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Pastor's Page

Improvement Coming

Congregation Council has approved the conversion of one of the three main narthex doors to be power-operated.

One of the existing doors will operate with a pressure plate. One of these will be mounted on the outside wall under the portico, the other, near the door on the narthex wall near the parlor door.

The left-hand (going out) 'panic bar' door will trade places with the door on the "driveway" side, so that the power door will safely open toward an outside wall.

After years of watching people of small stature or with health concerns struggle with the heavy doors, it finally occurred that we can do something about this. We hope the improvement can be completed by fall.

We do ask those who are able to adapt by using the two doors closest to the driveway for most purposes, in order to maximize the longevity of the power-door system. But do not be shy about using

the new power door if it's better or safer for you!

The conversion will be paid through the Memorial Fund. One memorial contribution has already been offered to help with the overall cost (about \$4,500). If you would like to make a memorial or thankoffering contribution toward the conversion, please speak with Harry Hatt (Council President) or the pastor. The amount of your offering will be kept confidential.

Please remember that soon, one of the doors will be opening on its own, so don't stand in front of it!

Other news . . .

As you know, required operating expenses exceed congregation giving. This is becoming more pronounced; for the current year, the trend is toward a deficit for the year approaching \$30,000 short of the Ministry Plan.

In less than five years, it has been necessary to use more than \$70,000 in reserves to meet expenses. While the congregation can still meet its obligations, this trend is not

sustainable long-term, and it is unwise to continue as we are until savings have been exhausted.

Since members of Messiah desire to continue as a congregation, the appropriate question is *How* to most faithfully do this within our limitations.

This question will be the topic of discussion and study in the adult *Living in Faith* class beginning in mid-September.

This is not a new process, simply another step in a journey we started some time ago as Council and the Strategic Planning Committee held congregation conversations on our life together. Given that the trends identified in those conversations have continued, it is important not to put off what we can do now to prepare for a new phase in Messiah's life and ministries.

There will be a lot to study, to talk about together, and to pray about as a congregation. I hope that you all will make this a priority on your Sunday mornings so we can travel faithfully together. +



Covenant Day



Sunday, September 9

9 AM

The Liturgy of Holy Communion

10:30 AM

Introduction of this year's Bible Reading Covenant
and a Special Recognition of Joe Hartman
for his years as a Sunday School Teacher at 7th St. & Messiah

Also Featuring

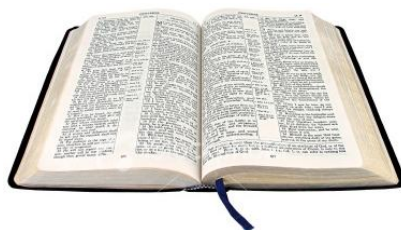
Bible Reading Covenant Schedule for 2018-19

Refreshments

Fellowship

Make plans to stay for our Covenant Day which kicks off a new year of Living in Faith Education! We will be receiving our new Bible Reading Covenant schedule for the up coming year. Some changes are being made, so come out and see what is new and what will be different. Make plans to stay—congratulate and talk to Joe, enjoy a cup of coffee or tea, some delicious cake and good, stimulating conversation!

If you have any questions please see Nancie Whelan (Christian Education chair) or Karen Hatt (Fellowship Chair).





Atlantic Mission District 2018 Annual Convocation



Friday, October 19
(registration begins at 10:30 AM; Convocation opens at 12 PM)
&
Saturday, October 20
(12 PM close of Convocation)

Messiah Lutheran Church
1800 Oak Street
Lebanon, PA 17042



Featuring The Rev. Dr. Gemechis Buba,
Assistant to the Bishop for Mission

Keynote:
Sent to Serve

With 2 break-out sessions:

Sharing Your Faith
with Mr. Bill Oehlschlager
from Lutheran Lay Renewal



Sent to Seek
with The Rev. Dr. Gemechis Buba

New this year Our first annual AMD Women's Conference on
Friday morning, October 19 from 9-11 AM

Registration sheets are available on the oak table for both the Convocation and Women's Conference. It is a HUGE deal and very exciting to be hosting the AMD Convocation. We hope to see YOU there! See Pastor for the full schedule of the days' events.

