

Pastor's 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

Transition Team Update

Greetings from the Transition Committee! We are entering the homestretch and finalizing our work on Messiah's Ministry Site Profile (MSP). We would like to thank everyone in the congregation for filling out surveys, attending Town Hall Meetings, and joining us for Pizza Night discussions. We have listened to and read all of your inputs and are creating a document we feel reflects who we are as a congregation and who we hope to become in the future.

As we finish writing over the next few days, it will be time to turn the MSP over to the Call Committee, which will be elected by the Church Council at their September 8th meeting. At that time, the Transition Committee will be dissolved, and the Call Committee will begin work on finalizing the MSP document and submitting our information to the Synod.

Please continue to pray for the church, our next pastor, and all those involved in our call process.

By Janell Zesinger

Pastoral Transition Resources:

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

We are transitioning from Step 2 to Step 3 the ELCA's four-step call process.

Growth, Unity, and Trust in God's Community Stewardship Emphasis

Messiah is a strong church with a foundation of God's Word, which drives the mission work of the congregation. The growth of the church has been laid on this strong foundation. **Using Acts 2:42-47 as a guide, our Fall Stewardship emphasis is "Growth, Unity, and Trust in God's Community."**

Temple talks will be given Sept 11, 18, 25, and Oct 2. culminating in **Planning for Mission Sunday Oct. 2**. For more information, contact Tim Pitchko, MLC Stewardship Council Representative at stewardship_rep@mlutheran.org

Town Hall Meeting:
Regarding changes to the constitution. (See page 8)
9:45 a.m. September 11
Fellowship Hall/Zoom

Special Congregation Meeting

September 18, 2022
9:45 a.m. Parish Hall/Zoom

Members will vote at this meeting on the current draft constitution and any amendments presented. See pg. 8 for a proposed amendment by your MLC Church Council Representatives.

Please plan to attend in person or by Zoom. The 20% quorum is necessary to call the meeting to order.

If the constitution is approved at the September 18 Special Congregation Meeting, it will be up for ratification at the Nov. 13 Regular Congregation Meeting.

See page 8 and MLC's Constitution Revision page for more information.

SEPTEMBER SERVICES OF WORSHIP

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

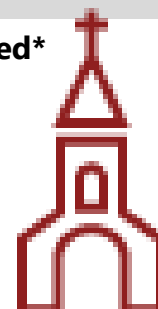
Sundays at 8:30 a.m.

September 4 WOV Service of Word & Prayer
September 11 Healing Service w/LS
September 18 WOV Bread of Life w/LS
September 25 Now the Feast w/LS

Sundays at 11 a.m. & Livestreamed*

WOV Service of Word & Prayer
Healing Service w/LS
Contemporary Service 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

Birth

†Greg & Meredith Kilby announce the birth of their first grandchild,

Deaths

†Annette Joens passed away

†Roger Joens' sister Donna Clothier passed

Outreach Highlights for September

by Claire Strand



Evangelical
Lutheran
Church in America

God's work.
Our hands.

Messiah Lutheran Church - Madison, AL
www.mlutheran.org

September 10 & September 11

For God's Work Our Hands 2022, we are hosting TWO events. Choose one or do both!

On Saturday, September 10, we will work at the CASA Garden from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

On Sunday, September 11, we will pack starter kits for the Raising Men/Women mission after late service at MLC.

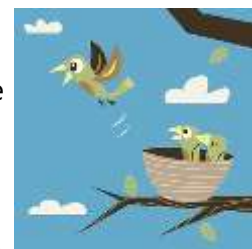
For the CASA work day, wear closed toe shoes. Bring water, sunscreen, and bug repellent. CASA provides all tools. A parent/guardian is required with children under 13.

Disaster Relief Trip - Home Improvement Gift Cards Sought!

