

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.



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

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September 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> 8:30am Worship: LBW Setting 2 9:45Adult Sunday School No Children's Sunday School 11am Worship: WOV Svc Word/Prayer	<b>2</b> Labor Day           Tom & Paulette McNamara	<b>3</b>   10am Comforters           Joe & Kristen Mendiola	<b>4</b>   5:00pm 1 <sup>st</sup> year Confirmation NO 2 <sup>nd</sup> Yr. Conf. 5:30pm Dinner 6pm Children's Choirs 6:30pm Youth Choir & Notabella NO Adult Bible Class 7:30pm Adult Choir    Bill Meyer	<b>5</b>           Brad & Theresa Meyer Rachael Wier, Rebecca, Drake	<b>6</b>           Dagmar & Patrick Miller Ryan, Colleen	<b>7</b>           Melani Mooneyham Ty
<b>8</b> 8:30am Worship: Chicago Folk w/LS Donut Sunday 9:45 Sunday School 10am Fellowship Mtg 11am Worship: LBW Setting 2 w/LS 12:30 Youth Parents Mtg God's Work, Our Hands Sunday	<b>9</b>   9:30am Moms Bible Study           Jeff & Robin Moore	<b>10</b>   10am Comforters           John Moore	<b>11</b>   5:00pm Confirmation 5:30pm Dinner 6pm Children's Choirs 6:30pm Youth Choir & Notabella 6:30pm Adult Bible Class 7:30pm Adult Choir 7pm St. Mark's Community Event Fran Morgan	<b>12</b> <b>13</b> <b>14</b> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">                         Council Retreat @ Lutheranch                     </div>           John Morgan      Caleb & Whitney Morse      Doris Mullins		
<b>15</b> 8:30am Worship: LBW Setting 1w/LS 9:45 Sunday School 11am Worship: Contemporary Service 12noon Youth Praise Band Annual Fishing Sermon	<b>16</b>           Beth Mumaw Kyle	<b>17</b>   10am Comforters           Bill & Janice Murphy	<b>18</b>   5:00pm Confirmation 5:30pm Dinner 6pm Children's Choirs 6:30pm Youth Choir & Notabella 6:30pm Adult Bible Class 7:30pm Adult Choir    Jim & Anna Musch	<b>19</b>   Church Council 7pm           Gerry & Jackie Myers Noah, Adam, Luke, Evan	<b>20</b>           Marc & Debbie Neely Heather, Adam	<b>21</b>   9am OWLS Breakfast @ Sunny Street Café           Jim & Ellie Nelson
<b>22</b> 8:30am Worship: WOV Svc Word/Prayer 9:45 Sunday School 11am Worship: Now the Feast w/LS 12:15pm Instrumental Ensemble	<b>23</b>   9:30am Moms Bible Study           Allen & Peggy Nuss	<b>24</b>   10am Comforters           Troy Nuss	<b>25</b>   5:00pm Confirmation 5:30pm Dinner 6pm Children's Choirs 6:30pm Youth Choir & Notabella NO Adult Bible Class 7:30pm Adult Choir    Diane Oliver	<b>26</b>           Charles & Barbara Olson	<b>27</b>           Geoff & Jennifer Oltmans Madelyn, Hadley	<b>28</b>           Brian & Audrey Osterndorf Lydia, Hannah
<b>29</b> 8:30am Worship: Now the Feast w/LS 9:45 Sunday School 11am Worship: LBW Setting 2 w/LS 12:15pm Instrumental Ensemble   3:00 – 5:00 p.m. Open House at Christ Lutheran, Cullman, AL	<b>30</b>           Don & Lizzie Palmer					

Looking ahead...

