

*Messiah Lutheran Church
Mechanicsville, Virginia*



*January 3, 2021
Second Sunday after Christmas*

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

*To share the Good News of Jesus Christ
and to invite all to join us in faith, worship, and service.*

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

(January 3, 2021)

For video go to: <https://messiahmech.com/messiah-digital/>

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome visitors! May the Spirit of Christ fill your heart as we worship today. You are invited to make Messiah your church home.

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who was in the beginning, who makes a dwelling among us, who covers us with justice and mercy.

C: Amen

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

P: God of goodness and lovingkindness,

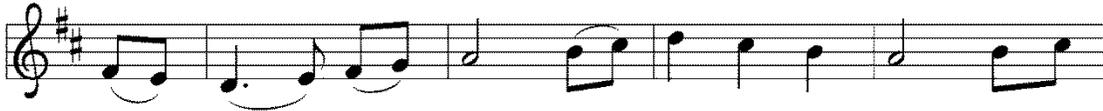
C: we confess that we have sinned against you and our neighbors. We have turned away from your invitation to new life. We have turned away from the lowly and downtrodden. In your abundant mercy, forgive us our sins, those we know and those known only to you, for the sake of the one who came to live among us, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

P: Hear the good news of peace and salvation! God forgives us all our sins, not through our own work, but through ☩ Jesus Christ, made known to all people. With all who come to the manger, rejoice in this amazing gift of grace by Christ's peace, and accompanied with the power of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN *The First Noel*

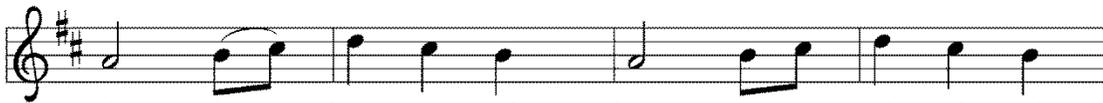
The First Noel



1 The first No - el the an - gel did say was to
 2 They look - ed up and saw . . a star shin - ing
 3 And by the light of that . . same star three . .
 4 This star drew near to the . . north-west, o'er . .
 5 Then en - tered in those wise . . men three, full . .



cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay; in fields where
 in . . the east . . be - yond . . them far; and to the
 wise . . men came . . from coun - try far; to seek for a
 Beth - le - hem . . it took . . its rest; and there it
 rev - 'rent - ly . . up - on . . their knee, and of - fered



they lay, keep - ing their sheep, on a cold win - ter's
 earth it gave . . great light, and . . so it con -
 king was their . . in - tent, and to fol - low the
 did both stop . . and stay right . . o - ver the
 there in his . . pres - ence their . . gold, . . . and

Refrain



night that was so deep.
 tin-ued both day and night.
 star wher - ev - er it went. No - el, No - el, No -
 place where Je - sus lay.
 myrrh, and frank - in - cense.



el, No - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

THE GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: *And also with you.*

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray:

C: *O God, on this day you revealed your Son to the nations by the leading of a star. Lead us now by faith to know your presence in our lives, and bring us at last to the full vision of your glory, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen*

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6

Lector

A reading from Isaiah.

Jerusalem is assured that nations will make a pilgrimage to her because the light of God's presence is in her midst. The bountiful food of the sea and the profits of international trade will come streaming to Jerusalem and thereby declare God's praise.

1 Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

2 For darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;
but the LORD will arise upon you,
and his glory will appear over you.

3 Nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

4 Lift up your eyes and look around;
they all gather together, they come to you;
your sons shall come from far away,
and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.

5 Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and rejoice,
because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you,
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

6 A multitude of camels shall cover you,
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
all those from Sheba shall come.

They shall bring gold and frankincense,
and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

SECOND LESSON: Ephesians 3:1-12

Lector

A reading from Ephesians.

What had been hidden from previous generations is now made known through the gospel ministry of Paul and others. In Christ both Jews and Gentiles participate in the richness of God's promised salvation.

¹This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles—²for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, ³and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, ⁴a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. ⁵In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: ⁶that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

⁷Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. ⁸Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, ⁹and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; ¹⁰so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. ¹¹This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹²in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: Matthew 2:1-12

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

God's promise shines bright in the night as magi follow a star to honor a new king. Strangers from a faraway land, they welcome the long-awaited messiah of Israel.

¹In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have

come to pay him homage." ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

⁶'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who is to shepherd my people Israel.' "

⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." ⁹When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was.

¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy.

