

Messiah Lutheran Church  
7740 Highway 72 West  
Madison, Alabama 35758

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Organization  
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Huntsville, AL  
Permit No. 454

**Return Service Requested**

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

January 2013  
Volume 25 Issue 1

*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  
Lauren Gray.....Director of Youth Ministries  
Lois Graff.....Director of Music Ministries  
Randall Fields.....Choir Director  
Judy Sylvester.....Nursery Attendant

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January 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1</b> <i>New Year's Day</i>  <i>John Moore</i>	<b>2</b>  <i>Fran Morgan</i>	<b>3</b>  <i>John Morgan</i>	<b>4</b>  9am Craft/Knitting Group  <i>Caleb &amp; Whitney Morse</i>	<b>5</b>  <i>Doris Mullins</i>
<b>6</b>  8:30am Worship: LBW Setting 2 w/LS 9:45am Sunday School 11am Worship: LBW Setting 2 w/LS 12pm Potluck & Foodies Kickoff Meeting 12:15pm Instrumental Ensemble	<b>7</b>  <i>Beth Mumaw Kyle</i>	<b>8</b>  10am Comforters  <i>Bill &amp; Janice Murphy</i>	<b>9</b>  5:00pm Confirmation 5:30pm Dinner 6pm Children's Choirs 6:30pm Youth & Notabella Choir 6:30pm Bible Class 7:30pm Adult Choir  <i>Jim &amp; Anna Musch</i>	<b>10</b>  8:30 am Morning Study Group on Parables 7pm Council Meeting  <i>Gerry &amp; Jackie Myers Noah, Adam, Luke, Evin</i>	<b>11</b>  9am Craft/Knitting Group  7:30pm Bridge Group in Fellowship Hall  <i>Marc &amp; Debbie Neely Heather, Adam</i>	<b>12</b>  Jr. Youth Meeting  <i>Jim &amp; Ellie Nelson</i>
<b>13</b>  8:30am Worship: ELW Setting I 9:45am Sunday School 11am Worship: Chicago Folk w/LS 12:15pm Communion Instruction	<b>14</b>  9:30am Moms Bible Study Group  <i>Allen &amp; Peggy Nuss</i>	<b>15</b>  10am Comforters  <i>Troy Nuss</i>	<b>16</b>  5:00pm Confirmation 5:30pm Dinner 6pm Children's Choirs 6:30pm Youth & Notabella Choir 6:30pm Bible Class 7:30pm Adult Choir  <i>Brian &amp; Cindy Nye Jeffery, Jason</i>	<b>17</b>  7:30pm Education and Youth Meeting  <i>Diane Oliver</i>	<b>18</b>  9am Craft/Knitting Group  <i>Charles &amp; Barbara Olson</i>	<b>19</b>  <i>Geoff &amp; Jennifer Oltmans Madelyn, Hadley</i>
<b>20</b>  8:30am Worship: Now the Feast w/LS 9:45am Sunday School 11am Worship: Contemporary Service 12:15pm Communion Instruction 12:15 Youth Praise Band rehearsal Jr. Youth Carnation Sale Begins	<b>21</b>  <i>Jeff &amp; Heather Ostendorff Gabriel, Kara</i>	<b>22</b>  10am Comforters  <i>Brian &amp; Audrey Osterdorf Lydia, Hannah</i>	<b>23</b>  5:00pm Confirmation 5:30pm Dinner 6pm Children's Choirs 6:30pm Youth & Notabella Choir 6:30pm Bible Class 7:30pm Adult Choir  <i>Don &amp; Lizzie Palmer</i>	<b>24</b>  <i>Joe Paxton Nathan</i>	<b>25</b>  9am Craft/Knitting Group  <i>Paul &amp; Julie Pedersen Lorelie, Leah, Christopher</i>	<b>26</b>  Bread & Cheese Making Class  6:30pm OWLS at Stasiak's house  Jr. Youth Meeting  <i>Phil &amp; Sonja Pedersen Heidi, Heather</i>
<b>27</b>  <i>Reformation Day</i> 8:30am Worship: WOV Word/Prayer 9:45 Sunday School 11am Worship: LBW Setting 2 w/LS 12:15pm Communion Instruction 12:15 Instrumental Ensemble	<b>28</b>  9:30am Moms Bible Study Group  <i>Steve &amp; Linda Peirce</i>	<b>29</b>  10am Comforters  <i>Jay &amp; Gretchen Perry Jayson, Ashlyn</i>	<b>30</b>  5:00pm Confirmation 5:30pm Dinner 6pm Children's Choirs 6:30pm Youth & Notabella Choir 6:30pm Bible Class 7:30pm Adult Choir  <i>Kevin &amp; Debi Peterson Shane, Amanda</i>	<b>31</b>  8:30 am Morning Study Group on Parables  <i>Laura Peterson</i>		

