

*Messiah Lutheran Church
Mechanicsville, Virginia*



*January 24, 2021
Third Sunday after Epiphany*

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

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

Third Sunday after Epiphany

(January 24, 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: In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen

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

P: Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

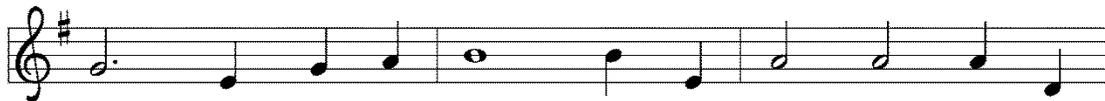
P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN Jesus Calls Us; o'er the Tumult



1 Je - sus calls us; o'er the tu - mult of our
2 As of old Saint An - drew heard it by the
3 Je - sus calls us from the wor - ship of the
4 In our joys and in our sor - rows, days of
5 Je - sus calls us! By your mer - cy, Sav - ior,



life's wild, rest - less sea, day by day his clear voice
Gal - i - le - an lake, turned from home and toil and
vain world's gold - en store, from each i - dol that would
toil and hours of ease, still he calls, in cares and
may we hear your call, give our hearts to your o -



sound - ing, say - ing, "Chris - tian, fol - low me:"
kin - dred, leav - ing all for Je - sus' sake.
keep us, say - ing, "Chris - tian, love me more."
plea - sures, "Chris - tian, love me more than these."
be - dience, serve and love you best of all.

Text: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818–1895
Music: GALILEE, William H. Jude, 1851–1922

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: *Almighty God, by grace alone you call us and accept us in your service.*

Strengthen us by your Spirit, and make us worthy of your call, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

FIRST LESSON: Jonah 3:1-5, 10

Lector

A reading from Jonah.

The book of Jonah is a comedy starring a reluctant prophet who is given a one-sentence message: Nineveh will be destroyed in forty days. Much to Jonah's dismay, the people of Nineveh repent. The point of the story is to get the reader to wrestle with the question "On whom should God have mercy?"

1The word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time, saying, 2“Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you.” 3So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days’ walk across. 4Jonah began to go into the city, going a day’s walk. And he cried out, “Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!” 5And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.

10When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

SECOND LESSON: 1 Corinthians 7:29-31

Lector

A reading from 1 Corinthians.

Paul does not disapprove of marriage or other human social institutions. He does, however, want Christians to live in the present in fervent anticipation of God's future, which even now has dawned through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

29Brothers and sisters, the appointed time has grown short; from now on, let even those who have wives be as though they had none, 30and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no possessions, 31and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: Mark 1:14-20

P: The Holy Gospel according to Mark.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Before Jesus calls his first disciples, he proclaims a message that becomes known as “the gospel” or good news from God. God is ready to rule our lives. Those who realize this will respond with repentance and faith.

14Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, 15and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.”

16As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. 17And Jesus said to them, “Follow me and I will make you fish for people.” 18And immediately they left their nets and followed him. 19As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. 20Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Ryan Radtke

The year was 2009, sometime in the month of June. Just about one year prior to that, our family doubled when we had twins. Life was full with two infants, just starting to walk and talk. And my wife and I were tired, as one might expect. But it wasn't just parenting-tired. In October, when the kids were just four months old, while we were in Florida because Liz's grandmother was very sick, Liz's mother, who had been staying with us in Minnesota, had a stroke. For three months we drove an hour each way, multiple times a week, to the hospital where she was doing rehab work. In January, shortly after moving to a care home closer to us, she suddenly died.

Like I said: we were very tired. Physically, emotionally, mentally, spiritually. All the tireds. And from this state of tiredness we were able, that June, to finally say: let's just go see a movie. This was, perhaps, the first real date night we had had, maybe since the kids were born. So we decided to keep it easy and light, with dinner and a movie. I can't even remember where we ate. But the movie we were going to see was Pixar's Up. A cartoon. Fun and fluffy, right?

