

by Pastor Scott Peterson
scott@mlutheran.org



PASTOR'S PAGE

The King said to his servants: "Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet."--Matthew 22:9

Dear Friends of the Messiah,

ARE THE PEOPLE DRIVING BY HOPING FOR A SIGN FROM GOD?

Let's give them one! Over 50K vehicles drive by each day--that is more than 1.5 million in a month. What if those motorists got a message from God on a sign in front of MLC's building? How about "**You! Come here! I have good news for you. -GOD.**"

THE PERCENTAGE OF AMERICANS WHO BELIEVE IN GOD is between 80-90% (according to Gallop polling), yet the percentage of Americans worshipping in a church on a typical Sunday is about one-third of that. Might God be expecting us to invite (urge?) those "God-believing" people, "Come hear God's Word on Sunday mornings?" Might God especially want those "lost sheep—" the 10-20% unbelieving people—to hear His Word? How about "**You were told what???** I never said that. -GOD."

***SIGNS* ON THE HIGHWAY TELL US WHAT IS AHEAD.** Our Lord has great plans for all of us traveling down the roads of life. The Gospel of John emphasizes the **signs** Jesus did to reveal who He is and enlightened them to believe He is the Messiah which pointed them ahead to God's future. Next month (June 3-9), MLC's annual Music Camp will learn and present the World Premiere of the children's musical **Light of Life: Signs of the Savior**. This is based upon the **signs of Jesus** in John. Maybe our future sign should say "**Think your kid is amazing? Meet my Son here. -GOD.**"

HOW ABOUT "I MISS YOU! PLEASE TALK TO ME. -GOD." Or "You are beautiful! I created you that way. -GOD." The above "messages from God" were dreamed up when thinking about the potential of having a digital sign in front of MLC's building. What "message from God" would you like to share with over 50K people a day? I expect that you have inspiration for inviting messages going beyond my ideas. Please send your "GOD messages" to office@mlutheran.org. Someday your idea may be on a sign viewed by thousands each day. When will that "someday" be?

AN ELECTRONIC SIGN TASK FORCE was appointed by MLC's Council. They have been planning and preparing to show us what the sign will look like and to tell us what it will cost to construct. The Electronic Sign Fund has already received over \$16,000 in gifts. This will be an **OUTREACH** tool to the unchurched in our area and hopefully a "day brightener" to our Christian sisters and brothers who already have church homes. Note: This sign is not in MLC's 2019 budget and will be purchased using only "designated gifts" to the Sign Fund.

Watch for more information in the coming weeks. *Waiting for a sign from God?* This might be it.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Scott Peterson

MAY SERVICES OF WORSHIP

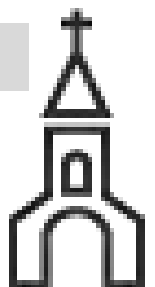
LBW = Lutheran Book of Worship | WOV = With One Voice
ELW = Evangelical Lutheran Worship | LS = Lord's Supper

Sundays at 8:30 a.m.

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

Sundays at 11:00 a.m.

May 5	LBW Setting 2
May 12	Chicago Folk w/LS
May 19	LBW Setting 2 w/LS
May 26	Now the Feast 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

OUTREACH:
PANTRY ITEM
Toiletries

KIT MINISTRY
Blue or Black Pens
(No gel pens)

DOWNTOWN RESCUE
Needs coats, hooded sweat-shirts, flannel shirts, winter gloves, scarves & hats. Donation box in Narthex.

OUTREACH



Life Passages

Engagement

† Katie Spence and Ryan Thompson are engaged to marry next summer.

Marriage

† Lorelyn Kilby and Steven Akins were married April 13th.

Birth

† Bruce and Karen Machamer announce the birth of a grandson. Proud parents are James and Christine Machamer of Silver Springs, MD.

Deaths

† Trudy Clare passed away on March 30th.

† Greg Kilby's uncle, Dennis Amundson passed away on April 3rd.

