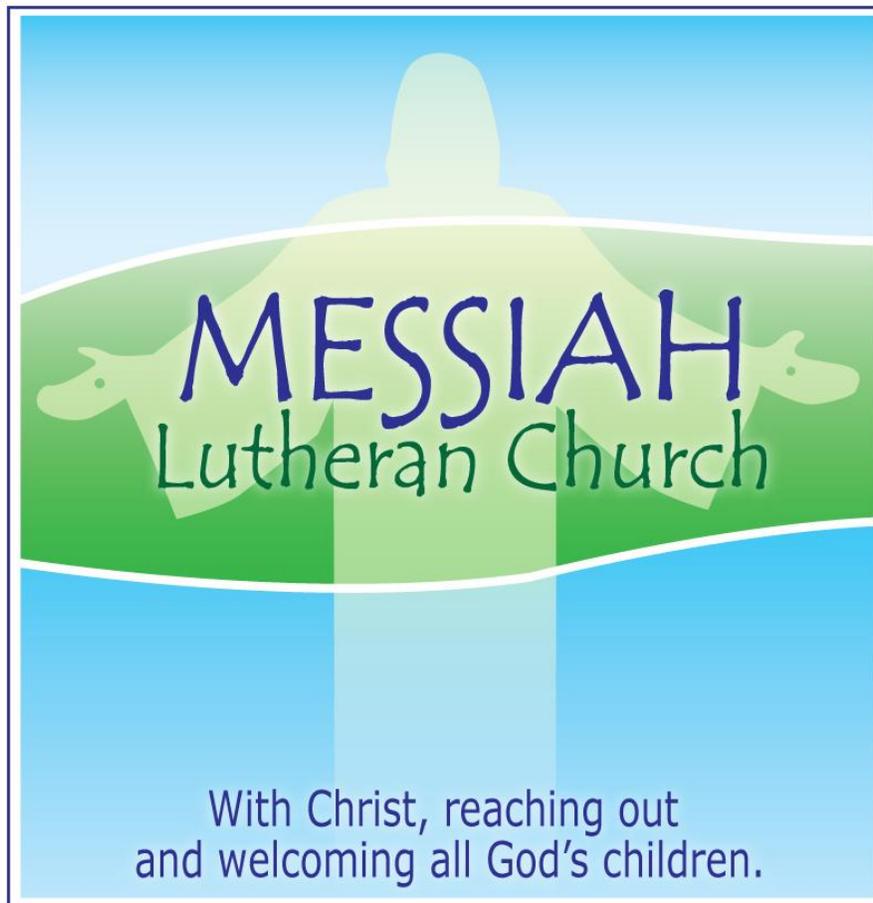


Messiah Lutheran Church
2020 Annual Report



Annual Congregational Meeting
Sunday, February 7th, 2021

Messiah Lutheran Church 2020 Annual Report

Annual Congregational Meeting • Sunday, February 7th 2021

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Agenda

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|-------|---|--------------|
| I. | Call to Order | Paul Holzer |
| II. | Opening Prayer | Pastor David |
| III. | Approval of Congregational Meeting Minutes
(as found in Annual Report pp. 3) | Vikki Hanson |
| IV. | Introductory Remarks / President's Report | Paul Holzer |
| V. | Child Care Center Director's Report | Karen Black |
| VI. | Treasurer's Report | Larry Ryczek |
| VII. | Recognition of Ministry & Review of Reports | Paul Holzer |
| VIII. | New Business | Paul Holzer |
| | • Presentation of Proposed Initiatives for 2021 | Paul Holzer |
| | • Presentation of Proposed Leaders for 2021 | Paul Holzer |
| | • Presentation of Proposed Budget for 2021 | Paul Holzer |
| | • Call for Additional Items from the Congregation | Paul Holzer |
| | • Adjournment with Lord's Prayer | Pastor David |

Minutes for Approval

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING MINUTES

February 16, 2020

Call To Order.

The Annual Congregational Meeting was called to order by President Paul Holzer at 11:19am.

Opening prayer was given by Pastor David Heim.

A quorum was established. Motion to approve Congregational meeting minutes by Teresa Lippert, Tim Saul second, all in favor.

For Full Reports please refer to the Annual Report

Scouting Report

Tim thanked the congregation at the annual meeting for the congregation sponsoring the Cubs Scouts. Paul added that the Scouts help make events like, Spaghetti Dinner and Day of Service, happen.

Child Care Center Board Report

Karen thanked everyone, especially Alaine, Bill, David and Pastor and the Child Care Board with their continual help and support. She also added that there are open CCC Board Positions.

***Non-Budgeted Benevolence, Dedicated & Clearing Accounts**

Dave Hanson asked if the Church could consider to eliminate the separation between the benevolence and the general fund as far as the contributions are concerned. Still keep the ratios similar, but don't make the membership decide if they want it to go to the general fund or the benevolence fund. Let the executive committee make that determination.

Cindy asked if maybe someone who puts together the budget could look into it and put some approximations together and then propose it at the next meeting. She would like to learn more about it before voting on it. Then the Executive Board could review.

Question to the congregation about making Assistance Ministry part of main budget. Cindy and Trudy would like to leave as a line item under "Non-Budgeted Benevolence"

New Business

Motion to accept these initiatives, as outlined in the Annual report p. 36, Don Kovach motioned and second Jim Handzel, all in favor.

President-Paul Holzer

Vice-President-Open
Treasurer-David Jensen
Secretary-Vikki Hanson
Financial Secretary-Jim Handzel

Motion to approve Proposed Leadership, David Hanson, second Tim Saul, all in favor.

Motion to approve 2020 Proposed Budget, Tim Saul, second by Laura Hauser, all in favor.

Open Discussion-

Teresa reminded everyone about Amazon Smile.

Cindy reminded everyone about ordering Manna cards through childcare.

Eric discussed openings of the CCC Board, they meet every 2nd Tuesday of the month. He also thanked Karen for her "Love and dedication" to the school.

Pastor spoke on ministry priorities, building on unique relationships of Scouts, CCC and Assistance Ministry. He would like to see the church build and expand on these, better and deeper relationships.

Tim Saul spoke briefly on food trucks for July 3rd.

Karen would like to see more walkers for the Memorial Day Parade, especially from the church.

Motion to Adjourn-Teresa motioned, second by Eric Grove, all in favor.
The meeting was adjourned at 12:09 pm with the Lord's Prayer.

Recorded by Alyson Allemeier, substitute Congregational Secretary

Reports

President's Report

This is my reflection on the year 2020 at and around Messiah Lutheran Church, Park Ridge, IL. Our small but mighty congregation continues "With Christ, reaching out and welcoming all God's children."

THE PULPIT

We have been blessed with Pastor David Heim continuing to serve Messiah on a part time basis during the pandemic. The Sermon was also provided by Phyllis Kersten and Yehiel Curry.

Work continues with the synod on the Call Process for a part-time Pastor at Messiah. The Call Committee will be formed to continue this important activity.

The changes to the way we interact at church have made me feel surprise, pride, annoyance, fragility, worry, pressure, and hope. There have been a variety of styles of services done since restrictions went into effect on gathering. The staff and congregation have been flexible and creative to hold worship pre-recorded on-line, live in the parking lot, and a "worship leader only" live service from the sanctuary. I appreciate the contributions of pre-recorded scripture readings and hymns by members of the congregation. The Metropolitan Chicago Synod shared multi-language services we rebroadcast which gave us the opportunity to hear God's word with other congregations in the area.

FELLOWSHIP

The Friendship Place was host to the 3rd Annual Roger Turek Chili & Soup Cook-off in 2020. Then video calls and socially distant parking lot gatherings became the safe way for the congregation to share God's peace and things going on in our lives. We held a memorable parking lot confirmation for Kyle Hauser and wished God's speed to David Swanson when he moved from the area. Video calls were used for staff meetings, coffee hour, book club, confirmation classes, EC meetings, and brotherhood breakfast.

FUNDRAISING

Giving Tuesday was Dec 1st. A donate button was put up on the Facebook Page to allow for on-line donations which had a chance for matching funds from Facebook. This year a 10% FB match was awarded to a few donations for a total of \$90. We will continue to look for new ways to raise money to support the mission and activity at Messiah.

The Child Care Center used a Go Fund Me campaign to receive donations.

There are many ways to donate to the church during the pandemic restrictions using regular mail, PayPal, Amazon Smile, Facebook, Mana Cards, and Simply Giving. Visit the Church website for more details.

MISSION AND OUTREACH

When it comes to assisting others, the Small but Mighty Messiah continues to deliver. We can be proud of the accomplishments in 2020 from these parts of Messiah occurring on more than just Sundays. · Child Care Center · Assistance Ministry · CROP Walk · Reverse Advent Calendar Thanks to everyone that participated in the success of these Ministries.

