



PASTOR'S PAGE

by Pastor Scott Peterson
scott@mlutheran.org

Now Jesus did many other **signs** in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that **you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life** in his name.
--John 20:30-31

Dear Friends of the Crucified Messiah,

LENT! What comes to mind for you from that one word? Lent is a powerful season, a contemplative season, and a season whose very name reminds us that the days are lengthening; nights receding. The Light of the World, whose birth we celebrated just over a month ago, came to earth on a mission to save us from sin, death, and every force of darkness.

LENT BUILDS TO THE PASSION, Jesus' final suffering and death, but remember Lent is above all preparation for celebrating Jesus' resurrection. Since the name "Lent" is a reminder of the growing light, this year the theme of our mid-week services of worship will be...

NEW LIFE COMING TO LIGHT, SEVEN SIGNS OF THE SAVIOR. The Gospel of John will be our guide as we consider the seven signs Jesus performed which shed light on His identity and His saving mission for sinners like us. Here is our schedule:

(Services at 12:00 noon and 7:00 p.m.)

FEBRUARY:

- 14: Ash Wednesday: 1st Sign: *Jesus turns water to wine*
21: 2nd Sign: *Healing of the Royal Official's Son*
28: 3rd Sign: *Healing of the Paralytic at the Pool of Bethesda*

MARCH:

- 7: 4th Sign: *Feeding of the 5,000*
14: 5th Sign: *Jesus Walks on Water*
21: 6th Sign: *Healing of the Man Born Blind*
29: Maundy Thursday: *Raising of Lazarus*
30: Good Friday: *The Cross in the Gospel of John*

JESUS' SIGNS were recorded and explained by gospel writer John so we "may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing we may have life in his name." We will walk through these wondrous acts of our Lord to learn and grow in life-giving faith. (The Seven Signs will also be the theme our June 4-8 Music Camp musical *Light of Life: Signs of the Savior*.)

PART OF THE POWER OF LENT is that, regardless of what has changed in the last year, our greatest needs and strongest hopes are still with us. Thankfully, our Heavenly Father's eternal plans for His children stand firm. *How fitting that...*

LENT BEGINS THIS YEAR ON ST. VALENTINE'S DAY. Our Lord is the Source of all human love. Let's use this season to express our thanks and praise for our Savior Jesus. See you in church.

Lenten hope,

Pastor Scott Peterson

The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 14th. There will be a service of worship with the Lord's Supper and imposition of ashes for those who wish to receive them. There will be a Maundy Thursday service on March 29 and a Good Friday service on March 30.

Unless otherwise designated, Lenten service offerings will be divided between the Christian Women's Job Corp and KTECH / Kids to Love Foundation

FEBRUARY SERVICES OF WORSHIP

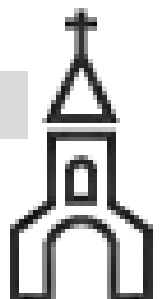
LBW = Lutheran Book of Worship | WOV = With One Voice
ELW = Evangelical Lutheran Worship | LS = Lord's Supper

Sundays at 8:30 a.m.

- Feb 4 WOV Service of Word/Prayer
Feb 11 Now the Feast w/LS
Feb 18 Youth Service w/LS
Feb 25 LBW Setting 1

Sundays at 11:00 a.m.

- Feb 4 ELW Setting 8
Feb 11 LBW Setting 2 w/LS
Feb 18 Youth Service
Feb 25 Bread of Life w/LS





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

**THIS MONTH
PANTRY ITEM
Canned Meat**

**KIT MINISTRY
Infant Socks**

OUTREACH

LIFE PASSAGES

Births

(redacted)

Deaths

(redacted)

Engagements

(redacted)



MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT - KTECH / A Workforce Initiative of the Kids to Love Foundation

by Claire Strand

"During this year's Lenten season, MLC will have a Sunday School class focused on poverty- its definition, its causes, and its alleviation. (See Seeking Shalom on Pg. 5) In line with this focus, our Lenten giving at mid-week services of worship will support KTECH and the Christian Women's Job Corps, both address a systemic cause of poverty - work readiness skills.

