

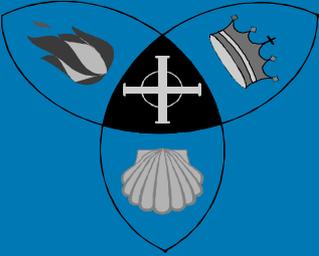
Messiah Lutheran Church  
7740 Highway 72 West  
Madison, Alabama 35758

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Messiah Lutheran Church (ELCA) is located at 7740 Highway 72 West, just east of Hughes Road. Sunday Services of Worship are at 8:30 am and 11:00 am. Sunday School is at 9:45 am. A nursery attendant is provided. All are welcome. Our website is [www.mlutheran.com](http://www.mlutheran.com). Church office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 am - 12:00 pm, staffed by our Office Managers. The Pastor is Rev. Scott Peterson. The Church telephone is (256) 721-0041.

Email: [info@mlutheran.org](mailto:info@mlutheran.org). Newsletter submissions may be sent to Beth Gloe.



# MESSIAH LUTHERAN MESSENGER

April 2014  
Volume 26 Issue 4

*The newsletter and calendar for Messiah Lutheran Church (ELCA) Madison, Alabama*

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#### Contact Information

##### Messiah Lutheran Church

7740 Highway 72 West Madison, AL 35758

Phone: (256) 721-0041

Office Hours.....8:00 am - 12:00 pm Monday - Friday

#### Staff

Rev. Scott Peterson.....Pastor  
Cheryl Byers, Ellie Nelson.....Office Managers  
Claire Strand.....Director of Outreach Ministries  
Lois Graff.....Director of Music Ministries  
Randall Fields.....Choir Director  
Kert Reedstrom.....Director of Education & Youth  
Judy Sylvester.....Nursery Attendant

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[www.mlutheran.com](http://www.mlutheran.com)

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<http://mlutheran.blogspot.com/>

