

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.



MESSIAH LUTHERAN MESSENGER

September 2015
Volume 27 Issue 9

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, Devonee WoodsOffice Managers
Claire Strand.....Director of Outreach Ministries
Lois Graff.....Director of Music Ministries
Randall Fields.....Choir Director
Meredith Kilby.....Communications & Media Coordinator
Judy Sylvester.....Nursery Attendant

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www.mlutheran.org

September 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 <i>Peggy Hanna</i>	2 5pm 1 Yr Confirmation 6pm 2 Yr Confirmation 5:30pm Dinner 6pm Children's Choirs 6:30pm Notabella 7:30pm Adult Choir <i>Mark & Dottie Hanson</i>	3 <i>Tina Hanson</i>	4 <i>Gary & Linda Heideman</i>	5 <i>Doug Hendrick & Gloria Zalatan James, Madison</i>
6 Youth Sunday 8:30am Worship: LBW Setting 2 11am Worship: WOV Service of Word/Prayer	7 Labor Day <i>Esta Hodnett</i>	8 10am Comforters Resume <i>Jim & Sue Hofer</i>	9 5pm 1 Yr Confirmation 6pm 2 Yr Confirmation 5:30pm Dinner 6pm Children's Choirs 6:30pm Notabella 7:30pm Adult Choir <i>Russ Holden</i>	10 5:30pm OWLS Biergarten <i>Daniel & Diedra Hopkin Dock</i>	11 7:30pm Bridge Club in Parish Hall <i>Eleanor Hulebak</i>	12 8am Walk to End Alzheimers @ Botanical Gardens 6-10pm Parent's Night Out <i>Joe & Bobbey Huwaldt Jonathan, Jacob</i>
13 8:30am Worship: LBW Setting 1 w/LS 9:45am Sunday Schools 11am Worship: Now the Feast w/LS 6-7:30pm Sr Youth Mtg	14 <i>Jeanine & Jay Jamison Ally Pesto, Danielle Pesto</i>	15 10am Comforters 7pm Mom's Book Club <i>Derelene Jeter</i>	16 5pm Confirmation 6pm 2 Yr Confirmation 5:30pm Dinner 6pm Children's Choirs 6:30pm Wed Night Bible Study 6:30pm Notabella 7:30pm Adult Choir <i>Roger & Annette Joens</i>	17 <i>Russell & Casie Joens Elizabeth, Matthew</i>	18 <i>Jeff & Jeanna Johnson Brandt</i>	19 9-3pm Kroger Car Wash <i>Larry & Judy Johnston</i>
20 8:30am Worship: WOV Bread of Life w/LS 11am Worship: Contemporary Service 6-7:30pm Sr Youth Mtg	21 <i>Mike & Judy Kidd</i>	22 10am Comforters <i>Greg & Meredith Kilby</i>	23 5pm Confirmation 5:30pm Dinner 6pm Children's Choirs 6:30pm Wed Night Bible Study 6:30pm Notabella 7:30pm Adult Choir <i>John & Nancy Knox Kenneth</i>	24 <i>Helen Kollman</i>	25 <i>Rebecca Kollmeyer</i>	26 9am-4pm SES Youth Conference @ MLC <i>David & Brandi Kuykendall Ben Zarazua, Christina Zarazua, Adriana Zarazua</i>
27 8:30am Worship: WOV Service of Word/Prayer 9:45 Altar Guild Mtg 9:45am Sunday Schools 11am Worship: LBW Setting 2 w/LS	28 <i>John & June Labansky Marc</i>	29 10am Comforters <i>Erik & Victoria Lakso Emma, Sophie</i>	30 5pm Confirmation 5:30pm Dinner 6pm Children's Choirs 6:30pm Wed Night Bible Study 6:30pm Notabella 7:30pm Adult Choir <i>Scott & Robin Lakso</i>			

**Member names listed each day of the month denote prayer families Looking ahead...

- October 3: 1pm - Blessing of the Animals
- October 4: 6pm - Music @ Messiah: Tom Alderman, Organist
- October 17: Handmade Market
- October 29-30: Council Retreat



Pastor's Page

By Pastor Scott Peterson scott@mlutheran.com

Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country...to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and **I will bless you...so that you will be a blessing** ... and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

--Genesis 12:1-3

Dear Friends of the Life-giving Messiah,

HAVE YOU EVER GONE ON A JOURNEY THAT CHANGED YOUR LIFE? When God called Abraham to go 'to the land I will show you' it not only changed his life it was the beginning of God's plan to change everyone. God called Abraham to bless him and through him to bless all people of the earth. That plan came to fruition when a descendant of Abraham named Jesus journeyed to earth and journeyed through life to show us the very heart of our gracious God.

