

MESSIAH'S MESSENGER

Knowing Jesus + Serving Jesus + Sharing Jesus

UPCOMING EVENTS

FOOD PANTRY PACKING DAYS

Saturday, February 2 &
February 16 at 9:00 -11:00 am
in the JOY Center.

MESSIAH LUTHERAN MEN IN MISSION FEBRUARY MEETING

is Saturday, February 9, 2019
at 8:00 am here at Messiah

ALSO

The Messiah Lutheran Men
in Mission Valentine Dinner
will be Saturday, February 9,
2019, at 5:30 pm at Olympian
Grill, Five Forks,
Simpsonville.

SPRING IS AROUND THE CORNER

It's time to start thinking
about planting the garden.
Look for the signup sheet on
the kiosk. Many hands make
light work. For more
information, please contact
Anne Force at 444.4084 or
abforce@aol.com

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled, as to console; to be understood, as to understand; to be loved, as to love; for it is in giving that we receive, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned, and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

Excerpt from a prayer attributed to **St. Francis of Assisi**

People of Messiah:

“Rick” visits Messiah on a regular basis. While not a mainstay of Sunday mornings, Rick’s become a frequent face during the work week. Although he’s slowed by advancing age and a declining hip, Rick keeps us abuzz around the office, inspiring us with a jolly disposition and an authentic smile. Haven’t met Rick? You will... and you won’t forget him. Rick embodies encouragement. His gift to our Messiah staff and family? JOY

In February, we ponder what it means for Messiah to be a **GIFTED** congregation of God’s people. The good news? All the gifts we will ever need are already in place. Everyone passing through Messiah’s doors – from parishioners to neighbor’s like Rick – come and go as the gifted people of God. For some, the gifts are manifested in acts of service that feed, teach, and heal. For others, displays of giftedness encourage God’s people to honor life’s blessings and give some of those blessings away.

Rick inspires me to smile more often and live in the moment, recognizing that the ticks on the clock are holy. I don’t get the time back.

Dear friends, how is God gifting you? When you discern an answer, offer your giftedness to the Church and world.

Peace,
PM

FEBRUARY FLOWERS

COST OF FLOWERS - \$53

CAROL SCHMIDT 297-7814

FEBRUARY 3 - OPEN

FEBRUARY 10 -

FEBRUARY 17 -

FEBRUARY 24 -

ON THE KIOSKS

COOKIES AND FRUIT FOR FELLOWSHIP: Sign up if you would like to bring cookies and fruit to the Gathering Area or FAC for Fellowship Time after worship.

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Help us improve our newsletter process! Please send all newsletter submissions to the office via news@messiahmauldin.org. For inclusion in the next monthly newsletter, info must be received by the **25th of the month**. Submissions should be in Microsoft "Word" format. Please limit the length of submissions as space is limited. Thanks for your help.



IN THE NEWS

PANTRY

Pantry News: The Messiah Food Pantry served 122 households in the month of December. Each family was given a small decorated bag containing fruit, nuts, and a candy cane. Our faithful Brookwood volunteers and their adult group donated these bags. The Messiah Food Pantry welcomed another enthusiastic group of volunteers from Faith Renewed on January 19. There were adults and youth! Afterwards, donuts, brownies, and cocoa were shared along with good conversation. This group has expressed a desire to become a regular part of our food packings. Our Pantry is truly a community effort!

There has been a lot of rainy, chilly weather lately, so the Pantry has chosen soup to be our food of the month. The Pantry will pack food on February 2 and 16.

UPDATE ON TYGER RIVER CROCHET CLUB

NICU—Greenville Hospital - 185 Octopi for preemies, 150 hats for preemies, 43 blankets, 40 hats for babies

Miracle Hill— Birthday bags for the homeless—45 beanies

Thank you for your generous yarn support during 2018; and we ask you to keep the club members, the staff and administration of Tyger River in your prayers.

MID-WINTER FORUM

SAVE THE DATE: Saturday February 16, 2019

Opioid and Drug Abuse Epidemic as It Relates to Individuals, Families, and Community.

Presented by the Christian Education Committee

PLACE: Messiah's Luther Hall

TIME: 9:00 am - 2:30 pm. (Lunch included)

TWO GUEST SPEAKERS:

- Rich Jones of FAVOR Greenville will discuss the addicted person, the opioid epidemic, and recovery resources.
- Amber Hollingsworth of Hope for Families will discuss family impact and how the church/community can help. She will also bring two guests who have experience with this problem.

Registration began in the gathering area Sunday January 6, 2019 but will continue this Sunday. Cost is \$5/person, \$7/couple (Bring a friend!)

