



PASTOR'S PAGE

by Pastor Scott Peterson
scott@mlutheran.org

*For though I am free with respect to all,
I have made myself a servant to all,
so that I might win more of them.*

--St. Paul in 1 Corinthians 9:19

*A Christian is a perfectly free lord of all, subject to none.
A Christian is a perfectly dutiful servant of all, subject to all.*

--Martin Luther in his treatise *The Freedom of a Christian*

Dear Beloved of the Messiah,

FREEDOM! This month we celebrate our *freedoms*. We cherish the stories of courageous American colonist leaders and citizens who risked (and gave) their lives over 240 years ago taking a stand to win *freedom* from England. That is not dusty history. Today we are still free because courageous citizens keep serving to preserve and protect our *freedoms*. *Thank you to all who have used the life and gifts God has entrusted to them to protect and care for others.*

FREEDOM and SERVICE fit together. Whatever our callings, we all are responsible to *serve* each other as citizens and also as Christians. Jesus *served* to deliver God's forgiveness, life, and salvation, which set us *free*. So now we are *free* to *serve* in ways which honor Him and care for God's creation. **The message of...**

...THIS FREEDOM WE HAVE IN CHRIST is especially powerfully announced in the letters of Paul and the Gospel of John. Almost 2000 years ago, Paul wrote, *"For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a servant to all, so that I might win more of them"* Almost 500 years ago, that radical message of our *freedom* in Christ grabbed and inspired a German Monk named Martin Luther. Luther expanded on Paul's writings in his treatise *The Freedom of a Christian*. In this treatise Luther put forth two theses...

1. "A Christian is a perfectly free lord of all, subject to none."
2. "A Christian is a perfectly dutiful servant of all, subject to all."

HOW CAN A PERSON BE BOTH Free Lord and Dutiful Servant? Luther's point was this: As fully forgiven children of God, Christians are not saved by trying to fulfill God's law or somehow earning God's favor. We are saved by the grace of God, which gives the gift of faith to us. *We are free!* Then, in gratitude for these saving gifts from God, we *freely* and gladly *serve* God and our neighbors. ***(Lutherans "get" God's gift of freedom and "get" the honor of serving God and neighbor, which is why it is a joy to be Lutherans together.)***

ONLY A FEW OF OUR NATION'S FOUNDING FATHERS WERE LUTHERAN, yet all of them seemed to have been blessed to some extent by Luther's powerful preaching and teaching on the freedom we have as children of God. This month, every month, I offer you the same calling I am trying to follow: In gratitude for the *freedom* and life our Lord has given to us, let us gladly *serve* our Lord and our neighbors.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Scott Peterson

JULY SERVICES OF WORSHIP

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

Sundays at 8:30 a.m.

July 2	WOV Bread of Life w/LS
July 9	ELW Setting 8
July 16	LBW Setting 1 w/LS
July 23	LBW Setting 2 w/LS
July 30	WOV Service of Word & Prayer

Sundays at 11:00 a.m.

July 2	LBW Setting 1
July 9	Now the Feast w/LS
July 16	Contemporary Service
July 23	LBW Setting 2 w/LS
July 30	WOV Service of Word & Prayer





Claire Strand
Director of Outreach

claire@mlutheran.org

Contact Claire Strand if you would like to announce significant transitions in the life of our community of faith, including birth, death, Baptism, graduation, Confirmation, job change, relocation, engagement, marriage, or any other life passage!

THIS MONTH

PANTRY ITEM

Bars & Crackers

KIT MINISTRY

30 Ct.
Notebooks

LIFE PASSAGES



- † Dona Lynch, Dennis Fry's mother, passed away on May 31st.
- † Bob and Judi McMillin announce the death of Bob's stepfather, Walter DiPietro on June 17th.
- † Jan Drake, Theresa Meyer's mother, passed away on June 19th.

Updates from MLC Ministries

Kit Ministry

Our Kit Ministry collects school supplies year round, but especially in July when these items are plentiful in stores and often at reduced prices. Items especially needed are blunt-end scissors and 70-count spiral notebooks. These donations can be put in the kit basket in the Narthex. Lutheran World Relief's online tracker shows that our Baby Kits were taken to Peru in April. LWR's partner in Peru cares for Peruvians who are the most vulnerable due to lack of clean water, high unemployment, or proximity to disaster areas.

