

The Messiah MESSENGER

January 2019 - Issue #607

PLEASE NOTE: The deadline for next month's *Messenger* articles is January 20.

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Epiphany
A message of new life
bringing new hope to
the world,
The excitement of a
new beginning.



Epiphany, the Season of "Aha"

LIVING OUR BAPTISM

FIVE GIFTS OF DISCIPLESHIP... *DURING EPIPHANY*

When a baptized Christian affirms the faith (confirmation) the presiding minister addresses those making public affirmation of baptism and asks the question: Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

**to live among God's faithful people,
to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,
to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?**

And so begins a daily claiming and re-discovering of the God-given gifts of discipleship. These gifts overlap and are intertwined as one gift flows into another and into faithful living. Epiphany is an ideal season of the church year to emphasize LIVING OUR BAPTISM and discover the five gifts of discipleship. Affirming the gifts of discipleship in Baptism during the season of Epiphany could become a significant New Year's tradition. Commitments are made in New Year's resolutions, often relating to health and well-being. But what about our spiritual health and well-being? What commitments do we make to claim the gifts of discipleship?

The Story of the Epiphany: The church celebrates the day of Epiphany on January 6, twelve days after Christmas. The church recalls the story (found only in Matthew 2:1-10) of the wise men who came from the East searching for a king born under a star. They met with King Herod in Jerusalem and ascertained that a king was to be born in Bethlehem. Herod directed them to continue their search for this new king.



"When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road." (Matthew 2:10-12)

The wise men risked much and traveled far to pay homage to the king born under a star in Bethlehem. They came offering their gifts, only to be overcome with joy, not grasping that it was Jesus who provides the greater gift to the world. **Aha!** God was revealed to the wise men!

EPIPHANY: The Season of Aha! – The texts of the Revised Common Lectionary used by churches throughout the world during the Sundays after the Epiphany include wonderful stories of those who (like the wise men) have "Aha!" moments. We experience similar Aha moments
(continued on page 3)

when we say, "So that is what God is up to!" as we discover and claim the gifts of discipleship in our baptism. How is Christ made known today? (what are your "Aha" moments?)

EPIPHANY: "Yes I Do!" Resolution

In January, many people adopt New Year's resolutions. Imagine if a congregation adopted the "Yes I Do!" resolution? Imagine if individuals approached this resolution with the commitment of the wise men in their search and journey to Jesus. (Imagine if we all recommitted ourselves to carrying out Messiah's Mission: "With Christ, Reaching Out and Welcoming All God's Children"?)

Each year on the Sunday after January 6 (Epiphany), the church celebrates the baptism of Jesus and hears a clear affirmation of God's love for him, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." (Matthew 3:17 NRSV) All four gospels describe this significant event in the life of Jesus. In baptism, the Holy Spirit came to Jesus, and his mission on this earth was launched.

In our baptism, we too are claimed as God's beloved children. In our baptism, we too receive the Holy Spirit, transforming our lives and launching our mission. That mission is made known in the gifts of discipleship which we are given and to which we commit our lives as we affirm our baptism.

"In baptism our gracious heavenly Father frees us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; by water and the Holy Spirit we are reborn children of God and made members of the church, the body of Christ. Living with Christ and in the communion of saints, we grow in faith love, and obedience to the will of God." (Holy Baptism liturgy, Evangelical Lutheran Worship, p.227)

At baptism, the presiding minister places water upon the person in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, marks the sign of the cross on the forehead of the baptized and offers these words, "Child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever." (*Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, p. 231)

To be sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever is significant and life-changing. As we affirm our baptism, we are asked the following question: Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

**to live among God's faithful people,
to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,
to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?** (*Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, p. 236)

Each of us responds: "I do, and I ask God to help and guide me." This response sounds like a New Year's resolution for daily living. This response is not an obligation, but rather a five-fold gift from God. Each gift contains the potential of blessing.

Excerpted from: Living our Baptism...Five Gifts of Discipleship during Epiphany written by John and Robin McCullough-Bade

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MESSIAH MINISTRIES

ASSISTANCE MINISTRY

As we begin 2019, we say thanks to Messiah for sharing our blessings with those who have little. Our guests enjoyed nutritious meals and sack lunches to go. As the weather changed, gifts of hats, gloves and warm socks have been given. Warm coats and sweaters have been dropped off and we've had generous monetary gifts. This outreach really is the work of many hands!

Our Assistance Ministry team will meet in the coming weeks to see how best to meet the needs of our guests using the resources we have. Unfortunately, we were not chosen as a grant recipient from the ELCA World Hunger.