KTECH is an ambitious workforce Initiative of the Kids to Love Foundation, founded by Lee Marshall. Its vision is to establish and sustain a pipeline between industry and a certified employment pool.

KTECH prepares foster and former foster students to enter the workforce with valuable skills. The Mechatronics course offered at KTECH can either be an accelerated 15-week, or 6-month long course that puts students on the fast track toward a career in industries such as advanced manufacturing, automotive, finance, and healthcare. Their students age in range from 18-24 years old.

KTECH delivers Siemens Certified Mechatronics systems assistant program providing training and credentialing in the foundational areas of safety, manufacturing process, and maintenance.

Students are also given instruction in personal finance and budgeting, which also supports their life-long success.

For more information and several inspirational videos click the link here!

[KTECH / MECHATRONICS OVERVIEW](#)



A portion of our 2018 Lenten giving is designated to KTECH.

Messiah Lutheran Church also periodically provides lunch for the KTECH students. To be a part of the team, please contact Mary Mast or Claire Strand.



Lois Graff

Director of Music
Ministries

jelogra @msn.com

Hymn of the Month

"Beautiful Savior"

This beloved hymn, also known as "Fairest Lord Jesus," came from Roman Catholic Jesuits in Germany and first appeared in 1677. The author is unknown. Bridging the seasons of Epiphany and Lent, the hymn's lyrics proclaim Christ as the Light of the World ("Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer than all the angels in the sky") and His saving mission ("Beautiful Savior, King of creation, Son of God and Son of Man!"). Let this be our song of praise:

*Beautiful Savior,
Lord of the nations,
Son of God and Son of
Man!*

*Glory and honor,
praise, adoration,
Now and forevermore
be thine!*

MUSIC NOTES

The Sanctuary Piano Fund

Thank you for your generous gifts and memorials! Gifts and dedicated funds are now over \$27K! Although we have been delayed a couple weeks, plans are still in place to visit stores and piano rebuilders soon.

Musical Group Schedule Changes During Lent

Please see the Messiah Messenger calendar, bulletins, and website for Wednesday evening schedule changes through Lent (February 14th through the end of March).

Cherub Choir	Grades PK-1st	Wed 6:00 - 6:30 p.m.
Seraph Choir	Grades 2nd-6th	Wed 6:00 - 6:30 p.m.
Guitar with Ric	Grades 7th-12th	Wed 6:00 - 6:45 p.m.
Adult Choir	Grades 9th-Adult	Wed 7:45 - 8:45 p.m.
"I Used to Play"	Grades 9th-Adult	Thu 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Instrumental Ensemble	Grades 7th-Adult	Sun 12:15 - 1:15 p.m. biweekly
Notabella	Grades 7th-Adult	Sun 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Music Camp

Mark your calendars now! This year's Music Camp will be June 4-8 with presentations on June 10. In the process of being written and composed, **the musical will be *Light of Life: Signs of the Savior***. The goodness, love, and majesty of God were revealed to humankind through Jesus. In John's gospel, Jesus' seven signs reveal his divinity and point us to our eternal Father. While learning the musical, children will explore these seven signs and Jesus' saving mission.

The camp runs 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. with a Saturday morning dress rehearsal and Sunday presentations during worship. Weekday mornings are full of music, crafts, drama, recreation, worship, and a snack. After a sack lunch (from home), campers will enjoy afternoon activities like roller skating, bowling, movies, etc. Cost is \$95. Family plans: \$75 second child, \$55 third child. For more information, contact Lois Graff at musicdirector@mlutheran.org or go online at musiccamp.mlutheran.org.

Lent Begins February 14th

The season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 14th. There will be services of worship at 12 noon and 7 p.m. with the Lord's Supper and imposition of ashes for those who wish to receive them. Lent continues with services of worship of Feb. 21, 28, March 7, 14 and 21. During these services, Pastor Peterson will preach on the 7 signs in the Gospel of John. There will be a Maundy Thursday service of worship on March 29 and Good Friday Tenebrae service on March 30. Lenten worship begins at 12 noon and 7 p.m. Unless otherwise designated, Lenten offering will go to the Christian Women's Job Corp and KTECH.



