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## Agenda

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### Messiah Lutheran Church Annual Congregational Meeting February 7, 2010

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|-------|--|--------------|
| I.    | Call to Order  | Carol Hrodey |
| II.   | Opening Prayer   | Pastor Lynne |
| III.  | Approval of Minutes<br><i>(as found in Annual Report pp. 3-16)</i> | Congregation |
| IV.   | Pastor's Report  | Pastor Lynne |
| V.    | President's Report / Introductory Remarks                          | Carol Hrodey |
| VI.   | Treasurer's Report for 2009 <i>(pp. 55-57)</i>                     | Brad Kovach  |
| VII.  | Focus for 2010   |              |
|       | A. Turnaround Synod Initiative                                     | Mark Wiberg  |
|       | B. Youth Ministry  | Floyd Yager  |
|       | C. Reorganization of Leadership                                    | Carol Hrodey |
| VIII. | Presentation of Proposed Initiatives for 2010                      | Carol Hrodey |
| IX.   | Presentation of Officers and Commitment for 2010                   | Carol Hrodey |
| X.    | Presentation of Proposed Budget for 2010                           | Brad Kovach  |
| XI.   | Old Business   | Congregation |
| XII.  | New Business / Announcements                                       | Congregation |
| XIII. | Adjournment  |              |



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## Annual (First) Congregational Meeting Minutes

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*Sunday, February 1, 2009*

**I. Meeting was called to order at 11:40 pm**

**II. Pastor Munker opened the meeting with prayers and a hymn.**

**III. Approval of Minutes – passed**

**IV. President's Report / Introductory Remarks**

Carol Hrodey mentioned that a hand held mike was available for members. Carol spoke of the difficult year we have survived and thrived through. Four children have already been born in 2009. We reviewed the initiatives; some items were put on the back burner with relative to our pastor situation. Carol thanked everyone for their continued support and their continued attendance. Many people have stepped up to do jobs they have never done before. We have a new Deacon this year. Floyd Yager finished his studies and continues to work with our Youth groups. We thank Floyd for his special work. We thank the Pastors that have helps this year: Mark Wiberg, Terry McIntire, Pastor Sue Sauerberg, Pastor Munker. This years' meeting we will focus on what is ahead versus what is behind us. Carol also thanked the Executive Committee for their assistance.

**V. Pastor's Update**

Pastor Munker mentioned that she was delighted to be at Messiah. She said it was a privilege and honor to be at Messiah and to focus on Pastoral duties and to walk this faith journey with us as we look at Messiah to lift up our strengths and to address some areas that can be strengthened. Pastor Munker believes we have all the gifts we need to do the ministry here. Clarity is sometimes needed.

**VI. Treasurer's Report for 2008**

Brad Kovach thanked Carol Hrodey for her hard work during the past year. Brad also thanked Dave Hanson for handling all the contributions and bank deposits; Jennifer Schneider for all her help with the bills and helping the Church save money; Karen Black for her help with the Memorials. Kristen Yager for her help with the Manna program; Laura Hauser is currently helping Kristen.

- ❖ Cash Balances – Checking \$34,400.00 – Money Market \$125,600.00  
Endowment Fund - \$247,000.00 The Endowment fund has taken a big hit this year – down about \$80,000.00 in market depreciation.
- ❖ Activity for 2008 – we were up \$12,000.00 for the year. We transferred \$30,000.00 of the expendable income into the operating fund. Contributions were down approximately \$6,000.00 from what we budgeted. Interest rates went down; we budgeted \$6,000.00 and only collected \$3,000.00
- ❖ Expenses –Most of them were in line with what we expected. Repairs and Maintenance was over budget; mostly due to snow removal and

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repairs to the building. Our heating expenses were \$6,500.00 over what was budgeted. We did save money on Pastor salaries mainly due to the medical insurance; we received a refund for Pastor Paul Stolz for a \$20,000.00 savings.

❖ **Dedicated Accounts:**

Memorial Funds - \$8,600.00

Property reserve - \$3,200.00 We put in a new phone system and various property improvements including tree removal.

Endowment Fund - \$202,000.00 principal \$45,000.00 expendable

Capital Project - \$145,700.00

**Questions**

Do we have an arrangement with Lutheran General Hospital for snow removal? No we don't. The counseling center gives a donation for use of parking spaces but the Hospital does not pay for snow removal.

**VII. Presentation of Proposed Slate of Officers for 2009**

- ❖ Voting to extend Carol Hrodey and Brad Kovach. Carol has agreed to another term. We are looking for a replacement for Brad Kovach but he was agreed to continue until someone is found.
- ❖ Continuing Terms:  
Vikki Hanson, Dave Hanson, Nancy Boomer  
A motion was made to accept the nominated committee as the elected committee. The motion was seconded. Any questions or comments: none. The motion was voted on and carried.

**VIII. Presentation of Proposed Initiatives 2009**

**A. Outreach – David Swanson**

- ❖ David mentioned that continuing Outreach is to make new disciples and efforts to empower/retain existing disciples.
- ❖ David mentioned that we are going to work on "Inreach" to strengthen the congregation so that we can support the Outreach ideas we have.
- ❖ We are going to focus on Whole Life Stewardship versus the annual giving at the end of the year.
- ❖ The Book of Faith initiative will get us back to the Bible. There is an online website at the Book of Faith with blogs and conversations.
- ❖ Renew Bible Study
- ❖ Adult Forum is being lead by Rich Levy and David Swanson this year. David thanked John Fox for leading this group for the past three years and his continued support. There are some good programs and fun ideas with the Lutheran Hymn book.
- ❖ Continued support of the Women of the ELCA.
- ❖ Support the Ministry for Shut-ins.
- ❖ Focus on increasing membership participation. Encourage people to volunteer.

**B. Youth Focus – Floyd Yager**

- ❖ Souper Bowl of Caring – Last year we collected \$474.50; a quick count of the collection today is \$1,013.30. Floyd thanked everyone

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for reaching into their pockets during these tough times to help others that do not have even a bowl of soup to eat.

- ❖ The Youth Group continues to be a focus. We lost a lot of momentum when Pastor Paul became ill. We are planning new outings like Bowling, Lazer Tag, a Lock in. Bringing back the High School group is a focus.
- ❖ Floyd suggested checking out the Messiah Website Youth page. There are many outings planned. We are scheduled in May to attend the University Lutheran Church at Northwestern Lock in and to work at the Food Depository.
- ❖ Floyd Yager mentioned that all children need role models. He invited everyone to attend the various classes and to offer ideas.

### **C. Building Needs – Carol Hrodey**

- ❖ Carol Hrodey thanked Vic Berzins for his coordination of the building issues for at least the past three years. He has done a great job. Vic did resign to family needs. Pat Daniels volunteered to coordinate the repairs needed. We have an aggressive plan to bring the building up to par. Many old projects have already been repaired. The stain glass windows have been lit up.
- ❖ The Men's Brotherhood held a clean up and repair day in June. Many other people have stepped up and done work in the building.
- ❖ This year we want to continue fixing up the building. There is an "orange" work order for everyone to complete when they notice repairs that need to be done.
- ❖ There is an Inside Clean-up day March 14, 2009. We will be planning an outside Clean up day later in the spring. We are going to do minor repairs and major cleaning. If you have items stored in the building, please label it and clean it up. If you don't, the items may get donated or thrown out by accident if they look like they haven't been used in a long while.
- ❖ We are working on a List of Vendors so if you know someone that does good work and is reasonable, please recommend them. Volunteers are also needed.
- ❖ Pat Daniels is looking at all contracts to coordinate getting new bids.
- ❖ We are developing a long range plan that looks at our Capital Building needs including a first floor meeting room; repair or demolition of the crumbling bell tower; carpets were needed.
- ❖ Along with the repairs we need to look at funding for the repairs needed. The funds in the Capital Fund will not cover the repairs needed and the first floor addition so fundraising needs to be researched.
- ❖ Fundraising ideas are regular purchase of Manna cards for everyday purchases such as food and gas. Every time a card is purchased a percentage of the sale goes to Messiah. The Good Search website is a good way to donate to the Church just be using Good Search to do web searches. Good Search also has a link to Good Shop which donates a portion of your purchase to Messiah.

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- ❖ Carthage College Choir is coming April 25, 2009. They are called Gospel Messengers. We will use that as a fundraising event. Help will be needed to put up the students in homes for the night.
  - ❖ We need to complete an Audit this year.
  - ❖ We are researching a new Leadership Model.
  - ❖ The Call Committee is currently waiting for candidates.

Initiative for 2009 were voted on and passed.

### **IX. Presentation of Proposed Budget for 2009**

Brad Kovach reminded everyone that the process for doing the budget is to combine the received pledges and an estimate of unreceived pledges to reach the contributions estimates.

- ❖ Contributions equal \$160,000 this year which is down \$15,000.00
- ❖ Use of Facility contributions are added – approximately \$39,000.00 which comes from the Child Care Center, the Korean Church, etc
- ❖ As mentioned previously the Interest income is down approximately \$3,000.00 leaving \$3,000.00
- ❖ We are going to budget a transfer from the Endowment fund of \$30,000.00 to offset the expenses.
- ❖ Expenses are staying the same with few exceptions. Salaries are being increased to the staff by 3%. Repairs and Maintenance are being increased by \$6,000.00. Natural Gas is being increased by \$3,000.00 with the hopes that the cost will continue to decrease.
- ❖ The Budget for the Pastor economic package is unknown at this time with the call process so we are budgeting Pastor Stolz package.
- ❖ With all things considered we have a deficit of \$15,000.00 which will be affected by a Full time Pastor's package since the interim Pastor's package is not as high as a full time Pastor.
- ❖ Questions? Is the income from the Parking Lot included? It is included in the Use of Facility account.

Budget for 2009 was voted on to accept and passed.

### **X. Old Business / Announcements**

- ❖ Carol Hrody mentioned we need two delegates for the Synod Assembly in June. It is a Friday and Saturday. If you are interested, please let Carol Hrodey know.
- ❖ Millie Andersen mentioned that she is a representative for the United Church Women. They are having their United Day of Prayer on March 6<sup>th</sup> at St. Andrews Church at 10:00am.
- ❖ Mark Wiberg thanked the congregation for their support during Anne's illness.
- ❖ Mark Wiberg suggested asking our Executive Committee along with the Pastor to meet with the Executive Committees and Pastors of the other ELCA Churches in Park Ridge to discuss how we can be supportive and encouraging of each other in carrying out the commission that Christ has given to his Church with the idea that the highlights be brought back to the next congregational meeting. Carol Hrodey mentioned that

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we are beginning to work with Redeemer Church to learn about their Leadership model. A motion was made and passed.

- ❖ David Swanson mentioned that a meeting was being planned for the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in March for Worship Assistants, Communion Assistants etc.

**XII.** The meeting was adjourned at 12:33 pm.

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Recorded by Nancy Boomer, Secretary

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## Second Congregational Meeting Minutes

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*June 14, 2009*

**I. Call to Order - Carol Hrodey** – Meeting was called to ordered at 11:24am.

**II. Opening Prayer – Pastor Munker**

**III. Reports/Updates**

**A. Pastor – Pastor Munker**-Pastor Munker spoke about God having a plan for us. God has planted seeds in us and Pastor Munker has seen the growth at Messiah. Messiah will be asked to stretch, to trust, to risk and to trust that God is here with Messiah. Everything we have and everything we do is a gift from God. God has called us and He will equip us.

**B. Financial – Brad Kovach** – Brad Kovach discussed the budget. He asked that members with specific questions come to him. We are currently \$10,500 for five months, we have spent \$10,000 more than we have collected due to the operating expense, repairs and maintenance. Contributions are close to what was expected. Property Reserve and Capital Fund will be discuss later in the meeting.

**C. Synod Meeting** – Anne and Mark Wiberg – Anne mentioned that the theme of the meeting was Baptism, and that they attending along with Pastor Munker on June 5/6, 2009. The days were filled with workshops. Synod business was conducted. Bishop Wayne Miller gave a stirring Bible study. The Wiberg's attending the Northeast Conference meeting along with Pastor Munker. Anne said thank you for the wonderful opportunity to attend. Mark Wiberg mentioned how blessed we are with our Bishop and how he preached instead of just giving a report. Bishop Miller mentioned that we might be surprised to learn how many people outside our congregation are thirsting for what we have. The water of Life. What we have is ours to share. The Synod is presenting a "Turnaround Synod Initiative". Attendance has been declining in approximately 60% of the Synod churches. The Synod would like to turn around this decline and will be asking each church for their ideas. The new Executive Director of the Lutheran Social Service of Illinois; Pastor Denver Bittner was a reader. 73,000 people were serviced by the LSSI and 80% of those received an annual income of less than \$15,000. With the cuts in the Illinois budget, the LSSI is losing the funding they need to care of these people. Pastor Bittner has suggested that we contact our Politicians. For information, log on to [www.Lutheranadvocate.org](http://www.Lutheranadvocate.org) or Mark Wiberg has the phone number. Mark will be complying a report. Carol Hrodey mentioned being very impressed with our Bishop.