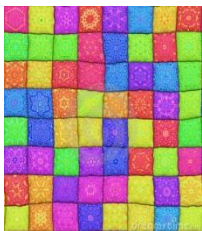
If you are looking for ways to help this outreach program, here are a few suggestions:

- Pray for our guests and our ability to help with meals, clothing and incidentals
- Consider making a casserole, chili, meatloaf, soup, etc for our guests. Just let us know what you're bringing and when you can drop it off. (We typically have 15-25 guests)
- We have been given several frozen turkeys. Offer to take one home and roast it for our guests. We'll help with the sides!
- Paper plates, napkins and cups are always welcome. Perhaps you had a party and bought more than you needed? They don't have to match!
- Talk about the needs with relatives and friends - my hairdresser contributed a dozen pairs of warm socks! People like to help when they know of a need.
- Talk with a friend or two and pick a Monday to bring the main meal. We'll serve it for you and do the cleanup!
- Join us on a Monday from 10:30-1:00. It's a "feel good" way to start the week.

Wishing everyone a healthy, happy New Year!
With thanks, Connie Kaufman



QUILTS & KITS



As we look forward to a new year of creating quilts and assembling kits we want to again thank everyone for their help in reaching out to those in need around the world in 2018. We heard this from LWR:

"These gifts of your hearts and hands are beautiful expressions of God's grace and love to people all around the world. Because of your support, LWR is able to share the tangible love of Christ with thousands of people through your quilts and kits. Last year, LWR and partners... were busy distributing School Kits in Honduras, to children whose families are vulnerable due to lack of access to the most basic necessities.... Your quilts and kits provide important necessities to our neighbors

around the world, and serve as reminders that they are not alone or forgotten. On behalf of our neighbors in villages, schools, hospitals and refugee camps around the world, (LWR) extends deepest thanks for your contribution, and pray God's richest blessings on your life and work!"

We'll start assembling quilts on Sunday, January 20th after the worship service in the Friendship Place – and you know the drill – no sewing experience necessary! Then we'll continue on Sunday, February 17th and March 17th. Save the dates! Also – watch for sales of bath towels in the beginning of the year for the Personal Care Kits. And we can always use monetary donations – a roll of batting is approximately \$112! Checks can be made out to MLCW!!

Trudi Handzel & Carol Hrodey



OUR MISSIONARY: REV. DR. PHILIP KNUTSON

Be sure to check out Reverend Knutson's blog page:
southernafricanconnections.wordpress.com

Christian Education

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Due to scheduling difficulties of time and leaders, Sunday School is currently not in session. We'd certainly like to have SS going again so if you would like to help with Sunday School, please consider donating your time. Perhaps a team approach? 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!

If you are willing to help please contact Aly Allemeier at alybyrd1976@gmail.com.

CONFIRMATION

The confirmands meet with Pat Kovach at 9 a.m. Sundays in the Confirmation Room, off the choir loft! Miss Pat always welcomes others to teach and help with the class. Coming up will be the SOUPER BOWL of CARING!



CHAT ROOM

Join us for Coffee & Conversation during Chat Room on Sundays at 9 in the Friendship Place. If you have requests/ideas for future topics, contact David Swanson.



MESSIAH CHILD CARE CENTER

We are excited to welcome 2 new teachers to Messiah – Miss Sue and Miss Diane! They come to us with great experience in a church-based Child Care Center and we are so happy to have them join us at Messiah!! If you're at Messiah and see them – please introduce yourself and welcome them!!

There are a lot of fun activities coming up in the Child Care Center – besides the daily classroom activities! Here are some important dates to remember:

- MONDAY, 1/7 MANNA ORDERS DUE
- MONDAY, 1/7 PARENT-TOT CLASS BEGINS
- MONDAY, 1/14 KINDERGARTEN/JUNIOR KINDERGARTEN OPEN HOUSE 10:30-NOON OR 1:00-2:30
- MONDAY, 1/21 CHILD CARE CLOSED (MLK DAY) FOR STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY
- THURSDAY, 2/7 PIZZA DINNER & VALENTINE-MAKING PARTY & OPEN HOUSE

For more information on CCC Activities and Programs contact CCC Office at 847-825-3767 or see the website at www.messiahchildcare.com

MESSIAH MINISTRIES

Youth

REACHING OUT! Novena Christal participated in the 2018 Dressement Fundraiser!! She wore a dress every day in December to bring awareness and collect donations to end modern day slavery and sex trafficking. This remains a very real problem that few are aware of. Novena's goal was to raise \$350 and help inform people about this issue. And even though she may be back to wearing pants in the cold winter weather – she is happy to fill you in on this very important issue. For more information on "Dressement" go to <https://dressement-2018.funraise.org/>. Thanks Novena for bringing awareness to us and for reaching out to help end modern day slavery!! We're so proud of you!



SOUPER BOWL OF CARING!



