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From the Office

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven. (Ecclesiastes 3:1)

This Scripture passage sums up life so succinctly, doesn't it? Nothing lasts forever. Time and circumstances move on.

I am currently about to embark on a period of great transition in my life.

My husband, Bennett, has announced his intention to retire from the Mt. Zion Lutheran Parish (St. John in Fredericksburg and Zoar in Mt. Zion) on June 30, 2024 after 23-1/2 years of ministry there.

His impending retirement will precipitate a big change in my life. It means that I will now need to leave the Messiah office and find fulltime employment which includes benefits.

In November, 2021 I told Pastor Kendall over lunch the week before he died that I wanted to start looking for another job since my son was just starting college and Bennett was not doing that well physically. I wanted to have time to look without pressure. However, with Pr. Kendall's sudden

death I knew the LORD was telling me it was not yet time.

However, the time has now come.

I had intended to stay until the new pastor was called. And I wanted to give the new pastor a year with me in the office for a smooth transition to their ministry. But with Bennett's announcement and our stalled call process here that cannot be.

I did apply for one job so far (and have heard only the sound of crickets from them), but I'm not really pounding the pavement yet. That will come in earnest this fall.

I cannot give you all a time table for when I will be leaving as I am just in the "looking to see what's out there" phase. But, I want to be prepared—and have Messiah covered—when I do have to go.

One thing I definitely want to do before I go is train my replacement.

I would like to invite any congregation member who may be interested in learning the job to speak to me about coming in to see what I do with the possibility of being my

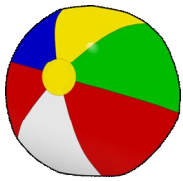
successor. I am in the process of creating an office manager notebook that details what needs to be done, how to do it, and when it needs to be done. And I will always be available if you have questions.

I cannot tell you how difficult it is to write these words—the sadness about leaving this wonderful job and the anxiety I feel over where I'm going to work next and how it will go at home with almost 10-year old Lily and a retired husband. I appreciate your prayers.

And I also want to thank ALL of you. This is the first job I had after staying home for 17 years to raise my children. Pastor Kendall took a chance on me, Karen Fox did a fabulous job training me and was always there when I had a question or a problem. And I want to thank all of YOU who became my second church family over these almost 13 years. Your support and friendship mean so very much to me.

But this is NOT goodbye. On July 1, 2024 Bennett, Lily, and I will be transferring our membership to Messiah. So, you'll still see me around. And I will like that very much.

Thank You Notes

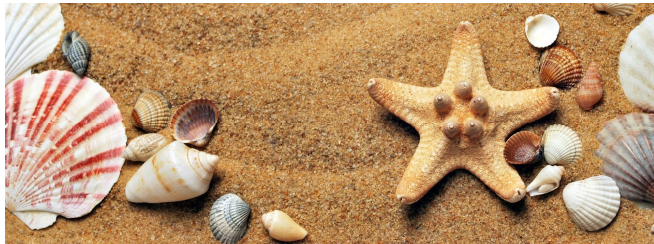


To the members of Messiah:

Thank you for welcoming us into membership at the May 28 service. We look forward to getting to know each of you as we attend worship services and church activities.

THANK YOU

Larry & Carol Watkins



Call Process Update

A decision was made, after Congregation Council met with Atlantic Mission Region dean Pr. Steve Shipman and Central Mission District dean Pr. Rod Lilley, to temporarily pull our congregation profile from the open congregation listing/call process on the NALC website.

The Call Committee has been dissolved. We will reconstitute a Call Committee with new people when we put our profile back into the active call process.

In the meantime, please continue to pray for spiritual guidance and direction for our family here at Messiah.

Yours in Christ,
Brenda Beegle
Congregation Council President



Prize Collection for Spang Crest

Every July Messiah has participated in the Friends of Spang Crest Prize Collection. The residents are very appreciative of your generosity as you provide them with fun and useful

prizes for them to choose.



During the month of July a box will be placed in the narthex to receive any

of the items listed below. These are the **most requested things** that the residents

of Spang Crest pick for Bingo or racing prizes:

- Toothpaste
- Toothbrushes
- Tissues (boxes or packs)
- Hand lotion
- Hair brushes
- Hair items (barrettes, headbands, etc.)
- Long necklaces
- Grippy socks
- Perfume/cologne/aftershave/body spray
- Chocolate bars
- Tic Tacs
- Sugar-free candy (hard and chocolate bars)
- Hard candy

- Small tablets
- Pens
- Snack packs of cookies
- Snack crackers (peanut butter or cheese)
- Pretzels (snack sized bags)
- Quarters to spend in the gift shop
- Small stuffed animals
- Coloring books for adults

Please contact **Nancie Whelan** with any questions. And thank you for continuing to support one of our local senior residences!



