

Pastor's Page

Pastor Diana Bottin
pastordiana@mlutheran.org

So that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.
Romans 15:6

Transition Team Update

The most important thing the Transition Team wants you to know today is that your Ministry Site Profile (MSP) inputs are due July 4th!! Please take time to prayerfully consider your inputs and fill out the questionnaire. All answers will be compiled and used by the team to complete Messiah's Ministry Site Profile, which will, in turn, be given to prospective new pastors during the call process. Your responses will be collected and you will be given a chance for additional input and discussion before the final draft is completed. As a member mentioned at our June Town Hall meeting, this is not only a document we will use to call our new pastor, but it is also an opportunity for reflection for us all on who we currently are as a congregation and who we want to be in the future.

If you missed Kari Pitchko's Temple Talk on June 19, you can view and read a transcript of it on [MLC's Transition Resource page](#). (Under Updates & Links) You'll learn more about what the committee is doing and how the transition process works.

You may think we are rushing through the process, or you may wonder what the holdup is already! Either way, know that the team is committed to taking as long as it takes to make sure this document reflects the needs and values of our congregation.

If you haven't had the opportunity to join the team for a Town Hall meeting or our "Transition Talk" pizza dinner, there will be more opportunities coming up. Please also reach out to anyone on the Transition Team and we would be happy to meet one-on-one to address any concerns. (Transition Team members are Dan Byers, Dana Burton, Rebecca Mast, Kari Pitchko, John Shriver, Mary Ann Stasiak, Mark Thompson, and Janell Zesinger.)

By Janelle Zesinger



JUNE SERVICES OF WORSHIP

LBW = Lutheran Book of Worship | WOV = With One Voice

Sundays at 8:30 a.m.

July 3 ELW Setting 8 w/LS

July 10 LBW Setting 2 w/LS

July 17 WOV Bread of Life w/LS

July 24 LBW Setting 1 w/LS

July 31 Now the Feast w/LS

Sundays at 11 a.m. & Livestreamed*

ELW Setting 8 w/LS

LBW Setting 2 w/LS

Contemporary Service w/LS

LBW Setting 1 w/LS

Now the Feast w/LS

*All livestreamed services are available on www.mlutheran.org/online-services/





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

Outreach

For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Ephesians 2:10 ESV

Life Passages

Marriage

† Heather Neely and Evan Root were married on May 28th.

Graduation

† William Strand graduated June 6th from Luther Seminary with a Master of Divinity.

Death

† Linda Ruhl passed away on June 10th.

† Deb McDaniels' mother Betty Gilchrist passed away on June 6th.

Confirmation

† Gracie West, Aleksey Smith & Caroline Kokan were confirmed on June 5, 2022 (Photo above right)

Ordination

† On June 22nd at the North Alabama Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church, Philip Galyon, husband of Deacon Sara Galyon, (photo at right) was ordained as a Deacon in Full Connection, the culmination of years of study and candidacy preparation. Philip will continue to serve as the Pastor to Students at the Church at Stone River in Decatur. Congratulations to Deacons Philip and Sara!



Disaster Response Trip Rescheduled

Inspiritus has asked us to reschedule our disaster response trip until the fall. The new dates are September 21-25. If these dates open up a possibility for you to join the team, please let Andrew King know. Last month, the team launched an insulated coffee mug fundraiser. Mugs are \$10 each and can be found in the Narthex. Please support MLC Disaster Response Trips!

Outreach Spotlight: Pub Theology

People have been gathering in pubs and public spaces for ages talking about life, philosophy, faith, and the meaning of life. Outreach is working with Pastor Diana on a brand new mission for Messiah – Pub Theology! Beginning on July 6th at 5:45 p.m. and continuing every Wednesday in July, we'll be meeting in the Canteen at Stovehouse to have conversations about how God works in the world using topics as kickstarts. These will be family friendly discussions and all are welcome – invite friends and neighbors! All perspectives are welcome! We'll have a few minutes for folks to grab some food and drinks before beginning. Stovehouse has 7 fast-casual restaurants on the property.