Coming soon! Our confirmation/youth will again spearhead our annual collection for the Maine Township Food Pantry! Donations of non-perishable food and of course monetary donations can start being brought in as early as January 13th with the culmination of the event on Sunday, February 3rd!

Giving

CROP WALK 2018

We've already said thanks to everyone who participated in October's Crop Walk by either walking or donating – but the final numbers came in and its worth pointing out what Messiah did in 2018. With only 6 walkers – and many contributors – Messiah collected the second largest amount of donations (\$7105) out of all the groups participating in the Niles/Park Ridge Crop Walk. The church that collected the most money had 58 walkers. Hmmm – small but mighty indeed!!



LSSI GIVING TREE

Thanks to the generosity of church members, Scout and CCC families we were able to provide gifts for all the angels on the LSSI Giving Tree and help make Christmas a little brighter for these children! Thanks to all who participated!



THE WARMING TREE

Thanks to all who provided socks, gloves, scarves & hats to provide warmth to those in need this winter. A special THANK YOU to Scout Troop #105 for their generous donations! Wahoo Troop!!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY MESSIAH !

In 2019 Messiah celebrates its 65th birthday!! Here is a brief history of how Messiah started:

The roots of Messiah Lutheran Church can actually be found in a Sunday School that started in 1951. A couple that lived in the area, Jennie & Bill Phillips would transport children to Sunday School in the city but ran out of room in their car so they decided to organize a Sunday School along with other parents. They found a place called Park Lane Community House where they could conduct Sunday School classes. Post cards were sent out and the Park Lane Lutheran Sunday School began on April 22, 1951 with 20 children. The Park Lane Community House consisted of one large room, with a concrete floor, a fireplace (no heater) and no water or bathrooms. In the winter months Mr. Phillips would arrive at 5:00 a.m. to start the fireplace and sometimes people put cardboard under their feet to keep their feet a bit warmer.

The group added worship services beginning on October 21, 1951 with the support of Edison Park Lutheran Church. The first Ladies' Guild meeting was held on October 25, 1951 and coffee cake and whipped cream cake was served. (they kept scrupulous records!) The Sunday School's first Christmas program was held on December 23, 1951 with 100 parents, friends and relatives in the audience. Tables were pushed to one side of the Community House and used as a stage for the children.

At one point the group outgrew Park Lane Community House and the Sunday School and Sunday services were moved to East Maine Public School auditorium.

The name changed to Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church in 1953. Ground was broken for the new church building on March 28, 1954. Messiah Lutheran Church was officially organized and a constitution was adopted on May 7, 1954 with 38 charter member families. Messiah's first minister, Pastor Warren Weeg was installed on June 6, 1954. The cornerstone for the new building was laid on June 27, 1954. The church building that we worship in today was dedicated on November 28, 1954.

Messiah has been blessed with 7 senior pastors – Warren Weeg, Luther Keay, Gaylen Gilbertson, Mark Larson, Paul Stolz and Lynne Morrow – along with dedicated assistant ministers, interim pastors, interns and lay leaders. Messiah has also long been blessed with many members who are ministers and who offer their time and talents to this congregation and for their gifts we are very grateful.

Our campus has gone through various changes through the years, including the addition of the education wing in 1964, the addition of the bell tower in 1969 – and its eventual demolition in 2009 due to crumbling bricks. We've had a few renovations of the chancel area – going from paneling and burgundy velvet drapes – to green stones (who remembers green stones?) to our current cream color sheet rock with the beautiful, colorful back drops. And in 2014 we dedicated our new space that finally includes an accessible entrance and bathrooms and a larger gathering space.

Messiah has also been blessed throughout the years with many people who have been good and faithful servants and we are so grateful for all these many members, past and present, who are too numerous to mention individually.

After the building was completed, Godfrey Lindstrom who donated the land for Messiah and was its original builder wrote: *"Yes, now we are all ready to start building. Building a mighty, kind, humble and friendly congregation to walk the way, and say the words, and do the things that Jesus wants us to. We are here to carry on the work for Him."* That seems to continue to be an apt description of Messiah – a mighty, kind, humble and friendly congregation. May we continue to be here to do the things that Jesus wants us to.

