

The

MESSENGER



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

SEPTEMBER 2019

Congregational Meeting on September 8

On September 8, immediately after worship services, voting members of Messiah’s congregation will be asked to approve two proposed amendments to the Church’s by-laws.

Amendment #1 proposes that the Church shall indemnify any officer, council member, or other volunteer agent of the Church if, as a result of that individual serving in such a capacity for the Church, he or she is named as a party in any administrative or judicial proceeding. By law, individuals serving their Church in those volunteer roles are exempt from legal claims against them. Nevertheless, they may be named as a defendant in a suit and will need to go to court to be legally dismissed from the suit. In effect, Church indemnification means that Messiah would reimburse such an affected individual from expenses incurred in obtaining dismissal from the suit.

Amendment #2 proposes to eliminate those existing provisions in the Church’s by-laws that create the position of trustee and describe the duties of a trustee. Because Messiah is now a non-profit corporation, the position of trustee is no longer needed in the Church.

We need YOUR vote to reach a quorum.

Rally Week...Growing in Faith!

We are going to rally for a week, beginning September 7, to kick off several activities that will mark the beginning of our fall Christian Formation programs!

Please see related articles on the following: Pizza and a Movie & Rally Day (p.4), Tuesdays with Pastor Carbaugh Bible Study (p.3), and Women’s Bible Study (p.7).

We hope you will come to one, two, or more of the events being planned to foster your “Growing in Faith”.

Blessing of Backpacks...

will be done on September 1, which is the Sunday before school begins on September 9. Don’t forget to bring yours to be blessed for the upcoming school year!

A look inside....

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The Messenger

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VISIT OUR MLC WEBSITE:
<http://www.messiahmech.com>



A letter was sent out to the congregation, informing us all that our roof is in need of repair. All three of the roofs (sanctuary, flat roof, and fellowship hall) are involved. Bids have been received from multiple contractors. The church council has determined that it will take \$60,000 to properly fund this need, as well as to replace multiple areas of wood rot and paint.

Please consider how you may contribute. Every little bit helps. Checks should include "Roof" in the note section. Stay tuned for updates.

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.

Office hours

Davina's office hours at Messiah are 7:30 am to 3:00 pm on Mondays and Wednesdays. On Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, she will be in the office from 7:30 am to 12:00 pm.



Messiah on Pinterest

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

Pastoral letter

God of new days & new beginnings

September is that time of the year, especially in churches and in schools, when things start to happen again. After the lull of summer, Sunday school begins and a new school year starts for our young people. It is that time when old things become new again, when we get to start over. However we have done things before or however well we did in the past, it is an opportunity to try again, perhaps in new and different ways. As adults, we probably don't feel like we get those same kind of opportunities - one month rolls into another, with each month seeming much like the last. But as people of God, we have received the gift of 'making things new again'. Our God is a God of new days and new beginnings. Every day, every month, can be a time when something new can happen, or something old can happen in a new way. Every moment of forgiveness is a time to be made new again. Every time we walk away from the communion rail is a time to begin again. Maybe much of your life seems like the 'same old, same old'. But remember that you belong to the God who is always making and remaking the world and us. You belong to the God for whom the future is filled with possibilities. You belong to the God who doesn't want to leave us where we are, but is always working to bring us to a new place and a new day.

As we enter September together, perhaps we can experience some of this newness that God creates. Stability and having things we can count on can be good too, but how much more exciting when we celebrate the ways in which God transforms us and renews us. I pray we will all be looking for the new things God is doing in our midst - today, tomorrow and always!

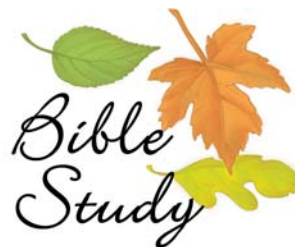
- Pastor Carbaugh



A meeting for any of our young people interested in being Confirmed this year will be held after church on Sunday, October 6th. Youth and parents are invited to attend.

Pastor Carbaugh will share what will be taught, and together we will work out a schedule for the classes.

If you have any questions, please speak to **Pastor Carbaugh**.



Weekday Bible Study returns

Pastor Carbaugh will be leading a weekly Bible study, focusing on the upcoming Sunday scripture readings. It will be held at the church, in the narthex. The hour-long gathering will focus on fellowship, conversation and sharing around the Word. Everyone is invited to attend.

The first gathering will be held on Tuesday, September 10th, at 1:00 pm, as part of Rally Week.

Please check each week's bulletin for the upcoming scripture readings. Hope to see you there!

Pizza and a Movie



To start off our Rally Week, we are offering a modified BAM event that will include pizza and a movie on Saturday, Sept. 7.

A meal of pizza, salad, and drinks will be offered at 5:30pm in the fellowship hall. The movie, "Run the Race", will be shown from 6-8 pm in the sanctuary. The movie is set against the backdrop of high school football and track but also centers on two brothers in a small Southern town who face an escalating problem with two different world views which strain—but ultimately strengthen—the bonds of brotherhood. "Run the Race" is awarded the Dove-Approved 12+ Seal for family viewing. Please plan to join us as we kick off Rally Week with this event.

