

Pastor's Page

"Show me your ways, Lord, teach me your paths." -Psalm 25:4



Pastor Kris Schroeder
pastor.kris@mlutheran.org

GOD'S WORD? GO FOR IT!

We find ourselves nearly halfway through this calendar year. We have celebrated the season of Epiphany, the season of light. We have walked the Lenten journey to the cross and found ourselves standing at the empty tomb, where we acknowledged the risen Christ had come to make us new! And... just a couple of weeks ago, we moved into the Season of the Church we call Pentecost. This lengthy season begins with the coming of the Spirit, inviting us to change, grow, and be on fire with the love of Jesus, allowing the Spirit to challenge us

to be exactly who we are called to be.

As each year draws to a close, we often reflect upon where we've been and where we might be going. Too often, though, we don't do more than think about it for a very brief moment. It goes back to our New Year's resolutions. We may take a few moments to think about how we might grow, learn, or make ourselves better in the year ahead, but too often that's the end. We give a few brief moments of our life to the transformation process, making a resolution to do better, but we rarely follow through.

Somewhere along the line, we convinced ourselves that learning, growing, and changing are left for the young. We expect our children to go to school, learn new things, discover their gifts, and become who they are meant to be. It is then that we say "we have arrived."

But what about the rest? Our lives? Our hopes? Our dreams? God's desire? If you dared to take even a few moments to reflect upon your life and your life of faith, how would you say you allowed the Spirit to change you, to help you grow or even to be on fire with the love of Jesus? This means, regardless of our age, gender, education, resources, or social status, we are to live a life that continues to learn, grow, and develop into who God made us to be.

God does not expect or want us to be who we were last year. We were made to be living beings who... become. SO GO FOR IT! Read God's Holy Word daily. Take time to talk with God regularly. Be in conversation with others about God and what God is up to. It is then that we invite the Spirit to dwell in us richly. The Spirit is present in the here and now, but we MUST recognize the presence of the Spirit and allow it to do its work in us!

~ Pastor Kris

June Highlights

Summer Worship

**Sundays at
9:30 a.m.**

also livestreamed on
www.mlutheran.org

--

Music Camp

June 3 - June 9

--

Vacation Bible School

June 17 - 20
@St. Matthews
(See pg. 4)

JUNE SERVICES OF WORSHIP

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

All services will include the Lord's Supper unless otherwise noted.

Date Summer Service of Worship at 9:30 a.m. through July 28, 2024

June 2	LBW 2 (no communion)
June 9	Music Camp presents "Say What"
June 16	Chicago Folk blended service
June 23	Bread of Life
June 30	Hymn Sing (be sure to put your requests in using the online form)

All 9:30 a.m. services will be livestreamed on www.mlutheran.org



OUTREACH Leadership

Dana Burton
Council Representative for
Outreach

outreach@mlutheran.org

WHO TO CALL?

**For MLC Outreach
Missions & Ministries**
questions contact
Dana Burton

MLC Prayer Ministry
If you or a loved one
needs to be lifted up in
prayer, please contact
Pastor Kris Schroeder
pastor.kris@mlutheran.org

Sarah Walker
Nursery Attendant
nursery@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

Death

† Glenda Adams, Bruce Machamer's sister, died

Graduations

† Ana Ballard, Randall Jackson, Elise Sullivan, Aaron Woods, and James Zesinger graduated from High School.

Confirmed into Membership

† Ryan Fedrick, Matthew Kokan, Hannah Seitz, Olivia Sullivan, William Shipman, Jude Williams, and Lyla Zomkowski were confirmed on May 19.

Promotions

† Justin Walker has been promoted to Detective

Please contact office@mlutheran.org or pastor.kris@mlutheran.org if you have Life Passages you wish to share, such as a birth, wedding, death, graduation, or other important milestone in your household or family.

Outreach Spotlight: It's Visitor Season!

A Few Tips for Greeting Someone Unfamiliar to You @ MLC

Greet and welcome any unfamiliar faces you see at worship this summer. Summer is a time when there are new families in the area looking for new communities of faith.

1. Introduce yourself! Share something about yourself that ties to your church involvement or ministry participation outside of worship.
2. Be positive and helpful. Share what you love/enjoy about MLC, and encourage visitors to sign the guest book or fill out Connection Card before they leave.
3. Be observant. Are there cues in their outfit that could be a conversation starter (such as an alumni polo shirt, clothing accessory, handmade scarf, etc.)?
4. Talk about the weather! Commenting on the weather may seem cliché, but there is a reason this sort of icebreaker works. It's a simple, easy way to get a conversation rolling, offering a bit of common ground between two strangers.
5. Invite people to stay for fellowship coffee after the service, especially if you meet someone during the Passing of the Peace.

