

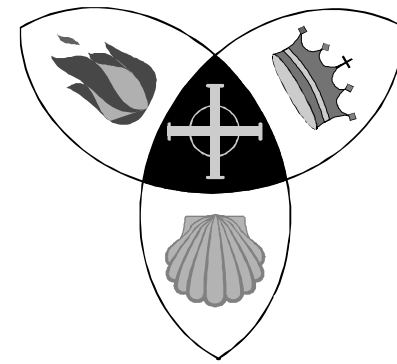
Messiah Lutheran Church
7740 Highway 72 West
Madison, Alabama 35758

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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 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Sunday School is at 9:45 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 Office telephone is (256) 721-0041 email: info@mlutheran.org. Newsletter editor is now Mary Brown.

MESSIAH LUTHERAN MESSENGER



Volume 22: Issue 11

November 2010

www.mlutheran.com

The Pilgrims gave
Thanks to the Lord



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*MLC Congregation Meeting
Sunday, November 14*

*I was glad when they said to me,
"Let us go to the house of the Lord!"
Psalm 122:1*

Dear Friends of the Living Messiah,

TO WORSHIP OR NOT TO WORSHIP: Is that the question? No, not really. Everyone **worships**. Even an atheist worships—perhaps knowledge or reason or science or another eloquent atheist. As Christians, we certainly are not against knowledge or reason or science. And, in our better moments we realize that atheists are not our enemies. (The forces of evil are our true enemies.) Yet, when it comes to **worship**, we believe that only the God who has chosen to reveal Himself as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit is true God and worthy of our worship.

GOD'S GREATEST GIFTS ARE GIVEN when we come together to worship as God's Church. Those gifts are bestowed as God's Word is spoken and the Sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper are celebrated. Think of that!

WHY HAS GOD CHOSEN TO ACT MOST POWERFULLY and speak most clearly through the Church? I surely do not know the answer to that question. The Church has been foolish and faulty through the ages and continues to be these days. Could God not devise something more efficient and effective than working through weak and wandering souls like us? Yet, God has chosen to give the gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation as we worship together as our Lord's Church. We need, we really need, those gifts more than anything else.

WORSHIP of our LORD is the **MOST IMPORTANT** activity of Messiah Lutheran Church. (Isn't worship the most important activity of each of us?) As a worshiping community we also do Christian outreach and education and fellowship and stewardship and other activities. But **worship** is the fountainhead from which all else flows. That is why...

HOURS AND HOURS of preparation and creativity are invested in every service of worship at MLC. Worship is too important to be done without significant thought and care. We use a variety of liturgies, but each one is built upon God's Word and focuses on our Lord and Savior.

NOVEMBER WORSHIP at MLC begins with the festival of All Saints' and before the month is over we celebrate Christ the King Sunday (Nov. 21), and begin a new church year with the First Sunday of Advent (Nov. 28). So, come, let us worship our Lord together.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Scott Peterson

Incarnation Information - continued

Thanksgiving Meal at Incarnation - Thanksgiving Day at 2 p.m.

Maybe you don't have family in Alabama. Maybe you don't have any plans to get together with anyone else for Thanksgiving. Maybe you want to do something different this Thanksgiving. If any of these things are true, come join us for Thanksgiving at Incarnation.

Last Thanksgiving we had about 50 people join for lots of good food and fellowship, so we thought we would do it again this year. Bring yourself and some food to share as we meet at Incarnation at 2:00 pm on Thanksgiving Day (November 25). For more information, check with Pastor Mark. More details will be coming out soon.

Stacy Tidwell began editing the *Messiah Messenger* in November 2004 exactly 6 years ago!! Now it is time to thank Stacy for her hard work and patience as this is her last issue.

THANK YOU STACY!!

Our new editor is Mary Brown. Welcome, Mary!

