

by Pastor Scott Peterson  
scott@mlutheran.org



## PASTOR'S PAGE

Jesus said to his disciples: *When the Spirit of truth comes, He will guide you into all the truth...and He will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify Me, because He will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine.* — John 16:13-15

Dear Disciples of the Risen Messiah,

**MUSIC CAMP WEEK WAS OVER. I HAD THE PRIVILEGE** of driving six children—all girls, their first language Swahili—back home to their parents in Nashville. The children are mostly from Congo. Some lived for five or more years in refugee camps in Tanzania. Their pastor is Esther Nguomo, who serves Christ Lutheran Kiswahili mission. What a journey that was on June 9, Pentecost Day. Before we could leave the parking lot, one of the children said...

**"WE SHOULD PRAY."** She wanted a prayer for a safe journey to their home; all the girls did. I gladly led the prayer, and we started for Nashville. Within a few minutes, the girls started singing. It was beyond wonderful! These children of African heritage were singing with a freedom, a depth, a joy that was contagious. I was along for the ride. The words of the refrain of their first song were...

**"I BELIEVE IN GOD OUR FATHER.** *I believe in Christ the Son. I believe in the Holy Spirit, Our God is three in one. I believe in the resurrection, that we will rise again. For I believe in the name of Jesus.*" It was Pentecost Day, Holy Spirit Day, and these children were singing our Creed.

**SOME SAY AFRICAN CHRISTIANS ARE SO FREE, JUBILANT, AND POWERFUL** in witnessing to their faith because their cultural heritage was not influenced by the Enlightenment, also known as the Age of Reason. The Enlightenment was a movement that occurred in Europe and North America from 1685 to 1815, according to many historians. The Enlightenment was all about illuminating human intellect and culture after the "dark" Middle Ages and included the rise of concepts such as reason, liberty, and the scientific method.

**ENLIGHTENMENT PHILOSOPHY WAS SKEPTICAL OF RELIGION**—especially wary of the powerful Roman Catholic Church — and skeptical about royalty and hereditary aristocracy. Enlightenment philosophy shaped the French and American revolutions and constitutions. Personally, I am in favor of reason, liberty, and the scientific method. The Benedictine priests, monks, and nuns who taught me biology, chemistry, and physics in college were great witnesses—not only to the scientific method, but also to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

The Enlightenment, the Age of Reason, as it occurred primarily in Europe and North America, did not influence Africa in the same way. Yet, like those singing children I drove with, none of the Gospel writers were shaped by the Enlightenment, either. Matthew and John wrote as witnesses of Jesus' ministry and life, His death and resurrection. Mark and Luke passed on stories of Jesus from eyewitnesses they knew and trusted.

**THESE DAYS, THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH IS GROWING RAPIDLY** in South and Central America and in Asia. The church is growing fast enough in China that the government has started imprisoning pastors and persecuting churches—again. And the church is exploding in Africa—even the Lutheran church. Worldwide, just one strand of the Christian church, Pentecostalism, is adding 54,000 new

(Con nued on page 7)

### JULY SERVICES OF WORSHIP

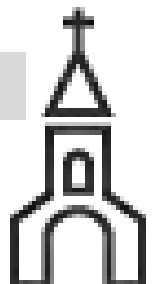
LBW = Lutheran Book of Worship | WOV = With One Voice  
ELW = Evangelical Lutheran Worship | LS = Lord's Supper

#### Sundays at 8:30 a.m.

July 7	Now the Feast w/LS
July 14	LBW Setting 1
July 21	LBW Setting 2 w/LS
July 28	WOV Service of Word/Prayer

#### Sundays at 11:00 a.m.

July 7	LBW Setting 2
July 14	Chicago Folk w/LS
July 21	Contemporary Service
July 28	LBW Setting 1 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.**  
If you or a loved one needs to be lifted up in prayer, email [claire@mlutheran.org](mailto:claire@mlutheran.org)

#### OUTREACH:

**PANTRY ITEM**  
Bars &  
Crackers

#### KIT MINISTRY

70 Count  
Notebooks

*Members may also designate offerings to:*

**Food Pantry  
&  
Kit Ministry**

# OUTREACH

## Life Passages

Kaitlyn Noel Shriver was baptized on June 16th. Her Baptism sponsors are John and Elaine Shriver and Lois Graff.



## MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT: Madison Expo and Kids Day by Claire Strand

### MADISON EXPO AND KIDS DAY

Madison Chamber of Commerce Members showcase what they have to offer to the general public. Family fun oriented, **FREE** to attend! This year's theme is Madison Depot 1869 and will feature a re-enactment of the chicken coupon toss (using rubber chickens, of course!)

#### Location:

Hogan Family YMCA  
130 Park Square Lane  
Madison, AL 35758

#### Date/Time:

Saturday  
July 27, 2019  
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

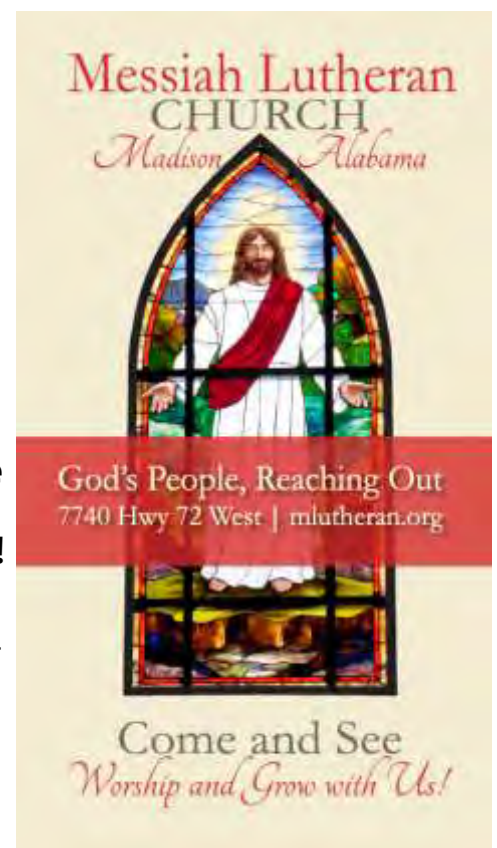
### **We are God's People, Reaching Out!**

Since Messiah Lutheran Church is a Chamber member, we will once again have a booth at this year's expo to showcase our Lord's work at MLC.

**Hosts and Hostesses for the booth are needed to serve for two to three hour shifts. Set up and tear down help, too!**

Please email Claire Strand [claire@mlutheran.org](mailto:claire@mlutheran.org) if you are interested in helping.

**It's a fun way to interact with our friends and neighbors in the community!**



# WORSHIP & MUSIC NOTES

## Sing and Highlight your Ministry

Would you consider having your ministry group join the Messiah choir for an upcoming service as our special guests? The choir's schedule changes slightly during the summer, rehearsing for each service 30 minutes prior to worship. Your commitment would be to a single rehearsal and service of worship. Music selected will be based on a familiar song or something easy to learn in one rehearsal. No music experience is needed, as the choir members will be there to support your music-making. Perhaps you or a member of your group could provide a PSA highlighting your ministry opportunities during the morning announcements. This collaboration will be a fun way to bring visibility to your ministry and to potentially participate in worship in a new way. Contact Randall Fields ([rfields35824@gmail.com](mailto:rfields35824@gmail.com)) or Lois Graff for more information or to schedule the service you would like to sing.

## Music Camp Highlights

Music Camp 2019 had a total of 48 campers, including 14 children from Christ Kiswahili in Nashville! Thank you to the 17 youth and over 25 adults who led the camp the first week of June, and to the many others who helped behind the scenes. And thank you to the six hosting households of the Kiswahili kids. This was a memorable time of learning and growing together in faith. To watch the presentation and view photos of the week, visit [www.musiccamp.mlutheran.org](http://www.musiccamp.mlutheran.org)



## Dinner Theater

Casting is finished, and rehearsals will begin soon. If you are interested in helping with this year's Dinner Theater, *Mischief in the Magnolias*, on September 28 and 29, contact Terry Frakes ([crosswor1@gmail.com](mailto:crosswor1@gmail.com)) or 256-653-0340) or Lois Graff.