On Eagles Wings

Earlier this year, thanks to your generous support, Messiah Lutheran made a contribution to On Eagle's Wings that will enable summer Bible Camps in 10 communities in the Northwest Territories. This year's theme is POP! (Promise of Presence) and will reveal to the children the many ways God keeps His promises. Camps begin July 17th. Please hold the visiting teachers, native northern teachers, children, and these communities in prayer.

Lunches for Learning

Even though graduation in Honduras doesn't take place until November, initial planning has begun for this year's trips to the ceremonies for our 2 schools, Jesus Tadeo Flores and Benito Montoya. The possible dates are November 12-15, November 15-18, or November 19-22. Please talk to Claire Strand or Pastor Scott if you are feeling a call to travel to Nacaome, Honduras as Messiah's ambassador.

(Continued on page 5)

MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT: **SS Kids**

by Claire Strand

SS Kids is an interdenominational mission project in the Madison area that provides school supplies for children who do not have them.

Messiah Lutheran Church has been part of this mission for at least 11 years. Once necessary items are collected, church youth meet to assemble the items in backpacks. Then counselors from city and county schools pick up the number of backpacks they think they will need for the upcoming year. This year we will meet on Saturday, July 29 at Rainbow Elementary at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Items needed are listed below. Please place donations in the school bus box. Any monetary gifts should be designated "**SS Kids.**"

Items needed: #2 pencils, glue sticks, wide-ruled paper, rulers, 24-ct crayons

Thanks for supporting local school children!

MUSIC NOTES

July Choir Rehearsal Schedule SUNDAYS

July 2: 8 a.m.
July 9: 10 a.m.
July 16: 8 a.m.



Lois Graff
Director of Music
Ministries

THANK YOU

Thank you to the army of volunteers that helped with Music Camp and VBS last month! You were and are a beautiful example of God's love!

Sing with the Choir

During the summer months, choir rehearsals are held on Sundays immediately preceding the service of worship at which the choir will be singing. Please come and enjoy singing and community.

Music at Messiah Classical Concert Series 2017-2018 Season

Sunday, September 24, 2017	4 p.m.	Gary Parks, oboe & Ingrid von Spakovsky, piano
Sunday, November 5, 2017	4 p.m.	Samford String Quartet
Sunday, May 20, 2018	4 p.m.	Adam Cobb, pipe organ

Hymn of the Month

"Glories of Your Name Are Spoken"

Written by John Newton (1725-1807), this hymn of praise reminds us of God's long-abiding presence with His people and the promise of life everlasting.

The hymn's tune *AUSTRIA* was composed by Franz Joseph Haydn in 1797, which was commissioned as the Austrian national anthem.

Photos from "Rockin' with the Rock!" Music Camp, and **God's Gifts of Love** VBS. View more Photos by clicking on photos

with the camera icon!



Music Camp 2017



VBS 2017 "God's Gifts of Love"



"I USED TO PLAY" WORKSHOP RESUMES AUG 10TH

Thursdays @ 7 pm Classroom | Contact Larry Frakes or call the office for info.

COUNCIL ESTABLISHES SANCTUARY PIANO FUND

Dear Members and Friends of Messiah Lutheran Church

MISSION:

As Christians in the Lutheran tradition, the people of Messiah have viewed music as a gift from God. Our Lord speaks to us through music. Music is a central part of worship, outreach, education, and fellowship. The quality of **Messiah's music program has been an important factor that helped many people to choose Messiah as their church home.** At its June 8th meeting the Church Council authorized setting up a fund to receive gifts toward replacing the Sanctuary piano. *The following information is written to explain the need and the rationale for this decision.*

HISTORY

In the mid 1990's, MLC was chosen by UAH as the 'storage place' for our current sanctuary piano. MLC enjoyed it free of charge until 2003, when we purchased it from UAH for \$10.5 K. Now 50 years old, this Baldwin Model F grand piano has served us well for over 20 years, but in the last several years it has suffered a marked decline due to age and humidity.

WHY NOT REFURBISH OUR PIANO?