**D. Meeting with Park Ridge ELCA churches** – Carol Hrodey – Per Mark Wiberg's motion, we did meet with the other PR churches. Pastor Munker, Nancy Boomer, David Swanson, Floyd Yager and myself attending with Carol Breimeier facilitating the meeting. We discussed our differences and

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similarities. We pledged to meet again to discuss joint projects and combining our groups for service projects. The Chicago Food Depository would be a good service project for a large group to get more points for Maine Food Depository. It was discussed that we send information regarding programs to someone specific at each church to share our programs. Carol has contacted two of the other church presidents to discuss VBS and what each church does. Redeemer does not have a VBS due to lack of space, St. Lukes is run by a paid position and they charge for the program. Last year we had approximately 75 children attend at no cost. Carol mention to Redeemer that if they have children that would like to attend to let us know and if anyone from their church would like to— Linda volunteer they are more than welcome. Carol said the meeting was definitely worth the time spent. We are working on planning another meeting. Mark Wiberg thanked Carol for facilitating this meeting.

#### **IV Update on Call Process**

**A. Call Committee Recommendation – Linda Raymond** mentioned that there is good new to report. The committee began meeting in December. They discussed Messiah needs and presented them to the Synod for candidates. The committee received 6 resumes to review. Of the six resumes three were selected to meet and interview. One of the candidates stuck out immediately but they meet with all three; attending services of two of the candidates to see how comfortable the candidates were in their congregation. The findings were discussed and the committee voted unanimously to present the candidate to the Executive Committee who have meet with the candidate. The candidate is a recent graduate of Lutheran School of Theology. This is a second career for her with her first career being in business and finance and banking. She brings a lot of background as well as her calling. She was raised in the Lutheran faith. She has the support of her family. The candidate is very energetic, enthusiastic and very spiritual. She is a people person. She was called back for a second interview and came with questions. The committee highly recommends her to be Messiah's next Pastor. She is not currently ordained. This can not take place until a call is make and accepted. Linda mentioned that she learned a lot about Messiah and the congregation and was grateful for the opportunity.

**B. Executive Committee Resolution – Carol Hrodey**

**C. Notification regarding Next steps – Carol Hrodey** -Carol thanked everyone on the committee for the time and hard work. The Executive Committee did meet with Lynne Morrow on Thursday of this past week. We shared a lot of information about ourselves and Lynne Morrow. The Executive Committee did vote to accept the recommendation of the Call Committee and passed a resolution to bring the vote on the recommendation to the congregation. We are planning a meet and greet on Sunday, June 28, 2009 following service. After the meet and greet we can hold the vote. Lynne Morrow does need to be ordained once a call is made and Pastor Brimeier and Bishop Miller are working with Lynne Morrow on timing. We want to work with Pastor Munker during this time and be sensitive to her. We would also like to celebrate Pastor Munker's

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ministry with Messiah. Please watch for additional information. Beside the letter sent, this is the official notification of a Special meeting. A question and answer period followed.

## **V. Property Review and Recommendations**

**A. Where we are at** – We have been working closely with Pat Daniels to see what needs to be done. Many of the smaller items have been resolved thanks to Pat Daniels and her son, Patrick who is a handyman. A group of 9 people met (Russ and Linda Raymond, Dave Hanson, Marilyn Duckett, Karen Black, Donna Birzens, Pastor Munker) to create an environment that reflects and supports our mission. Members volunteered a lot of their time to complete some of the tasks. We have begun to work on preventative repairs.

### **B. Pending Projects – combined with ...**

**C. Review of Current Priorities** – many of these projects are big ticket projects and need to be looked at with long term planning and financial planning to support this work. Bell Tower, Parking lot, Child Care needs to put a kitchen based on Park Ridge guidelines, energy efficient lighting, outside lighting, the chimney on the Education building needs work, the Handicap accessible entrance is not handicap accessible, the platform on the chair lift needs to be replaced, a first floor accessible bathroom, carpeting, the childcare bathrooms needs work, the pews are showing their age, doors need help, windows are cracked and not energy efficient. The Parsonage needs to be looked at with regards to repurposing. Major projects that need to be completed this year: The CCC has to put in a kitchen with an industrial size sink, refrigerator and new cabinetry which is mandated by the city of Park Ridge. The cost is \$40,000 and the CCC does have the funds to do this. Questions were asked. The lighting in the building is being replaced with Energy efficient lighting; there is a grant we are applying for. The estimate cost is \$24,300 plus we should get a \$10,000 grant. The savings in electric bills will also help save money. Patrick Brennan believes he can do the job for less. Parking lot needs to be replaced. Russ Raymond discussed the estimates received. Russ presented the bids in detail. Questions were discussed. The Bell tower needs to be repaired or removed. Estimates to repair will solve the problem for now but not permanently. It was suggested that the Bell tower be removed and to redo the entire front area which would allow us to install a proper handicap ramp, a bathroom and replace the doors and railings. Rough estimate is approximately \$248,000; cost of architect drawing is \$6,250. Questions were discussed.

### **D. Recommendations** – the following was proposed:

The Child Care Center kitchen would come directly from the CCC; Energy Efficient lighting would come from the Capital fund; \$10,000 would be refunded from the grant. The Parking lot could be paid by taking a loan from the Capital fund for down payment plus money from the CCC plus a loan. The Bell tower would be a loan with the architect drawing fee of \$6250 being taken from the Capital fund; there is a grant for churches to do accessible things which we will look into for \$30,000. Fundraising

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is a way to raise money; grants may be available, donations from groups using our building. Using Manna cards and recycling paper are ways to fundraise as well. We currently do not have any debt but we do have very valuable property; we have an endowment fund and while we do not necessarily want to use these options we do have fundraising methods available. One concern was that the original purpose of the Capital fund would be lost in the work that needs to be done. Carol reassured the congregation that this would not occur and the original plan was still in place but some work needs to be completed now. A motion was proposed, voted and passed to proceed with the above projects.

**VI. Upcoming Activities /Events**

- A. Coffee Hour** – David Swanson would like assistance coordinating the coffee hour.
- B. July 3<sup>rd</sup> Fireworks** –Donations of snacks and volunteers are need for the snack tent and parking lot.
- C. VBS** – Julie Holzer needs volunteers. She currently has only 2 adults for 70 children.
- D. Other?** Meet and Greet for Lynne Morrow is June 28<sup>th</sup>.

**VII. Other Business/Announcements**

**VIII. Meeting was adjourned at 12:48pm.**

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Recorded by Nancy Boomer, Secretary

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## Third (Special) Congregational Meeting Minutes

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### *Call Vote* *June 28, 2009*

**Call to Order** Reverend Carol Breimeier  
Meeting called to order at 12:06pm. Reverend Breimeier spoke briefly regarding the process of selecting a new Pastor and how privileged and happy she was to be part of this day.

**Opening Prayer** Reverend Breimeier

**Purpose of Meeting** Carol Hrodey  
Carol explained that purpose of this meeting was to vote on the call of Lynne Morrow as explained in the notice given on June 12, 2009 after the call committee presented their choice to the Executive Committee and the Executive Committee voted to accept the recommendation.

**Review of Eligible Voters** Carol Hrodey  
Our constitution requires eligible voting members must be at least 16 years of age and in good standing. Good standing is described as partaking of Holy Communion, contributing to the congregational treasury and participating in the life and worship of the congregation.

**Ascertainment of a Quorum** Carol Hrodey  
A quorum shall be 50% of the voting members; which is approximately 115 but not less than 25. We have established a quorum.

**Presentation of the Resolution of Nomination** Nancy Boomer  
A resolution was made to vote to extend a call to Lynne M. Morrow to serve the congregation as Pastor.

**Report on the Nominee, Lynne M. Morrow** Larry Ryczek  
Larry Ryczek spoke briefly on Lynne M. Morrow's professional and home life and what she will bring to Messiah Lutheran Church. Lynne has many qualities that Messiah Lutheran Church is looking for. Larry thanked Carol Breimeier and the Synod for all their help with this process. Larry also thanked everyone involved with the call process. Once Larry was finished Reverend Breimeier thanked Larry for his work on the call process.

**Discussion and Prayer** Reverend Carol Breimeier  
Reverend Breimeier opened the floor to discussion. A question and answer period followed.

**Appointment of Tellers and Distribution of Ballots** Reverend Carol Breimeier  
Reverend Breimeier presented Dave Hanson and Brad Kovach as the tellers. Ballots were distributed.

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**Vote by Secret Ballot**

Reverend Breimeier explained that we were voting to extend a call and Lynne then had 30 days to respond.

YES – In favor of calling Lynne M. Morrow as Messiah's next pastor.

NO – Opposed to calling Lynne M. Morrow as Messiah's next pastor.

**Report on the Vote by the Tellers**

Dave Hanson and Brad Kovach

The total of votes were given to Reverend Breimeier.

The vote was 47 yes – 1 no.

**Declaration of Call According to Results of Vote**

Reverend Carol Breimeier

Reverend Breimeier declared that a call was extended by Messiah Lutheran Church to Lynne Morrow to serve as our called Pastor. Carol Hrodey or Larry Ryczek can extend the call to Lynne Morrow. Reverend Morrow will keep Messiah in her prayers as we begin this new relationship.

**Closing Prayer**

Reverend Breirmeier

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Recorded by Nancy Boomer, Secretary

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## Fourth (Special) Congregational Meeting Minutes

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*Sunday, August 23, 2009*

- I. The meeting was called to order at 11:35 by Carol Hrodey
- II. Updates on the motions from the June congregational meeting were given by Carol Hrodey:
  - A. **CCC kitchen** – completed
  - B. **Energy efficient lighting** – in process per grant
  - C. **Options for repaving the parking lots were presented.**  
Millie Anderson moved to proceed with repaving Option 1 using money from capital fund. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.
  - D. **The task group has been in conversation with architects regarding the bell tower** but meanwhile is recommending that it be torn down due to safety reasons. Options for taking down the bell tower were presented. Millie Anderson moved to take down Bell Tower for cost of \$23,000 using money from capital fund. Questions were raised about rebuilding the tower and the new entrance. At this time we do not know definitively what would replace the tower but we would want to be sure we don't have another structure that will require expensive maintenance and repairs in the future.
- III. Carol Hrodey reminded the congregation about the paper recycling. Pastor Lynne noted that we have received an initial check for approximately \$47.00. Clare Doud reported that she saves papers but has difficulty getting them to church. Floyd Yager said that anyone needing help should let us know and someone will pick them up – possibly a high school project.
- IV. Meeting adjourned at 11:45.

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**Recorded by Vikki Hanson**

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## Fifth Congregational Meeting Minutes

*Sunday, October 25, 2009*

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### Call to Order

Carol Hrodey

Meeting was called to order at 11:40 am.

### Opening Prayer

Pastor Lynne Morrow

### Pastor's Report

Pastor Lynne Morrow

Pastor Lynne went over the highlights of her first 3 months with Messiah. She discussed VBS, Rally Day with the memorial sign dedication for Pastor Paul Stolz, Creation Sunday, Blessings of the animals and a great Crop Walk and Reformation Sunday today. We currently have almost 100 people attending service on Sunday. Invitations have been sent out to all Baptized members to attend All Saints Sunday. We will have 4 new members on All Saints Sunday. Pastor Lynne mentioned that she feels very welcomed as does her family.

### Financial Report

Brad Kovach

Carol Hrodey discussed the budget which is in line with what was expected. A question and answer period was held.

**A. Stewardship/Fall Pledge Drive** - Pastor Lynne mentioned that the Stewardship drive begins on All Saints Sunday. November 25 will be the presentation of gifts. David Swanson has organized a number of Adult Forums based on Spiritual Wellness Wheel.

**B. Audit** – Carol Hrodey mentioned that David Jensen was asked to coordinate the audit and will be looking for assistance. We are hoping to get this organized before the end of the year.

### President's Report – Initiatives

Carol Hrodey

**A. Outreach / "inreach"** - we focused on inreach to strengthen our core since we have had a rough few years. A big success was calling Pastor Lynne and the successful transition. Carol thanked the Call committee again for the work.

1. "Turn Around" Project – The Metropolitan Chicago Synod is working to help Churches turn around their attendance. In the last 5 years, 2/3 of churches are experiencing a decline in attendance. We have been experiencing a decline possibly due to our Pastoral situation but are beginning to see an increase in attendance again. The Synod's goal is to see a 50% increase in attendance of Churches by 2013. Mark Wiberg is facilitating this effort along with the leadership of the church and other members interested. There is an interest in working with other Churches in the area. Meetings are being scheduled.
2. Leadership Meeting November 8th and Open Forum November 10th – The Turn Around project will be discussed.

### B. Youth Ministry

1. Sunday School – the core group of parents currently organizing Sunday school is in need of help. Any and all volunteers are welcome.
2. Outreach to College Students – need addresses. We are putting together packages for college students to reach them in time for finals. The

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Childcare Center, Adult Forum. Sunday School and anyone interested are welcome to help to let our students know we are praying for them.

3. Youth Ministry Leaders Network – Julie Holzer reported that she attended a meeting at Edison Park Lutheran Church to discuss pulling our youth groups together to have more successful events. St. Marks has a gym. Every month there is an event for youth and teens.

