

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 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Sunday School is at 9:45 a.m. A nursery attendant is provided. All are welcome. **Our website is [www.mlutheran.org](http://www.mlutheran.org).** Church Office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., staffed by our Office Managers. The Pastor is Rev. Scott Peterson. Pastor/Developer is Rev. Mark Borseth. The Church telephone is (256) 721-0041 email: [info@mlutheran.org](mailto:info@mlutheran.org). For newsletter articles contact Mary Brown.

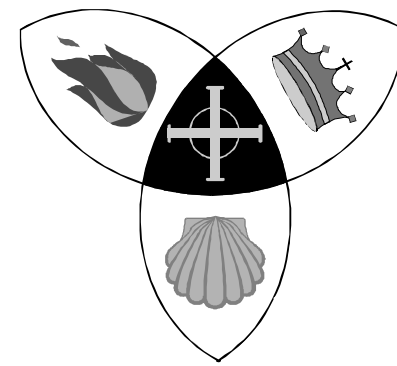
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# MESSIAH LUTHERAN MESSENGER

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September 2011



## ***Mozart's Requiem***

Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup> @ 2pm  
Bob Jones High School Auditorium

**In Honor and Remembrance of our Heroes**

*"Do this in remembrance of me."*  
--Jesus, when giving disciples the Lord's Supper

Dear Friends of the Reigning Messiah,

**HOW DO WE HONOR OUR HEROES?** Parades are nice. Annual remembrances are common. But, **the best way to honor a person is by conforming our lives to the values and behaviors of our heroes.** That way we honor them **everyday** rather than just once a year. And, as we seek to live as our heroes live(d) our Lord is honored, our neighbors are served, and God's good creation is nurtured.

**On Sunday, 9/11/2011, at 2:00pm Mozart's Requiem will be presented in the Bob Jones High School auditorium.** *The title of the program is "In Remembrance" and is free and open to the public.* MLC has taken the initiative to organize, produce, and lead this concert. It is dedicated to honoring the *First Responders* who gave their lives in the tragic events of ten years ago and to honor *First Responders* everywhere today. *Please come to honor these heroes and to support those who have poured many hours, weeks, and months into preparing this gift for our community.*

**WHAT ABOUT HONORING OUR GREATEST HERO?** Jesus, on the night in which He was betrayed, gave His disciples for all times and places a way to remember and honor Him. Our focus in the Lord's Supper is upon the gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation which Jesus gives us in that holy meal. Yet...

**WE HONOR JESUS** not only by believing He is present as we receive His gifts, but also **by imitating** the way that Jesus lived and died. Jesus fed the hungry, healed the sick, and taught everyone who would listen. **Above all** though, Jesus announced, *"Repent, for the Kingdom of God is at hand."* Our Lord's reign is filled with mercy and justice and grace upon grace. What a great Lord we have! What a privilege we have to honor Him by lives lived with mercy, justice, and grace which point others toward **our Hero.**

Grace and peace,  
Pastor Scott Peterson

## Education News by Linda Peirce

**SUNDAY SCHOOL...**has resumed at 9:45 a.m. for all ages 2-adult.

First and Second year Confirmation classes will began Wednesday, August 31 at 5 p.m. with Pastor Scott teaching 2nd Year Confirmation and Laurie Campbell teaching 1st Year Confirmation. First Year Confirmation is for youth entering the 8th grade and older. For more information about Confirmation classes, please contact Pastor Scott.

Senior Youth meet every Sunday evening at 6:30 at the church. The Senior Youth wish to welcome Liz Vaughn who has offered to help as an adviser this year.

Tweens (grades 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>) meet Friday Sept 9<sup>th</sup> in the Fellowship Hall to play "Minute to Win It"! Bring a friend and a snack to share!

Youth Director Update--I wish to thank all the Senior and Junior Youth and their parents for giving Lauren Gray, candidate for Messiah's Youth Director, such a warm reception when she visited us on August 17.

Messiah's Church Council will meet Sept. 1 to consider making a recommendation regarding Lauren's employment at MLC. More information will be forthcoming.