Looking ahead...

- February 3 - Souper Bowl Sunday
- February 10 - First Communion Celebration



## Pastor's Page

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

The Wise Men said: *"Where is He who has been born king of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East, and have come **to worship Him.**"*  
 --Matthew 2:2 (RSV)

Dear Friends of the Messiah,

**ARE YOU MISSING SOMETHING; SOMETHING REALLY IMPORTANT?** You definitely are if you are not regularly worshipping our Lord. For worshipping Jesus is the most important thing we do in this life.

**DON'T ASK ME WHY, BUT OUR LORD HAS CHOSEN** to give what we need most when we gather **in worship** around God's Word and receive the sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper. *How strange! How foolish of God* to use the feeble, common vessel of the Church to 'deliver the goods' we cannot live without--Forgiveness, life, and eternal life.

**ONE THING OUR GOD CANNOT TOLERATE** is when we *worship anyone or anything other than Him*. God stated that immediately after freeing His chosen people from slavery in Egypt, *"I, the Lord your God am a **jealous God**"* (Exodus 20:5). The Hebrew word for 'jealous' here is descriptive of the possessiveness of lovers. God will not abide anyone or anything taking His place with His people. No one, no thing--no other god--can give us what we truly need. So, God jealously tries to save us from ourselves and the unreliable gods we create.

**THEY DIDN'T CALL THEM 'WISE MEN' FOR NOTHING.** They followed God's guiding. They traveled for weeks. They searched for the Child. And, when FINALLY all their efforts were rewarded: What did they do? *"They saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and **worshipped him**"* (Matthew 2:11).

**IF YOU FEEL LIKE AN OUTSIDER WHEN YOU COME TO WORSHIP**, I am sorry. We need to work on that. But realize this; you are **not the first outsider** to show up to worship Jesus. Those wise men were total outsiders. They came to worship the one born 'King of the Jews', but they were not Jews. They were not from 'around those parts' and surely had strange accents, weird clothes, and foreign manners. But...

**THEY WOULD NOT BE PUT-OFF; WOULD NOT BE DENIED.** They followed the directions God gave them. They were **determined to worship** the child 'born king of the Jews'. *We are wise when we worship Him too.*

**NEED A NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION?** This is the best one ever: Be resolved to regular Sunday worship in 2013.

See you at church,

*Pastor Scott Peterson*

## January 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

Jan 6	LBW Setting 2 w/LS
Jan 13	ELW Setting 1
Jan 20	Now the Feast w/LS
Jan 27	WOV Service of Word & Prayer

### Sundays at 11:00 am

Jan 6	LBW Setting 2 w/LS
Jan 13	Chicago Folk w/LS
Jan 20	Contemporary Service
Jan 27	LBW Setting 2 w/LS



## 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:** Russ and Helen Kollman announce the birth of a great grandson, Wesley Faison, on October 30th. Proud parents are Kerry and Stephanie Faison of Foley, Alabama.