Have tips to share? Email the office@mlutheran.org with your ideas.

JUNE DONATIONS

PANTRY ITEM

Rice Mixes

KIT MINISTRY

Pens (Blue or Black-
no Gel)

*Members may also
designate offerings to:*

**Food Pantry
or
Kit Ministry**

Music & Worship Notes



Randall Fields
Music Director/
Choir Director
music_director@
mlutheran.org

Melanie Payne
Organist
melanie.payne@
mlutheran.org

Laura Peterson
Council Representative
for Worship & Music
worship_music_rep
@mlutheran.org

HYMN REQUEST FORM

Want to hear a favorite hymn in Worship?
Place your request
here.

SignUp Genius



Until the end of July, we will have a single worship service at 9:30 a.m.

We hope that this will allow increased fellowship with people who go to the "other service." We also hope that as our regular volunteers travel, others will step up and see how meaningful serving at worship can be. To volunteer, please contact Laura Peterson or the church office.

The choir will be rehearsing at 9:00 a.m. each week that we are scheduled to sing, and drop-ins are welcome. We welcome you to give singing with us a try.

Musical Groups

Please join us in making a joyful noise to the Lord.

Notabella, the Seraph Choir, and the Cherub Choir are on summer break.

Instrumental Ensemble -- The June rehearsal will be June 16 at 10:45 a.m. Larry Frakes continues as interim director.

Messiah Choir (Grade 7 - adult) - Summer rehearsals are Sundays at 9:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary. Director: Randall Fields.

Band Led Worship - The team will practice on June 15 at 10:00 a.m. and June 16 at 8:30 a.m. They will lead worship at the 9:30 a.m. service on June 16/

This year Music Camp will present "Say What?" directed by Stephanie Gillespie. Camp will run June 3-9 with a single service at 9:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary. We still need additional volunteers. To volunteer, please contact Laura Peterson at worship_music_rep@mlutheran.org, Stephanie Gillespie, Bonnie Flowers, or Randall Fields. You can also fill out the volunteer form link here.

The Worship and Music Committee

Our next meeting is July 16th at 7 p.m., probably in the library. This meeting is open to anyone interested in attending. Please contact Laura Peterson at worship_music_rep@mlutheran.org if you are planning to attend.

But I will sing of your might;
I will sing aloud of your steadfast love in the morning.
For you have been a fortress for me
and a refuge in the day of my distress. Psalm 59:16



Special thanks go out for the wonderful Pentecost services. There were many incredible volunteers, including the Band (Melanie Payne, Gretchen Perry, Ric Birdsong, Gerry Myers, Matt Saari, and Bob Davis) the Choir, the youth, Winnie Williams for her liturgical dance, Bonnie Flowers, Laurie Campbell, Justin Walker, and the sound and streaming crew.

Messiah Youth & Faith Formation

Messiah Youth

Junior & Senior Youth:

Junior Youth - grades 6-8

Senior Youth - grades 9-12

youth@mlutheran.org

POC: Bonnie Flowers

MLC's Youth Groups

MOEs (Messiah Older

Elementary) - grades 3-5

POC: Whitney Morse

Moes_youth@mlutheran.org

Christian Education

Bonnie Flowers

Council Representative for

Youth & Education

education_rep@mlutheran.org

Janet Sullivan

Sunday School

Superintendent

sundayschool@mlutheran.org

Teachers Needed for This Fall! Please, can you help?

For the coming year, we will again be in need of additional teachers and substitute teachers. Please, if you have a gift for children and youth, we'd love you to share them at MLC. Note: Self-guided Youth Activity Standards Training and a basic background check are required, all of which can be completed from home.

POC: Janet Sullivan or Bonnie Flowers

Thank you so much to everyone who taught or substituted for Sunday School this year - your ministry to the children of Messiah is greatly appreciated!!

Sunday School

Mark your calendars!! Rally Day and Backpack Blessing with an end-of-summer picnic will be August 4!

Adults: An adult class with Dottie Hanson will meet through the summer at 8:30 a.m. They are studying the book of Acts.

Many thanks to the youth group for planting the flowers near the entrance of the church and for sharing your many talents in leading the worship service on Pentecost Sunday. appreciated! See Pictures on Pg. 7

Vacation Bible School 2024

June 17 - 20 | 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.*

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church | Age 4 through completed 5th Grade

The theme is Waves of Gratitude. Each day will have a water theme with an accompanying Bible story and activities focused on learning to be grateful. Thursday, June 20th will be **WATER SLIDE NIGHT** as we learn about Baptism! *Optional Light Dinner at 5:30 p.m.