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Saturday</b>
		<b>1</b>  10am Comforters  <i>Eric &amp; Julie Hancock</i>	<b>2</b>  5pm Confirmation 5:30pm Soup Supper 6pm Adult Bible Class 6pm Children's Choirs 6:30pm Youth Choir 7pm Lenten Service 7:45pm Adult Choir  <i>Peggy Hanna</i>	<b>3</b>  <i>Mark &amp; Dottie Hanson</i>	<b>4</b>  <i>Tina Hanson</i>	<b>5</b>  <i>Gary &amp; Linda Heideman</i>
<b>6</b>  8:30am Worship: Bread of Life w/LS 9:45 Sunday School 11am Worship: WOV Svc Word/Prayer 12:15pm Instrumental Ensemble 6-7:30pm Sr. Youth	<b>7</b>  9:30am Mom's Bible Study  <i>John &amp; Donna Helinski</i>	<b>8</b>  10am Comforters  <i>Doug Hendrick &amp; Gloria Zalatan</i>	<b>9</b>  5pm Confirmation 5:30pm Soup Supper 6pm Adult Bible Class 6pm Children's Choirs 6:30pm Youth Choir 7pm Lenten Service 7:45pm Adult Choir  <i>Esta Hodnett</i>	<b>10</b>  8:30am Morning Study group  7pm Church Council  <i>Jim &amp; Sue Hofer</i>	<b>11</b>  7-9pm Women's Spiritual Renewal Weekend @ St. Mark's  7:30pm Bridge Club @ Parish Hall  <i>Jennifer Holden Kathryn, Mitchell, Stephanie</i>	<b>12</b>  Planting a Cutting Garden  9am-3pm Women's Spiritual Renewal Weekend @ St. Mark's  <i>Daniel &amp; Diedra Hopkin Dock</i>
<b>13 Palm Sunday</b>  8:30am Worship: Confession & Forgiveness Donut Sunday! 9:45 Sunday School 11am Worship: Confession & Forgiveness 6-7:30pm Sr. Youth	<b>14</b>  <i>Eleanor Hulebak</i>	<b>15</b>  10am Comforters  <i>Jennifer Hunt</i>	<b>16</b>  5pm Confirmation  7:30pm Adult Choir  <i>Joe &amp; Bobbey Huwaldt Jonathan, Jacob</i>	<b>17 Maundy Thursday</b>  7pm Maundy Thursday Service w/Lord's Supper  <i>Jeanine &amp; Jay Jamison Ally Pesto, Danielle Pesto, Stephanie Pesto</i>	<b>18 Good Friday</b>  7pm Good Friday Service  <i>Derelene Jeter</i>	<b>19</b>  <i>Roger &amp; Annette Joens</i>
<b>20 Easter</b>  8:30am Worship: LBW Setting 2 w/LS Easter Breakfast 11am Worship: LBW Setting 2 w/LS	<b>21</b>  9:30am Mom's Bible Study  <i>Russell &amp; Casie Joens Elizabeth, Matthew</i>	<b>22</b>  10am Comforters  <i>Jeff &amp; Jeanna Johnson Brandt</i>	<b>23</b>  5pm Confirmation 5:30pm Dinner 6pm Children's Choirs 6:30pm Youth Choir Notabella 6:30pm Adult Bible Class 7:30pm Adult Choir  <i>Larry &amp; Judy Johnston</i>	<b>24</b>  <i>Mike &amp; Judy Kidd</i>	<b>25</b>  <i>Greg &amp; Meredith Kilby</i>	<b>26</b>  8:30 am-12pm Yard Sale  <i>John &amp; Nancy Knox Kenneth</i>
<b>27</b>  8:30am Worship: ELW Setting 8 9:45 Sunday School 11am Worship: Now the Feast w/LS 12:15pm Muchos MachoMuchachos Fajita Lunch (Handmade Market Spring Sale between services) 4pm Music @ Messiah 6-7:30pm Sr. Youth	<b>28</b>  <i>Russell &amp; Helen Kollman</i>	<b>29</b>  10am Comforters  <i>David Kuykendall &amp; Brandi Miller Ben Zarazua, Christina Zarazua, Adriana Zarazua</i>	<b>30</b>  5pm Confirmation 5:30pm Dinner 6pm Children's Choirs 6:30pm Youth Choir & Notabella 6:30pm Adult Bible Class 7:30pm Adult Choir  <i>John &amp; June Labansky</i>			

April 2014

Looking ahead...

- May 4 - Congregational Meeting and Elections
- May 9 - Relay for Life
- May 24 & 25 - MLC's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary
- June 2-6 - Music Camp 2014



## Pastor's Page

By Pastor Scott Peterson    [scott@mlutheran.com](mailto:scott@mlutheran.com)

*Jesus fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread."  
<sup>4</sup>But he answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"  
 --Matthew 4:2-4*

Dear Friends of the Crucified and Risen Messiah,

**WHAT ABOUT FASTING?** In this season of Lent some of us give up foods we especially enjoy. It is a way of reminding ourselves of our Lord's fasting in the wilderness and all He gave up to make us His own. Food, properly understood, is a gift from God. Personally, I am uncomfortable beginning any meal without a prayer recognizing that the Source of what I am about to enjoy is God's hand. Food tastes better when we give thanks to our Lord. Each meal we eat is God's answer our prayer, 'Give us this day our daily bread'. So...

**WHAT ABOUT FASTING?** Recently, 23 of our youth and five adults did the '30 hour famine'. In the process they learned more about the scope of hunger today, did things to help eliminate hunger in the world, and experienced hunger themselves by not eating for 30 hours. My favorite part of the '30 hour famine' is the 'Breaking the Fast' meal we eat together at the end. This meal begins as...