YOUR MESSIAH NEIGHBOR: ADELINE BLEGEN

The grace and charm of Adeline Blegen are just two characteristics of this lovely lady. She is approaching her ninety second birthday and is an active part of our congregation. She attends weekly Bible Study, the Lydia Circle, and the JOY Group. When she's not involved with the activities of those groups, you might find her at home sewing squares together for the myriad of quilts that our quilters make for both local and abroad distribution.

Adeline joined Messiah in 1982 when she moved here from Pennsylvania. She and her late husband had traveled extensively both for his work and for pleasure. In doing so, they fell in love with upstate South Carolina and decided to make it their permanent home.

When asked to what she attributed her long and healthy life, she was quick to say "good genes." She grew up on a farm; her father lived until he was 96 and her mother, 97. Today, she has three sons and a daughter, ten grandchildren, and four great grandchildren. Everyone except one son will be here to celebrate her upcoming birthday.

She likes to stay active in the church and also enjoys meeting new people. In her spare time, she reads non-fiction books because she likes to continue learning. She goes out to eat several times during the week and also plays board games. (She especially likes Rummy.)

You can meet this "wonder woman" at the 9:00 service or anytime there is something fun happening at Messiah. I have no doubt she is a role model for many of the younger women in our church.

FELLOWSHIP TEAM NEWS

The Fellowship Team invites you to experience fun, friendship and entertainment as you GATHER together in one or more of the three new small groups being formed. They are:

1. Lunch Group: Lunch with Messiah friends
2. Book Club: Enjoy exploring works of fiction and non-fiction with others.
3. Events Group: Participate in and/or attend everything from plays, sporting events, miniature golf, or whatever interests the group.

More information and sign-up sheets will be available at a table in the GATHERING AREA. Come and talk with a member of the Fellowship Team before, between or after Services.

The Fellowship Team is looking for volunteers to help with the Wednesday evening dinners. Please let Mary Salgado (451-7082) if you can help. Thank you.



MORE NEWS

THE SECRET MINISTRIES

There are two ministries I am naming the “secret ministries” because very few people know that they exist. The first ministry is our care bags. One person in our congregation makes bags and fills them with items that would comfort someone going through chemotherapy. Included in the bag is a prayer shawl (crocheted by the ladies at Messiah), a devotional book, puzzle books, a water bottle, and other miscellaneous items. They are delivered to the chemotherapy center. The second ministry is the making and distribution of small heart-shaped pillows that are perfect for putting under an arm. These are given to surgery patients, and Ella Demuth claims that her pillow was used just about all the time as she was recovering from her surgery. All these pillows are made by two women; also, the supplies and all of the material are purchased by these women. They use soft cotton material. These pillows are delivered to hospitals prior to procedures.

If you would like to donate some material, just bring it to church, and Lynne Anderson will let you know where to store it. If you would like to help make the pillows, you can let Lynne know and she will “point you in the right direction.”



THE BIRTHDAY MINISTRY

The birthday ministry is going full speed ahead. In January, we had 16 men celebrating birthdays! That is the most that we have had since the program began! Needless to say, all supplies were depleted while filling these backpacks. Due to generous donations, we were able to replenish supplies and are anxious to find out what February holds for us. This is a most rewarding ministry; the homeless men receiving the filled backpacks are thrilled to receive them and, sometimes, it is the first time their birthdays have been celebrated. One item we put into the birthday gifts is a Bible. We have been purchasing new Bibles, but the suggestion was made that we could possibly include Bibles from our own shelves that we no longer use. So... if you have a gently-used Bible you would like to donate, please put it in the birthday bin located in the gathering area. Once again, monetary donations are much appreciated and are put to very good use!

THE PROPERTY TEAM is ready to fill the position of Sexton for Messiah Lutheran Church as was discussed and approved at the December 2018 Congregational Meeting. For a copy of the job description and/or to express interest, please contact either Dale VanDeVelde or Fred Fulmer by February 10, 2019.

ATTENTION CROCHETERS AND KNITTERS – The Birthday Ministry is in desperate need of lap blankets for our birthday bags. We need an average of 12 per month. Minimum size is 36” x 40”. If you have any questions, please contact Anne Force.

Know your 5 G's

By Denise Ruby, Vice President of Council

Gathered, **Gifted**, Generous, Gracious and Growing!