**Lois Graff**  
Director of Music  
Ministries

musicdirec-  
tor@mlutheran.org

## Messiah Musicians

Check back in September for musical opportunities for all ages from Pre-K to Adult!

Messiah Choir meets weekly during the summer months. See article to the right.

## Please note:

*The "I Used to Play" Workshop is on hiatus until mid-September.*

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## Hymn of the Month

### "O Spirit of the Living God"

An organist and choirmaster, Samuel Webbe (1740-1816) composed the hymn tune *Melcombe*. James Montgomery (1771-1854) wrote over 400 hymns, 100 of which are still sung today, including "Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain," "Go to Dark Gethsemane," and "Angels from the Realms of Glory." A gifted writer of poems, he possessed a rhythmic ear and knowledge of scripture. In this season of Pentecost, the hymn calls us to action:

*Proclaim the Gospel far and wide;  
The triumphs of the cross record;  
The name of Christ be glorified;  
Let ev'ry people call him Lord!*



**Sara Galyon**  
Director of Youth and  
Christian Education  
Ministries

[youth@mlutheran.org](mailto:youth@mlutheran.org)

## July Youth Schedule

### Sr. Youth (gr. 9-12)

July 7  
Set up VBS at St. Matthew's  
(Time TBA)  
July 13  
11:00-1:00 Topgolf outing  
July 14, 21  
6-7:30 Sr. Youth meeting  
July 28  
6-7:30 Sunday Dinner

### Jr. Youth (gr. 6-8)

July 16  
10:00 Movie outing  
July 28  
5-7:30 Sunday Dinner

### MOEs (gr. 3 - 5)

July 7  
MOEs Serve at St. Matthew's  
(Time TBA)

# MLC YOUTH & EDUCATION MINISTRIES

## Vacation Bible School is Coming!

Be sure to register your kids for our Miraculous Mission Vacation Bible School! VBS will be July 8-12 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. (arrive at 5:15 if you need dinner) at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church (786 Hughes Rd., Madison). Kids from Pre-K (4 years old) through those who have completed 5th grade are invited to register. On Friday, we will have a great family picnic and recreation at St. Matthew's with inflatables and fun games for everyone!

You can register online:

[https://www.stmatthewsmadison.org/digital\\_faith/events/3179931](https://www.stmatthewsmadison.org/digital_faith/events/3179931)



## MOEs Serve!

MOEs (Messiah Older Elementary) will be serving this month by setting up for VBS at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church at 786 Hughes Rd. Check your emails for what time we'll meet there the afternoon of July 7th.

## Junior Youth Movie and Lunch

The Junior Youth will go to Cineplanet at 10:00 on July 16 to see *The Lego Movie*. We will then go to Las Trojas for lunch. Bring enough money to cover lunch. Let Sara know if you plan to come along!

## Senior Youth

The Senior Youth will meet at Topgolf in Huntsville on July 13 from 11-1 p.m. Cost is \$25 and will include lunch and a drink (\$20 if you already have a mem-

bership). Please let Sara know if you want to go so we can make reservations.

The Senior Youth will also help set up VBS at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church on July 7. We will have regular meetings throughout July (see schedule) and have our customary fourth Sunday dinner on July 28

[VIEW PICTURES FROM COLLIDE 2019.](#)



**Memphis Bound!** (L-R) Lily Naefe, Amanda Peterson, Jacob Huwaldt, Sara Galyon, William Strand, Zach Armstrong, Andrew Seitz.

# NEWS FLASHES

## MLC "RALLY DAY" IS SUNDAY, AUGUST 11, 2019

- ☛ Blessing of the Backpacks at Worship
- ☛ Sunday School Resumes for All Ages
- ☛ Rally Day Picnic at Noon featuring "Tacos El Pastor" (In the style of the shepherd)

## Martin Luther wants **YOU** in Sunday School!

For more information visit the MLC Youth and Education page at [mlutheran.org/youth](http://mlutheran.org/youth)

### COMFORTERS

**The Comforters are taking a break!**

There will be no meetings July-August.