2018 Congregational Council Weekly Worship Schedule

Harry Hatt, *President and Property Chair*
 Gayle Hoffman, *Vice-President and Personnel Chair*
 Karen Fox, *Secretary and Worship & Music Chair*
 Nancie Whelan, *Treasurer and Christian Education Chair*
 Ernestine Batdorf, *Finance Secretary, Publicity and Volunteer Resources Chair*
 Rita Savant, *Assistant Finance Secretary and Social Ministry Chair*

Non Council Committee Chairs and their positions:
 Karen Hatt, *Fellowship chair*
 Kathaleen Lilley, *Assistant Treasurer and Finance Chair*

SUNDAYS:
 9 AM The Holy Communion
 10:30 AM Living in Faith Education Hour
 (4th Sunday of the month—Bible Reading Covenant)

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



Road Trip to the Long Trout Winery



Come join your fellow Messiah members on a road trip to the **Long Trout Winery in Auburn, PA.**

This trip is being planned for **Saturday, October 6.** We will leave the church parking lot at **12 PM** and carpool.

The winery is a “unique Bohemian wine boutique.” A gift shop is on site where you may purchase your favorite vintage. There is no charge (and no limit) for wine tasting. There is also a disc (Frisbee) golf course available for anyone who wants to play.

We plan to stop at a restaurant on the way home. A sign-up sheet will be posted in mid-September.

Convocation Help Needed



As you know, Messiah is hosting the 2018 Atlantic Mission District Convocation on **Friday, October 19-Saturday, October 20.** We anticipate approximately 100-150 people to be in attendance

for this big event.

The Fellowship Committee is looking for volunteers to help **wrap silverware and set tables** on **Thursday, October 18** (time TBA).

We also need volunteers to **take down the tables and**

do a general clean up of the building on **Saturday, October 20** following the close of the Convocation.

If you are interested in helping out in this very important way please contact Harry or Karen Hatt.

September 2018 Schedules

Assisting Minister

- 2 Nancie Whelan
- 9 Michael Bowman
- 16 Sandra Smith
- 23 Kathaleen Lilley
- 30 Deborah Lutz



Lector

- 2 Mary Garrett
- 9 Michael Bowman
- 16 Sandra Smith
- 23 Kathaleen Lilley
- 30 Deborah Lutz



Greeters

- 2 Marion Bowman
- 9 **NEEDED**
- 16 Nicholas & Barbara Adams
- 23 **NEEDED**
- 30 **NEEDED**



Finance Steward
Dorothy Martin

Head Ushers

The Robert Bowman Family



Altar Guild

- Mary Garrett, chair
- Dorothy Martin
- Lori Wert



Crucifer

- 2 Gayle Hoffman
- 9 Daniel LaRue
- 16 Ernestine Batdorf
- 23 Sandra Smith
- 30 Michael Bowman



Acolyte

- 2 Nancie Whelan
- 9 Michael Bowman
- 16 Harry Hatt
- 23 Mikayla Bowman
- 30 Deborah Lutz



WELCOME TIME Sponsors

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



September 2 — No Welcome Time this month



October 2018 Schedules

Assisting Minister

- 7 Daniel LaRue
- 14 Karen Fox
- 21 Charlotte Varone
- 28 Ernestine Batdorf



Altar Guild

- Deborah Lutz, chair
- Rosanne Lutz
- Eileen Lutz



Lector

- 7 Carey Kendall
- 14 Karen Fox
- 21 Charlotte Varone
- 28 Ernestine Batdorf



Crucifer

- 7 Eugene Martin
- 14 Nicholas Adams
- 21 Andrew Hartman
- 28 Rita Savant



Greeters

- 7 Marion Bowman
- 14 **NEEDED**
- 21 Charlotte Varone
- 28 **NEEDED**



Acolyte

- 7 Ernestine Batdorf
- 14 Mikayla Bowman
- 21 Harry Hatt
- 28 Ernestine Batdorf



WELCOME TIME Sponsors

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

October 7 – Social Ministry Committee



Finance Steward

Gayle Hoffman

Head Usher
Nancie Whelan



Thank You Notes



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

Thank you for the flowers, cards and phone calls during my recent recovery. I also want to thank Pastor Kendall for his visit. It was all truly appreciated.

