

# The Messenger

*June 2023*



**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, June 4: Holy Trinity Sunday**

9:00 AM – Outdoor at Hickman Chapel w/Communion

10:30 AM – Contemporary w/Communion

## **Monday, 6/5-Friday, 6/9, 6:00-8:00 PM – VBS “Twist & Turn”**

## **Sunday, June 11: 2nd Sunday after Pentecost**

9:00 AM – Outdoor at Hickman Chapel w/Communion

10:30 AM – Contemporary w/Communion

## **Sunday, June 18: 3rd Sunday after Pentecost, Father’s Day**

9:00 AM — Outdoor at Hickman Chapel w/Communion

10:30 AM – Contemporary w/Communion

## **\*\*\*Thursday, June 22, 7:00 PM, Xperience Concert\*\*\***

A special concert provided by a youth group from Christ Lutheran Church, Charlotte, NC. Please check out this link to learn more: [https://](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a-islyN5_iw)

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=a-islyN5\\_iw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a-islyN5_iw)

## **Sunday, June 25: 4th Sunday after Pentecost**

9:00 AM – Outdoor at Hickman Chapel w/Communion

10:30 AM – Contemporary w/Communion

## **Sunday, July 2: 5th Sunday after Pentecost**

9:00 AM – Outdoor at Hickman Chapel w/Communion

10:30 AM – Contemporary w/Communion



## Pr. Tim's News

### COMMUNICATION NEWS

Maybe you've already received an email, or not just yet. However, we are making information more readily accessible through emails and texts. Some might say we're moving into the 21<sup>st</sup> century! The emails and texts we intend to send will alert you to pertinent Messiah information and updates.

Texts – you must opt-in to receive texts from Messiah. You'll receive an email that allows you to opt-in. Click opt-in, enter your cell phone number, and submit. Easy-peasy!

We are all reliant on our cell phones to some degree. This is a great (and easy) way to stay connected to Messiah! Please make sure our office has an updated email address so that we can include you in these communication updates!

Also, there are printed copies of the MESSENGER NEWSLETTER available at the information center in the Lobby/Narthex (Most people don't know what Narthex is or means. The original meaning of a Christian church **narthex** is a porch on the west end of a church just outside the nave). Anyways, if you would like a printed copy of the newsletter, they are available for you to pick one up.

### STEWARDSHIP ENCOURAGEMENT

Summer is as busy or busier than any other time of the year. Vacations, family reunions, lakes, and various events and festivals fill our schedules quickly. And these things can take away us away from our regular church attendance.

Well, ministry at Messiah doesn't stop or slow down for the summer either. Likewise, Messiah's bills don't stop, just like they don't stop at your house, even though it's summertime!

Please remember Messiah in this way! We offer secure, online giving through our website so that even when we're away, we can still maintain our financial commitment to God. Please contact the church office if you have any questions about or need assistance to navigate online giving.

## **WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

Outdoor Worship begins Sunday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023, and it ends Sunday, August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Here is our summer worship schedule:

9:00 AM, Tony Hickman Chapel (Outside), with Communion (bring your own lawn chair). Should weather cause a nuisance, we will move indoors.

10:30 AM, In-person & Livestream, with Communion

So, get those lawn chairs ready! Looking forward to worshipping in the beautiful outdoor space God has given Messiah Lutheran Church.

## **BUILDING NEWS**

We are working to get the parking lot repairs scheduled as soon as possible. It's certainly the busy season, especially for road and parking lot crews, so patience remains necessary.

Some people have asked if the entire parking lot is being "re-paved." The answer is no. There will be portions where replacement will happen, but most of our lot only needs minor repair. The entire lot will be relined. There will also be some sidewalk and curb repairs made, specifically by the handicap accessible areas.

## **CALLING AN ASSOCIATE PASTOR**

The Call Team has scheduled an in-person interview with a candidate in early June. If the Call Team feels the candidate is a good match for Messiah, they will forward the name to Messiah's Board of Directors. And vice-versa, if the team feels otherwise, the call team will start over and await new candidates.

In addition, we received news from the IK Synod that two more potential candidates have expressed interest in Messiah's Associate Pastor role. So, overall, the Call Team is feeling very optimistic about what the future holds as we prayerfully continue our process of calling an associate pastor. Again, please remain prayerful for the Holy Spirit to strengthen and guide the discernment of our call team!

May God's Spirit guide Messiah Lutheran Church as we look to share the love of Christ with our community and the world.

