

Messiah Lutheran Church
7740 Highway 72 West
Madison, Alabama 35758

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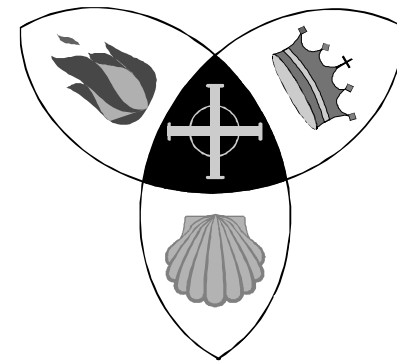
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Messiah Lutheran Church (ELCA) is located at 7740 Highway 72 West, just east of Hughes Road. Sunday Services of Worship are at 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. A nursery attendant is provided. All are welcome. **Our website is www.mlutheran.org**. Church Office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., staffed by our Office Managers. The Pastor is Rev. Scott Peterson. Pastor/Developer is Rev. Mark Borseth. The Church telephone is (256) 721-0041 email: info@mlutheran.org. For newsletter articles please contact Mary Brown.

MESSIAH LUTHERAN MESSENGER

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July 2011



Vacation Bible School
July 11 - 15

And Jesus said to (Mary, his Mother):
"Woman, what concern is that to you and to me?"
--John 2:4

Dear Friends of the risen, reigning Messiah,

WEDDINGS!!! I have never seen anything that makes families act more peculiar (peculiar sounds nicer than *'insane'*). Jesus talked about weddings several times in the gospels, but only gospel writer John records Jesus' attendance with His disciples and Mother at a wedding and reception in Cana.

"FIX IT, SON!" That is a loose translation of what Mary told Jesus to do when the wedding reception ran out of wine. From His response (see *above*), we get the impression Jesus was hoping to just enjoy the festivities; not to work—let alone work a miracle. Apparently weddings in those days also caused family tensions and peculiar behavior. Of course Jesus saved the day: Changing water into wine is the first miracle of Jesus in John's gospel.

WINE WAS A NECESSITY for Jewish wedding receptions in those days. A bigger consideration for us now is: **What makes for a good marriage?** The best answer is to do what that couple in Cana did long ago: **Invite Jesus.** *Invite Jesus not just to your wedding, but into your marriage.*

ST. PAUL GIVES THE MOST SHOCKING IMAGE of a marriage when he writes, "...a man will leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two become one flesh.' This is a great mystery, and I am applying it to Christ and the church." --Ephesians 5: 31-32.

CHRIST & THE CHURCH: IT'S A WEDDING!!! Talk about your 'unequally yoked' couples! Christ is perfect. The Church is flawed and unfaithful. Yet, Christ takes her, warts and all. And, you know how it goes with marriages: All that's His is hers, and all that's hers is His. So **Jesus gets us** with all our blemishes and baggage. And, **we get Him** with all His love, grace, faithfulness, perfection, compassion, understanding, gentleness, etc. etc. (*This Guy is the perfect spouse!!!*)

THESE MATTERS ARE ON MY MIND as Bonnie Jane and I prepare for the wedding of our daughter Christine this month to Nicolas van der Meer. What gives me the most hope for abiding joy in their marriage is that they have already invited Jesus to go with them through their life together.

YOU ARE INVITED TO A WEDDING RECEPTION for Christine and Nic in the Parish Hall on Sunday, July 31, 9:45 - 10:45a.m. (between services of worship). No water will be changed to wine. But, we ask for and count on our Lord Jesus' presence and we invite you too.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Scott Peterson

M e s s i a h L u t h e r a n
C h u r c h C o u n c i l
2 0 1 1 - 2 0 1 2

President - Pastor Scott Peterson

Vice President - John Shriver

Secretary - Nancy Grant

Treasurer - Tim Wade

Worship and Music - Marcie Emerson

Outreach - Janell Zesinger

Stewardship - Lois Graff

Education & Youth - Linda Peirce

Fellowship - Mary Ann Stasiak

Property - Paul Pederson

Finance - Lee Smith

Youth Rep. - William Strand

Sunday School Superintendent - Gary Garrison

Council usually meets the 2nd Thursday of each month at 7p.m.
(This month it will be July 14, not the 7th) All are invited.

