

The MESSENGER



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

MARCH 2020



Mid-week Lenten opportunities

At the writing of this newsletter two Ash Wednesday (February 26) services of Holy Communion with the Imposition of Ashes at 12:30 and 6:30 were planned. The 12:30 service is especially for those who may not want to come out at night or who find that time more convenient. These will be joint worship opportunities with All Souls.

Wednesdays During Lent - We will come together with All Souls Episcopal to share our mid-week Lenten journey. A soup and salad dinner will be served at 6:30.

This will be followed by a program called "Signs of Life: Why Church Matters".

We will end with devotions. We will gather on the following Wednesdays

- March 4
- March 11
- March 18
- March 25

Congregational meeting

A congregational meeting will be held on March 8th, immediately following worship, to discuss and vote on, if appropriate, additional funding sources for our roof replacement/repair.

Please plan to attend this important meeting as we continue to make physical improvements to Messiah. Your time and input are essential in the life of our congregation.

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The Messenger

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**Your 2020 Church Council
 And Associate Members**

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Donna ShawVice-President
Karen Morris Secretary

John Cline **Becky Collie**
Karen Morris **Anita Philp**
Roger Schroeder **Diana Sondor**

Council Liaisons

Christian Formation **Donna Shaw**
 Evangelism **John Cline**
 Finance **James Anderson**
 Property **Roger Schroeder**
 Social Ministry **Anita Philp**
 Stewardship **Diana Sondor**
 Worship **Karen Morris**

Shawn WarmbrodTreasurer
Bill Weaver..... Financial Secretary
Sue Gilnett, RN...Parish Nurse

Bishop Humpfrey to visit

On March 1st, **Bishop Bob Humpfrey** of our Virginia Synod will be with us to bring greetings, to preach and to participate in our worship. It is exciting to be able to have him with us, and I know everyone will want to be present to hear his message and bring him greetings. It will be a great opportunity to show him what wonderful things are happening here at Messiah.

Plan now to be sure to be here on that Sunday!



Needed:

Counters are needed.
 Please contact **Davina** or **Bill Weaver** (908-3861), if you can help.

2020 Offering envelopes

Envelopes for 2020 are ready and in the Narthex. Please note that numbers have changed; so, in order to get proper credit for the correct year, use the new envelopes only for Sundays in 2020. Let **Bill Weaver** know if you do not see your envelopes.



Messiah on Pinterest

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

*Pastor's Message***Together under one roof**

As I write this article, the roofers have just begun replacing the shingles, and soon there will be a new roof on all of our church buildings. We may not end up shouting from the rooftop, but we will all continue to be together under one roof, one great new roof. When a congregation undertakes a major venture like this one, how it goes says a lot about the commitment of such a community of faith. I can easily say that the commitment here at Messiah is especially strong. You have responded in faithfulness to the needs of the congregation - as you have done in the past and I am sure will do in the future. Well done, good and faithful servants! Not only do we now stand under one really good roof, but we continue to stand under one really great Lord!

With each week and month that goes by, you are getting closer and closer to welcoming your new pastor here at Messiah. The anticipation is growing, and the excitement will build as the time draws nigh. It seems like a long way off yet, and time always seems to go slowly when you are waiting for something important, but it'll be here before you know it. What a wonderful time that will be! When you think about it, there is a lot about our faith journey that involves waiting. We, of course, wait for Christ to come again; but we also are always waiting to see what God is going to do next before that time comes. It is said that when Luther was asked what he would do if he knew Christ was going to return tomorrow, he said that he would plant an apple tree today. The point was that God would always take care of tomorrow. Our job is to be faithful today and let God take care of the rest. In my eyes, that is what you are doing. There is a lot about tomorrow that excites us, but you are going about planting apple trees today - serving and sup-

porting one another and those in need. As you continue to do that, I believe those efforts will produce much fruit. So let us give thanks for all that God is doing among us today and tomorrow!

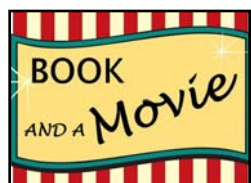
- **Pastor Carbaugh**

Pastor's weekly Bible study

Our weekly Bible Study, led by **Pastor Carbaugh**, will continue on Monday mornings at 11:00 a.m. The study will be finished by noon. We will continue exploring the scripture readings for the upcoming Sunday. These are printed in the bulletin, next to "Schedule for Next Week." All are invited!

**Next Global Barnyard Sunday: Sunday, March 29th****Lenten devotional booklets**

Additional copies of ***Wonderous Love: Devotions for Lent 2020*** by Paul Hoffman will soon be available for your use during Lent. They will be placed on the table in the narthex as soon as they come in.



B.A.M.

Mark your calendars for the next BAM (Book and a Movie) gathering- Saturday, March 14th at 5:30pm.

There will be no book associated with this movie. We will be gathering to watch "God's Not Dead," with discussion to follow the movie.