CALENDAR

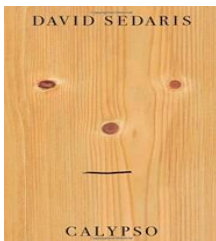
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday |
|---|---|---|
| 30 9:00 AM CHAT Room 9:00 AM Confirmation 10:15 AM Worship 2:00 PM HKCC Worship 3:30 PM HKCC Fellowship | 31 5:00 AM HKCC AM Prayer 10:00 AM Pastor's Office Hours 11:00 AM Assistance Ministry 1:00 PM MLC Staff Meeting 7:00 PM AI-Anon Meeting 8:00 PM Hope Korean New Year's Eve service | 1 CCC and CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED 5:00 AM HKCC AM Prayer 7:30 PM Gloria Dei Choir rehearsal |
| 6 9:00 AM CHAT Room 9:00 AM Confirmation 10:15 AM Worship 2:00 PM HKCC Worship 3:30 PM HKCC Fellowship | 7 5:00 AM HKCC AM Prayer 10:00 AM Pastor's Office Hours 11:00 AM Assistance Ministry 1:00 PM MLC Staff Meeting 7:00 PM AI-Anon Meeting | 8 5:00 AM HKCC AM Prayer 6:00 PM CCC Board Meeting 7:30 PM Gloria Dei Choir rehearsal |
| 13 9:00 AM CHAT Room 9:00 AM Confirmation 10:15 AM Worship 2:00 PM HKCC Worship 3:30 PM HKCC Fellowship | 14 5:00 AM HKCC AM Prayer 10:00 AM Pastor's Office Hours 11:00 AM Assistance Ministry 1:00 PM MLC Staff Meeting 7:00 PM AI-Anon Meeting | 15 5:00 AM HKCC AM Prayer 7:30 PM Gloria Dei Choir rehearsal |
| 20 9:00 AM CHAT Room 9:00 AM Confirmation 10:15 AM Worship 11:30 AM Quilts & Kits 1:00 PM NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DUE 2:00 PM HKCC Worship 3:30 PM HKCC Fellowship | 21 5:00 AM HKCC AM Prayer 10:00 AM Pastor's Office Hours 11:00 AM Assistance Ministry 1:00 PM MLC Staff Meeting 7:00 PM AI-Anon Meeting 7:30 PM EC Meeting | 22 5:00 AM HKCC AM Prayer 7:30 PM Gloria Dei Choir rehearsal |
| 27 9:00 AM CHAT Room 9:00 AM Confirmation 10:15 AM Worship 11:30 AM Chili & Soup Cook-Off 2:00 PM HKCC Worship 3:30 PM HKCC Fellowship | 28 5:00 AM HKCC AM Prayer 10:00 AM Pastor's Office Hours 11:00 AM Assistance Ministry 1:00 PM MLC Staff Meeting 7:00 PM AI-Anon Meeting | 29 5:00 AM HKCC AM Prayer 7:30 PM Gloria Dei Choir rehearsal |

JANUARY 2019

| Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--|--|--|
| 2 5:00 AM HKCC AM Prayer 9:15 AM Child Care Chapel 10:00 AM Pastor's Office Hours 12:00 PM Bulletin Articles Due 12:00 PM CCC Staff Meeting 8:00 PM HKCC PM Prayer | 3 5:00 AM HKCC AM Prayer 3:30 PM Women About Business 7:00 PM Messiah Book Club | 4 5:00 AM HKCC AM Prayer 6:30 PM Pack 105 Meeting 7:00 PM HAC Bible Study 7:00 PM HAC Rehearsal | 5 11:00 AM HAC Worship 1:00 PM HAC Fellowship 8:00 PM HKCC PM Prayer |
| 9 5:00 AM HKCC AM Prayer 9:15 AM Child Care Chapel 10:00 AM Pastor's Office Hours 12:00 PM Bulletin Articles Due 12:00 PM CCC Staff Meeting 8:00 PM HKCC PM Prayer | 10 5:00 AM HKCC AM Prayer | 11 5:00 AM HKCC AM Prayer 6:30 PM Pack 105 Meeting 6:30 PM Scout Pack 105 Meeting 7:00 PM HAC Bible Study 7:00 PM HAC Rehearsal | 12 8:00 AM IACA Breakfast 9:00 AM Brotherhood Breakfast 11:00 AM HAC Worship 8:00 PM HKCC PM Prayer |
| 16 5:00 AM HKCC AM Prayer 9:15 AM Child Care Chapel 10:00 AM Pastor's Office Hours 12:00 PM Bulletin Articles Due 12:00 PM CCC Staff Meeting 8:00 PM HKCC PM Prayer | 17 5:00 AM HKCC AM Prayer | 18 5:00 AM HKCC AM Prayer 6:30 PM Pack 105 Meeting 7:00 PM HAC Bible Study 7:00 PM HAC Rehearsal | 19 11:00 AM HAC Worship 8:00 PM HKCC PM Prayer |
| 23 5:00 AM HKCC AM Prayer 9:15 AM Child Care Chapel 10:00 AM Pastor's Office Hours 12:00 PM Bulletin Articles Due 12:00 PM CCC Staff Meeting 8:00 PM HKCC PM Prayer | 24 5:00 AM HKCC AM Prayer | 25 5:00 AM HKCC AM Prayer 6:30 PM Pack 105 Meeting 6:30 PM Scout Pack 105 Meeting 7:00 PM HAC Bible Study 7:00 PM HAC Rehearsal | 26 9:00 AM Scout Pack 105 Meeting 10:00 AM Cub Scout PW Derby 11:00 AM HAC Worship 8:00 PM HKCC PM Prayer |
| 30 5:00 AM HKCC AM Prayer 9:15 AM Child Care Chapel 10:00 AM Pastor's Office Hours 12:00 PM Bulletin Articles Due 12:00 PM CCC Staff Meeting 8:00 PM HKCC PM Prayer | 31 5:00 AM HKCC AM Prayer | 1 5:00 AM HKCC AM Prayer 6:30 PM Pack 105 Meeting 7:00 PM HAC Bible Study 7:00 PM HAC Rehearsal | 2 11:00 AM HAC Worship 1:00 PM HAC Fellowship 3:30 PM Pack 105 B&G Banquet 8:00 PM HKCC PM Prayer |
| 2 5:00 AM HKCC AM Prayer 9:15 AM Child Care Chapel 10:00 AM Pastor's Office Hours 12:00 PM Bulletin Articles Due 12:00 PM CCC Staff Meeting 8:00 PM HKCC PM Prayer | 3 5:00 AM HKCC AM Prayer 3:30 PM WAB 7:00 PM Messiah Book Club | 4 5:00 AM HKCC AM Prayer 6:30 PM Pack 105 Meeting 7:00 PM HAC Bible Study 7:00 PM HAC Rehearsal | 5 11:00 AM HAC Worship 1:00 PM HAC Fellowship 8:00 PM HKCC PM Prayer |

