

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.



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
Susan Doubleday.....Director of Senior Youth
Randall Fields.....Choir Director
Meredith Kilby.....Communications & Media Coordinator
Judy Sylvester.....Nursery Attendant

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Pastor's Page

By Pastor Scott Peterson scott@mlutheran.com

I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.

--God's First Commandment from Exodus 20:2-3

What does this mean? We are to fear, love, and trust God above anything else.

--Explanation to the First Commandment from Luther's Small Catechism

Dear Friends of the Living Messiah,

TRUST! THINK ABOUT IT.

WHO DO YOU TRUST? Or, what do you trust? A frequent refrain in God's word to God's chosen people are the words '*out of the land of Egypt*'. That phrase occurs 71 times in the Bible. Usually those words are to remind God's people: "**We can trust God.** *God saved us from slavery and bondage in Egypt. Remember?!*"

WHY IS "IN GOD WE TRUST" stamped on every coin and bill of our money? Perhaps that is a warning for the American people. As if to say, "*Don't trust this money. Trust God.*" '*In God We Trust*' was a conviction of the founding fathers of our nation whose images appear on much of our money. When they wrote *The Declaration of Independence* they included five references to God urging Americans to recognize our nation's need for God's guidance and blessing. That is good to remember anytime, but especially in this month when we celebrate Thanksgiving.

'TRUST JESUS' was spray-painted on the concrete abutment of an interstate highway bridge I often passed when I was young. I normally do not like to see graffiti in public places, but that concise, two-word message struck me every time I passed it. What a nice reminder as I was traveling down life's highway: *Jesus is in charge. Jesus is going with you. Wherever you are in your journey don't forget: Trust Jesus.*

NOVEMBER IS TURKEY MONTH. Of course, a turkey dinner is traditional for our Thanksgiving Day feasts as we remember the faith of the Pilgrims who were among the first European settlers in America. Turkey is also the nation where I will be hosting a group of 20 Christian pilgrims this month. Our pilgrimage will visit places where the apostles John and Paul served our risen Lord to whom they had entrusted their whole lives. Many people have expressed fears for our safety in Turkey. We are placing our trust in jet aircrafts, pilots, tour guides, bus drivers, and the hospitality of our Turkish hosts. Yet, above all our trust is in the Lord God who created us, redeemed us, and leads us into His future. As we used to say in the liturgy: "*Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth*" (Psalm 124:8).

Wherever you and I are in our journeys this month, let's not forget to **Trust Jesus**. Thanks be to God!

Pastor Scott Peterson

November 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

Nov 1	LBW Setting 2 w/LS
Nov 8	WOV Bread of Life w/LS
Nov 15	WOV Service of Word/Prayer
Nov 22	LBW Setting 2 w/LS
Nov 29	Hymn Sing w/LS

Sundays at 11:00 am

Nov 1	LBW Setting 2 w/LS
Nov 8	WOV Bread of Life w/LS
Nov 15	Contemporary Service
Nov 22	Now the Feast w/LS
Nov 29	Hymn Sing 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.

DEATHS: *Jesus said, "I am the resurrection and the life."*

+Althea McNamara, Tom McNamara's mother passed away on October 5th.

+Jesus Garcia, Nicole McNelly's grandfather, passed away October 19th.

Fellowship Committee

By Cheryl Rydbom & Larry Ryan



I hope everyone had a wonderful time at the **Annual Chili Cook-off and Parade of Costumes** on October 25th. The chili was hot, the costumes were clever, and the youth gave the younger kids a great time while votes were tallied. Special thanks to Larry Ryan and Greg Kilby for putting together such a fun evening.

November 15th is **Donut Sunday**. Why not invite a friend and enjoy some tasty goodness between services? Then, give Deb McDaniels a hug for bringing the donuts and milk!

The **Annual German Fellowship Dinner** will be held on November 22nd, immediately following the congregational meeting which in turn follows the late service. Let's help get the youth ready for their trip to Germany with an authentic, robust German meal! This year's menu will feature three types of Schnitzel (Jaegerschnitzel, Zwiebelschnitzel, Wienerschnitzel) and Spaetzle. Put it on your calendar and plan to join in!

Whether you are a coffee connoisseur or a total coffee newb—tea rules!!—Fellowship needs your help Sunday mornings with coffee set up and clean up. Don't be afraid... Instructions sheets can be found in the kitchen, and there are plenty of people around to walk you through it. So, if you can help, Meredith Kilby has created an amazing signup form online: <http://mlutheran.org/missions-and-outreach/fellowship-2/fellowship-coffee/>, so check it out and see what Sundays are still open. Please feel free to contact me, Cheryl Rydbom with questions or to get your name added to our list.

Congregation Meeting - Sunday, Nov. 22 @ noon

Outreach

By *Jacquie Fry*

COMING--CHRISTMAS!

Yes, I know, it's still two months away, but it's not too early to begin thinking about making a happy Christmas for children in need in our community. The Angel Tree will be up in the Narthex the Sunday before Thanksgiving to give you the opportunity to take advantage of holiday sales after Thanksgiving. We will again be sponsoring 30 children for the Salvation Army.

Children are not the only ones in need in our community. We are familiar with CASA (Care Assurance System for the Aging and Homebound of Madison County) because our Ramp Builders construct ramps for homebound handicapped persons on a regular basis. But CASA also works to provide needed supplies and services. CASA is requesting the following as Christmas presents for their clients. A box will be put in the Narthex. Donations are needed by December 9. Items include:

- Bath towels and wash cloths
- Electric blankets
- Blankets/quilts/throws
- Gloves
- Scarves and hats

We continue to collect blankets, jackets, hats and gloves, socks, and other warm clothing for homeless adults in the blue box in the Narthex. The first load of blankets and clothing was delivered to *First Stop* and was much appreciated. We will be collecting throughout the cold weather season.