PREPARATIONS ARE UNDERWAY FOR A GREAT JOURNEY for our Sr. Youth. They are working along with their leaders on an odyssey to Germany in June 2016. Rather than merely a few weeks in a different place, we want this to be a year-long journey of learning and growth. This month the Sr. Youth begin a curriculum including studying a biography of Martin Luther, learning about German history from Gutenberg to the present, teaching youth about international travel, and discussing similarities and differences between the church and culture of Germany and the U.S. Our youth will be responsible for creatively raising money to help fund their journey. That will include working in local missions and service projects to benefit the community. Upon returning from the trip, the youth will be responsible for presentations and expressions of thanks to those who helped enable their journey.

THE GOAL IS A LIFE-CHANGING, VOCATION-SHAPING JOURNEY for these young disciples. And, the hope is that this experience will lay the ground work for similar odysseys for our youth in future years. What about you? Might God be calling you to a new journey of faith and growth in the coming year? If so, I encourage you to take the first steps knowing that our Lord goes with you.

'BLESSED TO BE A BLESSING' is the theme of this year's stewardship emphasis at MLC. During September Temple Talks from several members will share ways that MLC has been a blessing to them on life's journeys. On Sunday, September 27, estimates of financial giving to MLC for 2016 will be received during worship.

I AM DEEPLY GRATEFUL FOR THE GENEROSITY OF THE PEOPLE OF MLC. You keep sharing the blessings God has entrusted to you. Together our missions help those in need. We keep searching for ways to reach more people with the good news of our Lord Jesus for that is our primary mission. The Holy Spirit brings us together as God's Church in order to bless us so we can then journey out to share God's blessings.

The Lord bless you and keep you on your journey,
Pastor Scott Peterson

September 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

Sept 6	LBW Setting 2
Sept 13	LBW Setting 1 w/ LS
Sept 20	WOV Bread of Life w/ LS
Sept 27	WOV Service of Word/Prayer

Sundays at 11:00 am

Sept 6	WOV Service of Word/Prayer
Sept 13	Now the Feast w/LS
Sept 20	Contemporary Service
Sept 27	LBW Setting 2 w/LS



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.

BIRTH: Jim and Chris Fossum announce the birth of their 1st grandchild, Caroline Joy Fossum, on August 11th.

ENGAGEMENT: Jennifer Sheurich and Michael Montgomery are engaged to marry on September 26, 2016.

DEATHS: LeRoy Rydbom, father of William Rydbom, passed away on August 16th.
Tom Braddock, father of Brandy Braddock Gunnels, passed away on August 5th.
Rev. George Fields, father of Randall Fields, passed away on August 24th.

My most grateful thanks to members of my church family for visits,
cards, calls, & meals during my recent convalescence.
Many, many blessings to all of you! ~ Diane Cline



Fellowship Committee

By Cheryl Rydbom

Do you love the smell of coffee in the morning? Fellowship needs your help to make sure that everyone gets a fresh whiff every Sunday between services. We've decided to mix things up, ease the load off of the senior youth, and have volunteers make and clean up the coffee three of the four Sundays. If you would like to volunteer, Meredith Kilby has created an amazing and simple-to-use form online: <http://mlutheran.org/missions-and-outreach/fellowship-2/fellowship-coffee/>, but you can always contact Cheryl Rydbom to get your name added to our list.

The Fellowship Committee is also in the process of planning for the upcoming year. If you have any event ideas, please contact Cheryl Rydbom and we'll see what we can do!