UPCOMING EVENTS

PLEASE check with church office before you schedule an event – there is a room assignment calendar maintained by the Office Manager.



MESSIAH BOOK CLUB

The next Messiah Book Club will meet on January 3rd at 7:00 in the Friendship Place. We're reading "Calypso" by David Sedaris. It is open to anyone who enjoys reading. All are welcome. If anyone has any questions, please contact Paul Holzer at 847-296-0734.

MEN'S BROTHERHOOD BREAKFAST

Saturday, January 12th at 9 a.m.
All Messiah men are invited to Jimmy's on
Rand Road in Des Plaines.



MANNA ORDERS



Manna orders will be due Monday, January 7th at 9 a.m.!
The cards will be distributed by Thursday, January 10th.

2ND ANNUAL ROGER TUREK CHILI & SOUP COOK-OFF

We'll hold our 2nd Chili & Soup Cook-Off on Sunday, January 27th following the worship service. Entries can be brought to the Friendship Place in crock pots and set up prior to the service. Watch for sign-up in Narthex to enter your taste bud tantalizing offering! Tasting opportunities will be sold to all takers who can then vote for their favorite chili and soup. Funds raised will go to support Messiah ministries!

JANUARY REMINDERS:

- Yankee Candle Catalogue fundraiser ends January 9th
- Annual Report articles due January 14th!
- Quilts & Kits January 20th following worship in the Friendship Place
- Cub Scouts Pinewood Derby January 26th
- Roger Turek Chili/Soup Cook Off January 27th

COMING IN FEBRUARY:

- Annual Reports available in Narthex February 3rd
- February 10th - Congregational Meeting - Immediately Following Sunday Service
- World Famous Messiah Spaghetti Dinner February 16th
- Quilts & Kits February 17th following worship in the Friendship Place

MESSAGES/ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANK-YOU!

We continue to say THANK YOU to everyone who is pitching in and helping during Pastor Lynne's leave of absence!! We need everyone's help, support and prayers!

From Pastor Lynne:

I have begun treatment and am grateful for your prayers for our family. We continue to be hopeful and patient. "For in this hope we are saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience."
Romans 8:24-25

Please continue to pray for Pastor Lynne and her family, as well as for the leadership and members of Messiah – prayers, support and words of encouragement are appreciated!!

PRAYERFUL PROCESS

Watch for further announcements about Prayerful Process in January!

DONATION APPRECIATION!

We are grateful to Mike Deines for the generous donation to the Assistance Ministry. Mike states in his letter: *"Many thanks for Messiah's ongoing efforts to support the needs of the less fortunate among us, the congregation, the pre-schoolers and their families, and our community as a whole."*

FUNDRAISING

Reminder about upcoming fundraisers to support the ministries of Messiah!