Dan and Carolyn Scroggins announce the birth of a grandson, Augustus Able Scroggins, born on Dec. 14th. He is healthy & weighs 8 lbs 1 oz! Tatiana, Ben, and his big brother Noble Nikolai are all well.

Bruce and Karen Machamer announce the birth of a grandson, William Allen Machamer, on December 16th. He weighed 7 lbs 4 oz and was 20 inches long. Parents are Greg and Claire Machamer of Birmingham.

**DEATHS:** Beth Thompson's father John passed away in Knoxville.

Don Williams' mother, Teddie Williams, passed away in North Carolina on December 16th.

Bailey Erickson's mother passed away December 3rd.

## Fellowship Committee News

By Mary Ann Stasiak



### Messiah Lutheran "Foodies" to Kickoff Jan 6<sup>th</sup>

A new Messiah Lutheran fellowship group will form on January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2013 called "Messiah Foodies." Foodies is a rotating adult dinner club for "home cooked food enthusiasts" taking place in Messiah members' homes over the course of the next few months (Feb – May). The goal of Foodies is to help Messiah adults get to know one another better through the simple act of sharing a few evenings of food, fellowship, and faith. We are hoping to have several Foodie groups of 6-8 form, and then new groups will be selected at random for the next round.

We will be having a kickoff / organizational meeting in conjunction with the church potluck held after the 11:00 service on January 6<sup>th</sup> in the Parish Hall. We will present the Foodies form during the potluck - any interested couples or individuals can sign up at the potluck or in advance on a form on the Welcome Center desk. All Messiah adults are welcome to participate in Foodies. All you need is a love of good home cookin' and the willingness to entertain 6 to 7 others in your home once during the 'Foodies' session.

The host (which will change each month) will plan and prepare the main dish for the evening while the guests will bring the supporting side dishes. Each month, Pastor Peterson will be preparing a brief devotional relating to hospitality, food, and faith for the groups. Additional activities can also be planned for the evening. Guests with small or school aged children should make childcare arrangements for Foodie evenings.

The group is being started by Greg and Meredith Kilby. Any questions can be directed to Meredith Kilby. Additional information can also be found on the flyer in the Welcome Center.



### Bread and Cheese-Making Class

On Saturday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, a Bread- and Cheese-Making Class will be held in Parish Hall led by Mary Ann Thomas, recent graduate of *The Three Shepherds Cheese* and *King Arthur Bread* classes in Vermont. The cost is \$15 per person, please see Mary Ann Stasiak if you are interested in taking the class.

### OWLS

On Saturday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, the OWLS will meet at the Stasiaks' house for heavy hors d'oeuvres and Dominoes. If you don't know how to play dominoes, bring a snack to share and we'll teach you some of the many ways to play dominoes. Meeting time is 6:30 PM.

### Bridge

The Messiah Bridge Group will meet at 7:30 PM on Friday, January 11<sup>th</sup> in Fellowship Hall.

## Outreach News *By Janell Zesinger*

### [We Called for Turkeys and You Answered!!](#)

In November, thanks to your generosity, we collected \$660 for the Thanksgiving Turkey Drive, which was held in conjunction with St. Mark's and Ascension Lutheran Churches. 100 area families received canned and boxed foods and a frozen turkey to prepare a Thanksgiving meal for themselves. Our commitment came to \$440, so the remaining money collected has been sent to the Downtown Rescue Mission for holiday meals for those in need. Thank you for your help, and to Lauren and the Senior Youth for helping to assemble the bags!

Thank you also for your donations of non-perishable food! Canned and boxed food was brought to Asbury to be distributed through Food Line. Gobble gobble.

### [Lunches for Learning Graduation](#)

Jackie Meyers, Sue Doubleday, and Janell Zesinger travelled to El Barrial Honduras November 28-December 3 to attend the sixth grade graduation ceremony at our sponsored school, Benito Montoya School. Temple talk coming soon...!

