

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.



# MESSIAH LUTHERAN MESSENGER

May 2013  
Volume 25 Issue 5

*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  
Lauren Gray.....Director of Youth Ministries  
Randall Fields.....Choir Director  
Judy Sylvester.....Nursery Attendant

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May 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b> 5:00pm Confirmation 5:30 Wed Night Café 6pm Children's Choirs 6 pm Adult Bible Study 6:30pm Youth Choir 6:30pm Notabella 7:30pm Adult Choir  <i>Corwin &amp; Barbara Bishop</i>	<b>2</b> 8:30am –Study class on John's gospel   <i>Chuck &amp; Lyn Blevins</i>	<b>3</b> 9am Craft/Knitting Group   <i>Craig &amp; Linda Boehme</i>	<b>4</b>    <i>Matthew &amp; Kelli Boehme Gwen, Julian</i>
<b>5</b> 8:30am Worship: Chicago Folk w/LS 9:45am Sunday School 11am Worship: WOV Word/Prayer 12pm Congregational Meeting w/Elections Taco Luncheon 3pm Huntsville Master Chorale concert 6:30pm Sr. Youth	<b>6</b> 9:30am Moms Bible Study Group   <i>Steve &amp; Debbie Bono Taylor, Michelle</i>	<b>7</b> 10am Comforters Long Term Care Workshop & Dinner  <i>Raymond &amp; Eunjoung Bordenski</i>	<b>8</b> 5:00pm Confirmation 5:30 Wed Night Café 6pm Children's Choirs 6 pm Adult Bible Study Jam Session 6:30pm Youth Choir 6:30pm Notabella 7:30pm Adult Choir  <i>Mike &amp; Linda Boyer</i>	<b>9</b>    <i>Church Council 7pm Danny Boxx &amp; Christina Coraccio Amanda</i>	<b>10</b> 9am Craft/Knitting Group 7:30pm Bridge Club in Parish Hall Relay for Life w/MLC Team  <i>Scott Bridge</i>	<b>11</b> 1-4pm Mother's Day Eggstravaganza   <i>Ricky &amp; Rosemary Brooks Jeni</i>
<b>12</b> 8:30am Worship: LBW Setting 2 9:45am Sunday School Mother's Day Brunch 11am Worship: Now the Feast w/LS 6:30pm Sr. Youth	<b>13</b>    <i>Mary Brown Grace, Madeleine, Byron</i>	<b>14</b> 10am Comforters   <i>Greg &amp; Kerri Brown Alexandra, Savannah</i>	<b>15</b> 5:00pm Confirmation 5:30 Wed Night Café 6pm Children's Choirs 6 pm Adult Bible Study 6:30pm Youth Choir 6:30pm Notabella 7:30pm Adult Choir  <i>James &amp; Bettie Brumley</i>	<b>16</b> 8:30am –Study class on John's gospel   <i>John &amp; Mary Burke</i>	<b>17</b> 9am Craft/Knitting Group   <i>Virgil &amp; Susan Burrer</i>	<b>18</b>    <i>Keith &amp; Jessica Bux</i>
<b>19</b> 8:30am Worship: LBW Setting 2 w/LS 9:45am Sunday School Award's Day 11am Worship: LBW Setting 2 w/LS 12pm Confirmation Reception 6:30pm Sr. Youth	<b>20</b>    <i>Dan &amp; Cheryl Byers Justin, Joshua, Jonathan</i>	<b>21</b> 10am Comforters   <i>Martin &amp; Laurie Campbell Connor</i>	<b>22</b> 5:30 Wed Night Café 6pm Children's Choirs 6:30pm Youth Choir 6:30pm Notabella 7:30pm Adult Choir  <i>Dan &amp; Jill Casey Daniel, Calliope</i>	<b>23</b>    <i>Ben &amp; Leigh Cella Ryker, Adelyn</i>	<b>24</b> 9am Craft/Knitting Group   <i>Terrence &amp; Amy Chance Lauren, Terrence III</i>	<b>25</b> 2-4pm Tweens Event   <i>Doris Chojnowski Tara</i>
<b>26</b> 8:30am Worship: Bread of Life w/LS 11am Worship: Contemporary Service w/LS 6:30pm Sr. Youth	<b>27</b>    <i>Trudy Clare</i>	<b>28</b> 10am Comforters   <i>Joy Clavin</i>	<b>29</b>    6:30pm Notabella 7:30pm Adult Choir  <i>Diane Cline</i>	<b>30</b> 8:30am –Study class on John's gospel   <i>Deborah Coates Savannah, Kennan Brodeur</i>	<b>31</b> 9am Craft/Knitting Group   <i>David &amp; Camille Cobb</i>	

Looking ahead...

