

The Messenger

A monthly publication from our Spirit filled church.

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We are a Spirit filled church following Jesus Christ.

Community Events

**Spring 2019 New Member
Welcome!!**

**Sunday, March 31st at
10:15am (rescheduled)**

Join us as we welcome a wonderful class of seven new members to Messiah Lutheran Church. The whole point of a new member welcome is to show our siblings in Christ that they'll be cared for and supported here in our Spirit filled community, so it's super important for as many folks in the congregation to show up as possible! Following a very special New Member Rite we'll celebrate our siblings in Christ with a delightful reception in the Fellowship Hall.

**Fourth Sunday in Lent: Sunday
of Forgiveness
Sunday, March 31st at
10:15am**

Lent is a season of preparation where we're invited to engage in four areas of practice that help us turn away from our baggage and egos and towards liberation in Christ Jesus: self-examination and repentance, prayer and fasting, sacrificial giving and works of love. Our Sunday morning worship services will help us explore these practices through a new communion setting from Marty Haugen called Unfailing Light. Grounded in the Lenten themes of faithfulness, love, reconciliation, forgiveness and

mercy, we'll also hear the stories of various saints during a very special children's sermon skit series and also offer prayers on a Lenten prayer tree that will grow throughout the season. In order to help center us on Christ's presence during our Lenten journey, all are invited to engage in the practice of contemplative prayer along with meditative instrumental music beginning fifteen minutes before each service at 10:00am. *Please enter the sanctuary in respectful silence.*

On the Fourth Sunday in Lent we'll hear one of the most famous of Jesus' parables, the story of the prodigal son.

Grounded in the forgiveness we know in Christ, our Lenten prayer tree will continue to grow and we will be "visited" by that awesome troublemaker of the people, Saint Hans Nielsen Hauge, who helped ordinary Lutherans live out life on the Way of Christ outside of mere membership in the state churches of Denmark and Norway.

**The Future of Schenectady
Community Ministries, Part
One**

**Tuesday, April 2nd at 7:00pm
Rotterdam United Methodist
Church
1915 Helderberg Avenue,
Rotterdam, New York**

So we don't always put SiCM's monthly assemblies in the newsletter, but gosh, these next two are super important. SiCM Summer Meals and the SiCM Food Pantry have faced a variety of challenges over the past couple years, and at the same time, the religious and economic landscape of the Schenectady area continues to change. As one aspect of the conversation about our future, Pastor Dustin will be giving a brief presentation on the changing religious landscape and how we can broaden our membership to young people and folks of different faiths. There's a deep desire at Messiah to see SiCM move in an interfaith direction and so we'll likely be leading a petition campaign to urge the organization to move in that direction as well. Even if you've never attended a SiCM

**Pastor Dustin's Coffee Club II: Manna & Mercy
Continuing on Tuesdays at 10:00am at the Parish House**

This spring's installment of Pastor Dustin's Coffee Club will give you just that opportunity! Almost every week we'll set an hour of our busy lives aside to enjoy some wonderful coffee together in the Parish House, read a few pages from Daniel Erlander's classic *Manna & Mercy* and learn about how the whole point of the Bible is to tell the story of God's unfolding promise to mend the entire universe!!! Even if you can only make it once in a while, this will be a great way to get to know other folks in our congregation and get grounded in the story of our collective faith!

- Tuesday, April 2nd at 10:00am: The Covenant and the Covenant Gift
- Tuesday, April 9th at 10:00am: Settling Down
- Tuesday, April 16th at 10:00am: We Want a King
- Tuesday, April 23rd at 10:00am: Yahweh Sends Prophets
- Monday, May 6th at 10:00am: By the Waters of Babylon
- Tuesday, May 14th at 10:00am: Home Again
- Tuesday, May 21st at 10:00am: God's Surprise
- Wednesday, May 29th at 10:00am: Manna & Mercy for All
- Tuesday, June 4th at 10:00am: Jerusalem
- Wednesday, June 12th at 10:00am: A Risen Christ, A Risen People
- Tuesday, June 18th at 10:00am: The Danger of Pharaohs' Egypt Way
- Tuesday, June 25th at 10:00am: God's Dream (a special grand finale picnic)

assembly before, please join us and be part of Messiah showing leadership amongst our fellow local communities of faith!

**The Lamb of God: A Lenten
Consideration of Handel's
Messiah**

**Wednesdays Evenings until
April 17th at 6:00pm**

Join Douglas J. Chilton and Pastor Dustin for a weekly Lenten midweek devotional series using Handel's Messiah to help us discover what it means to call Jesus the Lamb of God. Each week will begin with Pastor Dustin introducing a

different Christian devotional practice followed by awesome conversation and musical selections from Mr. Doug and concluding with Holy Communion. The following themes and portions of Handel's Messiah will be discussed:

- April 3rd: I Know That My Redeemer Liveth (Job 19: 25-26)
- April 10th: Behold I Tell You a Mystery (1 Corinthians 51 - 53)

- April 17th: Worthy is the Lamb That Was Slain (Revelation 5:9, 12 - 14)

All in our community are welcome to join us in prayer and practice this Lent!

Fifth Sunday in Lent: Sunday of Mercy

Sunday, April 7th at 10:15am

On the Fifth Sunday in Lent we'll hear the story of Jesus being anointed by Mary shortly before his betrayal, turn towards the mercy of God and watch our Lenten prayer tree continue to grow. We'll also be visited by Saint Dietrich Bonhoeffer, a German pastor who stood up against Hitler and lived out a life of mercy behind bars until he was murdered shortly before the Allied Forces liberated his prison.

Roots of Hope and Moral-Spiritual Power for Climate Justice

**An Earth Day Conversation with Dr. Cynthia Moe-Lobeda
Wednesday, April 10th at 7:00pm**

Messiah Lutheran Church and Siena College, in partnership with a growing list of local faith-based organizations, will welcome Dr. Cynthia Moe-Lobeda to the Capital Region to commemorate Earth Day on April 10th and 11th, 2019. A professor of Theological and Social Ethics at Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary of California Lutheran University and Church Divinity School of the Pacific as well as a member of the Core Doctoral Faculty of

the Graduate Theological Union at Berkeley, CA, Dr. Moe-Lobeda has lectured around the world on theological ethics and economic globalization, moral agency and climate justice as related to race and class.