- October 26<sup>th</sup> - Handmade Market, 27<sup>th</sup> - Halloween Event/Chili Cook off
- November 3<sup>rd</sup> - German Reformation Festival (on All Saints' Sunday)
- December 8<sup>th</sup> - International Fellowship Lunch, 15<sup>th</sup> - Charity Drive & Advent Appetizers



## Pastor's Page

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

*For everything there is a season,  
and a time for every matter under heaven.  
--Ecclesiastes 3:1*

Dear Friends of the Risen, Living Messiah,

**WHAT'S HAPPENING? LOTS!** I know from talking to many of you and from what is happening at MLC that some of what is happening is painful, but some of it is wonderful. Some of it is sad, yet some of it is joy filled. Challenges and changes are before us as individuals and as a community of faith. Consider these mysterious words that St. Paul wrote to people in a congregation that he loved, ***"We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose"*** (Romans 8:28).

**HERE ARE THREE** (of the many) THINGS HAPPENING at MLC in September:

**\*A MEETING FOR PARENTS OF MLC YOUTH** will be at 12:30p.m. on Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup> in the Parish Hall. I want to hear from parents their concerns and hopes as we begin the process of seeking a new staff person for youth ministry at MLC. As we face this time of transition, I will share some of our plans and needs for youth ministry. The ***most important message*** about the future of our youth ministry at MLC is that this is a ***priority for all*** on our Church Council. We seek to be faithful to our promises to God and to each other that we will raise our children in the Christian faith. And, MLC has made it ***our mission to reach out*** to make disciples of those who have not heard the good news of our Lord. Many of those are children and youth.

**\*SEPTEMBER IS STEWARDSHIP EMPHASIS MONTH AT MLC.** Down through the ages Christians have talked about stewardship using **three terms**. God has given us ***'time, talent, and treasure'*** to manage and share. The realization that has helped me most regarding stewardship is this: ***Giving makes me healthier and happier.*** If you doubt that, think of a miser you have known--Someone determined to hoard his/her time, talents, and/or treasures. I doubt you are thinking of a healthy or happy person.

**\*WARNING: THE ANNUAL FISHING SERMON** will be September 15. As you read this I probably am in Ontario suffering through the rigors of this yearly rite of preparing for this sermon.

Come to worship and get engaged in the missions, classes, and opportunities to grow together that our Lord is using to make disciples at Messiah Lutheran Church.

Grace and peace,  
*Pastor Scott Peterson*

P.S. – In challenging times I treasure this prayer: *Lord God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us the faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.* (LBW p. 153)

## September Services of Worship

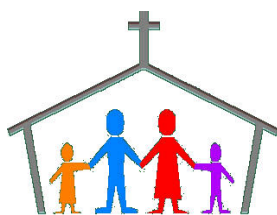
LBW = Lutheran Book of Worship    WOV = With One Voice  
ELW = Evangelical Lutheran Worship    LS = Lord's Supper

### Sundays at 8:30 am

Sept 1	LBW Setting 2
Sept 8	Chicago Folk w/LS
Sept 15	LBW Setting 1 w/LS
Sept 22	WOV Service of Word/Prayer
Sept 29	Now the Feast w/LS

### Sundays at 11:00 am

Sept 1	WOV Service of Word/Prayer
Sept 8	LBW Setting 2 w/LS
Sept 15	Contemporary Service
Sept 22	Now the Feast w/LS
Sept 29	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.

**NEW MEMBERS:** Jim & Chris Fossum  
Melanie Grashot, Lucas & Elise  
Eric & Julie Hancock  
Eric & Sharon Rutherford, Katrina Messinger  
George Williams

**MARRIAGE:** Andrew Davis and Alexandria (Ali) Karlin were married on August 3<sup>rd</sup> in Kansas.

**DEATHS:** Doug Hendrick's mother, Eleanor Hendrick, passed away on July 25th.  
Steve Smith's father, Joseph Edward Smith, passed away on July 31<sup>st</sup>.  
Susan Burrer's mother, Betty Miller, passed away on August 13<sup>th</sup>.

## Fellowship Committee News

By Greg Kilby and Hillary Warren



**Wednesday Night Café** will be starting again after Labor Day. Please come and join us for dinner. There are activities for all after we eat. Come by for a meal and fellowship!