Sara Galyon
Director of Youth and
Christian Education
Ministries

youth@mlutheran.org

**Senior Youth
meet every
Sunday from
6-7:30 p.m. unless
otherwise
announced here:**

2/4 meet at noon

MLC YOUTH & EDUCATION MINISTRIES

The **Senior Youth** will not meet the evening of February 4. Instead, we will get together for Super Movie Sunday at the Carmike theater close to church following the second service. More info on this will become available when movie schedules are out.

Fishing For Funds has officially begun to help fund our youth trip to the National ELCA youth gathering in Houston, TX this summer. Each Sunday, there will be a board in the Narthex with fish decorated by the students and adult helpers. **We need congregation members to take a fish and donate the amount of money that matches it** (written above the fish on the board and on the back of the fish). The fish number 1-100, and if all the fish are "caught," we will raise \$5,050. That will go a long way towards helping us reach our goal for this trip!



Support our Sr. Youth
*"Catch" your fish before
they are all gone!*
See picture on Page 6

The **Junior Youth** have been having an awesome time this year meeting on the second and fourth Sundays of each month. All 6-8th graders should join us from 5-6:30 on those days.

Fasting for Food

This year, our Junior and Senior Youth are inviting other churches from our conference for our fasting event (formerly 30 Hour Famine) on February 16-17. The event will also serve as our conference day for the Synod youth as organized by our representative, Michelle Strand. Youth will come to church beginning at 6 p.m. on Friday and will stay overnight till Saturday when we will break the fast at 6 p.m.

The **MOEs** (Messiah Older Elementary) had an awesome time this month making valentines for our homebound members of Messiah. Next month, we are looking forward to **ice skating on February 24th from 12-1:50 at the Point Mallard Ice Complex in Decatur.** All 3-5th graders are invited to join us for this and all of our events!

MOEs is open to 3rd through 5th graders. Join us!
Meetings are as scheduled.



YOUTH CALENDAR ONLINE mlutheran.org/missions-and-outreach/youth-ministries/
OR CLICK HERE

NEWS FLASHES

MISSION CRAFTERS WORK DAY - FEB 24

10 a.m. - 2 p.m. w/ Soup Lunch!

Join the Messiah Crafter's group as they host a Spring Workday. No craft experience is required! There will be a mix of tasks to do to give a "helping hand" to Messiah's many missions.

Examples include: sewing school kit bags, stringing the drawstrings for the bags, tying blankets. Of course, if you are already working on a craft, you can just join the fun.

So whether you are available for a few hours or the whole Saturday session, please consider joining us. Kids are welcome and will be put to work on things even a youngster can do. Hope to see you there for a Saturday filled with **fellowship, mission work, and fun!** ~

Messiah "Mission" Crafters



YOUNG ADULT LUTHERAN LEAGUE

Y A L L

Unclaimed Baggage Trip

Saturday, February 10th

The next Young Adult Lutheran League event will be a daytrip to the famed Scottsboro, AL Unclaimed Baggage Center. Those interested are welcome to attend for as little or as much of the day as they'd like. For more information, check out the YALL Facebook group or contact Andrew King, the Burton's, or the Gipner's.

First Communion

On Sunday, February 11th following the late service, Pastor Scott will present certificates of First Communion to all Sunday School aged members who received their First Communion at Messiah Lutheran Church. We hope you will attend to receive this remembrance of first partaking in the gift of the Lord's Supper.

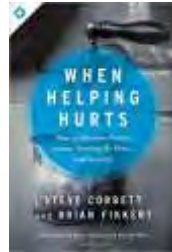


Sunday School course begins Feb 18!

Seeking Shalom - A Biblical View of Poverty

Led by Claire Strand, John Shriver
The goal of this Sunday School class is to open a discussion of poverty and what we as Christians should be doing about it. What is poverty, what are its causes, and how can we best help those living in poverty?

