

The Messenger

August 2022



MESSIAH
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Our Vision: To forever change lives through the Gospel of Jesus by becoming an equipping, empowering, and mobilizing church in our community that displays the love of Christ and connects with people of all walks of life through worship, communion, service, fellowship, and compassion, led by the Holy Spirit and focused on the Great Commission (Mt 28.18-20).

Messiah Lutheran Church

7211 Stellhorn Road, Fort Wayne, IN 46815
www.messiahlc.com (260) 485-8716

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Our Mission

To help people grow a faith in Jesus Christ that works in real life.

Our Vision

To forever change lives through the Gospel of Jesus by becoming an equipping, empowering, and mobilizing church in our community that displays the love of Christ and connects with people of all walks of life through worship, communion, service, fellowship, and compassion, led by the Holy Spirit and focused on the Great Commission (Mt 28.18-20).

Our Values for Ministry

- To lift high in prayer the name of Jesus Christ in all we say and do;
- to enable all persons to experience a worshipful relationship with Jesus Christ;
- to nurture and empower all persons to be disciples through a small group centered ministry that includes learning, service, fellowship, and spiritual growth;
- to help every Christian discover her/his spiritual gifts for ministry;
- to assist in the care of a hurting world.

CONGREGATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, Aug. 7: 9th Sunday after Pentecost, Backpack Blessings

9:00 AM – Tony Hickman Memorial Chapel w/Communion

10:30 AM In-person & Live Stream with Communion

Sunday, Aug. 14: 10th Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 AM – Tony Hickman Memorial Chapel w/Communion

10:30 AM In-person & Live Stream with Communion

Sunday, Aug. 21: 11th Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 AM – Tony Hickman Memorial Chapel w/Communion

10:30 AM In-person & Live Stream with Communion

Saturday, Aug. 27: Messiah Day of Service

Sunday, Aug. 28: 12th Sunday after Pentecost

9:00 AM – Tony Hickman Memorial Chapel w/Communion

10:30 AM In-person & Live Stream with Communion

Sunday, Sept. 4: 13th Sunday after Pentecost, Labor Day Weekend

9:00 AM – Tony Hickman Memorial Chapel w/Communion

10:30 AM In-person & Live Stream with Communion



Pr Tim Updates

BUILDING NEWS:

Have you passed by Messiah recently? Did you notice anything different? Exterior painting is moving along quickly and should be completed by the time you read this!

Believe it or not, we are counting down the final weeks of our building project! The projected finish date is Nov. 4th, 2022. We have scheduled Rev. Dr. William Gafkjen, Bishop of the Indiana-Kentucky Synod, ELCA, to preach at the Project Dedication Celebration on Nov. 20th, 2022. On that day, we will have one service at 10 AM, followed by a luncheon and our annual meeting. How exciting!

Phase 2 (the east education wing) is finishing along very nicely. New cribs are set up in the infant room. Enrollment is already full AND we have a waitlist. In fact, when it posted on Facebook, we received 6 inquiries within 5 minutes! The washer and dryer have been installed. We are still awaiting some new equipment, but everything needed has been ordered so that rooms will be operational by August 1. We are waiting for just one final inspection from the Indiana State Early Childhood Department.

Phase 3 (the office, family restroom, library, and kitchen) is wrapping up with pending final inspections and finishing touches like ceiling installation. A new family restroom has been created as well. Painting is complete, carpeting and lighting are installed, and furniture has been moved in. Once the final inspections are passed, the staff can return to the office and get reacquainted with the new layout. Please stop by and walk through our newly renovated offices.

Phase 4, the Satre Hall Gymnasium and the main bathrooms, will be renovated during August. In addition to new lighting, the gym will receive a new ceiling, new painting, and a new floor. The ceiling replacement is an add-on because the damage was worse than initially assessed. The main bathrooms will also receive complete makeovers!

Phase 5 will begin in September and witness the total makeover of the sanctuary. First, this means we will be moving the 10:30 AM service and other sanctuary worship into the gym. The 9:00 AM outdoor service is slated to run through September and then will move into the gym in October as well.

What does the renovation of the sanctuary include?

A new chancel platform that will extend from wall to wall, south to north. On the northside, an accessible ramp will be installed.

New carpeting and seating will be installed.

New wood trim features will expand across the chancel wall (below the stained glass). This wood will also cover the pillars on the side walls. Openings on each side of the pillars will be created to allow for daylight from the windows.

New house lighting and controls, as well as special lighting that surrounds the hanging cross.

The exterior scope will require some finishing touches as well. The gutters have been on backorder and hopefully will be installed soon. Landscaping around the entire building is planned for August/September. Parking lot repairs will be the last project to happen as we wait for the use of all big equipment to cease. It's possible that timing-wise the parking lot could happen in the spring of 2023.

