

# The MESSENGER



The monthly newsletter of Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA)  
8154 Atlee Road, Mechanicsville, Virginia 23111 804-746-7134

APRIL 2019



Please join us as we share soup and bread dinner with All Souls members. All Souls will be hosting the 4th Wednesday (April 3rd) . For the 5th week (April 10th), we'll combine efforts. Supper setup will be at 6:00 pm; supper will be at 6:30 pm.

A program time of “moving mindfully” follows, then a time of worshipping together at 8:05. You'll be on your way home by 8:15. All are welcome!



## THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD

**9:00 AM Continental breakfast**

**9:30 AM Easter Activities for Kids**

**10:10 AM Easter Egg Hunt**

**10:45 AM Festival Worship Service for the Resurrection of Our Lord**

**Why not invite a friend or neighbor?**



**10:45 am Worship**



**Maundy Thursday worship 7:00 PM**

**Good Friday worship 7:00 PM**

## A look inside....

- The “Easter Bunny” needs help!.. P. 2
- Transition update #3..... P. 3
- Share the Good News!..... P. 4
- Celebrations .....P. 4
- Prayers ..... P. 5
- Calendar of events .....P. 6, 7
- CFFY..... P. 8

**The Messenger**

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**Your 2019 Church Council  
 And Associate Members**

**James Anderson** ..... Council President  
**Donna Shaw** .....Vice-President  
**Sally Bennett** ..... Secretary

**John Cline**                      **Becky Collie**  
**Karen Morris**                 **Roger Schroeder**  
**Daren Williams**

**Council Liaisons**

Christian Education ..... **Donna Shaw**  
 Evangelism ..... **John Cline**  
 Finance ..... **James Anderson**  
 Property ..... **Roger Schroeder**  
 Social Ministry ..... **Karen Morris**  
 Stewardship ..... **Daren Williams**  
 Worship ..... **Sally Bennett**

**Shawn Warmbrod** .....Treasurer  
**Bill Weaver**..... Financial Secretary  
**Sue Gilnett, RN**...Parish Nurse

Trustees: **Leroy Albertson, Gordon Gunn, Pat Hubert.**



**The “Easter Bunny”  
 needs your help!**

Our Easter egg hunt during the last part of Sunday School is something Messiah's young people and our young visitors always look forward to, but we need your help.

We need donations of small wrapped candies (sizes to fit plastic eggs) and some "larger" plastic eggs. The small eggs will not hold a wrapped candy. Please bring your donation by Sunday, April 14th and place in the box located on a table in the narthex. Thank you for your help!

- **Donna Combs**



**Say it with flowers**

Our altar flower chart has lots of empty dates that could be filled by you! The weekly amount is \$46.00 Just pick a date, write your name, and note a special occasion if appropriate.

Checks should be made out to Messiah Lutheran Church with “altar flowers” on the memo line. Specific dates need to be paid for 2 weeks in advance.

General donations can be made to the flower fund at any time following the same guidelines.



**Messiah on Pinterest**

<http://pinterest.com/messiahmech/boards/>

## Transition notes

### Transition update #3!

Pastoral Care Update: Over the past several weeks, the Executive Team has been striving to find an interim pastor with no success as of yet. The team met multiple times with two potential candidates but were unable to come to finalize the process with either. Unfortunately, the candidate that would have been most suitable for Messiah had to withdraw from the process due to medical reasons. At this point in time, we are awaiting word from Synod as to another possible candidate. Until then we will continue with supply pastors on Sunday, which from all accounts have been well received thus far.

Call Committee Update: Council voted for the following members to lead us in the call process! With Synod's suggestion that at least one member from Council be included, the following people are the designated team: **Sharon Addair, LeRoy Albertson, Tracey Anderson, Rosalee Cline, Johnnie Collie, and Donna Shaw.** As per Synod instruction, it is Council's duty to appoint the Call Committee's Chairperson, and the committee's duty to appoint its Secretary. Council has appointed **Donna Shaw** as chairperson, and the secretary will be selected by the committee once they meet. The next steps are for the committee to meet with Rebecca Walls, a synod representative, on April 15th to review and clarify the process and for the committee to be officially installed at an upcoming Sunday worship service. Please take a moment when you have a chance to thank these individuals for their service.