Incarnation Information November 2010

It's hard to believe that November begins year number 3 in Alabama for me and my family. It is exciting. We enjoy Alabama and hope to call it home for a long time. But year number 3 also brings a reality check as we figure out what needs to happen between now and November 2011. When I came, I had outside financial support pledged for 3 years. Each year the amount of support has been designed to go down while the amount covered by Incarnation has gone up. But what about year number 4? Will we be ready to do it all on our own, or will we have or need ongoing outside support? Those are some things that will need to be explored and resolved over the next year. I invite your prayers for us as we begin year number three and prepare for year number 4!

But year number 4 is still a year away, so let me share with you what it looks like at Incarnation as we begin year number three (year number two of worship):

- We had a wonderful anniversary celebration of one year of worship on September 12. We had over 100 people (lots from Messiah) and a fantastic picnic lunch provided by Messiah. Thanks!
- In August and September we were able to knock on well over 2000 doors with the help of Pastor Bill and Helen Funk. Bill and Helen had lots of help – 12 people from Incarnation and around 25 people from Messiah and St. Mark's. It was such a blessing and sign of your support to have so many people willing to do door knocking. Thanks!
- As of mid-October it looks like we will have 5-6 individuals/families who were first contacted through door knocking (and who visited worship while the Funks were here) who will keep being part of Incarnation. There are also several more potential prospects to be followed up on over the next few months. Please pray that those who have started attending will make strong connections and those who are considering attending or who have yet to be invited would come and experience our love and the love of God in such a way that they want to be part of Incarnation.
- Confirmation and Sunday school are off to good starts.
- The mood at Incarnation is positive and optimistic.

Now we begin year number 3 and trust God will provide our needs as we seek to be faithful to the ministry to which we are called. Thank you for your encouragement, prayers, support, and donations of time, items and money. We have had some of our initial church planters who came with us to Incarnation from Messiah head back there. Thank you to those who invested a year in Incarnation. We couldn't be where we are now without you. Now we invite some new pioneers who feel called to invest a year or more in building the ministry of Incarnation. If you feel like God is calling you, please let me know. I'd love to meet you for coffee or have lunch with you to discuss what you feel God calling you to do.

It is exciting to be a ministry partner with such a vital, healthy, loving, growing congregation. THANK YOU & GOD'S BLESSINGS TO MESSIAH AS THEY BEGIN THEIR SECOND 20 YEARS OF MINISTRY!

Men's Breakfast - Saturday, November 13 at 7a.m. at Messiah

Calling all men of Messiah and Incarnation (and your friends)! We will meet at Messiah for our monthly breakfast/fellowship/devotions/prayer on Saturday, November 13 at 7:00 AM. Come join us for good food, good fellowship and a good time getting to know more about the love of God.



November Services of Worship

LBW = Lutheran Book of Worship

WOV = With One Voice LS = Lord's Supper

Sundays at 8:30am

Nov. 7 LBW Setting 1 w/LS

Nov. 14 WOV Service Word/Prayer

Nov. 21 Now the Feast w/ LS

Nov. 28 LBW Setting 1

Sundays at 11:00am

Nov. 7 LBW Setting 1 w/LS

Nov. 14 Chicago Folk w/LS

Nov. 21 Contemporary Serv.

Nov. 28 WOV Bread of Life w/LS

Congregation Meeting Nov. 14

On Sunday, November 14, there will be a Congregation Meeting at Noon in the Sanctuary to adopt the 2011 budget for Messiah Lutheran Church. All confirmed members are voting members. Everyone is welcome.

A mailing of the proposed budget will be sent to members prior to the meeting. Please attend to celebrate God's abundant blessings and seek together the future God has planned for us.

Electronic Offerings Are Coming to a PC Near You

Our simplified On Line Giving program is now ready to accept your recurring or one-time offerings to various church ministries. The process is very simple and is available via any web browser. To learn more or to make your automatic contributions go to MLC's website at www.mlutheran.org. On the top menu of the home page is a tab for **On Line Giving**. A drop down menu will take you to *Learn More*, *FAQ*, or *Give Now*. After a simple registration process to confirm who you are, you will be able to make one-time-only, weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly contributions to the following MLC ministries: *General*, *Building*, *New Facilities Fund*, *Incarnation Lutheran Church*, *On Eagle's Wings*, *Pr Amanda Olson de Castillo*, and *Lunches for Learning*.