We will also take up a donation on the last evening for United Thank Offering (UTO)

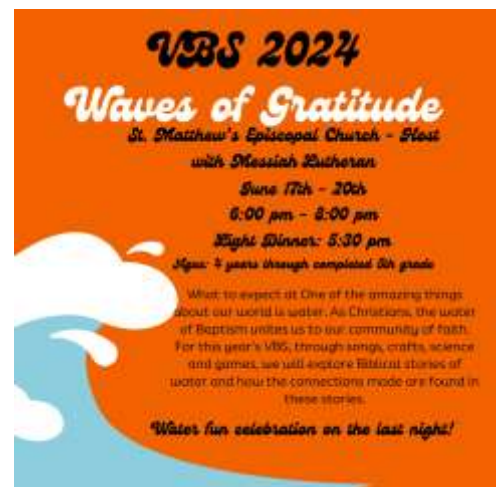
Link To Participate: <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/aazpcna>

Volunteers also needed (completed grade 6 and up) Link To

Volunteer: <https://forms.gle/cPg1S3c3tRYkkE827>

YOUTH SUMMER EVENTS

- **AFFIRM**, a summer youth event of the ELCA Southeastern Synod, will be at the University of West Alabama June 9-14. There are 4 MLC youth registered to attend. Please keep them in your prayers
- **ELCA YOUTH GATHERING is July 16 - 20 in New Orleans, Louisiana.** Thank you to everyone who has helped make it possible for Messiah's seven youth and three adult leaders to attend.



MLC News Flashes...

Walmart Gift Card Drive Ends June 9

Walmart gift cards are being collected by the Messiah's Disaster Recovery Trip team for their upcoming trip to Selma, AL June 11 to 14. Place Walmart gift cards marked "Disaster Recovery Trip" in the offering plate, give to member Andrew King, or drop off at the church office during business hours. You can also make an offering to "Disaster Recovery Gift Cards" and cards will be purchased with the monies collected. **Dedicated offerings should be made no later than June 2.** Walmart gift cards can be brought to the church up to June 9.

The gift card drive ends on JUNE 9.

Kit Ministry

Meets on Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Prefer to help at home? There are many ways to be a Kit Ministry "minion" that you can do at home.

POC: Rhonda Gaede/Diane Davis

Bishop Strickland to Take Sabbatical

Bishop Strickland has had the pleasure and extreme responsibility of serving as our bishop for the past five years. From June 3-September 10, he will be away on sabbatical. We give thanks for the approval of this time from our synod council and for the generosity of the committed synod staff. While away, Pastor Jill Henning, Assistant to the Bishop for Leadership and Administration, has been named the Acting Bishop. She will have the ability and authority to act in his absence.

If there is an emergency or need for an ordination, Bishop Ginny Aebeischer of the South Carolina Synod is on call. We offer prayers and encouragement to Bishop Strickland and the SES Staff during these coming months.

Click & Connect...

Click the underlined text or box for details.

SUNDAY MORNING VOLUNTEERS



June Reminders & Notes:

- **AVOID SCAMS AND PHISHING ATTEMPTS**
Staff and council members will never individually solicit members to purchase gift cards or withdraw funds for a "sensitive" or discreet" matter via email. Please call the office if you have any questions.
- **Help us Keep MLC's Property Functioning and Energy Efficient**
 - **If you notice something that needs service or repair** leave a detailed note in the office with your contact information, the date, and the location of the issue.
 - **Return the thermostats in classroom spaces to their overnight non-use settings.**
- **Members -- Do you need a church directory?** Please just call or email the church office and one can be printed or emailed to you.
- **Help us Keep our Member Records Accurate.** Email or call the church office if any of the above apply to you or members in your household
 - **You've moved away from the area** or have a new home address.
 - **You have joined another congregation** or no longer wish to attend MLC as a member..
 - **Your adult children have grown and moved away** from the area.
 - **Your member parent** has moved to an assisted living or senior home
 - Birth's Adoptions, Marriage, Divorces, Etc.

Please mail church offerings to MLC's Official Post Office Box!

**Messiah Lutheran Church
P.O. Box 526
Madison, AL 35758**

Prayer Families

Please lift these Messiah households in your daily prayers. **On Sundays and holidays (including staff vacations) please remember to pray for the groups or individuals listed in *bold*.**

June Birthdays

--	--

--	--

May 2024 Month in Pictures

Photos Always Welcome! If you are involved in a mission or ministry and have pictures to share, contact communications@mlutheran.org and Meredith will send you a link to that month's shared photo gallery.



Right: MLC Youth surround Youth and Education Council Representative Bonnie Flowers after prepping and planting the flower beds on May 5. Great work, team! **Below:**

Worship on Pentecost Sunday May 19 was blessed with Messiah's Youth leading and serving in many roles, including liturgical dancer,



Below left: At the early May 19 service MLC recognized its high school seniors.