Kitty Runkel

Rescue Mission Food Drive

Food Drive



The Lebanon County Rescue Mission is once again sponsoring a "Bring Your Own Bag" food drive to help fill their larders.

Please fill a grocery bag or box with non perishable foods and drop them off at the Rescue Mission (1223 Bittner Blvd., Lebanon). Thank you!

This drive runs from October 1–December 9.



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

New Member

Karen Zivic

378 Summit Court
 Lebanon, PA 17042

717-273-3460

Email: 07kmz262811@gmail.com



Ministers of Health & Well-Being



On Sunday, September 2 we will recognize, give thanks for and pray for everyone in our congregation who is serving or who has served in the **health care or personal care** field. We will hold a special Living in Faith class so folks can share what they do/did. And following that we will share a **covered dish meal** together. A sign-up sheet for the meal is posted on the Information Board. Come join us!

Clothing Drive

On **Tuesday, November 6** (General Election Day) we will be sponsoring a clothing drive for **children and youth sizes only**. We are accepting all



weather clothes (both warm weather and cold weather clothes). Please go through your children's (or grandchildren's) clothing and cull too-small items and bring them to Messiah when you come to vote. You may bring them the Sunday before (11/4) if you vote elsewhere. The cold weather clothes will stay local and the warm weather clothes will be shipped to Haiti. Thank you in advance!



PLEASE REMEMBER TO WATCH FOR STOPPED BUSES! The children are back in school.

Upcoming Events



BIBLE STUDY

Thursday, September 13
and
Thursday, October 11

New study series!

GAME NIGHT

Friday, September 21
6:30 PM

(No Game Night in October
due to the Convocation.)

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



Tentative Date!

Saturday, November 10

Annual Altar Guild meeting
at 9 AM



August Congregation Council Highlights

The Congregation Council met on Tuesday, August 14, 2018. They did not meet in July.

- Correspondence was received from the Dean of the Atlantic Mission District requesting a lay candidate nominee willing to serve on the Atlantic Mission District Council. Information is requested by September 1.
- Front door crash bars have been installed. New business will cover the proposal for additional work.
- Work days continue; more volunteers are needed to complete necessary work before the Atlantic Mission District Convocation here at Messiah in October.
- A proposal from Reed's Locksmith for installation of the power door was passed.
- The Agape Christmas Party will be held December 3.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Fox
Congregation Council secretary



School Kit and Health Kit Collections



When the summer draws to a close it will be time to think about school and school/health kits for Lutheran World Relief and the Independent

Church in India. **We collect the money and buy the supplies** in bulk at various stores in the area. This enables us to be good stewards of the offerings that are donated. Please consider a generous donation again this year to see if

we can send even more kits than last year. There will be an offering plate in the Narthex until **October 7**. Many thanks in advance for your support of this project. Any questions—see Kathy Lilley.

Annual Congregation Meeting



Reminder: The **annual congregation meeting** will be held on **Saturday, November 17 at 2 PM**. The day will begin with a Casserole Covered Dish luncheon which will be held at 12 noon (see below).

At this meeting we will be

electing new Congregation Council members for 2019, going over the proposed Ministry Plan for 2019, 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 at Messiah) in the current calendar year.



Congregation Meeting Luncheon



On **Saturday, November 17** the Fellowship Committee is hosting a **Casserole Covered Dish luncheon at 12 noon** before the annual Congregation Meeting. A sign up sheet will be posted in November on

which you may sign up to bring a casserole, side dish, or dessert.

So come on out and enjoy some good food and fellowship with your church family before we turn to business. Please contact Karen Hatt if you have any questions.

See you there!



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.

