

Messiah Lutheran Church
7740 Highway 72 West
Madison, Alabama 35758

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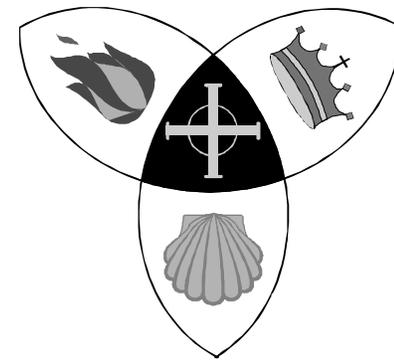
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Messiah Lutheran Church (ELCA) is located at 7740 Highway 72 West, just east of Hughes Road. Sunday Services of Worship are at 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Sunday School is at 9:45 a.m. A nursery attendant is provided. All are welcome. **Our website is 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 telephone is (256) 721-0041 email: info@mlutheran.org. For newsletter articles call Stacy Tidwell.

MESSIAH LUTHERAN MESSENGER

Volume 22: Issue 10
www.mlutheran.com

October 2010



***Chili Cook Off
& Halloween Party***
Saturday, October 30

*On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand.*

--My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less LBW #294

Dear Friends of the Living Messiah,

IN TIMES OF GREAT CHANGE WHERE SHALL WE TURN? I do not need to catalogue the many transitions and uncertainties swirling around us these days. And, you know the changes which are most unsettling (frightening?) to you. Many of us are in 'uncharted territory'. What to do? For us the answer is clear...

HOLD ON TO WHAT IS STABLE, UNCHANGING, DEPENDABLE. Of course, I am talking about our Lord. His forgiveness will not fail. His love will not waver. His presence is abiding. His plans for all creation (including you) are immutable. To use the words of the hymn writer: He is rock-solid while everything, everything else is slowly or quickly washing away.

"HOLD ON TO GOD'S WORD" was one of the rallying cries of the Lutheran Reformation which we will celebrate on Sunday, October 31. In a time of tumultuous change Martin Luther called people back to the foundations of our Christian faith. He announced that God's Word had gotten buried in all the changes down through the centuries. He insisted it was time to go back, dig deep, and cling to God's living Word revealed in the Bible and delivered in Baptism and the Lord's Supper.

OUR PRIMARY MISSION TODAY is the same as it was in Luther's time. We are called to hear, learn, and share God's Word for us and for all people. God's word includes the Law that gives needed structure to life and also reveals sinful people like us need a Savior. God's primary message for all is the good news of Jesus, the Messiah. In Him we have God's dependable promise of forgiveness, life, and salvation.

HANG ON TO OUR LORD. Hang on to His living Word. Hang on to our heritage. They will carry us through every change this world will hurl at us and lead us to life—abundant life now and eternal life with our Lord and all His children forever.

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. --Hebrews 13:8

Grace and peace,
Pastor Scott Peterson

INTERESTED IN VISITING THE HOLY LAND?

Pastor Peterson is planning to lead a group tour of the Holy Land departing on November 1, 2011. More information to come in future months.

Incarnation Information - continued

2) Sharing this ministry four hours per most days with 12 partners from Incarnation and 24 from Messiah including Pastors Borseth and Peterson as well as Pastors Fakes and Wood from St. Mark Lutheran Church and Intern Charlie Underwood from All Saints' Lutheran Church, with twelve of these partners going with us two or more times. It was good to share this ministry and come to know so many of you.

3) Observing and experiencing the gracious hospitality by regular worshippers of Incarnation both at the individual doors and on Sunday morning at worship and lunches, expressing genuine, caring hospitality for the stranger.

4) Noting the statistics of these 4 ½ weeks of work includes knocking on 2,302 doors, talking to 1,228 residents, identifying 102 who are unchurched, willing to accept information about the church and our intention to check back with them, and welcoming 14 families who came to worship at least once as a result of Initial and Follow Up Calling.

5) Noting with amazement the willingness of the many who attended a training/planning session to continue to be in contact with those who are first time worshippers, those who continue to worship and visiting those who have not yet made the visit to worship that they indicate they want to do

We are thankful to Diana Livingston who not only provided housing for us during our stay but entrusted her home to us! And we are grateful to all who participated in this program, the support of Pastors Borseth and Peterson as well as Claire Strand throughout this program. We are eager to read the upcoming newsletters and hear about your continued evangelical outreach in the community and the development of Incarnation Lutheran Church.

Sincerely, Bill and Helen Funk

Incarnation Information October 2010

at both services.

We THANK YOU MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH!!!

1. For a great Anniversary Worship and Picnic on September 12!
2. For 25 members who volunteered to go out and knock on doors with Bill & Helen Funk!
3. For your ongoing prayers and financial support!