Class will take place in Parish Hall.
Learn more about this class online at mlutheran.org



HOLY LAND TOUR

NOV. 6-17, 2018

You are invited to join a tour I am hosting to Biblical sites in Israel and Jordan this fall. Bring the stories of the Bible to life by experiencing the places where Jesus, Mary, Moses, John the Baptist, and all the disciples lived and worked. A detailed printed brochure is available at the narthex Welcome Center. Here is a link to a three-minute video introducing this tour: —Pastor Scott

<https://vimeo.com/242754077>

COMFORTERS

The Comforters will meet every Tuesday in February at 9:00 a.m. Contact Annette Joens

USHERS

USHER MEETINGS IN FEBRUARY!

Who: All members wanting to serve as an usher (current or new), couples or singles.

When: Sundays, Feb 4th & 18th
at 8 a.m., 10 a.m., 12:15 p.m.

Where: Meet in the Narthex

Please try to come to one of these brief meetings to meet Sharyn and learn (or review) how you can be a part of this needed service.

Contact: Sharyn Lewis

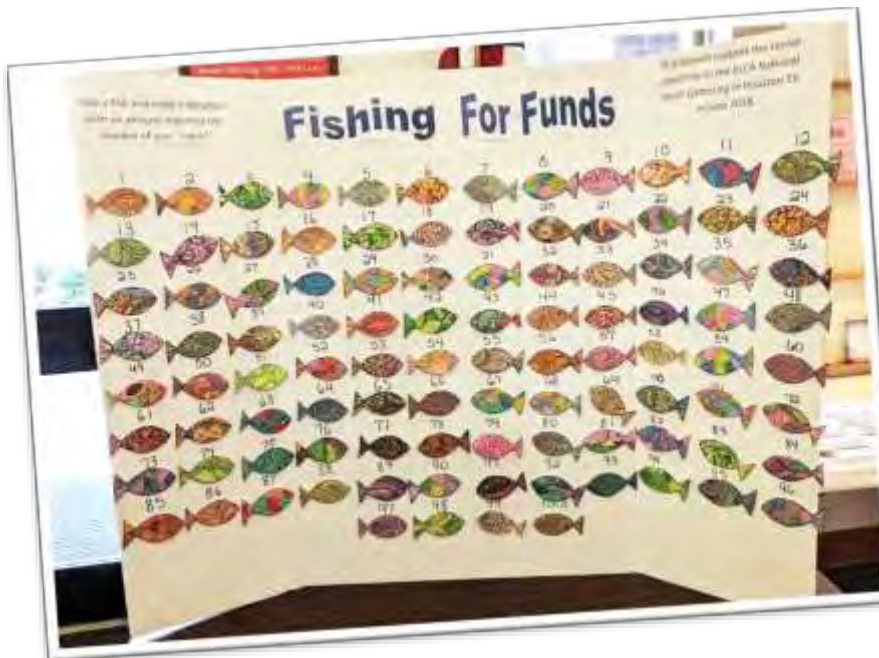
MONTH IN PICTURES



The before, during and after photos of MLC's **CASA Wheelchair Ramp Team** Jan. 20 ramp build. Check out the MLC blog for additional photos and the story! If you would like to get involved with the next build, contact Joe Stuart!



(Below) SR. YOUTH enjoyed a fun afternoon of bowling at Stars & Strikes in Huntsville on January 1st!



FISHING FOR FUNDS is a "fun"draiser for Messiah's Sr. Youth. Be sure to "catch" your fish and make your donation this year before they are all gone! All money raised will support the youth's trip to Houston for the ELCA Churchwide Youth Gathering in July! Learn more on the youth and education page!



Click the camera to view the January 2018 "Month in Pictures" online photo gallery.



**Interested in Joining Messiah? Talk with Claire or Pastor Scott.
The next "New Member Sunday" will be February 11, 2018.**

COUNCIL NOTES

Jeanette Beamer, Church Council Secretary
secretary@mlutheran.org

This year's Mid-Week Lenten Offering will be split between two organizations that work to alleviate poverty. The first is the Christian Women's Job Corp, which works with jobless women to teach computer and job skills for successful employment. The second is KTECH part of the Kids to Love program, which supports 18-24 year-old youth coming out of foster care. Representatives from each of these organizations will give temple talks in March.