There is much need in our community. Thank you all for being God's hands in the world.

Handmade Market



Thanks to EVERYONE who helped make this year's Handmade Market such a success! We made nearly \$4,500 for feeding the students at Benito Montoya School in El Barrial, Honduras. Some Christmas ornaments will be available in the Narthex near the Holidays. Your continued support of this mission is a blessing to our sisters and brothers in Honduras.

Bill and Marcie Emerson will soon travel to our school to attend the graduation ceremony of 3 sixth graders. See the letter from one of them! (to the right)



El Barrial, Nacaome (Municipality)
September 1, 2015
Benito Montoya (Elementary) School

Messiah Lutheran Church, Madison, Alabama,
Distinguished Senior Patrons, may the God of the Universe pour out abundant blessings and wisdom.

My name is Jose Estuazm. We are very appreciative (grateful) for your support. We enjoy the wonderful food because for us it is the best. With this you continue to help us; always me and my companions continued to take our vitamins and milk with great joy. I have grown from kindergarten with equipment (support/food) and now I go from 6th grade and always for this I will be grateful. (I ask that) always you stay with my companions, my dear little brothers (so they may) continue to enjoy your support. With much love these words I write, with this humble letter I ask God to watch over and give you much care and we invite you to our graduation and wait for you.

"Sing to Christ, sing much, sing to Christ.
All of the land sings to Christ, praise his name
Announce this day your salvation"
Psalm 95

{Editor's note: Spanish grammar and sentence structure is slightly different than English. A translator usually goes back and restructures a translation so it matches English structure. I think the power of this writing comes through better when left closer to Spanish structure so I didn't smooth out much of the Spanish structure. REH}

Music Notes

By Lois Graff



Ring & Sing

The Ring and Sing concert will be held on Sunday, December 13, at 6:30 p.m. Featuring hand bells and chime ringing, this concert is a holiday tradition and not to be missed. Donations support the Madison Public Library.

Advent Mid-Week Services of Worship

Advent services of worship will be held at 7:00 pm on December 2, 9 & 16, using the Holden Evening Prayer liturgy. Everyone is invited to dinner which will be served before the Advent services, beginning at 5:30 pm.

Christmas Eve Services at 5 and 7 pm

Christmas Eve Candlelight services of worship with the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be at 5:00 pm and 7:00 pm.

Lessons & Carols Service

On Sunday, December 27th, a special Lessons & Carols will be the order of worship for both the 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services of worship.

Syrian Kit Ministry

By Rhonda Gaede



On October 18th, many members helped out by assembling kits for children in Syria. One hundred school kits were made, each containing a ruler, 24 crayons, a pencil sharpener, a pair of scissors, four 70-count notebooks, five pens, five pencils, an eraser and the school bag to hold the items. There were 9 boxes at 32 pounds apiece, which were taken to Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Nashville where they were put on a truck bound for New Windsor, Connecticut.

This project was supported by a Thrivent Action Team which provided \$250 of funding.

A special thanks to Diane Davis for organizing and supervising the assembly!



Youth News



Wreath Sales

Thank you for your wreath purchases! Wreaths will be available for pick up on Dec 6th

Santa's Workshop

Jr & Sr Youth groups will attend the workshop at Grace Lutheran Church Nov 15th. Please donate a shoebox filled with Christmas gifts for children around the world through Samaritan's Purse.



Germany 2016

Please consider helping the Sr Youth Fundraise for the Summer 2016 Germany by registering your Kroger Card and donating points to the Sr Youth. See website for details



Dec 5th – Parents Day Out

Babysitting from 2-6pm. Go out Christmas shopping or see an afternoon movie while the youth watch your little one(s).

Dec 13th – Advent Breakfast

Join us for breakfast between services from 9-10:45am. Yummy!

Senior Youth 9-12th Grades Meets every Sunday night from 6-7:30pm

No meeting over Thanksgiving (Nov 29th)

Month in Pictures - October



The annual OWLS (Older Wiser Lutherans) Brat & Beer Fest was held at the home of Gary and Linda Heideman on Saturday, October 3rd. The weather was cool and damp, but spirits were high as everyone enjoyed the good food and fellowship.



Messiah's "Blessing of the Animals" outreach event took place on Saturday, October 3rd, 2015 under cool and damp conditions. About twenty-two members and guests attended along with about ten animals.



On October 10th the Messiah Carpentry Team built another wheelchair ramp for a family in Madison County, in cooperation with CASA of Madison County.



Great fun, food and fellowship was enjoyed at the Halloween Party and Chili-Cook-off. The annual fellowship event was led this year by Larry Ryan and Greg and Meredith Kilby. Sarah Walker organized a number of fun Halloween games and activities for the younger kids which were led by Messiah youth. Congratulations to Mistie Sutko, whose Texas "Five-Alarm" Chili recipe came in first place in the Chili Cook-off. There were 11 entries to the contest this year. Bridie Ryan and Amy McCarthy tied for runner-up honors. The Hottest Chili award went to Dan Byers.

Consider saving paper...if you'd prefer to receive an electric copy of this monthly newsletter, email info@mlutheran.org



November 2015 Volume 27, Issue 11

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 November 21st.