

The Messenger

September 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

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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, September 3: 14th Sunday after Pentecost & Labor Day

9:00 AM – MOVING INDOORS – Traditional w/Communion

10:30 AM – Contemporary w/Communion

Sunday, September 10: 15th Sunday after Pentecost, Teacher (Journey & Childcare) Installations

9:00 AM – Traditional w/Communion

10:30 AM – Contemporary w/Communion

Sunday, September 17: 16th Sunday after Pentecost, New Members

9:00 AM – Traditional w/Communion

10:30 AM – Contemporary w/Communion

Sunday, September 24: 17th Sunday after Pentecost, Confirmation

9:00 AM – Traditional w/Communion

10:30 AM – Contemporary w/Communion

*****Saturday, September 30th Pet Blessings*****

10:00 AM at the Tony Hickman Memorial Chapel

Sunday, October 1: 18th Sunday after Pentecost, Bible Sunday

9:00 AM – Traditional w/Communion

10:30 AM – Contemporary w/Communion



Pr. Tim's News

The Call Team Update

There were two, now there is one. I am excited to announce that we have a “primary” candidate. The Call Team has selected a pastoral candidate and will present that candidate to Messiah’s Board of Directors. Messiah’s Board Chairperson, Cindy Riebersal, is currently working with the Call Team and the IK Synod to arrange an interview with this candidate. Fingers crossed; it might happen within the next couple weeks by early September.

If the Board comes to agreement that the candidate is the “right fit” for Messiah Lutheran Church, then the Board will present the candidate to the congregation for a formal and informal time of interaction. Typically, the formal part is having the candidate lead worship and/or preach on a Sunday morning. The informal part is sometimes a picnic or meal, and sometimes just an extended fellowship hour where people can meet and ask the candidate questions.

The final step will be a congregational vote. Our constitution requires a two-week notice for the vote, so please be attentive to that. A representative of the IK Synod Bishop’s office will lead that meeting. There will be two votes: the first to approve the call (this requires a 2/3rds vote by written ballot); the second to approve the compensation package (a simple majority voice vote is all that is needed). Assuming a positive vote, we will work with the candidate to determine a start date and schedule an installation service (though the candidate can serve before installation).

As I’m sure you’ve noticed, I keep referring to “the candidate.” (I’m not trying to be a smarty-pants like na na na na na boo boo :) This is the protocol for the process. The candidate’s name will not be announced unless the Board of Directors recommends that candidate to the congregation.

Please...pray for our Board of Directors, for the candidate, and for Messiah Lutheran Church. “Thy will be done.”

New Members

What is “church membership?” This is what I think...

First and foremost, it is a commitment to God. The church is God’s church! And everything in time and space, including our being, stems from God! Think the first three com-

mandments... You shall have no other gods; Do not take the Lord's name in vain; and Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy.

Secondly, it is a commitment to discipleship. The Greek word for disciple means "being a student" of Jesus, to learn from and follow Jesus' words and actions, to love like Jesus in our daily lives, and to pick up our cross.

Thirdly, it is a commitment to the community of God. We can worship God in a variety of places and forms (i.e., nature), BUT at the core of worship is community and communal gathering (Sundays). We need to be loved as much as we need to love, and community is the way this is best expressed. And a faith community holds us accountable and helps us grow as we share our gifts with each other and the world around us.

No church community is perfect. The body of Christ, God's church, is comprised of sinners, including this preacher, who are saved by grace through faith and the faithfulness of Jesus Christ, which is a gift (Eph 2.8). Messiah is not perfect, but we, beginning with me, Pr. Tim, attempt to embody that Spirit of love as best as we can for God, for our neighbors, and for ourselves.

If you or your family would like to join Messiah in an official capacity as "Voting Members," New Members will be received on Sunday, September 17, 2023. It's NOT a difficult process. Please fill out an information form and return it to the church office or contact the church office for more info.

Stewardship Encouragement

Thank you for remembering Messiah Lutheran Church with your offerings! Please contact the church office if you have any questions about or need assistance to navigate online giving.