### **C. Building Needs**

1. Thanks to the Property Task Group – Carol thanked this group for their hard work in tackling this project.
2. Bell Tower Project - The gentleman that torn down our bell tower was in Church today. Russ Raymond and Tim Blanks have worked to finish off the front so it looks better until further work can be completed. Our next step is to finalize our choice of architects. We will continue to work on long and short term plans for our campus
3. Paving - The parking lot will be completed this week depending on weather.
4. Financial Support – we are looking to find financial means to complete the future projects. We are looking at grants, fundraising etc. Carol thanked Pat Daniels and her son Patrick for their help.

### **Other**

- A. Thank you to Call Committee – The congregation thanked the committee.
- B. Planning for 2010 including leadership positions – Positions available: Vice President – Secretary – Financial Secretary. If you are interested, please contact Carol Hrodey.
- C. Small Group Discussion and Reporting – The congregation was divided into 4 groups to discuss the following questions:
  1. How has Messiah helped you (past, present, future)?
  2. What keeps you coming to Messiah?
  3. What future ministry do you think would be relevant for our community to build discipleship?
  4. The group met for approximately 15 minutes and then discussed the results.
- D. Pastor Lynne mentioned upcoming events including a Sunday Night Supper. The 3rd week of January is the week of Christian Unity. The food pantry is in need of help.

### **Other Business / Announcements**

- A. Thank you's – Rally Day, LWR, Night Ministry, Spaghetti Dinner
- B. Harvest Festival November 14th

**Adjournment – Meeting was adjourned at 12:45 pm.**

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Recorded by Nancy Boomer, Secretary

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## Pastor's Report

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### The Rev. Lynne Morrow for the year ending December 31, 2009

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As I write this report, I celebrate six months of ministry with you, the Messiah family of faith. I continue to find myself feeling blessed each day of my time here. Beginning halfway through the year, I found many active ministries at Messiah. Specifically, the Sunday School, Worship, Property and Service Ministries. With appreciation to Interim Pastor Cynthia Munker for serving here during a most tumultuous time, we move ahead.

It has been my privilege to learn about your faith journeys these past months. The "Chats with Pastor" will be ongoing, and I look forward to continuing our conversations!

We celebrate the ministries focused on our youth – Sunday School, Child Care Center, and Vacation Bible School. We celebrate the Service Ministries of the Friendship and Women of Messiah as these continue to provide goods for children in need around the world. We celebrate the success of the Giving Trees, the CROP Walk and participation in sustaining the Maine Township Food Pantry. We celebrate the progress made in 2009 of the Property Ministry – Messiah's decision to move ahead toward becoming accessible. This meant a physical change as the Bell Tower came down and the Messiah Accessibility Project began to explore ways to enhance our campus.


It is important to remember to celebrate the successes of the ministries here at Messiah as we continue to assess how we can be relevant to the future needs of our community.

We will continue to seek ways to 'reach out and welcome all of God's children' to Messiah. Perhaps that means feeding more people...perhaps that means offering new worship opportunities...perhaps it means to share the light and love of Christ with others.

How will you be a part of Messiah's future successes? Prayerfully consider how you might be involved and let us know!

*"Let your light shine before others, so that they may...  
give glory to your Father in heaven."  
Matthew 5:16*

Yours in Christ,



Pastor Lynne

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**Parish Statistics for 2009**

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<b><u>Worship</u></b>		<b><u>Pastoral Acts</u></b>	
Number of Sundays:	52	Baptisms:	6
Total Attendance:	4578	Confirmed:	0
Average Weekly Attend:	88	New Members Received:	6
Avg. Weekly Attend Last Year:	84	Transfers Received:	0
Sermons Preached:	58	Restore to Membership:	2
Children's Sermons Preached:	51	Transfers Sent:	18
Holy Communion Celebrated:	57	Dropped from Active Status:	50
Number of Child Care Chapels:	43	Weddings:	3
Temple Talks:	0	Funerals/Memorials:	3
		First Communion:	4
<b><u>Christian Education</u></b>		<b><u>Events and Celebrations</u></b>	
Total Sunday School Attendance:	279	Carthage College Choir	
Average Weekly SS Attendance:	13	Farewell Pastor Munker	
Last Year Avg. Sunday School:	10	Installation of New Pastor	
Confirmation Classes:	29	Patio Dedication CCC	
Total Adult Forum Attendance:	200	Open House CCC	
Avg. Adult Forum Attendance:	10	Rally Day/Sign Dedication	
Last Year Avg. Adult Forum:	15		
Bible Studies:	20		
Special Topics:	0		
Outside Presentations:	0		
Child Care Lessons:	140		
Number of CE Sundays:	21		

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## Membership Statistics for 2009

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**Note:** With the arrival of Pastor Lynne, and due to the creation of a new photo directory, we used 2009 as an opportunity to "purge" our membership records of inactive members. This process is usually done every 5-6 years, and was last done in 2004. Letters has been sent to those removed members informing them of their status.

		<b>Baptized Members</b>	
<b>1. Membership at the end of 2008:</b>			<b>371</b>
2. Members received during 2009			
	a. By Baptism: Children (Under 15)	6	
	b. By Baptism: Adult	0	
	c. By Affirmation of Faith	7	
	d. By transfer	0	
	g. From other sources and statistical adjustment	7	
	h. Total members received this year	+	20
5. Members removed during 2008			
	a. By death	3	
	b. By transfer to ELCA congregations	18	
	e. For other reasons and statistical adjustment	50	
	f. Total members removed this year	-	71
<b>6. Membership, end of 2009</b>		<b>=</b>	<b>320</b>

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### Detail

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#### **Baptism of Children (6)**

Madelyn Margaret Palos  
 Hannah Mae Lippert  
 Michael Joseph Bujalka  
 Ryan Claude Bujalka  
 Jaelyn Marie Benjamin  
 Kaelyn Joy Yager

#### **Presiding Minister**

Rev. Cynthia Munker  
 Rev. Cynthia Munker  
 Rev. Cynthia Munker  
 Rev. Cynthia Munker  
 Rev. Lynne Morrow  
 Rev. Lynne Morrow

#### **New Members Received by Affirmation of Faith (5)**

Sandra Collie  
 Susan Rice  
 Stephanie Yager  
 Julia Fogel (not confirmed)  
 Samantha Fogel (not confirmed)

Rev. Lynne Morrow  
 Rev. Lynne Morrow  
 Rev. Lynne Morrow  
 Rev. Carol Breimeier  
 Rev. Carol Breimeier

#### **New Member Received by Call (1)**

Rev. Lynne Morrow

Rev. Carol Breimeier

#### **Members Added who should have been listed as "Active" all along (2)**

Tim Blanks  
 Donald Wenn

#### **Baptized Youth Confirmed this Year**

None (switched curriculum to a 3-year rotation)

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**Baptized Youth Receiving First Communion (4)**

Philip Holzer  
Jessie Krawitz  
Erick Morgan  
Lenisa Sedata

**Presiding Minister**

Rev. Cynthia Munker  
Rev. Cynthia Munker  
Rev. Cynthia Munker  
Rev. Lynne Morrow

**Members Removed by Death (3)**

Rev. Joseph Hulterstrum  
Eunice Eckert  
Wibert Beyer

**Presiding Minister**

Rev. Cynthia Munker  
Rev. Cynthia Munker  
Rev. Cynthia Munker

**Members Transferred to Other ELCA Congregations (16)**

Charlotte Baumgartner  
William Baumgartner  
Anthony Lee Czarnik  
Tyler Philip Czarnik  
Anthony Demonte  
Emily Demonte

Pat Demonte  
William Demonte  
Heather Glowacki  
Shannon Marie Hall  
Stacey Hall  
Zachary John Hall

Edith Reeve  
Marissa Elizabeth Reeve  
Richard Reeve  
Ricky Reeve

**Members Removed by "Moved Without Transfer," or "Inactivity" (46)**

Bonnie Bittner  
Brian Bittner  
Craig Bittner  
Jeffrey Bittner  
Ronald Bittner  
Weston Edward  
D. Bukar  
Dylan Harris  
Pamela Helms  
Stephanie Helms  
Steven Helms  
Herman Holm  
Jon Holm  
Louise Holm  
Corinne Knowles  
Judy Knowles  
Sean Knowles

Martha Litwin  
Melissa Litwin  
Vivian Markesh  
Claude' Marie Martin  
Joseph Milios  
Cara Nastali  
Greg Nastali  
Jean Nastali  
Derek Smith  
Russell Smith  
Amanda Uteg  
Julia Vianne Vacala  
Melissa Vacala  
Paolo Tomas Vacala  
Thomas Vacala  
Avery Jane Valenta  
James Valenta

Jessica Valenta  
Karli Marissa Valenta  
Maryanna Valenta  
Matthew Valenta  
Michele Valenta  
Rebecca Valenta  
Samantha Ryan  
Valenta  
William Valenta  
Kris Wageman  
Alexander John  
Wagner  
Jennifer Wagner  
Neil Wagner  
Reena Noelle Wagner

**Members Removed by Other or Transfer to non-Lutheran congregation (2)**

Belltech Deressa  
Patricia Fisher

**Wedding Ceremonies Celebrated (3)**

Bill and Kirsten (Kaufman) Boyce  
Vince and Jennifer (Herak) Manzilla  
Steven and Deborah (Dietrich) Schmidt

**Presiding Minister**

Rev. Cynthia Munker  
Rev. Cynthia Munker  
Rev. Cynthia Munker

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## President's Report

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2009 has certainly been another eventful year at Messiah! Our 2009 initiatives were focused on strengthening our members after the last few years of upheaval, reaching out to our community, continued development of our youth ministry and addressing our current and future building needs. This annual report is full of the work, activities, projects and events of the church that addressed these initiatives in 2009.

As has been the case over the last few years, people of Messiah have stepped forward and risen to the continued challenges we have faced. Of course, the major event of the year was the transition from our second interim period in four years to welcoming our new "permanent call" pastor, the Reverend Lynne Morrow. Pastor Lynne brings a lot of positive energy to Messiah and we look forward to many years of working together in fulfilling God's mission for Messiah.

Once Pastor Lynne came on board, I will admit that I felt somehow like my job as congregation president should be done. With everything we had been through the last few years it seemed logical that my term in office should end with a new pastor. After all, now we can "settle down" since we have a new pastor, right? Or can we really "settle down?"

We have indeed weathered quite a storm over the last few years that stirred us to action and in many ways brought us back to life at Messiah. In a sense, we started our own "turnaround initiative" before the synod came up with the concept! And now that we have a new pastor – can we really sit back and relax and become complacent again? Of course not! We certainly can feel some relief and enjoy the consistency that comes with a "permanent call" pastor – but this is not the time to kick back and "settle down"!

*"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29: 11*

God still has plans for us at Messiah. We continue to strive to carry out our mission – what a blessing! But for each of us individually, our role in the mission of Messiah may change. Our passion for one ministry may surpass our interest in another. Our time commitments and responsibilities may need to change for awhile. It might be time to "share the joy" and let someone else take over. I'm reminded of what Les Herak shared with us at a congregational meeting when he was our president:

### **A Lesson from Geese:**

**Concept #1:** As each goose flaps its wings it creates "uplift" for the birds that follow. By flying in a "V" formation, the whole flock adds 71% greater flying range than if each bird flew alone.

**Lesson:** *People who share a common direction and sense of community can get where they are going quicker and easier because they are traveling on the thrust of one another.*

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**Concept #2:** When a goose falls out of formation, it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of flying alone. It quickly moves back into formation to take advantage of the lifting power of the bird immediately in front of it.

**Lesson:** *If we have as much sense as a goose we stay in formation with those headed where we want to go. We are willing to accept their help and give our help to others.*

**Concept #3:** When the lead goose tires, it rotates back into formation and another goose flies to the point position.

**Lesson:** *It pays to take turns doing the hard tasks and sharing leadership. As with geese, people are interdependent on each other's skills, capabilities and unique arrangements of gifts, talents or resources.*

**Concept #4:** The geese flying in formation honk to encourage those up front to keep up their speed.

**Lesson:** *We need to make sure our honking is encouraging. In groups where there is encouragement, the production is much greater. The power of encouragement (to stand by one's heart or core values and encourage the heart and core of others) is the quality of honking we seek.*

**Concept #5:** When a goose gets sick, wounded or shot down, two geese drop out of formation and follow it to help and protect it. They stay with it until it dies or is able to fly again. Then, they launch out with another formation or catch up with the flock.

**Lesson:** *If we have as much sense as geese, we will stand by each other in difficult times as well as when we are strong.*

We can learn a lot from geese! The talents and skills amongst the people of Messiah are many and great. So as we experience continued transitions and growth this year, what a gift it will be to see all that each other has to offer. We've already begun to experience some changes in leadership roles. For many years, Eva Thoren and her sister Doris Preinitz, along with lots of help from Millie Anderson, led the ministry of The Friendship Circle in producing quilts, baby sweaters, health kits and layettes for Lutheran World Relief. And now the torch has passed to Trudi Handzel and Sandi Collie. We give thanks for the many years of devotion and love these women gave (and continue to give) to this ministry. And knowing Eva and Millie – even if they are not leading this ministry any longer, they will still be doing whatever they can to encourage Trudi and Sandi and further the mission of Messiah. We also give thanks for Trudi and Sandi's passion for this ministry and commitment to continue it.