Respectfully submitted,  
**James Anderson, Donna Shaw, and Sally Bennett,**  
 Messiah Council Executive Committee



## Bulletin announcements

Those who would like to place announcements in the Sunday bulletin, please send them to **Donna Shaw** at dmshaw70@gmail.com for inclusion. Please understand that if they are too long, you may be asked to edit them. Please send your information by Wednesday morning so that Davina can be ready to print the bulletin on Thursday morning.

Since the Midweek Update is on hiatus, any midweek announcement that needs to be distributed can be sent to Donna as well, so that she can see that it gets out in a timely manner.



- ★ To **Jake Addair**, for fixing the door in the ladies restroom!
- ★ To **Rosalee Cline**, for updating Messiah's website
- ★ To **Sally Bennett** and all those who pitched in, making soup and providing all the compliments to the Lenten suppers
- ★ To the Messiah Council Executive Committee, **James Anderson, Donna Shaw, and Sally Bennett**, and the Church Council for all the extra work it takes to lead our church in the absence of a pastor.
- ★ To **Becky Collie** and the fellowship team for continuing our once a month fellowship times after worship



## Wanted: Evangelism Team Members

Would you like to learn more about practicing personal evangelism, i.e., to discuss the Gospel and your faith in a more structured, informative manner?

Would you like to implement a wide range of activities for Messiah's members and their guests?

Would you like to distribute mailbox pamphlets to nearby neighborhoods, inviting mere acquaintances and total strangers to attend Messiah's services and other activities?

Would you like to invite other charitable organizations and non-profit groups to use Messiah's facilities?

No experience necessary. No cold calls or door-knocking. Contact **John Cline** [746-4501; [johnrcline@comcast.net](mailto:johnrcline@comcast.net)].



April 5 **Dak Kondaki**  
8 **Sharon Kondaki**  
12 **Annette Buckholtz**  
14 **Allen Starret**  
19 **Ken Whirley**  
25 **Gladys Jordan**  
25 **Kyle Pfohl**



April 17 **Bill & Susie Weaver**  
30 **Brian & Jessica Glusing**

If you would like **YOUR** birthdays & anniversary included in the newsletter, please send an email to [messiahmech@gmail.com](mailto:messiahmech@gmail.com) or call **Davina** (746-7134).

## What's lost CAN be found!

Messiah's Lost and Found has gained quite a collection of items that need to be found by their owners. Among them are 3 pairs of reading glasses, several devotional books, children's books, a package of two flashlights, several large coffee mugs, a paisley umbrella, a silver butterfly headband, a picture of a young boy in a small black frame, a black beaded

bracelet, a small black hair bow clip, an action figure, and a VA Tech sweatshirt (size 2XL).

If any of these are yours, PLEASE pick them out of one of the boxes on top of the filing cabinet in the copier/counters' office.

If these items are not picked up by the publication of the next newsletter, they will be given to charity.



## We pray for each other:

**Charlie Absher; Kenneth Deere; Adam Dworak, Sr.; JoAn Firebaugh; Elisabeth Gardner; Werner Gardner; Steve Gilnett; “Doc” Kondaki; Mac McAllister; Pat Motley; Jack Ordazzo; Ruth Schroeder; Judy Schwerdtfeger; Marc Thomas.**

## We pray for our extended family and neighbors:

**Debra Anton**, sister of Ruth Schroeder; **Cyndi Bauer**, sister of Lois Schroeder; **Connie**, friend of the Whirleys; **Chuck Dupuy**, son-in-law of Joan Barnes; **David and Sandi Elliott**, friends of the Whirleys; **Connie Gambini**, friend and coworker of Becky Collie; **Family & Friends of Mel Gray**, former member; **Robin Hood**, brother of Marilyn Gunn; **Bill Leaver**, friend of Charlie & Sally Bennett; **Family & Friends of Al Meyer**, friend of Jean Wightman; **Dieter Niklas**, brother of Ema Jung; **Evelyn Poulsen**, mother of Roger Schroeder; **Tim Schroeder**, Roger’s nephew; **Sandy Street**, sister of Donna Shaw; **Susan**, friend of the Whirleys; **Family & Friends of Cary Wightman**, brother-in-law of Jean Wightman; **Our veterans, their fellow soldiers & their waiting families, especially Ian Schwerdtfeger;** **Law enforcement, firefighters and first responders; The people of All Souls Episcopal and our shared ministry; All those persecuted in any way for their faith in Christ, especially in Iran, India, Syria, and Nigeria.**<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Open Doors World WatchList 2019