- June 3-7 - Music Camp
- July 15-19 - Evening VBS
- July 26 - Youth Coffeehouse



## Pastor's Page

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

*Behold, I make all things new.*  
--Revelation 21:5

Dear Disciples of the Living Messiah,

**YES, WE DO WANT PROGRESS, IT IS CHANGE WE DO NOT WANT.** You probably have heard that old saying before. The ironic twist is that ***progress always means change***. Not every change is progress, but true progress inevitably brings change. It is May, and whether we like it or not...

**MAY IS A MONTH OF CHANGE.** In our communities **Graduations** are celebrated. **Summer break** begins as school year ends.

**At MLC in May** the changes will include (in chronological order)

+**New Members** received;

+**Elections** of Officers, Council Representatives, and Sunday School Superintendent;

+**Lutheranch** pledges received for developing a life-changing outdoor ministry site; and

+**Confirmation Day** for young disciples who will affirm their Christian faith after completing two years of instruction.

**IS ALL OF THIS CHANGE PROGRESS?** At this point, only God knows. Even if it all turns out to be *progress*, the pain of *change* will still be with us. For example, Bonnie Jane and I have **celebrated** the graduations of our children, and **lamented** some of the changes that came with those graduations. In the **bigger picture**: Don't all of us wonder in midst of turbulent changes these days, "*Where is this world headed?*"

**"BEHOLD, I MAKE ALL THINGS NEW," OUR LORD ANNOUNCES.** Is that progress? YES! ABSOLUTELY! Part of you and me will fight this change because one of the changes our Lord works is putting to death that *old unbeliever* in each of us. At the same time, our Lord is raising up the **NEW BELIEVER** in you and me who rejoices as our Lord answers our prayer '*your kingdom come*'.

**WORRIED ABOUT THE FUTURE?** The daily news offers us plenty of reasons to be confused, frightened, even despairing. But, I was sent to tell you, "*The daily news will not last. The good news from our Lord will last forever.*" Jesus is alive; risen from the dead. His Holy Spirit is constantly at work to bring good and needed change in this world. And, the Lord Jesus promises to raise you up in this life and for eternity. **You and I are being made new.**

**THE QUESTION** for us as Christians is not, "*Is there hope?*" Our question is, "*How am I going to show my gratitude to God for the gift of new life?*"

**Fun!**

*Pastor Scott Peterson*

## May Services of Worship

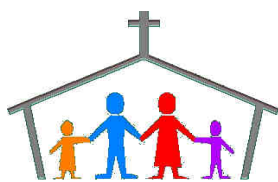
LBW = Lutheran Book of Worship WOV = With One Voice  
ELW = Evangelical Lutheran Worship LS = Lord's Supper

### Sundays at 8:30 am

May 5	Chicago Folk w/ Lord's Supper
May 12	LBW Setting 2
May 19	LBW Setting 2 w/ Lord's Supper
May 26	Bread of Life w/ Lord's Supper

### Sundays at 11:00 am

May 5	WOV Service of Word & Prayer
May 12	Now the Feast w/ Lord's Supper
May 19	LBW Setting 2 w/ Lord's Supper
May 26	Contemporary Service w/ Lord's Supper



## 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.

**BIRTH:** Keith and Jessica Bux announce the birth of Evan Joseph Bux on November 12, 2012.

**BAPTISMS:** Matthew Harrison Alferink was Baptized on April 14<sup>th</sup>.  
Danielle Elizabeth Blue was Baptized on Easter Sunday, March 31.  
Evelyn Marie Roberts was Baptized on Easter Sunday, March 31.