Everyone is asked to bring their favorite appetizer/ heavy hors d'oeuvres to share! Drinks and Dessert provided. Please sign up in the Narthex. If you have any questions please contact **Valerie** (240-638-6162) or **Daren Williams** (703-856-4262). Look forward to seeing you all there!

Women's Bible Study

Women's Bible study will meet on the Second and Fourth Tuesdays in March at 7pm in the fellowship. All are welcome!

Questions? Contact **Valerie Williams:** 240-638-6162 or vswilliams2005@gmail.com.

Bulletin announcements

Those who would like to place announcements in the Sunday bulletin or have a midweek announcement, please send them to **Donna Shaw** at dmslaw70@gmail.com by Wednesday for inclusion.



- March 11 **Bonnie Dworak**
- 16 **Chrisann Hatfield**
- 20 **Susie Weaver**
- 21 **Bee Newell**
- 21 **Werner Gardner**
- 22 **Charlene Glatfelter**
- 24 **Lisa Ravizza**
- 25 **Judy Schw erdtfefer**
- 27 **Donna Shaw**
- 29 **Victoria Major**



March 5 **Roger & Lois Schroeder**

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



GOOD NEWS Commitment Met

It is with great pleasure that Council can announce that Messiah has met all overdue financial obligations to the Synod as of December, 2019. We had slowly been making contribution oversight payments; and, now, that obligation has been met. Another Messiah goal met. Another blessing God has given us.





We pray for each other:

Kenneth Deere; Adam Dworak, Sr.; JoAn Firebaugh; Bill Fulop; Elisabeth Gardner; Werner Gardner; Steve Gilnett; Geoffrey Honan; Gladys Jordan; "Doc" Kondaki; Linda Krupa; Mac McAllister; Roberta McMillen; Pat Motley; Nathan and Ruth Schroeder and family; Judy Schwerdtfeger.

We pray for our extended family and neighbors:

Carl Absher, brother-in-law of Diane Absher; **Becky Absher**, relative of Diane Absher; **Danny Allen**, brother-in-law of the Whirleys; **Bob Banta**, friend of Schwerdtfegers; **Emily Berg**, granddaughter of Pastor Jim Berg; **Family & Friends of Mike DiGrazia; David and Sandi Elliott**, friends of the Whirleys; **Kathy Fleming**, cousin of Judy Schwerdtfeger; **Joe Griffin**, friend of Anne Mason; **Thomas Hancock**, friend of Linda Mahovtas; **Family & Friends of Dawn Martin; Mary Moyer**, sister-in-law of Schwerdtfegers; **Dee Schroeder**, sister-in-law of Roger; **Tim Schroeder**, Roger's nephew; **Greg Schaale**, brother-in-law of Schwerdtfegers; **Sid Townsend**, friend of Schwerdtfegers; **Betty Gay Vaughan**, Charlie Schwerdtfeger's aunt; **T.J.**, grandson of the Whirleys;

Pastor Carbaugh as he walks with us in this interim time; Our veterans, their fellow soldiers & their waiting families, especially Ian Schwerdtfeger;; Law enforcement, firefighters and first responders; The people and pastor, Rev. Katherine of All Souls Episcopal & our shared ministry; All those persecuted in any way for their faith in Christ, espe-

cially in Pakistan, Eritrea, Sudan, and Yemen.¹

¹ Open Doors World WatchList 2020
<http://www.opendoorsusa.org>

To add or remove a name from the prayer list, please call the church office, 746-7134. If leaving a message, include your contact information for follow-up. Unless we hear otherwise, individuals will be removed quarterly. Memorial prayers will run a minimum of two weeks and then be included in our All Saints Sunday activities.



We join in mourning the loss of our sister in Christ, **Dawn Martin**, who went to be with the Lord on February 4th. Dawn is the daughter of **Jean and John Martin**. Pastor Carbaugh presided at the memorial service at Bennett Funeral Home on February 7th.

Please continue to pray for her family and friends at this difficult time.



March 2020						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Calendar of events

- 1 9:15 AM All Souls Episcopal: Worship
9:15 AM Messiah Christian Formation
10:45 AM Messiah Lutheran: Worship
With Bishop Bob Humphrey
12 noon Annual Chili Cook Off
- 2 11:00 AM Bible Study
with Pastor Carbaugh
- 3
- 4 6:00 PM Supper Set-up
6:30 PM Soup & Supper Program
(Messiah Lutheran)
- 5 7:00 PM Choir Practice
- 6
- 7
- 8 9:15 AM All Souls Episcopal: Worship
9:15 AM Messiah Christian Formation
10:45 AM Messiah Lutheran: Worship
12 noon Congregational Meeting
- 9 11:00 AM Bible Study
with Pastor Carbaugh
- 10 7:00 PM Women's Bible Study
- 11 6:00 PM Supper Set-up
6:30 PM Soup & Supper Program
(Messiah Lutheran)
- 12 6:30 PM Girl Scout Troop #557 Meeting
7:00 PM Choir Practice
- 13
- 14 5:30 pm B.A.M. event
- 15 9:15 AM All Souls Episcopal: Worship
9:15 AM Messiah Christian Formation
10:45 AM Messiah Lutheran: Worship
- 16 11:00 AM Bible Study
with Pastor Carbaugh
- 17 6:15 PM Council Meeting
- 18 6:00 PM Supper Set-up
6:30 PM Soup & Supper Program
(Messiah Lutheran)