To add or remove a name from the prayer list, please call the church office, **746-7134**. If leaving a message, include your contact information for follow-up.

Unless we hear otherwise, individuals will be removed quarterly. Memorial prayers will run a minimum of two weeks and then be included in our All Saints Sunday activities.

## Pray for each other

“Beloved, pray for us.” (1 Thes. 5:25) – Continuing a practice from our 50th anniversary year, your worship team is challenging everyone to actively, intentionally pray for our community’s prayer list throughout the week. In addition, we will be having special intentions for several of our membership households each Sunday.

## Help us keep our Facebook presence

During the coming weeks help keep our presence active on Facebook by liking and sharing posts that you see on Messiah’s FB page. In doing so, we reach many more people. You pick and choose what you like or share!

Let’s see how “active” we can be.



**Join Messiah on Facebook!**

April 2019						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

## Calendar of events

- 1
- 2 10:00 AM Richmond Conference Mtg. \*  
7:30 PM Taizé Prayer (Richmond Hill)
- 3 6:00 PM Supper Set-up  
6:30 PM Soup & Supper Program  
(All Souls)
- 4 Commemoration of Benedict  
the African, Confessor  
Martin Luther ordained (1507)  
7:00 PM Choir Practice
- 5 Church Office Closed on Fridays
- 6 Albrecht Dürer, Matthias Grünewald,  
Lucas Cranach the Elder, artists
- 7 9:15 AM All Souls Episcopal: Worship  
9:15 AM Messiah Lutheran:  
Faith Formation for All Ages  
10:45 AM Messiah Lutheran: Worship  
11:00 AM All Souls Episcopal:  
Faith Formation for All Ages
- 8
- 9 Commemoration of  
Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Theologian  
7:00 PM Women's Bible Study
- 10 Commemoration of Mikael Agricola,  
Bishop of Turku  
Virginia Lutheran Items Due  
6:00 PM Supper Set-up  
6:30 PM Soup & Supper Program  
(Messiah Lutheran & All Souls)
- 11 6:30 PM Girl Scout Troop #557 Meeting  
7:00 PM Choir Practice
- 12 Church Office Closed on Fridays
- 13
- 14 PALM SUNDAY  
9:15 AM All Souls Episcopal: Worship  
9:15 AM Messiah Lutheran:  
Faith Formation for All Ages
- 14 10:45 AM Messiah Lutheran: Worship  
11:00 AM All Souls Episcopal:  
Faith Formation for All Ages
- 15 5:00 PM Stevie B night for MCEF
- 16 6:15 PM Council Meeting
- 17
- 18 MAUNDY THURSDAY  
Luther at the Diet of Worms (1521)  
5:30 PM All Souls Episcopal:  
Maundy Thursday Service  
7:00 PM Messiah Lutheran:  
Maundy Thursday Service  
8:00 PM Choir Practice
- 19 GOOD FRIDAY  
Church Office Closed on Fridays  
Olavus Petri & Laurentius Petri,  
Renewers of the Church  
5:30 PM All Souls Episcopal:  
Good Friday Service  
7:00 PM Good Friday Service (MLC)
- 20 7:30 PM All Souls Episcopal  
Easter Vigil
- 21 RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD  
Commemoration of Anselm,  
Bishop of Canterbury  
9:00 AM Continental breakfast (MLC)  
9:15 AM All Souls Episcopal: Worship  
9:30 AM Easter Activities for Kids  
10:10 AM Easter Egg Hunt (Messiah)  
10:45 AM Festival Worship Service for  
the Resurrection of Our Lord  
(Blended, Messiah Lutheran)  
11:00 AM All Souls Episcopal:  
Fellowship and Egg Hunt
- 22
- 23 Commemoration of Toyohiko Kagawa,  
Renewer of Society  
St. George's Day  
10:00 AM Terrific Tuesday Club  
(Hanover Parks & Rec.)  
7:00 PM Women's Bible Study
- 24 6:30 PM Girl Scout Troop #557 Meeting
- 25 Feast Day of Mark, Evangelist  
7:00 PM Choir Practice