COMMUNICATION

The use of MailChimp has been expanded to manage our group email messages which include the announcements and the Monthly Messenger. This software helps give people on the distribution list more control over joining or unsubscribing from receiving the message and brings us into compliance with mass mail guidelines. MailChimp also provides metrics about utilization of each message/campaign by our readers.

Videos of the services are available for viewing in the Facebook group and on YouTube each Sunday. You are invited to look back on the services you may have missed on these sites. Some of the most watched videos were provided by music coordinator, Bill Decker, for various special days of the year including Easter, July 4th, and Advent.

Please keep in mind that Churches are a target for scams and fraud by identity theft. There have been occasional impersonation messages sent to members of the congregation asking for gift cards and other forms of financial help. It's always a good idea to verify requests for donations by contacting the Church office by phone when an unexpected message like this is sent to your phone or e-mail. The criminal knows the kind and generous people at the church might be embarrassed about reporting these crimes. Exploiting our natural response to a request for help is how people are taken advantage of in these situations. Be careful when using smart phones and computers.

We continue to look for ways to keep people informed about the events of the Church and Child Care Center.

OPENINGS

I invite you all to give prayerful consideration to joining the Executive Committee or Child Care Center Board. These teams keep our congregation running. Your input is needed to make decisions and grow our membership. The EC is looking for a Vice President and there are multiple openings on the Child Care Center Board.

PPP

In April, 2020 funds were received from Village Bank & Trust as part of the Paycheck Protection Program(PPP) administered by the Small Business Administration(SBA) in the CARES Act. In December, 2020 the SBA concluded review of your forgiveness application and approved forgiveness of all funds received. The Child Care Center was closed from March 20, 2020 until June 15,

2020. A decision was made by the CCC board and EC to apply to the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) to help continue staff payroll during the pandemic. This was considered an emergency action to give the CCC a chance to reopen when permitted by State and Local government and Health officials. A big THANK YOU to all those people involved in the application process.

THANK YOU

I want to thank the EC, the CCC board, Lay Leadership, and congregation for your support and efforts this past year as we endured the demands of operating during the pandemic.

Thanks to the watchful eye and skilled hands of David Hanson our building is running smoothly. Coordination of the various vendors that supply services to care for the property is greatly appreciated.

The staff at Messiah has been critical in realizing the accomplishments of 2020. Alaine Wong, Bill Decker, Karen Black, and Laura Hauser are cherished parts of getting the work of the Church done. Thanks for your care and attention to the needs of the congregation.

Know that the future is in God's hands, and Messiah is what we will make of it working together with God's help. May the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ.

Paul Holzer
President

Interim Pastor's Report

Like most congregations, Messiah responded to the Covid-19 pandemic in mid-March by suspending in-person church services and other activities. Since then, my pastoral ministry has primarily been "virtual."

Like many ministers, I faced a learning curve in producing video sermons and planning virtual worship services. These online services have been possible at Messiah because of the dedication and expertise of Paul Holzer and Jim Handzel, music director Bill Decker, and office manager Alaine Wong.

From August to mid-October, I helped lead outdoor services in the parking lot. It was wonderful in those weeks to be able to see one another, if at a distance, and to worship with live music. During these weeks, we were able to hold an outdoor Confirmation service—memorable for confirmand Kyle Hauser and everyone else! I'm grateful again to Bill Decker as well as to soloists Aly Allemeier, Nancy Herak, Barbara Hofmaier, and David Jensen for their contributions to these services—and, again, to Paul Holzer and Jim Handzel for their technical expertise.

Because in-person forms of ministry were not possible, I put my energy into communicating with members of the congregation through phone calls and especially through more frequent emails to the congregation. This seemed the best

way to connect to the greatest number of people and help them connect to Messiah—and to remind us of God’s presence with us in the pandemic. One or two pastoral reflections were sent out each week. These reflections included a series on “Praying the psalms,” “After Pentecost,” and “Advent reflections.” Office manager Elaine Wong helped coordinate these emails, along with producing the weekly Messiah Message Board and worship materials for the online services.

During these months, I participated in weekly virtual meetings of the church staff and the monthly virtual meetings of the Executive Committee. I worked with the music director to create online services following the seasons of the church year. In November I produced a series of four videos telling the Christmas story for the children of the Child Care Center.

The canceling of in-person worship services and of service and fellowship opportunities has been a tremendous loss to our life as a congregation, but I believe it is the appropriate step for the congregation to take for the well-being of all. Our common goal has been to protect each other’s health and support one another as best we can as we look forward to the day when the pandemic recedes. It has been a year of living in patience, hope, and expectation, as so many people of faith have done through the ages. We have learned in a new way to take to heart the exhortation of St. Paul to the Romans: “Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, persevere in prayer.”

Your faithfulness to the ministry at Messiah through your hope, patience, and prayer and through your online participation and continued financial giving has helped us continue to be the church of Jesus Christ for one another and the world. The response to the December Reverse Advent Project, which prompted an outpouring of donations for those in need, showed that the light of Christ continues to shine on and through the people of Messiah, and the darkness has not overcome it.

Faithfully,
David Heim, Interim Pastor

Music Ministry Report

How do you sing the Lord’s song in a foreign land (or, as some Bible translations put it, “strange land”)? One of Israel’s psalmists wrote these words thousands of years ago when Israel had been ripped from their homes and forced to move to Babylon as exiles. To the people of Israel, the conquering Babylonians lived in a strange and foreign culture (see Psalm 137:4).

It may be hard to believe this now, but for the first nine weeks of 2020, Messiah’s congregation, as customary, did gather together on Sunday mornings. On Sunday, March 8, the congregation sang, among other hymns, “Lift High the Cross,” “Jesus, Remember Me,” and “In the Cross of Christ I Glory.” The Gloria Dei Choir sang the slow, mournful spiritual “Nobody Knows the Trouble I See.” Pastor Heim preached and led the congregation in the liturgy and prayers.

The following Sunday, March 15, the congregation, in conjunction with the Child Care Center, had planned a service to honor the CCC students and their families. This was to be a time of celebration where the children would get to sing lots of their music. But during the week, it became obvious that the rapid spread of COVID-19 would be closing establishments, including all faith communities. The on-site service was cancelled and worship went online.

In spite of this strange, new world of stay-at-home orders, social distancing and mask wearing, coupled with the sadness of not being able to gather together for worship, the congregation continued to sing the Lord's song throughout the remainder of 2020 though it would look very different.

—We still sang hymns. Messiah began recording its services a few years ago and posting them on *YouTube* and *Facebook*. Since March, I have been selecting hymns that were pre-recorded from past services. I also was able to find pre-recorded music from services from 2018 and 2017. I would then send my selections to Paul Holzer who put all the parts of the service together and posted them online.

—Live music still was heard. I recorded Preludes that I played on my piano at home or on the sanctuary piano. When the congregation gathered for its "Parking Lot" services in their cars during the warm months, a member of the congregation (called the music assistant) stood outside and led the music portion of the service. The person would sing through a microphone at the same time I was playing the music on the sanctuary piano that also was miked. The worship leaders heard one another through a speaker system. (This was made possible through Paul Holzer's audio expertise.) Individuals also recorded songs of faith which were accompanied by guitar or banjo or sung without any accompaniment. I also recorded piano accompaniments of hymns and emailed them to singers. They would then re-record the hymn as they sang the verses of the hymn to the accompaniment and send it back to me.

—There were some weeks, that a few worship leaders, perhaps four or five, would lead worship from within the sanctuary as it was being live-streamed. This included the pastor, a music assistant, those recording the service, and myself. All the people were spread out and wore masks as appropriate. The music assistant, who would face the back of the sanctuary away from the other participants, would lead the congregation in its hymns and liturgy using a microphone. The service was then posted on *YouTube* and *Facebook*.

— All this would not have happened without the goodwill of a team of musicians. Many thanks to all who provided recordings, volunteered as music assistants, and helped with the technical side: Nancy Herak, David Jensen, Aly Allemeier, the ensemble that Aly sang with at Christmas (Kelley McCarron, Adam Thoma, and Joe Corrado), Rich and Nick Levy, Larry Ryczek, Barbara Hofmaier, Paul Holzer, and Jim Handzel. Also, thanks to those who shared their musical talents through past recordings of services: these included Alan Christensen on the cello, the members

of the Gloria Dei Choir, and the congregation who sang their hearts out during worship.

Finally, the congregation remembers with thanksgiving the life of Don Kovach who passed away in late December. He was known for his love of music and he sang with the Gloria Dei Choir for years as a tenor. Don and his wife, Mary Jane, donated the piano that is located in the Multipurpose Room and which the choir uses for rehearsals. We thank God for Don's life, voice, family, and commitment to the life of this congregation.