In Christ's love, Pr. Tim Graham



## Getting into the Summer Groove

Memorial Day—the unofficial beginning of summer—is already past, and we are all in summer mode. Here at Messiah we, too, are in summer mode: our ministry continues, but the mood is a bit more relaxed. We hope you have a relaxing summer, but don't forget to make church a part of it!

Outdoor summer worship. From now through Labor Day our 9:00 a.m. worship will be held in the Tony Hickman Memorial Chapel on the west end of the church property. The service is informal and the surroundings are beautiful. Song birds provide the choral music, and our air conditioning is supplied by whatever breezes may pop up. Remember to bring your lawn chairs. In case of inclement weather we will worship indoors.

Thank you! The Sanctuary Choir and Messiah Ringers have concluded their season. In spite of small numbers they have produced beautiful music for our worship, and I am extremely grateful to them. I hope you are too, so please thank the individual members when you see them and let them know how much their music has touched your hearts. And don't forget to thank the wonderful musicians who grace our praise service. While they sing for God's glory, a few human words of gratitude are greatly appreciated.

*Soli Deo gloria*—All glory be to God!

For Messiah's Worship and Music Ministry,

*Stan Engle*

# GROWTH & LEARNING

## Sunday School in June

Last month we finished up our Journey Sunday School hour for the season. Journey Sunday School will not be meeting in person during the summer, but we will be back in person in September after Labor Day! Woohooo!

## Confirmation Camp

Our Confirmation students will be heading to Camp Lutherwald Sunday, June 11, and will come home Friday, June 16. Join us on Sunday, June 11, as we send our Confirmation campers off with a sending blessing. Your prayers for the campers, their families, and all the counselors at Lutherwald are very much appreciated!

## Messiah Youth Ministry at a Glance

Messiah's Student Ministries will be taking a summer break and will not be meeting regularly throughout the summer. We will have some events planned throughout the summer. Please watch emails and Messenger for updated student ministry information. If you know a student that would like to participate in EDGE, CIA, or PULSE, please let Heidi know, [heidi@messiahlc.com](mailto:heidi@messiahlc.com). Weekly correspondence throughout the year is done through emails also. If you are not receiving EDGE, CIA, or PULSE emails and would like to, please email Heidi, [heidi@messiahlc.com](mailto:heidi@messiahlc.com), so we can get you on the mailing list!

## SAVE THE DATE!! ELCA Youth Gathering 2024

We will be taking a group to the ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans July 16-20, 2024!! The ELCA Youth Gathering is a week-long experience where ELCA youth from all over the United States gather for worship, workshops and community service. More details coming!

## GROWTH & LEARNING *(cont)*



### Twists & Turns VBS 2023

Join us Monday, June 5, through Friday, June 9, for Messiah's Twists & Turns VBS, for children 3 years – 5<sup>th</sup> grade (Fall 2023).

Spin the spinner, beat the clock, skip ahead, level up, and play to win! You'll need to bring your A-game for this VBS. Twists & Turns is a fantastical celebration of games of all kinds. From classic tabletop games to video games and more, kids will play their way through VBS while learning that Jesus guides them through all the twists and turns of their lives. They'll find that even when they mess up it's never "game over."

You will register as a family, but make sure to include each child individually so we can make sure that each child participating will have their own supplies and packet at registration!

PREREGISTRATION IS REQUIRED. There is a registration fee of \$10 per child. Registration includes a music CD, snacks, VBS t-shirt (while supplies last) and all activities for the week. If the cost is difficult for your family, please email Heidi at [heidi@messiahlc.com](mailto:heidi@messiahlc.com) to ask about VBS scholarships for families.



Interested in volunteering? Please email Heidi, [heidi@messiahlc.com.com](mailto:heidi@messiahlc.com.com).

**VBS Registration Link:** <https://forms.gle/AbsSTUWHZ1qsRvvT8>

Or you can use the QR code below:



## **VBS Workdays**

Thursday, June 1- TBD

Friday, June 2 - TBD

Saturday, June 3 - TBD

Sunday, June 4 - 3:00 PM

## **VBS Volunteers**

If you're going to be in 6<sup>th</sup> Grade or older in Fall of 2023, we'd love to have you as a volunteer for this summer's VBS! There are many ways to volunteer – you can help with registration, lead an activity, or a group of children. If you and/or your student is interested in helping, please contact Heidi, [heidi@messiahlc.com](mailto:heidi@messiahlc.com).