**Regular meetings will resume in September.**

Info: [mlutheran.org/project/comforters](http://mlutheran.org/project/comforters)

**Save the Date!**

**Quilt & Kit Blessing is**

**Sunday, August 18th at both Services of Worship**

**Bring the Muscle!**

**The Lutheran World Relief Truck will be at MLC the weekend of August 24 - 25. Help will be needed to load the boxes of quilts and kits on Sunday, August 24th.**

### KIT MINISTRY

**will meet July 11, 18, & 25 at 7 p.m. on  
Thursdays in the Fellowship Hall**

Students & Groups: Looking for Service Hours for Fall of 2019? Contact Diane Davis or Rhonda Gaede!

[mlutheran.org/project/kit-ministry/](http://mlutheran.org/project/kit-ministry/)



2019 DINNER  
THEATER

Saturday

September 28

6 p.m.

Save the Date!

### ALL ABOARD!

#### Ark Encounter Trip Set for Sep 11 to Sep 13, 2019

The dates are set for the planned two night trip to see the scale replica of Noah's Ark in Williamstown, Kentucky.



The group will depart Madison the morning of Wednesday, September 11th, tour the Ark Encounter on the 12th, and return home the morning of the 13th (though some may choose to return on the 12th).

Group transportation details are pending, as are lodging options. There is a sign up sheet at the Welcome Center. All MLC members are welcome to sign up. POC Judi McMillin

Learn more at <https://arkencounter.com/>

### Sunday Worship Boards for Kids

**Parents! Since Children's Church is taking a break for the summer, please encourage your child to be a Sunday Worship "Smartie!"**

**Each Sunday, have your child pick up a Sunday Worship Board. They are located on the bench in the Narthex.** There are two baskets: one for Pre-K to 2nd grade and one for 3rd to 5th grades. Use the activities on the clipboards to help them learn more about and stay engaged in what's happening in Worship!

**After the service, children can receive a word of praise and a package of Smarties when they return their boards.** Simply have your child share a page from their board with Claire Strand, Sara Galyon, Dorothy Seitz (MLC's new Sunday School Superintendent), or even a Junior or Senior Youth member.

## Fellowship

Things might be a little quieter during the summer, but keep the following events on your calendar!

### Save the Dates:

- ☛ Rally Day Picnic—Aug 11th
- ☛ Trip to The Ark—Sep 11-13
- ☛ Chili Cook Off and Costume Party—Oct 27th
- ☛ Cookie Exchange—December 7th

If you are able to help with organizing, setting up, or cleaning up any of our events, please let me know!

Sincerely,

*Sonja Pedersen*

Fellowship Council Rep

fellowship\_rep@mlutheran.org



*Dorothy Seitz*

## Education News

**Dorothy Seitz** is MLC's new Sunday School Superintendent!

Be on the lookout for Fall Sunday School opportunities and information in the August Newsletter.

**Teachers and Substitute Teachers are always needed!**

# CHURCH COUNCIL

### Executive Committee

President: Pastor Scott Peterson  
scott@mlutheran.com

Vice President: Steve Leeper  
vicepres@mlutheran.com

Treasurer: Greg Kilby  
treasurer@mlutheran.com

Secretary: Laurie Campbell  
secretary@mlutheran.com

### Council Representatives

Worship and Music: Taylor Burton  
worship\_music\_rep@mlutheran.com

Outreach: Andrew King  
outreach\_rep@mlutheran.com

Education and Youth: Janell Zesinger  
education\_rep@mlutheran.com

Youth Representative: Rebecca Meyer  
youth\_rep@mlutheran.com

Stewardship: Tim Pitchko  
stewardship\_rep@mlutheran.com

Fellowship: Sonja Pedersen  
fellowship\_rep@mlutheran.com

Finance: Dan Byers  
finance\_rep@mlutheran.com

Property: Pete Woods  
property\_rep@mlutheran.com

**Special thanks** to Devonee Woods who served as Messiah's Sunday School Superintendent for the 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 academic years.

**CHURCH MEMBER DIRECTORIES** can be found online at [www.mlutheran.org](http://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 landline? Please let us know.** Anything you do to help us keep our records accurate is appreciated!