This past month has been a clear reminder of just how great a partner Messiah is. It is a blessing to have you as our partners in ministry, and I hope the partnership continues and grows. It is an exciting time at Incarnation. We have had some new faces at worship as a result of Bill & Helen Funk coming to lead us in a door-knocking campaign in our community. Some of those who have already visited have said they will be back, and as of the deadline for this article we are expecting many more first-time worshipers this weekend. Please pray that connections will be made so that there will be several who will become part of the ongoing ministry of Incarnation.

It's hard to believe that at the end of October, my family and I will have been in Alabama for 2 years. We have grown to love the people and the place, so I continue to pray that our ministry will thrive and we can stay for a long time.

We have seen some transitions even in this time of excitement about new faces. There are some from Messiah who came with the intent of helping out for one year, and that year is done. I want to say THANK YOU for investing a year! What their departure means, though, is that as we try to build momentum we are also trying to replace people who have provided much leadership and energy to our ministry. Do you sense God calling you to make a commitment to a year or more of coming to Incarnation to help us maintain and build momentum? If you do, let me know. I would love to hear what you sense God is calling you to do.

New ministries will have started by the time you get this newsletter. We will have started Confirmation classes focused on learning the basics of the Bible (these classes are open to anyone wanting to learn more about the Bible) and Sunday school for age 2 – grade 5. With more things going on Sunday morning, we are in need of new people to take on music leadership so Betsy and I can be free for Confirmation, Bible study & Sunday school. Maybe God is calling you to be one of our music leaders. Our worship style is to blend traditional hymns with contemporary music. Maybe you can help with one or both styles of music?

God continues to be faithful to pay the bills and provide what we need each step of the way, so we are optimistic as we move forward. Yet, we do have a new challenge starting November 1 when Incarnation begins a new funding year, and our portion of my salary goes up about \$1200 a month. Maybe you feel a call to help support us financially. Maybe you sense a call to pray for us. In any case, THANK YOU!

So I end where I began. THANK YOU MESSIAH & GODS BLESSINGS ON YOUR MINISTRY!!!

Reflections on Our Time Together & Thank You

– By Bill and Helen Funk

Having completed on September 19, 2010 our work of Initial and Follow Up Calling at Incarnation Lutheran Church, we have been reflecting on all that has happened since our arrival in Harvest on August 18. Here are some of the highlights for us:

- 1). Preaching the first Sunday at Incarnation and the second Sunday at Messiah



October Services of Worship

LBW = Lutheran Book of Worship

WOV = With One Voice LS = Lord's Supper

Sundays at 8:30am

Oct. 3 Chicago Folk w/LS

Oct. 10 LBW Setting 2

Oct. 17 ELW Setting 1 w/LS

Oct. 24 WOVS Service Word/Prayer

Oct. 31 LBW Setting 2 w/LS

Sundays at 11:00am

Oct. 3 LBW Setting 2

Oct. 10 Now the Feast w/ LS

Oct. 17 Contemporary Service

Oct. 24 WOVS Bread of Life w/LS

Oct. 31 LBW Setting 2 w/LS

Commitment Sunday

Join in celebrating God's gifts to us during Commitment Sunday on October 17. Please watch for your commitment cards in the mail this month and prayerfully consider your response.

"Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change." James 1:17

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, Marc Neely, and he will add additional options to the giving menu. Also direct your questions concerning registration or amount of your offerings to Marc, since he is the only person with access to your giving record. While at the On Line Giving Site, please review the FAQ and available videos to become familiar with the advantages and capabilities of On Line Giving.

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.

BAPTISM: *Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them...* Matthew 28:19

- Madison Leona Householder was baptized September 26. Her godparents are Matt and Amanda Raley and Shelly Wisnewski.

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

- Anna Cecelia Holland was born August 14. She weighed 7lbs 14 oz and was 20 inches long. Proud parents are Carolyn and Nick Holland.
- Madison Leona Householder was born September 3. Proud parents are Jamie and Emily Householder. Proud sister is Emma.
- Dave and Judee announce the birth of their great granddaughter Emma Dawn Mount born on August 15. Parents are Rachel Baumer and Jordan Mount of Ohio.

DEATH: *Remember I am with you always to the end of the age Matthew 28:20*

- Glen Maloney, brother of Joanne Maloney and Sue Doubleday, passed away September 6 in Michigan

NEW MEMBERS:

Pat Gilliland, Deanna Glover, Mitch Grimes, Kent Neukam, Doris Reynolds and Pam Sparks were welcomed into membership on September 26.