Regular BAM (book/movie) events will be back later in the fall.



September 8

This year's theme for Rally Day is "Growing in Faith," which continues the teaching from this summer's VBS.

Join us at 9:15am for donuts, juice, and coffee followed at 9:30am with our opening which will include prayer and a song. Then at 9:45am a scavenger hunt for all ages will take place! We will close at 10:15am with more song and prayer to begin our Sunday school year of 'growing in faith'.

Don't forget this is for ALL ages! We hope to see you there!



- 2 **Amy Delph**
- 3 **Charlie Schw erdtfeger**
- 8 **Dean Gustafson**
- 8 **Beth Carpenter**
- 10 **Sheila Whirley**
- 15 **Paul Knab**
- 23 **Kirsten Combs**
- 24 **Roberta M cMill en**
- 26 **Jeff Weaver**



- 3 **Anita (& Mark) Philp**
- 9 **"Doc" & Sharon Kondaki**
- 17 **Daren & Valerie Williams**
- 28 **Bill & Chrisann Hatfield**
- 30 **Jean (& John) Martin**

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



- **Cleaning Team** needs additional members. "Training" included.
- New **Choir members** are always welcomed!

Contact **Susie Weaver**, if interested.



We pray for each other:

Kenneth Deere; Adam Dworak, Sr.; JoAn Firebaugh; Bill Fulop; Elisabeth Gardner; Werner Gardner; Steve Gilnett; "Doc" Kondaki; Linda Krupa; Mac McAllister; Pat Motley; Jack Ordazzo; Ruth Schroeder; Judy Schwerdtfeger.

We pray for our extended family and neighbors:

Family and Friends of Charlie Absher; Danny Allen, brother-in-law of the Whirleys; **Debra Anton**, sister of Ruth Schroeder; **Cyndi Bauer**, sister of Lois Schroeder; **Lewis and Nell Brothers**, friends of Schwerdtfegers; **Chuck Dupuy**, son-in-law of Joan Barnes; **David and Sandi Elliott**, friends of the Whirleys; **Dylan and Family**, friends of the Whirleys; **Camdyn Fleming; Family and Friends of Deborah Ford**, friend of Bill and Susie Weaver; **Connie Gambini**, friend and co-worker of Becky Collie; **Family & Friends of Mel Gray**, former member; **Family & Friends of Bill Leaver**, friend of Charlie & Sally Bennett; **Family and friends of Joe Mhlbrech**, friend of Schwerdtfegers; **Mary Ann Modlin**, friend of Schwerdtfegers; **Family & Friends of Alvin Morlan**, father of Donna Shaw; **Mary Moyer**, sister-in-law of Schwerdtfegers; **Mullen Family**, friends of the Whirleys; **Dieter Niklas**, brother of Erna Jung; **Evelyn Poulsen**, mother of Roger Schroeder; **Tim Schroeder**, Roger's nephew; **Sandy Street**, sister of Donna Shaw; **Susan**,

friend of the Whirleys; **Pastor Carbaugh** as he leads us while we seek a Permanent Pastor; **Our veterans, their fellow soldiers & their waiting families, especially Ian Schwerdtfeger;; Law enforcement, firefighters and first responders; The people and pastor, Rev. Katherine of All Souls Episcopal & our shared ministry; All those persecuted in any way for their faith in Christ, especially in Jordan, Nepal, Bhutan, and Kazakhstan.**¹

¹ 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.



Sunday School for the Fall

We are excited to announce our Sunday school team for the fall! We welcome back the following teachers: **Lois Schroeder** and **Marilyn Gunn** will be teaching preschool; **Wendy DeGraff** and **Diana Sendor** will be teaching elementary grades 1-5; **Becky Collie** will be teaching Middle/HS teens; and **Daren Williams** will be coordinating the adult class with a DVD series on the Old Testament. Classes will meet in the same rooms as last year.

Please remember that Sunday school begins at 9:15am and ends at 10:15am. Hope you plan to join us for another year of 'growing in faith'!

September 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 9:15 AM All Souls Episcopal: Worship
10:45 AM Messiah Lutheran: Worship
- 2 Commemoration of Nikolai Frederik Severin Grundtvig, Bishop & Renewer of the Church
- 3 7:30 PM Taizé Prayer (Richmond Hill)
- 4
- 5 7:00 PM Choir Practice
- 6
- 7 RALLY WEEK begins!
5:30 PM Pizza and a Movie event
- 8 9:15 AM RALLY DAY!
9:15 AM All Souls Episcopal: Worship
10:45 AM Messiah Lutheran: Worship
12:00 PM Congregational Meeting & Fellowship
- 9 Commemoration of Peter Claver, Missionary
- 10 Virginia Lutheran Items Due
1:00 PM Weekly Bible Study
7:00 PM Women's Bible Study
- 11 6:30 PM Girl Scout Troop #557 Meeting
- 12 7:00 PM Choir Practice
- 13 Commemoration of John Chrysostom, Bishop of Constantinople
- 14 Holy Cross Day
- 15 9:15 AM All Souls Episcopal: Worship
10:45 AM Messiah Lutheran: Worship
- 16 Commemoration of Cyprian, Bishop of Carthage and Martyr
- 17 Commemoration of Hildegard, Abbess of Bingen
1:00 PM Weekly Bible Study
6:15 PM Council Meeting
- 18 Commemoration of Dag Hammarskjöld
- 19 7:00 PM Choir Practice
- 20
- 21 Feast of Matthew, Apostle & Evangelist

