren to this learning program. We hope to learn and offer a song or two during the Advent and Christmas season! Friends of your children are also welcome. See you on November 5!