Continued next page



## Calendar

### Continued from page 6

26 Church Office Closed on Fridays  
 27  
 28 9:15 AM All Souls Episcopal: Worship  
 9:15 AM Messiah Lutheran:  
 Faith Formation for All Ages  
 10:45 AM Messiah Lutheran: Worship  
 11:00 AM All Souls Episcopal:  
 Faith Formation for All Ages  
 29 Catherine of Siena, Theologian  
 30

\* Off Site



“When the ForwardingFaith Campaign was launched, one of the goals was to support and expand faith formation ministries across the Synod. Even as the campaign continues in congregations, the Synod is investing gifts generated by the ForwardingFaith campaign to make ministry happen.

“In January, a group from around the Synod reached out to the Synod Council to ask for support in launching a new ministry program with young adults. This group, which will be led by young adults, wants to build relationships and strengthen faith. Thanks to funding from ForwardingFaith, the Synod Council was able to approve their request, and this exciting new ministry is moving forward. Look for retreat dates and other information on the group coming soon.”

Article from *The Virginia Lutheran*, March, 2019, a monthly publication of the Virginia Synod, ELCA. Read more at <https://conta.cc/2HEcrA3>



## Earth Day 2019 Monday, April 22nd

Focusing for one day, and hopefully more, once a year, let's consider "Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle" in our lives here in Hanover County:

**Reduce** what we buy making plans for how it will be used as well as a list for shopping;

**Reuse** shopping bags, wrapping tissue, and gift bags;

And finally, **Recycle** by collecting/bagging household metal (cans, lids, etc.) for the bin near the shed and saving old newspapers to be dropped off to the large dumpster across from the church driveway.

Habitat for Humanity collects the metal from the bin weekly, and Messiah earns a small amount from the newspaper collected/sold each time the bin is emptied!

You can make EVERY day Earth Day!

- **Sally Bennett**





## CFFY Corner

(Christian Formation for You)

### MOVIE:

***Saving Faith*** (Feb. 2017): The story revolves around Faith Scott and her Uncle Donny. Faith is the Executive Director of the Ritz Theater in the small Tennessee town of Clinton. After years of struggle to keep the doors open it looks like it might be time to shut them for good. In one last ditch effort to keep the theater alive, Faith and Uncle Donny look to put together a big Christmas show...in June. Using his connections, that Faith knows nothing about, Uncle Donny is able to book a big time headliner for the show - Vince Gill and Amy Grant. Peter Marsh is a local business man in Clinton that has been waiting for the Ritz to go under so he can buy it cheap from the bank and sell it to a big time developer. Uncle Donny, Faith and their friends and family pull together to make sure that they have done everything in their power to keep the doors to the Ritz open. IMDb had a rating of 6.7/10. Dove awarded the film with their Approval for All Ages.

### ADULT BOOK:

These are difficult days in our world's history. 1.75 billion people are desperately poor, natural disasters are gouging entire nations, and economic uncertainty still reigns across the globe. But you and I have been given an opportunity to make a big difference. What if we did? What if we rocked the world with hope? ***Outlive Your Life: You Were Made to Make a Difference*** was written by Max Lucado in 2010. It is listed on CBN's top ten list. Christian Books rates it 4.6/5 and Goodreads rates it 4.1. One hundred percent of the author's royalties from *Outlive Your Life* products will benefit children and families through World Vision and

other ministries of faith-based compassion.

