

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 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. 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. 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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November 2013

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
					1 TWEENS 6:30 – 8 PM Meet to pack shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. <i>Lee & Janet Smith</i>	2 <i>Steve & Jacqueline Smith Natasha</i>
3 8:30am Worship: Now the Feast w/LS 9:45 Sunday School 11am Worship: Now the Feast w/LS 12pm German Reformation Fellowship 3:15pm Jr & Sr Youth Xmas Workshop @ Grace LC	4 9:30am Moms Bible Study <i>Todd Smith</i>	5 10am Comforters <i>Pamela Sparks</i>	6 5:00pm Confirmation 5:30pm Dinner 6pm Children's Choirs 6:30pm Youth Choir & Notabella 6:30pm Adult Bible Study on Matthew 7:30pm Adult Choir <i>Tim & Kay Spence Katie, Michael</i>	7 8:30am Morning Study Group 7pm Church Council meets. All welcome <i>Lon & Connie Stanger Josh, Ben</i>	8 7:30pm Bridge Club in Parish Hall <i>Karl & Judy Starkloff</i>	9 <i>Ed & Mary Ann Stasiak</i>
10 8:30am Worship: LBW Setting 2 w/LS 9:45 Congregational Meeting & Bake Sale 9:45 Sunday School 11am Worship: Chicago Folk w/LS 4pm Army Brass Quintet Concert	11 <i>Bobbie Stender</i>	12 10am Comforters <i>John Stender</i>	13 5:00pm Confirmation 5:30pm Dinner 6pm Children's Choirs 6:30pm Youth Choir & Notabella NO Adult Bible Class 7:30pm Adult Choir <i>David Stradley</i>	14 <i>Tammy Stender John, Jessica, Jacqueline, Jennifer, Jacob, Jaxon</i>	15 <i>Stephen & Claire Strand William, Katrina, Michelle</i>	16 <i>Sr Youth Lake House Retreat @ Kelso, TN</i> <i>Joe & Jean Stuart</i>
17 8:30am Worship: ELW Setting 8 Donut Sunday 9:45 Sunday School 11am Worship: Contemporary Service	18 9:30am Moms Bible Study <i>Kay Swanson</i>	19 10am Comforters <i>Dennis & Lisa Sweet</i>	20 5:00pm First Year Confirmation NO 2 nd Yr Conf. Class 5:30pm Dinner 6pm Children's Choirs 6:30pm Youth Choir & Notabella NO Adult Bible Class 7:30pm Adult Choir <i>Judy Sylvester</i>	21 <i>Margarete Taylor</i>	22 <i>Cornelia Tegtmeier, J. Konrad, Harriet, Arvid</i>	23 <i>Mark & Beth Thompson Kyle, Meghan</i>
24 8:30am Worship: Bread of Life w/LS 9:45 Sunday School 11am Worship: LBW Setting 2 w/LS Sr. Youth @ St. Mark's to pack bags	25 <i>Ken & Ann Tippie</i>	26 10am Comforters <i>John & Jennifer Tresnan Trey</i>	27 <i>NO Wednesday Night activities at MLC</i> <i>Ed & Georgann Trexler</i>	28 <i>HAPPY THANKSGIVING DAY!</i> <i>Joshua Trexler</i>	29 <i>Allen & Amy Tucker Elizabeth, Abigail</i>	30 <i>End of Quilt Auction</i> <i>Alex & Liz Vaughn</i>

Looking ahead...

- December 8th - Intl. Fellowship Lunch & Ring & Sing, 15th - Charity Drive & Advent Appetizers
- December 4, 11, 18: Advent Services of Worship at 7:00 p.m.