**WE SHARE A LOAF OF BREAD:** Each person tears off a piece and gives that bread to the person sitting next to her/him. Then each person is asked to share one thing learned from fasting for 30 hours. Here are some responses from the youth over the years:

*\*It helps when you are hungry to be in community with others sharing the same experience. Maybe that's why God puts us together in the church.*

*\*It is much easier when you know exactly when you will eat again. Most hungry people in the world don't know when their next meal will be.*

*\*I don't have any energy. Maybe some people we think are lazy are actually just hungry.*

*\*I saw some food in the garbage can. That bothered me. I could so eat that!*

*\*(Upon taking the first bite of bread) This is the best bread I have ever tasted!*

**THE ART OF BEING A CHRISTIAN** is to rejoice in the Lord when we have plenty and when we are in want. St. Paul wrote in Philippians 4, *I have learned to be content with whatever I have. I know what it is to have little, and I know what it is to have plenty. In any and all circumstances I have learned the secret of being well-fed and of going hungry, of having plenty and of being in need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me.*

**The joy of being a Christian** is sharing the gifts God has entrusted to our management. As we do others are fed with more 'than bread alone' and God uses us to answer prayers.

Grace and peace,

*Pastor Scott Peterson*

## April Services of Worship

LBW = Lutheran Book of Worship    WOV = With One Voice  
 ELW = Evangelical Lutheran Worship    LS = Lord's Supper

### Sundays at 8:30 am

Apr 6	Bread of Life with Lord's Supper
Apr 13	Confession & Forgiveness
Apr 20	LBW Setting 2 with Lord's Supper
Apr 27	ELW Setting 8

### Sundays at 11:00 am

Apr 6	WOV Service of Word/Prayer
Apr 13	Confession & Forgiveness
Apr 20	LBW Setting 2 with Lord's Supper
Apr 27	Now the Feast with Lord's Supper

## Outreach News

### BASKETS OF PROMISE



This Lenten season, Messiah is taking part in LWR's Baskets of Promise appeal. Each week in Lent, we'll collect items to form LWR Personal Care Kits that help impoverished people stay healthy in life's most challenging situations.

Check the bulletin each week for the collection schedule and place your donations in the box in the Narthex. If you have any questions or would like to be a part of our LWR Kit Assembly Team, please contact Rhonda Gaede, Claire Strand, or Janell Zesinger.

- March 9 Bars of Soap (4 to 5 oz, any brand)
- March 16 Bath Towels (light weight, maximum 52"X27", dark colors recommended)
- March 23 Toothbrushes (adult size in original packaging)
- March 30 Combs
- April 6 Nail Clippers (metal, attached file optional)
- April 13 Bars of Soap (4 to 5 oz, any brand)

This year's Lenten Offerings will be given to the Local Thrivent Habitat Build and to Messiah's LWR Kit Ministry.

#### *Spring Handmade Market*

Visit our First Annual Handmade Spring Market (a mini-version of a fall favorite!) on April 27<sup>th</sup>, after 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> services. Contact Elaine Shriver if you would like to help or donate. All proceeds will benefit the Lunches for Learning mission in Honduras.

#### **Easter Bags for Messiah Shut-ins**

Some donations have already been made to the Easter bags. Thank you! There is now a box in the Narthex for donations. Some suggestions (not carved in stone) are: notecards or cards, stamps, pens or pencils, candy, snack bars or other snacks, teabags, handcream, fancy soaps, puzzle books or small puzzles, devotionals.

Your help is appreciated to let our shut-ins know they are remembered and valued as part of Messiah.

## Habitat for Humanity - Global Village

Once again, we had an awesome Build in Santa Ana, El Salvador, Feb. 1-9! Our Thrivent Builds team consisted of 17 team members from five states. The first family we built with (Jolio, Guadalupe, and Luis) was the last of the 15 houses for families of Cristo Rey Lutheran Church on the Partner's of Faith project, and was probably the most difficult of the builds yet as all sand, gravel, and blocks had to be hauled down the side of the mountain in pails! The other house was for a single mom with two children, Jose and Sophie. They are SO grateful!

Our team attended service with Holy Communion at Cristo Rey, as well as our culture exchange event. Rebuilding the Church had a little setback, but believe all is well now and things are going to move forward soon. Their faith remains strong!

*...join hands...build homes...change lives...*thank you for your generous support of this project!