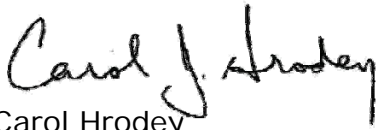
Likewise, our Sunday School has been blessed for the last several years by the leadership of Kristin Yager. Kristin has worked hard to build up our Sunday School and get things organized so that weekly lessons could focus on teaching our children about God's love. Enrollment is up to 24 children! We give thanks for Kristin's dedication to our children and her care in leading this ministry. And now Kristin is in the process of handing over the Sunday School reigns to Julie Jensen. We know Kristin will continue to help and encourage Julie, as well as find many

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other ways to contribute to the mission of Messiah! And we give thanks for Julie's passion to assume the leadership role for Sunday School.

As you'll see later in the Annual Report, the Executive Committee has made a commitment to facilitate the reorganization of leadership and to work to identify fellow members with the passion to take over our leadership roles for next year. We ask you to prayerfully consider what your passions are relative to the ministries at Messiah and work together to fulfill our mission "With Christ, Reaching Out and Welcoming All God's Children."

Wishing you all God's blessings for a bright, passion-filled 2010!



Carol Hrodey  
Congregation President

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## Stewardship Report

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The stewardship committee continues rebuild, and is looking for a few strong volunteers to help! If you are gifted by the Holy Spirit with ideas on how to encourage others to use their gifts to further the mission of Messiah and grow the Kingdom of God, we have a place for you!

During 2009, the annual fall stewardship drive took place with a new giving sheet to ask for time, talent, and treasure of our membership to help further our purpose. The drive concluded on Christ the King Sunday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>. Throughout the drive we had members give temple talks about why Messiah is important to them and how faith has been important in their lives.

We continue to stress stewardship of our whole lives and throughout the 2009 Lenten season organized worship around this theme. On Wednesday nights during Lent, members had the opportunity to share a meal together, participate in worship, and within worship various members shared stories of their faith and how the identity as a Christian impacted their vocation and their lives outside of Messiah.

We also continued to offer stewardship opportunities throughout the year with many of the giving opportunities we have made available. These opportunities include (but are not limited to):

- The Souper Bowl of Giving
- Underwear and Sock Trees for the Night Ministry
- Crop Walk
- Volunteering time at Messiah
- Hat and Mitten Trees
- LSSI Gift Trees
- Donations to the Maine Township Food Pantry (Including a special food offering at the Thanksgiving Day Service)
- Special Offerings throughout the year

While the committee has been quiet throughout 2009, we did make opportunities available to practice good stewardship. In 2010, we hope, with the help of the Spirit, to increase the visibility of the committee, find members looking to serve with their unique gifts, and help all Messiah members find ways to make stewardship a way of life.



Submitted by Floyd Yager, Stewardship Chair

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## Evangelism Team Report

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We are continuing to send out postcards to the neighborhood and giving them to Childcare families – Easter Worship schedule, Spaghetti Dinner, VBS and Summer Worship schedule, Rally Day and Fall Worship schedule, Christmas Worship schedule.

We participated in the Park Ridge Memorial Day Parade again this year. I want to say a special Thank You to our group of Messiah members and Childcare families for participating. We can always use more marchers and encourage you to step forward and march with us this year.

On July 3rd we hosted members, friends, and neighbors to enjoy the fireworks on our church lawn. We again had a snack tent and requested donations for general parking in our lot to raise funds for general use. It was a very successful evening. Special thanks to all who volunteered for all your hard work.

Mark Wiberg has organized our own “dream team” as part of the Turnaround Synod Initiative. It is an exciting new part of our Outreach Mission. Thanks to Mark and the Team.

Seven of us from Messiah participated in the Park Ridge/Niles Crop Walk and had a great time. It was a Community Outreach event and for a good cause. Our church group raised over \$5000.00 and the entire local group raised over \$28,000.00. One fourth of all raised goes to the Maine Township Food Pantry. Special thanks to Trudi Handzel for being our church coordinator, all who walked, and everyone who generously supported our walkers. We are looking forward to more walkers this year, so start getting in shape and join us in October. We also were a rest stop on this years walk. Thanks to all the volunteers for your generous help.

It was exciting to welcome many more new members last year. We are looking forward to reaching out and bringing more new members into our church family this year.

We are so happy to have Pastor Lynne with us and for all the great ideas and enthusiasm to move forward with this very important part of our church mission.

Our goal this year is to continue to redefine our team’s purpose and “With Christ, Reach Out And Welcome All God’s Children.” We are all part of the Evangelism Team, and I encourage everyone to reach out and invite some to worship with us and be a part of our church family.

*“You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witness in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”*  
- Acts 1:8

David Swanson, Evangelism Team Leader

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## Office Administration Report

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Another year of change. It seems like that has become the norm, doesn't it? Yet I begin to feel like we have come through the waters to the other side, where the promised land awaits us, and I am ready and excited to start this leg of our journey with all of you.

2009 began with the usual flurry of activity, and "closing out" the previous year. I was ready to put the stamp on 2008, let me tell you. I was also looking forward to vacation in February (Disneyworld!) and I want to thank Julie Holzer and Moni Ryczek for filling in for me.

Also in February I participated (again) in *People in Our Neighborhood* with the Child Care Center. This delightful event means that 120 children from the Center file their way into my office one class at a time, and I tell them what it means to be a church secretary. Explaining this is not as easy as it sounds, but I do enjoy meeting them all, and after that they all are happy to wave "hi" to Miss Jennifer (me) on their way to the sanctuary for music or chapel.

Later that spring, I sent out an appeal to the congregation looking for people to help fill the attendant (or custodian) role at Messiah when we have a funeral. Both Gene Plaza and Sandi Deines answered the call, and received some training from me. Gene has been able to fill this role for me at several funerals since then, and let me tell you, he has been a HUGE help, and a blessing to work with. Gene is the man on hand to help wherever help is needed for funerals. He unlocks then relocks doors, hands out bulletins, checks bathrooms, helps move flower arrangements, cleans up afterward – whatever is needed, and he is much appreciated.

Some changes in 2009 included new office hours. Beginning Monday, May 4th, the church office hours were shortened to 9 AM until 1 PM Monday through Friday. I asked the Executive Committee to grant this request for several reasons. Due to years of streamlining and organizing, with the addition to a part time bookkeeper and a volunteer property coordinator, I felt I could effectively complete the "normal" duties of the Office Administrator in less time each week. Also, the demands of my personal life changed considerably and impact my daily schedule. With my daughter starting public school, and my other part time job becoming more time-demanding, I was pleased that the Executive Committee granted my request. We will be reviewing the success of these new hours early in 2010 to make sure all expectations are still being met.

Also in May 2009, Messiah became the recipient of a big green-and-yellow Abitibi Paper Retriever bin. Thanks to Dottie Burger for the tip, we now get paper recycling contributions from all over our neighborhood! I see more and more people every week dropping their paper in the bin, and we received just shy of \$100 last year for the effort (not to mention the benefits to the environment). So keep bringing in your paper recycling – let's try to double that amount next year!

Then in July, I was truly blessed to meet our new Pastor, the Rev. Lynne Morrow.

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Pastor Lynne has been a complete joy to work with. She is a tech-savvy, email-junky and Facebooker with a mean Blackberry, who also knows how to listen and keeps a compendium of information in her head. She is warm, organized, caring, and flexible, and she brings a fresh breath of much needed air to Messiah's work environment. As much as I dreaded training yet ANOTHER pastor (my 6<sup>th</sup> since 2003) on the computer, the phones, and all things Messiah, I have enjoyed my time working with her, and look forward to the next decade or so.

With a new pastor, I decided it was time for a new look. Messiah shed the red and gold colored logo, website, and materials favored by Pastor Paul, and I redesigned our logo with fresh greens and blues, inspired by the sun catcher in Pastor Lynne's office. Our letterhead, business cards, visitor brochures, Sunday bulletins, Messenger, and website were also all updated, an undertaking that I haven't quite finished yet, but continue to doggedly pursue. This took a good deal of August and went into September, but I am very pleased with the results, and I hope you are, too.

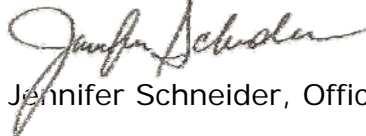
Then in September, things REALLY got busy. We finalized a Use of Facility Policy and Application for groups who wish to use our space for one time, or for a limited time. We used the same language to update all of our current UoFF policies with our current groups (CA, AA, Antiques Club) and we welcomed a local chapter of NAMI (National Association of Mental Illnesses) to our space last fall.

Other people I need to thank are Steve Yager, Julie Holzer, and Moni Ryczek for filling in for me in the office when needed. Extra thanks to Moni, too, for coordinating the gifts to children at Christmas time – she does a great job, and it is much appreciated. Thanks as always to my faithful "stuffers" – Dorothy Nagel, who comes every week, and Diane Wilson and Bud Duckett, who help out when the job is a little bit bigger. Thanks to ALL the Leadership Team for everything they do, and for keeping me in the loop so I know what is going on! (Really, you guys are better at that than you can possibly imagine!) Thank you to Helen Levy, for taking on the task of bookkeeper for Messiah. Thank you to Carol Hrodey for ALL she has done for me (and by extension, for Messiah) in the last year ... she knows what she did! Big, big thanks to Patti Daniels, not only for all the work she has done, but also for the gift of her knight-in-shining-armor son Patrick Brennan, who has taken this poor building in hand, and cradled it with his knowledge and know-how. Thank you, Patrick, for taking such good care of God's house. And thanks finally to the wonderful women in the Child Care Center – Karen, Rita, and Janine – who make me feel part of a bigger office. We are quite a community, and I am so blessed to work down the hall from you (and the teachers) every day.

And finally, thank you to all of you, brothers and sisters in Christ, for allowing me to serve you in this role, and by doing so, serve the Lord with my own particular talents. This place is one of the brightest blessing in my life, and I love it.

*"What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works?"*

*~ James 2: 26*



Jennifer Schneider, Office Administrator

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## Child Care Director's Report

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Messiah Lutheran Child Care Center has been full of activity and energy throughout 2009. We have a wonderful group of dedicated, loving teachers and support staff who reliably care for and educate between 155 and 170 children during the school year and about 110-120 children in the summer months.

The summer of 2009 was a year of upgrading our school's facilities. Our lunchroom was remodeled to include new, expanded cabinetry and countertops, an industrial refrigerator, an industrial freezer, and running water to the 2 newly added sinks. Donations for engraved bricks from families and friends of Messiah Child Care, as well as monies raised at the school's annual spring fun fair, provided the funding for a fabulous patio and picnic area, as well as new landscaping, near the school's southeast entrance. Donations made in memory of our friend and colleague, Miss Sue (Nugnis), were used for the statues and plaque that can be found on the patio. Additionally, an Arlington Height's boy scout used our playground for his Eagle Scout badge, by removing and replacing all of the wood chips and sand from our playground area as well as providing funding for a portion of the project.

During the school year, Messiah has pre-school classes for 3 and 4 year olds and Kindergarten for children who are 5 by September 1st. Additionally, we have a winter, spring and summer, 1 hour/week, Parent-Tot class. The school is open from 6:30am-5:30pm throughout the year. Pre school hours are 9:00am-11:30am. Summer programs are available to children 3-10 years old and include a wide variety of outdoor activities and fieldtrips.

Messiah Lutheran Child Care Center children receive a traditional, playbased pre-school education. Their days include stories, music, art, indoor and/or outdoor large and small motor activities. They follow a curriculum, based on the Illinois State Standards for pre-school education, of language arts, math, science and social sciences, in addition to a Christian education with their classroom teachers and our pastor

The weekly calendar at Messiah Child Care also includes diverse enrichment opportunities. In addition to the large assortment of classroom activities (social, academic, physical, etc.), children at Messiah experience weekly music classes with Mr. Kurtis on Mondays and Tuesdays, Wednesday chapel and Thursday classroom visits with Pastor Lynne, Friday Spanish class with Miss Diane, and Tuesday and Thursday pm. French classes with Miss Jennifer. Miss Pat, of Kid's Dance Express, offers an optional 45 minute class of dance and movement on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Kindergarteners, who attend Messiah in the afternoon, enjoy an hour of enrichment between 12:30 and 1:30pm. each day.

Throughout the year, the children of Messiah participate in projects that extend beyond the school's wall. At the end of each Wednesday chapel service, children are invited to donate an offering of food. The children walk the food, which is donated to the Maine Township Food Pantry, to the front of the church and place it on the altar. During Lent, each classroom collects pennies (nickels, dimes, etc.)

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which are then donated to the food pantry, as well. Our 2009 donation of \$451.61, put our donations of the past 8 years, at over \$3300. Each month a Messiah class walks to St. Matthews Center for Health, to do an activity with the Center's residents. Activities have included cookie decorating, bunco, singing, and an ice cream social. In December, the children delivered 8 handmade gingerbread houses to the center's residents.