Refurbishing the existing piano would involve the following:

- Restringing: Significant rust is not allowing the strings to move across metal friction points as required for tuning. There are also "false beats" in some of the strings which prevent them from ringing true, making tuning impossible.
- Reconditioning: The entire action should be rebuilt with replacement of felts, bushings, and leather.
- Regulation: Adjustment of reconditioned action and key bushings would provide the proper touch.
- Replacement of all the hammers followed by voicing is needed to give the proper sound.
- Potential repair or replacement of pins would address the anomalous tuning of some strings. There may be a problem with the bridge or pin block.
- Cleaning and restoration of soundboard and bridge would be done as needed.
- Cleaning and refinishing of cabinet might be done if desired.

+Estimated cost for refurbishing: \$15 – 20 K

PROS AND CONS

While it will be somewhat cheaper to have the Baldwin refurbished and rebuilt as needed, and we can specify quality replacement parts, it is impossible to know if the refurbished piano will have the touch and sound that we are seeking (but we will still have to pay). Touch can be adjusted if the technician is knowledgeable, but sound is difficult to control. We will be without a piano while it is being serviced, which will most likely be offsite at a technician's workshop. **We must cover the cost of shipping.**

An advantage to replacing the Baldwin is that it allows us to compare a number of instruments and select one we like with satisfactory sound and touch. The bottom line: We are more likely to know what we are getting for our money.

The cost of such an instrument will probably be on the order of \$25 K, possibly more. If we go this route, we can attempt to sell the Baldwin and hope to recoup on the order of \$3 - 5 K.

The Council established a designated account for those interested in supporting replacing of the piano. *(This will not be a part of the regular Budget.)* Offerings and pledges designated for '**Sanctuary Piano**' will go in this fund.

This Fund was initiated by gifts given in memory of Tina Hanson. When combined with recent gifts, pledges, and another music account this fund now totals \$9,324. If you have questions please talk to Lois Graff, John Shriver, or another member of the Church Council *Find a listing of members of Church Council on mlutheran.org/about-us/church-council*

~ MLC Church Council

NEWS FLASHES



SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL PACKETS

School is out! We hope all our teachers and students have a wonderful summer and take the opportunity to relax and recharge. Sunday School will **not meet in July, but that doesn't mean the kids** have to forego their Christian Education while they enjoy the lazy days of summer.

This year you can take Sunday School home with your child! Sunday School packets for students from Preschool through 8th grade are available at the Welcome Center. For students in preschool – 5th grade, the packets include eight age-appropriate activities. For students in grades 6th - 8th, activities are based on reading "The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe."

Complete your packet, bring it to Church on Rally Day Sunday, August 6th and receive a prize!

(Yes, it's a fidget spinner!)



HEY, YALL!

The next Young Adult Lutheran League event will be a family-friendly day trip to Chattanooga on July 15th.

We will be going to the Tennessee Aquarium. For those interested, several will be staying late to attend the 7:15pm Chattanooga Lookouts baseball game. Contact the Gipners or Burtons for more information.

Quilt and Kit Dedication Sunday is August 20!



MLC's Kit Ministry team meets July 13, 20, 27

at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall!

Donate supplies or dedicate offering to:
MLC Kit Ministries POC Rhonda Gaede

COMFORTERS

Contact Annette Joens concerning summer meeting work days.

MINISTRIES UPDATE: (Continued from page 2)

LEAP Academy

The LEAP (*Leaders Emerging with Amazing Potential*) Academy took place at Horizon Elementary School during the last 2 weeks of June. Thirty-five students attended and spent the 10 days learning about their personal strengths and how they can be grown into assets for education, leadership, and community involvement. Because we were part of the team that created the program, Messiah Lutheran was invited to share breakfast and lunch with the students on the inaugural first and second days of the program.

Music Camp and the Christ Kiswahili Mission of Nashville

The meaning of community was clearly defined during last month's Music Camp. Ten children from the Christ Kiswahili Mission of Nashville, many children from the Madison area, and many children from Messiah worked and played together all week as they learned about our Lord and his steadfastness. Their presentation on Sunday served as the sermon and taught us all that worshipping Christ together connects us in special relationships.

CONNECT AND VOLUNTEER

[Visit Sign Up Central](http://mlutheran.org/connect/volunteer-sign-up-page/)mlutheran.org/connect/volunteer-sign-up-page/

EXPLORE AND SHARE YOUR SPIRITUAL GIFTS!

Read the [Spiritual Gifts Guide](#) and return the survey to the church office by Rally Day, August 6th.