The Messiah Disaster Relief Team leaves for Mayfield, Kentucky the 3rd week of September. An EF4 tornado and as many as 30 others hit the area on December 10th. Eighty-one people died. Please pray for recovery efforts and for all touched by damage and loss. **Anyone wishing to donate home improvement gift cards may give them to team leader Andrew King by September 18th.**

Notice for Parents of High School Graduates

Is your recent high school graduate leaving the nest for college? Discerning a gap year? Beginning a career? Help us show them we're thinking of them. Please share their mailing information with Outreach Director Claire Strand. claire@mlutheran.org



An Outreach Community German Food Festival is planned for Oct 22. Committee Members Needed!

Please see page 5 (Newsflashes) on how you can help be a part of this first-ever MLC outreach event that celebrates fall & our terrific Lutheran heritage. The next planning meeting is scheduled for September 7 at 6:00 p.m. in Room 2.

OUTREACH

PANTRY ITEM

Instant Mashed Potatoes

KIT MINISTRY

4 oz. Bars of Soap

Members may also designate offerings to:

**Food Pantry
&
Kit Ministry**



Lois Graff
Director of Music
Ministries

musicdirector@
mlutheran.org

Hymn of the Month

"We All Are One in Mission"

The hymn tune comes from a Finnish folk song and gained popularity after its use in a 1927 British hymnal. Hymnwriter Rusty Edwards (1955-present) served in our Southeastern Synod as Senior Pastor of Christ Lutheran Church in Marietta, GA until 2016. He has published five collections of hymns, sung with the Atlanta Symphony, co-founded a Lutheran academy, and served as volunteer manager of the 2003 National Youth Gathering.

We all are called to service, to witness in God's name.

Our ministries are different; our purpose is the same:

*To touch the lives of others with God's surprising grace,
So ev'ry folk and nation may feel God's warm embrace. -WOV 755 vs 2*

Music & Worship

It is good to give thanks to the LORD, to sing praises to your name, O Most High; to declare your steadfast love in the morning, and your faithfulness by night, to the music of the lute and the harp, to the melody of the lyre. For you, O LORD, have made me glad by your work, at the works of your hands I sing for joy. -Psalm 92:1-4



Music, Music, Music!

Messiah music groups are all resuming rehearsals for Fall! Below are groups and locations. Join in the fun by singing, ringing, and playing to the glory of God in a musical group.

Want to get involved? Contact Director of Music Ministries Lois Graff at 256-658-0276 or musicdirector@mlutheran.com. **Or, just come to a scheduled rehearsal!**

Cherub Choir (PK-1st): Wed 6-6:30 p.m, Room 6, Claire Strand, director

Seraph Choir (2nd-6th): Wed 6-6:30 p.m, Room 11-12, Lois Graff, director

Notabella (7th-Adult): Wed 6:30-7:30 p.m, Fellowship Hall, Rhonda Gaede, dir.

Messiah Choir (7th-Adult): Wed 7:30-8:30 p.m., Sanctuary, Randall Fields, director

Instrumental Ens. (7th-Adult): Sun 12:15 p.m. (bi-wkly), Sanctuary, Lois Graff, dir.

Talent Show

The 2022 MLC Talent Show and Spaghetti Dinner will be Saturday, September 24th at 6 p.m. Following a

scrumptious meal, Bob Gustafson is emcee for a

show spotlighting some of MLC's talent. If you would like to participate, please contact Lois Graff. Donations will support Ukrainian Relief.



Valley Consort

Local acapella ensemble Valley Consort will perform at MLC on Sept. 23 at 7:30 p.m. (rescheduled from May). The concert will include works by Wood, Hogan, Byrd, Brahms, Whitacre, and Lasso. Donations for Valley Consort will be accepted at the door. Concert is sponsored by Music at Messiah.

Music at Messiah resumes its concerts this October!

Faythe Freese, Professor of Organ Emeritus at the University of Alabama School of Music, will be in concert at Messiah on Saturday, October 15 as part of the Music at Messiah Classical Concert Series. Freese has performed throughout the United States, Germany, Denmark, South Korea, and Singapore. The concert begins at 7:00 p.m. and will include works by Guilmant, African-American composer Florence Price, and Sowerby. Donations will benefit the concert series.