### YOUTH BOOK:

***The Pilgrim's Progress*** by Paul Bunyan is on every must read list for a Christian youth. This famous story of man's progress through life in search of salvation remains one of the most entertaining allegories of faith ever written. Set against realistic backdrops of town and country, the powerful drama of the pilgrim's trials and temptations follows him in his harrowing journey to the Celestial City. Along a road filled with monsters and spiritual terrors, Christian confronts such emblematic characters as Worldly Wiseman, Giant Despair, Talkative, Ignorance, and the demons of the Valley of the Shadow of Death. But he is also joined by Hopeful and Faithful. An enormously influential 17th-century classic, universally known for its simplicity, vigor, and beauty of language, *The Pilgrim's Progress* remains one of the most widely read books in the English language. You might even consider picking up the version edited by C.J. Lovik and illustrated by Mike Wimmer.

### DEVOTIONAL:

For many years, missionary Sarah Young kept a prayer journal, recording her thoughts and prayers. Then she decided to start listening for what Jesus might be saying to her in her daily journey. The journey she started encouraged her heart, along with thousands of others the world over. Her meditations became the now classic devotional, ***Jesus Calling: Enjoying Peace in His Presence***. These 365 days of readings share the words and scriptures Jesus laid on her heart to share. As you read these words of inspiration and encouragement perhaps you'll be brought closer to Jesus presence, experiencing His love and peace.

- **Donna Shaw**





## Free courses at ChurchNext

Through ChurchNext, learn from expert teachers in Scripture, liturgy, and important Christian topics. Students can interact in a safe, online environment that's convenient, engaging, and affordable. Here is a current listing of free courses through ChurchNext:

- Reading the Bible Through the Lens of Conflict with Padric O Tuama
- Revelation: The End of the World or Heaven on Earth? with Michael Battle

Go to

<https://churchnextblog.wordpress.com/free-courses/>  
and start today!

### Pastoral care issues?

In the event of a pastoral care issue going forward, call the church phone number during the days: M-Th, between 8am-3pm and call your council's current executive committee (James Anderson, Donna Shaw or Sally Bennett) if after business hours or on the weekends for an emergency. Their contact information is in your congregational address book. Assisting in this effort is Pastor Katie Pocalyko, Dean of the Richmond Conference, who will find appropriate help when needed.

## MCEF News

The season is quickly changing as are the needs at the One Stop Shop (OSS).

Please save any winter clothing for this fall (storage for off season adult clothing is minimal). Clean, folded summer clothing in good repair is being accepted during open hours. See [4mcef.com](http://4mcef.com) for times.

Non-perishable food items can be placed in the grocery cart in the narthex on Manna Sunday, the 3rd Sunday of each month but will be accepted any time.

Your donations help those in need in Mechanicsville. Thank you.

- Gladys Hubert

## Traveling? Sick? Bad Weather? Working?

If you can't join us on a Sunday, please remember that online giving (one-time gifts or as repeated donations scheduled by you) is available. Visit our website at [mesiahmech.com](http://mesiahmech.com). If inclement weather, we make every effort to publish our operating status on our website (the updates page), WRIC/Channel 8, our voicemail message and social media. In the end, whatever our published status, please use your best judgment to stay safe.



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April 2019

**Messenger**

page 10

## The magnitude of God's love

It would be spectacular and amazing ... if some king's son were to appear in a beggar's home to nurse him in his illness, wash off his filth and do everything else the beggar would have to do. Would this not be a profound humility? Any spectator or any beneficiary of this honor would feel impelled to admit that he had seen or experienced something unusual and extraordinary, something magnificent.

And yet the love of the Son of God for us is of such magnitude that the greater the filth and stench of our sins, the more he befriends us, the more he cleanses us, relieving us of all our misery and of the burden of all our sins and placing them upon his own back.

The DEADLINE for the  
**May 2019**  
edition of *The Messenger* is  
**Sunday, April 21st**

Please call me with your  
submission, hand me a written  
submission OR email  
[susiew51@comcast.net](mailto:susiew51@comcast.net)

Whenever the devil declares: "You are a sinner!" Christ interposes: "I will reverse the order; I will be a sinner, and you are to go scotfree." Who can thank our God enough for this mercy?

—Martin Luther, *Luther's Works* 22, 166-167