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. Please bring your cookies to the church the morning of November 17 by 9 AM 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!

If you would like to help bake and/or pack the cookie containers please sign up on the sheet that will be posted on the Information Board in October. We will be packing the cookie containers on Saturday, November 17 in the morning at 9:30 AM before the Casserole Covered Dish luncheon at noon.

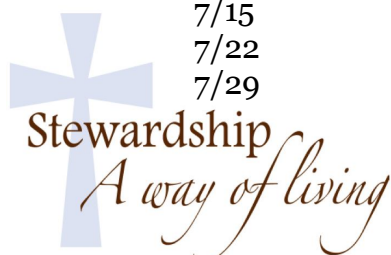
Thanks in advance for your help! If you have any questions please contact Karen Hatt.



Ministry Plan Report for June & July

(Budgeted need per week: \$3,420.10)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount Received</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
6/3	\$3,476.00	43 + / 16 LiF
6/10	\$1,279.00	33 + / 16 LiF
6/17	\$2,141.00	44 + / 16 LiF
6/24	\$2,108.00	45 + / 14 Covenant
7/1	\$2,910.00	55 + / 16 LiF
7/8	\$3,121.00	43 + / 18 LiF
7/15	\$1,864.00	32 + / 14 LiF
7/22	\$2,970.29	53 + / 14 Covenant
7/29	\$1,021.75	43 + / 16 LiF



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

September Birthdays

- 1 Anita Keisch
- 2 Ethel Matthew
- 6 Daryl Artz
- 9 Louise Scaramuzzino
- 13 Corey Hartman
- 16 Melanie Gettler
- 18 Robert Bowman, Jr.
- 19 Lori Wert
- 21 Daniel LaRue
- Nancie Whelan
- 22 Elizabeth Brightbill
- 25 Janice Hartman
- 27 Gordon Ebright
- Rosanne Lutz



October Birthdays

- 3 Richard Miller
- 4 Thomas Gassert
- 6 Mikey Adams
- 7 Linda Field
- Andrew Trovinger
- 12 Michael Anspach
- 14 Keeley Hartman
- 16 Irma Long
- 18 Pam Knouff
- 25 Andrew Surmacz
- 27 Richard Gehret
- 29 Carol Artz
- 30 Rick Knouff



September Anniversaries

- 5 Harry & Karen Fox
- 6 Randy & Debra Miller
- 17 Michael & Sherri Blouch
- 24 Andrew & Erin Trovinger



October Anniversaries

- 8 Pastor James & Ruth DeLong
- 10 Shawn & Kelly Roof
- 12 Kevin & Sandra Smith
- 23 Daniel & Susan Galbraith
- 26 Andrew & Jill Hartman



2018 NALC National Convocation in Denver

About 600 delegates and visitors gathered August 15-17 in Denver, CO, for the 2018 Convocation of the North American Lutheran Church around the theme, “The Holy Spirit: Calling, Gathering, Enlightening, Sanctifying.”

The Mission Festival began with a focus on discipleship. Featured speakers Sherry Weddell and Katherine Coolidge of the Catherine of Siena Institute in Colorado Springs, CO, talked about ways congregations can form intentional disciples. The Mission Festival also featured a variety of breakout sessions to equip members for mission.

Pastor Gemechis Buba, Assistant to the Bishop for Missions, offered presentations at the Mission Festival and Convocation sessions. He told inspiring stories of God’s work in providing buildings for some NALC mission congregations serving Oromo people.

Bishop John Bradosky will not be seeking reelection as Bishop of the NALC when his term expires in 2019. The Bishop talked about “passing the baton” of the office of Bishop and pointed out the need for all of us to “pass the baton” of faith and discipleship.

To prepare for the nomination and election process for Bishop, a packet of information was provided to congregations including a booklet of prayers encouraging NALC members to engage in a year of prayer and discernment leading up to the election at the NALC Convocation August 7-9, 2019, in Indianapolis, IN.

