by Pastor Scott Peterson

scott@mlutheran.org



# PASTOR'S PAGE

Jesus sent the disciples out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal. He said to them, "Take nothing for your journey, no staff, nor bag, nor bread, nor money — not even an extra tunic.

-Luke 9:2-3

Dear Friends of the Living Messiah,

#### ONE PAIR OF SHOES AND ONE PAIR OF PANTS WERE ENOUGH.

A bathroom sink worked fine for washing clothes. For 25 days I lived out of a 21" bag that fit above my seat on flights to and from Germany. This "traveling light" adventure was inspired by the following excerpts from **The Gift Of Simplicity: Cut The Clutter And Save Your Soul** by David Yount:

Simplicity is Sensible.

By the world's standards, Americans appear to be acquisitive, but we are generous, too, and sensible about simplifying. You don't have to embrace poverty

like Francis of Assisi to recognize the wisdom of traveling light. When Francis appeared twelve centuries after Jesus, Christianity was virtually immured within monasteries and cathedrals. Francis recognized that faith and love reside not in buildings but in the heart. The Spirit is portable and resists being locked up.

To carry the good news of the Gospel, the friar and his followers had to be mobile, thereby enabling Christianity to break through institutional walls. Generations of believers and skeptics alike have been charmed by the friar's simplicity while sometimes suspecting him of naivete'. But Francis's spirituality was the utterly practical product of simplifying his life. The poor friar was the richest man of his time.

Simplicity begins with a leap of faith—faith in oneself and, for many, faith in their Creator. Simplicity will enable you to leap lightly. Increasingly you will find yourself living in a state of grace, finding (as Francis did) the sacred in the ordinary, the mystical in the mundane. Shedding regret for the past and concern for the future, you will begin to live fully in the present moment, which is the closest thing on earth to eternity.

Simplicity begins sensibly...You may wish to scrutinize your life for any excess baggage—not just material possessions, but affections, beliefs, and prejudices that bog you down and impede your pursuit of happiness...

Complex machines are more likely to break down than simple tools. The same is true of your life. You are seeking to establish (or reestablish) a functional, integrated life, which is a life marked by integrity. The simpler your life, the less there will be to manage or wear out because there will be fewer working parts. You will be able to concentrate on the things that produce the most satisfaction without worrying about accessories that malfunction.

<u>JESUS TRAVELED LIGHT THROUGH THIS LIFE</u>. He trusted that His Heavenly Father would provide all He needed from day to day. Indeed that is what happened. What "baggage" can we drop to be more free to serve as disciples of Jesus?

<u>IT IS GOOD TO BE BACK HOME WITH YOU!</u> My sabbatical time was filled with travel, studying, working, and rest. I will share stories about it on Sundays this fall.

<u>WE BEGIN NOVEMBER WITH OUR "PLAN FOR MISSION</u>" Congregation Meeting (formerly known as the Annual Budget Meeting). On Sunday, November 4, at 12:00 noon we will meet in the Sanctuary to act on a proposed budget that is based on our mission priorities as Messiah Lutheran Church.

Nov 25

Now the Feast w/LS

Grateful to be on this journey of faith with you!

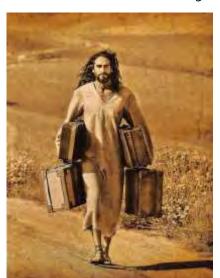
LBW Setting 2 w/LS

Pastor Scott Peterson

Nov 25









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!

Claire Strand also leads Messiah's Prayer Ministry

Pantry & Kits
PANTRY ITEM
Boxed Macaroni
& Cheese

KIT MINISTRY
4 oz bars of soap

# **OUTREACH**

# **Life Passages**

#### Marriage

+ Stephanie Pesto and David Gillespie were married.