Pastor's Page

By Pastor Scott Peterson scott@mlutheran.com

*After he (St. Paul) had said this, he took bread;
and giving thanks to God in the presence of all, he broke it and began to eat.
Then all of them were encouraged and took food for themselves. --Acts 27:35-36*

Dear Friends of the Messiah,

GRAZIE, DANKE, MERCI, GRACIAS, TAK, TODA, SHUKRAN: Whenever I am with people whose native tongue is not English, I want to know how to say *'thank you'* in their language. When I am a stranger it is urgent to be able to say *thank you* to everyone who is helpful, informative, kind. An alien knows better than to take courtesy for granted.

WHY SHOULD IT BE DIFFERENT with those who are helpful to us day after day when we are in our routines? Is there anyone in your life who is overdue to hear *thank you* from you?

ON BOARD A SHIP WITH 275 OTHER TERRIFIED SOULS who feared dying on stormy seas, St. Paul calmly took bread and *gave thanks to God*. After urging all to eat, Paul began to eat himself. It was a Thanksgiving feast. The Lord had let Paul know that though the ship would be lost, all those aboard would live. And, that is exactly what happened. (*To get the whole exciting story, please read Acts chapter 27 in your Bible.*)

HMM? HAVE YOU FELT LIKE YOU HAVE BEEN ON STORMY SEAS LATELY? I have. Yet, I have been sent by God to announce, *"Our Lord will save us. All else may falter and fail, but God's grace will bring us safely home to be with our Lord and all His children."*

HOW CAN WE SAY 'THANK YOU' TO GOD? With a Lutheran understanding of God's grace, *thank you* is about all that is left for us. Since we cannot earn anything in God's eyes and God already owns everything, there is nothing God needs from us. *So, how can we say thanks?* That is a stewardship question. We say *thank you* to God by the way we use the time, talents, and material resources God has entrusted to us.

NOVEMBER STARTS WITH ALL SAINTS' DAY on the church calendar. Saints are people who God has chosen to be His people, so that includes you and me. The saints we especially remember on the festival of All Saints' are the ones who said *thank you* to God in profound and inspiring ways.

NOW HEAR THIS: THANK YOU! Thank you for journeying with me on seas that can be stormy and on paths that can be rocky **in a life of faith**. Thank you for supporting and encouraging me. Thank you for the opportunity to serve with you. It is an honor and I am grateful.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Scott Peterson

November Services of Worship

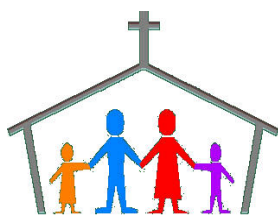
LBW = Lutheran Book of Worship WOV = With One Voice
ELW = Evangelical Lutheran Worship LS = Lord's Supper

Sundays at 8:30 am

Nov 3	Now the Feast w/ Lord's Supper
Nov 10	LBW Setting 2 w/ Lord's Supper
Nov 17	ELW Setting 8
Nov 24	Bread of Life w/ Lord's Supper

Sundays at 11:00 am

Nov 3	Now the Feast w/ Lord's Supper
Nov 10	Chicago Folk w/ Lord's Supper
Nov 17	Contemporary Service
Nov 24	LBW Setting 2 w/ Lord's Supper



Life Passages

By Claire Strand 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:

DEATH: Jon Kidd, the youngest son of Mike and Judy Kidd, passed away on October 16th.

Fellowship Committee News

By Greg Kilby and Hillary Warren



Please join us for **Wednesday Night Café!** It's perfect for a busy schedule and gives you time to relax and have great meal while spending time with other Messiah members. Come any time from 5:30-6:30. There are opportunities for Bible study and other activities including music following the meal.

Does your Messiah group need a **Fundraising** opportunity? Please consider a Wednesday Night Dinner Fundraiser. Please contact Dorothy Seitz to sign up.

Be on the lookout for details for the next OWLs (Older, Wiser Lutherans) event.

What is the most popular donut on **Donut Sunday?** This past month it was the Pumpkin Pie donut. This is a seasonal offering but was well worth the trip to the donut table! The next **Donut Sunday is Nov 17th**. This means Donuts, milk and coffee are available between services in the Fellowship Hall! Come and join us for some fellowship time or grab a donut before Sunday School. Come early and get the good ones!