### NEW ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

**The Gospel of Matthew**, beginning 9/11 led by Pastor Scott, will be studied in this eight week class. Matthew is the source for most of the assigned gospel readings we hear in worship this year. We will study the background, structure, and key themes in Matthew and relate them to that Sunday's gospel reading. All adults are invited. You need not attend every session to be in this class. Come any Sunday you can. We probably will meet in the Fellowship Hall or Parish Hall.

**A Spiritual Life: Perspectives from Poets, Prophets, and Preachers** led by Bonnie Jane Peterson. This book contains 24 chapters each set up to be individual readings with an opportunity for discussion. There are two dozen compelling writers including Sheri Reynolds, Gail Godwin, Richard Osmer, & many others. Each person is responsible for purchasing a book on the web site of their choice. Any questions please contact Bonnie Jane.

**The Epistles: An Ongoing Study**, led by Dottie Hanson.

Please contact Gary Garrison at 256-464-6761 for more information about the Christian education classes Messiah offers.

### Thank you from Lois

Thank you for the outpouring of love and support you have given to Jeff's family, my extended family and me. You have anticipated our needs in every way and your prayers have been a tremendous source of strength and comfort. Thank you for showing Christ's love to us.

Lois Graff

## ***Incarnation Information - September 2011***

### ***"Deeper and Wider"***

- Ezekiel 47 shares a vision of a river flowing from the temple that gets deeper and wider the further it goes from the building. Where that river goes it brings life, provision and healing. In John 7:37-39, Jesus refers to this prophecy, but redefines the place of origin of the river. It does not come out of the innermost part of the temple building, but from the innermost part (belly) of the one who believes in him. To me, that is a wonderful picture of what I hope the ministry of Incarnation will be like to our community. We – believers in Jesus who have been filled with the Holy Spirit – are to be the contact points for God's life, provision and healing for people. Our ministry is not just about what happens in the building but also includes what happens as we move away from the building.

This Fall our ministry will focus on helping us grow **deeper** in our relationship with Jesus and with each other and on helping our impact to grow **wider** as we become contact points for God's life, provision and healing in our community.

If you want to grow deeper in your relationship with God and other Christians, come join us at Incarnation this Fall. If you want to see the impact of your faith grow wider as you live it out wherever you go, come join us at Incarnation this Fall. Maybe you don't plan on permanently leaving your current church, but you sense God calling you to travel for a season with us. This Fall is a great time to travel with us and help us root more deeply in our community and increase our ability to be a blessing to our community.

We need your prayers and support as we continue this journey of starting a new church. If you would like to be part of our prayer team, you can follow us on Facebook at "Incarnation Prayer" or receive email prayer updates (contact me – Pastor Mark - at [pastorilc@incarnation-elca.org](mailto:pastorilc@incarnation-elca.org) to be added to the list).

Pray that God would provide not just finances, but also workers who will go with us into the Harvest. Maybe the answer to your prayers for us will be that God will call you to provide financial support. Maybe the answer to your prayer that God will send workers into His Harvest will be that He will send you.

God's work in and through Incarnation will be growing deeper and wider this Fall. May we touch many people with the waters of God's life, provision and healing. Thanks for your partnership!!!!

### **Men's Breakfast – Saturday, September 10 at 7 AM at Ford's Chapel United Methodist Church**

Our next Men's Breakfast will be on Saturday, September 10 at 7 AM at Ford's Chapel United Methodist Church (one mile west of Sparkman HS). Come join us for a great breakfast, good fellowship & a time of devotions and prayer. If you have questions or want to provide breakfast, contact Pastor Mark (256-230-5387 or [pastorilc@incarnation-elca.org](mailto:pastorilc@incarnation-elca.org)).



## **September Services of Worship**

LBW = Lutheran Book of Worship

WOV = With One Voice LS = Lord's Supper

### **Sundays at 8:30am**

**Sept. 4** Chicago Folk w/LS

**Sept. 11** LBW Setting 2

**Sept. 18** WOV Bread of Life w/LS

**Sept. 25** WOV Service Word/Prayer

### **Sundays at 11:00am**

**Sept. 4** LBW Setting 1

**Sept. 11** Now the Feast w/ LS

**Sept. 18** Contemporary Service

**Sept. 25** LBW Setting 2 w/LS



### **LIFE PASSAGES**

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 will be included. Contact Claire Strand.