**GRADUATES:** 2013 High School Graduates:

- Luke Myers
- Adam Neely
- Ally Pesto
- Gina Saladino
- Shaun Scheurich
- Michael Spence
- William Strand
- Rachel Weir

Recent College Graduates:

- Ben Azzam - BS in Industrial Design, Auburn
- Noah Myers - Major in Entertainment Technology, University of N. Alabama
- Adam Myers- Major in Business and Marketing, University of Alabama
- Leah Pedersen - BS - Major in Social Work with a Psychology minor, University of Montevallo
- Stephanie Pesto - Bachelor of Science degree in Music Education, University of Alabama
- Sandy DeMarsh – Nursing, UA-Huntsville

**DEATHS:** Tim Maloney, Sue Doubleday's brother, passed away on March 4<sup>th</sup>.  
Sue Hofer's mother Dorothy Richter passed away on April 15<sup>th</sup>.  
Jim Hofer's brother Ronny Hofer passed away on April 19<sup>th</sup>.



## Fellowship Committee News

By Mary Ann Stasiak

All females are invited to the **Mothers' Day Eggstravaganza** Saturday May 11<sup>th</sup>, 1-4 PM in Parish Hall. Come by yourself, or bring a parent or child. In addition to enjoying anything made with an egg (egg salad, cake, cookies, deviled eggs, etc), we will also decorate eggshell ornaments. Please look for the sign up sheet in the Narthex or contact Mary Ann Stasiak for more information.

**Bridge Club** will be held Friday May 10<sup>th</sup> 7:30 PM in the Parish Hall. New and experienced bridge players welcome! If you've started learning bridge a little, want to learn more, need a refresher, or just need some practice before you start to play again, this was meant for you!! Bring a friend and a snack to share! Contact Mary Ann and Ed Stasiak.

On Sunday May 19<sup>th</sup>, we will celebrate the new Confirmands on Confirmation Sunday after the 2<sup>nd</sup> service in Parish Hall. Help for the reception from the 8<sup>th</sup> grade class would be much appreciated so the Confirmand families can relax and enjoy the event.

Elaine Shriver has made every Friday into **Craft Day** – knitting lessons, knitting fellowship, just hang out with buddies and knit. Join Elaine and fellow crafters every Friday, 10-11 at Messiah.

**OWLS:** Watch for more details on upcoming OWLS events.

Starting at the end of May, Fellowship will be responsible for Summer Coffee between services.

**Future Events:**

- Father's Day event at the Huntsville Botanical Garden

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

## Outreach News

### **Cinco de Mayo Taco Lunch!**

Please join us on Sunday, May 5, after the Congregational Meeting for our Annual *Lunches for Learning* Taco Lunch to support our mission school, Benito Montoyo, in El Barrial Honduras. To-go boxes will be available if you cannot stay with us to eat!

### **Mother's Day Brunch**

Treat Mom, and yourself, to a special brunch Sunday, May 12, during the Sunday School hour. Enjoy quiche, spring salad and fruit crepes in the Parish Hall, or take with you to your favorite Sunday School class. Proceeds will benefit Messiah's Weekend Food Program Ministry at Liberty Middle School.

### **Annual Rummage Sale**

Thank you to all who helped make Messiah's Annual Rummage Sale on April 20 a huge success. Over \$1400 was raised to benefit the local Habitat for Humanity mission. A special thank you to Paulette McNamara and Annette Joens for their dedication and hard work!

### **Food Panty Collections**

Help is needed delivering food collected by the congregation to the St. Mark's Food Pantry in downtown Huntsville, approximately once a month, at your convenience! Contact Janell Zesinger if you can help!

## International Habitat for Humanity

*By Susan Burrer*

### **Habitat for Humanity—Global Village**

Partners in Faith project—building 15 houses and Cristo Rey Lutheran Church in El Salvador.

Messiah's recent contribution: **\$5,306.64**—enough to build well over *half* of an ENTIRE house in El Salvador! The plant/yard/bake sale generated \$2,259 + \$1,000 matching Thrivent funds, and half of the Lent offering was \$2,047.64.

Thanks to Thrivent Financial for their generous match and to Messiah for supporting this project. May you be blessed in helping change a family's life forever!