Not so much.

If you've never seen Up, I can tell you without too much of a spoiler that within the first ten minutes or so you see the story of Carl and Ellie, a couple who met when they were kids and idolized explorers and dreamed of adventures. Their goal was to someday visit Paradise Falls in South America and make their home there. However, as the montage showed, life didn't present that opportunity. The couple married, found jobs, and were happy. They started saving for their trip. Later they learned that they were not able to have children, and shared that grief together. The trip kept getting postponed as various health issues, unexpected expenses, and the other surprises of life kept cropping up. They grew old together, happy and in love. And then, after a

while, Ellie got sick and died. And Carl was left in their house, alone, surrounded by memories.

We cried. We cried so much during that montage. We weren't ready for it. It was supposed to be a light and fluffy Pixar movie! All the grief and exhaustion we'd been carrying came into direct contact with this loving, poignant, heartbreaking montage. It caught us completely unawares. And we both lost it. Neither of us had tissues with us, in the middle of the movie theater. It was a mess.

I have absolutely no qualms sharing with you that I cry sometimes. It's not embarrassing. It's natural, and healthy, and a release. Sometimes I cry, or at least feel that lump in my throat or that mist in my eyes, when I see or read something moving and sad and beautiful. I cry when I've hurt somebody, when I've made mistakes and see the effects come home to roost. I cry when, like watching the movie *Up* that night, all the ignored or back-burnered or pent-up stress and pain and grief of life overflows and overwhelms and spills out into an emotional avalanche of tears. But I think the times I've wept the hardest, from my gut up and through my eyes, are when I've experienced grace.

It comes when I've really screwed up. When I've hurt someone. When I feel low and ashamed. And then, through that pain, forgiveness comes. Reconciliation, or the beginnings of it. When I am told that I am still loved. And then I weep. Profusely. I've experienced this a few times in my adult life. And it takes my breath away. I can't breathe for the relief. The release of all of that worry and hurt. The gratitude I feel. It's horrible and wonderful, at the same time, like that montage from the beginning of *Up*, but it's not a cartoon, or on a screen. It's me, my life.

Grace should make us feel like that, in some measure. The release from your sins, from the hurt you've caused, the pain you feel, the brokenness in the world. The joy and thanksgiving you feel from freely being loved and forgiven – it should drive you to your knees, maybe to tears, or shouts, or an uplifted face to God who saves us while we are still enemies. Being faced with sin could make you weep tears of shame. But when you are given grace, the gospel, the good news of God through Jesus Christ our Savior, then the tears of shame are chased away by tears of joy. That's the power, the impact, of the good news. That you are loved and forgiven and saved and freed.

I think this is why the disciples drop everything they're doing and follow. Simon and Peter, casting their net, drop it and follow Jesus, immediately, when he calls them. James and John, mending their nets, drop them and leave their own father behind in the boat with the hired men, not the obligated sons, and follow Jesus, immediately, when he calls them. Jesus, the embodiment of the

good news, of the time fulfilled, of the kingdom of God come near, proclaims the gospel and calls followers with this sense of urgency and vitality, because the news is that good.

Paul is preparing the church in Corinth for Jesus to return, to finish what was started in the manger, on the lakeshore, on the cross, and out of the tomb. He says, drop everything you're doing – everything has changed! The present form of this world is passing away, and the appointed time has grown short. The kingdom of God has come near, so near that its grace has touched you, changed you, saved you, forgiven you, loved you, freed you. The news is that good.

Even the prophet Jonah, long before Jesus but whose three days in the great fish would serve as a metaphor for Jesus' time among the dead, sees the impact of God's grace and good news. Jonah, freshly fish-spat, is commissioned by God to go to Nineveh, the great city of fearful enemies, and proclaim a word of judgment. And just one day into his three-day tour of the city, God's Law hits the people first, and they all believe God, and they proclaim a fast, and pass out sackcloth for all, to show their repentance. They turned from their evil ways. And God changed his mind about the calamity. The calamity was cancelled, and they were forgiven, and new life began.