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

Deacon Sara is moving! Please see her letter on page 8.

The MOEs GO trampoline park outing was rescheduled for Sept. 11th from 2-4 p.m. Check your emails for more information!

SCHEDULE CHANGE: Junior and Senior Youth will start meeting consecutively in September as a way to help schedule volunteers efficiently. The Junior and Senior Youth groups will meet separately from 5-6 p.m. and then come together from 6-6:30 p.m. All 6th-12th graders will meet from 5-6:30 p.m.

The youth will have an outing to Sonic on Sept. 4. Check emails for more information.

Any adults interested in working with youth groups are invited to a meeting at church on Sept. 10th from 2-4 p.m. to discuss how Youth Group could work going forward using volunteers.

Youth Group Meetings: Sept. 11th Junior and Senior Youth 5-6:30 p.m.
Sept. 18th Junior and Senior Youth 5-6:30 p.m.
Sept. 25th Sara's Farewell BBQ 3p.m.@Huwaldt's

Pastor-Led Lectionary Study Begins on Sep. 28

The class will begin at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesdays in the Fellowship Hall.

Come study and 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. The class will last approximately one hour.

Email Pastor Diana at
pastordiana@mlutheran.org or call the church office at 256.721.0041.

Sunday School: Soaring High with God's Love

There will be no Sunday School for Pre-k to Gr. 12 on Sep 4th!

- PK-1: Kari Pitchko and Deidre Hopkins; Room 9/10
- 2-3: Lisa Bartel; Room 6
- 4-5: Juanita Florio; Room 2
- 6-8: Chris Berry; Room 4
- 9-12: Sara (will meet at Starbucks)
- Subs: Heather Root and Blakeley and Hunter Williams

We would like to extend a special thanks to all of these people for their willingness to serve in furthering the spiritual development of the children in our congregation!



Check out these fun pictures from the Aug 28 Youth Meeting / 4th Sunday Dinner!

Photo credits to Bonnie Flowers!

MLC News Flashes...



Dominoes for Mission Kickoff

Wednesday, September 14, 10 a.m. –
Fellowship Hall Room 11/12. All welcome!

Game rules can be previewed here.

[https://
www.worldchampionshipdomino.com/
adult-division-rules](https://www.worldchampionshipdomino.com/adult-division-rules)



KIT MINISTRY

will not meet in September

**They will resume on 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**

MLC COMFORTERS

will not meet 9/6 but will resume

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

Interested in being a Comforter? Contact Jeanette
Beamer

Reminders:

- Update your household photo for the upcoming photo church directory
- Stop by the church office if you would like a printed copy of the current church directory. It is also available on mlutheran.org (under Member Resources) It is password protected.
- Sign up to assist in Sunday Worship when you are available and wish to help.
- Don't forget to check your mailboxes when you come to church!



Community German Food Fest

Messiah is hosting a community German food fest on Saturday, October 22, and we need YOUR help! **The next planning meeting is Wed., Sep 7 at 6 p.m. in Rm 2.** Volunteers are needed to assist in planning, especially in the areas of children's activities, decorating, and food. Please consider sharing your talent and time in coordinating this all new outreach event at MLC. Please contact Dana Burton at xxxx if interested

"The Spiritual Art of Forgiveness" will be presented by the HAPC School of Applied Ministry on Tuesday, Sept. 20, 6:00-8:30 p.m. in Room 118, First Baptist Church, 600 Governor's Dr. CEUs are available for nurses and social workers. Presenters: *Dr. Liz Hall*, Stephen Minister; *Frank Morales*, LPC; the *Rev. Carl Malm*, Center for Loss, Grief and Change. For more information or to register, email claire@mlutheran.org. Free for MLC members.