In September, we will continue collecting monetary donations for "Mentoring Moms," a ministry that serves women in crises. There is a handout available at the info center that describes what this organization needs and doesn't need. Please, if you're able, make a contribution tagged for Mentoring Moms through Messiah. We would like to raise \$1000 for this critical ministry.

Worship Schedule

September 4, 2023, we return INDOORS at 9:00 AM, to the Sanctuary Worship Space and our traditional service with Communion. You can leave your lawn chair home! Or you can bring it, but the chairs in the worship space are pretty comfortable!

Pastor Tim's News, continued

At 10:30 AM, we will continue the contemporary style worship service with livestream and Communion.

Also, on Saturday, September 30, at 10:00 AM at the Tony Hickman Memorial Chapel, we will have "PET BLESSINGS" in the spirit of St. Francis of Assisi. We know those furry friends are an important part of your family household and life. They are God's creation! We want to honor God and thank God for their presence in our lives.

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

BOOK OF LIFE

Baptism

Rhyan Adelle Dold, August 6



Falling into a New Routine

Labor Day is here, and that means that summer is almost over. It also means that we are renewing activities that will continue through the next nine months, or, for some of us, beginning areas of ministry that may be new to us. If you have ever considered singing in the choir, playing handbells, helping lead music for the praise service, singing or playing a solo, leading worship, ushering, greeting, or any other aspect of worship, please contact me or the church office—we'd love to help you find your niche at Messiah!

Here are several special events coming up this month:

Our 9:00 a.m. service will now be held indoors. It was enjoyable being in the Tony Hickman outdoor chapel this summer, but it is time to move back inside.

The rite of confirmation will take place at the 10:30 a.m. service on Sunday, September 24. We will also have our Confirmation Camp Celebration that day, so come and support our young people in their spiritual journey.

Pet Blessings will take place on Saturday, September 30, at 10:00 a.m. in the Tony Hickman Memorial Chapel. See details elsewhere in this edition of the Messenger.

Soli Deo gloria—All glory be to God!

For Messiah's Worship and Music Ministry,

Stan Engle

WORSHIP & MUSIC *(cont)*

Messiah Worship Team News

It's been an exciting summer season for the Messiah Worship Team! First of all, we want to welcome our newest member, Elaina Russell. Her enthusiasm both on and off the stage has been very contagious. Elaina is one of our daycare teachers and came to us somewhat by accident. We met her during the VBS productions at the break between gatherings. It was only through casual conversation that we discovered her background in vocal music and interest in joining the worship team.

We are always looking for other likeminded believers with a passion and talent for musical performance. If you have an interest in performing with or supporting the Messiah Worship Team, please don't wait for a chance encounter! Please contact us by email at josh@messiahlc.com, or stop by the stage or the sound booth after any service that we perform at. We'd love to meet you and begin the relationship!

GROWTH & LEARNING

Journey At Messiah (JAM)

The Journey is Messiah's children's ministry and JAM Time is our Sunday School for ages 3 through 6th grade. JAM meets Sunday mornings at 10:30 AM in Childcare rooms 6 and 7 in the West Childcare hallway.

Join us on Sunday, September 10, as we begin to meet again! Please bring your students to their rooms in the Childcare hallway. We'll be there to help you find the right room for your child! And you can pick your child up from their room after the service.

In September we will be starting our rotation curriculum where we study one lesson over the span of 2-3 Sundays in various forms such as crafts, games, videos, and sometimes food.

This year we are also requesting an online registration. This just assures we have each student's most up to date contact information as well as any allergy and emergency infor-

mation. Link to this registration: <https://forms.gle/K5sbWkYebEMdi3ma8>. Link will also be on our website and Facebook page.

Messiah Student Ministries

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

This year we are also requesting an online registration. This just assures we have each student's most up to date contact information as well as any allergy and emergency information. The link to this registration will be in your emails. If you do not currently get these emails and would like to register a student please contact Heidi and she can get that link to you! We are super excited to get back to our Sunday evenings with the kids!

Link to this registration: <https://forms.gle/HfaPBgwZggCaaqgw5>. Link will also be on our website and Facebook page.