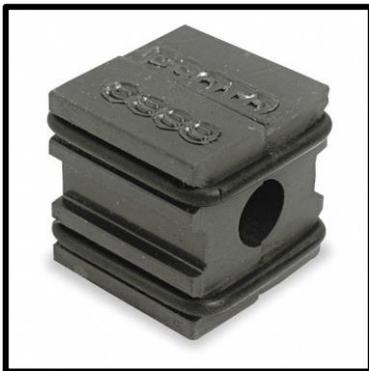
¹¹On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: *Praise to you, O Christ.*

SERMON: PASTOR RYAN RADTKE

When I was around four or five years old, my mom enrolled in a nearby technical college. She started with a class on computers. The field was still pretty new, so the professors apparently didn't quite know what they were doing yet, and half the class dropped out. The next semester, she switched over to appliance repair.



She learned how to fix washers and dryers, refrigerators and freezers, stoves, ovens, microwaves, dishwashers, vacuums, and more. She got a job with Sears to repair things in the shop or even make house calls. Part of that job required the purchase of a really nice set of tools. Including this thing:

I think I was around seven years old when my mom started working for Sears. And I thought of all those tools were cool. I mean, my dad had tools too, but these were brand new – and I had never seen anything like *this* thing before. What is it? It's a tool for magnetizing and demagnetizing other tools.

Maybe you've seen one of those screwdrivers that has a magnetic tip to help keep the screw from falling off while you're working. Well, this thing would magnetize the whole screwdriver, not just the tip. You'd pass the screwdriver through the whole a few times, and voila! Magnetic! Later, you could "wipe" the screwdriver down that channel on the outside of the tool, and then you're back to normal. It was a cool little gadget – it kind of seemed like magic.

The wise ones from the East, also known as Magi, also known as astrologers, were drawn to Jesus. They saw a star rise to signify his birth, his birth as the new king of the Jews, the Messiah, the promised one. And they followed that star, as though it were a magnet, until they found the place where Jesus was, so that they could pay him homage. And when they finally arrived, they were overwhelmed with joy! They were charged up!

It might seem unusual for folks like the magi, these scholars and sages, these star-readers, sign-studiers, from some country in the East, to come and visit Jesus. Why would they care? They weren't Jewish. Why would they care about Jewish prophecies, about little Bethlehem, about the descendant of David who would rule Israel? Why make the trip? Why be overwhelmed with joy? Why?

Because God drew them in. Throughout the story of God and God's people in the Bible, God's people are made to be like magnets. Israel was God's chosen people, set aside, named, given covenants and commandments. But God never stopped loving all of creation. All peoples. When God made that first covenant with Abraham, he and his descendants were blessed to be a blessing. When Israel was on the verge of returning from exile, the prophets promised that they would be a light to the nations, drawing them in to be overwhelmed with joy at God's goodness.

As Jesus made his way through Judea, he didn't only teach or heal or interact with Jews – there were Samaritans and Romans and Canaanites. On the day of Pentecost the Holy Spirit gave the disciples the ability to speak in many languages so that the Jews in Jerusalem for the festival could understand, no matter where they were visiting from. That doesn't mean that only Jews heard the good news being proclaimed. As the book of Acts unfolds, Peter baptizes everyone in the house of Cornelius, a Roman. Philip baptizes an Ethiopian eunuch. And then there's Paul!

Paul becomes the apostle to the Gentiles, which basically means everyone who wasn't Jewish. That's how our reading from Ephesians started today: "This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles – for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given to me for you." And later, "the Gentiles have become fellow-heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel."

The magi were by no means the first "outsiders" to be drawn to God's good news, God's grace, God's love, God's mysteries; and they were far from the last, either. There are no real "outsiders" for God. In fact, as much as God's

people are charged to be a light to the nations, spreading the good news outward, God also works through folks like the Magi, like the Gentiles, like the Ethiopian eunuch or Cornelius or so many more to catch *our* attention, to re-charge us, to help us be overwhelmed by joy in new and unexpected ways.

We are charged by the Holy Spirit, magnetized with the gospel, to invite others in, to say “Come and see!” regardless of where the others come from. When you run a screwdriver through a magnetizer like that one, it doesn’t only magnetize the tool for the appliance you are currently working on; it will be magnetic anywhere. If we are truly overwhelmed with joy for the life and salvation that comes from God through Jesus, how can we be selective with how we share it?

If we only ever share the good news with people who are already like us, then we are depriving ourselves what Paul calls “the wisdom of God in its rich variety.” If we only ever hear the good news, receive the good news, from people or traditions that are already like us, then we are depriving ourselves of God’s rich variety in that case, too. The Holy Spirit magnetizes us with the gospel, makes us more useful tools for the sharing of the gospel, but also gives us tools, and gifts, and even gadgets, to equip us for God’s work in the world. Magnetism is a force of nature; it draws things together, keeps things connected; why would we interfere with that?