HANDMADE MARKET OCTOBER 23

The Handmade Market will be in the Parish Hall on Sat., Oct. 23 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. You can purchase handcrafted items for a special someone, made by many gifted Messiah, Madison, and Huntsville Artisans to support *Lunches for Learning*, which provides daily lunches for elementary school children in the rural areas of Honduras. If you would like to donate any handcrafted items, please contact Jackie Myers.



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 need more information, contact Lois Graff.

Wednesday evening groups

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



FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE NEWS

by Mary Ann Stasiak, 325-6233

Thanks very much to the Youth Group for hosting coffee after the 11:00 service in the Fellowship Hall - as well as after 1st service. It's a great time to talk to friends, new and old, and catch up on the week's events - please stop in and join us for a relaxing cup o' joe!

Halloween weekend is full of events at Messiah! **Saturday, October 30, is the annual Chili Cook-Off and Halloween Party** in the Parish Hall at 6 p.m. Come with your best chili recipe and Halloween costume and try to un-seat last year's Cook-Off trophy winner, William Strand. The Youth Group will be holding games for the young 'Halloweeners' at Messiah.

Sunday October 31 is Reformation Sunday, and Messiah will be celebrating all things German. In the Fellowship Hall after 2nd service, come and enjoy some favorite German foods as we remember our German heritage on the anniversary of Martin Luther posting the 95 Theses that form the basis for how we worship today.

Do you play dominoes? Would you like to learn? The OWLS (Older, Wiser Lutherans over 50) will meet at the Stasiaks' for a night of dominoes and fellowship on Saturday, October 16th at 6:00. Bring a dish to share and your favorite domino game to teach us. Janice Murphy has directions and details.

Bridge Club has moved permanently to the second Friday of every month starting at 7:30 PM in the Parish Hall, this month on October 8th. 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 Saturday, October 9, at Incarnation at 7 a.m.

48 Days to the Work You Love by Dave Miller

This class will be held at Messiah starting Oct 5th and running for 12 weeks. The well organized curriculum will outline a step by step process that is highly acclaimed to help organize and achieve career transition. The class includes a chapter on Spiritual Gifts and how they relate to the work you do. Great for anyone returning to the work force after extended time away or anyone who wants to change careers. Career Kits include CD's, Workbook and Text book \$45.00 (on line cost is \$65 plus shipping). Contact Barbara to sign up and get the discounted price for the Kit. This class is open to the public as well as MLC members.

Comforter's will resume meeting every Tuesday in October @10 a.m.. Questions call Annette Joens

RESULTS OF CONGREGATION MEETING on SANCTUARY EXPANSION

On Sept. 19, MLC approved by a vote of 69 'yes' to 18 'no' a motion to take steps enabling the possibility of expanding our worship space. The motion authorized the expenditure of \$29,000 from the New Facilities Fund to complete design development and construction documents, and to put the job out for bids by general contractors. The motion also authorized a Capital Fund Appeal to determine the Congregation's financial support for this expansion. Tentative Capital Fund Appeal dates are Feb. 6 – Mar.13, 2011.

When will a final decision be made? In late March/early April 2011, a Congregation Meeting will be held. At that meeting MLC will know the proposed expansion cost, what the congregation has pledged to pay for it, and how the expansion could be financed. With that information the Congregation Meeting will decide whether or not to proceed. If you wish to discuss anything relating to the consideration of expanding of MLC's worship space please talk to a member of the Building Committee or Church Council. Building Committee members are Bill Emerson, Pete Woods, Rhonda Gaede, Ed Stasiak, Janet Smith, Jack Mast, and Pastor Scott Peterson.

OUTREACH NEWS Claire Strand and Jacquie Fry

The Outreach Committee will meet Sunday, Oct. 3, 9:45 a.m. All invited.

The first load of blankets and pillows has been delivered to the First Stop site for homeless services. Thank you. We will continue to collect blankets, pillows, and sleeping bags for homeless adults through the fall. Coats, gloves, warm socks, hats--anything that will keep an adult warm during the cold weather--will be welcomed. Feel free to add to the blanket box. Any children's cold weather wear will be given to a charity which serves children.

Sheets and other household items which have been donated have been taken to Christmas Charities Year Round in Huntsville to be given to families in need. If you have a place to which you would like to see donations funneled, please talk to Jacquie Fry or Claire.

Claire and Jacquie are meeting with a representative from Madison Crossroads Elementary School in Toney to see if MLC might assist students there. This school may have the poorest student population in all of Madison County. More on this possibility for mission in Nov. newsletter.

We continue to work with *Milestone Christian Academy* (formerly Milestone Children's Corner). There is a box in the Narthex for new and gently used toys, games, and books for newborn to 12 years. Milestone has enlarged its facilities to serve more among the poor in Huntsville.