#### **Births**

- + Keith and Jessica Bux announce the birth of their 3rd son (redacted content)
- + Diane Cline announces the birth of her 10th great grandchild (redacted content)

#### **Deaths**

- + Jeanine Jamison passed away in October.
- + Heidi Sage passed away in October.

### The Spiritual Care of People With Depression

"The Spiritual Care of People with Depression" will be presented by the HAPC School of Applied Ministry on Tuesday, November 13, 6:00-8:30 p.m. in the Community Room of First Baptist Church at 600 Governor's Dr. (Entrance 7 on the North). Presenters will be Lucy Douglas (Adult Substance Abuse Director, Wellstone Behavorial Health) and Dr. Nikki Heidelbach (Clincial Psychologist, Paragon Associates). CEUs will be available for nurses and social workers. The cost is free since Messiah Lutheran Church is a sponsoring church. Supper and registration will be at 5:30 p.m. For more information or to register please contact Claire Strand at Messiah Lutheran Church, 256-721-0041 or claire@mlutheran.org.

# **MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT: Ring and Sing turns 20**

By Claire Strand & Meredith Kilby

Messiah's Ring and Sing Program celebrates its 20<sup>th</sup> year on Sunday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018. The free public event begins at 6:30 p.m. with a light reception to follow in the Fellowship Hall. The Ring and Sing program provides an opportunity for Messiah's Notabella Bell Choir, choirs, and instrumental groups to present festive holiday music to the community. The decidedly casual, family-friendly music program lasts about an hour.

A few favorite traditions have emerged over the years. The challenging and entertaining handbell piece "Caroler's Hoedown" by the Handbell Quartet always delights! Another tradition is the audience participation numbers where the audience plays hand chimes as a few traditional Christmas carols are sung. Beyond the few stray notes that are rung, the joy of singing and ringing together is always memorable. Another tradition of the Ring and Sing is the free-will donation at the door to support the Madison County Library.

Notabella welcomes ringers 7<sup>th</sup> Grade and up. While it's naturally helpful if you know how to read music, the key ingredient for a Messiah ringer is the desire to learn and the availability to rehearse. The bell choir presents special music for Messiah's Worship Services at least once a quarter, though sometimes more frequently. Depending on the time of year, rehearsals take place either Wednesday or Sunday evening. If you or your youth have ever listened to the bell choir perform and thought it might be fun to try Notabella, contact Rhonda Gaede at <a href="majernation-gaede-quah.edu">gaeder@uah.edu</a>. All other inquiries about Messiah's vocal or instrumental ensembles can be directed to Lois Graff, Director of Music and Worship Ministries at <a href="majernation-gueen-gu





**Lois Graff**Director of Music Ministries

musicdirector@mlutheran.org

# **Messiah Musicians**Musical opportunities for all ages from Pre-K to Adult!

**Cherub Choir** Pre-K – 1<sup>st</sup> grade

**Seraph Choir** 2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade

**Guitar with Ric** 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade

**Notabella** 7<sup>th</sup> grade – Adult

**Instrumental Ensemble** 7<sup>th</sup> grade – Adult

**Adult Choir** 9<sup>th</sup> grade – Adult

**I Used to Play** 9<sup>th</sup> grade – Adult

Contemporary Band Sound Technicians Special Music

# **MUSIC NOTES**

### **Advent Mid-Week Services of Worship**

Advent services of worship will be held at 12:00 noon and 7:00 p.m. on Wednesdays December 5, 12, and 19.

### **Christmas Eve Services of Worship**

On December 24, Christmas Eve Candlelight services with the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be at 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

#### Ringers Needed!

Calling all bell and chime ringers—past, present, and future! On December 9, we will be celebrating the 20th Annual Ring and Sing! If you have rung in the past, ring currently, or would like to participate as a new ringer in this fun event, please contact Rhonda Gaede at



**gaeder@uah.edu**. Frequency of rehearsals ranges from weekly (now until December) to minimal (closer to concert time), depending on availability. Other musical groups will also be ringing, chiming, singing and playing!