Bill Decker, Music Coordinator

Messiah Lutheran Child Care Center Director's Report
54 years of Excellence in Christian Education
January 2021

To begin with: This year has been like no other. We all have persevered through incredible stress and challenges in our personal and professional lives to get to today. At Messiah Child Care, the support of our Staff, our families, and our Board, as well as, Messiah Lutheran Church's staff and families has been overwhelming. We could not have done all that we have accomplished without everyone's hard work, thoughtful words, and prayers. Messiah Lutheran Child Care Center has been full of activity and energy throughout 2020, except for March 18th-June 15th when we were closed due to the covid-19 pandemic. With all that has happened, we are especially proud to add another year to Messiah Lutheran Child Care Center's pre-school/Kindergarten/child care excellence.

Messiah Child Care Center is open from 6:30am-5:30pm. Pre -school hours are 9:00am-11:30am. During the school year, the hours for the older 4's class (Pre K-2/3) and our Kindergarten and Jr. Kdgn. are minimally from 9am-noon. Summer programs are available to children 3-10 years old and include a wide variety of indoor and outdoor activities, as well as fieldtrips (usually).

During the first 3 months of 2020 (pre-covid), Messiah had 3 pre-school classes for 3 year olds, 3 classes for 4 year olds and a Jr. Kdgn./Kindergarten for children who are 5 by September 1st (or by November 1st for Jr. Kdgn.). Additionally, we had a 10 week, 1 hour, Parent-Tot class. Classes were arranged by age and children in any classroom could extend their pre-school hours to 4 ½ or to full day extended care.

From June through December, many DCFS, city, county and state mandates were in place that changed much of our class alignment and our staffing needs. Children needed to be with their own classroom group and groups could not combine. This eliminated many of our usual activities like our Wednesday chapel service in the church, group music class with our music teacher and getting together for play outdoors. Our classes were distinguished not only by age, but also by the length of the children's days. Fortunately, we have a wonderful group of dedicated, loving teachers and support staff who reliably care for and educate our children during the

9 month school year and in the summer months and who have been amazingly resilient with all the required changes.

Messiah Lutheran Child Care Center children receive a traditional, play-based 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, art, music and social sciences, in addition to a Christian education with their classroom teachers and our pastor. Teachers have received recent in-service training on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) ... including art the acronym is 'STEAM' and including religion it becomes 'STREAM'. Conferences are generally held in person with parents in October/November and in April/May. Conferences this year were held either outdoors or by phone.

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 Thursday classroom Bible story visits with Miss Karen.

Messiah generally offers an optional program, as well. Miss Pat (Doyle), of Kid's Dance Express, leads a 45 minute class of dance and movement on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays. The Kid's Dance Express children usually perform in 2 dance recitals at Messiah: the 'P'Nut Cracker' dance recital in December, as well as, the end of the year recital, in May, which is also performed on stage at Yacktman/LGH. Both programs were covid-cancelled in 2020. Miss Pat's classes have been a part of Messiah programming for over 20 years and will resume, on a limited basis, in January 2021.

Throughout the year, the children of Messiah participate in projects that extend beyond the school's walls. During each Wednesday chapel service, children have been invited to donate an offering of canned food. The children walk the food, which is donated to the Maine Township Food Pantry or used for other families in need through Messiah Church's assistance program, to the front of the church and place it on the altar. Although we no longer do chapel in the church, the children have continued to donate food to the food pantry during Miss Karen's classroom Bible visits. During Lent, each classroom collects pennies (nickels, dimes, etc.) which are then donated to the food pantry, as well. Our 2020 Lenten collection period was cut short because of the school covid closure, but the children had already donated \$269.96!! This puts our donations of the past 16 years, at nearly \$12,300.

Our school's PTO supports our school's extra projects by sponsoring many fund raisers throughout the year. Included in these 2020 fund raisers were the monthly manna/Script card orders (manna/Script cards are gift cards that can be purchased for your own shopping needs or to give as gifts), monthly Scholastic book orders, We were unable to do our usual Scholastic Book Fair, our ice cream social or, our largest fund raising event, the Annual Fun Fair, usually held in May. (At our fun fairs, we have a large silent auction, carnival games in the classrooms, a bouncy

house, a trackless train, ponies and food.) We had 'restaurant fund-raisers' as well- at Morettis in Edison Park and at Yogli Mogli (Park Ridge) and Potbellys (Park Ridge). We appreciate the huge support of our school by families of both the church and the child care.

During the early covid months Messiah Child Care and Messiah Lutheran Church receive Payroll Protection Funds which paid our staff's wages for 8 weeks during April, May and June. During the months of July, August, September, October, November and December, Messiah Child Care received a Child Care Restoration Grant (CCRG) through INCCRRA which has also helped with the child care payroll and extra covid expenses. Sincerely enormous thanks to Miss Rita for working so very hard to get all of the required communication, paperwork and follow-up needed to make these extra funding opportunities happen for us. Messiah families were also EXTREMELY generous in their financial and emotional support of our school. A group of families organized 3 fun fall fund raisers: a Yoga class, a dance class and a Bottle and Bottega painting class. Many families donated to Messiah's Go Fund Me page, which was arranged on our behalf by a Messiah parent, as well as, making donations directly to our school. We also received many covid protection donations of hand sanitizer, face masks, paper towels, etc. We have been INCREDIBLY BLESSED with the generosity and emotional support of SO many people.

Past school improvements made with fund raising money include playground equipment and maintenance, the PK2 loft, computers, ipads, library, AV equipment, and the brick patios that are used for picnicking and as a reading garden. In August 2012, using money raised by the PTO, we installed a 5' decorative iron fence around the church/school playground/park and secured the area with an electronic gate across the driveway. The children have enjoyed the expanded play area and parents, staff and children appreciate the added security. We used our fund raising monies in 2016 to improve our outdoor play area (new wood chips, new storage units for large motor and sand toys). We added a stunning piece of kinetic art to our patio (Thank you-Mr. Dave for installing it). Our largest purchase of our fund raising money was to purchase new Mitsubishi duct-less, QUIET, energy efficient, air-conditioning (with heating as well) units for all of the classrooms, the lunchroom, and the business office. The child care PTO fund raising monies paid for half of the ACs and their installation, while the child care center paid for the other half. Mr. Dave removed the window air conditioners giving a cleaner look to the exterior of the building as well as creating sunnier, less drafty classrooms. In 2018, the child care and church worked together to remove and replace large areas of concrete sidewalks around the campus. Additionally, a drainage area was added to the east edge of the north parking lot to alleviate the water collection problems in the south east corner of that lot as well as raising the sidewalk to provide a safe and dry entrance into the school playground. In 2018, laptop computers were purchased for each of the classrooms to enhance the children's learning experiences and for classroom teachers to send their daily messages to parents from their own rooms.

This year's fund raisers went towards purchasing PPE (soap, paper towels, masks, sanitizer, etc.) and classroom air purifiers (2 or 3 in each classroom). The major purchase was 2 or 3 air purifiers for each classroom to help remove bacteria, viruses, dust, etc. from the air.

Other activities that took place at Messiah Child Care Center during the 2020 year are:

January:

- Winter Parent-Tot classes begin
- Inservice day for staff on MLK birthday
- Participation in the Niles Library Pre-School Fair
- Participation in the Park Ridge Library Pre-School Fair
- Participation in the Des Plaines Library Pre-School Fair
- Kindergarten Open House for prospective Kindergarten and Junior Kindergarten students
- Summer and fall registration forms are distributed to current families
- Fund raiser at Pot Belly's in Park Ridge
- Children draw self-portraits for annual Messiah t-shirt

February:

- 'Be My Valentine' Pizza dinner and Valentine making party
- Valentine Open House for new and current families
- Registration for summer and fall classes
- 'People in our Neighborhood' class rotation week and classroom visits from librarians, firefighters, doctors, etc.

March:

- Collected \$269.96 in pennies (nickels, dimes, dollars, etc.) during Lent for Messiah Lutheran Church's Assistance Program
- Culvers Fund Raiser
- MESSIAH CLOSED BY THE COVID-19 VIRUS PANDEMIC-our last day that students attended was Wednesday, March 18th
- Teachers and office continue to make regular contact with child care families through emails, phone calls, front porch drop-off, mailings, etc. etc.
- Cancelled-spring field trips and spring restaurant fund raiser
- Cancelled-Spring Parent-tot

April:

- Teachers and office continue to make regular contact with child care families through emails, phone calls, front porch drop-off, mailings, etc. etc.
- Cancelled-Children singing at Messiah's Sunday Lenten Church Service (Child Care provided refreshments!!)
- Cancelled -Neighborhood Easter Egg Hunt held at Messiah Church
- Easter story recorded by Pastor David and emailed to all child care students
- Cancelled- Weeklong Scholastic Book fair
- Cancelled- Two nights of Ice Cream social parties including the book fair and entertainment by magician, Mr. Ash
- Cancelled- Miss Pat's end of the year dance show at Yacktman (LGH) and at Messiah for 3 programs

May:

- Teachers and office continue to make regular contact with child care families through emails, phone calls, front porch drop-off, mailings, etc. etc.
- Cancelled- Fun Fair and Silent Auction-complete with ponies, bouncy house, trackless train, games, prizes, and food!!
- Cancelled- Parent-Teacher Conferences
- Cancelled- Spring visit from the Park Ridge Librarians
- Cancelled- March in the Park Ridge Memorial Day parade