Does your Messiah group need a **Fundraising** opportunity? Please consider a Wednesday Night Dinner Fundraiser. These will be both fun for your group and you'll raise some funds for your cause. Please contact Dorothy Seitz to sign up.

The **OWLs (Older, Wiser Lutherans)** are kicking off the fall with a Breakfast at the Sunny Street Café (previously occupied by Pauli's Bar and Grill) (7143 Highway 72W). OWLs will meet at 9:00 AM for breakfast on Saturday, September 21<sup>st</sup>. Please contact Janice Murphy if you plan to attend.

September 8<sup>th</sup> is **Donut Sunday!** Please come and grab a donut before Sunday school. We'll be serving Donuts, milk, and coffee between services in the Fellowship Hall. Donut miss it!

**Bridge Club** will be held Friday September 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM in the Parish Hall. Please come for the fellowship. Experienced and novice players welcome! Contact Mary Ann and Ed Stasiak.

It's not too late! **Foodies** had their kickoff in August and have divided up into dinner groups for the fall. If you would like to still join, please do! We have room for you! Please contact Meredith or Greg Kilby, if you have questions or want to participate this fall.

Thanks to everyone who helped with the August events. Messiah was busy! We had the Foodies kickoff, Donut Sunday, the dinner theater, Rally Day, the kitchen clean-up, and a New Member's reception. So many pitched in on these events and your contributions made them all tremendously successful and fun. Thanks for all that you do!

## Outreach News

By Janell Zesinger



Calling all Crafters!! It's time to get working on items for the Handmade Market to support **Lunches for Learning** for our school, Benito Montoya in El Barrial, Honduras. **Handmade Market** will be on Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup>. We are also looking for volunteers to help out with the planning and coordination of this year's market.

## ELCA's God's Work, Our Hands Sunday

To celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Messiah will be joining hundreds of other ELCA congregations in a day of service, the afternoon of **Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup>**. Our goal is to have a variety of service opportunities that day so that everyone in the congregation can be involved, from packing weekend food program bags, building wheelchair ramps, helping out with kit ministries, collecting food for St. Mark's food pantry etc.!

See your Sunday Bulletin and enews for specific ways you can help serve our community that day. Please contact Janell Zesinger at with questions.

God's  
work.  
Our  
hands.



Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America

[www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org)

## Weekend Food Program Update

*"For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me." Matthew 25:35*

On September 8 and 15 look for the Apple Tree in the church Narthex where you are invited to purchase a paper apple to represent sponsorship of a child at Liberty Middle School.

We're expecting to sponsor 25-35 students this year who need food for the weekend. You're also invited to participate in packing food bags on Sunday the 8<sup>th</sup> as part of the ELCA's God's Work, Our Hands service day.

## Who is Kert Reedstrom?

*Pastor Scott writes:*

Kert Reedstrom has preached at MLC several times this year and will again on Sunday, September 1. Last spring he taught an Adult Sunday School class.

**Who is this guy?** I would say he is a gift from God to MLC. Our years in seminary in St. Paul, MN overlapped, but we did not know each other at the time. After seminary, our paths diverged significantly. I asked Kert to write down some of the journeys, learning, and interesting ways he has served our Lord since seminary. Here is just a snippet:

- *Born and raised Lutheran in Minnesota and Alabama*
- *Married with three daughters*
- *Master of Divinity from Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary*
- *Masters in Management from Webster University*
- *Served in several churches as Pastor, Interim Pastor, Youth Director, Christian Education Director, and Director and founder the of Christian Community Homecare Association*
- *Owned several health care/rehabilitation companies based in St. Louis, MO, including a unique rehabilitation-engineering program*
- *Founder of foundations “Healthy Minds” and the “International Center for Victims of Torture”*
- *Founded and developed two schools/Early Childhood Development centers*
- *Established and directed International Medical Clinic in Moscow, Russia*
- *Educator in three schools for gifted children: Twin Cities Institute for Talented Youth, St. Louis “College for Kids” program, and Moscow University affiliated school for gifted 15- 17 year old Russian youth.*
- *Chairman of the Board of Directors, Lutheran Ministries Association, St. Louis, MO*

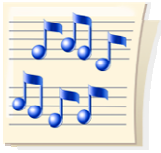
My advice is ‘*get to know Kert*’. He has lots of gifts to offer and has been doing that very graciously to bless MLC. Thank you, Kert!