Please join us for a presentation called "Roots of Hope and Moral-Spiritual Power for Climate Justice" on Wednesday, April 10th at 7:00pm at Messiah Lutheran Church, 2850 Guilderland Avenue in Rotterdam, New York. Light refreshments will also be provided. Entrance is completely free of charge but all are encouraged to RSVP on our [Facebook Event](#) if you are able. Dr. Moe-Lobeda will also be giving a daytime lecture at Siena in Loudonville on the 11th. This event is cosponsored by the Capital Region Interfaith Creation Care Coalition and the New York State Council of Churches with additional support from Saint Vincent de Paul Roman Catholic Church, First Reformed Church of Schenectady, Saint Kateri Tekakwitha Parish and the Sisters of Saint Joseph.

Young Adult Dinner & Game Night

Thursday, April 11th at 6:00pm

So last month's renewed Young Adult Dinner and Game Night was a massive success! Join us again this month for an awesome potluck and an opportunity to better connect Messiah's rapidly growing group of young adults. Please RSVP on our Facebook Page

with what you'll be bringing... gluten free and vegetarian/vegan options are encouraged!!

Palm Sunday

Sunday, April 14th at 10:15am

On this, the final Sunday in Lent, our kids will lead us through Christ's triumphant entrance into Jerusalem shortly before he was betrayed. We'll bless and give out palms, a sign of new life for the year ahead. The tone of the service then quickly turns towards a dramatic presentation of Saint Luke's account of Jesus' passion and death presented by noted local director Rachel Mathis. Join us as we experience the central story of our faith as we begin Holy Week!

Help a Homeless Pet Bake Sale Sunday, April 14th after worship

Please help the Sunday School program raise money for the Schoharie Shelter and Whiskers by purchasing baked goods on April 14th. Bakers are needed for this event. If you have any questions, please talk to Cheryl Borski. This is fantastic way to get some baked goods for the Easter holiday!



Bill Becker and Hilda Hoffstetter, our matriarch and patriarch of our Over 55 Gang!

Nursery Leader Training Sunday, April 14th following worship

Yay! After a great deal of work and with much thanks to Rachel Mathis and Sue Collins, we finally have a much stronger nursery team in place! Many thanks to Stephanie Kane, Matt Kane, Sue Collins, Susie Schaffer, Mari Cochard, Molly Karrel, Melissa DiGiovanni and Christina Tallman for all volunteering as Childcare Ministers! Kids of all ages are encouraged to attend worship, but if you'd child (age kindergarten and younger) needs a break, please find either our adult or older youth wearing "Childcare Minister" tags in the nursery or in the back of the sanctuary if the nursery is empty. Busy bags are also available for children during the service. Following worship on Palm Sunday, please grab a snack at the bake sale and join Pastor Dustin for a brief training on how our renewed nursery program works. Childcare will be provided during the roughly half hour training.

Chrim Mass

Sunday, April 14th at 3:00pm

So here's something really exciting! Messiah is hosting Chrim Mass this year! And what's Chrim Mass you might ask? It's an annual Holy Week tradition where Bishop John Macholz visits, blessing anointing oils to be used in the coming year and does a renewal of vows for all deacons and pastors. It also affords us a time of prayer and

collegial worship as we continue through the rigors of Holy Week. If you'd like to spend some time learning about what rostered ministry in the ELCA is all about, this is a great event to be a part of! We'll also be providing some basic hospitality following the event, so if you're interested in either helping as a worship assistant or with food, please speak with Pastor Dustin.

Holy Week Matins

**Monday, April 15th - Friday,
April 19th at 7:30am**

During Holy Week this year we invite members of our congregation and our neighbors alike to experience the Liturgy of Hours through two brief services at the opening and closing of the day: Matins & Compline. Based on earliest of Christian practices (see Acts 10), the Liturgy of the Hours was first formalized by Saint Benedict in the early 500s CE. Grounded in the Psalms and giving thanks for the light of a new day, our early morning Matins contemplative services will be very brief in length (20 minutes tops) in order to allow folks to get to work on time. Especially if you can't make it out for evening services, this is a great way to dive deeper into Holy Week!

Holy Week Compline

**Monday, April 15th -
Wednesday, April 17th at
6:00pm**

It's become a cherished annual tradition at Messiah to use Saint Benedict's ancient Liturgy of the Hours to mark the



Our Young Adult group's last outing was awesome!

first evenings of Holy Week. Compline, an evening chanted service, will center around the Psalms and the appointed gospel stories for Monday and Tuesday, John's version of Mary's anointing and Jesus' prediction of his death. Wednesday will see the conclusion of our Lenten series on Handel's Messiah. Join us as we follow the Way of Christ through Holy Week!

Mauddy Thursday Service of Holy Communion

Thursday, April 18th at 7:00pm

With nightfall our Lenten observance comes to an end and we gather with Christians around the world to recognize the Three Days of Jesus' last supper, death and resurrection! At the heart of the Mauddy Thursday liturgy is Jesus' commandment to love one another. As Jesus washed the feet of his disciples, we are called to follow his example as we humbly care for one another, especially the poor and the unloved. At the Lord's table we remember Jesus'

sacrifice, even as we are called to offer ourselves in love for the life of the world.

**Good Friday Taizé Service
Friday, April 19th at 7:00pm**

The ancient title for this day—the triumph of the cross—reminds us that the church gathers not to mourn but to celebrate Christ's life-giving passion while finding strength and hope in the tree of life. Gathered around the cross, our hearts are opened through meditative Taizé music as we offer an ancient bidding prayer for all the world.

**Junior Luther League: Easter Egg Hunt & Children's Vigil
Saturday, April 20th at 10:00am
The Olochnowicz Estate**

Join Messiah's Junior Luther League for one of our favorite traditions... an Easter Egg Hunt at the Olochnowicz Estate! Enjoy a delicious breakfast with the kids, try to find the golden egg and maybe you'll even get a chance to meet the Easter Bunny! There might even be deep fried peeps this year! Following the Easter Egg Hunt, we'll continue our tradition of a brief, kid-friendly version of our Easter Vigil service around a campfire. For more information, please see Junior Luther League Leader Kristen Olochnowicz.

**The Great Vigil of Easter
Saturday, April 20th at 8:00pm**

This is the night! This is our Passover with Christ from darkness to light, from bondage to freedom, from death to life. Based on the

Pastor Dustin, Ibrahim, Randi, Nancy, Jean, and Merle at an Ecumenical Advocacy Day!



most ancient of Christian traditions, the Great Vigil is the heart of our celebration of the Three Days and the pinnacle of the church's year. We gather around the Sacred Fire, interpret modern life through the stories of our faith, remember our baptism, and share the food and drink of the promised land. Raised with Christ, we go forth into the world, aflame with the good news of the resurrection! Pastor John Califano and Pastor Deron Milleville will be co-presiding with Pastor Dustin and members of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church will be joining us as well!