Graduations

† Messiah congratulates our high school graduates William Armstrong, Joshua Byers, Justin Byers, Savannah Coates, Mary Grace D'Antonio, Isabella Hunt, Jonathan Huwaldt, Dylan Irvin, Andrea Lindsay, Andrew Seitz, Jennifer Stender, Morgan Sutko, Meghan Thompson, Evelyn Walker, and Christina Zarazua.

We'd love to celebrate any college graduations. Let us know-
claire@mlutheran.org

MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT: MLC Disaster Relief Mission Trip 2019



MLC will be working to rebuild homes and restore hope with our neighbors in SW Georgia after Hurricane Michael and recent tornadoes (response could be shifted to Alabama after recent storms). Inspiritus (formerly Lutheran Services of Georgia) is excited to know our team and to place us accordingly.

We have seven confirmed team members so far and would love more. A variety of skills are needed, including food prep, counseling, clerical, and construction.

Dates: June 26 through June 30

Lodging: Likely a host church, but this will be assigned once our work site is determined. The churches generally have a floor for sleeping, and some have air mattresses. You will need to bring linens, pillows, and toiletries. The churches have kitchens that they will allow us to use. We'll know more once we're assigned a host church.

Itinerary:

Wednesday, June 26: Depart Huntsville for host church. Unpack, receive instructions for next day, and prepare for an early start to be God's hands reaching out!

June 27-29: Disaster relief work at the work site(s).

Sunday, June 30: Worship at host church and travel back to Huntsville.

If you're interested, please contact Andrew King (andrew.t.king42@gmail.com) or Claire Strand.



Lois Graff
Director of Music
Ministries

musicdirec-
tor@mlutheran.org

Messiah Musicians

Musical opportunities for all ages from Pre-K to Adult!

Cherub Choir

Pre-K – 1st grade

Seraph Choir

2nd-6th grade

Guitar with Ric

7th-12th grade

Notabella

7th grade – Adult

Instrumental

Ensemble

7th grade – Adult

Adult Choir

9th grade – Adult

I Used to Play

9th grade – Adult

Contemporary Band

Sound Technicians

Special Music

Messiah Minstrels

WORSHIP & MUSIC NOTES

Christ Kiswahili Choir is Coming!

On Sunday, May 5, the Christ Kiswahili Youth Choir from Nashville will be singing two songs at Messiah at both services of worship! Please come to enjoy their musical offerings and a potluck dinner after the Congregation Meeting to enjoy fellowship with our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Music Camp June 3-7

Only a month away! Register now! The 25th Annual Music Camp *Light of Life:*



Signs of the Savior will be June 3-7, with presentations on Sunday, June 9. While learning the musical, children will explore the seven signs in the Gospel of John and Jesus' saving mission.

The camp runs Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. with 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 visit musiccamp.mlutheran.org. Reservation forms also available at the Welcome Center.

Dinner Theater Auditions

Are you ready to put on your acting shoes? Auditions will be held in May for the Dinner Theater scheduled on September 28 and 29. Watch E-News and bulletins for dates and times.

Huntsville Master Chorale

The Huntsville Master Chorale will perform a concert on Sunday, May 5, at 4:00 p.m. entitled "*Past ... Present ... Future ...*" The concert is free and open to the public.

Hymn of the Month

"Awake, My Heart, with Gladness"

Authored by Paul Gerhardt (1607-1676), this victorious Easter hymn was set to a tune by Johann Cruger (1598-1662). Born near Wittenberg, Germany, Gerhardt's life was one of suffering. He has been labeled "*Theologus in cribro Satanae versatus*" ("a theologian sifted in Satan's sieve"). With all he suffered, Gerhardt writes of Christ's victory over sin, death, and the devil and has been ranked next to Luther as "the most gifted and popular hymn writer of the Lutheran Church" (Hymnary.org).

This is a sight that gladdens, what peace it does impart!

Now nothing ever saddens the joy within my heart.

No gloom shall ever shake, no foe shall ever take,

The hope which God's own Son in love for me has won.