Other activities that took place at Messiah during the 2009 year are:

**January:**

- Open House for Younger 3 students and Younger 3's class begins
- Winter Parent-Tot classes begin
- Participation in the Park Ridge Library Pre-School Fair
- Kindergarten Open House for prospective Kindergarten students
- Summer and fall registration forms are distributed to current families

**February:**

- "Be My Valentine" pizza dinner and Valentine making party (Valentines are delivered to St Matthew's residents by a class of Messiah students)
- Registration for summer and fall classes
- "People in our Neighborhood" class rotation week and classroom visits from librarians, firefighters, doctors, etc.

**March:**

- Collect pennies during Lent for St. Matthews
- Spring Parent-tot begins

**April:**

- Scholastic Book fair
- Two night of Ice Cream social parties including entertainment by magician, Mr. Ash

**May:**

- Parent-Teacher Conferences
- Individual Classroom field trips
- Miss Pat's end of the year dance/movement program

**June:**

- Kindergarten Graduation
- End of school family picnic
- Beginning of summer classes

**June, July August:**

- Summer programs for children aged 3-10 years old
- Kitchen remodeling, patio and garden construction and playground refurbishing
- 6-8 field trips to local attractions: Pirates Cove, Barnaby's Pizza, Marriott Lincolnshire Theater, Chicago Kids Company Theater, Flick Pool, Legoland, etc.

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**August:**

- Open House
- Beginning of fall school session

**September:**

- Guest author, Kathleen McMahon, read her book to the children on the school's new patio
- Younger 3's class begins
- Fall Parent-Tot begins

**October:**

- All school field trip to Goebbert's Pumpkin Farm
- Autumn classroom rotation week
- Parent-Teacher conferences
- Class pictures

**November:**

- Family week
- Thanksgiving luncheon for children and their families
- Field trip to Marriott Lincolnshire to see 'The Christmas Carol'

**December:**

- Two P-nutcracker dance programs performed by Miss Pat's classes
- Three classroom Christmas programs and family Christmas parties

Our school's PTO supports our school's extra projects (playground equipment and maintenance, computers, library, AV equipment, etc.) by sponsoring many fund raisers throughout the year. Included in these fund raisers are the Spring Fun Fair, monthly Manna orders, bi-annual cookie dough and gourmet popcorn sales, selling Entertainment books, monthly Scholastic book orders, Scholastic Book Fair, Jewel Shop-and Share, collecting "Boxtops for Education," recycling used ink cartridges, Messiah school t-shirts and sweatshirts, and e-script.

We have an amazing staff, dedicated to providing the children daily with new challenges and an exciting varied curriculum. They provide a loving, nurturing environment where the physical, social, emotional, cognitive, and spiritual development of each child is encouraged and celebrated. I would like mention that we are honored to be able to offer a consistant staff to parents each year. Many schools face a high annual turnover of teachers, but thanks to our outstanding and dedicated staff, we proudly welcomed back the same staff as last year:

Our lead classroom teachers are: Cathy Shaughnessy, Cristina Krueger, Janelle Wendling, Kelly Baran, Laurie Bachmann, Ro Manos, Suzanne Priore, and Terri Hogan. Our assistant teachers are: Ann O'Keefe, Bette Hagstrom, Debbie Dietrich, Diane Teng, Eilis King, Joy Dubowski, Kristin Karas, Laura Williams, and Rose Marie DiVito. Our parent-tot teacher is Aly Allemeier; our Spanish teacher is Diane Teng; our French teacher is Jennifer Morrissey and our music teacher is Kurtis Decker. Our support and office staff include: Diane Knuth (lunchroom manager), Janine Hayden (office manager/director's assistant), Rita Kotowski (bookkeeper and school resource manager) and Pat Doyle (dance and movement instructor).

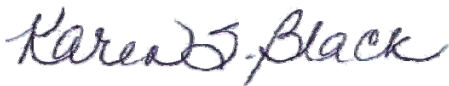
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Our substitutes include Diane Erickson, Phyllis Ostrand, Kim Bujalka and Dana Silber.

We thank our Child Care Board and the parishioners of Messiah for their kind words of encouragement, for their support of our school's mission to share God's word with the children, and for their continuous support of our Center. We thank Pastor Lynne for her chapel services and classroom visits. We thank Jennifer for her ability to keep us in sync with all of the church activities and to keep us up to speed with her computer knowledge. We thank all of those who are instrumental in maintaining the property and ensuring a safe and clean environment for our children. Those of us who work throughout the year at Messiah Lutheran Child Care Center are privileged to share God's Word with the children and to play a vital role in each child's growth and development. It is a job that we respect and embrace.

*"Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it." Proverbs 22:6*

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Karen S. Black". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the text "Yours in Christ,".

Karen Black, Messiah Lutheran Child Care Center Director

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## Child Care Center Board Report

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### MEMBERS

Donna Berzins, Chairperson  
Laura Hauser  
Julie Holzer  
Marv Jelonek  
Kristin Yager

In 2009, the Messiah Child Care Center Board meetings were scheduled for the third Tuesday of each month through June of 2009. The meetings for the current school year are scheduled for the second Tuesday of each month. The Board typically does not meet in July and December. Board meetings begin at 6:30 p.m. and are held in the library. Karen Black, Director of the Child Care Center, is present at every meeting, and the Pastor is frequently in attendance. All members of Messiah are welcome; however, please contact Donna Berzins to verify the meeting dates, as meetings are sometimes rescheduled.

The Director of the Child Care Center, Karen Black, has written a report which details the day-to-day work of the Child Care Center, so please refer to the Director's report (pages 29-31) for information regarding enrollment, teachers, curriculum, and monthly activities. Also, for a detailed look at the Child Care Center's finances for the year August 2008 through July 2009, refer to the financial documents presented by the Treasurer of Messiah (page 34).

In the beginning of 2009, the Board voted to increase tuition by 3% for the 2009-2010 school year. The increase was necessary to help cover the cost of various building improvements scheduled for 2009 and to meet the monthly expenditures of the Child Care Center. The major building improvement done in 2009 was the renovation of the Child Care Center lunchroom. City and state health codes required that running water and an industrial refrigerator be added to the lunchroom. The renovation was completed during the summer. Energy efficient lighting and new ballasts were also installed in 2009. The Director applied for and received an Illinois Clean Energy grant, which will reimburse a portion of the cost for this upgrade.

In March of 2009, the Board submitted a questionnaire to all staff members of the Child Care Center. The purpose of the questionnaire was to gain knowledge of what was taught, how it was taught, and to learn about the professional goals and accomplishments of the teachers and staff. We asked teachers to describe lessons they taught using instructional methods that were especially interesting, new, and/or effective. We also asked staff members what professional goals they set for themselves and asked them how they have contributed to the advancement of Messiah's Child Care Center as a nourishing, enriching place to learn. The responses of staff members gave the Board members greater insight into the curriculum and teaching methods used by the teachers and an even greater appreciation of the dedication and enthusiasm of the Child Care Center's staff. At the end of the school year in May, the Board members wrote personalized thank you notes to each staff member which included comments relating to their

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responses. The Board also interacted with staff members at a pizza party in September to kick off the new school year. Board members also provided a Christmas luncheon to the staff in December.

The Child Care Board reviews financial data at every meeting. Board member Laura Hauser receives updated financial information from the Child Care Center Director and/or bookkeeper and then presents it to the Board. We review the actual figures from prior years and also compare year-to-date figures with the current year's budget to determine if we are "on track." Specific questions regarding the finances of the Child Care Center should be directed to the Treasurer of Messiah. However, the Board will note that the August '08 through July '09 financial summary reflects a net loss, and that this is due in large part to the building improvements mentioned above as well as the new phone system and security doors which were purchased during the fiscal year. There were sufficient funds in the Child Care Center's accounts to pay for these expenditures. The year-to-date financials for the current school year of August '09 through July '10 show that we are in line with this year's budget.

The Board began to review teacher/staff salaries in the spring of 2009 for the following school year of '09-'10. We deferred a decision until January. In January 2010, after reviewing financials and enrollment for the '09-'10 school year, the Board decided that salaries will not be increased for the current school year.

In November and December of 2009, the Board reviewed and set the tuition rates for the 2010-2011 school year. Tuition rates will remain the same as this year's rates. The Board felt that any increase in rates would likely result in a decline in enrollment due to the poor economy.

Respectfully submitted,  
Donna Berzins, Child Care Board Chairperson

## Child Care Center's Treasurer's Report

*For the year ended July 31, 2008*

	CUMULATIVE Y-T-D ACTUAL	08-09 ANNUAL BUDGET	09-10 ANNUAL BUDGET
<b>Cash Receipts</b>			
Tuition	\$649,992.76	\$657,717.00	\$666,548.00
Registraion Fee	10,478.21	10,613.00	10,478.00
Late Fees	1,717.12	2,726.00	1,711.00
Interest	3,821.77	7,343.00	3,809.00
Miscellaneous	262.60	6,319.00	3,149.00
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>\$666,272.46</b>	<b>\$684,718.00</b>	<b>\$685,695.00</b>
<b>Cash Expenditures</b>			
Payroll	\$567,067.36	\$531,679.00	\$542,067.00
Benefits Package	6,593.79	6,500.00	7,324.00
Worker's Comp.	4,157.30	5,000.00	4,157.00
Liability Ins.	695.56	6,000.00	5,688.00
Telephone	8,416.67	2,500.00	2,535.00
Lunches	17,843.82	16,000.00	17,844.00
Snacks	4,472.88	7,000.00	4,473.00
School Supplies	9,379.09	10,000.00	9,379.00
Office Expense	7,799.43	7,000.00	5,951.00
Equipment	8,526.89	4,500.00	5,047.00
Equipment Maintenance	6,839.05	-	489.00
Church Donation	35,250.00	33,000.00	34,000.00
Housekeeping	26,654.86	26,000.00	25,925.00
Waste Removal	2,706.62	2,500.00	2,707.00
Laundry	1,020.00	1,000.00	1,020.00
Advertising	1,688.56	2,000.00	1,689.00
Dues/Membership	622.17	700.00	622.00
Continuing Education	1,154.00	2,000.00	1,154.00
Building Improvements	57,350.46	16,839.00	6,557.00
Miscellaneous	927.84	4,500.00	7,067.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$769,166.35</b>	<b>\$684,718.00</b>	<b>\$685,695.00</b>
<b>NET INCREASE</b>	<b>(\$102,893.89)</b>		
<b>STATEMENT OF BALANCES</b>			
OPERATING ACCOUNT	\$132,144.91	CHECKING	\$5,916.68
ADVANCED TUITION	3,203.38	PETTY CASH	165.00
EDUCATION FUND	3,706.00	SAVINGS ACC'T	157,892.34
SECURITY DEPOSITS	24,919.73		
	<b>\$163,974.02</b>		<b>\$163,974.02</b>

Bradford A. Kovach, Treasurer

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## Christian Education Report

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The Christian Education Committee is comprised of the leaders of the following groups: Sunday School, Confirmation, High School, Adult Forum, and Vacation Bible School. In addition to the groups conducting their individual activities, many activities have been held to develop and enhance the relationships between members of all the levels of Christian Education at Messiah Lutheran Church, as well as the Child Care Center. Although many of these activities are not what are usually thought of as "Christian Education," they are educating us in ways how we can fulfill our mission of reaching out and welcoming in all of God's children, with Christ.

Again for Easter, the entire congregation collected donations of candy and other treats for the Easter Egg hunts. All of the eggs were filled by the members of the Adult Forum and the Confirmation class, as well as other church members. The Community Easter Egg Hunt was again held on the Saturday before Palm Sunday. Many high school and Confirmation students, as well as church members, were on hand to help with all of the activities of the day. Despite the cold weather, we had over 80 children from the church, Child Care, and community attend the hunt with extremely positive feedback. And again on Easter Sunday, after a wonderful breakfast for the congregation, the Confirmation and High School groups hid more eggs, and although the weather was cold, the children braved the cold and hunted the eggs on the playgrounds outside. The Confirmation and High School groups were then partnered with Sunday School students to help them hunt the eggs, while the parents could enjoy and photograph the event. It was a wonderful way for the entire church to be a part of the fun!

Additionally, the Christian Education Committee has continued "Celebration Sundays" with a Pancake Breakfast for the congregation, which is held during the Christian Education hour about every four to six weeks. Although many of our Christian education groups are helping out with the breakfast, serving, and cleaning, the Confirmation class has become our best pancake flippers! Then during the worship service, Sunday School students sing one or two of the songs they learned during their rotation during the worship service. Although the attendance at the breakfasts has been decreasing and is predominately Sunday School and Confirmation families, it has been a great way for the members of the church who do attend to enjoy some fellowship, and a great way to show the congregation what the children are learning and working on. The Leadership Team is working on evaluating the timing and frequency of these Celebration Sundays, in order to increase attendance.

Together, we all worked on making signs for the Park Ridge Memorial Day parade, and marched in the parade with the Child Care Center.

We have continued working in the parsonage to create a vibrant learning environment for our Sunday School class and meeting space. The addition of new rugs and lovely artwork hand-painted by our own Pat Kovach, as well as the addition of many crosses makes it a great environment for learning as well as the work done by Pat Daniels.