**BIRTH:** *Lord, you knit me together in my mother's womb. Psalm 139:13*

- Pastors Amanda and Horacio Castillo of the Lutheran Church in Guatemala announce the birth of their son Joaquin Alejandro Castillo on August 13th. He started out at 7 pounds and 20 inches

**BAPTISM:** *Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them..." Matthew 28:19*

- Madelyn Sharon McKnelly, daughter of Tim and Nicole McKnelly, was baptized on August 14th.
- Thomas Kerlin Seitz, son of Lee and Dorothy Seitz was baptized August 28th.

**DEATH:** *Remember I am with you always to the end of the age. Matthew 28:20*

- Jeffrey Mark Graff passed away on August 24<sup>th</sup>. The Memorial Service was Sunday, August 28 at MLC. Memorials may be designated to the Pipe Organ fund or ILAG (Lutheran Church in Guatemala).

**BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS – SATURDAY, OCT. 1<sup>ST</sup> AT 1:00PM WE WILL GATHER NEAR THE PARISH HALL ENTRY. BRING YOUR PET FOR A BLESSING.**

### **Walk for Diabetes**

**Sunday, September 18 at Dynetics (registration 1:00 & walk 2:30)**

Nathan Borseth and Incarnation Lutheran Church want to invite you to join us as we walk to raise funds to find a cure for juvenile diabetes. If you want to make a donation or join our team, talk to Pastor Mark or Nathan Borseth. Or you can donate or join the team by going to <http://www.jdrf.org/> (once at the site, click on "get involved" and then click on "walk for diabetes." You can then find Nathan Borseth or the team "Nathan's Minions" to join the team or make a donation.) THANKS!



## FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE NEWS

by Mary Ann Stasiak

**Wednesday Night Café** – Thanks so much to Debi Peterson for taking the reins of this important ministry at Messiah, along with “boots on the ground” help from Elaine Shriver. Please support Debi and the team of people who take their time to provide

dinners for Messiah by taking responsibility for cleaning up your table when you are done with dinner. There is no “other clean up team” - YOU are the clean up team. With continued use of Parish Hall as our sanctuary, please help make Wednesday Night Café an enjoyable experience for all by cleaning your table area and your children’s table if they sit at another one.

**Messiah Mugs** will take on a new shape this year. Messiah Mugs will be produced by different groups at Messiah on a month-by-month basis as a fundraising effort. The month of August was a fundraiser for Fellowship and Kit Ministry, September is a fundraiser for Outreach programs, and October will be a fundraiser for the Youth Group. Rhonda Gaede is overall coordinator for training each group and maintaining supplies, and Sunday production of the coffee and clean up will be the responsibility of the group sponsoring the fundraising efforts. Thanks for your support of the Kit Ministries last month and Outreach programs in September, and we look forward to supporting the Youth Group in October. Does your group want to do Messiah Mugs as a fundraiser? Contact Mary Ann Stasiak.

**OWLs (Older Wiser Lutherans)** will have their first event of the 2011-2012 year at Funtasia Putt Putt Miniature Golf on Saturday September 24<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM. Funtasia Putt Putt is at 2016 N. Memorial Parkway. Please see Jan Murphy for more info.

**Bridge Club** has moved permanently to 7:30 PM on the second Friday of every month in the Parish Hall, with an exception of September. We’ll hold bridge on 1<sup>st</sup> Friday so that the members can participate in rehearsal of the 9/11 Requiem performance. **We are adding an additional day – 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays after 2<sup>nd</sup> service – to accommodate players who can’t make Friday nights.** New and experienced bridge players welcome! Bring a friend and a snack to share. Contact Mary Ann and Ed Stasiak.

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



A Joyous  
celebration!

**Jim & Ellie Nelson** invite the Messiah Family to help them celebrate 50 years of marriage, on September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2011. An Open House will be held in the Parish Hall from 2-4 p.m. Your presence is their gift.