- "Awake, My Heart, with Gladness" vs 3



Sara Galyon

Director of Youth and
Christian Education
Ministries

youth@mlutheran.org

May Youth Schedule

Sr. Youth (gr. 9-12)

May 5, 19, 26

6-7:30 Sr. Youth meeting

Jr. Youth (gr. 6-8)

May 18 - Topgolf Outing

May 26 - 4th Sunday Dinner

MOEs (gr. 3 - 5)

May 11th 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

MOEs Lunch at Dublin Park

MLC YOUTH & EDUCATION MINISTRIES

Senior Youth

The Senior Youth would like to thank everyone who supported our many efforts in April, including Holy Saturday Prayer Stations, Easter Breakfast, and Trivia Night! It feels great to be so supported by the Messiah community.

Senior Youth will not meet on Mother's Day. Enjoy time with family!

Junior Youth

Junior Youth will have an outing to Topgolf on Saturday, May 18th. We will leave from Church at 10:45 a.m. If you would like to come, let Sara know so we have enough seats! Cost is \$20 (or \$15 if you already have a player's card) and will include lunch and a soft drink.

Junior Youth will not meet on Mother's Day. Enjoy time with family!

MOEs (Messiah Older Elementary)

MOES GO! to Dublin Park

The MOEs group will go for a picnic lunch at Kids Kingdom playground at Dublin Park on May 11th, from 11-1 p.m. Bring a sack lunch, and we will play and share a meal together. Let Sara know if you plan to come so we are sure to look out for you. Siblings and parents welcome!



What are you waiting for? Messiah Youth developed a series of Easter Vigil prayer stations around the theme of waiting. The stations were located throughout the church and guided participants through a series of interactive activities. More photos on Page 8. *If you didn't get to it this year ... there are plans to do it again next year!*



Easter Breakfast pancake makers in action. L-R Bobbey Huwaldt, Rebecca Meyer, and Zachary Armstrong.



MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH
**CHURCH
 POTLUCK**
 SUNDAY, MAY 5, 2019
 12:15 PM IN PARISH HALL

Potluck immediately follows the brief, May 5th Congregation Meeting at Noon to elect next year's Church Council.

Come enjoy, food, friendship, and fellowship with our special guests, the Christ Kiswahili Youth Choir of Nashville who will present special music and also worship with us on Sunday, May 5th.

Meat will be provided by Messiah's Fellowship Committee. Members are asked to sign up to bring a hot-dish, side-salad, or dessert. Help is also sought with set-up, serving, & clean-up.

Details at the Welcome Center & at mlutheran.org

POC: Sonja Pederson
fellowship_rep@mlutheran.org



SPRING LANDSCAPE WORK DAY
SATURDAY, MAY 4 @ 9 AM
MANY HANDS ARE NEEDED!

Come help plant daffodil bulbs (holes will be pre-dug) and spread pine straw on landscape beds.

POC: Mary Ann Stasiak

Women's Book & Social Club

Next Meeting: Social Only!

Monday, May 13th at 7:00 p.m. at Stem and Stein
 All MLC Women Welcome POC: Janell Zesinger



MESSIAH MUSIC CAMP
 JUNE 3-7, 2019

Bless your child(ren)'s summer with a week of learning God's Word, singing, and recreational fun. This original children's musical is based on Jesus' 7 Signs in the Gospel of John entitled "*Light of Life: Signs of the Savior.*"

To reserve your child(ren)'s place, visit www.musiccamp.mlutheran.org, call MLC's Office at 256-721-0041, or contact Ms. Lois at musicdirector@mlutheran.org.

Save the Date!
Dinner Theater will be Saturday, Sep 28 this year!

COMFORTERS
 Comforters will meet each Tuesday at 9:00 a.m.
Interested in joining the Comforters?
 You don't need to know how to sew!
 Contact Jeanette Beamer at jcbeamer44@gmail.com

KIT MINISTRY
 No meetings in May
 Students & Groups: Looking for Service Hours for 2019?
 Contact Diane Davis or Rhonda Gaede
mlutheran.org/project/kit-ministry/



Information and forms at the Welcome Center & mlutheran.org

HIGHLIGHTS OF ITALY
 12 Day Tour | October 28 - November 6, 2019
www.pilgrimtours.com/groups/petersongroup2019.htm



The Class of 2019 Congratulations, Graduates!