- **Yankee Candle Catalogue sale – going on NOW through January 9th.** There is a lot more besides candles available that are great for teacher gifts, hostess gifts, thank you gifts, just-because gifts – and since it runs into January – don't forget Valentine's Day!
All you need to do is shop from this link
<https://www.yankeecandlefundraising.com/cusentry.htm?cusId=999988307&frComp=ycf>
At the end of the fundraiser Messiah will receive 40% of all the profits! Please share with all of your family and friends. If you have additional questions please contact Alaine Wong in the church office. She saw the information on this and put it together!
- **January 27th - 2nd Annual Roger Turek Chili/Soup Cook Off** – what a great way to honor Roger! Watch for the sign-up in the Narthex to enter your best chili and/or soup recipe! This was a delicious success last year!
- **February 16th – Messiah's World Famous Spaghetti Dinner** – We are looking to find a person or team to lead this year's event. Proceeds go to Youth Program and the youth of Messiah and their parents assist with set up, serving and clean-up.

NEW IDEA!!

- How about a "Birthday Present" for Messiah's 65th Birthday in the form of a monetary donation to help pay off MAP!! In reading the letter regarding the donation to Assistance Ministry above, its certain that Messiah has touched all of us in some special way – let's all think about what Messiah has meant to us and our community over the last 65 years and consider honoring that with an extra donation for its birthday this year!

What other ideas do you have and can get started working on? Let EC know!!

MILESTONES



BIRTHDAYS:

| | | |
|------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Richard Seggeling, 1/2 | Larry Ryczek, 1/7 | David Chervinko, 1/22 |
| Paul Holzer, 1/3 | Thomas Jason, 1/12 | Heba Penumaka, 1/22 |
| Nicholas Levy, 1/4 | Tait Jensen, 1/12 | Chris Boomer, 1/23 |
| Donald Kovach, 1/7 | Ryan Bujalka, 1/13 | Karol Kamman, 1/25 |
| Ralph Lippert, 1/7 | Kaelyn Yager, 1/16 | Michael Bujalka, 1/28 |
| | Raymond Ejnik, 1/20 | |

ANNIVERSARIES – NONE IN JANUARY!

Please let us know if you do not see your birthday or anniversary here! We want to be sure to celebrate you!

THIS MONTH IN WORSHIP

| 1 st Reading | Psalm | 2 nd Reading | Gospel |
|--|----------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| January 6th Epiphany of our Lord | | | |
| Isaiah 60:1-6 | Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14 | Ephesians 3:1-12 | Matthew 2:1-12 |
| January 13th Baptism of our Lord | | | |
| Isaiah 43:1-7 | Psalm 29 | Acts 8:14-17 | Luke 3:15-17, 21-22 |
| January 20th 2nd Sunday of Epiphany | | | |
| Isaiah 62:1-5 | Psalm 36:5-10 | 1 Corinthians 12:1-11 | John 2:1-11 |
| January 27th 3rd Sunday of Epiphany | | | |
| Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10 | Psalm 19 | 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a | Luke 4:14-21 |

WORSHIP TEAMS

| | January 6 | January 13 | January 20 | January 27 | |
|---------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|--|
| | 10:15 am | 10:15 am | 10:15 am | 10:15 am | |
| Acolytes | Ralphie L | Nikolaus R | Michael Y | Michaelene M | |
| Assisting Ministers | Erik G | Andy T | David S | Pat K | |
| Readers | Andy T | Debbie D | Rich L | Dave H | |
| Comm. Assts. | Teresa L | Larry R | Kristin Y | Mary Jo M | |
| Ushers | TBD | TBD | TBD | TBD | |
| Projection & Video | Jim H & Paul H | Jim H & Paul H | Jim H & Paul H | Jim H & Paul H | |
| Altar Guild | TBD | TBD | TBD | TBD | |
| Counter | Jim H | Jim H | Jim H | Jim H | |

FLOWERS AND BULLETINS

| Sunday | Flowers are given ... | Bulletins are given ... |
|---|--|-------------------------|
| <i>The sign-ups for flowers and bulletins are in the narthex near the entrance to the choir loft. Flowers are \$40, and the Bulletins are \$10. Envelopes are provided next to the sign-up calendar, or you may simply write "Flowers" or "Bulletin" on your regular envelope in the Other box.</i> | | |
| January 6 | Sign-Ups are now up and ready! January dedications will be reported in Sunday bulletins as they are made. | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

CHURCH BUSINESS

EC CORNER EC's primary focus continues to be on continuity of church ministries during Pastor Lynne's leave of absence as well as ongoing property issues and church business.