Finally, our building fund total is at just over \$1.3 million. Remember, this includes a \$300k grant from The Lutheran Foundation Donation. We have collected nearly \$750k of our \$944k pledges. So, we have only \$194k remaining in pledges to receive with over 16 months to go! Thank you for your continued prayers, your ongoing financial commitments, and most importantly, your response to the crucified and risen Christ for the sake of the world.

These are exciting times for Messiah Lutheran Church. We have much to be thankful for and look forward to. Thanks be to God!

In Christ's love,

Pr. Tim Graham



Our Father's World

This is my Father's world;
the birds their carols raise;
the morning light, the lily white,
declare their maker's praise.
This is my Father's world;
he shines in all that's fair.
In the rustling grass I hear him pass;
he speaks to me everywhere.

This is the second verse of a hymn I learned in children's choir when I was still in elementary school. I loved it then, and I love it now. It reminds me that God is present in the natural world, and sometimes it is easier to hear God speaking there than in our over-crowded daily lives.

If this is your experience, let me remind you that our early service (9:00 a.m.) on Sunday is held outdoors in the Tony Hickman Memorial Chapel on the west side of the building. Bring a lawn chair, relax, enjoy nature's beauty, and take part in a simple but meaningful service. If you prefer a later service (or bug-free indoor worship), we offer a praise service at 10:30. Both services are informal. Hope to see you there!

Soli Deo gloria—All glory be to God!

For Messiah's Worship and Music Ministry,

Stan Engle

GROWTH & LEARNING

Messiah Youth Ministry

Watch emails and Messenger for student ministry information. If you know a student that would like to participate in EDGE, CIA, or PULSE, please let Heidi Kissner know, heidijokissner@gmail.com. Weekly correspondence throughout the year is done through emails also.

EDGE

EDGE is our youth group for those students entering 5th and 6th grades in Fall of 2022. EDGE is still part of our Journey (children's Sunday School program) and will have their own Bible study on Sundays, during the second service, at 10:30. We also will meet at the Youth House various Sundays after the 10:30 service beginning in September. Watch emails for schedules!

CIA

CIA is our youth group for those middle school students entering grades 7th and 8th in Fall of 2022. After Labor Day, Confirmation classes will start. Watch emails for more information on Confirmation classes. We also will meet at the Youth House various Sundays after the 10:30 service.

PULSE

PULSE is our youth group for those entering grades 9-12 in Fall of 2022. We meet on Sundays 4:30-6:00 PM at the Youth House, beginning after Labor Day.

College Care Ministry

The College Care Ministry is a kind of an adoption program at Messiah for students going off to college. Adults and families at Messiah "adopt" a student help to maintain correspondence, encouragement, and relationships during the year.

If you have a student that will be entering college in the fall, or is going back to school, and you would like to have them involved please forward their name and any contact information available to Dave Beard, dbeard2216@gmail.com.

GROWTH & LEARNING (*cont*)

Make Waves Vacation Bible School Recap

Thanks to all who helped, supported, participated, and prayed for our Make Waves Vacation Bible School this year! We touched 31 families and 58 children and raised money for the Ronald McDonald House Comfort Cart & Pantry for the RMH families. We also gathered a whole bunch of gently used school shoes for Changing Footprints. We had a great week discovering that Jesus' love provides a foundation that lasts. We learned how to be wise builders who continue in what we learned and firmly believe, knowing that He who began a good work in us will be faithful to carry it on to completion! We are looking forward to another fun week of VBS in 2023!

We had a great week as we learned that what we do today can change the world around us. And when we put your trust in Jesus, we can "make waves" because of His Spirit living inside us.

Journey (Sunday School)

Messiah's Journey program (Sunday School) will start back up Sunday, September 11! Journey is for kids ages 3 through 4th grade and we meet during the 10:30 worship hour.

Journey Teachers

Please watch your emails for Fall calendar dates, meeting information and curriculum information! Journey (Sunday School) will begin on Rally Day, Sunday, September 11!

Confirmation Save the Date!

Mark your calendars as we will be celebrating our 2022 Confirmands on Sunday, September 25, at the 10:30 service.

GROWTH & LEARNING (*cont*)

Youth Events in August

EDGE

EDGE students (entering grades 5 and 6, 2022-2023 school year) will be meeting at the Youth House Sunday, August 28, from 12:00-2:00 PM for a cookout and hangout! We'll provide the chips, drinks, burgers, and dogs!

EDGE Bible study will be meeting on Sundays, beginning September 11, during the 10:30 worship hour.

CIA

CIA students (entering grades 7 and 8, 2022-2023 school year) will be meeting at the Youth House Saturday, August 27, from 6:00-8:00 PM for a cookout and hangout! We'll provide the chips, drinks, burgers, and dogs!