Topics for July are as follows:

- July 6th – Freedom and Servanthood
- July 13th – God and Hollywood
- July 20th – God and Space
- July 27th – God and Medicine

OUTREACH

PANTRY ITEM

Bars / Crackers

KIT MINISTRY

70 Ct. Notebooks

Members may also designate offerings to:

**Food Pantry
&
Kit Ministry**



Lois Graff
Director of Music
Ministries

musicdirector@
mlutheran.org

Messiah Musicians

Most of our music groups are on hiatus for the summer.

Messiah Choir (7th Grade-Adult)

During the summer months, choir rehearsals are held on Sunday mornings immediately preceding the service of worship when the choir will be singing. Sing on one Sunday or several! Questions, contact Randall Fields or Lois.

Jul. 3 No Rehearsal
Jul. 10 10 a.m.
Jul. 17 8 a.m.
Jul. 24 10 a.m.
Jul. 31 8 a.m.

Other Groups

Watch for updates soon about other music groups resuming in August and/or September.

Music & Worship

Praise the LORD! Praise God in his sanctuary [...] Praise him with trumpet sound; praise him with lute and harp! Praise him with tambourine and dance; praise him with strings and pipe! Praise him with clanging cymbals; praise him with loud clashing cymbals! Let everything that breathes praise the LORD! Praise the LORD!

-Psalm 150

Music Camp Thank You

Thank you to all who helped, participated in, and supported Music Camp. The children and youth did an outstanding job, and more than that, were loving and caring the entire week! Here's a review we received from a parent who is not a member of MLC and watched online:

Thank you for inviting [name] to help with your music camp. She enjoyed it so much! I watched the livestream of the 2nd performance of the play and I have to say that it was wonderful! It was really one of the best crafted plays I've ever seen. It kept me engaged, the writing was pithy and clever and the messaging was clear [...] The Elvis elements of "Bring on the King!" and the Little Richard vibes of "He Was a Rock Star" were so clever. Also, I think I may have detected a little of the Gilligan's Island theme in the title song. I absolutely loved all of the songs! The children were adorable and looked like they had a lot of fun. Finally, the play's telling of God's relationship and covenants with mankind beginning with Adam and Eve and extending to everyone through Christ as a "Forever Adventure" was superbly done. Congratulations! Excellent job!!

Christ Kiswahili visit

On Sunday, July 31st, members of Christ Kiswahili in Nashville will be here to sing for worship and celebrate our partnership in the Gospel! There will be a potluck lunch following the 11 a.m. service of worship.

Music at Messiah

The first concert of the 2022-23 season is Faythe Freese, organ on October 15 at 7:30 p.m. Freese is a Professor of Organ Emeritus at the University of Alabama School of Music and is in demand as a recitalist throughout the United States, Germany, Denmark, South Korea, and Singapore.

Talent Show

Are you interested in participating in a Talent Show on Saturday, September 24th? Please contact Lois at musicdirector@mlutheran.org.

Hymn of the Month

"All Things Bright and Beautiful"

Cecil Frances Alexander (1818-1895) penned the words to this hymn. Alexander wrote the texts for many hymns, including ones for children to teach them the Bible and Catechism. Some of her other hymns are "There is a Green Hill Far Away," "Jesus Calls Us, O'er the Tumult," and "Once in Royal David's City." The tune is a folk song arranged for a hymn setting by Martin Shaw. This hymn reminds us to enjoy God's creation.

*Each little flower that opens, each little bird that sings,
God made their glowing colors, God made their tiny wings.
All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all. WOV 767 vs 1*



Deacon Sara Galyon
Youth Director
youth@mlutheran.org

Messiah Youth MLC's Youth Groups

MOEs (Messiah Older Elementary) - grades 3-5
Junior Youth - grades 6-8
Senior Youth - grades 9-12

Christian Education

Bonnie Flowers
Council Representative for Youth & Education
education_rep@mlutheran.com
Janet Sullivan/Chris Berry
Co - Sunday School Superintendents
sundayschool@mlutheran.org

Messiah Youth & Christian Education

Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates. Deuteronomy 6:7-9

MOEs Summer!

