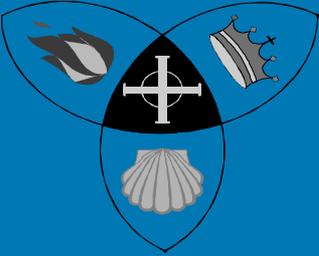


Messiah Lutheran Church  
7740 Highway 72 West  
Madison, Alabama 35758

Non-Profit  
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

October 2012  
Volume 24 Issue 10

*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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October 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b> 9:30am Moms Bible Study Group  <i>Mike &amp; Sue Doubleday</i>	<b>2</b> 10am Comforters  <i>Douglas Drahota</i>	<b>3</b> 5:00pm Confirmation 5:30pm Dinner 6pm Children's Choirs 6:30pm Youth & Notabella Choir 6:30pm Bible Class-Acts 7:30pm Adult Choir  <i>Nick Ellis</i>	<b>4</b> 8:30am Morning Study Group  7pm Church Council  <i>Bill &amp; Marcie Emerson</i>	<b>5</b> 9am Craft/Knitting Group    <i>Rebecca Englert</i>	<b>6</b>      <i>Bailey Erickson Alexis, Christian</i>
<b>7</b> <i>Commitment Sunday 8:30am Worship: Now the Feast w/LS 9:45am Sunday School Congregation Meeting BBQ Lunch 11am Worship: ELW Setting 1</i>	<b>8</b> <b>Columbus Day</b> 9:30am Moms Bible Study Group  <i>Dave &amp; Judee Erwin</i>	<b>9</b> 10am Comforters  <i>Ronald &amp; Patricia Esteppe Kaitlyn</i>	<b>10</b> 5:00pm Confirmation 5:30pm Dinner 6pm Children's Choirs 6:30pm Youth & Notabella Choir 6:30pm Bible Class-Acts 7:30pm Adult Choir  <i>Randall Fields</i>	<b>11</b>      <i>Bonnie &amp; Jeff Flowers Anna</i>	<b>12</b> 9am Craft/Knitting Group   7:30pm Bridge Club in Fellowship Hall  <i>William &amp; Shirley Forbes</i>	<b>13</b>      <i>Tweens to Tate Farms  Larry &amp; Terry Frakes</i>
<b>14</b> <i>8:30am Worship: WOV Word/Prayer 9:45am Sunday School Sr. Youth Selling Garlands 11am Worship: LBW Setting w/LS</i>	<b>15</b>      <i>Dennis &amp; Jacquie Fry Rachel, Dona Lynch</i>	<b>16</b> 10am Comforters   <i>Catherine Frye Kendall</i>	<b>17</b> 5:00pm Confirmation 5:30pm Dinner 6pm Children's Choirs 6:30pm Youth & Notabella Choir 6:30pm Bible Class-Acts 7:30pm Adult Choir  <i>Gary Garrison</i>	<b>18</b>      <i>Jay Gibson</i>	<b>19</b> 9am Craft/Knitting Group   New OWLS Potluck in Parish Hall  <i>Pat Gilliland</i>	<b>20</b> 9am – 12 – Craft Day Room 4  4pm Trunk R Treat 5pm Halloween Party/Chili Cook-off  <i>Chris &amp; Beth Gloe Samantha &amp; Amalia</i>
<b>21</b> <i>8:30am Worship: Chicago Folk w/LS 9:45am Sunday School 11am Worship: WOV Word/Prayer 12:15-1:15pm Instrumental Ensemble</i>	<b>22</b> 9:30am Moms Bible Study Group    <i>Brooks Glover</i>	<b>23</b> 10am Comforters   <i>Ian &amp; Heidi Goebel Walker</i>	<b>24</b> 5:00pm Confirmation 5:30pm Dinner 6pm Children's Choirs 6:30pm Youth & Notabella Choir 6:30pm Bible Class-Acts 7:30pm Adult Choir  <i>Lois Graff</i>	<b>25</b> 8:30am Morning Study Group     <i>Lauren Gray</i>	<b>26</b> 9am Craft/Knitting Group     <i>Dee Dee Grimes Winston</i>	<b>27</b>   9am – 4 pm Handmade Market   <i>Mark &amp; Patricia Grimes Joseph</i>
<b>28</b> <i>Reformation Day 8:30am Worship: LBW Setting 2 w/LS 9:45 Sunday School 11am Worship: LBW Setting 2 w/LS German Fellowship Handmade Market</i>	<b>29</b>      <i>Mitch Grimes</i>	<b>30</b> 10am Comforters    <i>Robin Grubis</i>	<b>31 Halloween</b> 5:00pm Confirmation N Dinner or Children's Choirs 6:30pm Notabella 6:30pm Bible Class-Acts 7:30pm Adult Choir  <i>Jack &amp; Debbie Gulden</i>			

Looking ahead...