PULSE

PULSE students (entering grades 9-12, 2022-2023 school year) will be meeting at the Youth House Sunday, August 28, from 6:00-8:00 PM for a cookout and hangout! We'll provide the chips, drinks, burgers, and dogs!

Messiah Bible Studies

Most of our Bible studies will resume in August. Please see the schedule below.

Tuesday Quest at 9 AM – Summer Break until August 9, 2022

Wednesday at 10 AM – Summer Break until August 10, 2022

Thursday at 10 AM – Summer Break until September 8, 2022

Thursday Good News Study Group at 6:30 PM – Summer break until August 11, 2022

NO EXPERIENCE OR PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE NECESSARY! If you have an interest in deepening your faith and learning more about the Bible, please prayerfully consider joining us. Please send an email to pastortim.messiah@gmail.com.

CARE & NURTURE



Protect *your* Eyes!

Normally we talk about eye health in a winter month that is devoted to that subject but it is important to re-view this information during the sunny summer months when we are all spending a lot of time outside.

Ultraviolet rays, classified as UVA and UVB, not only wrinkle our skin, but can cause damage the surface of our eyes as well as the cornea and lens. The sun can accelerate the formation of cataracts and pterygium (a non-cancerous growth over the cornea) and skin cancer of the eyelids. Our eyes can even get sunburned.

There is a lot we can do to keep our eyes healthy and protect our vision in the summer.

Wear sunglasses that are marked as 100% UV protection (even on cloudy days) and add a wide-brimmed hat for extra protection especially when around water, sand, or other highly reflective surfaces. Wearing swim goggles in the pool and splashing your eyes with fresh water immediately after getting out of the pool can help the tear film that keeps our eyes moist and healthy. Always wear protective and proper eye wear when mowing the lawn, trimming weeds, or playing baseball. Don't be an eye injury statistic!

If you smoke – summer is a good time to quit! Cigarette smoke, even secondhand, is a risk for many eye diseases including cataracts, macular degeneration, and more.

As always, staying hydrated and eating healthy food can help to protect your eyes from damage and degeneration. And since 80% of eye damage can occur before age 18, protect your children's eyes as well with sunglasses and hats.

So—get out there and enjoy the sunny days of summer while protecting your precious eyes, maybe from under a tree or patio umbrella.

Messiah Parish Nurses

Personal Training/Nutrition Coaching

Are you interested in becoming the healthiest version of yourself so that you can better live out God's will for your life? In America today, all sorts of diseases and illnesses are on the rise that are a direct result of unhealthy lifestyle choices. Americans today are eating more and more unhealthy foods all the while doing less and less exercise. It is difficult to even know where to begin for most of us. Which gym should I go to? What type of training should I do? What's better, resistance training or cardio? These are the sorts of difficult questions people have which usually lead them to feeling overwhelmed and as a result never starting their health journey at all. I am here to help you with all of that. My name is Taylor Pufahl and I am a certified personal trainer in Fort Wayne. I have been helping other Fort Wayne natives become the strongest and healthiest versions of themselves for the last four years. I work with all types and ages of people, from young people aspiring to be better athletes to retirees who want to maintain and improve their health and longevity far into the future. Getting serious about your health is one of the most important things you can do not only for yourself but for those loved ones around you. Going to the gym does not have to be an intimidating and overwhelming endeavor. Let me, a fellow brother in Christ, come along side of you to help make this process easier and help you get started on your health journey today. It is never too early or too late to get started. You can contact me via phone/text (260-750-2736) or by email at taylorpufahl@yahoo.com.

Woman to Woman

August 2022

I am thankful, loving Father,

1. for building us up to serve you and our world through Jesus' name. 25¢
2. for never ceasing to call us to draw closer to you. 10¢
3. for patience and wisdom to love all your children. 5¢
4. for the rain that falls and nurtures our land. 10¢
5. for satisfying my deepest hunger. 20¢
6. for your presence and your blessings in our lives. 5¢
7. for being gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. 10¢
8. for hearing prayers anywhere we utter them. 5¢
9. for your Son who taught what being a servant means. 20¢
10. for compassion and forgiveness when I face difficult decisions. 10¢
11. for creating within each person her own unique gift to share. 5¢
12. for the stories of faithful people throughout the Bible. 10¢
13. for our children as they begin another school year. May we nurture them in their search for knowledge and help them turn to God for love and guidance. 25¢
14. for being part of the Body of Christ which plants seeds of faith. 15¢
15. for forgiveness and restoration. 20¢
16. for loving the unlovable. 5¢
17. for the salvation that you grant us believers. 15¢
18. for teaching us how to pray and for answering our prayers. 10¢
19. for granting us faith to turn to you in times of despair. 20¢
20. for calling us back to faith when we go astray. 10¢
21. for the hymns of praise written in the Psalms. 20¢
22. for calling me to be your disciple. 10¢
23. for Pastor Tim and our church staff who help us in our faith journey of Christ. 25¢
24. for using me to build up your church. 15¢
25. for inspiring me when I read your word. 10¢
26. for all those who are sick in mind or body and need your love and healing power. 25¢
27. for giving us our abundances in life; may we offer thanks always. 10¢
28. for providing strength and courage in times of trial. 5¢
29. for helping me to trust in you more fully each day. 15¢
30. for helping us find you in the goodness and graces of this life. 25¢
31. for showing me your holiness amidst the world's brokenness. 10¢

Please bring or send offering to church on last Sunday of month — August 28

Thank you to all for your contributions to Woman to Woman fund.