Outreach

By *Jacquie Fry*

It's hot outside. No one is even thinking about the cold. But it's coming, so it's time to start thinking about keeping the homeless warm this fall and winter. Once again Messiah will be collecting BLANKETS, JACKETS, HATS and GLOVES for First Stop. Socks, underwear, sweaters and other warm clothing. Razors and other personal care items are also needed. Most of First Stop's clients are men, and all are adults, so please keep that in mind. If there are specific needs, I will let you know. Thank you for all your donations over the past years. We look forward to the day when blanket and jacket donations are no longer needed, but until then we are the hands of God in our community. The big blue box will be in the Narthex or in the cubby outside the Parish Hall by the middle of September. THANK YOU!

"God's work. Our hands."

GWOH Sunday is an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America — one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor.

On Sunday, September 13th at Messiah Lutheran Church:



Pick up a brown bag after worship on Sunday, September 6th and return it Sunday, September 13th filled with items for the local food pantry.



Meet in the Parish Hall at noon and pack lunches for the Weekend Food Program at Liberty Middle School.



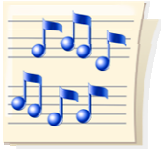
Find outreach chairman Jay Ruff in the church parking lot to carpool to the homes of neighbors needing yard work. (Wearing jeans to church is allowed :)



Add a new or gently used blanket to the collection box in the Narthex for the North Alabama Coalition for the homeless.

Music Notes

By Lois Graff



Choirs and Instrumental Groups for all Ages

The Fall schedule for music groups is beginning on September 2nd. Contact Lois Graff for more information.

Cherub Choir (K-1 st)	Wednesday	6 - 6:30 p.m.	Claire Strand, Director
Seraph Choir (2 nd -6 th)	Wednesday	6 - 6:30 p.m.	Stephanie Wallace, Director
Instrumental Ensemble	Sunday (bi-wkly)	12:15 - 1:15 p.m.	Lois Graff, Director
Notabella (hand bells)	Wednesday	6:30 - 7:30 p.m.	Rhonda Gaede, Director
Adult Choir	Wednesday	7:30 - 8:30 p.m.	Randall Fields, Director

Music at Messiah - Tom Alderman, Organist

Tom Alderman, organist at Roswell UMC in Georgia will be performing on October 4th at 6 p.m. Mr. Alderman earned his Bachelor of Music degree in Organ Performance from Shorter College. He is a popular recitalist in the Atlanta area and has performed in such venues as Old North Church, Boston, Southwark Cathedral in London, and St. Anthony's Basilica in Padua, Italy.

Council Notes

1. After much discussion and debate, the council has approved the Standards for Youth Activities at Messiah Lutheran Church. This document outlines the guiding principles for all youth activities within the church proper as well as youth activities outside of the church proper sponsored by Messiah Lutheran Church. Watch for upcoming events to roll out this policy to the congregation.
2. Pastor Scott proposed that the council consider hiring two people to work as advisors for Messiah Lutheran Church youth. One for senior youth and one for the tweens and junior youth. The council approved Sue Doubleday as the senior youth advisor beginning August 15th. The Personnel Committee has been asked to develop a job description for a new position as a tweens and junior youth advisor. Once that is complete, the council will be looking for a suitable candidate to fill the new position.
3. The council is reminding all committee heads to get their budget and spending plan submitted to the council by their September 17th meeting.
4. The council also approved four Fund Raising Requests for the Senior Youth's trip to Germany next year. They include a Car Wash, Parent's Night Out dates, Wreath Sales, and Kroger Card distribution Sundays. Please watch for these events and support our youth.

News Flashes!

Messiah Lutheran Church is Walking to End Alzheimer's on September 12th at Huntsville Botanical Gardens.

Registration at 8am

Ceremony at 8:45am

Walk at 9am

Route Length: 2 miles

Registration is free and includes entrance to the gardens. Our team leader is Janice Aldaco. Join the team at alz.org and search Team Messiah Lutheran and Friends.

Thanks for your support!



See the beautiful quilt that was donated for silent auction to raise money for our team. The quilt was handmade by Janice Aldaco's mother, Ann Martin. Bidding begins at \$125



4580

That's a big number, right?
That's how many pounds of aid
MLC supplied to Lutheran World Relief!
Way to go, church!