June:

- Teachers and office continue to make regular contact with child care families through emails, phone calls, front porch drop-off, mailings, etc. etc.
- Drive-by pick up for 2019-2010 students (picked up end-of- year binders, supplies and clothes left behind)
- Cancelled- Kindergarten luncheon and Graduation
- Cancelled- End of school family picnic
- Staff inservicing-introducing covid restrictions, classroom organization, etc
- June 15th- MESSIAH REOPENS-masked and sanitized –FOLLOWING NEW COVID-19 VIRUS PANDEMIC PROTOCOL- Beginning of summer classes for pre-schoolers and school aged children

June, July August:

- Summer programs for children aged 3-10 years old
- Weekly on campus virtual field trips planned by the day campers and enjoyed by all
- Cancelled- Summer Parent-tot program for 7 weeks
- Cancelled- Bible School for Child Care students
- DCFS licensing
- Cancelled- Weekly field trips to local attractions: Pirates Cove, Elk Grove Bowl, Barnaby's Pizza, , Mountain View Mini-Golf, the Exploratorium, Marriott Lincolnshire (Elephants and Piggies), the Des Plaines Splash Pad (2x), Wildwood Nature Center, Pump It Up, Portillos, etc.

August:

- Staff inservicing-introducing covid restrictions, classroom organization, etc.
- Purchased 2 or 3 air purifiers for each classroom
- Cancelled- Open House
- Beginning of fall school session, including younger 3's class

September:

- Cancelled- Fall Parent-Tot
- Cancelled- Miss Pat's 'Kid's Dance Express' Begins

October:

- Cancelled- All school field trip to Didier's Pumpkin Farm
- Vision and hearing screening for all Messiah students
- CPR classes for all staff (Pizza dinner with Child Care Board cancelled)
- Parent-Teacher conferences – held by phone or outdoors
- Cancelled- Harvest Festival/Trunk or Treat/ Bouncy House/Food/Child Care Open House
- Fund raiser at Moretti's in Edison Park
- Cancelled- Cookie Dough and Popcorn sale
- Classroom Halloween Parties

- **November:**
- Cancelled- Fall visit from the Park Ridge Librarians
- Class Photos
- 'The Food Plate' Food and Nutrition classroom rotation week
- Cancelled- Thanksgiving luncheon for children and their families (105 guests)
- Cancelled- Family week
- Weekly video Advent Bible stories with Pastor David recorded and emailed to all child care families
- Reverse Advent food and necessity collection donations from child care, church and neighborhood families

December:

- Cancelled- Family Gingerbread House decorating party
- Cancelled- Children sang at Messiah's Sunday Advent Church Service (Child Care provided refreshments!!)
- Cancelled- Silent auction for the Christmas programs' front row seats
- Cancelled- Three P-nutcracker dance programs performed by Miss Pat's classes
- Cancelled- Pre K-3 and Kdgn./Jr. Kdgn. collect and deliver gifts for children at Yacktman (LGH) Childrens
- Cancelled- Three classroom Christmas programs (live-streamed) and family Christmas parties
- Staff holiday luncheon with child care board (board zoomed in this year)
- Messiah CCC closed for 2 weeks for Christmas and New Year's holidays

We have an amazing staff, dedicated to daily providing the children 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. This year our staff has remained flexible, loving and incredibly brave to meet the challenges of an unpredictable year. The children and their families have benefitted from the opportunities our school has safely provided them. I would like mention that we are honored to be able to offer a consistent staff to parents each year. Many schools face a high annual turnover of teachers, but thanks to our outstanding and dedicated staff, we are proud to welcome them back consistently each year.

Our lead classroom teachers during part or all of the year have been: Cindy Decker, Cristina Krueger, Jennifer Paulus-Krueger, Kirstin Kida, Laurie Bachmann (now retired), Sue Johanson (now retired), Suzanne Priore, and Terri Hogan. Our assistant teachers have been Becca Zuckerman-Krueger, Bette Hagstrom, Diane Wojda, Eilis King, Karen Tompkins, Kelly Brown, Laura Decker, Laura Hauser, Lavonne Boch, Maggie Kicmal (covid-retired), RoseMarie DiVito. Miss Cristina was our Parent-Tot teacher and our Spanish teacher. Our support and office staff include: Bob Black, our lunchroom manager, Cathy Shaughnessy our office manager/director's assistant, Rita Kotowski our bookkeeper and school resource manager, and Pat Doyle our dance and movement instructor.

Our substitutes include Cristina Krueger, Janelle Wendling, Laura Decker, Laura Hauser and Laurie Bachmann.

We also had several Maine East and Maine South high school interns working with us during the afternoons at the beginning of the year but have not been able to since covid-19. These students have an interest in early childhood careers and are recommended to Messiah by their school advisors.

We thank our Child Care Board, Eric Grove, Pat Kovach and Sue Kopij, who have met with me twice a month via ZOOM meetings to support our efforts throughout this most challenging year. We thank the Church's EC who worked with us to receive the vital PPP funding for the school and the church. And we thank 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 (especially fund raisers) of our Center.

Through this entire year, Messiah CCC is proud to have retained a dedicated, resourceful, flexible, brave staff. We are proud that with tuition, outside funding and fund raisers, we have been able to meet every payroll, for every staff member, throughout the entire year

We thank Pastor David for his support of our school activities, his chapel talks and his video messages at Easter and Advent.

We thank Alaine Wong for her dedicated and generous work in the church office and for organizing this year's "Reverse Advent" giving program. She has been a strong connection between the church and the child care. Her assistance and her interest in the child care center's activities have been extremely helpful and supportive.

We thank Dave Hanson, who is instrumental in maintaining the property. Mr. Dave is always ready and able to help the child care with a wide variety of needs, ensuring a safe and clean environment for our children.

We thank the families of Messiah Child Care Center for their enormous support, their unwavering trust and generous spirits. Our families are the BEST!! They are always available to assist and participate in our classroom and school activities, as well as fund raisers. They support us with their enthusiastically kind words and their generous recommendations to prospective families. Their trust in Messiah CCC to provide a safe, healthy, loving, fun, environment for their children to learn and grow is humbling.

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. Our thanks to all who are on this journey with us.

Yours in Christ, Karen Black
Messiah Lutheran Child Care Center Director

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

Community Outreach Initiatives

Assistance Ministry

2020 has certainly been a challenging year! I will attempt to recap what has happened in Assistance Ministry.

We have been following the governor's guidance for meeting in person and did not have Monday meals for several months early in the year and then resumed handing out lunches to go but did not have any guests inside. We then started giving out a healthy lunch of sandwiches, fruit, etc. as well as a hot lunch to go. We started out putting clothing, toiletries, etc. outside but then moved to having limited clothing, food, toiletries, etc. in the hallway and allowed one guest at a time to look through our donations. We continued to give out one \$10 Jewel card per month to each guest.

As the Covid-19 numbers of persons infected went up, we again found it necessary to pause Monday meals. The congregation and Child Care Center families and staff donated boxes of food, winter clothing, toiletries, etc. as part of the Advent calendar collection. We contacted as many guests as we could and distributed many of the boxes. Food was also given to local food pantries and we have been in touch with the Night Ministry and will donate socks, hats, gloves and scarves to them. The Scouts went door to door in the neighborhood and collected food and also the scouts themselves decided to bring socks. Awesome!

In September we partnered with Walgreens and were able to have their pharmacists give flu shots to our congregation and guests. Our guests were very appreciative of this.

Former Messiah members and friends have donated clothing and food for our guests. When we were low on food, supplies, clothing, etc. we asked and our congregation responded. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this ministry.

We will again hand out takeaway lunches when it is safe to do so. We have received a donation of insulated containers to use when we reopen and food donations from Trader Joe's in Park Ridge, Nancy's Pizza, Gordon Food Service, Jewel and Subway and a donation of Aldi cards to be used to purchase food. This really is a Team effort!

In closing, on behalf of the Assistance Ministry Team, thank you for allowing us to continue this outreach. Our guests appreciate your generosity and prayers.

With thanks,
Connie Kaufman

Messiah Lutheran Church Women

Messiah Lutheran Church Women – Quilts & Kits 2020

Although 2020 has been an unusual year by every stretch of the imagination, we have still kept the mission of Lutheran World Relief (LWR) in mind. LWR's mission as seen on their website (<https://lwr.org/about-lwr>) is stated as:

Affirming God's love for all people, we work with Lutherans and partners around the world to end poverty, injustice and human suffering.

With their vision:

Empowered by God's unconditional love in Jesus Christ, we envision a world in which each person, every community and all generations live in justice, dignity and peace.

Given the world-wide pandemic, we feel the need for quilts and kits will be even greater in the coming year. Since we have not been able to meet, Trudi and Carol have spent some time preparing for the time we can meet again.