#### **Talent Show!**

A Talent Show is scheduled for Saturday, January 26! Start preparing your acts! Contact Lois Graff for more information and/or to sign up.

**The Brophy Sisters Return on February 10, 2019** The next *Music at Messiah* concert is Sunday, February 10, 2019 and will feature pianist Maeve Brophy and violinist Linnaea Brophy. This will be the second time the duo have been featured performers for the series and this will be a concert you will want to attend.

# Hymn of the Month

"Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading"

Hymnwriter Wilson Niwagila (b. 1940) was born in Tanzania and studied theology in Tanzania, the United States, and Germany. Niwagila also served as the Executive Secretary for Evangelism of the United Evangelical Mission for Germany, Asia, and Africa. "Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading" appears in the blue With One Voice Hymnal in English and Swahili.

The Church Season of Pentecost reminds us that the Spirit of the Living Christ is with us in all times and places. "Come, come, come, Holy Spirit, come."



**Sara Galyon**Director of Youth and
Christian Education
Ministries

youth@mlutheran.org

# November Youth Schedule

Sr. Youth (gr. 9-12)

Nov 4 6-7:30 Youth group Nov 10 TBD Movie & Dinner Nov 11 6-7:30 youth group Nov 18 6-7:30 youth group

Jr. Youth (gr. 6-8)

Nov 11 5-6:30 youth group Nov 18 1 p.m. Bring-a-Friend Bowling

MOEs (gr. 3 - 5) Nov 17 9 a.m. McWane Science Center

### **Shop at Kroger?**

Sign up for Messiah's Community Rewards account with your Kroger Plus card. Log into your account and find the link to Community Rewards under Account Information.

If you are already enrolled, it will tell you there. If you are not, or if you would like to change to Messiah from a previous organization, you can either search for us by name or with our new number: QX185. We thank you all for your continued support of our youth!

# MLC YOUTH & EDUCATION MINISTRIES

#### No Wreath Fundraiser This Year

The youth will NOT be selling Christmas wreaths this year. We hope everyone has a great Advent and Christmas season, and we look forward to your support of our other fundraisers throughout the year.

### Senior Youth "Movie and a Meal" Nov 10

Mark your calendars for November 10 for a movie at Cineplanet 15 (2100 Hughes Rd, Madison, AL 35758) and a meal nearby at Mangia Italian Restaurant afterward. More info to come in emails as movie times are announced closer to the date. \*The Senior Youth will also meet for youth group on Nov. 4, 11, and 18—check the schedule on the left!

## Junior Youth "Bring a Friend Bowling" Nov 18

On November 18 at 1 p.m., the Junior Youth will meet at Madison Bowling Center to hang out, eat some pizza, and have fun bowling together. Everyone is encouraged to bring a friend. Cost is \$10 and includes bowling from 1-3, shoe rental, pizza, and a drink. Let Sara know if you plan to come.

\*The Junior Youth will also meet for regular youth group on Nov. 11 from 5-6:30.

**Please note:** NO 4TH SUNDAY DINNER IN NOVEMBER. Happy Thanksgiving!

### **MOEs (Messiah Older Elementary Students)**

The MOEs will be taking a trip down to Birmingham on Saturday, Nov 17 to go to the McWane Science Center. Cost is \$18 per adult and \$16 per child (unless we get a group rate). We will meet at church at 9 a.m. to caravan down together or meet at the Science Center at 10:30. MOEs will provide pizza for lunch. Families are welcome to bring extra money for snacks/drinks.

**Please let Sara know ASAP if you plan to attend.** *If you want your MOE to attend but can't go with them, just let Sara know, and we'll work it out!* 

#### Save the Date!

This Year's Children's Sunday School Program will take place on Sunday December 16, at 9:45 a.m. in the Parish Hall

**POC: Devonee Woods** 

# **NEWS FLASHES**



## COMFORTERS

Meets Tuesdays at 9 a.m. | Fellowship Hall

We are holding our annual Quilt Auction this month.