On Sunday, July 17th, the MOEs will go to Altitude Trampoline Park in Huntsville. Keep an eye on emails for more details!

Junior and Senior Youth Schedule

(subject to change; watch your emails!)

July 3: Junior Youth 5 p.m. / Senior Youth 6 p.m.
July 10: Junior Youth 5 p.m. / Senior Youth 6 p.m.
July 16: Point Mallard trip for Junior and Senior Youth
July 17: Junior Youth 5 p.m. / Senior Youth 6 p.m.
July 24: Junior Youth 5 p.m. / Senior Youth 6 p.m.
July 31: Junior Youth 5 p.m. / Senior Youth 6 p.m.

Vacation Bible Camp

Saturday, July 12-14, 2022
6 - 8 p.m.

St. Matthews Episcopal Church

In place of VBS this year, we will be having a summer camp. We will have lots of fun and do camp in a whole new way. Each evening, we will have a theme, a Bible story and an activity.

July 12: A Winter's Night: The Christmas Story, Arts and Crafts & Snow Cones

July 13: A Fellowship Night: Jesus Feeds the 5000, Movie & Popcorn

July 14: A Water Night: Baptism of Jesus, Snacks, Water slide

All of the ages will participate together. POC: Chris Berry. Registration link will be on mlutheran.org or at this link: <https://katiemily9.wufoo.com/forms/m114brvu12y5njl>

Faith Formation Rally Day -

Rally Day for Faith Formation will be on August 7 between services for children and youth of all ages. Meet your teachers! Play games! Enjoy fun snacks! Bring a friend!

Adult Class - Honoring Our Neighbor's Faith Continues!

Dottie Hanson is leading a study of the book *Honoring Our Neighbor's Faith*, comparing other faiths and denominations. MLC has used this book before; if you have an older edition of the book, you do not need to order a new one. The class will go through the summer.

MLC News Flashes...

Confirmation

1st Year Confirmation Classes begin on August 10. This two-year program for youth 8th grade and older is a study of the Old and New Testaments and Luther's Small Catechism and prepares them to affirm the faith they entered through Baptism. Please contact the Church Office or Lois Graff if you are interested.



Coffee Thermos Fundraiser

Stop by the Mission Control Stand to purchase a custom printed MLC Insulated Coffee Thermos. They are \$10 each. Profit supports MLC's Disaster Relief Mission Trip. (See page 2 for details)

KIT MINISTRY

Will Continue to Meet Thursday evenings in the Fellowship Hall at 7:00 p.m.

Prefer to help at home? There are many ways to be a Kit Ministry "minion." POC: Rhonda Gaede

Kits & Quilt Blessing Day - August 21

Loading Day - August 28

MLC COMFORTERS

Meets Tuesday mornings 9:00 a.m.—Noon in the Fellowship Hall

Interested in being a Comforter? Contact Jeanette

Reminders:

- Turn in your Part 1 & Part 2 MSP forms by July 4, 2022.
- You are missed. This transition is not easy, but we'll get through it by being church together! Attend worship, volunteer, and stay connected.
- Please let the Church Office know if you have moved, ditched your landline, moved away from the area or are attending a new church.

SignUp to Assist in Worship

Please contact the Church Office or Laura Peterson or use the SignUp Genius page if you are willing to serve as lector, usher, greeter, communion assistant or acolyte. **Why sign up?** You'll get a friendly reminder, your name in the bulletin, a good feeling for having served, and help others know the task is covered vs. having to call people last minute.



Vacation Bible Camp - See Page 4 for Details!

Come Join Pastor Diana & MLC's Outreach Team at Huntsville's

STOVEHOUSE - CANTEEN

PUB Theology

OPEN

5:45 PM

WEDNESDAYS IN JULY

Introducing... Pub Theology

Wednesdays in July, 2022 @ 5:45 PM | Stovehouse Canteen - 3414 Governors West HSV

Let's gather with our food starting at 5:45 p.m. and kick off with prayer at 6:00 p.m. Come enjoy Family-Friendly conversations on topics through the lens of our faith. All are welcome. Invite your friends.