## GROWTH & LEARNING *(cont)*

### Messiah Adult Bible Studies

Bible studies will take a break for summer in June and July and will then resume in August. However, this is what the schedule usually looks like. We hope you can find a group that will interest you as well as fit your schedule. If schedule is an issue, please contact Pr. Tim to discuss any possible alternative interest opportunities.

**Tuesday Quest, at 9 AM:** Traditionally, we have studied the Lectionary text, that is, the Bible passages selected for the upcoming Sunday. However, we entertain an occasional book study from time to time.

**Wednesday at 10 AM:** This lively group began as a Zoom group during Covid and then decided to continue meeting in person after Covid restrictions. Typically, this group studies books of the Bible or biblical topics. Recently, we've been reviewing recent sermons.

**Thursday at 10 AM:** Another active group that was initiated during Covid and continued afterward. This group encounters a mixture of Bible studies and book studies.

**Thursday Good News Study Group at 6:30 PM:** The DNA of this group is focused on in-depth Bible study, engaging biblical texts as thoroughly as possible.

NO EXPERIENCE OR PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE NECESSARY! If you have an interest in deepening your faith and understanding with the others seeking the same, please prayerfully consider joining us. Please send an email to [pastortim@messiahlc.com](mailto:pastortim@messiahlc.com).

### BOOK OF LIFE

#### Marriage

Sara Gibbons and Gunner Brown, May 13

#### Baptism

Kennedy Paige Hormann, May 21

#### Death

Helen Jean Jinks, May 9

## Woman to Woman

June 2023

*I am thankful, loving Father,*

1. for this beautiful day. Help me to use it to your glory. 20¢
2. for the music we sing in praise of our Lord. 25¢
3. for the healing spirit of Jesus in our lives. Please heal and comfort those in need. 25¢
4. for all the blessings you bestow on us. 10¢
5. for peace around the world today, Lord. Help us strive to achieve this. 20¢
6. that I know you and I pray for those who don't. 5¢
7. for giving me such a wonderful family of faith in Christ. 25¢
8. for caregivers of disabled people. Grant them love and peace through Christ. 10¢
9. for opening my eyes to see you in the unexpected events this day. 10¢
10. for our ministry to our children. May we help them come to know Jesus' love. 5¢
11. for our graduating seniors. Help them to continue to use their education and talents for the glory of God. 25¢
12. for the sun which helps plants to grow to feed us. 5¢
13. for the stars that show your magnitude. 10¢
14. for the flags that fly today reminding us of the freedom and liberty we have to worship Christ each day. \$1.00
15. for the gift of prayer. May we use it and I pray I use it wisely. 10¢
16. for uniting us as followers as one through your saving work of the cross. 5¢
17. for the light of God's glory, Jesus Christ, which gives us hope for the future. 10¢
18. for our earthly fathers, both living and in memory, and our one true Father, God Almighty. \$1.00
19. for my talents. Do I use them to glorify you? 10¢
20. for your command to us to love and pray for our enemies. May we follow that command. 10¢
21. for your strength and love in times of despair and fear, fill me with your peace. 10¢
22. that you start me out with a clean slate each day. Help me to remember that when relating to others. 20¢
23. for your acceptance of us and the love you give. 5¢
24. that your words may continue to guide and inspire me. 10¢
25. for the men and women in our armed forces throughout the world. Grant them love and protection from harm. 25¢
26. for the beauty around me. Help me to see God's creation. 5¢
27. for your holy book, the Bible. Help me to listen and hear the holy words. 10¢
28. for making us your witnesses to everyone whom we minister. 20¢
29. for challenging us to believe you can change everything, even when we don't feel free. 25¢
30. for your constant presence in our times of trial. 50¢

*Please bring or send donations on June 25. Thank you to all donors who contribute to the Woman to Woman fund. Your gifts are much appreciated by those in need.*

## CARE & NURTURE

### Dehydration

Dehydration is a concern as we enter the summer months. With global warming, we are told that we can expect more days at higher temperatures – like the 90s. We need to be diligent with our intake of fluids. We many times enjoy caffeinated beverages at our get togethers ( iced tea, iced coffee and pop). You need to include water as well – more than just the ice in those beverages. Flavored water is fine, if helps you drink more fluids; just watch your labels to ensure it does not also contain caffeine. With activities (sports, yard work, walks or hikes) and heat our bodies can be depleted of fluids it needs to function. Thirst if not always an indicator of your body’s need for water. Some individuals do not become thirsty until they are already dehydrated. The elderly are especially at risk due to a lower volume of fluid in their bodies, plus they may be taking medications like diuretics (water pills) that deplete their system further.