Walk to End Alzheimers



October 1st, 2022

Registration - 9 a.m.
Ceremony and walk
starts at 10 a.m. Big
Spring Park in
Huntsville

Join our team! Find *Messiah Lutheran and Friends*
online at act.alz.org. Team Leader: Janice Aldaco



HANDMADE MARKET

**Saturday, Oct. 15, 9-2 p.m. and Sunday, Oct. 16
after both services of worship.**

Messiah Lutheran Church Parish Hall

Contact Elaine Shriver if you would like to donate your hand-i-crafts. She may even have donated yard, materials, etc. for you to use!

September Birthdays

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

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>

Month in Pictures...

Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them... Luke 18:16

Far Left: You're never too young to assist with worship! (Noah Pitchko, ushers on a Sunday morning)

Left: Chris Berry gives a Children Sermon during worship on August 7.

Below: Sunday School children assemble to meet teachers on Rally Day. They also enjoyed games outside which were led by the older youth of MLC.

[View the August Month in Pictures Online Gallery!](#)



Above: Members of the Comforters and volunteers set out over 100 quilts this year in advance of Annette Joens' Memorial Service on Aug 20 and Kit & Quilt Blessing Sunday on Aug 21. **Above Right:** Lee Smith (and Richard Webb have a bit of fun posing with the window they installed on Pr. Diana's office door.

A Message from Deacon Sara

Dear Messiah Family,

Thank you for being an amazing faith community for my family for the last 6 years. For 5.5 of those years I've served as the youth director in varying capacities. I have given my notice of resignation to the Church Council and the parents and youth of this congregation. By writing this, I wanted to make sure everyone had a chance to hear this news.

Phillip, my spouse, has received a new appointment (Methodist for "call") to a church in Georgia, and we will be moving there soon. My last Sunday at Messiah will be September 25th. These have been years full of joy, growth, and faithful devotion to God's work in the world as a faith community, and I am thankful for the part you've allowed me to play in it.

I know that the children and youth of this congregation are capable of amazing things, and will change the world as we know it, ushering in a little bit more of the Kingdom of God every day, supported by their church who loves, nurtures, and equips them for their own vocations.

Again, I thank you for the years of ministry together, and wish you all the best in the ministry of years to come. As always, if you have any questions, I'm happy to speak with you about them. You can contact me at youth@mlutheran.org until September 26th.

Blessings on your journey,
Deacon Sara Galyon

Got questions about the proposed constitution? Bring your questions to the Town Hall meeting on Sep 11! You are encouraged to read the proposed constitution and its timeline at the link below.

<https://mlutheran.org/2022-constitution-update/>

MLC's Constitution is the corporate document of Messiah Lutheran Church as a Congregation in the ELCA. Until a new constitution is ratified, MLC will continue to operate under our existing Constitution.

MLC's Constitution Revision - What You Need to Know -- NOW.

Dear members - We are in the final steps of updating MLC's Constitution. **Please join the Church Council for a Town Hall meeting on Sep. 11 between services in the Fellowship Hall.** Please bring any remaining questions about the Constitution update you have to this meeting. This meeting will be available by Zoom. Look for details via E-News.

On September 18, a Special Congregation Meeting will take place between services in the Parish Hall to vote on the Constitution and any amendments that come to the floor. Your attendance either via Zoom or in person is needed. We must reach the 20% quorum for the meeting to proceed. A Zoom link was included in the official notice mailed Aug 17, and will be sent again via special MLC E-News. A written notice was also mailed.

At the Sep 11 Town Hall a proposed amendment to reduce our quorum requirement to 15% will be presented. This amendment is brought forward by your Church Council. Upon review of our Constitution, the Southeastern Synod strongly recommended this change. Further investigation by the Council of recent meeting attendance and quorum guidelines confirmed that this is something the Congregation should consider. This and other topics will be discussed at the town hall. **Thank you for attending both! - Greg Kilby Council VP**

Farewelling Deacon Sara ...

Sign the big card. It will be in the church Narthex on Sunday mornings leading up to the 25th.