Topics for July are as follows:

- July 6 - Freedom and Servanthood
- July 13 - God and Hollywood
- July 20 - God and Space
- July 27 - God and Medicine

Details Online!

Messiah Lutheran CHURCH
Huntsville, Alabama

7740 HWY 72 W | 256.721.0041
www.mlutheran.org

An Update from Sending Vicar William Strand

My time as intern at Bethlehem and Trinity Lutheran Church is ending. I've had a long and productive year. The congregation and staff at both churches has made my time on the North Shore excellent.

For a couple from the south, it was quite the adventure. The winter this year was especially interesting. I did many things for the first time, ice-fishing, congregational visitation, and more preaching in this one year than I did in my entire time in seminary. I had a great Internship committee and supervisor along with other pastors to help guide me along.

For what comes next is up to God. But in following my calling to Chaplaincy, I have been accepted by St. Mary's Hospital into an extended unit of Clinical Pastoral Education for this fall in Duluth, MN. Also, I will be seeking work in the same sort of field.

I am also up for the next steps in my candidacy to serve as a rostered minister. I have to be Approved next, first from my faculty at Luther then again in August by my Candidacy Committee. Accomplishing this will allow me to enter the first call process, to fulfill the three required years as a parish pastor.

I am looking forward to this fall and the future. I believe I am very well-prepared from both my Sending Congregation of Messiah Lutheran Church and from my internship Site of Bethlehem and Trinity Lutheran Church.

Thank you for supporting the future of the Lutheran church through me and all those that you help along their callings.

Vicar William Strand

Here is our new mailing address:

William and Kayla Strand
1001 Belknap Str. Unit 401
Superior, WI 54880

Prayer Families

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

MLC PHOTO DIRECTORY PLANNED!

Plans are underway for an updated MLC Photo Directory to be produced and printed for MLC members. This will also be a great tool for MLC's next called pastor to put faces with names. There is the option to upload your photo at the link below. Additional photo opportunities will be announced via E-News.

<https://form.jotform.com/MLCmadison/churchdirectoryphoto>

July Birthdays

Lunches for Learning Special Project



Cooking Up a New Kitchen!

The Jesus Milla Selva elementary school in the community of Nacaome in Honduras requests help funding a replacement kitchen. The old kitchen (top picture, left) was demolished. Construction has started on a new kitchen (pictured below on bottom). The community, the school's Lunches for Learning sponsors, and Messiah are partnering to make this happen.



To help, mark your gift "L4L special project."

Transition Team Resources:

Stay Informed at the Pastoral Transition Webpage

www.mlutheran.org/pastoral-transition-resource-page

We are in Step 2 of the ELCA's four-step call process. If you have questions or concerns, please speak to Pastor Bottin or a member of MLC's Church Council.

You may also email the Transition Team at mlc.transitionteam@mlutheran.org The email will be directed to Rebecca Mast TT Chair, and John Shriver, TT Secretary.



A Message From Linda Ruhl's Daughter, Jennifer Pickthall

"Thank you all for being a part of my mothers life! She loved you and Messiah as much as you loved her. Linda will be buried next to my dad, her beloved Norman, in Augsburg, Arkansas with a family service this Saturday, June 18th. As you might know, she was recently diagnosed with cancer and was about to begin treatment. I know her death has come as a shock to you as it has to me, but know that she is at peace now.

I know mom would have liked to have been remembered by the people who she cared about and gave her such a rock of support. Unfortunately right now, I've got to focus on what I know she would have wanted, to be with my dad in Arkansas and all of her family going back generations."