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**For The Handmade Market!**  
**Saturday, October 22, 2011**  
**9 am - 4 pm**

Come and purchase handmade gifts for Christmas, Birthdays, or special occasions. All items are handmade by the very talented Messiah members and local residents. Last year we had over 30 generous and wonderful contributors. We had over 779 items for sale and we raised over \$4000 for our *Lunches For Learning* mission! Come join us for a day of fun, shopping, and lunch.

As crafters, we end up accumulating materials in our homes, so let’s clean up our closets and drawers to feed our Honduran children with our hands, hearts, and work. In the past we have had knitting, crocheting, cooking, canning, wood work, framed paintings, photography, wood carving, quilted items, sewing, stationary, holiday crafts, jewelry.

If you would like to donate any of your crafts or cooking please contact Jackie Myers. We will begin collecting non-perishable items the beginning of October.



## Music Choirs & Ensembles

Sing, Ring, and Play! Enjoy music and glorify God by being active in a musical group at Messiah. The choirs meet on Wednesdays and Sundays and there is always room for more! For information, email Lois Graff.

Cherub Choir (Grades K-1)	Wednesday 6:00-6:30pm Director Taylor Bono
Seraph Choir (Grades 2-6)	Wednesday 6:00-6:30pm Directors Randall Fields, Claire Strand
Youth Choir (Grades 7-12)	Wednesday 6:30-7:00 pm Directors Audrey & Bob Gustafson
Adult Choir	Wednesday 7:30-9:00 pm Director Randall Fields
Notabella Choir	Wednesday 6:30-7:30 pm Director Rhonda Gaede
Cantabile Choir	Sunday 5:30-6:30 pm Director Rhonda Gaede
Instrumental Ensemble	Sunday 12:15-1:15 pm Director Lois Graff

## Messiah Kit Ministry

In an ongoing effort, the Messiah Kit Ministry is continuing to assemble school kits, health kits, and layette kits.

HOW CAN YOU HELP? Donate items for the kits.

The following items are in especially short supply at this time.

### Layette Kits

Receiving Blankets!!!  
Hand Towels (in dark colors)  
Bath Towels (in dark colors)  
Baby Socks  
Infant Sleepers - no feet

### School Kits

24 count Crayons  
Wooden Pencils  
Blunt Scissors  
Ballpoint Pens (NO GEL)  
70 count Notebooks

All volunteers are welcome to help assemble kits on Thursday evenings at 7:00pm.

**BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS – SATURDAY.**  
**OCT. 1<sup>ST</sup> AT 1:00PM WE WILL GATHER NEAR THE PARISH**  
**HALL ENTRY. BRING YOUR PET FOR A BLESSING.**

## Stewardship Thought



From “*Stewardship at Jacob's Well*” by Mike Rusert, M.Div., Intern

There are three indispensable qualities that younger generations seek in a church community:

- authenticity
- compassion
- self-sustainability

These qualities not only “get people in the door,” but they develop the trust that is necessary for self-giving.

First, we desire an **authentic community** where we do not have to pretend to be something we are not, but one that accepts us as whole persons. A church that claims to be made entirely of saints/sinners asking the hard questions of life and faith together is a community that we could see ourselves being a part of—a community where we could invest ourselves.

Secondly, we desire a **compassionate community** that seeks to change lives (both inside and outside of the community) for the better through listening ears and serving hands and feet. When God brings the water of new life to us, we cannot help but respond with gratitude and love for God and neighbor. Our church communities have to function as spring rains, bringing the waters of new life to the dead, dry creek beds.

Third, we desire a **self-sustaining community** that seeks to live within its means—a community focused on making the most of the resources they already have. This starts when we acknowledge that God is the source of our entire being. We are fully equipped and gifted stewards entrusted with the task of loving God, our neighbors and ourselves every hour of every day.

Ultimately, this is about creating a culture. The church of today and the church of the future cannot run on the quick fixes. True stewardship does not allow for them to do so anyway. We have to consistently and authentically speak and model these truths:

- All that we have belongs to God.
- If all that we have is God's, then what we do in every area of our lives matters.
- God has been compassionate to us and so we are called to be compassionate to others—to be water in the desert, to bring new life to dead places.
- What we need to love and serve others is what God has already provided us.