Donate to her Farewell Fund / Give a Gift

Monetary donations in appreciation and thanks for Deacon Sara are being collected online via Paypal Here's the link.

https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=9KQ7MYZNDK8KL

Or-- members may choose to give a card or gift (monetary or otherwise) directly to hrt. A basket will be in th Narthex. *Please do not give monetary gifts for Sara through the Sunday offering.* Thanks.

Attend her farewell reception on September 25 at 9:45 in Fellowship Hall

Deacon Sara "wowed" us with her many gifts and we will farewell her with special "Wow" donuts at this farewell reception. Gifts from the congregation will be presented

MLC's Youth and their parents will farewell Deacon Sara at a Barbeque / Potluck at 3:00 p.m. on the 25th hosted by the Huwaldt Family.

Recently graduated Youth and their families also welcome. Please call the church office for details and the SignUp Genius link for information.

A photo project/gift is being coordinated.

All current and former youth participants and parents are encouraged to share photos and memories of their time with Deacon Sara. Email Bonnie Flowers at bluebons80@gmail.com for details.

September 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
LOOKING AHEAD: October 15: Lunches for Learning Fall Handmade Market October 15: Faythe Freese Music at Messiah Organ Concert October 22: Community German Food Fest				1	2 10:00 a.m. Bridge Club	3
4 8:30 a.m. Worship: WOV Service of Word/Prayer 9:45 a.m. Adult Sunday School 11:00 a.m. Worship & Livestream: WOV Service of Word/Prayer Jr/Sr Youth Sonic outing, time TBA	5 LABOR DAY Office Closed	6	7 5:00 p.m. 1st & 2nd Year Confirmation classes 6:00 p.m. German Food Festival planning mtg. 6:30 p.m. WND Meeting 6:30 p.m. Notabella 7:30 p.m. Messiah Choir	8 7:00 p.m. Church Council Meeting	9	10 9:00 a.m. CASA Garden Workday (GWOH) 2:00 p.m. Youth Group volunteer mtg.
11 GWOH SUNDAY 8:30 a.m. Worship: Healing Service w/LS 9:45 a.m. Town Hall 9:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages 11:00 a.m. Worship & Livestream: Healing Service w/LS 12:00 p.m. Raising Men/Women Packing 2:00 p.m. MOEs Go trampoline park outing 5:00 p.m. Jr/Sr Youth mtg.	12	13 9:00 a.m. Comforters	14 Choirs & WND Resumes 10:00 a.m. Dominoes for Mission Kickoff 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	15	16	17 10:00 a.m. Contemporary Team rehearsal 5:30 p.m. Miniature Golf Outing
18 Congregation Meeting 8:30 a.m. Worship WOV Bread of Life w/LS 9:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages 11:00 a.m. Worship & Livestream: Contemporary Service w/LS 5:00 p.m. Jr/Sr Youth mtg.	19	20 9:00 a.m. Comforters 6:00 p.m. HAPC "The Spiritual Art of Forgiveness" at First Baptist Church	21 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	22	23 7:30 p.m. Valley Consort Choral Concert	24 6:00 p.m. Spaghetti Dinner and Talent Show
25 Farewell Deacon Sara 8:30 a.m. Worship: Now the Feast w/LS 9:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages 9:45 a.m. Reception for Deacon Sara with donuts 11:00 a.m. Worship & Livestream: Now the Feast w/LS 3:00 Youth Farewell Deacon Sara at Huwaldt Home	26	30 9:00 a.m. Comforters Men of Messiah Gathering Details announced by E-News.	28 9:30 a.m. Lectionary Bible Study with Pr. Diana 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	29	30	OCT 1 Walk to End Alzheimers 10:00 a.m. Big Spring Park

Disaster Relief Trip

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

SEPTEMBER 2022
Volume 35, Issue 9

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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
Deacon Sara Galyon.....Youth Director
Bobbey Huwaldt.....Office Manager
Meredith Kilby...Communications Director, Office Manager
Randall Fields..... Messiah Choir Director

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