Pulse

PULSE is our youth group for students entering grades 9-12, Fall 2023. We will be meeting on Sundays 4:00-6:00 PM at the Youth House for snacks, fellowship, and discussion. PULSE kicks back up again beginning Sunday, September 10. You all will begin getting Heidi's lovely weekly emails again with calendar updates and reminders.

On Sunday, September 25, we will meet at Putt-Putt on Coliseum Blvd, 4:00-6:00 PM. Cost is \$10/person and includes a game of putt-putt and/or go carts/another game of Putt-Putt (whatever group decides!) and some tokens. Kids are responsible for snack money.

CIA

CIA is our youth group for students entering grades 7 and 8, Fall 2023. CIA stands for Confirmands in Action; we call it this because these are the years when the kids go through classes to prepare them for Confirmation in the Fall of their Freshman year.

GROWTH & LEARNING (cont)

Confirmation Classes resume Sunday, September 24, 12:00-3:00 PM at the Youth House. We also will meet at the Youth House various Sundays after the 10:30 service.

On Saturday, September 9, we will meet at Putt-Putt on Coliseum Blvd, 3:00-5:00 PM. Cost is \$10/person and includes a game of Putt-Putt and/or go carts/another game of Putt-Putt (whatever group decides!) and some tokens. Kids are responsible for snack money.

EDGE

EDGE is our youth group for students entering grades 5 and 6, Fall 2023. Why EDGE? Because these students are riding on the edge of being kids and teenagers! EDGE is still part of our Journey (children's Sunday School program) and will have their own Bible study on Sundays beginning September 10 during the 10:30 AM service in Room #5 (west hallway of childcare).

On Saturday, September 9, we will meet at Putt-Putt on Coliseum Blvd, 3:00-5:00 PM. Cost is \$10/person and includes a game of Putt-Putt and/or go carts/another game of Putt-Putt (whatever group decides!) and some tokens. Kids are responsible for snack money.

We will be meeting Sundays, September 10 and 17, 12:00-2:00 PM at the Youth House for a light lunch and to hang out.

Rally Sunday 2023

September 10 is Rally Sunday, the official beginning of Messiah's Children and Student ministries' regular activities! We've missed all the students over the summer!

Journey (Sunday School) and EDGE Bible Study will be during the 10:30 service. We will also be bringing the children and teachers into the worship service for a special "start of the year" blessing and installation of teachers.

Children/Youth/Preschool/Childcare Teacher Installation Blessing

We will also have a special installation blessing at the 10:30 AM service for all the Journey, EDGE, CIA, PULSE, and Preschool/Childcare teachers.

Bible Sunday

The Journey will be handing out Bibles to 3 year olds, kindergarteners, and 3rd graders on Sunday, October 1, at both services. The children and their parents will be invited forward for the Bible blessing and presentation during the Kids' Talk at both services. If you have any questions, please contact Heidi at heidi@messiahlc.com

Children and Student Ministry Leaders

We have been blessed once again to have folks who have answered the call to be Journey, EDGE, CIA, and PULSE leaders. Following are our leaders for your children and youth: Cali Edwards, Megan Bergan, Kasey Kissner, Chris Counterman, Dave Beard, Cindy and John Sabo, Craig and Shelly Musolf, Carey and Linda Baker, Sue Miller, Pat and Walt Strasser, Jeff and Kelly Phillips, and Sandy Hellwege.

We are in need of teachers for the preschool children as well as a set of teachers for our EDGE Bible Study. Please contact Heidi at heidi@messiahlc.com if you are interested.

Confirmation 2023

Mark your calendars as we will be celebrating our 2023 Confirmand, Isabel Lugo, on Sunday, September 24, at the 10:30 AM service.

Confirmation Camp Program

Please join us on Sunday, September 24, at both services as we celebrate our students who went to Confirmation Camp and hear their testimonies as part of the service.

Noisy Offering

Noisy Offering will be on Sunday, September 24, as part of the of the Confirmation Camp service.