47th Annual Easter Sunday Breakfast

Sunday, April 21st at 8:30am

Join us for our 47th Annual Easter Sunday Breakfast! We'll have eggs to order, bacon, toast, home fries, coffee, juice and coffee cake. As a new edition to the festivities Pastor Dustin will be giving out some very special awards for everyone who came to church every day of Holy Week! Please RSVP here on Facebook or on sign up sheet on the narthex bulletin board!!! If you are interested in serving or helping with breakfast, please see

Kitchen Committee Chairs Karen Kreischer and Rich Becker.

Easter Sunday Worship

Sunday, April 21st at 10:15am

On the first day of the week God began creation, transforming darkness into light. On this, the "eighth day" of the week, Jesus Christ was raised from the dead. We celebrate this new creation in the waters of baptism and in the feast of victory. With great joy we celebrate this day of days, even as we begin the great fifty days of Easter. Filled with hope, we go forth to share the news that Christ is risen! And hey, we'll even once again have actual farm animals for our Children's Sermon just for good measure!

Congregation Council

Monday, April 22nd at 7:00pm

Golly, there's a lot on the agenda for our upcoming Congregation Council meeting. The top item for discussion will include the initial steps of our strategic planning process with other areas to be covered including possibly moving forward on the

mechanical phase of our Messiah in Your Lifetime Capital Campaign, updates on our various capital campaign task forces and the development of edible landscaping around our church property to benefit our Bread of Life Food Pantry. As the work of the Congregation Council has greatly increased in recent months, we are now requiring something to be put on the agenda.

An Evening with John Gray Tuesday, April 23rd at 7:00pm

Having covered everything from the 9/11 terrorist attacks to the Pope's visit to America to multiple US presidential elections, WTEN's John Gray has experienced a great deal in his twenty-five years in television journalism. His favorite stories though involve helping people right here at home. John volunteers with a dozen local charities including, ALS, M.S., Special Olympics, Juvenile Diabetes, Hospice, and Big Brothers/Big Sisters, just to name a few. A man of faith and lover of all animals, especially dogs, John has written two children's books on his experiences, "God Needed a Puppy" and "Keller's Heart." John is also a good friend of lifelong Messiah member Rich Becker, so he's offered to join us for an evening of conversation around his experiences, his pets and his faith. John is extremely popular, so please invite a friend and signup on the narthex bulletin board for this wonderful opportunity!

A People's History of Christianity Continuing Tuesday, May 7th at 11:00am

According to Saint Luke, Jesus' first act of public ministry was to preach the following words: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." Incredible words, that's for sure, but unfortunately the exact opposite sort of ideas are what many associate with Jesus' followers today. Ask your average young adult especially and many would associate Christianity more with crusades and inquisitions, clergy sexual abuse, judging the LGBT community, not treating women equally and the decimation of indigenous populations than a gospel of liberating love. Given Jesus' gospel filled words, teachings and example, how did we get here? What Good News can be found in our collective Christian story? How can we learn from the best of our tradition to proclaim the true gospel in a time of great fear and change?

Through "A People's History of the Christianity," a five-part community discussion series led by Rev. Dustin G. Wright and [based around the 2009 book of the same name by Diana Butler Bass](#), we'll begin answering these questions grounded in

Scripture and prayer. Folks of all faith backgrounds, and especially our siblings in Christ from other local Schenectady congregations are more than invited to attend as we learn, discern and dream together. What follows is a monthly discussion schedule:

- Tuesday, May 7th at 11:00am: The Word, Reformation Christianity (1450 - 1650 CE)
- Tuesday, May 28th at 11:00am: The Quest, Modern Christianity (1650 CE - 1945 CE)
- Tuesday, June 11th at 11:00am: The River, Contemporary Christianity (1945 - Present)

While a few copies of the book will be available, all are invited to bring their own copy and a Bible to the discussions. Even if you can't read the book itself, please join us for wonderful conversations about the stories of our faith! If you have any questions, please email Pastor Dustin for more information!

Pastor on Vacation Wednesday, April 24th - Saturday, May 4th

Pastor Dustin will be getting some much needed R&R in the Great Smoky Mountains after a jam packed Lent, Holy Week

and Easter Sunday. In case of pastoral emergency please contact Deacon Rianne Johnson and she'll be sure to put you in touch with our Pastor on Call.

**Star Wars Day at Messiah
Sunday, May 5th at 9:00am**

In recognition of Star Wars Day (May the fourth be with you!!!), this Sunday in Children's Sunday School we'll be pulling out all the stops to make sure our kids have an awesome faith formation experience set in a galaxy far, far away! We'll be outside making lightsabers, playing awesome games and more! If you have any questions, please speak with Sunday School Superintendent Cheryl Borski!

**Lutheran Youth Laser Tag Trip
Sunday, May 5th at 5:00pm**

Join other local Lutheran youth from Good Shepherd and Our Redeemer Lutheran churches for an awesome night of laser tag at Spare Time in Clifton Park. Cost will be \$10 per participant and the event is open to all middle and high school age youth and their families. This is meant to be an initial opportunity for youth to connect before starting to plan our next ELCA Youth Gathering trip! Please sign up on the narthex bulletin board or speak with Pastor Dustin if you have any questions.

An Earth Day Service of Holy Communion

Sunday, May 5th at 10:15am

From a Lutheran perspective, our relationship with God, our relationship with others and our relationship with creation is all intertwined. Being good stewards of the planet God has given us does mean talking about big issues like climate change, endangered species



Congratulations to our Spring 2019 First Communion Class: Nathan, Grace, Ava, Lilli, Max, and Liam!

and the millions of folks suffering from dirty air and water, but it also means feeding hungry people, nurturing relationships, cultivating our soil for the benefit of our neighborhood and simply taking time to appreciate the marvel of creation all around us. That's why this year we decided to schedule our annual Earth Day Service of Holy Communion immediately before our annual participation in the Schenectady CROP Walk, an event that's all about getting out to enjoy creation into order to raise awareness and funds to end hunger, a problem that's greatly exacerbated by the poor treatment of God's good creation. The service will feature a song from our Children's Choir, special decorations and very special sermon from Pastor Dustin. If you have any questions, please speak with Pastor Dustin or our Creation Care Chair Kären Telfeyan.

**CROP Walk
Sunday, May 5th at 1:00pm
Emmanuel Friedens Church
218 Nott Terrace,
Schenectady, New York**

Together, we can help end hunger in our community and around the world! CROP Hunger Walks are community-wide events sponsored by Church World Service and organized by religious groups, businesses, schools and others to raise funds to end hunger in the U.S. and around the world. Schenectady Community Ministries is the local organizer of the CROP Walk and every year Messiah fields both a strong group of walkers and raises funds for the CROP Walk! Last year we raised \$556 for the cause and we're hoping to raise \$750.00 this year! If you're interested in signing up or donating, be sure to speak with Randi Dunda-Martin in the Narthex!