- November 3<sup>rd</sup> - Bread and Cheese Making Class in Parish Hall Kitchen
- November 11<sup>th</sup> - Christmas Workshop
- November 18<sup>th</sup> - Congregation Meeting, Pastor Ruth Hamilton's Installation at St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Atlanta, and Open House at Lutheranch



## Pastor's Page

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

*"For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they GIVE in return for their life?" Jesus (Mark 7:35-37)*

Dear Friends of the Living Messiah,

**MONEY CAN BUY YOU HAPPINESS!** That was the surprising conclusion reached by psychologist Michael Norton of the Harvard Business School. Professor Norton conducted a variety of research experiments that convinced him and those working with him that we can buy happiness with our money. Here is a shortened version of what I shared in a recent sermon--

**Who has a lot of money?** Lottery winners. Dr. Norton noted a CNN report on Lottery Winners that discovered two things happened with Lottery Winners. First, they often spent all the money and ended up farther in debt than before winning the lottery. And second, **always** they ended up with **broken relationships** with family and friends. That's because when those closest to you find out you have won the lottery they get in line to ask for some of your money. So, lottery winners end up **isolating** themselves from the people closest to them to fend off all the friends and family begging them for money. **Not a happy place** to be.

Then Dr. Norton reported on studies done around the world showing that money indeed did buy happiness. But, there is a catch; a condition, a stipulation: **Money only made people happy when they were giving to others.** In experiments people were given money with directions on what to do with it. Some were told, **"Use this for yourself today. Buy something for yourself. Whatever you want or need for yourself."** Others were given the same amount of money but told, **"Use this to give something to others today."**

When these people were contacted that evening they were asked, **"Did having this money make you happier?"** The ones who spent it on themselves said, **"No, not really."** The ones who gave it away consistently said, **"Yes, it made me happy to give something away."**

Next, the same experiment was done with teams of employees in businesses. Where the team members gave to other team members, there was a big jump in sales or production or whatever the team was working on. Where the team members kept the money there actually seemed to be a negative effect.

**SO, THE CONCLUSION** of this doctor of psychology doing research for his business school is: **If your money is not buying you happiness, it's because you are keeping it, not giving it away!**

**WE ALREADY KNOW THIS.** We have experienced the joy that comes from giving. It feels good to give a gift. Obviously Jesus knew the joy of giving because **no one gave more** than He did. So, why is this hard for me to swallow? Why do I have a hard time believing this? I think because this is not the message I keep hearing day in –day out. We keep being told that the path to happiness comes from buying, getting, and having things **for ourselves.**

**OUR HEAVENLY FATHER is a giver.** As His children let's show our family resemblance in the lives we live and as we respond on Commitment Sunday, October 7<sup>th</sup>.

Grace and peace,

*Pastor Scott Peterson*

(Dr. Norton's 10 minute talk is at [www.ted.com/talks/michael\\_norton\\_how\\_to\\_buy\\_happiness.html](http://www.ted.com/talks/michael_norton_how_to_buy_happiness.html) )

## October 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

Oct 7	Now the Feast w/LS
Oct 14	WOV Service of Word/Prayer
Oct 21	Chicago Folk w/LS
Oct 28	LBW Setting 2 w/LS

### Sundays at 11:00 am

Oct 7	ELW Setting 1
Oct 14	LBW Setting 1 w/LS
Oct 21	WOV Service of Word/Prayer
Oct 28	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:** Marc and Ashley Mahanna announce the birth of their daughter Isabella Lee Mahanna on May 20th. She weighed 6 lbs. 2oz. Dave and Camille announce the birth of their 16th great grandchild, Lucas Andrew Walden. He was born on September 4th, weighed 7 lbs. 8 oz. and was 20 inches long. Parents are Jason and Bri Walden.

**NEW MEMBERS:** On September 9th, we joyfully received into membership Bill and Sue Bathgate, Greg and Jeanette Beamer, Nick Ellis, Jay Gibson, and Allen and Amy Tucker, Elizabeth and Abby.

## Fellowship Committee News

By Mary Ann Stasiak

October is a busy month for Fellowship events: OWLS will be hosting a potluck dinner to get to know new OWLs on Friday October 19<sup>th</sup> in Parish Hall. Watch for more details at the Welcome Center.