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Vacation Bible School continued to be a success with our “Veggie Tales – The Pirates Who Don’t Do Anything.” It was very successful with many children from church and the community attending, and many volunteers among all of the different member groups at Messiah. We were so very excited to have Pastor Lynne join us for this special yearly event at Messiah.

This fall, again in our efforts to enhance the relationships among all of the members of the church, we have continued the combination Sunday School/Adult Forum class. This is where one of the weeks of the Sunday School lesson is taught to both the Sunday School Class and the participants of Adult Forum at the same time. The children are then usually paired up with an adult to work on a project and journal page, sharing part of the lesson that they learned that week. The feedback from both the children and the adults participating has been very positive, and is a great way for everyone to learn more about other members of our church. One of the projects that this class worked on in November was to make care packages to send to all of our college students. The care packages included a pillow case that was hand decorated by all of the Sunday School students, as well as treats and notes from the students and the congregation. They were very well received by all of the college students.

In December, the Christmas Program titled “The Messenger” was presented with 24 Sunday School students participating, and many parents, too! The program was well received by the congregation. The congregation also supported 60 children from Lutheran Social Services of Illinois with donations of Christmas gifts, as well as many hats, mittens, scarves and other winter items that were donated to the Chicago Night Ministry.

All in all, the majority of activities at Messiah Lutheran Church have been the result of the hard work from many different groups and individuals, but the end result is that we are all continuing to further our Christian Education. Individually, here is what the different groups involved in the Christian Education Committee have been working on ...

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## Sunday School

We continue to use the "Firelight" rotational style curriculum. The children really enjoy the different types of activities to learn their lessons and making each lesson four weeks seems to work well with the children. Each lesson is usually followed by a Celebration Sunday, and they have also enjoyed singing in during the worship services on these Celebration Sundays. The child-friendly artwork and posters in the parsonage and church hallways continue to enhance the learning environment for Sunday school.

Beginning in January 2009, the children completed their lessons of Kingdom Stories – Parables. These are some of the very familiar lessons about the different parables that Jesus used to enhance his teachings. These lessons included the parables of the Laborers in the Vineyard, the Lost Coin and the Prodigal Son, and the Great Banquet. Thanks so much for all of the help of Laura Hauser, Pat Kovach, Helen Levy and Julie Holzer during this part of Sunday School when Kristin Yager was on maternity leave...they kept everything going!

After the summer off, Rally Day was September 13, 2009. Everyone enjoyed a wonderful outdoor worship service followed by an old fashioned picnic on the church grounds. We continued online registration for Sunday School, and have 24 children registered for the 2009-2010 year. It appears that all of our children returned to Sunday School from last year, and we were delighted to welcome new children and their families to the Sunday school program this fall. Our average weekly attendance is currently about 14! This fall we have studied Most Certainly True – Living the Catechism. These are lessons about the different prayers and sacraments that are in Luther's Small Catechism. So far, we have studied units reviewing the Ten Commandments and the Apostle's Creed.

One of the most exciting changes in Sunday School happened this fall, with the first week of the lesson being taught by Pastor Lynne! The kids are excited about having her teach them Sunday School and are so excited that she sits right on the floor with them! They love having Pastor Lynne involved in Sunday School!

The kids have also enjoyed many volunteers and parents coming to teach their lessons...sometimes we even have some of the high school students help out! They have worked hard to prepare for singing during the Celebration Sundays. And the Christmas program this year exceeded all of the expectations that we had for it – each of the 24 children participating gave their best effort, which resulted in a magical performance, despite the fact that the angels were not able to speak their parts due to some excited shepherds!



Kristin Yager, Sunday School Coordinator

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## Confirmation

During 2009, we had no students making their Confirmation, however we did have a class of three students continue through the curriculum to complete their requirements.

For our Confirmation curriculum, we are using the Augsburg Fortress studies "To Know, To Live, To Grow" and have organized the program over a three year period (6th, 7th, and 8th grade) to align with the public middle schools. Over the three years students will study:

**Martin Luther's Small Catechism** -- Learning and understanding the Lord's Prayer, Ten Commandments and Apostles' Creed and studying the life of Jesus

**Old and New Testament's of the Bible** -- Learning about the major stories, people and themes of God's love for His people

**Living Out Our Christian Faith** -- Exploring faith issues, the meaning of service and building the church

During the 2008-2009 school year our students completed their lessons on the Old and New Testaments. The Confirmation students are Kevin Kovach (second year), Andrew Fox (first year), and Tommy Hanson (first year). They did a great job in studying and learning about the Bible and deepening their relationship with Christ by better understand the love God has for us.

During the fall, the class was joined by Melissa Holzer and Lensa Sedata, as we started our study of "Living Out Our Christian Faith." The five students spent the first few weeks of class combined with the Adult Forum going through the basics of Lutheranism. Since then we have been studying the subject of faith, culminating with each student creating a written, personal statement of their faith. As we begin 2010 we will continue with the subjects of service and building the Christian Church.

In class we stress the importance of God's Love and work to help students build a personal relationship with Christ Jesus. We try to keep class fun and relevant for the students and let them have some fun while we learn together about God. While Confirmation class on Sunday mornings is important in reaching this goal, the entire congregation should continue to work to help build up the faith of our young members and strengthen their relationship to Christ.

Come check us out, feel free to volunteer to sit in and help teach a lesson or two, you are always welcome!

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## First Communion

On Wednesday evenings during the 2009 Lenten season, we held first communion classes for some of our youngsters. As we learned the word 'sacrament' means mystery, and therefore we decided that when the parents believed their child was ready for first communion instruction, we would make it available at Messiah. In the 2009 class, we had 3 youngsters received instruction about the sacrament and prepare for their first communion on Maundy Thursday. The three students were: Jessie Karwitz, Phil Holzer, and Eric Morgan. Each Wednesday evening during Lent these students studied and learned about Jesus' love for us and prepared for their first communion. During the classes we talked about the Passover story from Exodus, readings from Jeremiah about the "new covenant" that will come, the Last Supper, and read and learned about the sacrament of communion from Martin Luther's Small Catechism. In the fall, Lensa Sedata approached Pastor and I, and was permitted to take first communion on December 6<sup>th</sup>, following a test administered by me to confirm that she was ready to partake of the sacrament. This brings our total first communicants to four for 2009.



Floyd Yager, Confirmation Class and First Communion Class Teacher

## Adult Forum

We had a good year in Adult Forum. We started out with a great presentation by Julia Jones from Church World Service, the organization that coordinates our CROP Walks. I think we all learned a lot. We also had a great presentation by Dave Jensen about LSSI. Thanks Dave. We also moved upstairs to the Library, which gave more people easier access to join us. It is great to see our numbers grow and new faces to be a part of our group. We did a series about "What Is a Lutheran?" joining with the Confirmation class. Thanks Floyd and the confirmands for putting up with us. We got a lot out of it. John Fox did a very informative program on Martin Luther's 95 Thesis on Reformation Sunday. Thanks John. We are continuing to meet with the Sunday School. They help keep us young at heart. We are now doing a series on Spiritual Well Being with some of our members doing the presentations. It also gives a chance to share our faith stories. Thanks to Pastor Lynne, Dave Hanson, Mark Wiberg, Julie Holzer, Connie Kaufman, Diane Blanks, and David Swanson. We have more programs coming up. Please join us Sunday Mornings at 9am in the Library for coffee, good programs, and good conversation. ALL ARE WELCOME!!!!

WITH CHRIST, REACHING OUT AND WELCOMING ALL GODS CHILDREN

Yours in Christ,  
David Swanson and Rich Levy, Adult Forum Coordinators

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## Vacation Bible School

What other fabulous introduction to Pastor Morrow could we have had than our VBS program! Our theme was *Veggie Tales: The Pirates Who Don't Do Anything*. Pastor Morrow jumped in with both feet and made a great Captain for our HMS Steadfast. A new event was added to the schedule. We had a movie night the Saturday before VBS to get kids and their families excited about VBS. We had a screening of the movie "The Pirates Who Don't Do Anything." There were approximately 20 people in attendance for this free event.

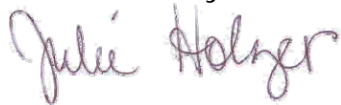
This year we had a great turn out for VBS. We had 12 teen volunteers, and a few friends joined in to help as shipmates for the little "crew." We had 10 adult volunteers during the week of VBS. A lot of new faces in the volunteer pool! It was great! A crew of 3 volunteers helped with registration on Monday. We had 8 adults help with evening prep sessions prior to VBS week.

All in all, our VBS went very well. Both children and adults had lots of fun. A big "Thank you" to all of our volunteers! A special "Thanks" to Paul Holzer for creating our very own special music video for one of the VBS Songs!

We had 64 children attend. This is 10 more attendees than last year. We did not accept registration at the door this year. Our Friday performance and picnic were well attended with over 40 guests.

Thank you to all of you who put time and effort into our VBS program. It is a fabulous outreach of Messiah Lutheran Church, and has continued to be so for the last several years.

The VBS Team will have a meeting soon to determine the theme for 2010. Please let me know if you'd like to join us.



Respectfully Submitted,  
Julie Holzer

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## High School/Youth Group

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While it seems like the High School group is in a continual state of transition, we worked hard to make programming available during 2009. Most of the "high school" events are also open to the students in Confirmation class. We have been working to make fun opportunities available to increase Christian Fellowship, offer opportunities to serve others, as well as give our younger members chances to be involved with the congregation in prayer, worship, and bible study.

Over the past year our youth have participated in a number of projects to serve others. These included:

- **The Souper Bowl of Caring** – Our youth collected over 340 cans of food and \$1200 for the Maine Township Food Pantry on Super Bowl Sunday, remembering that while many throughout the country were enjoying parties, there were many more without food to eat.
- **VBS Volunteering** – Many of our youth continued in the tradition of leading the younger students at our community wide Vacation Bible School. With the number of children at this event each summer, it is a great chance for our youth to help and be positive role models.
- **Collecting Food** – for the Maine Township Food Pantry.

We hope to increase the opportunities to allow our youth to serve and demonstrate God's love to others.

While we did these projects we also tried to have some fun with the Messiah Youth. We have begun to forge a relationship with other youth groups in the community. We have done events with the Park Ridge Presbyterian Church, the First United Methodist Church in Park Ridge, and the Park Ridge Community Church. In addition, through a relationship Julie Holzer, one of our youth leaders, had we have become involved with a Lutheran Youth Network which will allow us more chances to have our youth interact with other Christian youth and expand our opportunities for fellowship and service. Some of the fellowship events we had included:

- Overnight of fellowship and learning at University Lutheran Church at Northwestern
- Attending a Christian rock concert featuring Todd Agnew
- We held several "lock-ins" at Messiah over the past year where we watched movies, ate, and played games
- Attended a multi-church youth group scavenger hunt
- Attended "hip-hop" concert at FUMC featuring David Scherer

Finally on October 24, 2009 we held the Annual Youth Spaghetti Dinner, which by all accounts, was a great success. We plan to continue this event and owe a debt of gratitude to the Brad and Pat Kovach for their work and leadership in making this event as great as it was.

In 2010, we plan to continue building on the momentum we have started. We will work to offer more fellowship and service opportunities for our youth. One

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unfinished project is the cleaning up and developing of a "youth room" in the basement of the parsonage. We have a good start in cleaning it. We have also added a ping-pong table, bumper pool table, air hockey table, 35 inch TV and DVD player. We would like to clean, paint, and get some furniture to make this a place our Youth and High School students can call their own as they continue to work on building their relationships with Jesus Christ and one another. This will take a great deal of work from a person "gifted" in organization, if you are the person, please contact Floyd Yager!



Floyd Yager, Youth Group Leader

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### Brotherhood Report

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The Brotherhood completed its 55th year

**Saturday Breakfast Meetings** --- Originally initiated with the support of Pastor Stolz and backed and promoted by the Messiah Brotherhood, the men of Messiah have started meeting at 9:00 AM the 2nd Saturday of every month with 'spirited' conversations.

**White Sox Group Outing** --- On July 20th the Brotherhood hosted a well received and well attended gathering to watch our Chicago White Sox win one of the more exciting games of the year. Special thanks to Larry Ryczek for all his work on this event.

**Saturday Clean-Up and Maintenance** --- A couple times last year (in lieu of breakfast) Brotherhood members and others have met on selected Saturday mornings to help provide a clean up boost for the church.

Richard Seggeling, Brotherhood Chair

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## Memorial, Honorarium and Thanks to God Fund Report

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This year, the Messiah Lutheran Church congregation has been saddened by the loss of several of its dear members. We remember with prayer and thanksgiving our beloved friends who we confidently know are at peace with our Lord.

We thank the many families who have so generously donated to our church and school in honor and in memory of their relatives and friends.

Logistically, donations initially pass through the financial hands of the church who process the donation and pass the donation information along to me. My job entails recording the information in its proper fund, sending a written thank-you for/acknowledgement of the donation to the donor, sending acknowledgements to families and keeping an updated, accurate accounting of the various funds for the needs of the church secretary and treasurer. These entries and acknowledgments are recorded on the computer network which allows access to Jennifer for the monthly Messenger report and to Brad for his accounting needs.