## Council Notes

1. "Donut Sunday" will continue one Sunday per month during the school year.
2. Halloween Event/ Chili Cook-off will be Sunday, October 27th.
3. Fall Sunday School started with Rally Day, August 18th. Adult classes include Dottie Hansen’s class on the Book of Acts and Pastor Scott’s class on the assigned Bible readings for the coming Sunday. Watch for more adult classes that will be starting this Fall.

## Music Notes

By Lois Graff



### YOU ARE INVITED

What:	Messiah Music Groups
Where:	Messiah Lutheran Church
Who:	All Ages
When:	Wednesdays and/or Sundays
What to bring:	Yourself (maybe an instrument) <i>Your presence is requested!</i>

All Music Groups at Messiah are beginning in September! Come to sing, ring and to play instruments at one or many of them. Messiah is blessed with many talented individuals ..... like you! If you are interested, come to a rehearsal or contact Lois Graff.

Cherub Choir (Grades K-1)	Wednesday 6:00-6:30 p.m. Director Claire Strand
Seraph Choir (Grades 2-6)	Wednesday 6:00-6:30 p.m. Director Stephanie Pesto
Youth Choir (Grades 7-12)	Wednesday 6:30-7:00 p.m. Director Beth Gloe
Notabella (Handbells)	Wednesday 6:30-7:30 p.m. Director Rhonda Gaede
Adult Choir	Wednesday 7:30-8:30 p.m. Director Randall Fields
Instrumental Ensemble (Grade 7-adult)	Sunday (bi-wkly) 12:15-1:15 p.m. Director Lois Graff
Youth Praise Band (Sr. High)	Rehearsals as needed on Saturdays/Sundays Director Lois Graff

### Thank You

Thank you to all who attended and supported this year's Dinner Theater *The Unexpected Visitors*. Special thanks to Bob Gustafson who wrote, directed, produced, etc. etc. After expenses, over \$1600 was raised from this fundraiser which will support our Lunches for Learning mission and the Music at Messiah program.

## Youth Zone

**The First Year Confirmation Class** had its first meeting on August 28<sup>th</sup>. First year Confirmation is for those grade 8 or older. Their year of study is an overview of the whole Bible: Old and New Testaments. The instructor for the First Year class is Lois Graff. Class meets for one hour on Wednesdays beginning at 5:00 p.m.

**The Second Year Confirmation Class** began meeting on August 21. Pastor Scott is teaching this class that uses Martin Luther's Small Catechism as a guide in studying the Ten Commandments, the Apostles' Creed, the Lord's Prayer, Baptism, and the Lord's Supper. Six students are studying in preparation of affirming the faith they entered in Baptism.

**A MEETING FOR PARENTS of YOUTH** will be held on Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, at 12:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Pastor Scott will answer questions and discuss plans for the future development of MLC's Youth and Education ministries. In this time of transition parental involvement will be especially important.

### SENIOR YOUTH NEWS:

Susan Doubleday and her daughter Kari Pitchko will be leading Senior Youth in this time of transition. Sue did an excellent job leading the Senior Youth at MLC when her children were members of the group not so many years ago. Other adults will assist Sue and Kari in working with the Senior Youth.

A Search Committee is being formed by the Church Council to seek a new Director of Youth and Education ministries at MLC. The Senior Youth will have a voice in finding and selecting this new leader.