If there are other missions you'd like to automatically contribute to, please contact our Financial Secretary, and he will add additional options to the giving menu. Thank you to Marc Neely, Rhonda Gaede, and Jack Mast for making this capability a reality.



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 will be included. Contact Claire Strand.

BIRTHS: *Lord, you knit me together in my mother's womb. Psalm 139:13*

- Proud parents Chris and Beth Gloe and proud sister Samantha announce the birth of Amalia Marie Gloe on October 2nd at 4:09am. She weighed 6lbs 8oz and was 19 inches long.

The Gift of Music

Come and enjoy making music to the glory of God in one of Messiah's choirs. We need you! If you want more information, email Lois.

Wednesday evening groups

Cherub Choir, 6-6:30pm, Grades K-1, Directors Lydia Scroggins and Alison Bartel

Seraph Chime Choir, 6-6:30pm, Grades 2-4, Director Claire Strand

Junior Choir, 6-6:30pm, Grades 5-6, Director Bonnie Flowers

Youth Ensemble, 6:30-7:00pm, Grades 7-12, Director Randall Fields

Notabella Choir, 6:30-7:30pm, Director Rhonda Gaede

Adult Choir, 7:30-8:30pm, Director Randall Fields

Sunday afternoon groups

Instrumental Ensemble, 12:15-1:15pm, Grades 7-Adult, Director Lois Graff

Cantabile Bell Choir, 5:30-6:30pm, Grades 7-Adult, Director Rhonda Gaede

On Eagle's Wings Advent Breakfast

On December 5, enjoy breakfast in the Parish Hall while supporting the On Eagle's Wings mission. Breakfast will be served 9-10:45 a.m. Stay after the early service for good fellowship or arrive hungry before Sunday School. The free-will offering will help send missionaries to teach Bible School in the NW Territories of Canada in July 2011.

Comforter's Quilt Auction This Month

Comforter's annual auction will be held the month of November. Funds will be used to purchase materials for future use in making comforters. Comforters are made and sent to Lutheran World Relief and to local missions. Comforter materials include rolls of batting, thread, fabric, sheets for backings, sewing machines, scissors, crochet thread, pins, and needles. Comforters will be displayed in the narthex. We will receive matching funds from Thrivent. Comforter's will meet every Tuesday in November @ 10:00. Questions Contact Annette Joens.



FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE NEWS

by Mary Ann Stasiak

Saturday, November 6 will be Craft Day in Parish Hall, 10 AM – 3 PM. Bring your portable craft, enjoy a hot soup lunch, share some tips on your craft, and meet some new friends.

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 November 12. New and experienced bridge players welcome! Bring a friend and a snack to share - Contact Mary Ann and Ed Stasiak.

Men's Breakfast will be Sat, November 13, at Messiah at 7 a.m.

Ring and Sing



Messiah's annual Ring and Sing concert will be held on Sunday, December 12 at 6:30 p.m. Music from the Notabella choir, Cantabile bell choir, children's and adult chime and vocal groups will be featured. Audience hand chime participation for ringing of Christmas carols is also on the program!

Thank you to Rhonda Gaede for organizing this annual event.

The Handmade Market was a huge success!

\$3,956 was raised for the *Lunches for Learning* mission in Honduras. Every penny received will be used to provide lunches consisting of legumes (for protein), grain (for carbohydrates), a daily vitamin, and a glass of milk for all the children at the school we sponsor. Thank you to all who generously gave items to sell and those who purchased items. Special thanks to Jackie Myers and her team for coordinating the event.

Something New

OPEN FORUM with CHURCH COUNCIL: SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7

During Sunday School hour (9:45 - 10:45), on November 7, in the Parish Hall, Church Council member will meet with all who are interested in recent Council business. There will be a brief presentation from the Council. Most of the time will be open for MLC members to be

in conversation with the Council. This is an idea that came out of the Church Council retreat in September.