A prayer vigil for Linda took place at Messiah Lutheran Church on Saturday, June 18, from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. A memorial fund has been established at Messiah in Linda's name. [Download a copy of the Prayer Vigil Bulletin with a remembrance of Linda Ruhl.](#)

Month in Pictures - June



Messy Games Youth Party (Left) was June 5 @ the Huwaldt Home. **Greg Kilby, Pastor Diana, & Deacon Sara (Right)** represented MLC at the Southeastern Synod Conference. The theme of the conference was "Unmute Yourself." See more [Month in Pictures for June online...](#)



"THE FOREVER ADVENTURE"

Was presented on Sunday, June 12, 2022 by the children of this year's MLC Music Camp. Music Camp had been postponed for two years due to the pandemic. The musical is the 10th original musical written by Pastor Scott Peterson with music by Lois Graff. See page 3 for details.

View the 2022 [Music Camp Online Gallery...](#)

July 2022

Finally, my brothers and sisters, always think about what is true. Think about what is noble, right and pure. Think about what is lovely and worthy of respect. If anything is excellent or worthy of praise, think about those kinds of things.

Philippians 4:8 NIRV

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Looking Ahead: Sunday School Rally Day is Aug. 7! Confirmation classes begin Aug. 10					1 7:00 p.m. Bridge Club	2
3 8:30 a.m. Worship: ELW Setting 8 w/LS 9:45 a.m. Adult Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Worship & Livestream: ELW Setting 8 w/LS 5:00 p.m. Junior Youth mtg. 6:00 p.m. Senior Youth mtg.	4 4th of July (Office Closed) 4:45 p.m. Owen's House Kitchen Duty	5 9:00 a.m. Comforters	6 5:45 p.m. Pub Theology at Stovehouse	7 7:00 p.m. Kit Ministry	8	9
10 8:30 a.m. Worship & Livestream: LBW Setting 2 w/LS 9:45 a.m. Adult Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal 11:00 a.m. Worship & Livestream: LBW Setting 2 w/LS 5:00 p.m. Junior Youth mtg. 6:00 p.m. Senior Youth mtg.	11	12 9:00 a.m. Comforters	13 5:45 p.m. Pub Theology at Stovehouse	14 7:00 p.m. Council Meeting 7:00 p.m. Kit Ministry	15	16 Junior/Senior Youth to Point Mallard—Time TBD
Vacation Bible Camp 6-8 p.m. @St. Matthews Episcopal						
17 8:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal 8:30 a.m. Worship: WOV Bread of Life w/LS 9:45 a.m. Adult Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Worship & Livestream: Contemporary Service w/LS MOEs Trip to Altitude Trampoline Park—time TBD 5:00 p.m. Junior Youth mtg. 6:00 p.m. Senior Youth mtg.	18	19 9:00 a.m. Comforters	20 5:45 p.m. Pub Theology at Stovehouse	21 7:00 p.m. Kit Ministry	22	23
24 8:30 a.m. Worship: LBW Setting 1 w/LS 9:45 a.m. Adult Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal 11:00 a.m. Worship & Livestream: LBW Setting 1 w/LS 5:00 p.m. Junior Youth mtg. 6:00 p.m. Senior Youth mtg.	25	26 9:00 a.m. Comforters	27 5:45 p.m. Pub Theology at Stovehouse	28 7:00 p.m. Kit Ministry	29	30
31 8:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal 8:30 a.m. Worship: Now the Feast w/LS 9:45 a.m. Adult Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Worship & Livestream: Now the Feast w/LS 12:00 p.m. Potluck with Christ Kiswahili visitors 5:00 p.m. Junior Youth mtg. 6:00 p.m. Senior Youth mtg.						

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. Sunday School is at 9:45 a.m. Our website is www.mlutheran.org. Church office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., staffed by our Office Managers. The Church telephone is (256) 721-0041. Email: office@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

MESSIAH

Messenger

JULY 2022
Volume 35, Issue 7

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Contact Information Messiah Lutheran Church mlutheran.org

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. Diana Bottin.....Interim Pastor
Claire Strand.....Director of Outreach Ministries
Lois Graff.....Director of Music Ministries
Sara Galyon.....Youth Director
Bobbey Huwaldt.....Office Manager
Meredith Kilby...Communications Director, Office Manager
Randall Fields..... Messiah Choir Director
Karen Miskelly..... Nursery Attendant

Find up-to-date information at www.mlutheran.org