So: what is the good news? What is this urgent and vital message and shockwave from God that impacts people so powerfully? Jesus proclaims the good news wherever he goes, freshly baptism-splashed. What does it mean that the time is fulfilled, that the Kingdom of God has come near, and the calamity is cancelled? It means that God is here, with us. God is near, knowing us. God's Word, the Law and the Gospel, is both demanding and liberating. And the last Word is grace, and that is good news.

"Good news" is how a Greek word gets translated. It's where we get the words evangelism and evangelical, like our denomination, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. But the tendency a lot of Christians have, and especially us Lutherans, when it comes to good-news-ing, to evangelizing, is pretty passive. Not a lot of shockwave. Maybe, if we're lucky, a wave wave. [Wave hi.] Not a lot of urgency, or vitality. More of a Field of Dreams approach: if we build it, or program it, or host it, or advertise it, they will come. They'll come to the event. And maybe they'll keep coming to church. And it'd be nice if they came to faith. But we don't want to pressure anyone, or make them feel uncomfortable.

And that's the rub. We don't want to pressure anyone, or make them uncomfortable, or force someone to faith. That doesn't work. It's not our job to convert folks, it's the Holy Spirit's job to do that. However: the good news is

powerful. It should take your breath away, make you drop what you're doing and follow and want to abide in the nearness of God's grace-filled kingdom, because that's the only thing you ever want to do again. And if we don't experience that, even sometimes, or find ways to demonstrate the power of that love and grace, to invite and model and proclaim, then we're clogging up the process. When was the last time you felt the breathtaking, tears-inducing, thanks-inspiring power and impact and release and liberation of the good news? It's been a while for me. How about you?

Our relay system is broken, folks. I don't think we're conditioned to feel the impact of God's grace, and I don't think we know how to emit it or emote it either. We talk grace, but it's much harder to live grace. It's hard to be surprised by grace, to be caught up by it like it's a fisherman's net. To be fair, it's hard work. There's a reason that a third of Jesus' disciples were fishermen. They're used to hard work and callouses. You have to repent and own up to your sins and mistakes. You have to be open to receiving good news and forgiveness, open enough for tears of joy, open enough to tell your stories, open enough to drop everything and follow when God calls you to. Open enough to develop some grace callouses. And ready to extend grace, too.

How can you live out the good news, God's amazing grace, so that others in your life feel it, too? How do you work for reconciliation? How do you forgive? How do you share your stories, and your tears, and your hopes, and your joys? How do you love others in acts of service so shockingly gracious that they can't help but be overwhelmed by what God is doing in and through you? How do you enact hope to the despairing, light to the darkness, love to the outcast, comfort to the afflicted, holy Jonah-style affliction to the comfortable, forgiveness to the sinner, joy to the apathetic, truth to the insulated, good news to the hurting, and the tired, and the overwhelmed, and everyone who is at their breaking points? How would you live grace to 2009 me and my wife when we were so tired? How would you live grace to us, or to the Carls and Ellies out there, when life's plans change, when grief comes knocking, when you don't know what to do next?

Answering these questions is our holy work, our life of discipleship, together. Trying things and failing sometimes and succeeding sometimes and always, always, always, coming back to Jesus, who calls us, and who proclaims the good news we share in turn, good news of beautiful, moving, breathtaking grace. Thanks be to God, alleluia and amen

HYMN OF THE DAY You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore

Tú has venido a la orilla



1 Tú has ve - ni - do a la o - ri - lla, no has bus -
 1 You have come down to the lake - shore seek - ing
 2 You know full well what I have, Lord: nei - ther
 3 You need my hands, my ex - haus - tion, work - ing
 4 You who have fished oth - er wa - ters; you, the



ca - do ni a sa - bios ni a ri - cos; tan só - lo
 nei - ther the wise nor the wealth - y, but on - ly
 trea - sure nor wea - pons for con - quest, just these my
 love for the rest of the wea - ry— a love that's
 long - ing of souls that are yearn - ing: O lov - ing



quie - res que yo te si - ga.
 ask - ing for me to fol - low.
 fish nets and will for work - ing.
 will - ing to go on lov - ing.
 Friend, you have come to call me.