Bridge Club will be held Friday November 8th at 7:30 PM in the Parish Hall. Experienced and novice players welcome! Contact Mary Ann and Ed Stasiak.

We will have a **German Reformation fellowship** after church on Nov 3. Get your favorite German dishes ready! We're serving brats and broetchen! Please sign up at the Welcome center to bring your favorite German dish!

The annual **Ornament Exchange** is coming! Stay tuned for details (still need to look at schedules!). If you're interested in helping to organize this event, please contact Meredith Kilby.

THANK YOU from the YOUTH...we made \$450 from the Christmas wreath sales for our summer mission trip! The wreaths should arrive the first week of December.

On November 24 the Sr Youth will be going to St Mark's Lutheran Church to help pack Turkey Dinners for people in our community who are in need. Watch for more details!

Outreach News

By Janell Zesinger



Handmade Market 2013 was a great success!! Over \$5,000 was raised to support Lunches for Learning for our school, Benito Montoya, in El Barial, Honduras. Thrivent Financial has agreed to match \$1,500 raised, to bring our total to \$6,500! Thank you to EVERYONE who helped make this year's market a success – from those who crafted, baked, tagged, advertised, helped put up, help take down, rang up sales, made coffee, and especially SHOPPED! Thank you!!

(Now, time for you crafters to put down your newsletter and get busy for next year.)

Canned Food Drive

By Janell Zesinger

This year the canned food drive will be from November 3rd through November 24th. Donations will be brought to the St. Mark Lutheran Church Food Pantry in downtown Huntsville. All donations are appreciated, but staple items are needed. Staple items include: standard-size peanut butter, jelly, boxed cereal, canned peas, carrots, peaches, fruit cocktail, pinto beans, apple juice. *Thank you!!*

Let Us Give Thanks!

By Janell Zesinger

Calling all turkeys! Once again, we are partnering with St. Mark Lutheran Church to provide Thanksgiving dinners to those in need in our community. This includes a turkey, and all of the ingredients for a complete Thanksgiving Meal for a family. We need your donations to fund this effort! Please place donations in the offering plate labeled "Turkey Dinner". Our Senior Youth will join St. Mark's on November 24th to pack the bags.

Warm Clothing Needed!

By Jacquie Fry

Thank you for your care for the homeless in our community. The first delivery of blankets, jackets, gloves, sweaters and long underwear was made just before the cold nights to the homeless at First Stop and Downtown Rescue Mission. Your donations were much appreciated by people who spend much of their time, including nights, in the cold air. Winter tops and pants and socks are also welcomed. Messiah will continue to collect supplies through the winter.

The year is going so fast, and Christmastime will be here soon. The Christmas Angel tree will be in the Narthex in November. We are working with the Salvation Army again to provide a happy Christmas for children up to age 12. Thank you for the love you show each year to the children, especially in these days of hardship for many families.

We are blessed to be a blessing in the lives of others.

YOUTH OUTREACH...TWEENS will meet Friday, November 1 from 6:30 - 8:00 PM to assemble the shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child - Samaritan's Purse Ministry. **Items are still needed to FILL THE SHOEBOXES** like small toys, candy, personal hygiene items, school supplies, etc. Ask your child about the note sent home through Sunday School for more info! **JR & SR Youth** will take the boxes to Grace Lutheran on Sunday, November 3 and participate in the Christmas Workshop...meet at church @ 3:15pm!

Music Notes

By Lois Graff



Brass Concert November 10

Enjoy music by the **Arsenal Brass Quintet** of the U.S. Army Material Command Band on Sunday, November 10 at 4:00 p.m. Sponsored by *Music at Messiah*, the concert features baroque, classical, jazz music, and Sousa marches. Donations will be accepted at the door. A light reception will follow. For more information about *Music at Messiah*, visit www.musicatmessiah.blogspot.com.