Trunk or Treat will be held on October 20<sup>th</sup>, followed immediately by the Halloween Party and Chili Cook Off. All kinds of chili are welcome, come and try your hand for a prize and bragging rights for the year. Please sign up at the Welcome Center to let us know you are coming, or to help with some other side dishes.

On Sunday October 28<sup>th</sup>, we celebrate Reformation Sunday with all things German. Bill Murphy will again amaze us with his great accordion. We will have German sweet treats between services, followed by German savory dishes and grilled bratwursts after 2<sup>nd</sup> service. If you can help us with a German dish, please sign up at the Welcome Center.



Elaine Shriver hosts Crafting Hour (specialty in knitting) on Friday mornings at 9 AM. If you enjoy crafting or knitting and want some company or some help, this is a great opportunity for fun and good fellowship. She is planning a CRAFT MORNING on Oct. 20 from 9am-12 noon for those interested in working on projects. This is a great opportunity to finish up items for the Handmade Market!

Other Fellowship plans coming up soon:

November 3<sup>rd</sup> - Bread and Cheese Making Class in Parish Hall kitchen

Sunday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>: Bus trip to University of the South in Sewanee, TN for Service of Lessons and Carols

Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup>: Christmas Cookie and Ornament Exchange

Advent International Fellowships:

December 2<sup>nd</sup>: Asian/Pacific Island

December 9<sup>th</sup>: Bountiful America

December 16<sup>th</sup>: Mexican

December 23<sup>rd</sup>: German

The Bountiful America theme is the opportunity to share some of the bounty we have. We will decorate with donated hats, gloves, and scarves and then share them with a local charity. The food will be favorite Christmas traditional treats that represent the bounty we thankfully experience every day. Keep an eye out for the box to donate your hats, gloves, scarves, and mittens.

**Bridge Club** is on the second Friday of every month starting at 7:30 PM in the Parish Hall, this month on October 12th. New and experienced bridge players welcome! Bring a friend and a snack to share - Contact Mary Ann and Ed Stasiak.

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

## Outreach News

### Thrivent Builds/Habitat for Humanity

By Susan Burrer

**Madison County**—I am happy to report that Senchal & family are doing GREAT in their Habitat house! They were able to move in mid July. The lawn is nice and green and the place looks like *home* for one happy family! Senchal said the children especially enjoy their rooms and bedtime is SO much easier without everyone sharing a room! She truly feels blessed that everyone came to help build her house and provided a new beginning for her family!

**El Salvador—Getsemani/Partners in Faith Project**—Changing the lives of families continues as new Habitat houses are constructed in Getsemani and 3 of the 15 houses for extreme poverty families that attend Cristo Rey Lutheran Church are completed. Fundraising is ongoing as they hope to be able to start rebuilding the new Church in 2013!

**Nepal**—Virgil and I will be participating in the Everest Build II blitz build Oct. 7-13. We will be amongst the ~400 people from around the world building 40 houses that week out of sun-dried brick and bamboo in the village of Dhulikhel, 30 km east of Kathmandu.

Please keep the Habitat missions in your prayers as the hand up truly does change people's lives forever.

## Outreach Report

It's fall. The Blanket Box is in the Narthex. THINK BLANKETS, sleeping bags, pillows, coats, heavy sweaters, hats, gloves, long underwear, socks--all the things adult homeless men and women need to keep warm through the cold season. Let's help make this a safe winter for them. The director at First Stop told me that soap and shampoo, especially the small hotel sizes we all collect, are very useful. First Stop is a day shelter with showers. If you have old pots and pans or dishes that can be used to supply a kitchen or furniture to help furnish a first apartment, please contact First Stop. Last year they moved 30 homeless clients into apartments, so these things are needed, but there is limited storage space at times, so check.

Madison Crossroads School is doing pretty well with supplies right now, but they could use some new socks and underwear for 4-8 year olds, most for preschoolers, but also for lower grade children.

Christmas is coming and we are beginning to think about where the needs are greatest in our community. If you have ideas, please be in touch with Janell Zesinger, Jacquie Fry or Claire Strand. Your input is important.

## Sunday School Spotlight



By Heather Osterdorff

This month's Sunday school spotlight is featuring the Mom & Tots class for 2 & 3 year olds. Our students are Kara Ostendorff, Chelsea McCarthy, Natalie Zesinger, and Alexander Mansfield. The class is taught by Amy McCarthy and Angela Yoo. Along with our Bible lesson each week, we work on puzzles, a coloring sheet, a sticker page, and a craft. We also sing songs and have a snack each week. In our lessons so far, we've learned about how important it is to put our trust in God and to help others.