We've gathered items for Personal Care Kits via shopping online sales and donations. Plus, we've been able to purchase soap and additional towels thanks to a \$250 Action Team grant from Thrivent! Thrivent has a program to help members involved with team projects and fundraising for charitable projects. And we are honored to receive this financial assistance for our Quilts & Kits ministry! We're waiting for additional sales to buy additional towels with the grant money. Once we're able to meet again, we should be able to assemble approximately 100 kits.

We've also gathered some of the items for School Kits during "back to school" sales. We should be able to accumulate remaining items when these sales come around again. Trudi has been making backpacks in preparation for the time we can assemble these kits.

Meanwhile Carol has done some work on tops for quilts plus we ordered a new roll of batting to be ready to assemble quilts. Trudi took a "time-out" from quilts to make a "few" masks to help during the pandemic. At this point she's completed over 2000 masks! She's donated them to a variety of agencies as well as neighbors and friends, Messiah members and Assistance Ministry.

Now as we begin another year, please consider joining us! Some of the work can be done at home and we are optimistic that we'll be able to gather again sometime this year! Here are ways everyone can participate:

- Volunteer to sew at home (sewing experience necessary for this part!)
- Donate items for quilts – we are looking for new or gently used flat sheets – any size. We also accept donations of materials – cotton/cotton blends are preferred. We can also use heavier fabric for backpacks.
- Help assemble quilts (watch for information about when we can meet again) – no sewing experience necessary! Remember, no sewing experience is needed, and we keep Band-Aids handy! And the fellowship is great!
- Donate items for personal care kits – each kit contains a bath towel, two bars

- of soap (full size), sturdy comb, toothbrush and nail clippers
- Donate items for school kits – each kit contains four 70-sheet spiral notebooks, a 30-cm ruler, safety scissors, a box of 24 crayons, a pencil sharpener, an eraser, five unsharpened pencils, five black or blue ballpoint pen – and this all goes in a backpack that we make.
- Donate money to purchase additional kit items, quilt supplies or to supply assistance for LWR shipping costs

Thank you to all who continue to support the MLCW Quilts & Kits Ministry!

Carol Hrodey and Trudi Handzel

Please note – there will not be a financial report this year due to some account issues with the bank that we are working through.

Brotherhood

The Brotherhood completed its 66th and most unusual year --- but that's 2020. Saturday Breakfast Meetings – Promoted by the Messiah Brotherhood, the men of Messiah have continued meeting at 9:00 AM the 2nd Saturday of every month for breakfast and fellowship until Covid-19. Then, after a short re-lapse we picked up the meetings --- same 2nd Saturday and same time but a different place --- virtual via Zoom thanks to the amazing IT skills of one Mr. Holzer.

We're all hoping for a better 2021.

Praise Jesus!

Richard Seggeling,
Brotherhood Chair

Scouting Report

Scouting Report - Program Year, 2020 A.D.

Cub Scout Pack 105 Report

Pack 105 started the year after a great 2019. The Pinewood Derby was a success with all the Cub Scouts and siblings having a fun derby in Fellowship hall. As the Pack started to go into February, the concern of Covid-19 was becoming a harsh reality. Adult leadership had a conference call and the final decision was made to table in-person meetings until we could safely meet. As the month progressed, soon came March and it was realized that in-person meeting was not going to be a reality. The adult leaders, parents and youth did their best to meet virtually and to continue the program in this new world of Cub Scouting.

The next time the Pack met as a unit was in August and that event was the annual Blue and Gold awards ceremony. Each of the Scouts were able to progress in their respective rank and earn electives. The ceremony took place in the backyard of the parsonage with CDC and Council guidelines regarding safety.

As cooler weather prevailed, it became more of a challenge to meet. There were a couple of socially distanced meetings that took place outside, but then the Pack went back to virtual meetings for the remainder of the year.

The Pack continued the tradition of contributing to the night ministry by donating as many socks as they could for those in need.

Looking ahead, this unit is excited for the future and being able to resume normal operations as the program is designed.

Yours in Scouting,
Ken Siergey
Cubmaster, Pack 105

Scouts BSA Troop 105 G Report

Even with a difficult year due to Covid-19, not only did our Troop endure, we doubled our size as we inspired some of the brothers and we started a boy unit in the last half of 2020. As far as I know, it is the first BSA girl Troop to inspire a boy Troop start-up.

As for the girls during the year, we managed to accomplish several impressive achievements. We held our weekly Troop meetings on Zoom and nearly every scout in the Troop advanced in rank, some by several ranks. We participated in-person when we could and did such things as learning orienteering and visited Waterfall Glenn.

When we couldn't meet in-person, each Scout setup a camp in her own back yard and we met on-line to share the experience as a Troop.

Two of our Scouts completed Eagle Scout Service projects - a Friendship Garden at MLC and a prayer garden, cross restoration, and little library at the historic Methodist campground in Des Plaines, IL. The next part of the process is for these two young women to complete their Service Project Workbook, submit to District and Council for verification. Once that process is complete the adult leadership will call for a Board of Review, perform the interview phase and make the final approval for these two women to achieve the rank of Eagle Scout. We are looking forward to their completion in early 2021.

The Troop collected food and clothes on behalf of MLC this year for Christmas to help those in need.

I look forward to what the Scouts will accomplish in 2021 and our Troop is very grateful to have such a great home to allow the Scouts to flourish.

Sincerely,

Paul Bilski
Scoutmaster, Troop 105G

Scouts BSA Troop 105 B Report

In 2020, Troop 105 B was formally registered with the national organization the Boy Scouts of America through Pathway to Adventure Council.

We held Troop meetings over the last half of the year, which included; outdoor activities such as hiking, fire building and basic Scouting skills. However due to COVID-19 restrictions, many of the typical group functions such as large gatherings, over-night weekend camping activities and Summer Camp were cancelled out of an abundance of caution for health concerns.

Troop 105 B started in 2020 with 5 Scouts formally registered and meetings occurring on Friday evenings on a virtual basis. As the year progressed, we pursued Scouting activities in keeping with health care concerns in mind. Scouting activities will grow as health safety permits.

As Scoutmaster, I look forward to successful 2021 and help inspire these young men to achieve their goals in Scouting and in life.

Brian Scerba
Scoutmaster, Troop 105B

Charter Organization Representative Report

2020 was a challenging year for the Scouting units. That has been reflected in the report by each of the unit leaders. The unit leaders and the respective members of committee remained committed to the success of the Scouting program this past year. One thing I took away from 2020 is how the challenge of this year taught each of us how to pivot and take a different path as we remained committed to the youth we serve.

I had to make the unfortunate final decision (a few times) throughout the year to pull back and limit, if not even cancel in-person meetings or events. Keeping in constant contact with community, medical and unit leadership, which was crucial in delivering the best experience we could in 2020 as the pandemic continued its course in our local community.

Recruitment and fundraising were at all time low this year. Each of the units did the best they could considering the current environment. The units were able to maintain the at least the minimum to re-charter in 2021, which means we can continue to offer this program to our community. If any congregational members know of a youth aged 5 -17 who may be interested in this program, please contact me. The more youth, the more fun it is.

A few highlights of this year were; the Blue and Gold awards ceremony. We never held the event outdoors, but it was a nice change and it was a beautiful day. The Lord allowed us to have some time for much needed fellowship. The Court of Honor Troop 105G was held at a private residence, and I was able to secure a keynote speaker for the ceremony. Lt. Col. (Ret), Tina Kracke, US Army, delivered a message to the women regarding faith, dedication, self-belief, friendship,

perseverance and endurance. Hopefully her story will inspire these young women to break the glass ceiling, just as Ms. Kracke did. The start-up of Troop 105 B is an awesome accomplishment. As Scoutmaster Bilski pointed out in his report, this is unique in the realization a Girl Troop inspired the Boy Troop to form. Scoutmaster Scerba will serve these young men well and I look forward to providing the support to this unit as it is required.

Reflecting on 2020 is bittersweet, because the pandemic halted so many of the things we love about Scouting. However, by pivoting, taking a new path and the inspirational Boy Troop start-up, I know the Lord blessed us this year and I can only pray for our continued success in 2021.

One goal I would pray for is to be able to have a fundraiser that will allow us to decorate and maintain the trailer so we can get down the road and have some outdoor fun in God's creation.

With the contributions of adult leadership and the commitment of MLC to charter these units, we were able to provide a moral and ethical program for the youth of our community in keeping with the faith of this congregation.

Adult unit leadership is as follows:

Pack 105

Ken Siergey, Cubmaster; John Petrocci, Den Leader: Palanya Kvorka, Den Leader: Vivian Durdov, Den Leader: Shannon Mannio, Member of Committee; Larry Ryzcek, Institutional Head; Timothy Saul, Member of Committee.

