

Pastor's Page

Transition Update

The Call Committee has completed its first task of finalizing the answers on the Ministry Site Profile and has prepared it for approval by the Congregation's Church Council of Representatives.

MLC's Transition Team completed a large part of the draft MSP based on the Congregation's input (MSP surveys, questionnaires, round tables, and town halls). They also gathered data like church and community demographics, attendance figures, and catalogued MLC activities.

The Call Committee's review and final completion of the MSP ensures that it reflects and speaks in clear language who MLC is as a congregation and how we see our future with our next called Pastor. This step also helps inform and prepare the Call Committee for evaluating pastor candidates.

Once the MSP is approved by Council (underway at time of printing) and has a final check by Assistant to the Bishop Pr. Jonathan Hemphill, the MSP is uploaded to the ELCA-wide database. Bishop Kevin Strickland gave a terrific description of the process that follows during his visit to MLC on October 16. You can view a recording of it below.

<https://youtu.be/2Lnl8-d6mks?t=2069>

Once the Call Committee receives the 4-6 names of potential candidates from the Bishop's office, the Call Committee will conduct initial interviews of the candidates and then more in-depth interviews of the promising candidate(s) as the process continues. Note that while the Call Committee will eventually put forward a pastoral candidate for consideration, that candidate must first interview with the Church Council, then meet the Congregation at a "Meet and Greet" to give everyone a chance to engage with them. The pastoral candidate can only be approved through a majority vote of the Congregation following these steps.

Since a prospective pastor candidate may be actively serving a Congregation, the names of the prospective pastors during the interview phase of this process are kept highly confidential - known only to the Bishop's office and the Call Committee."

Please continue to pray for and trust in every person involved in the process so that the outcome of this interim period ends with the right next Pastor for MLC. We are in step three in the ELCA's four-step call process.

~ MLC Call Committee: Chairperson: Peter Woods, Secretary: Reburta Spinass, Dana Burton, Kari Pitchko, Justin Walker, Joanne Weber

Pastoral Transition Resources:

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

Pastor Diana Bottin
pastordiana@mlutheran.org

⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.
Philippians 4:6-7

MEMBERS - PLEASE ATTEND

Town Hall

Sunday, Nov. 6 at 9:45 a.m.
in the Fellowship Hall .

Congregation Meeting

November 13, 2022 starting promptly at **9:45 a.m.**

In-Person & Via Zoom

The agenda will include:
Vote to approve MLC's 2023 Plan for Mission (Budget) & Ratification of MLC's New Constitution

Advent Begins Nov. 27

Advent Mid-week Services of Worship

Advent services of worship using *Holden Evening Prayer* will be at 12:00 noon and 7:00 p.m. on November 30, December 7, 14' & 21.

The Mid-week Service

Meditation theme is "Amazing Births".

We will look at the birth of Isaac, Samuel, John the Baptist, and Jesus. *There also will be a gift drive for children & youth for Christmas Charities Year Round's Operation Believe '22*

NOVEMBER SERVICES OF WORSHIP

Sundays at 8:30 a.m.

November 6 Now the Feast w/LS
November 13 **Healing Service w/LS**
November 20 LBW Setting 2 w/LS
November 27 WOV Bread of Life w/LS

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

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

Sundays at 11 a.m. & Livestreamed*

Now the Feast w/LS
Healing Service w/LS
Contemporary Service w/LS
WOV 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. If you or a loved one needs to be lifted up in prayer, email claire@mlutheran.org

OUTREACH

PANTRY ITEM

Cake Mix & Frosting

KIT MINISTRY

4 oz Bars of Soap

Members may also designate offerings to:

**Food Pantry
&
Kit Ministry**

Outreach

Life Passages

† Leonardo Jake Diaz-Benites received his first communion

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

Outreach Spotlight: Gathering Together, and Gathering for Those in Need at the Holidays

One Table Huntsville

Outreach leaders Andrew King and Claire Strand invite you to join them and others from all walks of life to give thanks, celebrate diversity, and share a meal at this year's One Table. Meet Andrew and Claire at the red Japanese Friendship Bridge on Nov. 21 at 11:15 a.m.

Hope for the Holidays

Messiah members and friends are invited to attend this year's presentation of Hope for the Holidays at First Baptist in Madison. The speaker, Rev. Carl Malm, is the director of the Center for Grief and Loss and has been at MLC many times.