December Attendance

Wk1=38 Wk3=37
 Wk2=39 Wk4=43
 Wk5=

December Giving (Gen. Fund, Facilities Use & MAP)

Wk1=\$7641 Wk2=\$4079 Wk3=\$4756 Wk4=\$2309.03
 Wk5=1667
 Christmas Eve=\$324 Christmas Day=\$820.25

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Lynne Morrow
Music Ministry Coor.:
Child Care Center Dir. Karen Black
Office Manager: Alaine Wong
Bookkeeper: Laura Hauser
Property Coordinator: David Hanson

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President: Larry Ryczek
Vice President: Trygve Jensen
Secretary: Aly Allemeier
Treasurer: Janitha Chellian
Financial Sec.: Jim Handzel

CCC BOARD

Chair: Tim Saul, Erik Grove
Secretary: Kathy Malyszko, Sue Kopij
Treasurer: Pat Kovach

CONGREGATIONAL DEACONS

Floyd Yager and Jennie Read Robles

EXTENDED LEADERSHIP TEAM

Assistance Ministry: Connie Kaufman
Altar Guild: Sue Kopij, Cindy Norberg
Brotherhood: Rich Seggeling
CHAT Room: David Swanson
Cross+Gen:
Confirmation/Youth: Pat Kovach
Memorials: Office Manager
Women's Svc. Group: Trudi Handzel, Carol Hrodey
Spiritual Gifts Coor.:
Worship Assistants: David Swanson
Worship Readers: Rich Levy
Ushers:
John 17 Fellowship: David Swanson
Prayer Cards: Jackie Steigerwald
Sign Ministry: Staff

MEMORIAL & HONORARIUM REPORT as of December 30, 2018

All gifts to the Memorial & Honorarium Fund are automatically acknowledged to the giver and donee or family by a personal note. Unless otherwise designated, all gifts go into the General Fund. Addresses and envelope numbers on memorial cards or checks are much appreciated. The purpose of this report is to confirm that gifts are received. If you don't see your gift listed here after two months, please contact the church office

Deb Maday in memory of her parents, Chuck and Leona Johnson (founding members of Messiah)

JOYFUL THANKSGIVING (DECEMBER)

We are thankful to all of those who participated in the Hanging of the Greens. We are also grateful to everyone who has already taken a tag from the giving tree to help families during Christmas. We are blessed to be a blessing.

We are thankful to Rev. Philip Knutson for joining us and leading worship today. We are blessed to hear him preach and hear about his work for God.

We are thankful to Boy Scout Troop 105 for generously donating over 100 pair of socks to our warming tree as well as 11 gifts for the Giving Tree. We are blessed to have Troop 105 as part of the Messiah family.

We are thankful for a generous donation Messiah received that will be used for our Assistance Ministry program. We are also grateful to those who are participating in the Prayerful Process this year.

Thank you for taking the time listening to what God puts in your heart and reflecting that in your work for the community.

We are thankful for the birth of the Christ child. We are grateful for the love that He brings us during the Christmas season, and every season throughout the year, for He is the true reason of the season.



PRAYER FOR EPIPHANY:

Father God, the star that led the Magi to the stable announced to the world that its Saviour was born. Today we live in a world that is still covered by darkness, and still needing to make that journey to the stable door. May our lives reflect your light day by day, as we seek to serve where you have placed us. That we might be the means through which others can encounter Jesus Christ. Amen
from http://www.faithandworship.com/prayers_Epiphany.htm

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Please include the following individuals and families in your prayers this month:

Our prayers for **healing** are with: Pastor Lynne and the Fogel Family, Jake, Megan, Jim Frederick, Les & Mike Herak, Sandi, Tom, Carol, Pat, Michelle, Trudy, Georgia, Patti, Ted, David, Beverly Grimme, Carol Hrodey, Bob Kallas Don Lorenzo, Frances, Russell, Bob Levy, Wendy, Diane, Polly, Rosemary, Susan, Pat & Ted, Kathy & David, Sandy Williams, Szuis family, Jacob C., Nancy H, Kathy Bashore, Tim Cook, Jeanette Garcia, Tina Jogman + family, Bishop Curry, Ellen Wyshel, Jennifer Marshall, Rosie, Joe, Tony, Phil Barco, Gera Mitiku, Geleta Mekonnen, Crystal Levy Pesce, Chris, Jordan McLain, Lynda Jeppesen Jordan McLain, Dumerer Family, Trudi Handzel, Marsha S, Marsha G, Dorothy Nagel, Linda (Rodin) Ufkes, Kwame Pitts, Cedric P., Marlena, Marsha Diamond, the Nemeth Family, Helen Young, Andrea Quintenilla, Bob Nelson, the Hauser Family, Doris' family, the Soucie Family, the Sapien Family, the family of Ryan Sernel, Carolyn Harbensee, Jillian & Simeon Bonilla, Ricky Redd, Porsia Bonilla, Margaret, Linka, Doug Hubbard, Ted Gradt, Sam Fogel, Russ Reynolds, Rich Levy, Charles Maynard, the family of Gilbert Garcia, Soto Family, Al Rembis, Mark Banaszak, Annette, Ashley Williams, Leslie, Tom Jencius, Ruth Perzentka, the Hanson family, Sharon Rose Keenon, Francis, Hailey and Johnny, Kathy, Rochele Kasny, Kathy Bayshore, Danny O'Connor, Tom Daniels, the Wiberg family, the family of Vern Frost, Felicia, the family of Jeff Koszczuk, Teri and Bill Muenster, John Francis, Cookie Bonilla and her sisters and brother, Annie's new baby and family (John, Elissia, Naz), Judy Jones, Carolyn Morrow, Doris Hay, Nancy Wendt, Ping, Bob Morrow, Michael Baumeister and family, Myra Lusiak, Szul family, Lukasz Stechnij, Dan, Lea, Katy, Beth Perfetti, Margot, David Swanson, Chuck Powers, Piper, Mr. Young, Auntie Helmke, Nancy Maltec (Rhonda Cady's mom), Chad Adams and Family, Dotty Burger, Terry DeSchepper, Dan S., Helmke Fields, Brad Kovach, Linda Ostrand, Jeanne Dumerer, Laura Soto, Bob and Justine Bisgard, Barb Loverme, Jeane Reeve, Eva Thoren, Julie Higgins, Maria Raica, Arlene Baranowski, those living with