GROWTH & LEARNING *(cont)*

ELCA Youth Gathering 2024

We will be taking a group of students and adult chaperones to the ELCA National Youth Gathering July 15-21, 2024. Every three years, thousands of high school youth and their adult leaders from across the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America gather for a week of faith formation and fellowship known as the ELCA Youth Gathering. Through inspiring speakers, conversations with partners, Bible study, and being immersed in the host city, young people will be inspired, challenged, and called to live out their faith in their daily lives. Additionally, young people will have opportunities to explore their vocation and find where they are being called into this world.

Due to the cancellation of the 2022 ELCA Youth Gathering many young people were not able to participate. There will be an inaugural Young Adult Gathering for individuals who will be 18-35 at the time of the Gathering. Participants for the Young Adult gathering are invited to join the ELCA Youth Gatherings Mass Gathering and closing worship. Childcare will be available for those attending the ELCA Young Adult Gathering. Please note that children are not allowed to attend Mass Gathering programming. If you graduated between 2019-2023 and are interested in the Young Adult Gathering, please let Heidi know.

Students currently in grades 8-12 are eligible. A non refundable deposit of \$150 is due by Wednesday, October 25. Emails with information will be going out to eligible students. If you are interested in more information please let Heidi know at heidi@messiahlc.com.

CIA Mission Trip 2024

We are taking a group of CIA students and heading to Kenosha, WI, in the summer of 2024! We will be leaving Sunday morning, June 23, and returning Friday evening, June 28. This is for students CURRENTLY in grades 6-8. Emails with more information will be going out to current 6th-8th grade students. If you are interested in more information please let Heidi know at heidi@messiahlc.com.

Donut Sunday Fundraiser is Back!!

As part of our fundraising efforts for the ELCA Gathering in July 2024, we will be having Donut Sunday one Sunday a month through December. Meet us in the Narthex to grab some coffee and breakfast before or after service. And stay and visit with us! Thanks to a Thrivent Action Team, 100% of the donations will go towards offsetting students' travel costs.

College Care Ministry

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

Interested in being a sponsor for one of Messiah's fine college students? Being a sponsor entails first and foremost praying for your student. Regular mailings, texts or calls of encouragement, and special reach-outs on their birthday, finals, or other special dates are also encouraged. If you would like to be a sponsor for a college student or would like more information, please contact Heidi Kissner at heidi@messiahlc.com or Dave Beard at dbeard2216@gmail.com.

Youth Events in September

EDGE

- Saturday, September 9, 3:00-5:00 PM, Putt-Putt Golf and Games, Coliseum Blvd.
- Sunday, September 10, 10:30 AM Bible Study, Room # 5 (west childcare hallway)
- Sunday, September 10, 12:00-2:00 PM, Youth House
- Sunday, September 17, 10:30 AM Bible Study, Room # 5 (west childcare hallway)
- Sunday, September 17, 12:00-2:00 PM, Youth House
- Sunday, September 24, 10:30 AM Bible Study, Room # 5 (west childcare hallway)

CIA

- Saturday, September 9, 3:00-5:00 PM, Putt-Putt Golf and Games, Coliseum Blvd.
- Sunday September 10, 12:00-2:00 PM, Youth House

continued on next page

GROWTH & LEARNING *(cont)*

CIA *(continued)*

Sunday September 17, 12:00-2:00 PM, Youth House
Sunday September 24, both services – Confirmation Camp Service
Sunday, September 24, 12:00-3:00 PM, Confirmation Class (Youth House)

PULSE

Sunday, September 10, 4:00-6:00 PM, Youth House
Sunday, September 17, 4:00-6:00 PM, Youth House
Sunday September 24, 4:00-6:00 PM, Putt-Putt Golf and Games, Coliseum Blvd.

Adult Bible Studies

Our Adult Bible studies are in full swing. 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: This group is near completion of our book study, “Wiser and Older.” Afterwards, we will resume our weekly study of the upcoming Sunday readings.

Wednesday at 10 AM: We are moving along nicely in our Freedom of a Christian study, based on the Epistle of Galatians. The Apostle Paul writes: “For freedom Christ has set us free...” (Galatians 5:1). Join us!