Because of fear. Look at King Herod in the story of the Magi. He is frightened by the news of the Messiah’s birth, of a “new” king. He is insecure and does not trust in God. His fear leads to lies and deception and violence, as in the follow verses he orders a slaughter. His fear makes all of Jerusalem afraid, too. His fear seems to affect the chief priests as well, as a generation later they call for Jesus’ crucifixion, feeling their own power threatened.

Our fear, our insecurity, our prejudice for the different, our love for our own power and position – these are contrary to the gospel. These repel. When Christians spew hate in God’s name, we are not a light to the nations, and we are not drawing people in, attracting people towards, the life and salvation that comes from God through Jesus.

And that de-magnetizing can happen to anyone, not just tyrants like Herod. My mom went to school, bought the tools, got a job at Sears. She never shared much about it, but I know it wasn’t an easy environment for a woman, a mom, to be in. Going back to school, first in computers and then in appliance repair, in the mid-eighties...I’m sure she felt pretty lonely. I’m sure she had to put up with a lot of garbage from some of her classmates and coworkers. And then, not long after she got the job, a recession hit. Sears closed a ton of stores and shops. As one of the last ones hired, she was one of the first ones let go.

There is no shortage of junk in our lives that will try to demagnetize us – from God, from our mission, from each other. Difficult environments, challenging circumstances, that will make us feel lonely, defeated. The majority of this past year seemed like a concerted effort to permanently demagnetize us, and it’s not over yet. As we know even more acutely after all of that, when

human beings feel stressed, hurt, scarce, alone, frightened – we turn in on ourselves. We seek the familiar, the safe. We get overwhelmed, but not with joy, especially when our familiar and safe seem unavailable. I feel like the devil has been putting in overtime to amplify and embed those demagnetizing forces in our world and in our lives, permanently if possible – everyone for themselves, protect your own tribe, hoard your treasures.

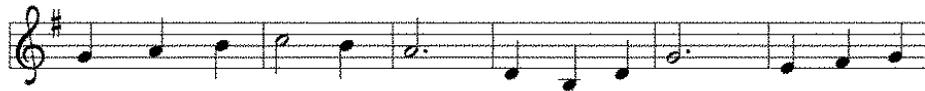
And so I have a charge for you today, to follow the stars that God is shining for you, wherever they lead, to whomever they lead. Who knows where you'll find God today? And who knows, in this current state of affairs, where and how you'll find them? Who knows where God has tucked Jesus these days, drawing you in to present gifts? But have no doubt: God is drawing you somewhere, to someone.

We will get demagnetized from God's love, God's joy; and the Holy Spirit will charge us back up, equip us, use us again anyway. The world and all these forces, all these things that make us want to repel one another and only protect our own, will try to break our connections. But that's not what God desires for us. May we have our gifts at the ready; may we be ready for a journey; may we be overwhelmed with joy. May we follow where God is pulling us. Amen.

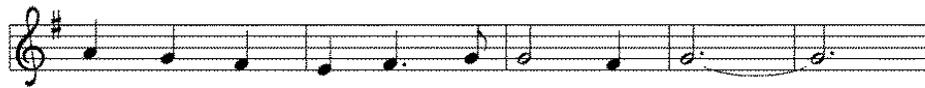
HYMN OF THE DAY Drawn to the Light



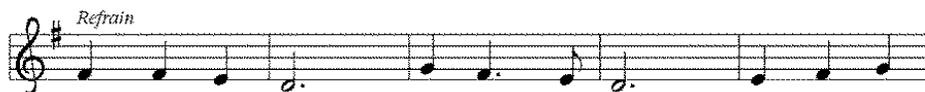
1 Peo - ple who walk in dark - ness have sought a light in the
 2 How can we tell a heav - en from hell if ev - 'ry - one
 3 Where is the sun? Oh, there will be none! The Lamb is the



heart of the dark - est night. Just when we thought all would be
 dwells in the dark of night? Morn - ing dis - pels, gent - ly com -
 one who is shin - ing bright, bids us to come! Life has be -



lost, we were drawn to the light of God.
 pels, and we're drawn to the light of God.
 gun when we're drawn to the light of God.



Refrain
 Dawn is in sight! Gone is the night, drawn to the



light and the morn - ing. Glo - rious and bright, oh, what a



sight to be drawn to the light of God.