### [A Shout-Out to Meredith Kilby and Jack Mast!](#)

Be sure to check out our updated website, thanks to the hard work of Meredith Kilby. And don't forget to "Like" Messiah on Facebook for updates, inspiration, and links to Messiah's latest blog updates. Thank you, Meredith and Jack!

### [Madison Public Library Festival of Wreaths](#)

There are still a few days left, until January 7, to visit Messiah's wreath decorated by Linda Ruhl and Claire Strand on our favorite book – The Bible. The festival of Wreaths is a program designed to celebrate the holiday spirit and showcase artists and community organizations in and around Madison.

And thanks to our annual Ring and Sing, Messiah was able to donate \$316, plus supplemental funding from Thrivent, to the Madison Public Library!

[The 2012 Christmas Giving Mall](#) was in the Narthex November 25 – December 23. This year it included:

**Book for HEALS**, which provides books for children who visit the HEALS Free Health Care Clinics in Madison County.

**Madison Crossroads Elementary** – Donated Socks, Underwear, Hats, and Gloves given to children at this county school.

**ELCA Good Gifts Catalog** – Over 50 different giving options, such as vaccinations for a child or an alpaca for a farmer from the ELCA Good Gifts Catalog to aid those around the world.

**Messiah's Gifts for Mission** – Some of Messiah's own local and global outreach ministries were sponsored by gifts in honor of loved ones.

### [AND...](#)

[The Angel Tree](#) - **30 Angels** were on Messiah's tree this year and *all* were taken. Thanks to Claire Strand for organizing this endeavor. All gifts were dropped off at the Salvation Army December 10 to be distributed to families in time for Christmas.

## Music Notes

By Lois Graff



### Ring and Sing

Thank you to all who supported and attended the annual Ring and Sing concert. Over \$300 was raised, sponsored by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans for support of the Madison Public Library. Many thanks to Rhonda Gaede who puts this together year after year and is a wonderful blessing in her dedication, talent, and structuring of the handbell ministry at MLC.

### Talent Show

Do you have a talent to share? Stay tuned for more information in the coming weeks.

### Music Groups at Messiah

Starting the new semester! For more information, contact Lois Graff.

Cherub Choir (Grades K-1)	Wednesday 6:00-6:30 pm	Director Taylor Bono
Seraph Choir (Grades 2-6)	Wednesday 6:00-6:30 pm	Directors Randall Fields, Claire Strand
Youth Choir (Grades 7-12)	Wednesday 6:30-7:00 pm	Director Beth Gloe
Adult Choir	Wednesday 7:30-9:00 pm	Director Randall Fields
Notabella (Handbells)	Wednesday 6:30-7:30 pm	Director Rhonda Gaede
Instrumental Ensemble	Sundays bi-weekly 12:15-1:15 pm	Director Lois Graff
Youth Praise Band (Sr. High)	Rehearsals as needed on Saturdays/Sundays	
		Director Lois Graff

## Council Highlights

Discussed at the December Council Meeting:

1. Meredith Kilby and Jack Mast recently updated the church website. If you haven't seen it, you are encouraged to look at all of the great information that has been added or updated.
2. Mark Zesinger is heading up a new "Evangelism Committee". If you are interested in serving on this committee please let Mark know. Your help would be greatly appreciated.
3. "Standing on the Promise" - the Capital Fund Appeal for Lutheranch, will be starting in April. More information will be available in February or March.

## Stewardship Thought

*On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother, Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh. Matthew 2:11*



Now that 2013 is here and some of the busyness of the holiday season is behind us, perhaps you would be interested in simplifying your gifts to MLC. The Online Giving program allows you complete flexibility and security via any web browser. Your offerings, with your specifications will be received by the church on the dates you select and you will still receive quarterly reports from the Financial Secretary.

If interested, contact Marc Neely (Financial Secretary) or Lee Smith. Thank you for your gifts to our Lord, the King of kings.