(Continued from page 1)

disciples *EVERY DAY*. Yet the church is shrinking dramatically in the U.S. and in Europe. That makes the words from a renowned teacher sound especially pertinent to us now:

***"UNEDUCATED PEOPLE ARE RISING UP AND CAPTURING HEAVEN, and we with our high culture without any heart. See where we roll in the mud of flesh and blood? Is it because they are ahead of us that we are ashamed to follow?"***

***WHO WROTE THAT?*** St. Augustine, Bishop of Hippo in North Africa (354 – 430 A.D.). Baptized at the age of 31, Augustine probably has been the most influential voice in Christianity since New Testament times. He did not aspire to be a bishop, but the people in the area insisted he be theirs. They said, *"When we picture Jesus, Augustine is the one who looks most like Him."*

Augustine wrote prayers to our Triune God, including:

- + *"You have made us for yourself, and our heart is restless until it rests in you."*
- + *"Without You, what am I to myself but a guide to my own self-destruction?"*
- + *"I sighed and You heard me. I wavered and You steadied me. I travelled along the broad way of the world, but You did not desert me."*
- + *"What does love look like? It has the hands to help others. It has the feet to hasten to the poor and needy. It has eyes to see misery and want. It has the ears to hear the sighs and sorrows of humanity. That is what love looks like."*
- + *"The Bible was composed in such a way that as beginners mature, the Bible's meaning grows with them."*

***WE ARE PEOPLE OF THE WORD:*** The Word of the Father which became flesh in the person of Jesus, and the Word of God which is a Spirit breathing and blowing everywhere these days. And...

***WE ARE GOD'S PEOPLE, REACHING OUT.*** A Pentecostal leader said in Jerusalem on Pentecost Day 2015, ***"When the Spirit comes, people go out."***

***When the Spirit comes, God's people go out. Where is the Spirit of the Risen Jesus sending you today and tomorrow?***

Grace and peace,

Pastor Scott Peterson

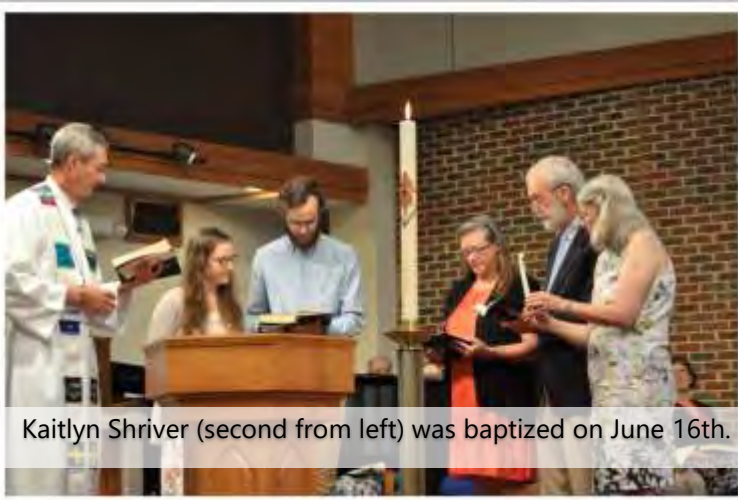
## PRAYER FAMILIES

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

This content is redacted

# MONTH IN PICTURES

Digital viewers: View more pictures online!



Kaitlyn Shriver (second from left) was baptized on June 16th.



"Light of Life: Signs of the Savior"  
See the video and find links to the 2019 Music Camp Photo Gallery at [musiccamp.mlutheran.org/gallery](http://musiccamp.mlutheran.org/gallery)



Claire Strand listens while Andrew King highlights the upcoming MLC Disaster Response Mission to Newton, GA.



Lazarus is no longer "stinking dead," just stinking!



Another month, another ramp! Check out the ongoing adventures of MLC's Ramp Team at [mlutheran.org/project/casa-ramp-builders/](http://mlutheran.org/project/casa-ramp-builders/)



The Sanitation Team cleaning up after Lazarus.