Virgil & Susan Burrer



*"Hand-digging footers"*



## Life Passages

By Claire Strand [claire@mlutheran.com](mailto:claire@mlutheran.com)

This newsletter feature announces significant transitions in the life of our community of faith. Birth, Death, Baptism, Graduation, Confirmation, Job Change Relocation, Engagement, Marriage, or any other life passage you would like announced will be included, contact Claire Strand.

### **BIRTHS:**

Don and Lizzie Palmer are the proud grandparents of Elora Palmer, born to mother Elif and their son Aaron on March 16<sup>th</sup>. Elora was born in Herlev, Denmark, and weighed 9 lbs. 1 oz. and measured 22 inches long. Thanks be to God!

### **MLC ANNIVERSARY DATES & A CELEBRATION BEING PLANNED**

\*This past March 13, was the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Service of Dedication and first service in our building.

\*This month: April 23<sup>rd</sup> will be the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of MLC's First Service of Worship which was held in the United Rubber Workers, Local 915 Union Hall on Madison Blvd. 115 people attended that service.

\*On May 20<sup>th</sup>, 1990, MLC was officially organized as a Congregation of the ELCA with 159 charter members.

### **MARK YOUR CALENDAR/SAVE THE DATES:**

\***May 23-24, 2015, MLC will celebrate our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary** with worship, food, fun, welcoming back old friends, and giving thanks for new ones.

## Fellowship Committee

By Greg Kilby and Hillary Warren

Please join us for **Wednesday Night Café** or our **Lenten Soup Suppers!** Come by for a meal and fellowship.

**Lenten Soup Suppers** are well underway. Soup is needed so please watch for details at the Welcome Center. If your ministry group is interested in hosting one of the Wednesday nights, please contact Kay Spence.

**Bridge Club** will be held **April 11th at 7:30 PM** in the Parish Hall. Experienced and novice players welcome! Contact Mary Ann and Ed Stasiak.

The next **Donut Sunday** is Palm Sunday April 13<sup>th</sup>! Please join us for coffee, milk, and donuts between services!



### **Messiah's Muchos Macho Muchachos Fajita Lunch**

Sunday, April 27th, 2014

After 2nd Service in the Parish Hall

Enjoy with Friends or Take to Go!

Formerly our Cinco de Mayo Taco Lunch, this year the Men of Messiah will serve up fajitas and other delicious Mexican fare that you won't want to miss.

Proceeds will benefit our elementary school, Benito Montoya, in Honduras.

Contact Greg Kilby if you would like to help.

# Youth News



Susan Doubleday – smakdd@tmology.net  
 Karl Pitschko – ktpitchko@gmail.com

Kert Reedstrom – kreedstrom@yahoo.com  
 Claire Strand – Claire@thestrandfamily.org

## Youth News

Senior Youth Group – Sunday Nights 6-7:30pm

### Upcoming

Easter Breakfast – April 20

Relay 4 Life – May 9

### 30 Hour Famine

Thank you to all who gave to World Vision's 30 Hour Famine! The youth raised over \$500 in funds and will be holding a car wash later this spring for additional fund raising. Anyone interested in adopting a child visit [www.worldvision.org](http://www.worldvision.org) for more information.



No, they aren't crazy.  
 Just HUNGRY!



### Yay!

Messiah Lutheran Church has hired a new Director of Youth and Education

**Kert Reedstrom**

### KERT REEDSTOM is MLC'S NEW DIRECTOR of YOUTH and EDUCATION MINISTRIES

Kert Reedstrom comes to MLC with a wealth of experience, education, and great ideas that he will be sharing to strengthen youth and education programs. Integrating these ministries into all that is happening at MLC will be among his priorities. Kert has been teaching the Sr. High Sunday School class since last Fall. Recently he has also been assisting with Jr. Youth and Sunday School activities. Please warmly welcome Kert and his wife DeeAnn.