February's focus is the "G" of **Gifted**. *Messiah aspires to be a **Gifted** congregation of God's people fully involving our entire community in our ministries.*

As I serve my second year on church Council and become more involved in connecting with more people of the congregation, I realize that Messiah is truly a "**Gifted**" congregation. However, I realize on a personal level the question many people ask is "How can I know how the Holy Spirit has **gifted** me?" Because gifts are given for the benefit of the body, it seems likely that where there is a need, there will be someone with the gifting to fill that need. Similarly, if a person is a member of a church where there is no opportunity to exercise a certain gift, it may be that this church needs to create opportunities. The leaders of Messiah seek to ensure that we are providing opportunities for members to exercise the full spectrum of our gifts.

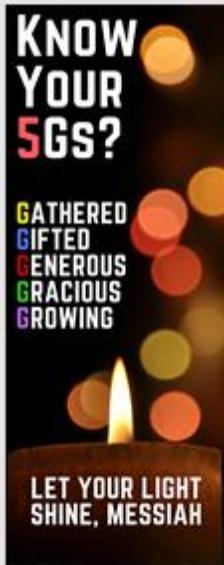
When discerning your gifts and when and where to use them, here are few principles that may be helpful.

Begin with prayer. God promises to give wisdom to any who ask for it. "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him" (James 1:5). We must ask for wisdom in seeing how God has gifted us and in opening our eyes to opportunities to serve Him.

Look for passion. Where God has given a gift, we can expect He will also give passion. A good place to begin when considering spiritual gifts is to see where God has given desire and passion. An example might be that a person who is passionate about having people into her home may well have a gift of hospitality; a person who loves to organize events may be gifted with a kind of leadership. Those who look for their gifting should look to what interests them and what makes them feel passionate. As they look to their passions, they may just find their gifts.

Try them! We should try different opportunities to serve within the church. As we attempt different things and do so in the power of the Holy Spirit, we can expect that He will reveal passion and gifting in ways we may not expect. Think of Moses, a frightened and timid man being called to lead a nation. A life-changing Bible Study for me was by John Ortberg entitled *If you want to walk on water, you've got to get out of the boat*. By attempting different gifts, God may bring blessings, success and perhaps the vision that we have a special gifting in these areas.

Keep trying! The Bible does not tell us that all spiritual gifts are given at the time of conversion or that, once given, they are given permanently. As we grow in our knowledge and love of the Lord, we should continue to seek ways of serving Him. We may be surprised to find that our gifting changes along with the needs of our church. So, keep serving God and keep searching for His gifting in your life.



**STRATEGIC PLAN
PONDERINGS**

Have you ever noticed how Messiah is “open for business” just about every minute of the week? From scouts to Hope Home School, from reunion groups to food pantry packers, our spaces host groups all the time. The *Facilities Use Team*, established under the auspices of our strategic plan, is looking into our use of space to foster efficiencies. Stay tuned for more information.

CHURCH COUNCIL NOMINEES

CHURCH COUNCIL has engaged members to serve on a Nominating Committee. They are asked to bring forth a ballot for election to fill three positions at the next congregational meeting in June. If you wish to be considered for a council position, please put your name and contact information in the nomination box on the center table in the gathering area, and the nominating committee will contact you.



**THE BISHOP IS COMING –
2019 SC SYNOD LEADERSHIP DAYS**

Bishop Herman Yoos and staff will be in the Upstate on Wednesday, February 27 to meet with rostered leaders and church council members from Upstate congregations. Bishop Yoos requests that Messiah host this afternoon/evening event. Your help is requested! We are looking for a small team of parishioners to provide soup, sandwiches, and beverages for this event. If you can help, contact pastor @ pastormichael@messiahmauldin.org.

**KOINONIA 2.1
YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY**

Join Messiah’s young adults for February programming.

Sunday School: Weekly @ 10:15 am – 2nd Floor FAC

Festive Friday: Feb. 15 from 6:30 – 9:30 pm – Sherman/Hughes Home

Trivia Night: Feb. 21: 6:30 pm until. Location TBD

Festive Brunch: Feb. 24 after Sunday school – TBD

February

YOUTH NEWS

Sunday 3 "SOUP"er Bowl Sunday!
High School Youth SuperBowl Party @ Demuth's 5:00-halftime

Wednesday 6 Teen Night 6-7 pm

Sunday 10 Catechism 2:30-5:30 pm
High School Youth 6-8 pm

Wednesday 13 Teen Night 6-7 pm

Sunday 17 High School Youth 6-8 pm

Wednesday 20 Teen Night 6-7 pm

Sunday 24 Catechism 2:30-5:30 pm
High School Youth 6-8 pm

Wednesday 27 Teen Night 6-7 pm

LOOKING AHEAD....