- 19 7:00 PM Choir Practice
- 20
- 21
- 22 9:15 AM All Souls Episcopal: Worship
9:15 AM Messiah Christian Formation
10:45 AM Messiah Lutheran: Worship
- 23 11:00 AM Bible Study
with Pastor Carbaugh
- 24 10:00 AM Terrific Tuesday Club
(Hanover Parks & Rec.)
7:00 PM Women's Bible Study
- 25 6:00 PM Supper Set-up
6:30 PM Soup & Supper Program
(Messiah Lutheran)
- 26 6:30 PM Girl Scout Troop #557 Meeting
7:00 PM Choir Practice
- 27
- 28
- 29 9:15 AM All Souls Episcopal: Worship
9:15 AM Messiah Christian Formation
10:45 AM Messiah Lutheran: Worship
- 30 11:00 AM Bible Study
with Pastor Carbaugh
- 31



The MCEF One-Stop-Shop (OSS) current needs are as follows:

- Pancake mix, syrup, and sugar-free syrup
- Canned pasta, spaghetti sauce
- Individual packages of oatmeal & grits
- Personal hygiene items, toilet paper.
- Women’s clothing, sizes 2X, 3X, and 4X.
- Boys underwear– all sizes, CLEAN.
- Towel sets (bath, hand, and washcloths).
- KROGER brown paper bags with handles.

THANK YOU for supporting MCEF and your Mechanicsville neighbors!

- Gladys Hubert



CFFY Corner

(Christian Formation for You)

Book for Adults - Many believers feel stunted in their Christian growth. We beat ourselves up over our failures and, in the process, pull away from God because we subconsciously believe He tallies our defects and hangs His head in disappointment. In this newly re-packaged edition (now with full appendix, study questions, and the author's own epilogue), ***The Ragamuffin Gospel: Good News for the Be-draggled, Beat-Up, and Burnt Out***, Brennan Manning reminds us that nothing could be further from the truth. The Father beckons us to Himself with a "furious love" that burns brightly and constantly. Only when we truly embrace God's grace can we bask in the joy of a gospel that enfolds the neediest of His flock--the "ragamuffins." The forward is written by Michael W. Smith along with a testimonial by Rich Mullins. With over 30,000 ratings, it received a Goodreads rating of 4.2.

Book for Youth - *From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler* by E.L. Konigsburg is a great fictional book for youth. When suburban Claudia Kincaid decides to run away, she knows she doesn't just want to run from somewhere, she wants to run to somewhere — to a place that is comfortable, beautiful, and, preferably, elegant. She chooses the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City. Knowing her younger brother Jamie has money and thus can help her with a serious cash-flow problem, she invites him along. Once settled into the museum, Claudia and Jamie find themselves caught up in the mystery of an angel statue that the museum purchased at auction for a bargain price of \$225. The statue is possi-

bly an early work of the Renaissance master, Michelangelo, and therefore worth millions. Is it? Or isn't it? Claudia is determined to find out. Her quest leads her to Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler, the remarkable old woman who sold the statue, and to some equally remarkable discoveries about herself. This book received a 4.15 rating on Goodreads with over 178,000 ratings.

Movie - *Seven Days in Utopia* follows the story of Luke Chisolm (Lucas Black), a talented young golfer set on making the pro tour. When his first big shot turns out to be a very public disaster, Luke escapes the pressures of the game and finds himself unexpectedly stranded in Utopia, Texas, home to eccentric rancher Johnny Crawford (Robert Duvall). But Johnny is more than meets the eye, and his profound ways of looking at life force Luke to question not only his past choices, but his direction for the future. It received the Dove "Family-Approved" Seal for all ages with 5 out of 5 Doves for its exceptional quality and message.

Devotional/Study – Lenten Devotions from Lutheran Hour Ministries can be found at <https://www.lhm.org/lent/>. In ***Deliver Us: Jesus Sets Us Free***, you'll see God's love in action—working His purposes through human affairs, drawing you into a relationship with Him. Even as Moses (a kind of redeemer) foreshadowed the work of Christ (our ultimate Redeemer), we remember with awe and humility the pains God took to win us back to Himself, sparing not His only Son. Available to read online or as a podcast beginning February 26, 2020, ***Deliver Us: Jesus Sets Us Free*** can also be received as an e-mail subscription throughout the Lenten season. The audio version will also be available on the daily devotion page beginning February 26, 2020.

- **Donna Shaw**

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Get out that favorite chili recipe and get ready for Messiah's Annual Chili Cook Off on Sunday, March 1st, immediately following the worship service.

Whether you cook or just plan to enjoy the food, please come and be a part of the fun and fellowship!

Questions? Contact **Becky Collie**.

The DEADLINE for the
April 2020
edition of *The Messenger* is
Sunday, March 22, 2020

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



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