## Music Notes

By Lois Graff



### Music Groups at Messiah

Cherub Choir (Grades K-1) Wednesday 6:00-6:30 pm  
 Seraph Choir (Grades 2-6) Wednesday 6:00-6:30 pm  
 Youth Choir (Grades 7-12) Wednesday 6:30-7:00 pm  
 Adult Choir Wednesday 7:30-9:00 pm  
 Notabella (Handbells) Wednesday 6:30-7:30 pm  
 Instrumental Ensemble Sunday bi-weekly 12:15-1:15 pm  
 Youth Praise Band (Sr. High) Rehearsals as needed on Saturdays/Sundays

### Pipe Organ Update

Thank you for your gifts to the pipe organ fund. During the months of August and September, over \$1500 was received and the fund continues to grow. Currently, we are in the process of actively looking for a re-purposed pipe organ that will best suit the needs of Messiah. Many beautiful and sound instruments are available for a fraction of the cost of a new instrument and it is the hope that an inspiring and suitable pipe organ will be installed and dedicated in 2013.

### Ring and Sing

The annual Ring and Sing concert featuring handbells and chimes will be held on December 9<sup>th</sup>.

## Council Highlights

Discussed at the September Council Meeting:

1. We have a new sign on the side of the church everyone can see when they drive through the Redstone Federal Bank parking lot. Take a look!
2. Sunday, Oct 7<sup>th</sup> will be the Congregation meeting to discuss changes to the Constitution, By Laws and Continuing Resolutions.
3. Sunday, Nov 18 will be the Congregation meeting to set the 2013 budget. This is an important meeting. Please plan to attend.
4. Christmas Eve Services of Worship will be at 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.
5. The Council is working on developing a standard contract for groups using MLC's facilities.
6. The Pipe Organ Fund has about \$35K and the first steps toward finding a used pipe organ are underway.

## Stewardship Thought

*We want you to know, brothers and sisters, about the grace of God that has been granted to the churches of Macedonia; for during a severe ordeal of affliction, their abundant joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. For, as I can testify, they voluntarily gave according to their means, and even beyond their means, begging us earnestly for the privilege of sharing in this ministry to the saints.... 1 Corinthians 8:1-4a*



From *Generous People in the Bible: The Macedonians* by Grace Duddy

“.....God’s grace is reflected most clearly in the generosity of the Macedonians because God’s abundance can be seen even in the midst of their material scarcity. It is only by, in and through God’s grace that the Macedonians could give such an unexplainable gift. Their gift becomes the motivation for others to give because it displays God’s grace at work even in the hardest times. Paul uses the Macedonians’ gift to draw the Corinthians into the circle of generosity.”

“God’s freely given grace creates a never-ending, grace-filled circle of generosity.....God’s abundant grace is the foundation, invitation, and generous gift. Through generosity, God works in and through us to be agents of God’s grace to others. God’s grace invites every person, no matter his or her income, to join the circle of generosity. In this way, generosity no longer depends on us or our means. All that matters is God working through the giver to be an agent of God’s grace to his or her neighbor.”

## Commitment Sunday

*Celebrate Generosity during Commitment Sunday on October 7<sup>th</sup>.*

Please watch for your commitment cards in the mail and prayerfully consider your response.

*For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. Matthew 6:21*

## News Flashes!

The flower chart for 2013 will be available this month for January through September. October through December will be available in December. The chart is located in the Narthex next to the Vestry (old Sacristy). The cost will remain the same \$25 if two families sign up for a Sunday or \$50 if only one family signs up. If you would like to take your flowers home after the second service please let the office know so someone from the Flower Guild can be available to assist you. The flowers have been especially nice since the Flower Guild has been arranging them, so please continue to keep our Sanctuary looking beautiful by remembering or honoring a loved one.

### Pew Maintenance

Have a free half-hour every week or two for the church? We are looking for volunteers to help maintain the items in the pews - racks - sharpen pencils, refill envelopes, straighten the ribbons in the hymnals, etc. This can be done any time during the week that is convenient for you, and would be a great project for a family to do together. Please contact Janell Zesinger if you are interested in helping out. Hopefully we have multiple volunteers and can rotate on a monthly basis.



Comforter’s will meet every Tuesday in October @10:00. Questions contact Annette Joens.