Refrain / Estribillo



Se - ñor, me has mi - ra - do a los o - jos; son - ri - en - do,
 Sweet Lord, you have looked in - to my eyes; kind - ly smil - ing,



has di - cho mi nom - bre. En la a - re - na he de - ja - do mi
 you've called out my name. . . . On the sand I have a - ban - doned my



bar - ca; jun - to a ti bus - ca - ré o - tro mar.
 small boat; now with you, I will seek oth - er seas.

Text: Cesáreo Gabaráin, 1936-1991; tr. Madeleine Forell Marshall, b. 1946
 Music: PESCADOR DE HOMBRES, Cesáreo Gabaráin

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CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
 born of the virgin Mary,
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,**

**was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS

A: Guided by Christ made known to the nations, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need. *[Brief silence]*

A: For the church throughout the world, for pastors and teachers, for deacons and deaconesses, and for musicians and servers, that all proclaim the good news of God's reconciling love, let us pray.

C: Have mercy, O God.

A: For skies and seas, for birds and fish, for favorable weather and clean water, and for the well-being of creation, that God raise up advocates and scientists to guide our care for all the earth, our home, let us pray.

C: Have mercy, O God.

A: For those who provide leadership in our cities and around the world, for nonprofit and nongovernmental organizations, for planning commissions and homeless advocates, that God inspire all people in the just use of wealth, let us pray.

C: Have mercy, O God.

A: For those who are sick, distressed, or grieving; for the outcast and all who await relief (especially), that in the midst of suffering, God's peace and mercy surround them, let us pray.

C: Have mercy, O God.

A: For our congregation and community, for families big and small, and for the organizations that meet here during the week, that God's steadfast love serve as a model for all relationships, let us pray.

C: Have mercy, O God.

A: In thanksgiving for our ancestors in the faith whose lives serve as an example of gospel living, that they point us to salvation through Christ, let us pray.

C: Have mercy, O God.

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, let us pray.

C: Have mercy, O God.

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 Knepper and Kondaki 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, let us pray.

C: Have mercy, O God.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A: Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who dwells among us, your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior.

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: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

C: Amen

SENDING SONG We Are Marching in the Light of God



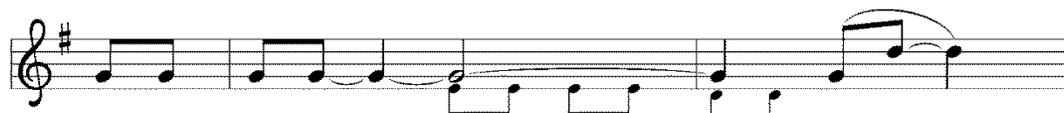
Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos', si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha -
We are march - ing in the light of God, we are march - ing in the



nyen' kwen - khos'. Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos',
light of God. We are march - ing in the light of God,



si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march - ing in the light of God.



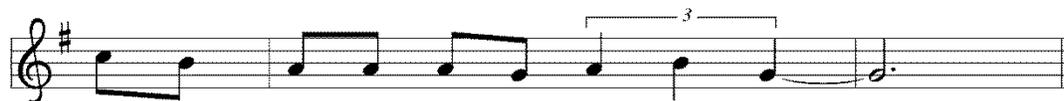
Si - ya - ham - ba (ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba) OO
We are march - ing (march - ing, we are march - ing) OO



si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march - ing in the light of God.



Si - ya - ham - ba (ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba) OO
We are march - ing (march - ing, we are march - ing) OO



si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march - ing in the light of God.

Additional stanzas ad lib.:

We are dancing ...

We are praying ...

We are singing ...