Incarnation Information

July 2011

Greetings from the basement of Ford's Chapel United Methodist in Harvest! We may not be in the part of the building we had hoped to be in before the Tornado struck, but we feel blessed to have a place to call home. Come join us one of these Sundays at 11 AM. We are greatly encouraged by any guests we have join us from Messiah! This summer we are getting out a couple of times a week (or more) to meet neighbors. If you would like to join us, we are getting out each Tuesday night from 6-8 pm & every Saturday morning from 10 am – Noon. Come join us as we meet and pray for our neighbors and as we invite those who don't already have a church home to visit us at Incarnation. We will meet each time in the main lobby of Ford's Chapel for prayer and instructions.

This summer is also a time we are hoping to broaden our prayer and financial support. As outside start-up support decreases, we want to invite a broader base of support through prayer, partnership in activities and financial support. With all the Harvest community has been through, we feel more committed than ever to be part of the healing. If you would like to support Incarnation or know of a church or individual who may, please talk to Pastor Mark. We hope that the more people we have invested in our ministry, the more prayer and encouragement we will receive.

Thanks again for walking with us in this journey called Incarnation Lutheran Church!

Men's Breakfast Saturday, July 9 at 7 AM at Ford's Chapel United Methodist Church

Our monthly Men's breakfast will be held on Saturday, July 9 at 7 AM at Ford's Chapel United Methodist Church (One mile west of Sparkman HS). Since they have no kitchen right now, we will have a potluck. If you can bring something to share, that would be great.



July Services of Worship

LBW = Lutheran Book of Worship

WOV = With One Voice LS = Lord's Supper

Sundays at 8:30am

July 3 Chicago Folk w/ LS

July 10 LBW Setting 1

July 17 LBW Setting 2 w/LS

July 24 WOV Serv. of Word & Prayer

July 31 Hymn Service w/LS

Sundays at 11:00am

July 3 LBW Setting 2

July 10 Now the Feast w/LS

July 17 Contemporary Service

July 24 ELW Setting 1 w/LS

July 31 Hymn Service w/LS



Stewardship Thought.....

by Lois Graff

When visiting the small community of Israel, Guatemala as part of the Southeastern Synod's delegation in May, we were able to witness God at work in amazing and down-to-earth ways.

A noticeable strength of our partner church *Jesús de los Milagros* was the way in which every member offered their particular gift or talent as part of the whole church body. Young girls carried water from the river, some men fished for food and others played guitar for worship, seasoned hands formed and cooked the tortillas, strong voices led congregational singing, little ones carried plates and cups to the table, good readers delivered the word of God, and so on. We saw no disagreements on who did what. Our brothers and sisters in Christ knew that service to God and others gave them strength and unity.

When we serve God and others with what God has blessed us with, we build up the body of Christ. We are no longer one alone, but many together.

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.
1 Corinthians 12:27

RE-NEW
Vacation Bible School
July 11-15

What: RE-NEW, an environmentally focused program that inspires children to “Grow in Faith, Have Fun, and Change the World!” as they practice stewardship of creation.

When: July 11-15 8:30 a.m. until noon

Where: Here at Messiah Lutheran Church.

Who: All children ages 3 -11. Jr. & Sr. Youth are needed to help in all areas.

Why: To reach out in mission to God’s children and to help them learn to reach out to their world.

Helpers are still needed in all areas. We encourage moms, dads, grandparents, Jr. and Sr. youth, college students, and all others who would like to reach out to God’s children to volunteer. If you can not volunteer your time, we encourage you to contribute needed supplies.

A list of supply requests is posted in the narthex or please see Cheryl Byers for more information. Please prayerfully consider helping in this ministry this summer.

Music Of The Masters

This is a Chime choir for rising 6th, 7th and 8th grades and will ring classical music. The group, directed by Claire Strand meets this month on Sundays from 9:45 – 10:30 a.m. Come to enjoy ringing good music!



Sing In the Choir on
Sunday Mornings!

During the summer, rehearsals will be on Sunday mornings (1st and 3rd Sundays of the month at 8:00 a.m. and 2nd and 4th Sundays at 10:00 a.m.) After rehearsal, the choir will sing an anthem for worship. There is always room in the choir for more! Come try it for one Sunday, several Sundays or all.

Education News *by Linda Peirce*

SUNDAY SCHOOL

- Children’s Sunday School will resume on August 14! Please contact Gary Garrison if you can serve in any way.
- August 14 is also Rally Day and the annual Church Picnic!