Below right: At the late service on May 19 MLC confirmed seven youth who have completed their two year



Confirmation journey. Graduates and Confirmands names are listed on page 2.



(Continued from page 4)


■ ELCA Youth Gathering Bringing Disaster Relief Kits to Host City of New Orleans

One of the offerings being organized to support people in the host city of New Orleans are Disaster Relief Kits. Each region of the country has been asked to donate different items needed to form disaster relief kits such as small lanterns, first aid kits, charging stations, etc. If you would like to contribute to purchasing items for this effort, watch for a basket in the Fellowship Hall, or just put it in the offering with the memo labeled as "ELCA Youth Gathering - Relief Kits." **Donations will be accepted through June 9.**

POC Bonnie Flowers

June 2024

*Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by this some have entertained angels without knowing it.
Hebrews 13:2*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Looking Ahead July 16 - 20: ELCA National Youth Gathering (New Orleans) July 16—Worship and Music Committee Meeting August 6 - Rally Day—Sunday School Resumes for Pre-K to Grade 12						1 ELCA-SES Assembly
2 Summer Worship Schedule Continues 8:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School Class 9:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal 9:30 a.m. Worship & Livestream LBW Setting 2 with LS 10:30 a.m. Fellowship Coffee	3 4:45 Owen's House Kitchen Serving	4	5	6 6:30 p.m. Kit Ministry	7	8 9:00 a.m. Music Camp rehearsal
<div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #f0f0f0; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">Music Camp Week</div>						
9 Music Camp Sunday 8:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School Class 9:30 a.m. Music Camp presents "Say What?" w/LS 10:30 a.m. Fellowship Coffee AFFIRM June 9—June 14	10	11	12	13 6:30 p.m. Kit Ministry 7:00 p.m. Council Meeting	14 Flag Day!	15 10:00 a.m. Worship team rehearsal
<div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #f0f0f0; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">Disaster Recovery Mission Trip</div>						
16 Father's Day 8:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School Class 8:30 a.m. Worship team rehearsal 9:30 a.m. Worship & Livestream Chicago Folk blended service w/LS 10:30 a.m. Fellowship Coffee 10:45 a.m. Instrumental Ensemble rehearsal	17 4:45 Owen's House Kitchen Serving	18	19	20 6:30 p.m. Kit Ministry	21	22
<div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #f0f0f0; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">VBS at St. Matthew's - 6:00-8:00 p.m. (Dinner at 5:30)</div>						
23 8:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School Class 9:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal 9:30 a.m. Worship & Livestream Bread of Life with LS 10:30 a.m. Fellowship Coffee	24	25	26	27 6:30 p.m. Kit Ministry	28	29
30 8:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School Class 9:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal 9:30 a.m. Hymn Sing with LS 10:30 a.m. Fellowship Coffee						

Executive Committee

Pastor Kris Schroeder (Ex-Officio of All Committees)

President: Neda Ballard—council_president@mlutheran.org

Vice President: Rhonda Gaede—vicepres@mlutheran.org

Treasurer: Lee Smith— treasurer@mlutheran.org

Secretary: Joe Huwaldt—secretary@mlutheran.org

Council Representatives

Worship and Music: Laura Peterson worship_music_rep@mlutheran.org

Outreach: Dana Burton outreach_rep@mlutheran.org

Stewardship: Janell Zesinger stewardship_rep@mlutheran.org

Education and Youth: Bonnie Flowers education_rep@mlutheran.org

Fellowship: Kari Pitchko fellowship_rep@mlutheran.org

Property: Peter Woods— property_rep@mlutheran.org

Finance: Dennis Fry—finance_rep@mlutheran.org

Youth Representative: Hannah Seitz - youth_rep@mlutheran.com

Non-Council Positions / Committees

Sunday School Superintendent: Janet Sullivan — sundayschool@mlutheran.org

Personnel Committee: personnel.committee@mlutheran.org

Financial Secretary: Marc Neely—finance_sec@mlutheran.org

Members! MLC staff, officers, or council reps will never solicit you directly for cash, gift cards, etc.

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. Staffed nursery and hearing assist devices available. 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 (256) 617-8530.



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

MESSIAH
Messenger

June 2024
Volume 37, Issue 6

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

1	Pastor’s Message Services of Worship
2	Life Passages Greeting Visitors
3	Music and Worship Notes
4	Messiah Youth & Education
5	News Flashes, Click & Connect
6	Prayer Families Birthdays
7	Month in Pictures
8	MLC May Calendar
9	Contact Details Staff, Council

**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

Pastor Kristine Schroeder.....Pastor
Bobbey Huwaldt.....Office Manager
Meredith Kilby...Communications Director, Office Manager
Randall Fields..... Music Director, Choir Director
Melanie Payne Organist/Accompanist
Sarah Walker Nursery Attendant

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