Troop 105G

Paul Bilski, Scoutmaster; Kerstin Miller-Scheyer, 1st Assistant Scoutmaster; Shari Bratanch, 2nd Assistant Scoutmaster; Wayne Bernacki, Committee Chair; Victoria Rotkovich, Member of Committee; Jane Ahn, Member of Committee; Maria Cortes, Member of Committee; Beatrice Feller, Member of Committee; Chuck Feller, Member of Committee; Larry Ryzcek, Institutional Head.

Troop 105B

Brian Scerba, Scoutmaster; John Petrocci, 1st Assistant Scoutmaster; Nick Giannopoulos, 2nd Assistant Scoutmaster; Paul Bilski, Committee Chair; Wayne Bernacki, Member of Committee; Jorge Scerba, Member of Committee; Larry Ryzcek, Institutional Head

As our unit's motto suggest, we can only work towards these goals in our daily life.
FAITH + HOPE + LOVE + SERVICE

A sincere thanks to Messiah Lutheran Church for chartering these units again in 2021. There are so many times I see how this program forms moral and ethical young women and men.

I will close with my personal thanks to the Executive Committee for your faith and support in me to lead these units and serve the ministry of our Lord. A Scout is Reverent.

Yours in Christ,
Timothy Saul
Charter Organization Representative
Messiah Lutheran Church, Scout Units 105
C7-751-13

Christian Learning Initiative

Child Care Center Board Report

MEMBERS

Erik Grove, Board President
Pat Kovach, Board Treasurer
Sue Kopij, Recording Secretary

This Board serves to make decisions and policies for the Child Care Center (CCC), and reports to the MLC Executive Committee and relies on current information from the CCC Director.

The CCC board is served by the following individuals: Erik Grove - Board President, Pat Kovach - Board Treasurer, Sue Kopij - Recording Secretary. We currently have two open positions on the Board. One of the positions we would ideally like to fill with someone from our community.

Each Board meeting is attended by all Board members and the Director. All members of MLC are invited to attend all the Board meetings. We started this year off with the standard "monthly" meeting that met on the 2nd Tuesday evening of the month in the Friendship Place. Since the end of March the Board has transitioned to virtual meetings that occur every other Tuesday evening.

The Board also works to provide support to the professional staff for comprehensive child care in a Christian setting according to the MLC constitution and by-laws. The CCC abides by all municipal, state and governing agencies for child care in the State of Illinois.

At the board meetings, the Board Treasurer submits a financial report and the Board reviews the financial information. The Board acts on the suggestions of the Board Treasurer and CCC Director as required. Before any major financial decisions are made there is time for debate, deliberation and the guidance from our Lord to make the best decision possible. For additional information regarding the finances of the CCC please refer to the Board Treasurer's report.

Board highlights from 2020:

- Tuition adjustments for the 2020-2021 school year are as follows; 4% tuition increase for the 9 and 10 hour programs. The remaining programs will receive a 3% increase. The Board believes this percentage increase will help offset the raising classroom supplies and catering costs, while remaining in alignment with the tuition of similar centers in our community. In addition, CCC Board approved to pause the extended family discounts that were established last year.
- Emergency Fundraising: Messiah Lutheran Church and Messiah Child Care Center applied for and received a (PPP) Payroll Protection Plan Loan in March. This was instrumental in allowing the CCC to continue to pay staff throughout the weeks the daycare was required to be closed. In addition, the Child Care Center was also awarded a Grant from INCCRRA and a MLCCC GoFundme page was created. These additional funds will offset the additional costs of supplies and increase staffing requirements due to protocols set by Illinois Department of Health.
- Since May the CCC Board has increased the frequency of virtual Board meetings to every other week. We reduced the length of the meeting but increased their occurrence to be able to keep up to date on ever changing situations and challenges Karen and the CCC faced during the pandemic. We continued this cadence of meetings through the end of year and plan to do so indefinitely.
- Treasurers Report - Pat Kovach continues her collaboration with the Director and the CCC Bookkeeper to bring the Board a monthly treasurer's report. This allows the Board to make decisions in a timely manner.
- In December, the Board held a virtual luncheon at the school for the CCC staff. It was wonderful to join them virtually to thank them for all their continued dedication to the school's mission through these unprecedented times.

Physical space improvements this year have been put on hold due the current Covid-19 Pandemic. Below is a list of improvements should the current situation change and funds allow them to be considered.

- Continued landscaping improvements around the facility.
- A new copier machine is needed for the staff.
- Girls and Boys bathroom updates - current plumbing fixtures, flooring and tiling are original or nearly original age.
- Enhancements to the Child Care Center physical security system. These enhancements add a camera system that would improve the identification process when addressing a request for entry. Also, there would be additional locations from which staff can monitor the main door and authorize entry.

The heart of this program is truly the love, care and dedication of the CCC professional staff. The fact that the CCC has been able to remain open since June 15, is a phenomenal achievement in itself. This would not have been possible if it wasn't for the leadership of Karen Black and the dedication of all the CCC staff members.

The parents and families of CCC have been incredibly supportive this last year. They have helped create and donate to the MLCCC Gofundme page and, as well as, many have donated back end-of-year balances to the school. In addition, CCC has received supply donations of gloves, masks and sanitizer. The trust and support between parents and CCC staff is another reason the center has been able to stay safe without incident for 6 months.

This Board is truly blessed to serve all the children and professional staff; at the will of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

May all our CCC families be blessed with health and happiness.

In Christ Service,
Erik Grove

Sunday School Report

Aly Allemeier worked to reinstate a Sunday School program, but due to scheduling difficulties of time and leaders, Sunday School is currently not in session. We'd certainly like to have SS going again or some type of Christian Learning program for our young people so if you would like to help with Sunday School, please consider donating your time. Perhaps a team approach could work? And it doesn't need to be a parent of a SS student! There have been many wonderful SS teachers through the years at Messiah whose children have grown but find joy in teaching children about how much God loves them! Any ideas are welcome! Please let EC know about your ideas!

Confirmation

Confirmation class meets Sunday's at 1:00pm via Zoom with Pat Kovach. We have 3 students this year and a new curriculum (re: form), since the curriculum we have used for the past 15+ years is no longer available.

Kyle Hauser was confirmed by our Interim Pastor David on September 13, 2020 via an outdoor (social distancing) service in the parking lot.

CHAT Room Report

At the beginning of the year, when we were fortunate enough to meet in person, CHAT Room met weekly with help from Pastor David leading discussions. We look forward for when the times comes that we can gather together and continue. CHAT

Room will not be the same with the absence of David Swanson and his welcoming spirit.

High School/Youth Group

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic all joint youth gatherings were put on hold until it is safe to gather in large groups.

Financial Stewardship Report

Financial Secretary's Report

During 2020 a total of \$362,097.37 was processed by the counters and deposited in Messiah's checking account at Village Bank & Trust.

Of this total the following amounts were applied to **Pledged Funds**:

	General Fund	Benevolence/Outreach
Total Pledged:	\$0.00	\$ 0.00
Total Unpledged:	<u>\$94,154.68</u>	<u>\$ 9,124.32</u>
Total Given:	\$94,154.68	\$ 9,124.32

	MAP	World Hunger
Total Pledged:	\$0.00	\$0
Total Unpledged:	<u>\$2,030.00</u>	<u>\$120.00</u>
Total Given:	\$2,030.00	\$120.00

Non Pledged Funds:

\$1,200 was received for the Giving Tuesday fund raiser.

\$576.00 was received for Designated Current Funds (Initial Offering, Chancel Flowers, Bulletins, Easter Lilies, Geraniums, Poinsettias, Lent, Thanksgiving, Christmas, etc.).

\$47,187.00 was received for Use of Facilities from the Messiah Child Care Center, Hope Korean Church, Hope Advent, and other non-member organizations.

\$2,425.00 was received for designated (non-budgeted) Benevolence (Assistance Cards, LSSI, etc.)

\$1,395.00 was received for the Souper Bowl of Caring.

\$,225.00 was received for the Memorial Fund.

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

A significant portion of the pledged income is processed via the **Simply Giving** program. This program transfers funds on a monthly or semimonthly basis from a member's bank account directly to Messiah. Enrollment forms are in the narthex.

The following persons assisted with counting the offerings during 2020: Timothy Saul and David Hanson.

Respectfully submitted,

James M. Handzel, Financial Secretary

Memorials & Honorariums

In 2020, Messiah Lutheran Church has again been saddened by the loss of four people that touched our congregation. We remember with prayer and thanksgiving our beloved friends who we confidently know are at peace with our Lord.

We offer prayers in remembrance of those members and friends of our congregation who passed away during 2020:

Marilyn Borgeson
 Harold Baum
 Jeanne Dumerer
 Don Kovach

For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 8:38-39

Memorial Envelopes are available when there is a memorial service or funeral and donations will be directed according to the wishes of the family. We encourage members and visitors to consider making a donation in celebration such as: to celebrate an event such as a birthday or confirmation or graduation, or to celebrate someone's life, or just to thank someone or let them know you're thinking about them during a time of need. The possibilities are endless. Honorarium donations can be directed to the fund of your choice.