**Faith Formation Ministry Team Meeting
Wednesday, May 8th at 8:00pm**

This is a big one! Our number of faith formation opportunities

for adults and youth have absolutely exploded in recent months! Plus, we'll have a whole new bunch of confirmation students starting next fall and we need to figure out the best way to work it. All parents and adult faith formation participants are encouraged to take part in this essential conversation around how we'll better structure our many Faith Formation ministries at Messiah! Childcare will be available at the meeting if requested and we'll even have pizza!

Mother's Day at Messiah

Sunday, May 12th at 10:15am

Mother's Day is always a very special Sunday at Messiah, and this year, we're kicking it up a notch! In a service led almost entirely by our young people, the Children's Sunday School will lead the congregation in a special song with accompaniment by Pastor Dustin on guitar, our Confirmation Class will perform an awesome skit during the Children's Sermon and we'll have a bunch of other ways of recognizing all the amazing women in our lives! If you have any questions, please speak with Pastor Dustin.

Men's Group Movie Night: "Called and Chosen"

Monday, May 13th at 7:00pm

Join the Mighty Men of Messiah for a pizza dinner and an opportunity to watch the film "Called and Chosen," the incredible story of how Father Vincent Capodanno, a chaplain during the Vietnam

Ongoing Calumet Fundraising Opportunities

In addition to all the other awesome events taking place from mid-April till early June, all are invited to participate in two ongoing opportunities to benefit our Calumet Campership Fund. First, our change collection jar keeps getting filled up in the narthex, and all are encouraged to help us raise a mile of pennies! Second, we'll hold two lottery ticket raffles during this time as well so stay tuned for more details! ALL of these events will benefit our Calumet Campership Fund!

Calumet Crafting Day

Wednesday, April 24th from 1:00 - 3:00pm

During our kids' spring vacation week, the wonderful Kristen Olochnowicz will be leading all our Calumet kids in a fun afternoon of making crafts to be sold at our Mother's Day Craft Sale. If you have any questions, please speak with Kristen Olochnowicz.

Calumet Community Bingo Night

Sunday, April 28th at 6:00pm

She's back! Rotterdam's favorite "fantastic monastic," the acclaimed Sister Robert Ann, will be joining us again at Messiah for our annual Community Bingo Night! All our Calumet kids will be working hard to provide everyone with some awesome hospitality with a desserts bar and epic prizes! And hey, word on the street is that Sister Robert Ann will even be joined by a VERY special guest! Please sign up asap on narthex bulletin board!

Calumet Mother's Day Craft Sale

Sunday, May 12th at 11:30am

Looking for a special gift for a very special lady? Join us this Mother's Day for our Second Annual Mother's Day Craft Sale! Before and after worship our Calumet kids will be selling all sorts of awesome crafts to give as gifts this year.

Calumet Paint & Sip

Friday, May 31st at 7:00pm

The Olochnowicz Estate

Back by popular demand, we'll once again hold another awesome opportunity to support our young people attending Calumet this summer at the Olochnowicz's Garage Mahal! Be sure to join us for a fun night of painting, "potent potables" and hanging out together! Please sign up on the narthex bulletin board and speak with Cheryl Borski if you have any questions.

Calumet Community Coffeehouse

Sunday, June 9th at 7:00pm

Join Mr. Doug, Kristen Olochnowicz and all our awesome Calumet kids for a wonderful night of show tunes and Calumet songs! This has truly become a cherished annual tradition!

war, received the Congressional Medal of Honor with conversation to follow. All are invited to Parish House for this awesome event and please sign up on the narthex bulletin board.

A Lutheran Perspective on the Environment

Tuesday, May 14th at 6:30pm

Due to awesome feedback we have received after our Women & Justice Presentation a few of months back, Deacon Rianne Johnson will be hosting another presentation / discussion on the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's social statement Caring for Creation: Vision, Hope, and Justice which was adopted by the Churchwide Assembly in 1993. This statement offers a vision of God's intention for creation and for humanity as creation's caregivers; acknowledges humanity's separation from God and from the rest of creation as the central cause of the environmental crisis; recognizes the severity of the crisis; and expresses hope and heeds the call to justice and commitment. Please join us, it will be an enlightening discussion!

Over 55 Gang Movie & Lunch

Thursday, May 16th at 12:30pm
After a very well attended planning meeting last week, those wily "spring chickens" are at it again launching Messiah's newest fellowship group, the "Over 55 Gang!" Their May event will be a lunch and watching the classic film Mamma Mia. If you have any

questions, please speak with Barb Hallett.

Spring Cleanup and Planting Day

Sunday, May 19th at 11:30am

Inspired by the story of our Pastor Emeritus Richard Rieger's efforts to build a community garden in his home congregation of Saint Andrews in Glens Falls, during this year's spring cleanup day in addition to the usual activities we'll also be planting a small raised bed and "edible landscaping" to provide our Bread of Life Food Pantry with fresh fruits and vegetables. Jan Rieger will be joining us for this very exciting Sunday! All are invited to bring a simple dish to share for a light picnic once we've completed our work. Please sign up on the narthex bulletin board.

Vacation Bible School 2019: God's Good Creation

**Monday, August 12th - Friday,
August 16th from 7:45am -
12:30pm**

For the first summer in many years Messiah will be hosting an awesome half day Vacation Bible School for Messiah children and kids from our local neighborhood alike! Messiah VBS is open to kids entering kindergarten through entering sixth grade with opportunities for older youth to assist through a leadership development program. The week will be centered around the theme of God's Good Creation, based on a curriculum from ELCA World Hunger that helps kids learn about how faith

connects with caring for the environment and their neighbors. Cost per child will be \$10 with snacks and lunch provided. Early drop-off at 7:30am is also possible with prior notice. To sign up, please email our Parish Administrator Rianne Johnson at office@messiahschenectady.org or sign up in person on Sunday morning!

Ministry Team Meetings

Worship & Music Ministry Team Meeting

Monday, April 1st at 7:00pm

Join our Worship & Music Ministry Team as we finalize plans for Holy Week, the Season of Easter, Earth Day Sunday, Mother's Day and more! If you have any questions or would like something added to the agenda, please speak with Pastor Dustin.

Stewardship Team Meeting Sunday, April 7th following worship

Please join us after worship on Sunday, April 7th as we finalize our Spring 2019 Stewardship Campaign and discuss plans for the 2020-2025 Strategic Plan.