There are several funds to which donors may offer their donations. Current funds include: the capital campaign fund, the flower fund, the music fund, the window lights fund, the Memory Garden fund and the property reserve fund. Any donation not otherwise indicated, is placed in the property reserve fund which is used for needed repairs to our church property.

We offer prayers in remembrance of those members (and friends) of our congregation who passed away during 2009:

**Members:**

Rev. Joe Hulterstrum  
Bill Beyer  
Eunice Eckert

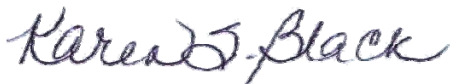
**Friends:**

Gloria Solum  
Rev. Gaylen Gilbertson

Several other friends and relatives of members were memorialized or honored also.

*"For He will give His angels charge of you, to guard you in all your ways."  
Psalms 91:11*

Yours in Christ,



Karen S. Black, Memorial Fund Chairperson

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## Altar Guild Report

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Our guild began our year with 7 new members accepting the call to serve. We welcomed Diane Blanks, Dotty Burger, Worknesh Deressa, Marilyn Duckett, David Swanson, Joyce Tjhio and Nancy Herak (joining us in June) as new members. They join our present members Val Bowman, Susan Kopij, Clare Doud and Char Lobitz. Mid year, Clare, Val and Worknesh requested to go on advisory status due to health reasons.

Guild meetings were held on Jan. 10th, Feb. 21st, March 29th, and Sept. 27th to update members on any changes necessary to our duties. We have accomplished the refurbishing of all communion vessels, altar cross, offering plates, altar Bible stand before the Easter season this year. Members gathered to "spruce" up the chancel area in January and again in September. The sacristy was cleaned and reorganized by a few diligent workers in January also.

We undertook the much needed project of designing and making new Chrismons for our Advent trees. This project was organized by Trudi Handzel, Julie Holzer, and Sandy Collie. Many members and families became involved in making the final ornaments. Seeing the excited children (and adults) looking for their ornaments on the trees was a joyous occasion to witness. How beautiful our trees looked this year. Thanks to the many volunteers for their gifts of decorating!!

Several changes have occurred for the Guild in setting up communion the past year. Weekly bread is now being served along with red wine and red grape juice for our services. Along with our preparing for several baptisms, Easter services, All Saints Day, Rally Day, and the most recent Advent season, we have been kept active to say the least.

I feel our members have been very enthusiastic in serving our Lord at Messiah! Thank you all for your support throughout 2009. It has been a wonderful learning experience for me and I look forward to a successful 2010 with your help. Don't forget to sign up for those Sundays!!

Serving in His name,  
Linda Raymond

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## Choir Report

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Messiah Choir sang at the 10:15am service throughout the Fall-Spring season, as well as Easter and Christmas worship services. Once again we were invited to participate in the Wednesday evening community Thanksgiving service with other church choirs in the Park Ridge area.

Many guest soloists, vocal and instrumental, enhanced worship services throughout the year. All were much appreciated.

We thank our music librarian, Audrey Krell, for her many years of service. Sue Fox continues to accompany the choir with her expertise. We are very blessed to have them both.

The annual "Thank You, Choir!" Potluck Family Picnic was held at the Daniels' home with little problem from the weather department this year.

No longer singing from the "choir loft," the choir moved to the front pews of the sanctuary.

Our choir robe room is now shared by the Hope Korean Church in storing their musical equipment.

Rehearsals are held on Sundays directly after the 10:15 service whenever possible, with a 25 minute warm-up before Worship. Director of Music Tom Daniels very much appreciates the efforts and dedication of each and every choir member. Tom encourages and welcomes all who like to sing, to add their voices to ours in praising God with song. Together, we strive to "make a joyful noise unto the Lord."

Respectfully submitted,  
Pat Daniels, Choir President

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## Turnaround Synod Initiative Report

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"What in the world is THAT???"

In response to declining numbers of people worshipping on Sunday mornings, Bishop Wayne Miller has challenged congregations to TURNAROUND this trend that has taken people away from church.

Messiah Lutheran Church has accepted the challenge.

- Our Leadership has "opted in" to the 4 year program.
- A team of Messiah members (10 people) has formed to "dream" of new possibilities for our congregation.
- Relying on prayer and scripture as primary sources for inspiration, the team meets on the second Tuesday of each month.
- The team's task is to develop plans that enable the people of Messiah to "Reach out and welcome all of God's Children" (our mission statement).
- The team will continue to work in 2010, not knowing where these efforts might lead, but confident that God has mighty plans for Messiah Lutheran Church in this new decade.
- The team will regularly report to the congregation and to its leadership.

For your prayers for the work of Messiah: THANK YOU.

Team Members: Paul Holzer, Carol Hrodey, David Jensen, Pat Kovack, Lynne Morrow, Cindy Norberg, Nena Penumaka, Teresa Lippert, Sue Rice, Mark Wiberg, David Swanson.

Submitted by,  
Mark Wiberg

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## Financial Secretary's Report

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During 2009 a total of \$517,478 was processed by the counters and deposited in Messiah's MB Bank checking account. Of this total the following amounts were applied to Pledged Funds:

### General Fund

Total Pledged:	86,275
Total Unpledged:	52,225
Total Given:	\$138,500

### Benevolence/Outreach

Total Pledged:	18,379
Total Unpledged:	3,185
Total Given:	\$21,564

### Non Pledged Funds:

\$8,867 was received for Designated Current Funds (Sunday School, Initial Offering, Chancel Flowers, Bulletins, Easter Lilies, Poinsettias, Lent, Thanksgiving, Christmas, etc.).

\$42,397 was received for Use of Facilities from the Messiah Child Care Center and non-member organizations.

\$2033 was received for Designated (non-budgeted) Benevolence (World Hunger, LSSI, Bread for the World, Lutheran World Relief, etc.)

\$10,070 was received for the Memorial Fund.

\$39,185 was processed for the MANNA Program.

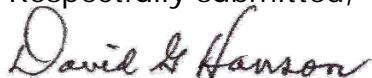
Fund Raising projects (Carthage Choir, Fall Festival, etc.) brought in \$4,190.

The balance of funds received were applied to dedicated (non budgeted) clearing accounts (youth activities, pastor gift, CCC clearing, etc.).

A significant portion of the pledged income is processed via the Simply Giving program.

The following persons assisted with counting the offerings during 2009: Bob Bisgard, Diane Blanks, Val Bowman, Jim Handzel, Paul Holzer, Carol Hrodey, Tom Jason, Larry Johnson, Rich Levy, David Swanson.

Respectfully submitted,



David G Hanson, Financial Secretary

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## Property Report

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### Repairs and Maintenance

Throughout 2009, many repairs were made, large and small, and are ongoing due to the age of Messiah's buildings, which include our parsonage. Larger concerns were of a plumbing nature, whether it was the water pumps, the pipes or valves, clogged sink, faulty toilet or malfunctioning dishwasher. Patrick Brennan, licensed electrician and all-round handyman, was able to conquer these problems as well as the installation of back lighting for the inner stained glass windows in the sanctuary. Smaller issues such as resetting outdoor lighting timers, drainage/seepage problem solving, rewiring of exit light circuits and a myriad of other needs were also addressed.

A group of about 16 volunteers signed up to assist last fall for a "Boiler Room Cleanup Day", which was not only productive but somewhat fun. From these volunteers a task force was formed to discuss various issues including the future of the bell tower and the state of the parking lot. Russ Raymond and Tim Blanks headed up these projects and after congregational approval we saw the elimination of an unsafe bell tower and the repaving of the parking lots. Thanks to Russ and Tim for all their hard work to get these projects completed. Meanwhile, Larry Ryczek secured a reasonable quote and coordinated the repair of the crumbling chimney on the education wing. Thanks to Larry! And we finally have diaper changing tables in both washrooms adjacent to the Fellowship Hall!

Messiah's Child Care Center applied for and received a grant for lighting upgrades that resulted in a brightly lit, more energy efficient, green, less costly and safer environment. 2009 also saw the completion of a required industrial kitchen in the Child Care Center, as well as a grand outdoor brick patio. New toilet paper holders were installed in all four washrooms and yellow jacket infestations were dealt with. Large storage shelves were built in the boiler room and faulty window cranks were repaired in classrooms.

The parsonage basement had its share of flooding, sump pump and furnace problems, all of which were tended to, sometimes multiple times due to recurrences. A clean-up day was organized and carried out last spring for the basement, main level and exterior of the parsonage.

Vendor contracts are now reviewed/renewed annually to be sure we are getting appropriate services at competitive prices. Anyone interested in assisting with this or any other aspect of repair, refurbish, quote or bid gathering is encouraged and welcome to come forward to help make and keep Messiah a welcoming and safe place in which to gather and worship.

### Future Building Needs

Momentum has also grown again to address future building needs. As the task group discussed needed repairs and maintenance issues, it also started envisioning ways to make our building safer, more accessible and welcoming for

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worship, Christian education, fellowship and community outreach to support our mission "With Christ, Reaching Out and Welcoming All God's Children." We revisited the property goals that have developed over the last several years, as well as Messiah's "to do" list and determined that an initial project would focus on an accessible main entrance and a first floor accessible bathroom. With the congregation's approval we interviewed architects, and selected David Lindquist to work with us to develop a long range plan and also a preliminary design for this first project. We are currently keeping the congregation apprised of the progress and getting input via weekly "town hall" meetings following worship services, articles in the Messenger and "input forms" found in the narthex. As these plans are developing we are seeking creative funding options for this project. All ideas and input are welcome!!

Submitted by,  
Patti Daniels, Property Coordinator and Carol Hrodey, Congregation President

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## Women of the ELCA

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The Messiah Women's organization is open to all women of the church

On the 4th Thursday of the month the Friendship Circle (work day) meets in the Fellowship Hall to make quilts. Anyone interested in this on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday may join us at any time and stay as long as possible. If for lunch, bring your own and dessert will be provided. We start at 9 A.M. and work until ??? We also knit baby sweaters and make receiving blankets at home for the layettes, and purchase items for the health kits throughout the year when on the item are on sale. Quilts are also finished at home on the machine by a member. You do not have to be talented to make a quilt. We will teach you.

Other activities that took place in 2009:

- World Day of Prayer in March sponsored by Church Women United of Park Ridge.
- Friends of Lutheran World Relief Luncheon in April to learn about the quilts and supplies that are sent out.
- The Angel Project during the summer received much needed donations for our Friendship Day projects. We also received matching funds from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, which helped with the donation we made to Project Comfort, which pays for shipping of the Friendship Day items overseas.
- Lutheran World Relief Ingathering was the last Thursday in September to package the quilts, health kits and layettes for delivery to the warehouse for distribution wherever needed.
- The Rally Day project for the church and children was a huge success. The Child care center contributed with many gently used items for the layettes. We are grateful to the men who help us.
  - We made 35 quilts, assembled 54 Health Kits and 57 Layettes.
- A Thank Offering was not held in November as there are so many requests during the Christmas season. We will have it in February, Valentine month. We are happy to have some new members join us this year for Friendship Day.
- The Cradle Roll chair sends out Christian literature monthly to parents of our baptized infants.

The women of Messiah are an important part of Messiah's ministry. We are happy to serve and look forward to future activities. Do try to join us as we are sure you will enjoy it.

FYI - If you made out a check to the Messiah Women. Remember it will not show on your regular contribution report from the Church. You must list that separately for income tax purposes.

Millie Anderson  
Treasurer, Messiah Church Women

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**Women of the ELCA Financial Report**

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**Balance on hand January 1, 2009 ..... \$1699.43**

Receipts:

Donations	88.00	
L.W.R. Angel Project	200.00	
Matching Fund Thrivent	500.00	
Thank Offering	<u>20.00</u>	
Total Receipts: .....		+ <u>808.00</u>

**SubTotal: ..... \$ 2507.43**

Disbursements:

Trudi Handzel (batting for quilts)	87.84
Project Comfort LWR (shipping)	300.00
Women of the ELCA (Thank offering)	<u>20.00</u>

Total Disbursements: ..... -407.84

**Balance on hand January 1, 2010 ..... \$2099.59**



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## Proposed Initiatives for 2010

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- A. Outreach** to make new disciples and efforts to empower/retain existing disciples. With continued emphasis to minister to current disciples and reach out to our community via strategies including, but not limited to those identified by Turnaround Synod Initiative "Dream Team" and through further development of discipleship in all members and activating new members.
- B.** Continue to support and develop/expand **youth ministry**, including Sunday School, Confirmation, High School programs, Child Care Center and other church activities and programs focused on youth, with emphasis for 2010 on:
- Collaboration with Youth Ministry Network(s) for teenaged members
  - Facilitate collaboration of congregation members and Child Care Center families/staff through various activities, programs and events.
- C. Address current and future building needs**, with emphasis for 2010 on:
- Develop long range plan for capital building projects including repairs and refurbishing and additions to address overall needs and goals of congregation.
  - Develop design for initial phase of building renovation including accessible main entrance and accessible first floor bathroom.
  - Seek creative funding options to complete initial phase of long range plan.
  - Establish definitive property ministry team and process to address ongoing building needs.
- D. Complete financial audit.**
- E. Complete plan to reorganize leadership function** for Messiah, including corresponding revision of constitution and financial system, as well as identifying and training new officers and leadership members as appropriate.