# September 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				<b>1</b>  8:30am Morning Study Group  <i>Geoff &amp; Jennifer Oltmans Madelyn, Hadley</i>	<b>2</b>  7:30 pm Bridge Club  <i>Brian &amp; Audrey Osterndorf Lydia, Hannah</i>	<b>3</b>  <i>Carol Padinha</i>
<b>4</b>  8:30am Worship Chicago Folk w/LS 9:45 No Sunday School 11:00am Worship: LBW Setting 1	<b>5 Labor Day</b>  <i>Joe Paxton Nathan</i>	<b>6</b>  10:00 am Comforters  <i>Paul &amp; Julie Pedersen Lorelie, Leah, Christopher</i>	<b>7</b>  5pm Confirmation 5:30 – 6:30 Church Dinner 6:00pm Children’s Choirs 6:30pm Youth Ensemble 6:30pm Notabella Bell Choir 7:30 Adult Choir  <i>Phil &amp; Sonja Pedersen Heidi, Heather</i>	<b>8</b>  <i>Steve &amp; Linda Peirce</i>	<b>9</b>  TWEENS meet at 6:00 PM in Fellowship Hall  <i>Jay &amp; Gretchen Perry Jayson, Ashlyn</i>	<b>10</b>  7 am Men’s Breakfast at Ford’s Chapel United Methodist Church  <i>Jeanine Pesto</i>
<b>11</b>  8:30am Worship LBW Setting 2 9:45 Sunday School 11:00am Worship Now the Feast w/ LS  <b>2:00 Mozart’s Requiem</b>	<b>12</b>  <i>Kevin &amp; Debi Peterson Shane, Amanda</i>	<b>13</b>  10:00 am Comforters  <i>Laura Peterson</i>	<b>14</b>  5pm Confirmation 5:30 – 6:30 Church Dinner 6:00pm Children’s Choirs 6:30pm Youth Ensemble 6:30pm Notabella Bell Choir 7:30 Adult Choir  <i>Scott &amp; Bonnie Jane Peterson Paul</i>	<b>15</b>  8:30am Morning Study Group  <i>Doris Reynolds</i>	<b>16</b>  <i>Jonianne &amp; Mark Ridzelski- McCombs Brooke, Sebastian</i>	<b>17</b>  <i>Nicholas &amp; Marty Rinyu Tabitha</i>
<b>18</b>  8:30am Worship WOV Bread of Life w/LS 9:45 Sunday School 11:00am Worship Contemporary Service  2:00 Nelson 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Open House	<b>19</b>  <i>Art Rockett</i>	<b>20</b>  10:00 am Comforters  <i>Betty Roenfeldt</i>	<b>21</b>  5pm Confirmation 5:30 – 6:30 Church Dinner 6:00pm Children’s Choirs 6:30pm Youth Ensemble 6:30pm Notabella Bell Choir 7:30 Adult Choir  <i>Dale &amp; Tammy Rohe Whitney</i>	<b>22</b>  <i>Bob &amp; Peggy Rowell</i>	<b>23</b>  <i>Linda Ruhl</i>	<b>24</b>  7pm OWLS Miniature Golf at Funntasia Putt Putt  <i>Heidi Sage</i>
<b>25</b>  8:30am Worship WOV Word/Prayer 9:45 Sunday School 11:00am Worship LBW Setting 2 w/LS New Member Reception Noon: Bridge Club	<b>26</b>  <i>Chuck &amp; Judy Scheibly</i>	<b>27</b>  10:00 am Comforters  <i>Norm &amp; Sheilah Scheurich Jennifer, Shaun</i>	<b>28</b>  5pm Confirmation 5:30 – 6:30 Church Dinner 6:00pm Children’s Choirs 6:30pm Youth Ensemble 6:30pm Notabella Bell Choir 7:30 Adult Choir  <i>Stefan &amp; Allie Schmidt</i>	<b>29</b>  <i>Dan &amp; Carolyn Scrogginx Ben, Chase, Lydia</i>	<b>30</b>  <i>Lee &amp; Dorothy Seitz Walter, Andrew, Hannah, Thomas</i>	<b>OCT. 1</b> <b>Blessing of the</b> <b>Animals</b>  <b>NEWSLETTER</b> <b>DEADLINE</b>  <b>Sunday</b> <b>September 18</b>