News You Can Use!

Rianne on Vacation Thursday, March 28th – Monday, April 8th

As a reminder, Rianne will be out of the office from Thursday, March 28th – Monday, April 8th with the exception of very

limited hours on Monday, April 1st and Friday, March 5th. If you plan on stopping by the church without an appointment and do not have access to the doors, please check with Pastor Dustin to see if he will be available. Urgent calls/emails that are time-sensitive should also go to Pastor Dustin. Thanks!

Be sure to welcome our new members Ibrahim, Stephanie, Jason, Chris, Sarah, Grace, and Anthony!



**Office Hour Change
Beginning Tuesday, April 9th**

Rianne's office hours will once again be changing! Her new hours will be Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4pm-7pm and Wednesdays from 9am-5pm. These hours may vary depending on what is going on from time to time, but the parish calendar (available on the website under fellowship – parish calendar) will be updated very frequently to reflect those possible changes.

Faith Formation Update

Please note that there will be no book discussion in April. Please mark your calendars for our next Faith Formation Committee meeting, which will be on Monday, May 8th at 7:00pm.

Care & Concern News

In addition to the launch of the "Over 55 Gang," our Care & Concern Team has been hard at work! Many thanks to Betsy Ryan for sending TWENTY cards to folks in need of care and if you're someone in need of a ride to the doctors, etc. there is now a sign-up sheet on the narthex bulletin board for folks who are willing to assist you!

**New Parking Options at
Messiah**

As we've continued to rapidly grow in attendance on Sunday mornings (by over 20% so far this year!), we've heard loud and clear that folks are having greater difficulty parking for Sunday worship. With many thanks to Karen Kreischer, we've made some short term arrangements that will ease this issue until a permanent solution can be developed. As always, primary parking is located in our main lot on Guilderland Avenue and along Oak Street near our main entrance. Additional handicap spots will soon be added along Oak Street.

Overflow parking on Sunday mornings can now be found in the unpaved portion of the parking area behind our wonderful neighbor John Fitzner Canvas and Auto on the corner of Curry Road and Floral Avenue. Affectionately known as "The Boat Place" to many in our congregation, they have recently agreed to allow us to use this space only on Sunday mornings and at your own risk. Please respect their generosity!

Social Action Update

Judy Becker is looking for a volunteer or two that can pick up the food at the Regional Food Bank. It would be during the day and would just need to be brought into the Narthex. Sign-up sheet in the Narthex.

When the schedule for the food pantry is posted, please only sign up for *one spot* per quarter. Many volunteers are being shut out because some volunteers sign up for more than one slot.

We will be looking for volunteers for the Summer Lunch Program. We are hoping to get our usual weeks (July 1 - 5 and July 29 – Aug. 2). As soon as those dates are confirmed, a sign-up sheet will be placed in the Narthex.

Randi Dunda-Martin will be chairing the Crop Walk this May. Look for her in the Narthex before and after church on Sunday. looking for walkers as well as donors.

- May 4th, Sorting food at the Regional Food Bank 1-3 PM.

Meet there at 12:45. Sign-up sheet in Narthex Soon.

- June 12th, Ice Cream Social. See Joyce Gresham for more information.
- June 19th, Next Social Action Committee Meeting 7PM.

New Safe Church Policy Adopted

As part of our ongoing commitment to make sure Messiah is a safe community for all people and a place free from all forms of harassment and abuse, our Congregation Council recently adopted a new Safe Church Policy that brings together the best of recent scholarly research, the latest New York State law and recommendations from our insurance carrier. We hope in fact that this policy may serve as model policy for ELCA congregations throughout the country. The Safe Church Policy can be found on our new Policies page on our website or feel free to ask Deacon Rianne for a copy. If you or someone you know has been the victim of harassment or abuse at Messiah and you don't feel comfortable speaking with Pastor Dustin, please contact our Safe Church Team of Ernie Incitti and Pamella Ford. Many thanks to Sue Collins and Tammi Crowther for their assistance in adopting this policy.



What better way to kick off Spring than get ice cream during confirmation class?



Another well-attended Lenten Worship service – be sure to check it out! Mr. Doug is awesome!

Spring 2019 Time & Talent Stewardship Campaign: God's Purpose for Messiah Throughout the Season of Easter

About a month ago you might remember that we had over ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY folks in Sunday worship. Just a few weeks back, at our Spring 2019 New Member Luncheon, not only did we have a bunch of new members, but we also realized that every new member's sponsor had also joined Messiah in the last five years. Parking on most Sunday mornings isn't easy, nor is keeping up with all of the amazing ministries and activities here. Over the last five years God has transformed our small but loving congregation into a rapidly growing and leading force in our local community. As Joyce Gresham joyfully exclaimed recently, "We're an entire different church than we used to be!" For sure, we've experienced a great deal of profoundly good change in recent years as a congregation, but even the best changes bring about stress. One way to work through such congregational stress is taking some time to sit down together to talk, think and pray about how we can live out life together on the Way of Christ. Sure, we have annual priorities for our congregation that have proved helpful in recent years, a cherished welcome statement we carefully developed and of course our mission statement, "to be Spirit filled church following Jesus Christ." But in a long-term sort of way, what is God doing in our community? What are our core values? And given God's vision and our values, what is our purpose as a congregation? During the Season of Easter, we'll be figuring just that out, and here's how:

Everyone at Messiah, no matter their age, is invited to take part in three short, one hour conversations listed below:

Monday, May 6th at 6:00pm: God's Vision for Our Neighborhood, will include questions like:

- What are key problems in the life of our local community, our nation and our world God is calling us to solve?
- If you were to leave Rotterdam and come back in ten years, what would you want it to look like? How about our nation and our world?

Wednesday, May 15th at 7:00pm: Our Core Values at Messiah, will include questions like:

- When you think of three words to describe Messiah Lutheran Church, what would they be?
- What are the main reasons you've come to Messiah or have stayed at Messiah?

Monday, May 20th at 6:00pm: God's Purpose for Messiah, will include questions like:

- Given our values, describe who we are at Messiah in one sentence.
- Given our values, what are the three top things we can do at Messiah to help realize God's vision?
- Who, if anyone, will we work with on an ongoing basis to realize these things?

Based on these conversations, our Stewardship Team and Congregation Council will develop a draft long-term strategic plan for Messiah that we will in turn discuss and adopt at a **Special Meeting of the Congregation scheduled for Sunday, June 2th immediately following worship**. We'll then ask everyone to volunteer their time and talents to the work of this long term plan during our ministry fair following a festive worship service on Pentecost Sunday, June 9th. Our Congregation Council and our various Ministry Teams will then use this document to further develop specific long term goals and objectives that we'll talk about further in the fall. If you have any questions, please speak with Pastor Dustin.