We are again accepting donations of fabric and sheets! Interested in joining the Comforters? You don't need to know how to sew! Contact Annette Joens.

Info: mlutheran.org/project/comforters

## KIT MINISTRY

Meets November 1, 8 & 15 7:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall

Students & Groups Looking for Service Hours? Contact Diane Davis or Rhonda Gaede

mlutheran.org/project/kit-ministry/

# CONGREGATION MEETING

Sunday, Nov 4, at 12:00 p.m.

All members are asked to attend and vote on the Messiah Lutheran Church **2019 Plan for Mission** 

Fellowship Potluck Luncheon will follow in Parish Hall

# Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child

Shoeboxes and instruction pamphlets can be found at MLC's Mission Control in the Narthex. Completed boxes are due back to MLC on Nov 11th. POC Claire Strand, Barbara Bishop



Messiah's Mission Crafters will sell crafts for the *Lunches for Learning* mission at the Nov. 17 Kris Kringle Market at Dublin Park Recreation Center

# Women's Book Club

Monday, Nov. 12 at 7:00 p.m. Hosted by: Lisa Bartel

To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee.

All women of MLC and friends are welcome!

POC Janell Zesinger

Dec 10 Meeting - Location TBD (Social Only)

# **Fellowship Announcements**

- A Fellowship Potluck Dinner on Nov. 4th will follow the 12:15 Congregation Meeting. Please come and join us for the Great 4 F's: Fellowship, Fun, and Fabulous Food! Bring your favorite dish to share.
- Get excited—we are gearing up for our annual Cookie Exchange in December! Look for info at the Welcome Center soon!

If you are interested in assisting in any of our events, please let me know.

Thank you,

Sonja Pedersen

### **Looking Good Into the Future!**

Our church is sounding great with the additions of a new pipe organ and piano. **Our pews, however, are showing signs of wear with fading and rips.** 

Messiah has a Facility Improvement Committee led by LeeLinda Baggett whose job is to help the Property Committee with decorating decisions. There is also a Facility Improvement Fund that has aided the Property Committee with additional revenue for expensive improvement projects. So far, the new flooring and paint for both the Fellowship and Parish Halls have come from this fund. Additional funding is always welcomed. Any contributions should be earmarked on your offering envelope for the Facility Improvement Fund. Let's keep our church looking as great as it sounds!

### Time to "Altar" Your Routine?

Are you looking for a new way to serve in our church? Consider joining the Altar Guild!

Altar Guild consists of four teams of about six ladies each that rotate throughout the year. Duties are fairly simple and because you work as a team is not too time consuming. If you are in church most Sundays, it is a rewarding way to serve the church. Second service especially is looking for responsible volunteers. For more information, please contact Jutta DeMarsh at

MDeMarsh@aol.com or talk to any Altar Guild Member.

# CHURCH COUNCIL

#### **Executive Committee**

President: Pastor Scott Peterson scott@mlutheran.com

Vice President: Mark Thompson vicepres@mlutheran.com

Treasurer: Greg Kilby treasurer@mlutheran.com

Secretary: Pam Sparks secretary@mlutheran.com

#### **Council Representatives**

Worship and Music: Taylor Burton worship\_music\_rep@mlutheran.com

Outreach: John Shriver outreach\_rep@mlutheran.com

Stewardship: Heather Neely stewardship\_rep@mlutheran.com

Education and Youth: Janell Zesinger education\_rep@mlutheran.com

Fellowship: Sonja Pedersen fellowship\_rep@mlutheran.com

Property: Pete Woods property\_rep@mlutheran.com

Finance: Dan Byers finance\_rep@mlutheran.com

Youth Representative: Zach Armstrong youth\_rep@mlutheran.com

### **OCTOBER MONTH IN PICTURES**

E-Edition viewers! Click the camera for more pictures!