### **DON'T MISS IN MAY...**

\*CONGREGATION MEETING WITH ELECTIONS on May 5<sup>th</sup> at Noon  
with Taco Luncheon for *Lunches for Learning* mission afterwards

\*STANDING ON THE PROMISE SUNDAY, May 12<sup>th</sup>

\*CONFIRMATION SUNDAY, Pentecost Day, May 19<sup>th</sup>

## Music Notes

By Lois Graff

### Music Camp June 3 - 7

Music Camp week 2013 is June 3 - 7, with presentations on June 9. This year's musical is "*God Goes Fishing: the Story of Jonah*" which emphasizes that God is angling for all people to be His children. The camp lasts from 9 am - 4 pm each day. Campers will participate in music, drama, arts & crafts, recreation and a snack in the morning. After lunch, they will enjoy an activity (roller skating, bowling, swimming, etc.) The cost is \$75 per child. Invite your friends! Adult and youth helpers are needed. Please contact Lois Graff if you can help.

### Learn, Share and Teach your Favorite Contemporary Songs

Twice in May on Wednesday evenings, an informal, acoustic get-together will be held for those interested in playing and singing contemporary music. For Sr. Youth and Adult guitar, bass, keyboard, flute, violin, drum players and vocalists. Talk to Bob Davis or Lois Graff if interested or come to the next rehearsal on May 8 at 6:30 pm in the Parish Hall.

### Youth Coffeehouse

Sr. Youth (including upcoming 9<sup>th</sup> graders), recent graduates and college students ...enjoy food, fellowship and music at the 4th annual Youth Coffeehouse on Friday, July 26. Share your talents and just have fun being together. Contact Lois Graff for more information.

### Huntsville Master Chorale

On May 5 at 3pm, the Huntsville Master Chorale will be performing their concert, *Gems of Spanish Choral Literature* in the sanctuary. The concert is free although free will donations are accepted. At 2:30pm, there will be a pre-concert lecture.

## Council Highlights

Discussed at the April Council Meeting:

1. "*Standing on the Promise*" Appeal for Lutheranch is a 3-year campaign. Pledges will be accepted April 14 to May 12. There are four ways to give. See the MLC newsletter or speak to Glen Long for more details.
2. The Landscaping Committee, headed by Pete Woods, has spent a lot of time on the landscaping around the church. It looks beautiful and we want to thank the committee!
3. Congregation Meeting with Elections and approval of Annual Reports will be on Sunday, May 5 after the 11:00 service. A Taco Luncheon will follow with proceeds benefitting the "*Lunches For Learning*" mission.

## Stewardship Thought

from *What If?* By Pastor Deb Stehlin



“What if church could become a place where we can learn together how not to be afraid?” “Can we come out of isolation and into community and figure this out?” If the church is about Good News, then this Good News must also extend to our life with money. Right? The story we ground ourselves in rests in the promise that we are never alone, and that God is trustworthy. The Spirit is always calling us out of the lie of isolation and into community. The Biblical message tells us that we are given enough for this day; and that God believes in us enough to make us stewards. Jesus tells us that a life given away is what gives it all meaning. This is Good News.

So here’s my big question: What if church becomes the place where people can hear this really good news, and also learn things about money that haven’t been taught by parents or schools? What if church is the place where you are invited to make a realistic budget? What if church is the place where you can align the way you use money with your deepest values? **What if church is the place where you discover that your money has power to change the world when you give it away?**

*Trust in the Lord with all your heart.... Proverbs 3:5a*

## News Flashes!



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



### GRADUATIONS!!!

We have 8 students graduating high school...Outreach will be providing baskets again this year if you would like to contribute to them. Items such as towels, pizza cards, detergent, etc. are helpful at college. The baskets will be near Claire's office in the hall between the Parish Hall and the Education wing.

The **Standing on the Promise** campaign for Lutheranch began on 14 Apr. Pledge Sunday is set for 12 May. Messiah has set a goal of \$36,000 as our part to build a Retreat Center at Lutheranch. Prior to campaign start, MLC members pledged ~\$13,000. Help us meet the goal so we can provide a facility for our youth and adults in the Southeastern Synod. If you wish to contribute early, pledge materials and information are located in the Narthex - or see Glen Long.