Elections: Richard Jansak of Hendersonville, N.C., and Pastor Melinda Jones of Summerville, S.C., were elected to four-year terms on the Executive Council. Pastor John Moffett of Ashland, Ohio, and James Gale of Washington, D.C., were elected to the Court of Adjudication. Ralph Wold of Red Deer, Alberta, and Pastor Rolf Bjornstad of Sherwood Park, Alberta were elected to the NALC Canada Section Governing Board. Pastor Wendy Berthelsen of Midlothian, Texas; Pastor Dennis Di Mauro of Herndon, Va., and Pastor Phillip Gagnon of St. Albert, Alberta, were elected to six-year terms on the North American Lutheran Seminary Board of Regents.

The North American Lutheran Seminary will be seeking a new president. The Rev. Dr. Amy Schiffrin, president of the NALS, has been serving as both president and seminary faculty. She will continue as full-time faculty and transition out of her position as president after the 2018-2019 school year or when someone is called as president.

2019 budgets were approved. The Convocation approved a \$2.1 million Operating Budget for the NALC. Budgets were also approved for NALC designated funds: \$589,000 for the Theological Education Fund (which includes the seminary); \$175,500 for the Great Commission Fund; and \$89,000 for the Disaster Response Fund. Most of the budgets anticipate spending some cash reserves.

A resolution regarding ecumenical consultation between the NALC and the Roman Catholic Church was approved. The resolution inviting the Roman Catholic Church into conversation and cooperation was proposed by the NALC’s Commission on Theology and Doctrine.

A new NALC Global Worker, James Puotyual, who will serve in South Sudan, was commissioned at the Convocation.

Stuff the Tonka Truck for NALC Disaster Response received more than \$11,000 worth of gift cards to assist those recovering from disasters. The effort was organized by the Women of the NALC.

Reports of the work of the NALC’s staff, teams, task forces, ministries and ministry partners were warmly received.

Events preceding the Convocation were the Braaten-Benne Lectures in Theology, Women of the NALC Annual Gathering, Discipleship Coaching workshop and the Ventures in Youth Ministry Symposium. The Convocation and the events preceding it comprise the NALC’s annual Lutheran Week.

Documents, photos and videos from the Convocation and other events of Lutheran Week will be posted at lutheranweek.com.

For Your Information

FOOD COLLECTION SUNDAYS



September 2

Caring Cupboard

October 7

Rescue Mission

LWR INGATHERING SUNDAY

Sunday, October 7

Urgent need: New or “like new” blankets



Lutheran World Relief



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 someone from the Evangelism Committee: Deb Lutz, Mary Garrett or Charlotte Varone. Thank you!



The Children's Choir will begin rehearsing on September 9. An anthem will be sung during worship on October 21. Please check the calendars for dates. If you have any questions see Deb Lutz or Laurite Vranesic.

October is Pastor Appreciation Month. Take a minute to tell Pastor Kendall “thank you” for his service to Our Lord and this congregation.



2018 CROP Walk for Hunger



The annual Greater Lebanon C R O P H u n g e r

Walk is scheduled for **Sunday, October 21**. David Machamer, walk organizer for Messiah, reports that the walk will begin and end at Emmanuel United Methodist Church, 6 Boundary Road, Grantville (the Gap). A lunch of hotdogs, macaroni salad, veggies, chips, drinks and cookies will be served at 1 PM. Registration is at 1:30 PM, and the walk

will begin at 2 PM. Walkers will enjoy a 2-1/2—3 mile walk around **Memorial Lake**. A bike path is available for those who would prefer to ride.

The money raised through this event helps people around the world to establish family gardens or improve their gardening methods to provide food for their families. Equipment, training, food for a local church-run pantry, or raising chicks to become egg laying chickens are other ways that help can be provided.

Dave encourages all Messiah walkers to take part to help these needy people, and ask that those who won't be walking to support our walkers by making pledges. Each congregation is also asked to **donate cookies**, so if you would prefer to bake then please inform Dave.

WALK, PLEDGE, BAKE OR PRAY FOR OUR WALKERS! Thanks in advance for your participation!