Pastor Esther Nguomo of Christ Kiswahili Lutheran Mission in Nashville requested financial help to fund their mission to assist with ESL classes and job skill training for refugees. The Council decided to use the funds in the Kiswahili Dedicated Account of \$2,312 and future donations to this account up to a total of \$3,000 to support this mission for 2018.

Pastor Scott discussed plans for the new Sunday school class beginning in February, "Seeking Shalom." It is an eight-week class that shows a different view of poverty through DVD and oral presentations. He highly recommended this class to everyone.

The Council would like to thank Greg Kilby, Lois Graff, Devonee Woods, and Dan Byers, who worked diligently to improve the financial reporting capabilities of the Church Windows software program. The 2017 books are now ready for audit, which will start in March.

The next Council meeting is March 15th at 7:00 p.m.

New, improved mlutheran.org coming soon!

Members and friends - our website, mlutheran.org, will be relaunched early February 2018. The new site will have many of the same features of the old site except with vastly improved navigation to the features and resources most often sought by newcomers and members alike. Important note.... Some of the extended content of the old site will be migrated into the new site after launch, so please be patient through the transition and polish up phase. Thank you so much. I hope you enjoy the updated look.
~ Meredith Kilby, MLC Communications Director



CHURCH

Executive Committee

President: Pastor Scott Peterson
scott@mlutheran.com

Vice President: Mark Thompson
vicepres@mlutheran.com

Treasurer: Greg Kilby
treasurer@mlutheran.com

Secretary: Jeannette Beamer
secretary@mlutheran.com

Council Representatives

Worship and Music: Terry Frakes
worship_music_rep@mlutheran.com

Outreach: John Shriver
outreach_rep@mlutheran.com

Stewardship: Heather Neely
stewardship_rep@mlutheran.com

Education and Youth: ell Zesinger
education_rep@mlutheran.com

Fellowship: Sonja Pedersen
fellowship_rep@mlutheran.com

Property: Pete Woods
property_rep@mlutheran.com

Finance: Andrew Gipner
finance_rep@mlutheran.com

Youth Representative: Bridie Ryan
youth_rep@mlutheran.com

HELP WANTED!

LENTEN SOUP SUPPER COORDINATOR NEEDED

The Fellowship Committee is looking for someone to organize this year's Lenten Soup Suppers. Soup suppers start February 14th and go through March 28th, with a break on March 14th. We will need help with setup and cleanup, as well as bringing soup, desserts, etc. Please let Sonja Pedersen know if you are able to assist in any way.

The Weekend Food Program (WFP) Needs Groups to Pack Bags

We are feeding 70 students every week this school year and need volunteers to help pack the food bags this Spring. The children we feed are at risk of not having food during the weekend, and your time makes a huge difference in their lives.

We have openings for packing in February and April. Packing is generally scheduled for the last Sunday of the month at noon and takes about 30 minutes. However, if you have a group who would like to pack a different time, we can accommodate your schedule! Please contact Toni Daniel to schedule!

Dave Ramsey's

Financial Peace University

Interested in starting the New Year with Financial Peace? We are currently gauging interest in offering another session of Dave Ramsey's nine-week Financial Peace University (FPU) course at MLC this spring. FPU teaches people the seven *Baby Steps* to dump debt, spend wisely, save for the future, and give generously. Please contact Karl Starkloff at jaks178@att.net or **256-527-3189** or Janell Zesinger at jzesinger@knology.net for more information or if you are interested in attending. **If we have enough interest, a day and time will be selected by the instructor and course participants.** Visit <http://www.daveramsey.com/fpu> for more information.