MINISTER OF THE MONTH: SUZANNE COLLINS

Congratulations to Suzanne Collins, our minister of the month! Suzanne is a retired middle & high school French teacher (32 years). After that career to keep busy, she became a real estate agent, combining her love of fixing up people and houses. She retired from that a year ago to become an almost full-time grandparent watching her new granddaughter & grandson.

Sue loves spending time with her many life-long friends, and stays active playing bocce & golf with friends, along with bowling and water aerobics. She also loves to spend time tending to her garden. Sue always has time to help anyone and everyone.

Most recently, Sue has helped us along with Tammi Crowther to draft a newly updated SafeChurch policy to ensure that our children at Messiah will be well taken care of. Sue has also been engaged in our nursery program revamping process! On top of all of this stuff, Sue is a member of our congregational council! Thank you so much Sue for ALL that you do here! Congratulations, again!



MINISTRY OF THE MONTH: SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE

The purpose of this committee is to support the work of our congregation members in living out God's call to serve their neighbors, generally in partnership with local and global organizations. Our Social Action Committee has helped plan numerous volunteering opportunities such as Schenectady Community Ministries Summer Lunch Program, Concerned for the Hungry Box Packing, Regional Food Bank Volunteer Day, God's Work Our Hands Saturday, collecting mittens, hats, gloves, and other supplies for City Mission of Schenectady, raise funds for our Adopt-a-Family program, collecting products for local organizations, and also helps run our Bread of Life Food Pantry! If you are interested in this committee, please speak with committee chair Pete Jones.





PASTOR'S LETTER: REV. DUSTIN G. WRIGHT

What does the Lord require of you, but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God? – Micah 6:8

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

As I briefly pause halfway through our Lenten journey together, I'm reminded how much we're in a season of profound change as a congregation. Last week I had to compile an annual congregational report for our synod and the results were absolutely astounding! Over the last five years at Messiah Lutheran Church, our average Sunday worship **attendance has grown 79%** from 47 attending in 2013 to 84 attending so far in 2019. During that same time our **membership has grown by 57%**, from 139 members to 218 members, including our Spring 2019 New Member Class. **Total annual revenue grew by 45%** from \$99,627.54 in 2014 to \$144,454.67 in 2018 and only two of our ten current Congregation Council members were actively part of Messiah five years ago. In the next year we are contemplating the launch of a once in a generation size capital improvement project and the possible development of the Bread of Life Community Center.

Those are just some of the stats, but of course even more importantly are all the new relationships and ministries that are taking root here in our Spirit filled community. From the "Over 55 Gang" to a renewed Men's Group and Young Adult Group, from our middle school age kiddos attending Confirmation Camp at Calumet for the first time to the launch of our vegetable garden/ edible landscaping for the Bread of Life Food Pantry, from the return of Vacation Bible School after many years towards pushing Schenectady Community Ministries in an interfaith direction, there's so, so much happening! There's so much change!

While these are almost all good changes, even the best of change bring about stress. One way to work through congregational stress though is to get really clear about God's vision for our neighborhood, our core values as a congregation and what we believe God's purpose for us is in realizing that vision. We'll be working on these questions during our Spring 2019 Time & Talent Stewardship Campaign throughout the season of Easter. Sure, all of our various taskforces are nearly formed to help us move forward on our Capital Campaign, but it's critically important that everyone gets involved in discerning a long term, strategic plan for our congregation beforehand. Our building is only one of many tools we'll need to fulfill God's purpose for our Spirit filled church following Jesus Christ, so getting clear on that purpose has to come first.

May you know God's peace this Lent,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dustin G. Wright".

Pastor Dustin



PRESIDING BISHOP'S LETTER: BISHOP ELIZABETH EATON

Is "Lutheran spirituality" an oxymoron? When we consider Martin Luther and the early reformers, we think of great theologians, prolific writers and musicians. We are well aware of Luther's earthy language and direct communication. But spirituality? Luther as mystic? Not so much. And yet, Luther was a deeply spiritual person who also cared for the spiritual well-being of his parishioners.

Luther was a monk before he was a college professor and reformer. By his own account he out-monked everyone in his monastery. He took his vows seriously. He longed for God. He wrestled with God. He argued with God. Well before he came to an understanding of grace, Luther nevertheless knew that his life was found in God. He was spiritual and religious.

"Spirituality" covers a lot of things. Church historian and writer Martin Marty once said: "'Spirituality' is the code word used to convey everything from profound quests to warm tingles between the toes."

As a parish pastor I often heard people declare that they were spiritual and not religious. I was suspicious that this was an excuse for not coming to church, but I now think there is more to it than that. We are created to search for meaning. Mary Jane Haemig, a professor at Luther Seminary, St. Paul, Minn., wrote: "Today people hear many words but long for authentic words and authentic relationships. They ask whether they can trust what they hear and whether they can trust that anyone will hear what they say. This longing for authentic communication is part of the longing for relationship. The church can help people identify that this longing includes a longing for God."

This issue's cover story is about prayer. Even in an increasingly secular society, prayer in some form is practiced by most Americans. What happens when we pray? Why do we pray? How should we pray? Is prayer just a lot of words spoken into emptiness? Is prayer efficacious?

Luther wasn't too worried about these questions. He was more concerned that people actually did pray, that they were in communication with God who hears prayer, commands us to pray and gives us the words we need through the Spirit. He could be pretty blunt: "You must learn to call. Do not sit by yourself or lie on a couch, hanging and shaking your head. Do not destroy yourself with your own thoughts by worrying. Do not strive and struggle to free yourself, and do not brood on your wretchedness, suffering and misery. Say to yourself: 'Come on, you lazy bum; down on your knees, and lift your eyes and hands toward heaven!'"

For Luther, God was real, and this real God wants real people to be in real communication with God. We are not to fret about elegant phrases or creative and original prayers. We shouldn't worry about folding hands or raising hands or standing or kneeling. It's not about technique. Prayer is about relationship with God. God has created us for God's self and we are not whole apart from this relationship. And it is here that this Lutheran began to understand and resist and, finally, imperfectly come to know and trust God more deeply. There is a little stubbornness in me. I like to be in charge. I want to set the terms of engagement. I will decide when God can come in. But here is the truth: God is already and always present.

Luther wrote: "The entire divine nature is wholly and entirely in all creatures, more deeply, more inwardly, more present than the creature is to itself." That kind of makes resistance pointless.