Advent Mid-Week Services of Worship

Advent services of worship will be held at 7:00 pm on December 4, 11 & 18, using the Holden Evening Prayer liturgy. Everyone is invited to dinner which will be served before the Advent services, beginning at 5:30 pm. The Advent offering received this year will be divided between support of the *Lunches for Learning* mission and MLC's Ramp Building Team.

Christmas Eve Services at 5 and 7 pm

Christmas Eve Candlelight services with the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be at 5:00 pm and 7:00 pm on December 24th.

Ring & Sing December 8

The annual Ring and Sing concert featuring handbells and chimes will be held on Sunday, December 8th at 6:30 p.m. Music from adult and children's handbell and chime choirs and vocal groups will be featured, including audience hand chime participation!

Pergolesi *Magnificat*: Singers needed!

The Adult Choir needs you! Rehearsals are on Wednesday evenings at 7:30 p.m., following Wednesday Nite Cafe and Pastor Scott's Bible class on the gospel of Matthew. Enjoy singing and using your voice to praise God. On December 15th, the choir will present the Pergolesi *Magnificat* during worship.

Council Notes

1. MLC has a new Computer Use Policy. Please fill one out and file it with the church office before using the internet at church.
2. Bake Sale November 10 to benefit the Kit Ministry.
3. Annual Quilt Auction – November 1-30.
4. Next Council Meeting, Thursday, November 7.



Comforter's will be holding their annual Quilt Auction during the month of November. This will be done by silent bid and we will receive matching funds from Thrivent.

Comforter's will meet every Tuesday in November @ 10:00. Questions? Annette Joens.

Thrivent Financial: Let's Thrive!

Help Messiah Lutheran Church see double!

Participate in the Thrivent Choice® Double Direction Church Campaign and help our congregation in a big way! During the campaign, Thrivent Financial for Lutherans® is giving up to \$15 million to churches across the country through the Thrivent Choice program. Here's how you can help:

- Direct available Choice Dollars® to Messiah Lutheran Church between Oct. 1 and Nov. 20, 2013.
- Thrivent Financial will **double** all Choice Dollars directions made to churches during this time or until up to \$15 million has been awarded, whichever comes first.

Thrivent Choice helps strengthen congregations

The Thrivent Choice program allows eligible members of Thrivent Financial® to recommend where some of its charitable grant funds go.

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- Go to Thrivent.com/thriventchoice, or
- Call 800-THRIVENT (800-847-4836) and say, "Thrivent Choice."

It takes just minutes to do, so make your direction today and help Messiah Lutheran Church continue to grow and thrive!

Directing Choice Dollars® is subject to the terms and conditions of the Thrivent Choice® program. Visit Thrivent.com/thriventchoice for complete terms and conditions. All grants are made at the sole discretion of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans.

October Month in Pictures



On October 5th the church had a blessing of the animals service with 26 animals and their owners present.



The annual Chili Cookoff and Halloween party was on October 27th with a great turnout of people and chili! There were 13 entries of chili and the winner of the best chili went to Michelle Strand. There was a costume parade & contest plus lots of fun and games for the little ones. Thanks to all who helped to organize this great event, especially Hillary Warren.



The Handmade Market to benefit Lunches4Learning was on the last weekend of October. It was a record year for items donated as well as money raised – over \$5,000!



The Men's Retreat at Lutheranch was held October 24-26. Nine members attended with the theme "Fish, Work and Explore".

Chili Cook-off / Halloween Fun @ Messiah!



Winners of the Chili Competition were Michelle Strand (1st), Larry Ryan & Bridie (2nd) & Stephen Strand (Hottest)



Consider saving paper...if you'd prefer to receive an electric copy of this monthly newsletter, email info@mlutheran.org



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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 November 24th.