## News Flashes!



Comforter's will resume meeting on Tuesday, January 8th @ 10:00. Questions call Annette Joens.

### FIRST COMMUNION INSTRUCTION

First Communion instruction will be Sundays January 13, 20, and 27 beginning at 12:15pm. All parents who wish to their have children ten years old (or close) or older who have not had this instruction are asked to call the MLC Office to register. First Communion will be celebrated on Transfiguration Sunday, February 10, at the 11:00am service of worship. If you have questions, please talk to Pastor Scott.

## Youth Zone

By Lauren Gray [youth\\_director@mlutheran.org](mailto:youth_director@mlutheran.org)

Be on the lookout for a new Youth Ministry Calendar! It will be posted on the youth page of the MLC website very soon!!!

### Jr. Youth Group

Our Jr. youth group meetings will now take place twice a month! Dates for January and February are Jan. 12<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> and Feb. 9<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>.

### Coming Up...

- Education and Youth Meeting- Thursday, January 17<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30pm
- Jr. Youth Carnation Sale will begin on Sunday, January 20<sup>th</sup>.
- Tweens Event being planned for the month of January. More info to come!
- **Souper** Bowl Sunday takes place on February 3<sup>rd</sup>!

Sr. Youth Group Ice Skating pictures can be seen on the [Messiah Lutheran Youth](#) Facebook page!

Bowling with the college students/ young adults!!





## The Month in Pictures – December 2012



*One of the four Advent Fellowships was held on December 2<sup>nd</sup> with Asian/Pacific Islands food. The delicious food from this event was provided by our friends in the Holy Hill congregation and others in our congregation who made Indonesian and Korean food.*



*On December 1<sup>st</sup>, the MLC Carpentry Team completed another Wheelchair Ramp for a local person in need.*



*At the Ring and Sing on December 9<sup>th</sup>, the Notabella Bell Choir was one of many choirs that performed, including a special performance from Elvis!*



*The Seraph Chime Choir and some friends performing, "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel".*











*Pastors Amanda and Horatio visited us on December 16<sup>th</sup> and also spoke at an open forum in between services.*



*The Children's Christmas Program: A Christmas Checklist performed during Advent Service on December 19<sup>th</sup>.*

## Meet Our Newest Members

	Matt and Penny Hamm	From Illinois Enjoy riding Harleys
	Larry (not pictured) and Christine Ryan Bailey 16, Bridie 12, Brendan 11	From Chicago Larry is an electrician, enjoys politics Christine works at Sure Save in Harvest and enjoys gardening, animals, reading
	Rick and Lee Linda Baggett	From Lawrenceville, GA Both retired; Lee Linda from teaching 32 yrs. Enjoy camping and gardening
	John Burke (pictured with wife Mary)	Long career in Army Specialist in Aviation Mission Equipment and Unmanned Aircraft Systems Enjoys reading
	Bill and Sue Bathgate	from Dexter, MI Bill: works for Avocent, enjoys fishing, HAM radio Sue: auditor at UAH, enjoys weaving, gardening
	Allen and Amy Tucker, Elizabeth, Abby	Allen: Northrop Grumman Sys. Eng., interests are running, coaching, education Amy: Bell Partners manager, enjoys gardening, Elizabeth: 14, confirmation, flute, soccer Abigail: 7, soccer, gymnastics
	Greg and Jeanette Beamer	from Albert Lea, MN Jeanette: enjoys knitting, golf, biking, walking, gardening, retired teacher Greg: golf, building furniture, puzzles
	Nick Ellis	from Guntersville, AL EE Student at UAH Hiking, fishing, young adults

Not pictured:

- Jay Gibson
  - Painter/Artist
- Chuck and Barbara Olson
  - From Colorado
  - Just moved to Madison from Elkmont
  - Chuck makes Swedish sausages

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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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 January 18<sup>th</sup>.