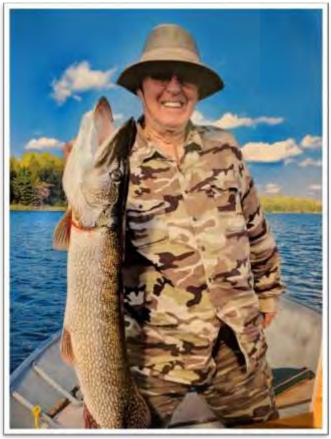
MLC's Wheelchair Ramp Team completed their 33rd ramp build on Oct. 6, helping a local homeowner who was unable to live in his home without the ramp. The team works in partnership with CASA of Madison County.





**Above:** Yakov Kasman and daughter, Dina Kasman presented an unforgettable "Music at Messiah concert on Oct 14. **Below:** The Comforters posed while sporting their Thrivent "Live Generously" T-shirts.





**Above:** While Pastor Scott did not catch the biggest northern pike on his annual fishing trip to Ontario, he did catch his cousin Bob smiling after landing this 38" beauty, (15.5 lbs.) which ended up second in the "Walter" competition.

# **Sunday School Dates to Note!**

The Children's Sunday School Christmas Program is scheduled for Sunday, Dec 16 at 9:45 a.m.

- Sunday School for Children Pre-K to Grade 12 will not meet Nov 25, Dec 23, or Dec 30
- Dottie Hanson's Adult Sunday School Class will not meet on Nov 18, Nov 25, Dec 23 or Dec 30.
- The Conversation Café' Adult Sunday School Class will not meet on Nov 25, Dec 16, 23, or Dec 30.

Visit **www.mlutheran.org/education** for updates and information about Christian Education at Messiah Lutheran Church which is updated regularly.

# **Bishop Election Conversation**

--from Dean Gary Soop of St. Mark's Lutheran, Huntsville

As our current Southeastern Synod Bishop, Julian Gordy completes his final term next year, the congregations of our SE Synod are encouraged to pray for God's guidance and participate in guided conversations regarding the Bishop election.

The initial conversations were held during plenary sessions at our Synod Assembly earlier this year. The next step is to invite the people of the congregations within each Deanery to meet, receive information, participate in small group discussions, and send the responses to our Synod office.

Watch for the date of an evening meeting when I will preside at a 2 ½ hour informative discussion at Messiah Lutheran in Madison.

In Christ's love,

**Pastor Gary Soop** 

**Did we miss something?** Do you have a new address? Dropped your landline? Have you moved away or joined another church? Please let us know by calling the church office at (256) 721-0041 or email Devonee Woods or Meredith Kilby at office@mlutheran.org

# PRAYER FAMILIES

Please lift these Messiah households in your daily prayers. On Sundays please remember to pray for the groups listed in bold.