Sending Baskets for MLC's high school graduates are located in the hallway. Please fill them with items the graduates may need in the next phase of their lives, such as towels, detergent, copy paper, etc. Baskets will be blessed and delivered at the early service on May 12.

William Armstrong
Joshua Byers
Justin Byers
Savannah Coates
Mary Grace D'Antonio
Isabella Hunt
Jonathan Huwaldt
Dylan Irvin
Andrea Lindsay
Andrew Seitz
Jennifer Stender
Morgan Sutko
Meghan Thompson

Busy Bag Helper Sought

Each Sunday, our young worshipers enjoy their busy bags even more than the donuts on Donut Sunday (okay, not really... but they love them a lot!). It's wonderful to see them enter church and "beeline" to the bag hanger, eagerly choosing their favorite bag (usually the one with the silly putty).

Help maintaining the bags and their contents is wanted. Please talk to Claire Strand if interested.

CHURCH COUNCIL

Executive Committee

President: Pastor Scott Peterson
scott@mlutheran.com

Vice President: Mark Thompson
vicepres@mlutheran.com

Treasurer: Greg Kilby
treasurer@mlutheran.com

Secretary: Pam Sparks
secretary@mlutheran.com

Council Representatives

Worship and Music: Taylor Burton
worship_music_rep@mlutheran.com

Outreach: John Shriver
outreach_rep@mlutheran.com

Stewardship: Heather Neely
stewardship_rep@mlutheran.com

Education and Youth: Janell Zesinger
education_rep@mlutheran.com

Fellowship: Sonja Pedersen
fellowship_rep@mlutheran.com

Property: Pete Woods
property_rep@mlutheran.com

Finance: Dan Byers
finance_rep@mlutheran.com



PRAYER FAMILIES

Please lift these Messiah households in your daily prayers. On Sundays please remember to pray for the groups listed in bold.

WHO: All women of Messiah Lutheran Church, their daughters, mothers, grandmothers, others, etc.

WHAT: **All Mothers - All Daughters Tea**

WHEN: Saturday, May 11 from 2:30 - 4:30 p.m.

RSVP / Sign Up: by Wednesday, May 8 at the Welcome Center in the Church Narthex.

DETAILS: Enjoy an afternoon of tea and light fare to celebrate our mothers, grandmothers and others! Attendees should bring a light treat or dessert to share along with a favorite framed photo of your mother (or others) or a family photo. Dress is Spring "Dressy" Tea will be provided by the Fellowship Committee.

POC: Sonja Pedersen fellowship_rep@mlutheran.org

All Confirmed members - please attend the
**CONGREGATION MEETING TO ELECT
 THE 2019-2020 CHURCH COUNCIL
 SUNDAY MAY 5, 2019 AT NOON**
 - CHURCH POTLUCK TO FOLLOW -
 PARISH HALL

CHURCH MEMBER DIRECTORIES can be found online at www.mlutheran.org. Printed copies available on request by contacting the Church Office. **Do you have a new home address or preferred e-mail account? Have you dropped your land-line? Please let us know.** Anything you do to help us keep our records accurate is appreciated!

MONTH IN PICTURES

Digital viewers: View more pictures from April online!



3rd and 4th Graders in Mrs. Florio's Sunday School Class signed The Lord's Prayer set to music during worship on April 7th.



Sara Galyon shares a story in her Children's Sermon about Mary Magdalene at Easter Services of Worship. "Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed! Alleluia!"



Kari Pitchko leads her young son through one of the several prayer stations developed by MLC Youth around the theme of waiting. Photo by S. Galyon Below: Noah had to wait too.



CASA Ramp Build Number 36 was completed on Saturday, April 20th. [Read more about the build on mlutheran.org](http://mlutheran.org)



GRADUATION BASKETS FOR BLESSINGS ARE READY FOR DONATIONS!