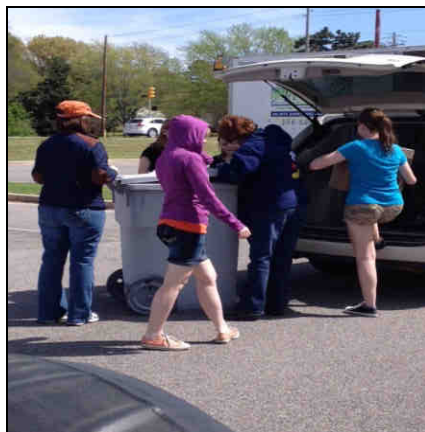
## Youth Zone

By Lauren Gray youth\_director@mlutheran.org

### Relay for Life! May 10<sup>th</sup>-May 11<sup>th</sup> from 6pm-6am!

Messiah's Sr. Youth are joining the rest of the Messiah team and raising funds for the American Cancer Society! If you'd like to join in or donate, talk to Lauren Gray or Lisa D'Antonio.

Below are some pictures of the *Serving the City As One* event that took place on Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup>:



### Tweens Event!!

Tweens are meeting on May 25<sup>th</sup> from 2-4pm! Come enjoy some ice cream sundaes and play some fun board games!!

### Post 30 Hour Famine...

This year's 30HF was a great success! We had 24 Jr. and sr. youth participate in the fast and help lead worship!! We have also gone over our goal of raising \$1,000.00 which is amazing! Thank you to Pastor Scott, Lois, the chaperones, and parents who also made this 30HF weekend a victory!!



## Month in Pictures - April

*Weekend Food program pictures  
from March 28*



## Thriving with Thrivent

**Thrivent Financial for Lutherans named as one of “The World’s Most Ethical Companies” for second straight year**

*Organization recognized for demonstrated leadership in ethical business practices*

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans has been selected as one of the 2013 “World’s Most Ethical Companies” by the Ethisphere Institute. Thrivent Financial was named to the prestigious list for the second consecutive year as a result of its leadership in promoting ethical business standards as well as for introducing innovative ideas to benefit the public.

**A.M. Best affirms Thrivent Financial for Lutherans A++ (Superior) rating with stable outlook**

*Agency cites strong capitalization and market presence as well as positive earnings results*

A.M. Best has affirmed Thrivent Financial for Lutherans A++ (Superior) rating as well as its stable outlook. The A++ (Superior) rating is the highest of the ratings agency’s 16 ratings categories. A.M. Best cited Thrivent Financial’s strong risk-adjusted capitalization, its favorable and increasing earnings trend, rising assets under management, and its strong affinity and name recognition within its Lutheran policyholder base as the primary reasons for its affirmation. It also noted that Thrivent Financial’s overall sound liquidity profile and its ability to meet policyholder obligations remains very strong.

For more information about Thrivent Financial, contact your local Thrivent Financial representatives at **(256) 883-5509**, or visit [www.Thrivent.com](http://www.Thrivent.com).

## Feature Family – The Armstrong's



Hello from the Armstrong family! We moved to Madison in 2005 and joined Messiah shortly after.

Tracy and Staci met in high school marching band in Derby, Kansas. We dated for five years before getting married almost 20 years ago.

Tracy enlisted in the Army after high school graduation and served as a medic for eight years before beginning his college career. He earned a B.S. degree in both Biology and Chemistry from the University of North Carolina at Pembroke in 2004. After moving here, Tracy earned a Masters degree in Chemistry and PhD in Biotechnology from UAH. He commuted for a year to Jasper, Alabama, but has recently moved to Houston and is working as an analytical scientist at Kraton Polymers. The rest of the family hopes to follow this summer.

Staci earned her Bachelor of Science in Biology from McNeese State University in 1995 and her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine from Kansas State University in 1999. She has served as a small animal veterinarian since then and is currently employed at Whitesburg Animal Hospital. Outside of work, she keeps busy with the kids and volunteered as treasurer for the Cub Scout pack. At Messiah, she is currently serving on the Altar Guild and is the Acolyte Coordinator.

Will is twelve and is in the sixth grade at Williams Middle School. He is active in Boy Scouts and has earned his First Class rank over the last year. He serves as an Acolyte and is a member of the Junior Youth group.

Zach will be eleven in May. He is in the fifth grade at Providence Elementary. He recently bridged to Boy Scouts also and sings in the chorus at school. He serves as an Acolyte and is a member of the Tweens group at Messiah.

We have enjoyed our time in Madison and feel blessed to have been a part of the Messiah family.

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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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**May 2013**  
**Volume 25, Issue 5**

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 May 18<sup>th</sup>.