Thanksgiving Bags

MLC is helping assemble Thanksgiving meal bags for families in need. Our assigned items to contribute are **100 cake mixes and 100 frostings.**

Please bring those to church by November 20th. *If you or someone you know needs a Thanksgiving meal, please notify Claire Strand.*

Operation Shoebox

If you'd like to participate in Samaritan Purse's Operation Shoebox (filling shoeboxes with gifts for children in need worldwide), some boxes and brochures are available at the Mission Control desk in the Narthex.

Please return your filled boxes to MLC by Sunday, November 13th.





Lois Graff
Director of Music
Ministries

musicdirector@
mlutheran.org

Advent and Christmas at MLC

Advent Mid-Week Services of Worship

November 30th
December 7th
December 14th
December 21st

Advent services of
worship using *Holden*
Evening Prayer at
12:00 noon and 7:00 pm

Christmas Eve Services of Worship

December 24th

Candlelight Services with
the Sacrament of the
Lord's Supper at
5:00 pm and 7:00 pm

Lessons and Carols

December 25th

Lessons & Carols at
8:30 am and 11 am

Music & Worship

.... but be filled with the Spirit, as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. *Ephesians 5:18b-20*

Ring and Sing Concert

It's that time of year! Come to Messiah Lutheran on Sunday, December 11th at 6:30 p.m. for the 24th annual Ring and Sing Concert. Several music groups will be participating, along with the ever-popular audience participation ring-along! This is family-friendly and a favorite of many. Donations will support the Madison Public Library.

Music, Music, Music

Come to sing, ring, and play instruments to the glory of God!

Messiah's music groups are preparing for Christmas and the Ring and Sing. Contact Lois Graff if you would like more information.



Below are groups and locations.

Cherub Choir (PK-1 st)	Wed 6-6:30pm	Room 7	Claire Strand, dir.
Seraph Choir (2 nd -6 th)	Wed 6-6:30pm	Room 11-12	Lois Graff, dir.
Notabella (7 th -Adult)	Wed 6:30-7:30pm	Fellowship Hall	Rhonda Gaede, dir.
Messiah Choir (7 th -Adult)	Wed 7:30-8:30pm	Sanctuary	Randall Fields, dir.
Instrumental Ens. (7 th -Adult)	Sun 12:15pm (bi-wk)	Sanctuary	Lois Graff, director

Hymn of the Month

Now Thank We All Our God

Hymnwriter Johann Cruger (1598-1662) composed the tune. The text of this familiar hymn was written by Martin Rinkart (1586-1649), a Lutheran pastor during the Thirty Years' War in Germany. Plague and famine caused all the pastors in Eilenberg to die, except for Rinkart. It was he who courageously and faithfully negotiated with the enemy outside the city walls to bring about the end of hostilities. This hymn was written for the survivors of Eilenberg. *from "Then Sings My Soul"*

*Oh, may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
With ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us,
And keep us in his grace, and guide us when perplexed,
And free us from all harm in this world and the next. LBW 534 vs 2*

Messiah Youth**Jr. & Sr. Youth:**

Interim POC
Sarah Walker
youth@mlutheran.org

MOES:

Currently Vacant

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

CONNECTING KIDS TO WORSHIP AT MLC THROUGH SUNDAY SCHOOL!

Sunday, Nov 13 - DURING SUNDAY SCHOOL Pastor Diana will host "Why do we do what we do in worship?" class for **grades 2nd and up in the Sanctuary.** (*PreK-1st grade class will have normal class.*) This will be an interactive lesson between the kids and Pastor Diana where they can learn "Why we say this... What's that called? Why do we change the colors on that?" etc. Don't be surprised if you come to late worship and see the sanctuary labeled like a pictorial dictionary. This will be a fun chance for the kids to learn more about our worship space and service. **We are asking parents to help their kids come up with a list of questions to ask during this interactive lesson so that Pastor Diana can prepare signs.**

NOTE: Sr. Youth will not meet at Starbucks. Those who are confirmed should attend the Congregation Meeting in the Parish Hall as confirmed members.