### Handmade Market Inventory/Pricing Dates

Thursdays: October 11, 18, 25 at 2 pm.

You are welcome to drop off your handmade items on those dates. Or you can bring them by the church office. We appreciate early drop offs, since the inventory and pricing is very time consuming. Baked items can be drop off on Friday, October 26 at 2 pm, or Saturday, October 27 at 8 am

If you are still interested in making items for the market but don’t know what, Pinterest is a great source for ideas!

Any questions contact Jackie Myers

**Nov 18 Open House at Lutheranch** - Messiah Lutheran Church was a supporter to "The Challenge" campaign for Lutheranch. Lutheranch is now a reality and our members are invited to an open house on Sunday, November 18 from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. EASTERN time to check out all the progress. Bishop Gordy will be present to share his appreciation; there will be a BBQ dinner, special music by a Blue Grass band and site tours. Be watching for more information.

## Youth Zone

By Lauren Gray youth\_director@mlutheran.org

### Trunk-or-Treat and Halloween Party!!

Our annual Trunk-or-Treat and Halloween Party are just around the corner! Come join us for some fun and scary games, great costumes, and of course CANDY!!



All festivities take place on October 20<sup>th</sup>.

Trunk-or-Treat starts at 4pm.

Halloween Party starts at 5pm.

### 2012 Christmas Workshop

The annual Christmas workshop is coming up on November 11<sup>th</sup>.

Now is our chance to get our Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes ready to take to the workshop event!

Lauren Gray will start handing out shoe box instructions on Sunday, October 7<sup>th</sup>.



### Christmas Wreaths, garland, swags, and specialty items

#### Sale!!



The sr. youth will begin selling Christmas wreaths, etc. on Sunday, October 14<sup>th</sup> in between services. We will be selling for a few weeks and then send our orders at the beginning of November for your items to get here around Thanksgiving. Please help support our youth and enjoy some fresh and festive wreaths, garland, swags, and specialty items!

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

**Tweens Event:** Saturday, Oct. 13<sup>th</sup>. We will be heading to Tate Farms for a fun day of hayrides, games, etc. More info to come!

**Jr. Youth Group Halloween Fun:** During regular Jr. Youth group time on Oct. 27<sup>th</sup>, we will have some Halloween fun like Halloween music, games, a costume contest, and more!

**Sr. Youth Group Halloween Fun:** During regular Sr. Youth group time on Oct. 28<sup>th</sup>, we will have some Halloween fun like games, food, a costume contest, and more!

## The Month in Pictures – September 2012



*On September 8, 2012 the Messiah Carpentry Team constructed another Wheelchair Ramp in support of CASA of Madison County. The lady who received this ramp was in desperate need of assistance. She had no way of exiting her trailer home without being physically carried down off of a rotting porch. Thanks to the carpentry team and your support, she can now safely cruise down a nice solid ramp. Way to go Carpentry Team!*



*New Members were received into the church on September 9<sup>th</sup>.*



*The Youth Praise Band debuted on September 16th at the contemporary service. The spirit was truly moving through this group of talented teenagers. The band led the congregation in the contemporary hits, "Lord, I lift Your Name on High," "Jesus Messiah," "Forever," and "Your Grace is Enough". Pictured are Katrina, Meggy, Claire, James, Walter, Ashlyn, Lauryn, Michael, and Kyle.*



*The Church Council at a retreat at Lutheranch.*

## Meet the McCarthy Family



Hello from the McCarthy family: Amy and my children Charlie, who will be 5 in October, and Chelsea, age 3. My husband Charles and I have lived in the Madison area since 1997. We relocated here from south east Alabama immediately after we were married.

I have been a stay at home mom for the past 5 years and like to stay busy by getting the kids outdoors, going to the beach, reading, and testing out new recipes in the kitchen. Our extended family is in south east Alabama and Tennessee, so we try to visit the grandparents and cousins as often as possible as well. Charlie and Chelsea love doing crafts, helping me around the house, going on nature walks, and going to the library.

Prior to having children, I worked as an Accountant in the Government Contracting industry, and I plan to return to work once my kids are in school.

I enjoy teaching the Age 2-3 Sunday School class each week and also attending the Mom's Bible study. I have learned so much from both classes and always look forward to them. My kids were so happy to have Sunday School start back up this fall, they missed it all summer. I feel so blessed that we have found a church home that we all love and that gives us so many opportunities to learn and also give back.

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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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**October 2012**  
**Volume 24, Issue 10**

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 October 18<sup>th</sup>.