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,

the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;

he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,*

who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS

A: Joining our voices with the song of the angels, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need. *[Brief silence]*

A: Glorious God, fill your church with joy. Let your faithful people live as beacons of your redemption. Give wisdom and courage to your church that it may speak with boldness and confidence, even when words of mercy are met with scorn. Hear us, O God

C: ***Your mercy is great***

A: Creator God, you scatter the proud. Everything we have belongs first to you. Bless and protect the seas, mountains, plains, forests, skies, and soils that surround us. Give us humility as we tend them. Hear us, O God

C: *Your mercy is great*

A: Show us your faithfulness in the rising and setting of the sun. Place wonder into the hearts of those who search the skies and explore the heavens. Curb waste and pollution, that all might have clean air to breathe. Hear us, O God

C: *Your mercy is great*

A: Bring all nations and rulers to the splendor of your dawn. Raise up advocates who champion the cause of exploited and vulnerable people. Inspire leaders to be generous with abundance, that all people might live in stability and freedom. Hear us, O God

C: *Your mercy is great*

A: Come quickly with your healing power to all who seek love, support, and restoration. Dispel fears and shadows. Restore broken relationships and mend broken hearts. Bring relief to those who are sick or struggling (especially). Hear us, O God

C: *Your mercy is great*

A: According to the boundless riches of Christ, you draw all your saints, from the least to the greatest, to your heavenly places. As you created all things, make all things new again in the splendor of your glory. Hear us, O God

C: *Your mercy is great*

A: God, you are life. We pray for our world, our country, our community, and our church as we face the challenges of coronavirus. We pray for those who grieve the loss of loved ones, for the sick and their families, for those fearful of an unknown future. We pray for the millions of unemployed, for children and others at home - that they be safe from abuse. We pray for those who are alone and isolated during this time that they may feel your loving presence. We pray for all the hospital and health care workers, and all first responders, that they receive needed supplies and be kept protected in the work they do. We pray for those making decisions about how to live into the future and when that will happen. Keep us all in your care as we wait for a new day. Hear us, O God

C: *Your mercy is great*

A: God of all families, you have given us families to be sanctuaries of blessing, comfort, and love for each other. Under your protection fill us with harmony, hope, and health. We pray this week for the Gustafson, Habron and Harris families as well as our Messiah family. Guard all of our hearts that we may display love instead of hate, anger, or bitterness. Lead us all to be grateful for your abiding love and enable us to glorify you by sharing that love with others. Hear us, O God

C: *Your mercy is great*

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A: God of mercy, come quickly to us with grace upon grace as we lift these and all our prayers to you, in the name of Jesus.

C: *Amen.*

***THE LORD'S PRAYER**

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

C: *Our Father, who art in heaven,*

hallowed be thy name,

thy kingdom come,

thy will be done,

on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;

and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those

who trespass against us;

and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,

and the power, and the glory,

forever and ever. Amen.

BLESSING

P: Almighty God, who sent the Holy Spirit to Mary, proclaimed joy through the angels, sent the shepherds with good news, and led the magi by a star, bless you this day ☩ through the Word made flesh.

C: *Amen*

SENDING SONG *We Three Kings of Orient Are*

We Three Kings of Orient Are



1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are; bear - ing
 2 Born a king on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I
 3 Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I; in - cense
 4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a
 5 Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and



gifts we tra - verse a - far, field and foun - tain,
 bring to crown him a - gain; king for - ev - er,
 owns a de - i - ty nigh; prayer and prais - ing,
 life of gath - er - ing gloom; sor - rowing, sigh - ing,
 God and Sac - ri - fice; heav'n sings al - le -



moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.
 ceas - ing nev - er, o - ver us all to reign.
 glad - ly rais - ing, wor - ship - ing God Most High.
 bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.
 lu - ia: al - le - lu - ia the earth re - plies.



Oh, star of won - der, star of night, star with roy - al beau - ty bright;



west - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASTOR RYAN'S OFFICE HOURS

Pastor Ryan and his family have all tested negative for covid, and have been symptom free. Thank you for your prayers and patience. Pastor Ryan is taking his remaining vacation days to close out the year, and will be back in the office in the new year. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, everyone!

2021 OFFERING ENVELOPES

Envelopes for 2021 are ready. Envelopes will be distributed before services. Please note numbers have changed so in order to get proper credit for the correct year use the new envelopes only for Sundays in 2021. Let Bill Weaver know if you do not receive your envelopes.