Content Redacted for Web

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
NOV 2018	<ul> <li>Looking Ahead</li> <li>Wednesday Advent Worship begins Dec 5</li> <li>20th Annual Ring Sing Dec 9 at 6:30 p.m.</li> <li>Children's Christmas Program Dec 16 9:45</li> <li>Talent Show - Jan 26, '19</li> <li>Music at Messiah - Brophy Sisters Feb 10, '19</li> </ul>			7:00 p.m. MLC Council 7:00 pm I Used to Play Instrumental Workshop 7:00 pm Kit Ministry >>> Correction 7:00 Council Meeting	2	3 Daylight Savings Time Ends! Set clocks back one hour tonight!
4 8:30 am Worship: Now the Feast w/LS 9:45 am Sunday School for All Ages 11:00 am LBW Setting 1 w/LS 12:00 pm Congregation Meeting 12:20 Potluck in Parish Hall 6-7:30 pm Sr. Youth	5	9:00 am Comforters	5:00 p.m. 1st and 2nd Year Confirmation 5:30 pm Wednesday Night Café 6:00 pm Cherub Choir 6:00 pm Seraph Choir 6:30 pm Guitar with Ric 6:30 pm Notabella	8 7:00 pm Kit Ministry 7:00 Council Meeting	9 7:00 pm Bridge Club Fellowship Hall	10 Time TBA (PM) Sr. Youth Movie at Cineplex 15 and Dinner at Mangia Restaurant
11 Shoeboxes Due 8:30 am Worship: WOV Service of Word/ Prayer 9:45 Sunday School for All Ages 11:00 am WOV Service of Word/Prayer 5-6:30 pm Jr. Youth 6-7:30 pm Sr. Youth	12 Veteran's Day (Observed) Office Closed 7:00 pm Womens Book Club at home of Lisa Bartel	9:00 am Comforters	NO 1st and 2nd Year Confirmation classes 5:30 pm Wednesday Night Café 6:00 pm Cherub Choir 6:00 pm Seraph Choir 6:30 pm Guitar with Ric 6:30 pm Notabella 7:30 pm Messiah Choir	7:00 pm Kit Ministry 7:00 pm I Used to Play Instrumental Workshop	>>>>> Note this correction to the printed edition	17 Kris Kringle Market at Dublin Park 9 a.m. MOES meet at MLC for Trip to McWane Science Center in B'ham.
18 8:30 am Worship: Chicago Folk w/LS 9:45 am Sunday School for All Ages 11:00 am Worship: Contemporary Service w/LS 6:30 p.m. Notabella rehearsal  5-6:30 pm Jr. Youth 6-7:30 pm Sr. Youth	19 << <correction 1-3="" 11="" 8="" a="" at="" bowling="" bring="" center="" friend="" jr.="" madison="" p.m.<="" sunday="" td="" youth=""><td>20 9:00 am Comforters</td><td><b>21</b> No Wednesday activities</td><td>22 Happy Thanksgiving</td><td>23 Church Office Closed</td><td>24</td></correction>	20 9:00 am Comforters	<b>21</b> No Wednesday activities	22 Happy Thanksgiving	23 Church Office Closed	24
25 8:30 am Worship: LBW Setting 2 w/LS 9:45 am No Sunday School Today 11:00 am Now the Feast w/LS 12:15 pm Instr. Ensemble	26	9:00 am Comforters 5:30 pm Men of Messiah Location TBA	28 5:00 p.m. 1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> Year Confirmation 5:30 pm Wednesday Night Café 6:00 pm Cherub Choir 6:00 pm Seraph Choir 6:30 pm Guitar with Ric 6:30 pm Notabella 7:30 pm Messiah Choir	<b>29</b> 7:00 pm I Used to Play Instrumental Workshop	30 Quilt Auction Ends	Dec 1 Advent Begins Dec 2 ++++ Addition YALL Friendsgiving at Dana andTaylor Burton's home

Messiah Lutheran Church 7740 Highway 72 West Madison, Alabama 35758 Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Organization US Postage PAID Huntsville, AL Permit No. 454

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. Adult Sunday School is at 9:45 a.m. A nursery attendant and Children's Church is provided. All are welcome. Our website is <u>www.mlutheran.org</u>. 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



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#### **Contact Information Messiah Lutheran Church**

7740 Highway 72 West Madison, AL 35758 Phone: (256) 721-0041

Office Hours: 8:30 am – 12:00 pm Monday – Friday

#### Staff

Rev. Scott Peterson	Pastor
Devonee Woods, Mer	edith KilbyOffice Managers
Claire Strand	Director of Outreach Ministries
Lois Graff	Director of Music Ministries
Sara GalyonDire	ector of Youth & Education Ministries
Randall Fields	Adult Choir Director
Meredith Kilby	Communications Director
Judy Sylvester	Nursery Attendant

Find up-to-date information at www.mlutheran.org