COUNCIL NOTES

Greg Kilby, Church Council Secretary
secretary@mlutheran.org

The Church Council met on June 8, 2017. Here are a couple of highlights from the meeting:

- The Council approved a plan for pursuing the purchase of a replacement piano for the Sanctuary. A dedicated *'Sanctuary Piano'* account has been established with a goal to raise 75-100% of the necessary funds by November. The estimated cost to replace the piano is \$25,000.
- The Council approved pursuing a three-month Sabbatical for Pastor Scott in 2018. Pastor Scott's last Sabbatical was in 2012. Pastor Scott and the Council will plan for and make arrangements over the coming months.

The next regular council meeting is Thursday, July 13, at 7:00 p.m. If you wish to attend, please do! Council meetings are open to all, and you are welcome!



Deadline is August 10!

FOOTSTEPS OF PAUL AND JOHN:

11 DAY TOUR OF GREECE

Pastor Scott Peterson will host a tour of Greece Oct. 10-20, 2017.

A brochure describing the tour is at the Welcome Center in the narthex. Or, here are links to the Website, Facebook page, and a two minute video introduction to the tour.

CHURCH
COUNCILExecutive Committee

President: Pastor Scott Peterson
scott@mlutheran.org

Vice President: Mark Thompson
vicepres@mlutheran.org

Treasurer: Marcie Emerson
treasurer@mlutheran.org

Secretary: Greg Kilby
secretary@mlutheran.org

Council Representatives

Worship and Music: Terry Frakes
worship_music_rep@mlutheran.org

Outreach: John Shriver
outreach_rep@mlutheran.org

Stewardship: Heather Neely
stewardship_rep@mlutheran.org

Education and Youth: Janell Zesinger
education_rep@mlutheran.org

Fellowship: Sonja Pedersen
fellowship_rep@mlutheran.org

Property: Pete Woods
property_rep@mlutheran.org

Finance: Andrew Gipner
finance_rep@mlutheran.org

Youth Representative: Bridie Ryan
youth_rep@mlutheran.org

Sunday School Superintendent
Devonee Woods
office@mlutheran.org

YOUTH

SENIOR HIGH YOUTH

Sara Galyon | sryouth@mlutheran.org

Coming up for Senior Youth:

- ★ July 2: No Youth
- ★ July 9: Youth meet 6:00-7:30
- ★ July 15-21: Jacksonville, FL Mission Trip
- ★ July 16: No Youth
- ★ July 23: Youth Meet 6:00-7:30

The Senior Youth of Messiah have been up to a lot lately! The month of June started out with a trip to Manna House in Huntsville to serve with the food distribution. Five youth and three adults were able to make it to our day at Manna House and were blessed by the interactions with the other volunteers and clients there.

The Tweens, Junior, and Senior Youth had a family picnic **and messy game night at the Ryans' home.** We played crazy kickball and paint twister and had an awesome night of fun and fellowship. One Senior Youth director even got a kiddie pool of shaving cream dumped on her head, so one could say the night was a definite success! A huge thank you to Larry Ryan and family for hosting this awesome (and hopefully annual) event.

The youth were also awesome servants at Messiah's Music Camp! A big thank you to all of the youth who served.

If you would like more information about Senior Youth at Messiah, please email sryouth@mlutheran.org

SUMMER YOUTH CALENDAR!

mlutheran.org/missions-and-outreach/youth-ministries/

[OR CLICK HERE](#)

LEADERSHIP CHANGE FOR JR. YOUTH AND TWEENS

Sarah Walker has resigned for health reasons as MLC's Director of the Junior Youth and Tweens groups. We are thankful for Sarah's love of children and her service to the young disciples of MLC. She hopes to continue assisting in our youth ministries in the months and years to come.

The Jr. Youth and Tweens Groups are invited to a July 4, ice cream social followed by neighborhood fireworks show at the home of Sarah and Brian Walker's home at 7 p.m. *Parents of Jr. Youth and Tweens: Expect a phone call on plans for the coming school year.*

SENIOR YOUTH (Grades 9-12)
Meet Sundays, 6-7:30 pm most weeks

JUNIOR YOUTH (Grades 6-8) &
TWEENS (Grades 3-5)

JULY 4, 7 pm Ice Cream Social at Walker's
with Neighborhood Fireworks show.
See Leadership Change note below.
Parents will be called in July.



MONTH IN PICTURES



Men of Messiah enjoy a Fish Fry @ Zesinger's



Joyful Song!