- March 24 - WinterJam Christian Concert**
- April 5-7 - Catechism Retreat at Isle of Palms**
- May 17-19 - High School Spring Retreat @Lookup Lodge**
- June 9-15- Campfirmation at Lutherock**



CHANGE THE GAME

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

MORE THAN 29 YEARS AGO, the Souper Bowl of Caring began with a simple prayer from a single youth group:

“Lord, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us be mindful of those without a bowl of soup to eat.”

Since that day, more than \$143 million has been raised for local charities across the country through Souper Bowl of Caring. It has become a powerful movement that is transforming the time around the Big Game into the nation’s largest celebration of giving and serving.

Through this mission, young people learn what it’s like to make a positive difference in the world – as they collect food, raise money and volunteer to work in charities that provide shelter to the homeless, food to the hungry and compassion to those in need.

Be part of this movement that is sharing God’s love with those in need. Please give generously on Super Bowl Sunday.

Every dollar donated goes to

our 2019 Souper Bowl of Caring charity of choice.





Lutheridge/Lutherock – Messiah
Scholarship funds



Believe it or not, summer is not that far off! Have you considered registering your son and/or daughter for a week of fun and faith building at Lutheridge/Lutherock?

To pay the lowest possible registration fees you need to register your son and/or daughter on before March 15. There are Lutheridge/Lutherock summer program brochures on the table in the Gathering area. You can also access the summer camp schedule, registration fees, scholarship application and register now on the Lutheridge website: www.lutheridge.com.

Messiah and Lutheridge/Lutherock have scholarship funds available to assist with the registration fees. So that Messiah can determine the need for scholarship funds, we are requesting that you complete the scholarship request form, located in the Gathering area on or before Thursday March 15. Please return the completed scholarship request form to Lynne Anderson or email Alysia Dodd or Jim Crofts.

If you are interested in making a donation to the Lutheridge/Lutherock scholarship fund, use your regular envelope or a pew envelope and indicate “Lutheridge/Lutherock Scholarship.”

See or call Alysia in the church office or Jim Crofts at 864-230-0247 with any questions.

. Lutheridge/Lutherock Scholarship Form

Camper Name _____

Parent Name _____

Program _____ Lutherock - Lutheridge - (circle one)

Program Week _____ Cost \$ _____

Scholarship Amount Requested \$ _____

Please return the completed Scholarship form to Lynne Anderson in the church office, or you may email Alysia Dodd (adodd@messiahmauldin.org) or Jim Crofts (crofts0917@aol.com) with your request and the above information. To get the lowest tuition, register before March 15.

GOOD NEWS!

NEW CHILDREN'S WORSHIP BAGS

You'll notice we have new additions in the gathering area and Luther Hall - brand new children's worship bags!! One of our strategic plan objectives for the Christian Ed team is to make our church friendlier to young families, and this is one step toward that goal!

These bags are filled with faith-themed coloring sheets, books, and activities. The loose-leaf coloring sheets can be taken home, but we ask that everything else be returned to the bag and placed back on the worship bag trees.

Speaking of trees—a big thank you to Steve Stuart and John Anderson for making these beautiful trees. Thank you also to Anne Force for the large embroidered bags, and to Gloria and Doug Stenbeck for our smaller bags; and for everyone else who pitched in—it was truly a fun team effort!!



THANK YOU, MESSIAH

Messiah's staff gives thank for generous Christmas gifts from the congregation. Your love and support is greatly appreciated. We look forward to our work together in 2019.

THANK YOU FROM PINE RIDGE

A special word of thank from your neighbors on the Pine Ridge Reservation. Your ongoing stream of gifts—including quilts, coffee, and hygiene supplies—are greatly appreciated. Your support of the Lakota people brings the warmth of the South to our wintry area. We are all one family.

**FEBRUARY
BIRTHDAYS**

- 2 Tom Hirt
- 3 Travis Julian
- 6 Zachary Amador
- 7 Bonnie Bush
Tom Gruenholz
- 8 Elaine Davis
- 12 Kevin Sterling
- 13 Caleb Boller
- 14 Debbie Tishey
- 16 John Yost
Darlene Zinnel
- 18 Mike Blair
- 19 Laverne Hiller
- 20 Justin Messmann
Sue Freund
- 25 Everett Matlock
- 28 Andrew Taggart
Sherry Hirt

*If your name is not listed
above, please call the
church office. Thank You!*

PRAYERS FOR THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS:

Richard & Mary Miller, Blair & Deb Tidmarsh, Gail Williams, Ruth Miller, Betty Thacker, Judy Gisman, Helen Wolfe, Helen Weiger, Paul Bachtel, Tom Manske, Mary Carbaugh, Elsie Switzer, Gary Carbaugh, Bill & Marilyn Hendrix, Jenny Leudke, Joyce Dodd, Marilyn Harmon, Fred Covalt, Sandy Sanders (Kevin Sterling), Jan Beaty, Hilda Hucker, Darlene Zinnel, Ursula Moran, Patrick & Toni Pryor