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASTOR RYAN'S OFFICE HOURS

Pastor Ryan's office hours for the week of January 24th are posted below. You can also reach Pastor Ryan via email at messiahmechpr@gmail.com or by phone at 507-360-7276 if you'd like to talk or set up an appointment.

Pastor Ryan hours:

Wednesday-Friday, 10:00 am-3:00 pm

REFLECTIONS ON 2020 FROM BISHOP HUMPHREY

2020 was a year of grief, tumult, and faithfulness. As we begin 2021, Bishop Humphrey reflects on 2020 and offers the "Virginia Synod 2020 Annual Report for Congregations". Please go to the link <https://www.vasynod.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/VA-Synod-2020-Annual-Report-for-Congregations-Jan-2021.pdf> for the report from Bishop Humphrey.

ANNUAL REPORTS MEETING (SUNDAY, JAN. 24, 2021)

Our Annual Reports meeting is set for today, join your brothers and sisters in Christ as we share the story of our past year and look toward a future filled with hope. It is our Annual Reports Meeting. The new council for 2021 will be installed and ministry reports shared.

WEEKLY FINANCIAL UPDATE

Here is this week's information based on our 2021 budget.

- Contributions to general fund averaged \$4,286.71 (up from \$2,742 through January 17, 2021.)
- Donations on Jan. 17 were higher due to several people making a one time donation with their RMD monies.
- We are +\$887.13 ahead of the year-to-date budget needs (change from -\$2,498.87 the week prior).
- Weekly budget need is \$3991.

HELP SECURE MESSIAH

Please make sure that all doors are locked and securely latched when leaving the building. There has been a recent instance where the narthex doors were left unlocked overnight. This is different from being locked and not latched. Please help Council ensure that all are safe when entering the building!

2020 STATE TAX STATEMENTS & 2021 OFFERING ENVELOPES

Tax statements for 2020 and envelopes for 2021 are ready and in the Narthex. 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 one

CAROLINE FURNACE FUN!

Winter Camp at Home has begun! Sign up at <https://carolinefurnace.campbrainregistration.com> and pay \$20 for three months, with weekly Zoom sessions from 4:30 to 6pm.

Open to Grades K-12, with sub-groups for Elementary and Middle/High. Come spend time with your favorite camp counselors each week, building community, participating in group discussions, and having fun with games and activities together!

Go to <https://www.facebook.com/events/216790710084695/> for more information.

POWER IN THE SPIRIT

Register today to join the first-ever *Midwinter Power in the Spirit Online Event* that will be held beginning, Sunday, January 31 to Thursday, February 4, 2021. The most recent summer event was forced to go online, and those who attended enjoyed the experience! So, how about gathering for prayer, study, worship, and conversation during some of the coldest days of the year. This winter's theme will center on the illuminating festival of Candlemas and our keynote presenter will be The Rev. Dr. Dave Delaney, Director for Youth and Young Adult Ministries of the Virginia Synod. Go to <https://www.vasynod.org/power-in-the-spirit/> for more information as well as the registration form.

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!

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.

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!**

Even though the most recent holiday shopping season is behind us, the Stewardship team would like to remind everyone to sign up and use 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!



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e-mail: MessiahMech@gmail.com**

The Rev. Ryan Radtke, Pastor

2021 CHURCH COUNCIL OFFICERS

President	James Anderson
Vice President	Donna Shaw
Secretary	Karen Morris
Treasurer	Shawn Warmbrod
Financial Secretary	Bill Weaver
Parish Nurse	Sue Gilnett, RN

2021 CHURCH COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES/LIAISONS

Christian Formation	Anita Philp
Evangelism	Donna Shaw
Fellowship	Karen Morris
Finance	James Anderson
Property	Roger Schroeder
Social Ministry	Dianne Absher
Stewardship	Diana Sondor
Worship	Debbie Walker

Messiah's Mission Statement:

"To share the good news of Jesus Christ and to invite all to join us in faith, worship, and service."