OUTREACH NEWS Claire Strand and Jacquie Fry.

Thank you for being *God's people, Reaching out* ~ Jacquie Fry

The boxes in the Narthex are full of blankets, sleeping bags, pillows, and adult coats for the **North Alabama Coalition for the Homeless**. Thank you. This load will be delivered this week. You can add to the boxes at any time. Any cold weather clothing--sweaters, hats, gloves, coats--are welcomed.

MLC will be collecting to purchase turkeys for **Thanksgiving for Downtown Rescue Mission**. I spoke with the cook there and they are looking for 800 turkeys! At that time, they had 5. We can't possible fill the total need, but if you would like to help, please put your donation in the offering and make it out to Messiah with the notation for the turkeys. Messiah will send a check to Downtown Rescue Mission. If you prefer to buy a turkey yourself to donate, you can leave it in the freezer in the Parish Hall with a notation and I will carry them over. They will be starting to cook turkeys the first week of November, so sooner is better than later.

Claire and Jacquie visited **Madison Crossroads Elementary School** in Toney. There is a need for children's clothing. Colder weather is coming, so if you have outgrown clothes, jackets, boots, they would be greatly appreciated. Claire has already delivered a first load of clothes.

Christmas is coming at **Downtown Rescue Mission!** Once again we will be adopting children in the homeless shelter. I will try to get names and sizes before Thanksgiving so that if you want to, you can take advantage of the holiday sales. The number of children at Downtown Rescue Mission fluctuates, so we may be able to provide some presents for especially needy children at Madison Crossroads as well.

As always, food is needed for local food pantries. Claire took a load of food up to the **HAP North pantry** in Toney and Joy Le is faithful in delivering our donations to the Food Line network.

We continue to support **Milestone Christian Academy**. If your children have outgrown toys or children's books, please put them in the Milestone box and we will deliver them. Milestone provides financial and parenting training to parents as well as a safe and loving place for their children.

Our **Advent offerings** will be divided between ILAG, our partner church in Guatemala, and HAP/HEALS, a volunteer medical program which needs money in order to begin servicing the needy across northern Alabama.

Please pray for our mission team. Claire Strand, Sarah Walker & Bob Loshuertos will travel to Honduras Nov 22-25 to attend graduation for our sponsored school (through Lunches for Learning), Benito Montoya, and present the class with Bibles.

Education & Youth News by Linda Peirce

SUNDAY SCHOOL...

Sunday school classes are offered for ages 2-adult. Thank you, Bobbey Huwaldt, for a great start to the year. Please contact Bobbey, our Sunday School Superintendent, if you want more information about classes for children and youth, and contact Pastor Scott, Claire Strand, or Linda Peirce if you want more information about adult classes.

YOUTH NEWS

Jr. and Sr. Youth are invited to participate in the annual **Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child** event November 14 from 4-7 p.m. at Grace Lutheran Church in Huntsville. Youth will be collecting and preparing Operation Christmas Child boxes for shipment, along with frosting cookies and wrapping Christmas gifts for local children in need. Youth from all north Alabama Lutheran churches participate in this event. This service and social event ends with a pizza party sponsored by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans. Please see Pastor Mark or Dan Casey for more information.

TWEENS

It is time to get together!!! We hope your school year is off to a great start and all is going well. Here is a tentative plan for the end of the year for some TWEEN events. We hope you can attend!!

Saturday, Nov 13, 2p.m. – Operation Christmas Child - Samaritan's Purse Shoebox Mission. Bring a shoebox full of items for either a boy or a girl your age or younger. Small toys, clothing, personal supplies or candy (that won't melt) work well. We will wrap them and hand them off to the Jr and Sr Youth to take to Grace Lutheran.

Friday December 10 at 6p.m. – Christmas Party. See if you can WIN IT IN A MINUTE! Bring a \$10 gift card from one of your favorite places for the prize pool then take on a challenge with a "MINUTE TO WIN IT" task. Each person will bring a game to the event and set it up. See a MINUTE TO WIN IT website for ideas. Two ideas so far...Cup Stacking and the Toilet Paper Wrap. Be creative!!