I feel blessed to be a part of a congregation with a heart for mission and outreach. Your care for others is evidenced in all the ways you give --

with your prayers, your reaching out to others, your work on the behalf of those in need, your gifts. Thank you all.

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

Senior Youth - meet every Sunday evening at 6 p.m. in the newly decorated Youth Room. All students in grades 9-12 are welcome. Senior Youth held a **Lock-In** at Messiah and "Revival" of the Youth Room on Sept. 25-26. They cleaned and painted the Youth Room, discarded broken and old items, and are purchasing a large flat screen TV with Blue Ray/DVD that can be used for "in house" movie nights, as well as to display multimedia presentations. If anyone has something new they would like to donate to the Youth Room to make it more "homey", please see Dan Casey. Thank you, Senior Youth, for re-decorating the Youth Room!

Junior Youth have new sponsors, Diane Davis and Bailey Erickson. Anyone in grades 6-8 is welcome to join this group. Members will be contacted soon about upcoming activities. Please contact Ms. Davis or Ms. Erickson for more information, if you can help with activities, or if you have ideas for activities.

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.

Coordinator Needed for Elfin Magic

Elfin Magic is a children's workshop held in early December for children ages 2-10 to make Christmas crafts and gifts. Last year gifts were also made for a local nursing home and cards were made and sent to service men and women serving in Iraq & Afghanistan. Please see Claire Strand or call the church office if you are willing to coordinate this annual event or need more information.



OCTOBER 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 <i>Mark & Dottie Hanson</i>	2 <i>John & Donna Helinski</i>
3 8:30am Worship Chicago Folk w/LS 9:45 Sunday School 11:00am Worship: LBW Setting 2 12:15 Instrumental Ens.	4 <i>Doug Hendrick & Gloria Zalatan James, Madison</i>	5 10 am Comforters <i>Gertrude Heuer</i>	6 No Church Dinner Confirmation, or Youth Choirs – Fall Break 6:30 pm Notabella Bell Choir 7:30 Adult Choir <i>Suzanne Hillin</i>	7 8:30 am Morning Study Group <i>Burleigh & Esta Hodnett</i>	8 7:30 pm Bridge Club <i>Jennifer Holden Kathryn, Mitchell, Stephanie</i>	9 7 am Men’s Breakfast at Incarnation LC <i>Russ Holden</i>
10 8:30am Worship LBW Setting 2 No Sunday School – Fall Break 11:00am Worship Now the Feast w/LS	11 <i>Carolyn Holland Anna</i>	12 10 am Comforters <i>Daniel & Diedra Hopkin</i>	13 5pm 2 nd yr. Confirmation 5:30 – 6:30 Church Dinner 6:00pm Children’s Choirs 6:30pm Youth Ensemble 6:30pm Notabella Bell Choir 7:30 Adult Choir <i>Jamie & Emily Householder Emma, Madison</i>	14 7pm Church Council <i>Ken & Edith Huebschman</i>	15 <i>Eleanor Hulebak</i>	16 6 pm OWLS Dominoes <i>Joe & Bobbey Huwaldt Jonathan, Jacob</i>
17 8:30am Worship ELW Setting 1 w/LS 9:45 Sunday School 11:00am Worship Contemporary Service 12:15 Instrumental Ens	18 <i>Derelene Jeter</i>	19 10 am Comforters <i>Roger & Annette Joens</i>	20 5pm 2 nd yr. Confirmation 5:30 – 6:30 Church Dinner 6:00pm Children’s Choirs 6:30pm Youth Ensemble 6:30pm Notabella Bell Choir 7:30 Adult Choir <i>Russell & Casie Joens Elizabeth, Matthew</i>	21 <i>Larry & Judy Johnston</i>	22 <i>Norm & Terry Juron Jessica, Wesley, David</i>	23 9am-4pm Handmade Market <i>Mike & Judy Kidd</i>
24 8:30am Worship WOV Word/Prayer 9:45 Sunday School 11:00am Worship <u>WOV Bread of Life w/LS</u> 31 LBW Setting 2 w/LS 9:45 Sunday School 11:00am Worship LBW Setting 2 w/LS Noon German Day Feast	25 <i>Maureen King</i>	26 10 am Comforters <i>John & Nancy Knox Kenneth</i>	27 5pm 2 nd yr Confirmation 5:30 – 6:30 Church Dinner 6:00pm Children’s Choirs 6:30pm Youth Ensemble 6:30pm Notabella Bell Choir 7:30 Adult Choir <i>Russ & Helen Kollman</i>	28 8:30 am Morning Study Group <i>Al Kyliavas</i>	29 <i>John & June Labansky Marc</i>	30 6 pm Chili Cook Off & Halloween Party NEWSLETTER DEADLINE Sunday October 17