July 2023 Schedules

Assisting Minister

- 2 Nancie Whelan
- 9 Sandra Smith
- 16 Eugene Martin
- 23 Deborah Lutz
- 30 Karen Fox



Altar Guild

- Barbara Adams, chair
- Sherri Blouch
- Karen Zivic



Lector

- 2 Nancie Whelan
- 9 Sandra Smith
- 16 Eugene Martin
- 23 Deborah Lutz
- 30 Karen Fox



Crucifer

- 2 Mary Whelan
- 9 Gayle Hoffman
- 16 Andrew Surmacz
- 23 Kathaleen Lilley
- 30 Sandra Smith



Greeters

- 2 Deborah Lutz
- 9 **NEEDED**
- 16 **NEEDED**
- 23 **NEEDED**
- 30 **NEEDED**



Acolyte


- 2 Nancie Whelan
- 9 Deborah Lutz
- 16 Karen Zivic
- 23 Deborah Lutz
- 30 Nancie Whelan



Finance Steward
Nicholas Adams

Head Ushers
Harry & Karen Hatt



 **WELCOME TIME Sponsors**
(Welcome Time is held the first Sunday of the month after worship.)

July 2— Deborah Lutz & Karen Hatt



August 2023 Schedules

Assisting Minister

- 6 Kathaleen Lilley
- 13 Charlotte Varone
- 20 Eugene Martin
- 27 Sandra Smith



Lector

- 6 Mary Garrett
- 13 Charlotte Varone
- 20 Eugene Martin
- 27 Sandra Smith



Greeters

- 6 **NEEDED**
- 13 **NEEDED**
- 20 **NEEDED**
- 27 **NEEDED**



Finance Steward
Deborah Lutz

Head Usher
Deborah Lutz



Altar Guild

- Carey Kendall, chair
- Elizabeth Surmacz
- Lori Wert



Crucifer

- 6 Eugene Martin
- 13 Mary Whelan
- 20 Sandra Smith
- 27 Gayle Hoffman



Acolyte

- 6 Harry Hatt
- 13 Karen Hatt
- 20 Karen Zivic
- 27 Nancie Whelan



WELCOME TIME Sponsors



(Welcome Time is held the first Sunday of the month after worship.)

August 6 —Karen Zivic & Barbara Adams



Ministry Plan Report for May

Budgeted need per week: **\$2,820.44**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount Received</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
5/7	\$2,582.00	13 LiF / 32 +
5/14	\$1,985.98	12 LiF / 29 +
5/21	\$1,993.00	12 LiF / 29 +
5/28	\$3,675.20	11 LiF / 33 +

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



STEWARDSHIP

Managing God's Gifts To Us



Home Communion Distributors Needed

In the absence of having a pastor (for now) there is a need to find a way to take Communion to our shut-ins.

On **Sunday, July 23** after worship and a delicious lunch, Pr. Steve Shipman will be leading a training for anyone interested in learning how to properly distribute already consecrated Com-

munion Elements to our shut-ins.

These trained lay ministers will then be able to visit and commune our brothers and sisters who cannot physically come to worship. Please prayerfully consider serving and notify Brenda Beegle or Robin if interested.



Congregation Council Meeting Highlights

The Messiah Congregation Council met on Tuesday, June 13, 2023.

- Financial reports were approved pending audit.
- Council approved enrolling in the NALC Network service for improvement and technical support of the Messiah website.
- Council approved adding a security monitor in the organ pit. It will be installed by Reed's Locksmith.
- Council approved the removal of the old concrete sign by Long's Excavating.
- New pads (both adult and child) were purchased and finally arrived for the AED.
- The finance counting teams are now complete. Thank you to all who volunteered to serve.



Respectfully submitted,
 Nicholas Adams
 Substitute Congregation Council Secretary



July Birthdays

- 3 Sherri Blouch
Christian Anspach
- 4 Carla Hartman
- 13 Beth Miller
- 14 Tammy Risser
- 15 George Felder
- 16 Elizabeth Surmacz
- 19 Pastor James DeLong



August Birthdays

- 1 Judith Bechtold
- 10 Ruth DeLong
Harry Hatt
- 11 Karen Bickel
- 15 Benjamin Risser
- 18 Nicholas Adams
- 19 Carl Lutz
- 27 Justin Lilley
- 29 Shael Connatser
- 31 Rachel Anspach



July Anniversaries

- 16 Edward & Karen Bickel
- 23 Rodney & Kathaleen Lilley
- 27 William & Judith Bechtold
- 28 Louis & Karen Zivic



August Anniversaries

- 1 Carl & Rosanne Lutz
- 13 Robert & Debra Bowman
Lee & Rita Savant
- 15 Corey & Carla Hartman