Elfin Magic

Elfin Magic will be **FRIDAY DECEMBER 3rd, 6-8 PM**
It is fun time for children to make crafts to give as gifts for Christmas. This year we are offering 5 crafts, plus an outreach project of FRUIT BASKETS.

Display and craft sign-up will run OCT 27 - NOV 10 during Wed Night Café & between services.

Contact Cheryl Byers if you have any questions or would like to donate items to help with this evening of fun.



NOVEMBER 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 <i>Erik & Victoria Lakso Emma</i>	2 <i>Scott & Robin Lakso</i>	3 5pm 2 nd yr. Confirmation 5:30 pm Dinner: BBQ Ribs 6:00pm Children's Choirs 6:30pm Youth Ensemble 6:30pm Notabella Bell Choir 7:30 Adult Choir <i>Eric & Autumn Lange Michael, Cara, Quinn</i>	4 8:30 am Morning Study Group <i>Gary & Juli Langford</i>	5 <i>Tien & Joy Le Adam, Alex</i>	6 10 am-3pm Craft Day <i>Brian & Teresa Lee</i>
7 All Saints' Day 8:30am Worship LBW Setting 1 w/LS 9:45 Sunday School 9:45 Council Forum 11:00am Worship: LBW Setting 1 w/LS 12:15 Instrumental Ens. Daylight Saving Time Ends	8 <i>Gary & Karin Lindsay Athena, Andrea</i>	9 10 am Comforters <i>Phil & Judy Lindsey</i>	10 5pm 2 nd yr. Confirmation 5:30 pm Dinner: Taco Bar 6:00pm Children's Choirs 6:30pm Youth Ensemble 6:30pm Notabella Bell Choir 7:30 Adult Choir <i>Brian & Carola Long Vanessa, Alexander</i>	11 7pm Church Council <i>Craig & Terri Long Rachel</i>	12 7:30 pm Bridge Club <i>Glen & Rhonda Gaede Long, Jeffrey, James</i>	13 7 am Men's Breakfast at Messiah 2PM TWEENS <i>Bob Loshuertos</i>
14 8:30am Worship WOV Word/Prayer 9:45 Sunday School 11:00am Worship Chicago Folk w/LS 4PM – Jr & Sr Youth Workshop	15 <i>Sherry Mahafza Zachary, Joseph, Jacob, Jordan</i>	16 10 am Comforters <i>Cory & Lori Mahanna Michael</i>	17 5pm 2 nd yr. Confirmation 5:30 pm Dinner: Pizza 6:00pm Children's Choirs 6:30pm Youth Ensemble 6:30pm Notabella Bell Choir 7:30 Adult Choir <i>JoAnne Maloney</i>	18 <i>Tim & Sherry Mansfield Alexander</i>	19 <i>Tina Marbrey</i>	20 <i>Steve & Patrice Marotta Paisley, Basia</i>
21 8:30am Worship Now the Feast w/LS 9:45 Sunday School 11:00am Worship Contemporary Service 12:15 Instrumental Ens	22 <i>Jack & Mary Mast Rebecca, Mikayla</i>	23 10 am Comforters <i>Amy McCarthy Charles Benjamin, Chelsea</i>	24 NO 2 nd yr. Confirmation NO Dinner <i>Lloyd & Deb McDaniels Erin, Morgan</i>	25 <i>Thanksgiving</i> <i>Timothy & Nicole McKnelly Libby</i>	26 <i>Tom & Paulette McNamara</i>	27 <i>Brad & Theresa Meyer Rachael Wier, Rebecca, Drake</i>
28 8:30am Worship LBW Setting 1 No Sunday School 11:00am Worship WOV Bread of Life w/LS	29 <i>Dagmar & Patrick Miller Ryan, Colleen</i>	30 10 am Comforters <i>Boyce & Carol Mix</i>				NEWSLETTER DEADLINE Sunday November 21