FYI

There will be no Worship Opportunities/Christian Formation Blast for January 3. See you again on January 10, 2021! Have a very Merry, blessed, and safe Christmas. – Donna Shaw

ONLINE WINTER CELEBRATION REGISTRATION IS OPEN

Winter Celebration, January 22-24, 2021, is the Virginia Synod annual weekend faith-formation retreat for youth in 9th through 12th grades and adult leaders. This year they will gather ONLINE for Large Group experiences with lots of singing and skits and fun and Small Group experiences with lots of new friends, games, conversation, more games, and faith sharing! Deadline to register is Jan. 5, 2021. To register after this date, please contact Rev. Dave Delaney at delaney@vasynod.org, or 540-529-6893. For more information, and to register online for Winter Celebration, visit www.vasynod.org/event/winter-celebration

VANCO

The Vanco Account has been closed and the donation button removed from the church website. If you were previously using Vanco as the means for your electronic donation, please contact your bank to have them automatically send a check to Messiah Lutheran Church, 8154 Atlee Road Mechanicsville Virginia 23111 or you can send a check personally. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation. If you have any questions, please contact Bill Weaver Financial Secretary, his number is 804-908-3861 or wweaver701@comcast.net.

SMALL GROUPS

If you'd like to have a small group or committee meeting at the church, please check out the Small Group Meetings and Cleaning Protocols. You can contact Davina when wanting to schedule a time for your group to meet and get the latest protocols. The only areas open at this time include the Fellowship Hall, the hallway to the restrooms, and the restrooms. All other parts of the building remain 'closed' for now. There are also copies of the forms at church on the kitchen counter for you to use at your meeting along with necessary cleaning supplies. Davina will maintain the completed forms in her office. Thanks for all you do! Stay well everyone!

LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE: HURRICANES AND CALIFORNIA WILDFIRES

Following the devastation caused by hurricanes along the Gulf Coast, as well as the impact of wildfires across California and the Northwest, Lutheran Disaster Relief (LDR) is responding. You can help LDR as they assist the communities who have been impacted by these natural disasters, through prayer and giving through [Lutheran Disaster Relief](#). Your gifts designated for "Hurricane Response" or "U.S. Wildfires" will be used entirely (100%) for direct response until it is complete. Together, we can help provide immediate and long-lasting support for those whose lives have been impacted by hurricanes or wildfires.

UPDATED: REBUILD RVA GRANT PROGRAM

On October 28, the Governor's Office released information about an expansion of the Rebuild Virginia Grants. The grants are available to small businesses and non-profits. Unlike the last time round of Rebuild Virginia grants, the expansion specifically says that an organization can receive funding even if the organization received CARES Act Funding. Qualified recipients can receive a grant of up to three months' worth of expenses to help with salaries, mortgage, utilities, etc. The FAQs aren't as entirely clear, but when you combine the FAQs with the application guide (pg 4 in particular addresses what is excluded for those with CARES Act funding), it appears that most organizations in Virginia are eligible. This funding may prove particularly helpful for child care and preschool ministries that had issues with part-time employees and PPP Loan calculations. One potential hurdle for an application is the requirement for a DUNS number. The DUNS numbers appear to be standard practice in the for-profit world and almost unheard of in the non-profit world. It is possible for a church or non-profit to apply for a DUNS number, but the online process to get the number can be confusing.

GLOBAL BARNYARD DONATIONS

This is just a quick update on the final collection for Global Barnyard donations. We have an amazing total of \$630.23! Be watching your inbox for a brief survey on how we should 'spend' this wonderful gift. Thank you, Messiah, for your continued generosity!

VIRGINIA RENT AND MORTGAGE RELIEF PROGRAM (RMRP)

The Virginia Rent and Mortgage Relief Program (RMRP) is designed to support and ensure housing stability across the commonwealth during the coronavirus pandemic. Depending on availability of funds and household need, the RMRP may provide financial assistance for rent or mortgage payments for eligible households. This includes financial assistance for rent or mortgage payments past due beginning April 1, 2020 and onward. Financial assistance is a one-time payment with opportunity for renewal based on availability of funding and the household's need for additional assistance and continued eligibility. For more information please visit: Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD): www.dhcd.virginia.gov/rmrp.

SMILE! MESSIAH RECEIVES .5% DONATION WHEN YOU SHOP ON AMAZON!

This holiday season, online holiday shopping is expected to increase over 33% more than last year. More people will be browsing Amazon this year more than ever. With the shopping season among us, the Stewardship team would like to remind everyone to sign up for Amazon Smile! Signing up is easy and does not interfere with Prime Membership benefits. Amazon donates .5% of eligible purchases to the charitable organization of your choice.

Step 1: visit smile.amazon.com

Step 2: sign in with your amazon account credentials

Step 3: Search for "Messiah Lutheran Church Mechanicsville"

Step 4: Start SHOPPING! *please remember to bookmark smile.amazon.com for easy access every time you shop. You must add the "smile" for this program.

Thank you all and happy shopping!