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## **Leadership for 2010**

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### **Executive Committee**

The current officers of the Executive Committee propose to remain in place for this additional year of transition with the commitment to facilitate the reorganization of Messiah's leadership functions along with corresponding revisions to the constitution and financial system. This includes enlisting additional members to participate in this effort and the entire congregation to give input into this process. In addition, the Executive Committee commits to recruit and train new officers as indicated by the reorganized leadership model to be implemented in 2011.

President:	Carol Hrodey
Vice President:	Vikki Hanson
Treasurer:	Brad Kovach
Secretary:	Nancy Boomer
Financial Secretary:	David Hanson

### **Leadership Team**

Youth Ministry:	Floyd Yager
Evangelism/Outreach:	David Swanson
Christian Education-	
Sunday School:	Julie Jensen
Confirmation:	Floyd Yager
Adult Forum:	David Swanson
Vacation Bible School:	Julie Holzer
Child Care Center Board:	Donna Berzins
Child Care Center Director:	Karen Black
Property Coordinator:	Pat Daniels
Choir President:	Pat Daniels
Music:	Tom Daniels / Sue Fox
MLCW Friendship Circle:	Trudi Handzel / Sandi Collie
Brotherhood:	Rich Seggeling
Altar Guild:	Linda Raymond
Ushers:	Connie Kaufman
Publicity:	Teresa Lippeert

### **Staff**

Pastor:	Reverend Lynne Morrow
Director of Music:	Tom Daniels
Organist:	Sue Fox
Child Care Center Director:	Karen Black
Office Administrator	Jennifer Schneider
Bookkeeper:	Helen Levy
Custodian:	Worknesh Deressa
Maintenance:	John Hanzel, Jr.

**Statement of Income and Expense  
2009 Actual and 2010 Proposed Budget**

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>2009 Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>	<u>2010 Budget</u>	<u>% Change from actual</u>
<b><u>OPERATING FUND:</u></b>					
CONTRIBUTIONS	\$ 148,855	\$ 160,000	\$ (11,145)	\$ 157,000	5%
USE OF FACILITIES	42,397	39,000	3,397	42,000	-1%
FUND RAISING	2,715	1,000	1,715	2,400	-12%
ENDOWMENT INCOME	30,000	30,000	-	30,000	0%
INTEREST	<u>282</u>	<u>3,000</u>	<u>(2,718)</u>	<u>100</u>	-65%
TOTAL INCOME	<u>224,249</u>	<u>233,000</u>	<u>(8,751)</u>	<u>231,500</u>	3%
<b><u>CHRISTIAN EDUCATION</u></b>					
SUNDAY SCHOOL	589	500	(89)	600	2%
CONFIRMATION	-	200	200	200	nm
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL	194	300	106	200	3%
ADULT EDUCATION	258	600	342	300	16%
LIBRARY and REL MEDIA	<u>288</u>	<u>400</u>	<u>112</u>	<u>200</u>	-31%
SUBTOTAL	1,329	2,000	671	1,500	13%
<b><u>CHURCH PROPERTY</u></b>					
MAINTENANCE SERVICE	6,701	6,000	(701)	6,500	-3%
EQUIPMENT PURCHASES	-	-	-	-	nm
MUSICAL INSTR MAINT	760	500	(260)	500	-34%
INSURANCE	6,820	4,500	(2,320)	4,500	-34%
R and M - CHURCH	27,465	23,500	(3,965)	26,500	-4%
ELEC - CHURCH	13,258	13,000	(258)	13,000	-2%
GAS - CHURCH	8,505	12,000	3,495	10,000	18%
WATER - CHURCH	1,799	1,500	(299)	1,500	-17%
ELEC - PARSONAGE	908	1,000	92	1,000	10%
GAS - PARSONAGE	1,497	1,500	3	1,500	0%
WATER - PARSONAGE	230	200	(30)	200	-13%
CARETAKER SERVICES	<u>3,202</u>	<u>4,500</u>	<u>1,298</u>	<u>3,000</u>	-6%
SUBTOTAL	71,145	68,200	(2,945)	68,200	-4%
<b><u>EVANGELISM</u></b>	996	1,000	4	500	-50%
<b><u>SOCIAL CONCERNS</u></b>	912	500	(412)	1,000	10%
<b><u>STEWARDSHIP</u></b>					
STEWARDSHIP DRIVE	-	1,000	1,000	-	nm
OFFERING ENVELOPES	<u>759</u>	<u>1,000</u>	<u>241</u>	<u>1,000</u>	32%
SUBTOTAL	759	2,000	1,241	1,000	32%
<b><u>WORSHIP and LAY MINISTRY</u></b>					
CHURCH SUPPLIES	2,613	1,000	(1,613)	1,000	-62%
MUSIC SUPPLIES	439	100	(339)	100	-77%
OFFICE SUPPLIES	6,592	4,500	(2,092)	4,500	-32%
POSTAGE	2,133	1,500	(633)	1,500	-30%
CHANCEL FLOWERS	2,556	2,000	(556)	2,500	-2%
TELEPHONE - CHURCH	2,010	2,000	(10)	2,000	0%
COMPUTER SOFTWARE	1,181	500	(681)	700	-41%
MISCELLANEOUS	<u>220</u>	<u>400</u>	<u>180</u>	<u>200</u>	-9%
SUBTOTAL	17,744	12,000	(5,744)	12,500	-30%

Continued ...

PARISH PLANNING COUNCIL

CONVENTIONS and EDUCATION	350	500	150	300	-14%
PR CHAMBER COMM DUES	125	125	-	125	0%
GENERAL ADMIN	1,138	1,500	362	1,200	5%
PASTOR - SALARY	29,508	24,106	(5,402)	30,112	2%
PASTOR - SS ALLOW	4,290	4,420	130	3,996	-7%
PASTOR - P and M	12,862	28,900	16,038	10,000	-22%
PASTOR - FURNISH ALLOW	30,000	30,000	-	30,000	0%
PASTOR - AUTO	318	-	(318)	300	-6%
DIR MUSIC - SALARY	9,975	12,896	2,921	12,896	29%
DIR MUSIC - SS and MED	763	987	224	987	29%
ORGANIST - SALARY	14,179	14,179	-	14,179	0%
ORGANIST - SS and MED	1,085	1,085	-	1,085	0%
SPECIAL MUSIC	875	500	(375)	500	-43%
PARISH SECRETARY - SALARY	23,305	29,272	5,967	26,000	12%
PARISH SECRETARY - SS and MED	1,655	2,130	475	2,060	24%
BOOKKEEPER - SALARY	1,436	1,800	364	1,800	25%
BOOKKEEPER - SS and MED	110	150	40	150	36%
NURSERY ATT - PER DIEM	738	1,000	262	1,000	36%
NURSERY ATT - SS and MED	56	75	19	75	34%
CUSTODIAN - HOURLY	8,572	7,400	(1,172)	8,600	0%
CUSTODIAN - SS and MED	837	575	(262)	660	-21%
SOCIAL ACTIVITIES	1,460	700	(760)	775	-47%
SUBTOTAL	<u>143,637</u>	<u>162,300</u>	<u>18,663</u>	<u>146,800</u>	2%
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSE	<u>236,522</u>	<u>248,000</u>	<u>11,478</u>	<u>231,500</u>	-2%
OPERATING INCOME (LOSS)	<u>\$(12,273)</u>	<u>\$(15,000)</u>	<u>\$ 2,727</u>	<u>\$-</u>	nm

BENEVOLENCE FUND:

BENEVOLENCE CONTRIBUTIONS	<u>\$ 21,325</u>	<u>\$ 27,000</u>	<u>\$(5,675)</u>	<u>\$ 21,500</u>	1%
MCS - GENERAL	14,725	20,400	5,675	15,000	2%
MISSIONARY SPONSOR	6,000	6,000	-	6,000	0%
MAINE EAST YOUTH OUTREACH	-	-	-	500	nm
L.O.M.C.	200	200	-	-	-100%
PASTORAL COUNSELING CTR	200	200	-	-	-100%
BETHEL NEW LIFE CHURCH	<u>200</u>	<u>200</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	-100%
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	<u>21,325</u>	<u>27,000</u>	<u>5,675</u>	<u>21,500</u>	1%
BUDGETED BENEV INCOME (LOSS)	<u>\$-</u>	<u>\$-</u>	<u>\$-</u>	<u>\$-</u>	nm

nm - Not meaningful.

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**Non-Budgeted Benevolence, Dedicated and  
Clearing Account Activity 2009**

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	Beginning			Ending
	<u>Balance</u>	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Expense</u>	<u>Balance</u>
<u>NON-BUDGETED BENEVOLENCE</u>				
MCS - WORLD HUNGER	\$ -	\$ 1,373	\$ 1,373	\$ -
LSSI	-	365	365	-
LUTHERAN FAMILY MISSION	-	25	25	-
LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF	-	20	20	-
REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT	<u>296</u>	-	-	<u>296</u>
NON-BUDG BENEV TOTAL	<u>296</u>	<u>1,783</u>	<u>1,783</u>	<u>296</u>
<u>DEDICATED FUNDS</u>				
MEMORIALS - DESIGN and UNDESIG	8,655	10,070	18,705	20
PASTOR GIFT	-	186	186	-
MANNA PROGRAM	51	39,685	39,736	-
YOUTH ACTIVITIES	6,773	732	328	7,177
PROPERTY RESERVE FUND	3,239	10,005	7,642	5,602
ENDOWMENT FUND - PRINCIPAL	202,211	53,473	26,291	229,393
ENDOWMENT FUND - EXPENDABLE	44,900	13,100	30,000	28,000
ACCESSIBILITY PROJECT FUND	-	493	-	493
CAPITAL PROJECT FUND	<u>145,698</u>	<u>7,742</u>	<u>95,514</u>	<u>57,926</u>
DEDICATED FUNDS TOTAL	<u>411,527</u>	<u>135,486</u>	<u>218,402</u>	<u>328,611</u>
<u>CLEARING ACCOUNTS</u>				
FLOWERS - SPECIAL	-	742	742	-
YOUTH ACTIVITIES	-	1,627	1,627	-
FOOD COST / RECEIPTS	-	278	278	-
MISCELLANEOUS CLEARING	-	108,860	105,060	3,800
CHILD CARE CLEARING	(5,354)	133,226	132,955	(5,083)
BREAD FOR THE WORLD	-	255	255	-
CARTHAGE CHOIR CLEARING	-	2,124	2,124	-
BELL TOWER CLEARING	100	-	-	100
PROJECTOR CLEARING	-	-	-	-
BIBLE CLEARING	276	580	-	856
KIBOSHO CLEARING	<u>852</u>	-	<u>852</u>	-
CLEARING ACCOUNTS TOTAL	<u>(4,126)</u>	<u>247,692</u>	<u>243,893</u>	<u>(327)</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$ 407,697</u>	<u>\$ 384,961</u>	<u>\$ 464,078</u>	<u>\$ 328,580</u>

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**Balance Sheets December 31, 2009 and 2008**

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	<u>December 31,</u>		
	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>Change</u>
<u>ASSETS</u>			
<u>CURRENT</u>			
MB FINANCIAL BANK - CHECKING	\$ 14,990	\$ 34,460	\$ (19,470)
DWS MONEY MARKET	43,381	125,583	(82,202)
VANGUARD FUNDS	<u>257,393</u>	<u>247,111</u>	<u>10,282</u>
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	315,764	407,154	(91,390)
<u>FIXED</u>			
LAND and BLDG - CHURCH	1,600,000	1,600,000	-
LAND and BLDG - EDUCATION	700,000	700,000	-
LAND and BLDG - PARSONAGE	<u>230,000</u>	<u>230,000</u>	-
TOTAL FIXED ASSETS	2,530,000	2,530,000	-
<u>OTHER</u>			
CEMETARY LOTS	2,400	2,400	-
DEDICATED FUNDS RECEIVABLE	<u>5,083</u>	<u>5,354</u>	<u>(271)</u>
TOTAL OTHER ASSETS	<u>7,483</u>	<u>7,754</u>	<u>(271)</u>
 TOTAL ASSETS	 <u>\$ 2,853,247</u>	 <u>\$ 2,944,908</u>	 <u>\$ (91,661)</u>
<u>LIABILITIES</u>			
DEDICATED FUNDS PAYABLE	<u>333,663</u>	<u>413,051</u>	<u>(79,388)</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES	333,663	413,051	(79,388)
<u>FUND BALANCE - EQUITY ACCOUNTS</u>			
RESERVE - CURRENT	(12,816)	(543)	(12,273)
FIXED ASSETS	2,530,000	2,530,000	-
OTHER ASSETS	<u>2,400</u>	<u>2,400</u>	-
TOTAL EQUITY	<u>2,519,584</u>	<u>2,531,857</u>	<u>(12,273)</u>
 TOTAL LIABILITIES and FUND BALANCE	 <u>\$ 2,853,247</u>	 <u>\$ 2,944,908</u>	 <u>\$ (91,661)</u>



Bradford A. Kovach, Treasurer