Communication Info Sessions Planned for September

The new website at www.mlutheran.org has been up and running since mid-June. To help folks understand all the different things the new site can do, I plan on offering several "info" sessions during upcoming Wednesday night dinners and between Sunday Morning services. These will be informal question and answer sessions to tour the website, learn about Messiah's social media accounts and discuss ways more folks can get involved. Watch your E-news for specific dates, times. Blessings! Meredith's email: communications@mlutheran.org

News Flashes, continued

SUE DOUBLEDAY IS NEW SR. YOUTH DIRECTOR

The Church Council and the Sr. Youth Group approved hiring Sue Doubleday to a part-time staff position as the Director of the Sr. Youth group (grades 9-12). Sue has been working with the Sr. Youth over the years, but now will take on more responsibilities overseeing the entire Sr. Youth program. Sue and husband Mike have two children and two handsome grandsons, all members of MLC.

DIRECTOR FOR JR. YOUTH AND TWEENS GROUPS

The Church Council has asked the Personnel Committee to develop a job description for a Director of Jr. Youth (grades 6-8) and Tweens (grades 3-5) Ministry. Once a Job Description is developed and approved by the Council, applications will be invited for that part-time staff position.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY **RESUMES SEPTEMBER 16 AT 6:30 P.M.**

Adult study of the Gospel of Mark begins Wednesday, September 16, at 6:30 p.m. in room 11. Led by Pastor Scott we will cover one chapter per week through the Fall. *All invited – No experience necessary.*

ONE MORE TURKEY TRAVELER NEEDED

A woman needs a roommate to go on the Biblical Turkey: In the Steps of Paul and John. The tour will be Nov. 4-15 and hosted by Pastor Scott. For information see the form at the Welcome Center. Currently 20 people are going.

The Messiah Mom's Bible Study has now become the Messiah Mom's Book Club! Rather than meet on Monday mornings, we will now meet on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm. Each month we will discuss a faith-related fiction or non-fiction book. This group is open to any women of the congregation, but is generally geared towards moms with babies through high-schoolers.

The book we will be reading for our September 15th meeting is, "Searching for Sunday: Loving, Leaving, and Finding the Church," by Rachel Held Evans.

Our October (20th) selection will be the new book by Nadia Bolz-Weber, "Accidental Saints: Finding God in All the Wrong People."

Please contact Janell Zesinger with questions.

First OWLS Event for September!

**Join us on Thursday,
September 10, 2015 at 5:30
p.m. at the German
Biergarten featuring authentic
German cuisine.
Meet at The U.S. Space &
Rocket Center, Huntsville.
Contact Jan Murphy if you
plan to attend.**

Youth News



POOL PARTY AT THE RYAN'S WAS A SPLASH!



MESSIAH YOUTH NEWS

*** Wreath Orders start in October**

Adult Help Wanted
Please contact Sue if you are interested in helping with a Youth meeting or fundraising event.

LOOKING AHEAD FOR THE SENIOR YOUTH

September 6th – Youth Sunday (no meeting)

* September 12th – Parent's Night Out 6-10pm

* September 13th – Meeting 6-7:30pm @ church

September 19th – Kroger Car Wash 9-3pm

September 20th – Meeting 6-7:30pm

September 26th – Diaspora Conference 9-4pm @ church

*** Parents Night Out**

Enjoy a night out or some quiet time alone! Sr Youth will be babysitting at the church Sep 12 from 6-10pm. Games, movies, and snacks provided. Sign up at the Welcome Center and make plans!

* Germany 2016 – These activities are related to the Senior Youth Germany Tour scheduled for Summer 2016. Please help support our youth in their efforts to raise funds for the trip.

*** DIRTY CARS**

Sr Youth will be hosting a car wash on September 19th at Kroger on HWY 72 & Jeff from 9am-3pm. Youth will be taking pledges as to the number of cars they can wash in 6 hours. Contact Sue for details

Senior Youth 9-12th Grades Meets every Sunday night from 6-7:30pm
 Junior Youth 6-8th Grades Meets on 1st and 3rd Sunday night 5-6pm
 Tweens 3-5th Grades Meets quarterly

Susan Doubleday (sue@smakdd.com)
 (256) 508-9257
 Kari Pitchko (kpitchko@gmail.com)

Month in Pictures - August



SS Kids Team packing school bags at Rainbow Elementary



The annual Blessing of the Backpacks

Sunday School Rally Day introduced the children to their new Sunday School classes. A Hot Dog Luncheon followed with specialty hot dogs grilled for the occasion.



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 September 25th.