LIFE PASSAGES

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.

BAPTISM: *Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them...*

Matthew 28:19

- Hadley Rebecca Oltmans was baptized on April 24, 2011. Baptismal sponsors were James Oltmans and Christine Tannheimer.



FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE NEWS

by Mary Ann Stasiak,

Movie Night at Messiah is coming up in July in the Fellowship Hall, produced by Paul Zutter. Come and enjoy a cool evening at the movies!

Bridge Club has moved permanently to the second Friday of every month starting at 7:30

p.m. in the Parish Hall, this month on July 8. New and experienced bridge players welcome! Bring a friend and a snack to share - Contact Mary Ann and Ed Stasiak.

The **OWLS** (Older Wiser Lutherans for 50+ year olds) will be taking a break for the summer. Look for them in September.

Kitchen Meisters: Following up from last year's kitchen organization and review of how both of the kitchens are working, we will check on how everything is working, what might need re-organization, and some light cleaning and maintenance. We will plan for the first Kitchen Meisters on July 23rd from 9 AM – 12 noon for the Parish Hall kitchen. If you have an interest in how either of Messiah's kitchens is running, please join us to help with this event.

Other upcoming events:

- Kitchen Meisters meet in the Fellowship Hall kitchen, late August

Can you help with an upcoming event? Contact Mary Ann Stasiak.

SECOND CALL: Interested in Seeing Israel?

The tour Pastor Scott and Bonnie Jane are leading to Israel, November 1-10, has a first payment deadline of July 18. It is possible to join the group after that date, but the cost goes up \$200.

If you are interested please talk to Pastor Scott (scott@mlutheran.com). or Bonnie Jane soon.

So far it looks like about ten people are planning to go.

OUTREACH NEWS

Summer is here and going fast. This means it's time to start looking for the ads for back-to-school sales for school supplies soon. Messiah is participating in the SS Kids collection again this summer. A list of supplies will be posted when it arrives, but all school supplies will be welcomed. In the past we have also donated supplies to Madison Crossroads School. This year there may be other places in need of school supplies as well. Thank you for your generous support of our local needy students.

Following the church rummage sale some of the remaining children's clothing was donated to the Foster Children's Alliance. Children who are put in foster care are often removed from unsafe home situations without enough time to collect their clothing. Your clothes will help to clothe children in uncertain circumstances and is a blessing to them. Thank you.

Meet The Neighbors

Please choose a timeslot or more to "meet neighbors" with Pastor Mark, mission developer for Incarnation Lutheran Church this summer on Tuesday nights from 6-8pm and Saturday mornings 10am-noon. The schedule is at the Welcome Center.

Graphic Design help wanted for formatting and producing an updated pictorial directory. If you are interested, please contact Claire Strand or the Church Office.



Messiah Kit Ministry

In an ongoing effort, the Messiah Kit Ministry is continuing to assemble health kits and layette kits. We will assemble school kits later in the summer.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Donate items for the kits. The following items are in especially short supply at this time:

Receiving blankets
Hand Towels
Toothbrushes
Nail Clippers
Baby Socks
Infant Sleepers - no feet

Bath Towels
Rulers
24 count crayons
Pencils
Pens

Disaster Task Force

The Disaster Task Force has met and begun work on MLC plans- a plan for recovery from this disaster and a plan to prepare for others. The Disaster Task Force members include Kay Spence (Chair), Pam Sparks (Secretary), Glen Long, Jack Mast, Julie Pedersen, Jacquie Fry, Chris Berry, Dan Byers, Claire Strand (Outreach), Janelle Zesinger (Outreach).

In the **immediate recovery**, we identified these areas of interest/focus:

Programs for children and youth affected by disaster - Camp Noah, God's Can Do Kids, and Gearing Up-Renew are 3 available programs we are looking into sponsoring or assisting with during the next year.

Adopt a Family - a program that partners a family in need with a congregation, enabling us to assist them in the road to recovery. This is an initial 3 month commitment with an approximate \$1200 per month commitment.

Recovery Blitz - starting in July, we will be forming volunteer work crews that will go into neighboring communities to help clean up debris, downed trees, etc. (weekend work, no age limits).

Through cooperation and coordination with Lutheran Ministries of Alabama, we may adopt a community and help them rebuild.