OUR PRAYERS OF SYMPATHY ARE WITH:

Marie Bergmann at the death of her husband Dick
Linda Stazer at the death of her husband, Doug
Connie Stone at the death of her husband, John
Marlowe Lindstrom at the death of his brother
The Cummins family at the death of a family member
Larry Boller at the death of his father
Toni and Patrick Pryor at the death of their nephew
Robert Dezzi at the death of his father

PRAYERS FOR:

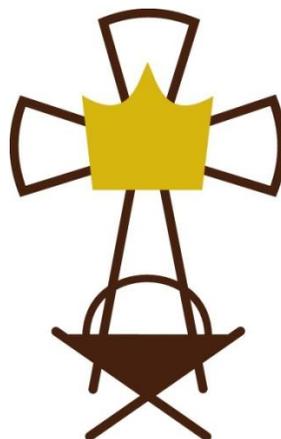
Martha Axman, daughter of Helen Weiger
The son-in-law of Joe Gobbett
The daughter of Marlowe and Betty Lindstrom
The brother of Laura Boyer
Linda Schertz, mother of Daniel Schertz
David Ramsey, father of Tom Ramsey
The wife of Jeff Vissage

PRAYERS FOR OUR MILITARY PERSONNEL: **Todd Chambers:** nephew of Jim & Sherry Crofts, **Britain Weaver:** son of Paul & Barbara Weaver, **Derek Clayton:** brother of Melissa Walser and uncle of Pat & Chris Innes, **Tony Kizziah:** grandson-in-law of Helen Weiger, **Forrest Reid:** nephew of Rod & Donna Brown, **Andrew Jones:** grandson of Marilyn Harmon, **Lee Williams:** son-in-law of Gary & Renee Carbaugh, **Leo & Thomas Kasmer:** grandsons of Adeline Blegen, **Christopher Bair:** nephews of Jay & Lisa Best, **Gary Pagan:** brother-in-law of Jon & Jenny Luedke, **Michael Oberkramer:** nephew of Jim & Martha Amador, **Thomas Johnson:** great nephew of Ralph & Mary Wimmer, **Lance Bonkosk:** husband of Lee & Helen Fisher's granddaughter, **Adam Disque:** son-in-law of Fred & Beth Fulmer, **Jessica Lanford** and **Jacob Lanford,** children of Elizabeth Lanford.

CONGREGATIONAL LEADERSHIP

Messiah Council			Committee Chairs
Position	Name	Email	Name
<i>President</i>	Dennis Barry	president@messiahmauldin.org	
<i>Vice President</i>	Denise Ruby	vp@messiahmauldin.org	
<i>Christian Ed</i>	Porter Jones	edu@messiahmauldin.org	Gail Williams
<i>Fellowship</i>	John Ihme	fellowship@messiahmauldin.org	Mary Salgado
<i>Finance</i>	Anne Force	finance@messiahmauldin.org	TBA
<i>Property</i>	Fred Fulmer	property@messiahmauldin.org	Dale VanDeVelde
<i>Social Ministry</i>	Denise Ruby	social@messiahmauldin.org	Linda Stazer
<i>Executive/Mutual Ministry</i>		staffsupport@messiahmauldin.org	MM/Gloria Stenback
<i>Stewardship</i>	Jay Best	stewardship@messiahmauldin.org	Tom Kedrowski
<i>Welcome/Outreach</i>	Karen Hall	outreach@messiahmauldin.org	Kathi DeVoe
<i>Worship/Music</i>	Sherry Hirt	worship@messiahmauldin.org	Tom Hirt
<i>Council Secretary</i>	Marcia Diggelman	councilsecretary@messiah.org	---

Staff		
Position	Name	Email
<i>Pastor</i>	Rev. Michael Sherman	pastormichael@messiahmauldin.org
<i>Secretary</i>	Lynne Anderson	messiah@messiahmauldin.org
<i>Financial Secretary</i>	Scott Ruby & Pam Creasy	financialsecretary@messiahmauldin.org
<i>Treasurer</i>	Jim Wilkins	treasurer@messiahmauldin.org
<i>Youth Director</i>	Alysia Dodd	adodd@messiahmauldin.org
<i>Music Director</i>	Erin Palmer	music@messiahmauldin.org
<i>Volunteer Deacon</i>	Dr. Don Jary	
<i>Volunteer Coordinator</i>	Dee Wilkins	deannwilkins@bellsouth.net



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