## Music Notes

By Lois Graff



### Music at Messiah

One week before Cinco de Mayo on April 27<sup>th</sup>, the *Music at Messiah* concert series will feature classical guitarist, Phil Weaver, and flutist Rosa Vidro Richardson. These fine musicians will present *Latin American Journey...Sambas, Tangos and Dances...The Musical Flavor of South America*. Concert begins at 4 pm. Invite your friends and neighbors for a quality concert.

### Lent Choir Schedule Changes

Wednesday choir rehearsal schedule during Lent will be as follows. All children and youth choirs are cancelled during Holy Week, April 16.

Children's Choirs (Cherub and Seraph)	6:00 - 6:30 p.m.
Youth Choir	6:30 - 6:50 p.m.
Adult Choir	7:45 - 8:45 p.m.

### Music Camp 2014

Coming Soon! Music Camp 2014 will be June 2 - 6, with presentations on June 8. Mark your calendars now for a week of music, learning and fun! Adult and youth leaders/helpers needed. Please contact Lois Graff.

## A Pipe Organ at MLC ... This Summer?!

Hope abounds that a pipe organ will be heard again at MLC by the end of this summer! George Miller, an organ builder from GA is building an organ from his inventory for MLC. The cost for this instrument is \$70K, and we already have over \$50K in the Pipe Organ Fund. The response at a *Pipe Organ Information Meeting* on March 23 was encouraging. Please prayerfully consider a gift to the pipe organ fund this month. Together we can make having a pipe organ at MLC a reality. For information on ways to be an 'Organ Donor', see the table in the narthex or contact Lois Graff.

Thank you for your support, patience, persistence and faithfulness.

## Council Notes

1. The Council is excited to have Kert Reedstrom as the new Youth and Education Director at MLC!
2. It's almost time for our local Thrivent Builds Habitat for Humanity project. This year MLC is participating in a rebuild in Harvest from the 2011 tornadoes. More information will be coming soon.
3. May 24 & 25, 2015 MLC will celebrate its 25th anniversary. If you would like to help with this event please contact the church office or Beth Mumaw.

## Month in Pictures - March



OWLS Game Night at the Stasiak's.



On Sunday, March 2, 2014 we celebrated the "Sunday of Love". This multi-generational Sunday School and Fellowship event brought the entire congregation together including Children, Youth and Adults to learn some of what scripture teaches us about love. Additionally, we enjoyed a wonderful array of sweets including cookies, snacks and fresh fruit.



On March 14-16, 23 Junior and Senior Youth members participated in the 30 Hour Famine. The 30 Hour Famine is an annual event that lets the participants experience what it is like to be hungry. This year marks the 10th anniversary of Messiah's participation in this program. This event provides an opportunity to raise our awareness and raise funds to feed hungry children. Here are some highlights from the weekend's events:

- During the event, for 30 hours, participants abstained from eating food, and instead they drank only water and juice.
- The youth slept on the cold, hard Church floor.
- They also participated in games and activities to raise their awareness of child hunger.
- The youth hung hundreds of crosses in the narthex to symbolize the number of children who die from hunger each hour.
- They youth led both Services of Worship on Sunday, March 16 including, greeters, ushers, worship leaders, music and sermon. They did an awesome job in making Worship faithful and meaningful.



## News Flashes!

### Flower Guild

We would like to thank the congregation for all the support over the last year and a half. Our numbers are few; but every week someone from the Flower Guild takes time to arrange flowers for the church services on Sunday.

The Flower Guild would welcome anyone who would like to join us. Scheduling is flexible and there is no fixed time commitment. If you are out of town or busy that month, we can work with your calendar. Normally we work in pairs, and we train people as we arrange.

We coordinate through the internet and we do not have meetings. Some of our volunteers work full time, some part time and some are retired/stay at home folks.

This is a chance to meet other members of Messiah in an informal way and contribute by sharing you gifts with the church at the same time.

For more information please contact: Mary Burke.  
Thank you MLC for sponsoring flowers every week!