# July 2017



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b> Office Closed  <b>10 am - 2 pm</b> Jr. - Sr. Youth Point Mallard Water Park Outing	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4 INDEPENDENCE DAY</b> Office Closed  	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<i>Church Office on limited staffing this week</i>						
<b>7</b> 8:00 am Messiah Choir <b>8:30 am Worship:</b> Now the Feast w/LS <b>11:00 am Worship:</b> LBW Setting 2  MOEs Serve (time TBA) Sr. Youth help set up VBS @ St. Matthew's (time TBA)	<b>8</b> <b>6:00 - 8:00 pm</b> <b>VBS at St. Matthew's Episcopal begins</b> <i>Optional Dinner At 5:15 pm</i>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 7:00 pm Kit Ministry  7:00 pm Church Council Meeting	<b>12</b> 7:00 pm Bridge Club Fellowship Hall	<b>13</b> 11 am - 1 pm Sr. Youth Topgolf Outing
<i>Miraculous Mission Vacation Bible School @ St. Matthew's Episcopal Church</i>						
<b>14</b> <b>8:30 am Worship:</b> LBW Setting 1 10:30 am Messiah Choir <b>11:00 am Worship:</b> Chicago Folk w/LS 12:15 pm Instr. Ensemble  6:00 Sr. Youth Meet	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 10 am Jr. Youth Movie and Lunch Outing	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 7:00 pm Kit Ministry	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> <b>50th Anniversary of the Historic Moon Landing</b>
<i>MLC's Mission Statement is "God's People, Reaching Out!" What are a few things you can do to reach others with the Good News of Christ?</i>						
<b>21</b> 8:00 am Messiah Choir <b>8:30 am Worship:</b> LBW Setting 2 w/LS <b>11:00 am Worship:</b> Contemporary Service  6:00 Sr. Youth Meet	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 5:30 pm Men of Messiah Location TBD	<b>24</b> <b>ITALY TRIP DEADLINE</b> A completed reservation form, \$500 deposit, and passport photo copy are due to Pastor Scott today!	<b>25</b> 7:00 pm Kit Ministry	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 10 am-2 pm: <b>GOD'S PEOPLE, REACHING OUT @ MADISON EXPO!</b> Hogan YMCA
<i>What MLC group, activity, or mission can you explore and get involved with this fall?</i>						
<b>28</b> <b>8:30 am Worship:</b> WOV Service of Word & Prayer 10:30 am Messiah Choir <b>11:00 am Worship:</b> LBW Setting 1 w/LS  <b>"Fourth Sunday Dinner"</b> 5:00 Jr. Youth Meet 6:00 Sr. Youth Meet	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>Looking Ahead</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>August 2-4:</u> Alassippi Youth Event</li> <li>• <u>August 11:</u> Sunday School Rally Day, Sunday School Resumes, Rally Day Picnic</li> <li>• <u>August 18:</u> Kit and Quilt Blessing Sunday</li> <li>• <u>September 10-12:</u> Ark Experience Trip</li> <li>• <u>September 28 &amp; 29:</u> Dinner Theater: <i>Mischief in the Magnolias</i></li> <li>• <u>October 17-19:</u> Council Retreat at Lutheranch</li> <li>• <u>October 28 - Nov 8, 2019:</u> Trip to Italy</li> </ul>			

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 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. A nursery attendant is provided. All are welcome. Adult Sunday School is at 9:45 a.m. Our website is [www.mlutheran.org](http://www.mlutheran.org). Church office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., staffed by our Office Managers.

The Pastor is Rev. Scott Peterson. The Church telephone is (256) 721-0041. Email: [info@mlutheran.org](mailto:info@mlutheran.org).

**Newsletter submissions may be sent to Rebecca Mast at [newsletter@mlutheran.org](mailto:newsletter@mlutheran.org)**

**Submissions are typically due the 3rd Sunday of every month! Submit photos to [communications@mlutheran.org](mailto:communications@mlutheran.org)**



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

# Messenger

July 2019  
Volume 32, Issue 7

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### Contact Information

#### Messiah Lutheran Church

7740 Highway 72 West Madison, AL 35758

Phone: (256) 721-0041

Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Monday –Friday

### Staff

Rev. Scott Peterson.....Pastor  
Claire Strand.....Director of Outreach Ministries  
Lois Graff.....Director of Music Ministries  
Sara Galyon.....Director of Youth & Education Ministries  
Meredith Kilby...Office Manager, Communications Director  
Randall Fields.....Adult Choir Director  
Judy Sylvester.....Nursery Attendant

**Find up-to-date information at [www.mlutheran.org](http://www.mlutheran.org)**