- 22 9:15 AM All Souls Episcopal: Worship
10:45 AM Messiah Lutheran: Worship
12:00 PM Council/Vestry Meeting
- 23
- 24 Local Remembrance: Dr. Seuss
10:00 AM Terrific Tuesday Club (Hanover Parks & Rec.)
1:00 PM Weekly Bible Study
7:00 PM Women's Bible Study
- 25 6:30 PM Girl Scout Troop #557 Meeting
- 26 7:00 PM Choir Practice
- 27
- 28
- 29 Feast of Michael & All Angels
Happy National Coffee Day!
9:15 AM All Souls Episcopal: Worship
10:45 AM Messiah Lutheran: Worship
11:45 AM Worship Team Meeting (Right after service)
12:30 PM Cheryl Bradley's Event
- 30 Commemoration of Jerome, Translator & Teacher

Bulletin announcements

Those who would like to place announcements in the Sunday bulletin or have a midweek announcement, please send them to **Donna Shaw** at dmslaw70@gmail.com for inclusion. Please understand that if they are too long, you may be asked to edit them. Please send your bulletin information by Wednesday morning so that **Davina** can be ready to print the bulletin Thursday morning.





CFFY Corner

(Christian Formation for You)

Book for Adults - What does it mean to be called as a husband, a wife, a parent, a child? How does the grace of the gospel impact how we carry out these particular callings? How does God's presence address the struggles that our own family faces? Gene Veith joins forces with his daughter Mary Moerbe to explore these kinds of questions in light of Christian vocation and its applications for family life in the book ***Family Vocation: God's Calling in Marriage, Parenting, And Childhood***. They show how the Christian faith is lived out precisely in our ordinary relationships, and how a biblical understanding can equip us to move away from common confusions and dysfunctions to persevere in love. Written with sensitivity and wisdom, *Family Vocation* addresses the perennial problems and joys of family life and provides a compelling paradigm for creating loving families in the face of cultural pressure. It has a Goodreads rating of 4.43.

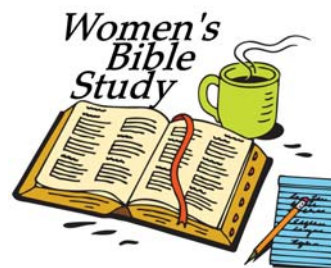
Book for Youth - *The Discipline of Grace* offers a clear and thorough explanation of the gospel and what it means to be a believer. Written by Navigator author Jerry Bridges, this book explores how the same grace that brings us to faith in Christ also disciplines us in Christ. In learning more about grace, you also will learn about God's character, His forgiveness, and the Holy Spirit. Teens who read it will learn the important discipline of preaching the gospel to themselves every day and they will become convicted that the very same gospel that saved them will sustain them to the end. This book received a Goodreads rating of 4.3.

Movie - *The Masked Saint* (2016) tells the journey of a professional wrestler who becomes a small-town pastor and

moonlights as a masked vigilante fighting injustice. While facing crises at home and at the church, the pastor must evade the police and somehow reconcile his violent secret identity with his calling as a pastor. This is a story of forgiveness, faith and the power of prayer, along with a lesson about being accountable for your actions. This charming and heartwarming story is based on a real-world wrestler and will truly entertain with the power of faith. *The Masked Saint* received the Dove "Faith-Friendly" Seal for ages 12-plus.

Devotional/Study - *The Meyer Minute* is written daily by Dr. Dale A. Meyer who is president of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. In 2014 Meyer wrote *Timely Reflections: A Minute a Day with Dale Meyer*, a compilation of 365 daily devotions from his long-running online series, The Meyer Minute. To find his daily devotion go to <https://themeyerminute.typepad.com/meyerminute/>.

- Donna Shaw



As part of Rally Week, Women's Bible Study will begin on Tuesday, September 10 at 7:00pm in the fellowship hall. This group will continue to meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month.

Initially they will be completing a study by Max Lucado, "Anxious for Nothing."

This group is for women of all ages. Come and try us out! You might be pleased that you did!

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Please join us in September for “1st Sunday” fellowship on September 8th. NO, that’s not a typo! The 8th is the second Sunday, but is also Rally Day! We wanted to be part of all the excitement as Sunday School resumes.

If you like, bring a little something to share—a treat or just a smile. We will see you then!

-The Fellowship Team

The DEADLINE for the
October 2019
edition of *The Messenger* is
Sunday, September 15th

Please call **Susie Weaver** with your
submission, hand me a written
submission OR email
susiew51@comcast.net



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