### Ninth Triennial Gathering 2014

“Of Many Generations” Charlotte, NC July 24-27, 2014

Join the Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (WELCA) as they gather for a weekend of prayer and celebration at the Ninth Triennial Gathering. Given its close proximity to the Southeastern Synod region, this gathering is a rare opportunity for our synod to be well represented. Visit <http://www.welcatg.org/> for details and registration information. Contact Claire Strand or Janell Zesinger if you are interested in attending.

Louise Hamilton, the Southeastern Synod Triennial Gathering Promoter, is also available to provide information.



Comforter's will meet every Tuesday in April at 10:00am. Questions? call Annette Joens.

### ITALY THIS FALL?!

*Departing Oct. 31 and returning Nov. 10, we will begin on the island city of Venice. From there we will stop to visit the Leaning Tower in Pisa on our way to the treasures of Michelangelo's city - Florence. Then we go to Sorrento and the Amalfi Coastline which are renowned for their beauty and shopping. Next we will visit Pompeii enroute to completing our tour in the Eternal City of Rome.*

*A brochure with pictures and details is at the Welcome Center. Departing from Nashville the cost is \$3329. I am encouraged by those already planning to go. Unlike the other tours I have hosted this one has **limited space available**, so if you are considering please contact me as soon as possible. Ciao!*

--Pastor Scott

Thrivent is sponsoring a “**Women’s Spiritual Renewal Weekend**” on Friday evening April 11th (7 pm – 9) and Saturday April 12th (9 – 3 p.m.) at St. Mark’s Lutheran Church.

The cost is \$10 and includes dessert on Friday, as well as breakfast and lunch on Saturday. It will be led by Celia Whitler, a singer-songwriter who sings for a variety of events including concerts, concert series, women’s events, worship services, retreats, corporate events, camps, local church, regional and national gatherings of all ages. She has provided leadership at the national level for: the United Methodist Church; the Lutheran Church, ELCA; Christian Church, and Disciples of Christ. For more, see [celiamusic.net](http://celiamusic.net)

Contact Rhonda Gaede if you have questions.

### **Messiah Yard Sale**

The Annual Messiah Yard Sale will be held on Saturday, April 26, 2014 from 8:30 am until noon.

Items can be brought to church the week before and put on the stage in the Parish Hall. We will need help on Thursday afternoon to set up the tables and unpack boxes and organize. Help will also be needed on Friday to price items for the yard sale. On Saturday help will be needed to bag items, straighten up the tables, assist shoppers, walk around answering questions, and finally pack up what did not sell which will be donated to Christmas Charities.

The proceeds of the sale will go to the Water Project in Honduras. If anyone is interested in helping, please call Paulette McNamara. Paulette can also be contacted if there are any questions.

All donations are welcome and appreciated. There will be slips available if you wish to record donations as a charitable gift on your taxes.

## Feature Family – Bill and Sue Bathgate



Bill and I both grew up in Illinois. He's from Chicago, and I'm from Mendota, Illinois, a small town about 90 miles northwest of Chicago. We met in college at Western Illinois University.

We're not military, but we've lived a few places because of the jobs Bill has had...Iowa, Kentucky, Illinois, Michigan, and now here in Huntsville. Bill works at Avocent and I work at UAH.

We have two sons. Reid lives in Palo Alto, CA and Chris lives in Michigan in a lake cottage we still own there.

Bill loves to fish, but hasn't managed to do as much as he would like here. He's very active in two local ham radio clubs though and talks to folks in every part of the world from his "Radio Shack".

I love to garden and putter in the yard, but I consider it "extreme gardening" here since our soil is nothing but clay and rocks! I also am lucky enough to have a space for weaving which enables me to make rag rugs, tote bags, scarves, etc. on my looms.

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Consider saving paper...if you'd prefer to receive an electric copy of this monthly newsletter, email [info@mlutheran.org](mailto:info@mlutheran.org)

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**April 2014  
Volume 26, Issue 4**

The Messenger is a monthly publication published by Messiah Lutheran Church. Material for publication may be forwarded to Beth Gloe. The deadline for the next month's issue is April 20<sup>th</sup>.