Sunday, Dec 18 - DURING WORSHIP - we are looking for children and youth to participate in worship. The kids will be learning a few songs during Sunday School that they will sing as part of the service and we are looking for volunteers to act out the Gospel. We would love to have Mary, Joseph, Angels, Donkey and Sheep for both services. **Please help us plan by letting us know which service you will be attending that Sunday by scanning the QR code on this page.**

Sunday, Dec 18 - DURING SUNDAY SCHOOL - We will have a short Sunday School Lesson followed by a Happy Birthday Jesus Party. We will be doing an Advent gift collection for needy families during the party. More details to come.

Wednesday, Dec 21 - MID-WEEK ADVENT SERVICE Again children and youth to participate in worship and sing songs learned in Sunday School. We are looking for volunteers to act out the Gospel. We would love to have Mary, Joseph, Angels, Donkey and Sheep for this service. **Please let us know if your child can attend this service by scanning the QR code.**

Sunday School Breaks & Notes

Nov 6 - Classes meet, end at 10:40 (see right)

Nov 13 - Classes meet (see above)

Nov 20 - Classes meet

Nov 21 -25, Thanksgiving Break (see calendar)

Nov 27- No Sunday School for Pre-K to Grade 12

Dec 18 - Shortened SS Class - Happy Birthday Jesus Party, Youth Worship Participation

Dec 19 - Jan 3 School Break

Dec 25 - No Sunday School for Pre-K to Grade 12 Lessons and Carols during regular worship

Jan 1 - No Sunday School for Pre-K to Grade 12

Jan 8 - Sunday School Classes resume

Jan 15 -Group Sunday School Class- Group Kit Ministry Activity (MLK weekend)

Teachers Sought!

If you've walked the halls during the Sunday School hour on Sunday mornings you've likely seen and even heard our children's and youth classes. Each class is deepening their knowledge and having some fun along the way. To keep this ministry alive, we need your help. We are looking for adults (age 25 or older) to serve in this ministry.

WE NEED:

- Substitute teachers to fill in when a teacher is sick or traveling

- Teachers for a new class for ages 2-3 year-olds

If you are willing to help with this ministry, please contact Janet Sullivan or Bonnie Flowers

NOVEMBER YOUTH SCHEDULE**Both Groups meet at 5:00 p.m. ***

11/6 Youth Meeting

11/13 Youth Meeting

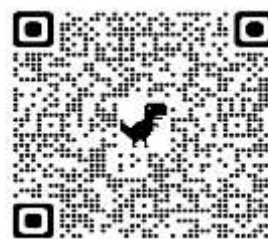
11/20 "4th Sunday Dinner"

11/27 No Meetings (Thanksgiving)

*As suits the occasion and when there is adequate adult supervision, each the groups will break into their small groups to connect and share with one another.

**PARENTS!**

Please complete this form below so we can have a rough headcount of children planning to participate in the Nov. 13, Dec. 18 & Dec. 21 activities. Listed at Left. Please complete by Nov 5!

**Sunday School Teacher (and Substitute) Meeting November 6 at 10:45 a.m.**

Parents please plan to pick up kids from classes 5 minutes early so we can start the meeting on time.

We will discuss background checks, youth training/quiz, schedule, sub-arrangement process and offering. We will be quick so that everyone can get into church if needed.

MLC News Flashes...



LWR Kit Ministry Bake Sale

Plan to stop by on November 13 to pick up some tasty homemade baked goods to give as gifts, tuck into lunches, share at Thanksgiving, or simply enjoy!!

Your purchases will be used to support the MLC Kit Ministry Group in making school, hygiene and infant layette kits for Lutheran World Relief.

Bakers wanted! If you would like to support the sale with your donated baked goods, please let Rhonda Gaede know at gaeder@uah.edu.

KIT MINISTRY

meets **Thursday evenings in the Fellowship Hall at 7:00 p.m. in October.**

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

Let's Play Dominoes!



Messiah's recently formed Domino Club will meet on Wednesday, November 13 at 10:00 a.m. The game which is played is "All Fives" Info at mlutheran.org

Come join the fun!

POC: Richard Webb / Frazier Douglass

Let's Play Bridge!

MLC's Bridge Group meets on the First Friday of every month at 10:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall. The next meeting is November 4.

All Welcome!

POC: Mary Ann Stasiak



Weekly Lectionary Study

The hour long study starts at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesdays in the Fellowship Hall. (No Study on November 23)

Come explore the weekly Sunday lectionary readings with Pastor Diana Bottin. All are welcome. Bring your favorite Bible. Come as you are able and have time.