**September 8:** Senior Youth meet to clean up and organize their Youth Room.

**September 15:** Sue and Kari meet with Senior Youth to make plans for future missions, activities, and devotions.

### JUNIOR YOUTH and TWEENS:

Parents and others will be needed to help with Jr. Youth and Tweens groups. This will be discussed at Pastor Scott's meeting with parents on Sunday, September 8, at 12:30 in the Sanctuary.

## News Flashes!

*"Children are now dismissed to go to Children's Church." .....You've heard it most Sunday mornings for months if you attend the 11:00 service. But where are they going and what are they doing there?*

Children ages 4-9 (roughly) come to the Fellowship Hall and enjoy a different style of worship. In Children's Church, we read the same stories and learn the same lessons that Pastor Scott uses for his sermon. The difference is that in Children's Church it is more discussion, includes coloring, sometimes crafts and sometimes games! We want to bring the lesson of the week to an easy-to-grasp level for all our young folks.

We use the children's bulletin that is printed each week, and add a little of our own personality and fun to the lesson. Can't because you attend the 8:30 service? We'd love to grow enough to offer it then as well. If this sounds like something you'd like to take a turn helping with, please talk to Mary Mast, our current coordinator or look for the sign up at the Welcome Center in the Narthex.



Comforter's will meet every Tuesday in Sept. @ 10:00.

This year we made 134 quilts, of which 8 were given to Oklahoma tornado victims, 3 quilts were given to Habitat children, the rest of the quilts were given out individually to people in our community and sent to Lutheran World Relief. 36 fleece throws went to the children at the downtown mission at Christmas.

21 prayer shawls and 27 lap robes were distributed. Anyone wanting a lap robe or prayer shawl see Annette Joens or Claire Strand. In November we will be holding our annual fund raising auction. If you would like to join Comforter's, we are always looking for an extra pair of hands. You do not need to know how to sew. Contact Annette Joens.

The plants and lawn that were planted last spring are doing great, and the irrigation is in place to fill more of the beds created last spring. We will not be planting around the air conditioners until they are replaced, but we will be planting the next phase of the landscaping plan west of the sanctuary and around the Sunday School rooms during a workday Saturday in October. More details will be coming in the next few weeks if you would like to donate toward purchase of one of the plants or mark your calendar for the work day. For more information, contact Mary Ann Stasiak.

*St. Mark's is hosting a Community Event on 9/11/13 at 7pm (200 Longwood Drive). The event is FREE and Lieutenant Colonel John Mahoney, who is a member of St. Mark's, will be speaking about his experience at the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001.*

### **ADULT STUDY of the GOSPEL OF MATTHEW** **Wednesdays 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. in Rooms 11 & 12.**

Pastor Scott will lead this study which will study one chapter each session. Attendance at all sessions is not required, but welcomed. Matthew Chapter 2 will be studied on Sept. 11, Chapter 3 on Sept. 18, Chapter 4 on October 2. Most of our Sunday morning gospel readings will come from Matthew beginning on Dec. 1, and for the first 11 months of 2014. So this is a good study to deepen our understanding of Matthew's gospel in preparation to hearing it read and preached in the coming year. Come and see!



## Month in Pictures - August



*Pastor Scott blessed the quilts that were laid on all of the pews.*



*The Repertoire Players in the summer's dinner theatre performance of "The Unexpected Visitors".*



*The Comforters with one of the 138 quilts made this year.*



*Sunday School Rally Day*



*On August 24<sup>th</sup>, a team from MLC participated in the Walk for ALS in memory of former member Deanna Glover.*



*Member Potluck Luncheon*

## New Members



Melanie Grashot, Lucas & Elise



Eric & Sharon Rutherford, Katrina Messinger



Jim & Chris Fossum



Julie Hancock

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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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**September 2013**  
**Volume 25, Issue 9**

The Messenger is a monthly publication published by Messiah Lutheran Church. Material for publication may be forwarded to. The deadline for the next month's issue is September 22<sup>nd</sup>.