cancer, those living with mental illness, those dealing with sorrow, Diane, people in silent pain.

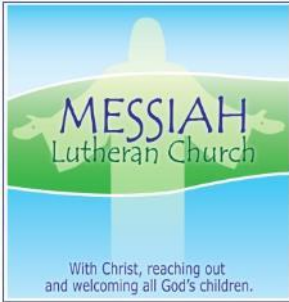
Those requesting prayers for **other purposes such as emotional, grief, financial, employment, general or unknown** are: Field School, everyone needing relief from all the rain/flooding, for world peace, the people of Syria, the family of Dwayne and Michelle Miller, Dave Hanson, Don and Mary Jane Kovach, John Francis, Anne Evans, Bill Zuhme, Debbie Dietrich, Salena Jason, the Jefferson family, Sarah Nugnis, Kevin Kovach, Terry K., Fred D., the families and staff of Child Care Center, Mike Wokisin, Haley Lippert, Eastaven Bargas, Meaghan, EB, Griffin family, Worknesh Deressa, Joann Wood, Penumaka family, Larry Dumerer, Fox family, Victoria Candiotti, Provenzano family, Kraiger family, those who live with anxiety and depression, families whom are seeking reconciliation, those who are unemployed or underemployed, those striving for peace in the Mideast, those living with addiction, those who are hungry, alone or homeless, our assistance guests, and all of those affected by hurricanes, wildfires and other natural disasters.

We want to remember in our prayers **military and first responder personnel** (those known to us and those serving who are not known to us): Jenni Hanson, Mikey Hanson, Jerred Engvall, Brandon Ajyek, Tim David, Tyler Daye, Bobby Hanson, Tom Hanson, Andreas Johnsen, Jason Koesler, Sam Krawitz, Joey Rosequist, Claudine Ward, Officer Matt McGannon.

We also want to remember in prayer our **college students**: Rachel Daye, Tommy Hanson, Melissa Holzer, Phil Holzer, Kevin Kovach, Nick Levy, Haley Lippert, Dina Salemi, Arden Sasak, Jake & Jessica Saul, Paul Song, Christian Travis, Thomas Yager.

** We understand that some prayer requests are short-term for specific events, while others find ongoing prayers to be powerful. We appreciate being updated so our prayer list is as current as possible.*





The Messiah MESSENGER

Worship Schedule

SUNDAYS

9 a.m. – Christian Learning Hour
10:15 a.m. – Worship and Communion

Child Care Center

Year-round 3-K
Monday – Friday
6:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

In this issue:

*Epiphany: the Season
of "Aha"*

Assistance Ministry

Quilts & Kits

Christian Education

Youth

*What's Coming up in
January &
February*

Other Schedules

Pastor's Office Hours

Available for non-scheduled appointments:
Mon. & Wed. – 10 a.m. -1 p.m. (PM visitations)
Available beyond these hours by appointment.

Church Office

Monday – Friday
9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Assistance Ministry

Monday – 11 a.m. -1 p.m. (west entrance)

MESSIAH
Lutheran Church



ELCA.org
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Living in God's amazing grace

**1605 Vernon Avenue
Park Ridge, Illinois 60068**

**Place
Stamp
Here**

Phone: (847) 823-6984

Fax: (847) 823-6996

E-mail: PastorLynne@messiahparkridge.org

Office: Office@messiahparkridge.org

Homepage: www.messiahparkridge.org

Child Care Center Phone: (847) 825-3767

Child Care Email: MessiahChildCareCenter@gmail.com

Child Care Homepage: www.messiahchildcare.com

**RETURN SERVICE
REQUESTED**