Email Pastor Diana at pastordiana@mlutheran.org



Annual Comforter's Quilt Auction 2022

Quilts will be displayed in the Narthex throughout November. Stop by to see and bid on the quilts on Sundays or weekdays during church office hours. Proceeds are used to purchase batting, backings, and other supplies needed to make the quilts sent around the world for people in need. An online auction catalog will be posted to www.mlutheran.org early November.

MLC COMFORTERS

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

Interested in being a Comforter? Contact Jeanette Beamer

MEMORIAL SERVICE PLANNING SESSION—SAT, NOV 19 at 9:00 AM

- **Does your family know your last wishes?**
- **Do they know which scriptures and songs you would like at your memorial service?**

One of the greatest gifts we can leave our loved ones when we pass is to have as much of our final wishes in place so they do not have to make so many decisions at the time of our deaths, and they can begin the hard work of grieving.

Pastor Diana will lead a discussion on how to plan your memorial service, talk to family, options available at MLC & more! **All are welcome — and bring a friend!**

More details coming soon on mlutheran.org & E-News.

November Reminders

- **Sunday School Parents— please take a moment to fill out the participation survey** for the activities taking place in December. The QR code is on page 4. Due Nov. 5 Thank you!
- **Pick up your 2023 Giving Envelopes.** They will be on tables in the Narthex.
- **Last Call to update your household photo for the upcoming photo church directory.** The final day for uploading pictures is November 13 (see. Pg.

Messiah's New Members



Ellen Anderson recently retired from the CDC in Atlanta. She is a dog lover and an exercise nut.



Andy and Carolyn Duessel moved to Athens from Florence. They've moved a lot but primarily lived in Arizona and Alabama. Andy is in the Navy Reserve in Florida and also works in finance in Decatur. Carolyn is not working at the moment and helps out with their son in Madison and daughter in Birmingham.



Ron and Claudia Trolard moved to Madison in 2020. They are originally from the St. Louis Area. They are retired and moved to be close to grandchildren.



Mark and Johanna Winge just moved here full time after being part-year residents for the last 6 years. Both their sons live here as well as their 2 grandkids. They moved from the Dallas-Ft. Worth area.



The Reeds moved to Madison in February from Chesapeake, VA. They are transferring their membership from St. John's Lutheran in Charleston, SC where they lived for 10 years prior to moving to Virginia.

November Birthdays

German Food Fest Recap

October 22, 2022 was a beautiful fall day to connect with community members at Messiah's first ever German Food Fest!

Several hundred people came out for the event. We sold over 300 slices of cake and strudel, along with our entire cookie inventory (11 dozen). Pretzels, sausages, sauerkraut slaw, and German potato salad were also



available for purchase. Attendees listened to live music from Mary Ann Stasiak's band Swing and a Prayer, and shopped homemade gifts from the Handmade Market. A "Bubble Garten," face

painting, crafts, and a bounce house were enjoyed by our youngest attendees.

A *huge* thank you goes out to each and every volunteer who lent their time and talent to make this event a success. We couldn't have done it without you! Missed your chance to get involved this year? Stay tuned for updates on German Food Fest 2023!



Month in Pictures, Continued...



Above: Sr. Youth enjoy a lunch at Waffle House with Bishop Strickland and Pastor Diana following his visit on October 16. **Right:** On October 9 the MLC youth gathered and enjoyed a meal together. **Beneath:** On Oct. 1 Property Rep Lisa Evans organized a "We love Messiah" Fall cleanup which involved members of MLC and its Scout Troops. **Below:** Rodney Smith of *Raising Men, Raising Women* with volunteers who helped pack starter kits on October 2 as part of the rescheduled GWOH service project.



The MLC Nursery Attendant position is still open and volunteers are still needed. The job description and requirements are posted on mlutheran.org

Please visit mlutheran.org, MLC E-News and the Sunday bulletin for information and updates.