Thursday at 10 AM: This group is also near completion of our book study, “Wiser and Older.”

Thursday Good News Study Group at 6:30 PM: We are marching through Jesus’ Sermon on the Mount, Matthew chapters 5-7. Does Jesus really mean what he says? Is he serious? Let’s explore it together. We are preparing to move into chapter 6.

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.

I am thankful, loving Father,

1. for your forgiveness when I have fallen short of expectations. 20¢
2. for the rising sun that reminds us of your daily presence. 25¢
3. for your care for me. Remind me that you are always there. 10¢
4. for this Labor Day to honor those who labor in any capacity. May God grant them strength and protection in their labors. 25¢
5. for keeping us in your tender care when trials come upon us. 10¢
6. for this beautiful weather we are having. Thank you, God! 20¢
7. for the instruments and music we sing to praise and honor you. 10¢
8. for your compassion to tend to your beloved ones in need. 25¢
9. for your healing power in times of sickness. 50¢
10. for the strength to live each day when the impossible overwhelms us. Help us to keep the faith. 10¢
11. for the gift of forgiveness. Am I using it? Help me. 15¢
12. for all the people who work to make this church yours. Be with them. 10¢
13. for your patience and mercy always. 5¢
14. that I have you to provide me with hope in a time of my despair. 20¢
15. for my friends who brighten my day. 5¢
16. for the blessed gift of children. Help us to nurture them in your ways. 10¢
17. for giving us God's grace so freely! Help us to forgive others as you have forgiven us. 25¢
18. for my family who show me love and support in so many ways. 15¢
19. for the peace you provide for me in times of need. 10¢
20. for my treasures, but do I put them above you? Help me, Lord. 10¢
21. for the gift of humor. Help me to use it in a pleasing way. 5¢
22. that I live in a land of peace, and I pray for those who don't. 20¢
23. for the blue sky, reminding me that your love is endless. 15¢
24. for your healing power to all those in need. 20¢
25. for our missionaries around the world who spread your love. 25¢
26. that I can give of my time, my money, and my things. Help me to be grateful. 10¢
27. for all that I have that comes from you. 10¢
28. for this day in which to give you thanks. 5¢
29. for the gift of music to celebrate your goodness to us. 10¢
30. for your Word and the lives and works of others. 25¢

Please bring or send offering to church on September 24.

Thank you for your contributions!

CARE & NURTURE

From the Parish Nurses...

Are you caring for someone? Have you cared for someone in the past? Most of us find ourselves caring for someone at some point in our lives or even several times. We care for our children, our spouse, a family member or friend with a long-term illness, or aging parents. We have the honor and challenge of caring for various individuals during our lifetime.

While we are happy to care for others, we have to absolutely make sure that we are caring for ourselves in the process. If our cup is empty, there is nothing to pour out for others. There is a very valid reason that we are given the instructions, when flying, to put the oxygen mask over our own face before we place it over our child's face.

We all carry a lot on our plates – jobs, parenting, maintaining our homes, having a social life, and so much more. We can get physically and emotionally exhausted just trying to keep up. We have to practice self care. Sure is easy to say and hard to practice. We take care of everyone and everything else before we do something for ourselves.

We need to familiarize ourselves with the signs of burnout so that we can head them off at the pass. They can be different for everyone but may include loss of hope, feeling numb, loss of pleasure over things we once enjoyed, and feeling distant. Listen to your body and mind – they may be telling you to take a break. Taking care of your physical, emotional, spiritual, and social health will help you to be a better caregiver.

Do something just for YOU every week – listening to your favorite music, going for a run, gardening, sewing, or building something. It is less about what you do and more about taking the time to do it. The goal is to find something that you can do in the amount of time that you have to bring you some peace and well-being. Give yourself permission to take a break.

Remember you do not have to be super human and it is OK to ask for help. It is not a sign of weakness or failure. Please seek the support of someone you trust and someone who is familiar with you who can check in with you on a regular basis and be honest with them about your struggles and needs.