May 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Looking Ahead: Messiah Music Camp - June 3-9 Youth Mission Trip to Memphis - June 23-28 Summer Disaster Relief Mission Trip - June 26-30 Vacation Bible School - July 8-12 Rally Day - Sunday School PreK to 12 Resumes August 11</p>			<p>1 5:00 pm Confirmation 5:30 pm Wed Night Café 6:30 pm Cherub Choir 6:30 pm Seraph Choir 6:30 pm Guitar with Ric 6:30 pm Notabella 7:30 pm Messiah Choir</p>	<p>2 8:30 am Morning Study Group—<i>The Reason for God</i> chapter 4 7:00 pm <i>I Used to Play</i> Instrumental Workshop</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4 9:00 a.m. Daffodil Planting & Landscape Workday Outrun Hunger 5K and Fun Run</p>
<p>5 Christ Kiswahili Youth Choir Visit (worship & potluck) 8:30 am Worship: Now the Feast w/LS 9:45 a.m. Sunday School for All Ages 11:00 am Worship: LBW Setting 2 12:00 Congregation Meeting 12:15 Church Potluck 4:00 Huntsville Master Chorale Concert 6:00 - 7:30 pm Sr. Youth</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7 9:00 am Comforters</p>	<p>8 5:00 pm Confirmation 5:30 pm Wed Night Café 6:30 pm Cherub Choir 6:30 pm Seraph Choir 6:30 pm Guitar with Ric 6:30 pm Notabella 7:30 pm Messiah Choir</p>	<p>9 7:00 pm Council Meeting</p>	<p>10 7:00 pm Bridge Club Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>11 11:00 am MOEs Go! Dublin Park Outing 2:30 All Daughters & Mothers Tea</p>
<p>12 Mother's Day 8:30 am Worship: LBW Setting 2 - Blessing and Presentation of Graduates' Sending Baskets 9:45 am Sunday School for All Ages 10:00 Member Orientation 11:00 am Worship: Chicago Folk w/LS - New Members Received 12:15 pm Inst. Ensemble</p>	<p>13 7 pm Women's Book & Social Club Location TBD</p>	<p>14 9:00 am Comforters</p>	<p>15 5:00 pm Confirmation 5:30 pm Wed Night Café 6:30 pm Cherub Choir 6:30 pm Seraph Choir 6:30 pm Guitar with Ric 6:30 pm Notabella 7:30 pm Messiah Choir</p>	<p>16 7:00 pm <i>I Used to Play</i> Instrumental Workshop</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18 10:45 am Jr Youth Topgolf Outing</p>
<p>19 CONFIRMATION SUNDAY 8:30 am Worship: Contemporary Service w/LS 9:45 am Sunday School for All Ages Last Day for K-12. 11:00 am Worship: LBW Setting 2 w/LS 6:00 - 7:30 pm Sr. Youth</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21 9:00 am Comforters</p>	<p>22 6:30 pm Notabella 7:30 pm Messiah Choir</p>	<p>23 7:00 pm <i>I Used to Play</i> Instrumental Workshop</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26 8:30 am Worship: WOV Service Word/Prayer 11:00 am Worship: Now the Feast w/LS 12:15 pm Inst. Ensemble 4th Sunday Youth 5:00 - 6:30 pm Jr. Youth 6:00 - 7:30 pm Sr. Youth</p>	<p>27 Memorial Day</p>	<p>28 9:00 am Comforters</p>	<p>29 6:30 pm Notabella 7:30 pm Messiah Choir</p>	<p>30 7:00 pm <i>I Used to Play</i> Instrumental Workshop</p>	<p>31 Begin SE Synod Assembly in Chattanooga—June 2 including election of Bishop</p>	

Messiah Lutheran Church
7740 Highway 72 West
Madison, Alabama 35758
Return Service Requested

Non-Profit
Organization
US Postage
PAID
Huntsville, AL
Permit No. 454

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 Adult Sunday School is at 9:45 am 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 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 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

May 2019
Volume 32, Issue 5

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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