2023 Congregation Council

Brenda Beegle, *President, Christian Ed. co-chair*

Nick Adams, *Vice President, Christian Ed co-chair, and Personnel chair*

Karen Zivic, *Secretary*

Ernestine Batdorf, *Finance Secretary*

Michael Ernst

Deborah Lutz, *Publicity and Volunteer Resources chair*

David Machamer, *Evangelism and Property chair*

Non Council Committee Chairs and their positions:

Karen Fox, *Worship & Music chair*

Karen Hatt, *Fellowship Chair*

Kathaleen Lilley, *Assistant Treasurer and Finance Chair*

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

Nancie Whelan, *Treasurer*



September Newsletter



The **deadline** for the September issue of the *Messiah Messenger* is **Tuesday, August 15**. Please make sure you have all your information turned in to the office (and on the work room calendar) by this date. Thank you!

Summer Supply List

- July 2 Nicholas Adams
- July 9 The Rev. Michael Tamorria
The Rev. Karen Tamorria
- July 16 Kathaleen Lilley
- July 23 The Rev. Steve Shipman
- July 30 Kathaleen Lilley

- August 6 The Rev. Paul Hansen
- August 13 Nicholas Adams
- August 20 The Rev. Paul Hansen
- August 27 Karen Fox

Theological Conference



Proclaim His Righteousness to the People: Christ as the Mystery of the Psalms.

The Atlantic Mission Region theological conference will be held on **Thursday, September 14** from 9 AM—3 PM at Holy Trinity ELC, 2086 Parkview Ave., Abington, PA. Dr. David Luy, professor of systematic theology at the NALS, will be the keynote speaker.

If interested please contact Robin for more details.

Annual Church Picnic

Sunday, August 27

Following worship / money counting

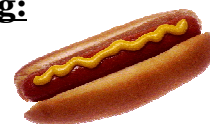


Provided:

- Hot dogs
- Lasagna
- Paper products

Sign up to bring:

- Side Dish
- Salad
- Drink
- Dessert



Special guests:

Lowell & Kathy Smith
Pastor Asif or Pastor Britto
From Independent Church in India

A sign up sheet will be posted on the Information Board in August.

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NALC website: www.thenalc.org
Atlantic Mission Region website:
www.atlantic-nalc.org

For Your Information



**FOOD
COLLECTION
SUNDAYS**

July 2

August 6

All going to the
Rescue Mission



**Congregation Council,
Committee Chairs, Call
Committee & Spouses:**

Tuesday, August 8

6 PM

Covered dish picnic

7 PM

Congregation Council meeting

Worship Schedule

SUNDAYS:

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



Summer vacation is a great break for everyone. But the needs of the church never take a vacation. Please remember your offerings, gifts and tithes to Messiah when you are on vacation. Thank you.

School Supplies Needed

The Fellowship Committee is sponsoring a school supply drive that will benefit the mission church that worships here at Messiah (Pr. Angel's church) from **August 1—20**.

A box will be placed on the table outside the nave for you to place any of the following:

- Back packs
- Spiral notebooks (wide or college ruled)
- Pencils (if mechanical then also supply the lead)
- Pencil sharpeners
- Erasers
- Pens
- Crayons
- Rulers
- Glue sticks
- Blunt scissors



Thank you in advance for your generosity!



AMR Annual Fall Convocation



The Atlantic Mission Region's annual fall Convocation is currently being planned to be held in person on **Friday, October 13 & Saturday, October 14** at Saint Paul Lutheran Church, 250 Trinity Rd, York, PA.

The Convocation's theme this year will be **Life-to-Life Discipleship**. Jesus told us to "go and make disciples of all nations." So, how are we to do that??

We will hear a presentation by the Rev. Dr. Amy Little, General Secretary of the NALC on Life-to-Life Discipleship in action. What does it look like? How can we ordinary people disciple others?

Saturday will feature workshops featuring pastors and lay persons from four AMR congregations who have active Life-to-Life Discipleship groups who will explain what worked—and what didn't.

Fellowship opportunities, Mission District break out time, faithful worship, and learning opportunities abound. Friday lunch and supper and Saturday lunch are included.

A morning-long **Women's Conference** (featuring a Bible study by Pr. Amy Little plus assembling health kits for Disaster Response) and an **informal Bible Study** led by Bill Oehlschlager from Lutheran Lay Renewal will be held on Friday morning prior to the Convocation's start.

Stuff the Truck for Disaster Response will be included in the 2-day event.

Everyone is invited to attend. Much more information and registration sheets will be available in mid-August. Look for them in your bulletins and the fall newsletter!

We hope you will join in the fellowship!