If you have no one that you feel you can talk to – call LOOKUP INDIANA at 877-257-0208, available 24 hours everyday.

OUTREACH & IN TOUCH

Messiah Quilters

Whether the kids are back in school or you just have that “it’s fall and time to try something new” feeling, we invite all to join us as we make quilts for Lutheran World Relief. We welcome you to sew with us on Thursday mornings, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM in Satre Hall (the gym). These quilts are used as blankets, room dividers, bed mats, and more all across the world. No experience necessary as we have jobs for sewers and non-sewers as well. If you know what fabric is – you are qualified! Please contact jaynereff@gmail.com with any questions.

Food Bank Outreach

Thank you for your continued support of Maplewood Mennonite, Purdue Fort Wayne, and Faith & Light Food Pantries. Items needed for September are peanut butter, canned fruit, canned soup, crackers, tuna, pasta, mac & cheese, toothpaste, bar soap, and feminine products.

Bags of Grace

Our next Bags of Grace distribution will be in late September. We are collecting individual protein items (Vienna sausages, canned chicken or tuna, etc.), cookies, gum, soap, and toothpaste. In preparation for winter we are accepting gloves, blankets, and adult white tube or crew socks. We do not need hats at this time. Any food items need to be individually wrapped and not require refrigeration, cooking, or a can opener. A collection bin is located in Satre Hall. Please contact Jan Johnson at justplainjan47@gmail.com or call 260-479-0946 with any questions.

OUTREACH & IN TOUCH *(cont)*

Rummage & Bake Sale

Start rounding up your rummage for our fall sale to be held on Friday, September 15, 9:00 AM-5:00 PM, and Saturday, September 16, 9:00 AM-1:00 PM. Bake sale donations are also appreciated! Proceeds will benefit our youth programs. If you are able to volunteer or have any questions, call Roger or Heidi Griebel (260-417-9745 or 260-417-9746). You can start dropping off your treasures on Saturday, September 9. Call Roger or Heidi to arrange a Saturday time to drop off. If you need help transporting your larger donations to church, please contact Bob Griebel to schedule a time for pick-up.

Plastic grocery bags and newspaper for wrapping items sold can also be donated!



OPERATIONS

Tech News

Greetings, dear members of our congregation! We are thrilled to share some remarkable progress from our Technology Department that promises to enhance your worship experience. We are currently amid a significant upgrade as we install state-of-the-art cameras in our sanctuary. These cutting-edge cameras will not only ensure better visibility of our services for those attending in person but will also enable us to share our uplifting gatherings with our virtual community in stunning clarity. This endeavor reflects our commitment to embracing technology in a way that strengthens our sense of unity, regardless of physical location. We appreciate your patience as we work diligently to complete this installation and eagerly anticipate the positive impact it will have on our worship together.

Join Our Audio and Video Ministry Team!

Are you passionate about technology and eager to contribute your skills to our church community? Here's your chance to get involved! Our Technology Department is actively seeking dedicated volunteers to join our Audio and Video Ministry Team. This is an incredible opportunity to play an integral role in ensuring that our worship services, events, and messages reach far and wide with the utmost clarity and professionalism. No prior experience is necessary – whether you're a seasoned tech enthusiast or simply curious to learn, we welcome all levels of expertise. By becoming a part of this ministry, you'll not only deepen your connection with our congregation but also help create meaningful experiences for all who engage with our church, both near and far. If you're interested in volunteering or learning more, please reach out to Josh Gumbert at josh@messiahlc.com. Let's come together and use technology to amplify the love and fellowship within our community.

Blessings and peace,

Josh Gumbert, Technical Director

OPERATIONS (cont)

Support Childcare and Preschool with Kroger Rewards

You can support Messiah Lutheran Childcare & Preschool while you shop at Kroger! 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!

Church Staff Email Addresses

Pastor Tim Graham pastortim@messiahlc.com
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Director, Children, Youth, & Family Ministries Heidi Kissner heidi@messiahlc.com
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Church Board Email Addresses

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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

10:30 AM

In person and online