Non-Budgeted Benevolence, Dedicated & Clearing Account

<u>NON-BUDGETED BENEVOLENCE, DEDICATED AND CLEARING ACCOUNT ACTIVITY</u>							
<u>2019</u>							
				<u>Beginning</u>			<u>Ending</u>
				<u>Balance</u>	<u>Receipts</u>	<u>Expense</u>	<u>Balance</u>
<u>NON-BUDGETED BENEVOLENCE</u>							
MCS - WORLD HUNGER				\$ -	\$110	\$110	\$ -
ELCA - WORLD RELIEF							

LSSI			-	-		\$ -
NON-BUDG BENEV TOTAL			-	110	110	-
			-	-	-	-
<u>DEDICATED FUNDS</u>						
MEMORIALS - DESIGN & UNDESIG				225	225	-
ASSISTANCE MINISTRY			2,025	2,600	2,479	2,146
YOUTH ACTIVITIES			3,356	-	-	3,356
CAPITAL FUND			-	-	-	-
PROPERTY RESERVE FUND			10,515	-	-	10,515
ENDOWMENT FUND - PRINCIPAL			234,333	-	-	234,333
ENDOWMENT FUND - EXPENDABLE			121,279	54,253	25,000	150,532
MAP FUND			-	2,030	2,030	-
DEDICATED FUNDS TOTAL			371,508	59,108	29,734	400,882
			-	-	-	-
<u>CLEARING ACCOUNTS</u>						
FLOWERS - SPECIAL			-	193	193	-
MISCELLANEOUS CLEARING			-	39,739	39,739	-
CHILD CARE CLEARING			(6,800)	172,721	169,005	(3,084)
MAINE TOWNSHIP PANTRY			-	1,525	1,525	-
CLEARING ACCOUNTS TOTAL			(6,800)	214,178	210,462	(3,084)
TOTAL			<u>\$364,708</u>	<u>\$273,396</u>	<u>\$240,306</u>	<u>\$397,798</u>

Balance Sheet

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH				
BALANCE SHEETS DECEMBER 31, 2020 AND 2019				
		<u>December 31,</u>		
		<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>Change</u>
<u>ASSETS</u>				
<u>CURRENT</u>				
VILLAGE BANK CHECKING		\$6,537	\$27,392	\$ (20,855)
VILLAGE BANK - PPP Account		22,077	-	\$ 22,077
VANGUARD FUNDS		384,865	355,613	\$ 29,252
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		\$413,479	\$383,005	\$ 30,474
				\$ -
<u>FIXED</u>				
LAND & BLDG - CHURCH		\$1,600,000	\$1,600,000	\$ -
LAND & BLDG - EDUCATION		700,000	700,000	\$ -
LAND & BLDG - PARSONAGE		230,000	230,000	\$ -
BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS		487,900	487,900	\$ -
TOTAL FIXED ASSETS		\$3,017,900	\$3,017,900	\$ -
				\$ -
<u>OTHER</u>				
CEMETARY LOTS		\$2,400	\$2,400	\$ -
DEDICATED FUNDS RECEIVABLE		3,084	6,800	\$ (3,716)
TOTAL OTHER ASSETS		\$5,484	\$9,200	\$ (3,716)
				\$ -
TOTAL ASSETS		\$3,436,863	\$3,410,105	\$ 26,758
				\$ -
<u>LIABILITIES</u>				
THRIVENT MORTGAGE PRINCIPAL		\$206,231	\$220,833	\$ (14,602)
				\$ -
DEDICATED FUNDS PAYABLE		\$400,882	\$371,509	\$ 29,373
				\$ -
TOTAL LIABILITIES		\$607,113	\$592,342	\$ 14,771
				\$ -
<u>FUND BALANCE - EQUITY ACCOUNTS</u>				
RESERVE - CURRENT		(\$190,550)	(\$202,537)	\$ 11,987
FIXED ASSETS		3,017,900	3,017,900	\$ -
OTHER ASSETS		2,400	2,400	\$ -

TOTAL EQUITY			\$2,829,750	\$2,817,763	\$ 11,987
					\$ -
TOTAL LIABILITIES & FUND BALANCE			\$3,436,863	\$3,410,105	\$ 26,758
Respectfully submitted,					
David M. A. Jensen,					
Treasurer					

Messiah Lutheran Child Care Center Treasury Report

Year Ended July 31, 2020 & Proposed 2020-2021

	19 - 20 Actuals*	19 -20 Proposed Budget	20-21 Proposed Budget
Tuition	502,174	780,000	780,000
Registration Fee	8,606	10,000	10,000
Late Fee	146	854	653
Interest	76	109	131
Misc.**	122,116	825	708
Total Receipts	633,118	791,788	791,492
Payroll	608,770	675,000	700,000
Benefits HCC	6,525	6,662	6,662
Worker's Comp	2,107	6,796	2,000
Liability Ins.	1,933	6,500	2,000
Telephone	359	1,076	500
Lunches	18,013	28,000	28,000
Snacks	2,674	5,000	5,000
School Supplies	2,631	6,589	4,000
Office Expense	4,279	5,146	5,000
Equipment\Computer	724	1,893	4,000
Equipment Maint.	0	1,260	1,000
Church Donation***	29,997	40,000	40,000
Housekeeping	18,633	23,000	23,000
Trash	3,292	3,300	3,300
Laundry	760	1,015	1,000

Advertising Marketing	3,620	3,000	4,000
Dues/Membership	356	500	500
Continuing Education	1,345	1,850	1,850
Building Improvement\repair	6,082	10,000	5,000
Misc.	795	5,000	2,500
Church Loan	0	0	0
Postage & Printing	2,355	2,000	2,500
Total Expenditure	715,250	833,588	841,812
NET INCOME	(82,133)	(41,800)	(50,320)

* 19-20 Actuals were impacted by the Covid-19 Pandemic. CCC was closed from March 19 though June 15 due to "Stay at Home" order.

** Misc. Income in 19-20 Actuals includes funds from PPP Loan and donations from CCC Families.

*** The remainder of the Church Donation was paid through funds received from the PPP loan.

Administrative and Organizational Initiative

Property Repair and Maintenance Report

2020 has been very unusual year as many activities and functions at the church have been on hold since March as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. This should have resulted in much less to deal with as far as the physical plant at Messiah is involved. But that has not necessarily been the case.

Broken glass over one of the stained-glass windows on the north east side of the sanctuary was replaced in late January as well as another window on the south side of the church.

New water and gas meters have been installed in both the church and parsonage. They are now read remotely, so we are no longer responsible for reading them and sending in the readings. Had this been done earlier in the year, it would have saved us a considerable expense when one of the toilets in the parsonage did not shut off.

The circulator pump for the church's hot water heating system developed a leak. A worn bearing seal was replaced by Murphy & Miller. A motor-to-pump coupling was badly worn and also needed to be replaced.

A defective blower motor in the MAP HVAC unit was replaced in August.

Railings by main door to CCC (door A) and ramp (door E) were stripped and

painted.

Potholes in parking lot were filled to prevent further erosion.

Shortly after our HVAC system was converted to heat, a leak was discovered in one of the boilers. It was found to be unrepairable and bids have been solicited to replace the boiler.

Eagle Scout Project by Adan Mulvaney of Troop 105. On Sep 5, a team of Scouts planted Weigelia bushes and Hostas along the west side of the MAP Addition by the circle drive.

Early in January the water heater for the CCC had to be replaced. This also involved replacing a non-functioning recirculating pump. Several problems developed shortly after installation. The control valve and burner were replaced under warranty.

To satisfy state requirements, "hold-opens" had to be defeated on classroom doors and new closers installed.

Parsonage: On May 26, broken glass in basement window partially flooded the basement. The window well filled up with water and broke the glass because the drain was plugged with gravel and dirt. After replacing the glass, I was able to dig down about two feet to open up a drain channel.

Old furniture and Bible School props, etc. were removed from storage areas in basement.

The Scouts have moved supplies and equipment into the parsonage, and are using it for meeting, etc.

And, of course, normal maintenance issues such as replacing light bulbs, fluorescent tubes, ballasts and bad outlets, plumbing backups, sticking door latches, etc. have been addressed.

Respectfully submitted, David Hanson, Property Coordinator

Office Manager's Report

The past year has been the year of change, and my duties as office manager have pivoted throughout the ongoing pandemic. We started the year in our traditional fashion, preparing for the annual report and meeting, planning for the Lenten season and all it entails. Then everything changed.

Working with Pastor David, Bill Decker, and Paul Holzer, we were able to change the way we worship by creating virtual materials to be used while worshipping online. When this all began, I'm sure the majority of us would never think we continue to hold our services virtually nearly a year later.