OUTREACH & IN TOUCH

Food Bank Outreach

Thank you for your continued support of Maplewood Mennonite, Faith, and Purdue Fort Wayne Food Pantries. Items needed for this month are toilet paper, laundry soap, dish soap, peanut butter, jelly, toothpaste, rice, and oatmeal.

Day of Service

Saturday, August 27th at 9:00 AM we will meet at church. There are projects around church and in the community. Please let me know if you can lead a project or help on one. daveb@messiahlc.com or 260-760-6878.

Arlington Elementary School Supplies

Messiah continues to help the kids at Arlington Elementary School. In the months of July and August, a designated collection box will be in the vestibule for all donated items. Thank you for supporting our partnership with Arlington! Needed supplies are:

3-ring binders	colored pencils	white school glue
2-pocket folders	erasers	12" rulers
wide-ruled notebook paper	crayons	hand sanitizer
composition books	washable colored markers	disinfectant wipes
pencil boxes/pouches	dry erase markers	kleenex
#2 pencils	glue sticks	backpacks

OPERATIONS

Lawn Mowing Help Needed

Are you willing to help mow the church lawn? The more volunteers we have the fewer times any one person must mow. Please contact the church office at 260-485-8716 if you are willing to be added to the rotation!

Church Staff Email Addresses

Pastor Tim Graham: pastortim@messiahlc.com

Executive Administrator Cory Dold: cory@messiahlc.com

Director of Music Stan Engle: stan@messiahlc.com

Children, Youth, and Family Ministries Heidi Kissner: heidi@messiahlc.com

Director, Outreach Ministry Dave Beard: daveb@messiahlc.com

Director, ChildCare & Preschool Portia Howard: portia@messiahlc.com

Facilities Director Denise Gibbons: denise@messiahlc.com

Technical Director Josh Gumbert: josh@messiahlc.com

Office Administrator Karla Myers: karla@messiahlc.com

Newsletter Editor: editor@messiahlc.com

Messiah Lutheran Church Vision Statement

Our Vision: To forever change lives through the Gospel of Jesus by becoming an equipping, empowering, and mobilizing church in our community that displays the love of Christ and connects with people of all walks of life through worship, communion, service, fellowship, and compassion, led by the Holy Spirit and focused on the Great Commission (Mt 28.18-20).

Our vision includes a 3-5-year focus on...

MEAM – Messiah Emerging Adult Ministry (ages 20-30)

We desire to broaden our scope of ministry to meet the practical spiritual needs of single, young adults.

Messiah Lutheran Church will commit resources to expand hospitality and engagement to emerging adults.

In the next year, we will develop a social media ministry to engage young adults in meaningful issues of faith and life. We will also create a physical space on our premises that will foster hospitable and authentic conversations.

Families with Young Children

Messiah Lutheran Church desires to partner in worship and ministry with families with young children. Through our preschool and childcare ministry (Preschool/Childcare), we can meet the needs of this group, which comprises a large portion of the community surrounding the church. It is of utmost importance to connect with these families because youth are the lifeblood and future of our church.

We will build and strengthen our relationships to families with young children through the Preschool/Childcare ministry.

In the next five years, we dream of growing church membership within the Preschool/Childcare program from 10% to 60%. Furthermore, we desire to increase attendance and inclusion of the congregation at Preschool/Childcare events and Preschool/Childcare families at congregational events.

Forever Young

Messiah Lutheran Church is called by God to reach Empty Nesters, both those nearing retirement and those already retired, with the Good News of abundant life through Jesus Christ. The skills and experiences of these adults are a rich resource for our community.

We will offer them new opportunities for worship, for fellowship among themselves and within our congregation, seminars and personal services to maintain and improve their quality of life, and avenues for them to be of service to the community.

In each of the next 5 years, we will offer 4-6 meaningful outreach activities for personal growth, fellowship, and service.



Messiah Lutheran Church
7211 Stellhorn Road
Fort Wayne, IN 46815-5551

Place mailing label here

Ministers

The People of Messiah

Senior Pastor

Timothy Graham, M. Div.

Pastor Emeritus

Carl H. Satre, D.D.

*

Sunday Services

9:00 AM

outdoor in the

Tony Hickman Memorial Chapel

10:30 AM

In person and online