Prayer is an invitation into divine love. Prayer is God seeking us. In God's seeking, in God's speaking and listening we find ourselves.

Prayer List

Please pray for: Our members: Bill Becker, Mary Lynn Davis, Dave & Lore Ellis, Sue Force, Bob Reisinger, Zack Schaffer, Rosemary Tarbox. **Our friends and family:** Yolanda, Mary Barnett, Donna Biler, Samantha Call, Maria Caruso, Ned Cornman, Nicholas, Regina & Hudson Davis, Jamie DeCanio, Pat Disbrow Koch, Terri Dufeck, Brittany Ellers, Kathy Faina, Samantha Gainswith, Barb Hamlin, Cindy Heydrick, Margit LaForest, Kathleen LaPointe, Willy D. Larson, Victoria Lindman, Syliva MacFarlane, Jacob Mursaline, Michael O’Neill, Alyssa Parrino, Carol Presley, Alicia Rizzo, John Roberge, Elizabeth Rossi, Chris Sabatini, Stefanie Schaffer, Anne Salmond, Michael Santabarbara, Nzinga Smith, Kay Snodgrass, Bonnie Spiegel, Jaxon Stanley, Melissa Stellrecht, Wayne Stewart, Robert Sweatt, Jason Townsend, Bob Trachtenberg, Susan White. **Our loved ones serving our country and others:** Jason Maione, Tim Zakriski.

If you have a friend or loved one you would like to add/remove on our prayer list, please email Rianne at office@messiahschenectady.org or complete a Prayer Request Card (kept on the Ushers' Table in the back of the Sanctuary) and put it in the Parish Administrator's mailbox. Thanks!

April Birthdays

Devin Hodoroski April 1st
 Rianne Johnson..... April 1st
 Dotty Diegel.....April 2nd
 Tina BascomApril 7th
 Maryann Jacobs.....April 7th
 Anthony Miller.....April 8th
 Rich BeckerApril 9th
 Phil DavisApril 9th
 Thomas CollinsApril 10th
 Cecile Stewart.....April 19th
 Hannah CrowtherApril 20th
 Barb HallettApril 22nd

April Anniversaries

Cam & Maryann Jacobs..... April 1st
 Bill & Judy BeckerApril 4th
 Andrew & Holly KernozekApril 14th
 Jim & Betsy RyanApril 15th
 Dick & Joyce GreshamApril 26th

If we're missing your birthday or anniversary, or have an incorrect date, please let Rianne know at office@messiahschenectady.org

Readings for April

April 7

Isaiah 43:16-21
 Philippians 3:4b-14
 John 12:1-8

April 14

Isaiah 50:4-9a
 Philippians 2:5-11
 Luke 22:14--23:56

April 21

Acts 10:34-43
 1 Corinthians 15:19-26
 Luke 24:1-12

April 28

Acts 5:27-32
 Revelation 1:4-8
 John 20:19-31

May 5

Acts 9:1-6 [7-20]
 Revelation 5:11-14
 John 21:1-19

Worship Assistants for March 31st – May 5th

	March 31 st	April 7 th	April 14 th	April 21 st	April 28 th	May 5 th
Assisting Minister	Polly Festa	Kody Schaffer	Pamella Ford	Linda Klein	Kristen O.	Betsy Ryan
Acolyte	Austin Karrel	Grace O.	Izzy Paige	Sarah O.	Ella Roether	Austin Karrel
Crucifer	Hannah Crowther	Abriel McGuire	Haileigh Thiessen	Kyle Avery	Hannah Borski	Jesse Mathis
Lector	Mary Lynn Davis	Karen Telfeyan	Brian Karrel	Rich Stigberg	Beth Waugh	Rachel Mathis
Ushers	Vanessa & Atticus	Sue Schaffer Randi & Rene	Elberta Leuschner Betsy Sweet	Bill Becker John Diegel	Marilyn Barnett Pamella Ford	Tom Chilton Phil Davis
Greeters	Rianne Johnson Erik G.	Barb Sandmeyer Carly DiSanto	Allison Bode Nancy Stellrecht	Ann Marie Gray Kristie Becker	Kathy & Phil Bazicki	Beth Waugh Marilyn Barnett
Altar Guild	Betsy, Beth, & Nancy	Jill, Linda, & Grace	Dotty Diegel Sarah O.	Joyce, Randi, & Rene	Pamella, Ella, & Denise	Joyce, Abriel, & Carly
Bread Baker						
Nursery	Molly Karrel Abriel McGuire	Melissa & Amaya DiGiovanni	Marie Cochard Jacob Gooding	Sue Collins Hannah Borski	Christina Tallman Hannah Avery	Matthew Kane Abriel McGuire
Tech Czar	Kody Schaffer	Rianne Johnson	Logan Karrel	Kody Schaffer	Rianne Johnson	Logan Karrel

If you cannot serve as scheduled, please arrange to switch with another worship assistant to the best of your ability. If you are unable to find somebody, please speak with Rianne and she will find somebody to fill in for you. Thanks!

A separate Holy Week 2019 Schedule will be posted – if you wish to volunteer, please let Rianne or Pastor Dustin know!

April 2019						
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<p>1</p> <p>7pm Worship & Music Committee 7pm Monday Crafters</p>	<p>2</p> <p>10am Coffee Club 7pm SICM</p>	<p>3</p> <p>7pm Lenten Worship</p>	<p>4</p> <p>7pm Choir Practice</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>
<p>7</p> <p>9am Adult Ed, Breakfast Club, Sunday School 10:15am Worship 11:30am Stewardship Mtg. 6:30pm Confirmation Class</p> <p>Purple</p>	<p>8</p> <p>7pm Monday Crafters</p>	<p>9</p> <p>10am Coffee Club 12pm Executive Committee Mtg.</p>	<p>10</p> <p>6pm Lenten Worship 7pm Faith and the Environment Lecture</p>	<p>11</p> <p>6pm Young Adult Dinner 7pm Choir Practice</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>
<p>14</p> <p>9am Adult Ed, Breakfast Club, Sunday School 10:15am Worship 11:30am Nursery Training 11:30am Bake Sale 3pm Chrism Mass 6:30pm Confirmation Class</p> <p>Purple</p>	<p>15</p> <p>7:30am Matins 9am Food Pantry 6pm Compline 7pm Choir Practice</p>	<p>16</p> <p>7:30am Matins 10am Coffee Club 6pm Compline 7pm WELCA Presentation</p>	<p>17</p> <p>7:30am Matins 6pm Compline</p>	<p>18</p> <p>7:30am Matins 7pm Maundy Thursday Worship</p>	<p>19</p> <p>7:30am Matins 7pm Good Friday Worship</p>	<p>20</p> <p>10am Easter Egg Hunt 8pm Easter Vigil</p> <p>White</p>
<p>21</p> <p>8am Easter Breakfast 10:15am Easter Sunday Service</p> <p>White</p>	<p>22</p> <p>5pm Food Pantry 7pm Council 7pm Monday Crafters</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Newsletter Articles Due! 10am Coffee Club 7pm John Gray</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Newsletter Released! 12pm Calumet Crafting</p>	<p>25</p> <p>7pm Choir Practice</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>
<p>28</p> <p>9am Adult Ed, Breakfast Club, Special Project 10:15am Service 6pm Calumet Fundraiser: Bingo</p> <p>White</p>	<p>29</p> <p>7pm Monday Crafters</p>	<p>30</p>				

Community Leaders & Contacts

The following contact information is not included in the public version of The Messenger.