In addition to creating electronic worship documents, Pastor David and I collaborated to create a communication tool to keep members aware of important information and events at Messiah and the Child Care Center. Together we came up with the Messiah Messages Board which is updated and sent out each Thursday. If you should ever need anything communicated to the Messiah community, please notify me and I will add it to the Message Board.

The pandemic has disrupted so many areas and Messiah’s community outreach has not escaped hardship. I was so glad to partner with Assistance Ministry, Carol Hrodey, and the Child Care Center to help collect food and personal items during the Reverse Advent Calendar event. It was such a blessing to be able to witness the children happily bringing items every day to fill their classroom donation boxes. Being a part of the festive donation drop off was a sight to behold. Thank you to everyone who participated in the event, and I think it’s safe to say that this is something we will continue in the future.

On a personal note, I would like to say thank you the Executive Committee, Pastor David, Bill Decker, Laura Hauser, Dave Hanson, Carol Hrodey, Karen Black, and the CCC staff. Without all of your understanding and support, navigating through this tumultuous year would have been impossible. Thank you for your flexibility and compassion while adjusting to this new “normal”. It has not been easy, and I am grateful to all of you.

Respectfully submitted,

Alaine Wong

Attendance, Events, and Membership Statistics for 2020

<u>Sunday Worship Attendance</u>		<u>Christian Education Attendance</u>	
Number of Sundays:	52	Total Sunday School Attend:	0
Avg. Weekly Attend in Person	35	Average Monthly SS Attend:	0
Avg. Weekly Attend Virtual	58	Last Year Avg. Sunday School:	0
Combined Avg. Weekly Attend:	47	Total Confirmation Attend:	28
Avg. visitors	8	Avg. Weekly Conf. Attend:	2
<u>Special Services Attendance</u>		Last Year Avg. Conf. Attend:	2
Ash Wednesday (9 am & 7:30 pm)	0	Total CHAT Room Attend:	55
Maundy Thursday	0	Avg. CHAT Room Attendance:	7
Good Friday	0	Last Year Avg. CHAT Room:	7
Easter Sunday Celebration	0	# of Child Care Chapels:	NA

Patriotic Hymn Sing	N/A	Weddings:	0
ELCA Day of Service	N/A	Funerals/Memorials:	0
Pet Blessing	N/A	First Communion:	0
Christmas Eve & Day Virtual Services	73	Baptisms:	0
		Affirmations of Baptism:	0
Hymn Sing (12/27)	47		

*NA- No attendance numbers available

Events & Celebrations 2020

Annual Meeting	Feb
CCC Open House	Jan
Souper Bowl of Caring	Feb
Metro Chicago Youth Retreat	NA
CCC Valentine Party	NA
Mardi Gras Luncheon	NA
Scout Sunday	NA
Spaghetti Dinner	NA
Lenten Soup Supper and Holden Evening Prayer	NA
Boy Scout Banquet	NA
Youth Group Egg Stuffing	NA
Community Egg Hunt	NA
Easter Breakfast and SS Egg Hunt	NA
Bright Sunday	NA
CCC Ice Cream Social	NA
Night Ministry Walk	NA
CCC Fun Fair	NA
Bike Blessing	NA
Confirmation/Pentecost	Sept.

Teacher & Grad Recognition	NA
July 4 Fireworks	NA
Patriotic Hymn Sing	NA
Back Pack Blessing	NA
Congregational Meeting	Feb.
CCC Open House	NA
ELCA Day of Service	NA
Blessing and Packing of Quilts n Kits	NA
Pet Blessing	NA
WELCA – LWR Trailer	NA
Niles/Park Ridge CROP Walk	Oct
All Saints Sunday Virtual Service	Nov
CCC Thanksgiving Luncheon	NA
Community Thanksgiving Service PRPC Virtual Service	Nov
Advent Event/Hanging the Greens	NA
CCC P’nut Cracker Dance	NA
Hymn Sing Virtual Synod Service	Dec
Child Care Christmas Programs	NA

Membership Statistics

	Baptized Members
1. Membership at the end of 2019:	183
2. Members received during 2020	
a. By Baptism: Children (Under 12)	0
b. By Baptism: Adult	0
c. By Affirmation of Faith	0
d. By Confirmation	1
e. By transfer	0
f. Existing Baptized Adult Members Confirmed	0
g. From other sources and statistical adjustment	0
h. Total members received this year	0
5. Members removed during 2020	

Leadership for 2020

President: Paul Holzer
Vice-President: Open
Treasurer: David Jensen

Secretary: Vikki Hanson
Financial Secretary: Jim Handzel

Statement of Income & Expense: 2019 Actual & 2020 Proposed Budget

	2019	ACTUAL	REMAINING	2020
<u>OPERATING FUND:</u>				
CONTRIBUTIONS	118,000	113,604		93,727
USE OF FACILITIES	52,000	56,527		56,500
FUND RAISING	5,000	2,940		3,000
ENDOWMENT/BEQUEST INCOME	50,000	47,500		50,000
INTEREST		0		
TOTAL INCOME	<u>225,000</u>	<u>220,571</u>	4,429	<u>203,227</u>
<u>CHRISTIAN EDUCATION</u>				
SUNDAY SCHOOL	100	0		100
CONFIRMATION	100	303		275
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL		0		
ADULT EDUCATION	100	0		100
SUBTOTAL	300	303	(3)	475
<u>CHURCH PROPERTY</u>				
INTEREST EXPENSE	22,027	25,186		22,056
MAINTENANCE SERVICE				
CLEANING SERVICES	9600	9,600		9600
SNOW REMOVAL	6440	12,064		9000
LANDSCAPING	7500	8,975		9000
EXTERMINATOR	1350	1,320		1350
HVAC - MURPHY MILLER	5500	4,446		5000
FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES	1650	1,544		1650
MUSICAL INSTR MAINT	500	360		500

INSURANCE	6500	5,008		5500
R & M - CHURCH	5500	3,368		5000
ELEC - CHURCH	13000	12,777		13000
GAS - CHURCH	6350	6,730		6800
WATER - CHURCH	3100	2,900		3000
ELEC - PARSONAGE	830	948		1000
GAS - PARSONAGE	760	721		800
WATER - PARSONAGE	200	263		300
SUBTOTAL	90,807	96,210	(5,403)	93,556
PARISH LIFE - ADVERTISING	0	0		0
<u>SOCIAL CONCERNS</u>				
FELLOWSHIP/HOSPITALITY	400	122	278	200
-				
<u>STEWARDSHIP AND MISSION</u>				
ADVERTISING	100	199		200
EVANGELISM	0	24		25
SUPPLEMENTAL WORSHIP	0	0		0
SUBTOTAL	100	223	(123)	225
<u>WORSHIP & LAY MINISTRY</u>				
CHURCH SUPPLIES (incl. offering env.)	2500	2,714		3000
MUSIC SUPPLIES	100	-		100
MATERIALS LICENSING	1200	900		1000
OFFICE SUPPLIES	4000	5,016		5000
POSTAGE	500	437		450
CHANCEL FLOWERS	1760	1,680		500
PHONE AND INTERNET	3200	3,888		3550
COMPUTERS & SOFTWARE	1000	1,489		2000
MISCELLANEOUS	350	1,265		1000
SUBTOTAL	14610	17,389	(2,779)	16600
<u>PARISH PAYROLL</u>				
CONVENTIONS & EDUCATION	400	0		400

PR CHAMBER COMM DUES	0	-		0
GENERAL ADMIN	500	403		500
SUBSTITUTE STAFF	4000	6,163		4200
PASTOR - SALARY	29750	21,501		22500
PASTOR - SS ALLOWANCE	3987	-		0
PASTOR - P & M	7860	-		0
PASTOR - HOUSING ALLOWANCE	26750	21,500		22500
PASTOR - AUTO	0	0		0
BOOKKEEPER SALARY	1200	1,069		1200
BOOKKEEPER SS & MED	92	82		92
MUSIC COORDINATOR SALARY	18000	12,440		14400
MUSIC COORDINATOR - SS & MED	1377	952		1102
PARISH SECRETARY - SALARY	20000	18,449		19500
PARISH SECRETARY - SS & MED	1530	1,411		1365
PARISH SECRETARY MED/RETIRE	0	-		0
PROPERTY MANAGER SALARY	3100	3,100		4100
PROPERTY MANAGER SS & MED.	237	237		312
SUBTOTAL	118783	87,307	31,476	92171
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSE	225,000	201,554	23,446	203,227
BUDGETED OPERATING INCOME (LOSS)		\$19,017		
BENEVOLENCE FUND: <u>BENEVOLENCE CONTRIBUTIONS</u>				
MCS - GENERAL	7200	5,785		6000
MISSIONARY SPONSOR	3000	3,000		3000
MAINE EAST YOUTH MINISTRY	500	500		500

ASSISTANCE MINISTRY	2400	4,095		2700
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	13,100	13,380	(280)	12,200
BUDGETED BENEV INCOME (LOSS)		-		
Respectfully submitted, David M. A. Jensen, Treasurer				