FEMA Form Brigade - a completed effort. Our congregation canvassed over 130 homes. In conjunction with All Saints Lutheran and Unitarian Universalist, we had over 300 homes in our assigned area!

One thing that has been stressed over and over again is that **financial contributions are the BEST way to help.**

In the long term disaster planning, we completed a congregational preparedness questionnaire and found that MLC has a way to go. Some things MLC is already doing. Others are going to take some cooperation with finance and property committees and congregation training. This disaster has opened our eyes to the necessity of being prepared and having a plan. Look for more information concerning our Preparedness Plan in the months to come, but here is a sample of what we are working on:

- Having a *safe place* to meet in the event of an evacuation (Redstone's back parking area)
- *Congregation Asset Inventory* (who has what available)
- Teaming up with a congregation outside of this area as a *disaster partner*
- *Communication/Neighbor Tree* that will help keep members connected in the event of an emergency (even if we have no power and no phones).

MLC Votes to Expand Sanctuary

In a Congregation Meeting on Sunday, June 12, 2011, the vote was 79 'yes' and 33 'no' on a motion to expand our current Sanctuary. The General Contractor for this expansion will be Garber Construction Company and the cost of the expansion is expected to be \$715,000. The contract stipulates that the work be completed in 180 days. If that happens, MLC would be able to worship in the expanded Sanctuary on Christmas Eve.



**STEEPLE and STAINED GLASS
WINDOW FUNDS**

For the new expanded Sanctuary to have a Steeple and a Stained Glass window, it will require additional gifts from members and friends of MLC. The cost of these additions is \$15,000 each. We received one gift of \$1,000 for the Steeple which is the total in that fund. The Stained Glass window fund already has over \$9,000 in it from gifts given in memory or in honor of loved ones.



July 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 <i>Russel & Casie Joens Elizabeth, Matthew</i>	2 <i>Larry & Judy Johnston</i>
3 8:00am Adult Choir 8:30am Worship Chicago Fold w/LS 9:45 Adv. Chime Choir 11:00am Worship: LBW Setting 2	4 <i>Norm & Terry Juron Jessica, Wesley, David</i>	5 <i>Mike & Judy Kidd</i>	6 <i>Maureen King</i>	7 <i>John & Nancy Knox Kenneth</i>	8 7:30 Bridge Club <i>Russ & Helen Kollman</i>	9 7:00 am Men's Breakfast At Incarnation (Ford's Chapel) <i>John & June Labonsky Marc</i>
10 8:30am Worship LBW Setting 1 9:45 Adv. Chime Choir 10:00 am Adult Choir 11:00am Worship Now The Feast w/LS	11 8-12 VBS <i>Erik & Vistoria Lakso Emma</i>	12 8-12 VBS <i>Scott & Robin Lakso</i>	13 8-12 VBS <i>Annelise Lange</i>	14 8-12 VBS 7pm Council meeting <i>Eric & Autumn Lange Michael, Cara, Quinn</i>	15 8-12 VBS <i>Gary & Juli Langford</i>	16 <i>Tien & Joy Le Adam, Alex</i>
17 8:00am Adult Choir 8:30am Worship LBW 2 w/LS 9:45 Adv. Chime Choir 11:00am Worship Contemporary Service	18 <i>Brian & Teresa Lee</i>	19 <i>Gary & Karin Lindsay Athena, Andrea</i>	20 <i>Phil & Judy Lindsey</i>	21 <i>Brian & Carola Long Vanessa, Alexander</i>	22 <i>Craig & Terri Long Rachel</i>	23 <i>Kitchen Meisters 9am-12pm Parish Hall</i> <i>Glen Long, Rhonda Gaede Jeffrey, James</i>
24 8:30am Worship WOV Word & Prayer 9:45 Adv. Chime Choir 10:00am Adult Choir 11:00am Worship LBW Setting 1 w/LS	25 <i>Bob Loshuertos</i>	26 <i>Sherry Mahafza Zachary, Joseph, Jacob, Jordan</i>	27 <i>Cory & Lori Mahana Michael</i>	28 8:30 am Morning Study Group <i>JoAnne Maloney</i>	29 <i>Tim & Sherry Mansfield Alexander</i>	30 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE Sunday July 17 <i>Tina Marbrey</i>
31 8:30am Worship Hymn Service w/LS 9:45am Wedding Rec. Christine & Nic 11:00am Worship Hymn Service w/LS						