If you find yourself not feeling well, you need to get out of the sun. Seek shade or go indoors where there is a fan or air conditioning to cool your body temperature down. Start sipping some water as you rest. If you do not start feeling better or your symptoms worsen – seek help. Signs of dehydration can include dry mouth, cannot form tears, you stop sweating, develop muscle cramps, nausea and vomiting, fatigue, heart palpitation, and lightheadedness.

For many of us the cold weather seemed to last a long time, and with the warm temperatures we long to be outdoors. Enjoy the outdoors, but be safe. There are plenty of snazzy, colorful water bottles to take along on your outdoor adventures – mine is blue. What color is yours?

Parish Health Team

## OUTREACH & IN TOUCH

### Food Bank Outreach

Thank you for your continued support of Maplewood Mennonite, Purdue Fort Wayne, and Faith & Light Food Pantries. Items needed for June are pancake mix, syrup, cereal, canned meats, boxed dinners, pasta sauce, and dry beans.

## OPERATIONS

### Outdoor Work Day

Join us on Saturday, June 3, at 9:00 AM for an outdoor work day! Bring gloves, rakes, and any yard tools you can think of. Contact Denise (260-485-8716 or [denise@messiahlc.com](mailto:denise@messiahlc.com)) for more info or if you can help. Many hands make lighter work!



### Kroger Rewards

Please support Messiah Lutheran Childcare & Preschool while you shop at Kroger. Whether you're picking up a gallon of milk or need a whole week's worth of groceries, you can take advantage of the Kroger Community Rewards program and help our Childcare & Preschool ministry while you shop. Kroger rewards our Childcare & Preschool with a quarterly donation when our supporters select us as their charity of choice and use their Kroger Plus Card to shop.

Here's how to get started: Go to <https://www.kroger.com/communityrewards>. Click on Create an Account (If you already have a Kroger Plus card but are not an online customer) or click on Sign in (if you are an online customer already and want to designate Messiah Lutheran Childcare & Preschool as your charity of choice). Our organization number is VU077. Thank you for your support! Please pass this information along and encourage your family and friends to enroll as well!

## **OPERATIONS (cont)**

### **Have you considered planned giving?**

If you would like to make a lasting impact on the ministries here at Messiah Lutheran Church, and the future generations of disciples, a gift made in your estate plan could be the perfect option for you. This type of charitable gift arrangement allows you to make a gift now or after your lifetime while providing financial benefits for yourself and your loved ones.

### **Thrivent Action Teams**

Thrivent Financial Group allows benefit members to lead two Action Teams per calendar year, and associate members are eligible to lead one per calendar year. Thrivent provides promotional resources and \$250 worth of seed money to jump-start fundraisers, educational events, or service projects. If you have an Action Team available and are interested in helping out, Messiah is constantly seeking these resources to support the many ministries we offer. If you are willing to share an Action Team, please call the church office.

If you are not familiar with the Thrivent Action Team program, it is a fantastic benefit that can help offset the cost of many special ministry projects at Messiah. Thrivent Financial Group's generosity programs make it easy to give of yourself and live generously! This is FREE money that can be used to directly support the ministries of our congregation. These funds do not come from your personal Thrivent accounts; this is money designated by Thrivent to be used as seed money to jump-start fundraisers, educational events, or service projects of your choosing. Please consider directing your Action Teams to support Messiah. If you have any questions about Action Teams, please contact your Thrivent representative or the church office. We are more than willing to work with you throughout the application and reporting process.

### **Online Giving and 2023 Pledges**

Online Giving is AVAILABLE at [www.messiahlc.com](http://www.messiahlc.com)! This link allows you to indicate your annual pledge, and then either set up a onetime payment or recurring payments: annually, quarterly, monthly, or weekly.

If you have not yet made a pledge for 2023 and would like to, we encourage you to contact us and we can help you through the process. A pledge is a commitment of financial support for the year, which runs from January through December. Typically, pledges are paid in increments—weekly, monthly or quarterly. You can give to the church without pledging, of course. Some people put money in the offering plate at worship each week or once a month. Others give in a lump sum at the beginning or end of the year. We encourage annual pledging because making and keeping promises is an important spiritual discipline that fosters faithfulness and mutual responsibility. Pledges also help the congregation to plan more wisely.