Church Officers (Executive Committee)

President: Jackie DeTeso

Vice President: Pete Jones

Secretary: Stacey Hodoroski

Financial Secretary: Penny Incitti

Treasurer: Lisa Mell (with Phil Bazicki assisting)

Congregation Council

Name	Phone	Email Address	Term	Liaison Committee
Dave Barnett	518.281.9676 (m)	pdavidbarnett@gmail.com	17-20	Audit, Men's Group, Faith Formation
Jackie DeTeso	518.788.8222 (m)	meema8@nycap.rr.com	17-20	Worship & Music
Stacey Hodoroski	518.986.5998 (m)	shodoroski@hotmail.com	17-20	Historian, Youth Ministry, Personnel, Mutual Ministry
Suzanne Collins	518.605.2171 (m)	scollins@nycap.rr.com	18-21	Outreach
Pete Jones	518.867.2489 (m)	jonesp714@gmail.com	18-21	Care & Concern, Social Action, Food Pantry
Ann Marie Gray	518.577.0812 (m)	runnergirl6221@gmail.com	18-21	WELCA, Stewardship, Creation Care
Steve Friebel	518.451.0628 (m)	sfbandit33@gmail.com	19-22	Kitchen, Property
René Dunda-Martin	607.228.7771 (m)	drne51@yahoo.com	19-22	Young Adult Group
Phil Bazicki	518.355.0490 (m)	pcbkm@earthlink.net	19-22	Budget & Finance
Dustin Wright	603.953.8782 (m)	pastor@messiahschenectady.org	N/A	

Staff

Rianne Johnson, Parish Administrator: office@messiahschenectady.org

Doug Chilton, Parish Musician: mrdoug.church@yahoo.com

Nicole Hamilton, Sexton: drumrchic19@yahoo.com

Dakota Schaffer, Communications Coordinator: dakotaaschaffer@yahoo.com

Ministry Team Chairs, Organization Chairs and Other Appointed Leaders

Ministry / Position	Chair/ Leader(s)	Phone	Email Address
Audit	Neal Fisher	518.355.5193 (h)	Nfisher1@nycap.rr.com
Budget & Finance	Kristie Becker	518.469.4817 (m)	kristiebecker032801@gmail.com
Bread of Life Food Pantry	Judy Becker Joyce Gresham	518.419.2175 (m) 518.258.0574 (m)	wbecker001@nycap.rr.com rjg301@aol.com
Care & Concern	Barb Hallett	518.356.3491 (h)	squeaky7762@aol.com
Creation Care	Kären Telfeyan	716.307.3440 (m)	karen.telfeyan@gmail.com
HudMo Conference Assembly Delegates	Rianne Johnson Ibrahím Pedriñán	518.925.0819 (m) 518.417.4999 (m)	office@messiahschenectady.org ijp@ibrahimpedrinan.com
Executive	Dave Barnett	518.281.9676 (m)	p davidbarnett@gmail.com
Faith Formation	Jean Jones	518.370.3226 (h)	dodgerjones@yahoo.com
Historian	Susie Schaffer	518.813.0930 (m)	susanschaffer03@icloud.com
Junior Luther League	Kristen Olochnowicz	518.378.0756 (m)	krispeno@gmail.com
Kitchen	Rich Becker Karen Kreischer	518.461.0034 (m) 518.785.9723 (h)	richbecker2340@gmail.com no email
Schenectady Youth Rise Up	Sophie Mathis Rachel Mathis	518.669.7991 (m) 518.788.8221 (m)	sophiepmathis@gmail.com racheldmathis@gmail.com
Men's Group	VACANT	VACANT	VACANT
Mutual Ministry	Christine DeMento	518.569.6002 (m)	cdemento@northway.aaa.com
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Personnel	Pamella Ford	917.414.9790 (h)	pfordny@aol.com
Property	Rich Stigberg Charlie Zitzmann	518.895.8137 (m) 518.366.0150 (m)	dickiestiggs@hotmail.com zitzmann1@aol.com
SafeChurch Team	Pamella Ford Ernie Incitti	917.414.9790 (h) 518.356.2460 (h)	pfordny@aol.com ernieincitti@gmail.com
SICM Delegates	Nancy Stellrecht Betsy Ryan	518.630.5299 (m) 518.847.6111 (m)	nancywestervelt@yahoo.com qwilll@yahoo.com
Social Action	Pete Jones	518.867.2489 (m)	jonesp714@gmail.com
Stewardship	Penny Incitti	518.461.5499 (m)	pennyincitti@gmail.com
Sunday School Superintendent	Cheryl Borski	518.429.6955 (m)	cborski@transtechsys.com
Upstate NY Synod Assembly Delegates	Merle Longwood Jackie DeTeso	518.944.4475 (m) 518.788.8222 (m)	longwood@siena.edu meema8@nycap.rr.com
WELCA	Jill Becker	518.357.9875 (m)	jb@hrfmlaw.com
Worship & Music	Pastor Dustin	603.953.8782 (m)	pastor@messiahschenectady.org
Young Adult Group	Rianne Johnson	518.925.0819 (m)	office@messiahschenectady.org

Messiah Lutheran Church
2850 Guilderland Avenue
Schenectady, NY 12306

www.messiahschenectady.org

Pastor

Rev. Dustin G. Wright

Parish Administrator

Rianne Johnson

Office Hours:

Tues. & Thurs. 4pm-7pm

Wed. 9am-5pm

Council President

Jackie DeTeso



Messiah Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Our purpose is to be a Spirit filled church following Jesus Christ.

We will welcome all people into our fellowship so that we may all worship, praise, sing together and learn from one another. With Jesus as our example we will spread the Word of God.

Please join us for Sunday Worship at 10:15am