PRAYER FAMILIES

Please lift these MLC households in your daily prayers this month. On Sundays, pray for the group or organization listed. Contact Claire Strand to learn more about Messiah's Prayer Ministry.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
FEBRUARY 2018	<i>LOOKING AHEAD</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • April 1 - Easter Sunday (Youth Breakfast) • Mar 11 - Spring Break (No K-12 Sunday School) • May 20 - Last Day of K-12 Sunday School • June 4-8 - Music Camp 			1 7:00 pm I Used to Play Instrumental Workshop 7:00 pm Kit Ministry	2	3
	4 YOUTH SUNDAY 8:30 am Worship: WOV Service of Word/Prayer 9:45 am Sunday School for All Ages 11:00 am Worship ELW Setting 8 12:00 Sr. Youth Go to the Movies 12:15 pm Instr. Ensemble	5	6 9:00 am Comforters	7 5:00 pm 1 st & 2 nd Year Confirmation 5:30 pm Wed. Night Café 6:00 pm Cherub Choir 6:00 pm Seraph Choir 6:30 pm Guitar with Ric 6:30 pm Notabella 6:30 pm Instr. Ensemble 7:30 pm Adult Choir	8 7:00 pm Kit Ministry 7:00 pm I Used to Play Instrumental Workshop	9 7:00 pm Bridge Club Fellowship Hall
11 New Member Sunday 8:30 am Worship: Now the Feast w/LS 9:45 am Sunday School for All Ages 11:00 am Worship: LBW Setting 2 w/LS 12:15 pm. First Communion Certificate Presentations 5:00 pm Jr. Youth meet 6:00 pm Sr. Youth meet	12 6:30 pm Womens Book Club Location TBD	13 9:00 am Comforters	14 Ash Wednesday 12:00 pm Lenten Service 5:00 pm 1 st & 2 nd Year Confirmation 5:30 pm Lent Soup Supper 6:00 pm Cherub Choir 6:00 pm Seraph Choir 6:00 pm Guitar with Ric 7:00 pm Lenten Service 8:00 pm Adult Choir	15 8:30 a.m. Study Group 7:00 pm Council Meeting 7:00 pm Kit Ministry	30-Hour Fasting for Food / Jr. & Sr. Youth	
18 8:30 am Worship: Youth Service 9:45 am Sunday School for All Ages <i>Seeking Shalom</i> SS class begins in Parish Hall 11:00 am Worship: Youth Service 6:30 p.m. Notabella Rehearsal	19 President's Day (Office Closed)	20 9:00 am Comforters	21 12:00 pm Lenten Service 5:00 pm 1 st & 2 nd Year Confirmation 5:30 pm Lent Soup Supper 6:00 pm Cherub Choir 6:00 pm Seraph Choir 6:00 pm Guitar with Ric 7:00 pm Lenten Service 7:45 pm Adult Choir	22 8:30 a.m. Study Group 7:00 pm I Used to Play Instrumental Workshop 7:00 pm Kit Ministry	23	24 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Mission Crafters Workday
25 8:30 am Worship: LBW Setting 1 9:45 am Sunday School for All Ages 11:00 am Worship: Bread of Life w/LS 12:15 pm Instr. Ensemble 5:00 pm Jr. Youth meet 6:00 pm Sr. Youth meet 6:30 p.m. Notabella Rehearsal	26	27 9:00 am Comforters 5:30 pm Men of Messiah Location TBD	28 12:00 pm Lenten Service 5:00 pm 1 st & 2 nd Year Confirmation 5:30 pm Lent Soup Supper 6:00 pm Cherub Choir 6:00 pm Seraph Choir 6:00 pm Guitar with Ric 7:00 pm Lenten Service 7:45 pm Adult Choir			

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 a.m. Sunday School is at 9:45 a.m. A nursery attendant and Children’s Church is provided. All are welcome. Our website is www.mlutheran.org. 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**



The monthly newsletter and calendar for Messiah Lutheran Church (ELCA) Madison, Alabama

Messenger

February 2018
Volume 31, Issue 2

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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, Meredith Kilby.....Office Managers
Claire Strand.....Director of Outreach Ministries
Lois Graff.....Director of Music Ministries
Sara Galyon.....Director 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