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 UPDATE

Planning to have a family portrait taken for Christmas Cards? Upload that picture for the upcoming MLC Photo Directory which will be printed late November. You can upload your photo at the link below by Nov 13.. More information in the bulletin & in E-News. <https://form.jotform.com/MLCmadison/churchdirectoryphoto>

November 2022

Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good;
for His steadfast love endures forever!
1 CHRONICLES 16:34 (ESV)

Sunday	Mon	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Please pick up your 2023 Plan for Giving Envelopes!		1 9:00 a.m. Comforters Quilt Auction Begins	2 9:30 a.m. Lectionary Study 5:00 p.m. 2nd Year Confirmation 5:30 Wed Night Dinner 6:00 p.m. Cherub Choir 6:00 p.m. Seraph Choir 6:30 p.m. Notabella 7:30 p.m. Messiah Choir	3 7 p.m. Kit Ministry	4 10 a.m. Bridge Club	5 Reminder for Parents— Participation Surveys are due today. See pg. 4.
6 Town Hall Meeting 8:30 a.m. Worship: Now the Feast w/ LS 9:45 a.m. Sunday School (all) 9:45 a.m. Town Hall Mtg. 10:45 a.m. Teacher Meeting 11:00 a.m. Worship & Livestream: Now the Feast w/ LS 12:15 p.m. Instrumental Ensemble rehearsal 5:00 p.m. Junior & Senior Youth Meeting	7	8 9:00 a.m. Comforters	9 9:30 a.m. Lectionary Study 5:00 p.m. 1st & 2nd Year Confirmation 5:30 Wed Night Dinner 6:00 p.m. Cherub Choir 6:30 p.m. Notabella 7:30 p.m. Messiah Choir	10 7 p.m. Church Council Meeting 7 p.m. .Kit Ministry	11 VETERANS DAY (Office Closed)	12 Reminder Photos for new church directory are due tomorrow. See pg. 8.
13 Congregation Meeting 8:30 a.m. Worship: Healing Service w/LS 9:30: Kit Ministry Bake Sale 9:45 a.m. Sunday School (all)* 9:45 a.m. Congregation Mtg. 11:00 a.m. Worship & Livestream: Healing Service w/LS 5:00 p.m. Junior & Senior Youth Meeting <i>*see pg 4 for details</i>	14	15 9:00 a.m. Comforters 11:30 a.m. "Hope for the Holidays" grief seminar at FBC Madison (See pg. 2)	16 9:30 a.m. Lectionary Study 10:00 a.m. Domino Club 5:00 p.m. 1st & 2nd Year Confirmation classes 5:30 Wed Night Dinner 6:00 p.m. Cherub Choir 6:00 p.m. Seraph Choir 6:30 p.m. Notabella 7:30 p.m. Messiah Choir	17 7 p.m. Kit Ministry	18	19 9:00 a.m. Memorial Service Planning Session All Welcome! See pg. 5 10:00 a.m. Contemporary Team Rehearsal
20 8:30 a.m. Worship: LBW Setting 2 w/LS 9:45 a.m. Adult Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Worship & Livestream: Contemporary Service w/LS 12:15 p.m. Instrumental Ensemble rehearsal 5:00 p.m. Jr. & Sr. Youth "4th Sunday Dinner"	21 11:30 a.m. One Table Huntsville (see pg. 2 for details)	22 9:00 a.m. Comforters	23	24 Blessed Thanksgiving (Office Closed)	25 (Office Closed)	26
27 Advent Begins 8:30 a.m. Worship: WOV Bread of Life w/LS 9:45 a.m. Sunday School (all) 11:00 a.m. Worship & Livestream: WOV Bread of Life w/LS 1:00 p.m. MOES Go! Bowling No Youth Group Tonight (Thanksgiving Break) 5:30 p.m. Notabella	28 6:30 p.m. Women's Book Club Meets Location TBD	29 5:30 p.m. Men of Messiah Meets Location TBD	30 9:30 a.m. Lectionary Study 12:00 p.m. Advent Worship 5:00 p.m. 1st & 2nd Year Confirmation classes 5:30 Wed Night Dinner 6:00 p.m. Cherub Choir 6:00 p.m. Seraph Choir 7:00 p.m. Advent Worship 7:45 p.m. Messiah Choir Comforter Quilt Auction Ends after Advent Worship	Looking Ahead - Dec. 11 - 24th Annual Ring and Sing - Dec. 18 - Children/Youth in Worship & Sunday School Christmas Parties - Dec. 21 - Children/Youth in Mid-week Advent Service at 7 p.m. - Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve Candlelight Services at 5:00 and 7:00 p.m.		

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.** 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

November 2022
Volume 35, Issue 11

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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
Bobbey Huwaldt.....Office Manager
Meredith Kilby...Communications Director, Office Manager
Randall Fields..... Messiah Choir Director

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