## Church Staff Email Addresses

Pastor Tim Graham: [pastortim@messiahlc.com](mailto:pastortim@messiahlc.com)

Executive Administrator Cory Dold: [cory@messiahlc.com](mailto:cory@messiahlc.com)

Director of Music Stan Engle: [stan@messiahlc.com](mailto:stan@messiahlc.com)

Director, Children, Youth, and Family Ministries Heidi Kissner: [heidi@messiahlc.com](mailto:heidi@messiahlc.com)

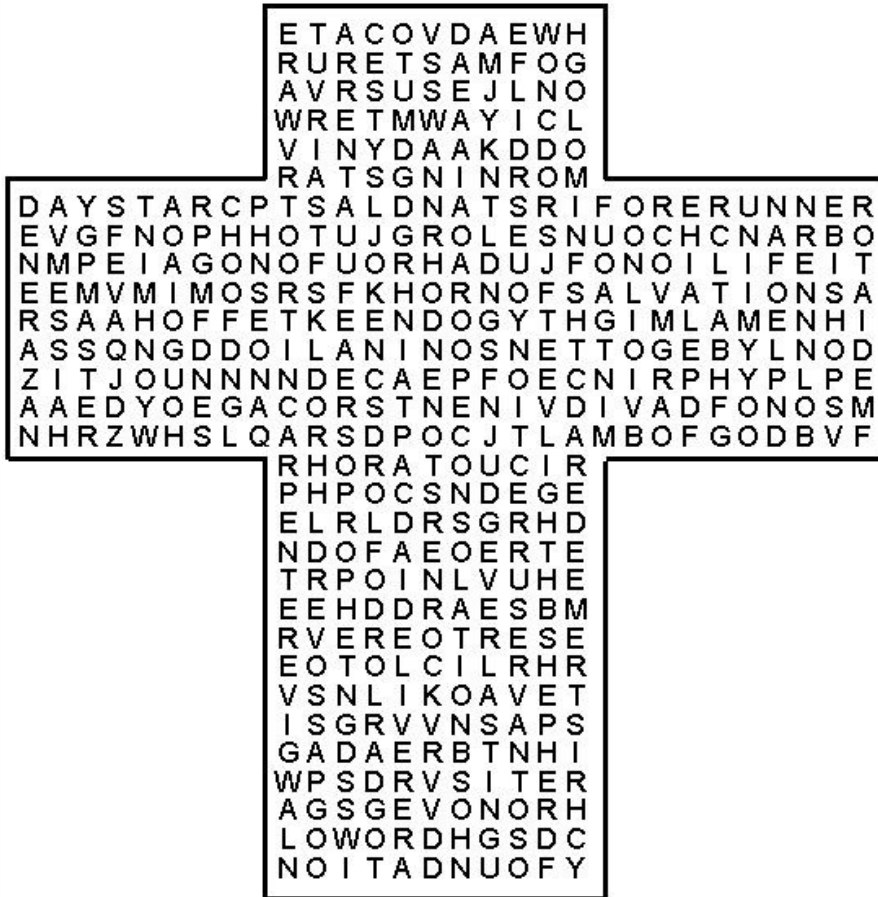
Director, ChildCare & Preschool Portia Howard: [portia@messiahlc.com](mailto:portia@messiahlc.com)

Facilities Director Denise Gibbons: [denise@messiahlc.com](mailto:denise@messiahlc.com)

Technical Director Josh Gumbert: [josh@messiahlc.com](mailto:josh@messiahlc.com)

Office Administrator Karla Myers: [karla@messiahlc.com](mailto:karla@messiahlc.com)

## But Whom Do You Say That I AM?



Advocate  
Almighty  
Alpha and Omega  
Amen  
Apostle  
Beloved Son  
Bishop  
Branch  
Bread  
Captain  
Carpenter  
Chosen  
Christ  
Consolation  
Cornerstone  
Counselor  
Day Star  
Deliverer

Door  
Emmanuel  
Everlasting  
Faithful and True  
First and Last  
Forerunner  
Foundation  
Governor  
Head  
High Priest  
Holy and Just One  
Horn of Salvation  
I AM  
Jesus  
Judge  
King  
King of Kings  
Lamb of God

Lawgiver  
Life  
Light  
Lion of Judah  
Lord  
Lord of Lords  
Master  
Master  
Mediator  
Messiah  
Mighty God  
Morning Star  
Nazarene  
Only Begotten Son  
Passover  
Priest  
Prince of Peace  
Prophet

Redeemer  
Resurrection  
Rock  
Savior  
Servant  
Shepherd  
Son of David  
Son of God  
Son of Man  
Vine  
Way  
Wonderful  
Word



# 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**

**In person and online**

**10:30 AM**

**In person and online**