Following Music Camp presentations during worship on June 11 (and a fellowship potluck), the Christ Kiswahili Lutheran Choir sang and led others to join in!



LEAP Academy Kicks off!

See more pictures on the [LEAP Academy Facebook Page!](#)



July 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>2</p> <p>8:00 am Adult Choir 8:30 am Worship: WOV Bread of Life w/LS 9:45 a.m. Adult Sunday School Classes Meet 11:00 am Worship: LBW Setting 1</p> <p>No Youth Meeting</p>	<p>3 Office Closed</p>	<p>4 Independence Day! Jr. Youth & Tween Ice Cream Social & neighborhood fireworks at Walker's 7pm.</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> 	<p>7</p>	<p>1</p> <p>8</p>
<p>9</p> <p>8:30 am Worship: ELW Setting 8 9:45 a.m. Adult Sunday School Classes Meet 10:00 am Adult Choir 11:00 am Worship: Now the Feast w/LS</p> <p>6:00 - 7:30 pm Sr. Youth Meet</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11 10:00 am Comforters</p>	<p>12 6:30 p.m. Guitar with Ric</p>	<p>13 7:00 p.m. Council Meeting 7:00 p.m. Kit Ministries</p>	<p>14 7:00 p.m. Bridge Club</p>	<p>15 YOUTH DEPART FOR MISSION TRIP TO FL Y'ALL DAY TRIP TO CHATTANOOGA, TN</p>
<p>16</p> <p>8:00 am Adult Choir 8:30 am Worship: LBW Setting 1 w/LS 9:45 am Adult Sunday School Classes Meet 11:00 am Contemporary Worship</p> <p>No Youth Meeting</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18 10:00 am Comforters</p>	<p>19 6:30 p.m. Guitar with Ric</p>	<p>20 7:00 p.m. Kit Ministries</p>	<p>21 YOUTH RETURN FROM FL</p>	<p>22</p>
<p>23</p> <p>8:30 am Worship: LBW Setting 2 w/LS 9:45 a.m. Adult Sunday School 10:00 am Adult Choir 11:00 am Worship: LBW Setting 2 w/LS 6:00 - 7:30 pm Sr. Youth Meet</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25 10:00 am Comforters 6:30 pm Men of Messiah (MoM) (Details to be an- nounced)</p>	<p>26 6:30 p.m. Guitar with Ric</p>	<p>27 7:00 p.m. Kit Ministries</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29 SS Kids Backpack Packing at 11:00 a.m and 2 p.m. Rainbow ES</p>
<p>30</p> <p>8:30 am Worship: WOV Service of Word & Prayer 9:45 a.m. Adult Sunday School 11:00 am Worship: WOV Service of Word & Prayer</p> <p>6:00 - 7:30 pm Sr. Youth Meet</p>	<p>31</p>	<p>LOOKING AHEAD:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AUGUST 6 - RALLY DAY - SUNDAY SCHOOL KICKOFF and WURST PICNIC • AUGUST 9 - CONFIRMATION CLASSES BEGIN • AUGUST 20 - BLESSING AND SENDING OF KITS & QUILTS SUNDAY • SEPTEMBER 16 - DINNER THEATER FUNDRAISER 				

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 a.m. Sunday School is at 9:45 a.m. A nursery attendant and Children’s Church is provided. All are welcome. Our website is www.mlutheran.org. Church office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 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 Rebecca Mast at newsletter@mlutheran.org. Submissions are typically due the 3rd Sunday of every month! Submit photos to communications@mlutheran.org



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Pastor’s Page | Services of Worship
- 2 Life Passages | Mission Spotlight
- 3 Music Notes
- 4 Fund for Piano Replacement
- 5 News Flashes
- 6 Council Notes & Birthdays
- 7 Youth Page
- 8 Month in Pictures | Prayer Names
- 9 Calendar
- 10 Contact Information

Contact Information
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Office Hours: 8:00 am – 12:00 pm Monday – Friday
Staff
Rev. Scott Peterson.....Pastor
Devonee Woods, Meredith Kilby.....Office Managers
Claire Strand.....Director of Outreach Ministries
Lois Graff.....Director of Music Ministries
Sara Galyon.....Sr Youth Director
Randall Fields.....Adult Choir Director
Meredith Kilby.....Communications Director
Judy Sylvester.....Nursery Attendant
Find up-to-date information at www.mlutheran.org

