

# The Messenger

A monthly publication from our Spirit filled church.

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We are a Spirit filled church following Jesus Christ.

## The Month Ahead

### Capital Improvement Task Force Meeting

Wednesday, January 3rd at 7:00pm

For well over two years we've been talking about making our building fully accessible to differently abled folks and making other improvements as well like expanding our food pantry, updating our electrical systems and more! Now, as we journey into 2018 together, it's time to step up and make those dreams a reality! Join leaders throughout our congregation for our first organizational meeting of the task force who will lead us in this important, once in a

generation project at Messiah. Topics for the meeting will include appointing folks to chair the building portion and the financial portion of the project, brainstorming rough ideas of what we would like to accomplish and developing a rough timeline for the project's completion. If you have any questions, please get in touch with Pastor Dustin!

### Visitation Minister Training Sunday, January 6th at 11:30am

One of our most cherished ministries is our visitation of homebound members, those who are sick and others in our local assisted living facilities. Join our Care & Concern

Committee for a brief overview of this work and if you're interested, you can become certified to take communion to those you visit! If you have any questions, please speak with Care & Concern Co-Chairs Betsy Ryan & Barb Hallett.

### Worship & Music Committee Meeting

Monday, January 8th at 7:00pm

Come, join our team as we evaluate our Advent and Christmas services, look ahead to Lent and discern how we can better support one another in prayer at Messiah! If you have any questions, please speak with Pastor Dustin or Jill Becker.



**Education Advocacy Day  
Tuesday, January 9th from  
10:00am - 3:00pm  
New York State Capitol**

All students in New York have the right to a high quality education and should have access to music, arts, sports and afterschool programs, updated and culturally relevant textbooks and current technology, small class sizes, sustainable community schools, a positive school climate, restorative practices and more! But not all students have these things — especially Black, Brown and low income students.

Governor Cuomo and the New York State Legislature must work to end racial and economic inequity in education. Join Citizen Action of New York and TWO buses of Schenectady High School students on January 9th in Albany to demand our elected officials fund the billions they

owe our public school students so that we can fund the programs, services, resources and tools we need in our local communities. If you're interested in attending, please speak with Pastor Dustin and RSVP here:

<https://actionnetwork.org/events/education-advocacy-day-of-action>.

**Social Action & Food Pantry Meeting**

**Wednesday, January 10th at 7:00pm**

Our next meeting will be combined for both Social Action and Food Pantry – please take note of the date, as it has changed.

**Junior Luther League: Alice in Wonderland Musical  
Friday, January 12th at 7:00pm  
Mohonasen High School Auditorium  
2072 Curry Road,  
Schenectady, NY 12303**

Join our Junior Luther League in supporting Olivia Tedford,

who's playing the Queen of Hearts, and Jesse Mathis, who's playing the White Rabbit in this year's Mohonasen Middle School Musical of Alice in Wonderland! Meet the Junior Luther League in the Mohonasen High School Auditorium Lobby around 6:30pm so we can all sit together and please sign up on the narthex bulletin board so we can know to look for you! Tickets cost \$8 for kids and \$10 for adults at the door. If you have any questions, please speak with Rachel Mathis or Kristen Olochnowicz.

**Creation Care Bootcamp  
Friday, January 12th -  
Saturday, January 13th  
First Lutheran Church  
181 Western Avenue, Albany,  
New York 12203**

Friday evening (6pm-9pm) we will gather for refreshments, to network and to worship as we share with one another why the work of caring for all of God's good creation is a common goal of faith communities.

Saturday from (9am-4pm) we will specifically learn tools to encourage our communities of worship to integrate earth-keeping practices as a critical piece of the ethical foundation of our faith from energy saving tools to share with facilities managers, to resources for preaching about political issues without getting partisan, to hand-on techniques to engage youth and practical examples of incorporating waste reduction in food sharing programs. The gathering is free but registration is needed well

in advance. Please register at the following link:

<https://lutherans-restoring-creation.kindful.com/register/boot-camp-2017>.

**Winter Chili Cook-off**  
**Saturday, January 13th from**  
**1:00 - 3:00pm**

Come on in and warm up with some delicious chili and raise funds for a great cause! Church members are invited to sign up in the narthex this December to enter their favorite chili recipe this December with each taster getting three votes the day of the event. A limited number of contestant spots are available although the event is open to the entire community. Cornbread, crackers and soft drinks will be served on the side. A free will offering will be taken to benefit Messiah Lutheran Church and to help finish paying for last year's 90th Anniversary Directory. If you have any questions, please see Susie Schaffer or Allison Bode.

**Annual Report Articles Due**  
**Monday, January 15<sup>th</sup>**

As a reminder to all committee chairs, please submit your annual report articles by Monday, January 15<sup>th</sup> so that the annual report will be able to be released on January 24<sup>th</sup> so sufficient time for review is allowed prior to our annual Meeting of the Congregation on February 4<sup>th</sup>, as required by our church bylaws.

**Film Screening: "Journey of the Universe"**

**Wednesday, January 17th,**  
**2017 at 7:00pm**

As a kickoff of Messiah Lutheran Church's effort to help our local community connect their faith to caring for the environment, "Journey of the Universe", an epic story of cosmic, earth, and human transformation will be shown at Messiah Lutheran Church, 2850 Guilderland Avenue, Schenectady, on Wednesday, January 17, 2018 at 7:00 pm. Evolutionary philosopher Brian Thomas Swimme and Historian of Religions Evelyn Tucker weave a tapestry that draws together discoveries in astronomy, geology, and history with humanistic insights concerning the nature of the universe. Professor Tom Dickens, Director of the Franciscan Center for Catholic Studies at Siena College, and Professor John Cummings, a physicist who is currently the Dean of the School of Science at Siena College will join us to respond and help guide the audience discussion on the film.

**Martin Luther King Jr. Soup**  
**Shabbat & Community**  
**Conversation**  
**Friday, January 19th at 5:00pm**  
**Congregation Gates of**  
**Heaven**  
**852 Ashmore Avenue,**  
**Schenectady, New York 12309**

Join the faiths communities of Schenectady Clergy Against Hate for Congregation Gates of Heaven's annual MLK Soup Shabbat and Community

Conversation. Shabbat service will begin at 5:00pm, with a soup dinner at 6:00pm and a conversation with Stephen C. Ainlay, President of Union College at 7:00pm. We will serve a variety of hearty soups, crusty bread, and dessert with a suggested donation for dinner is what you would pay to go out to eat.

All proceeds go to the Schenectady Inner City Ministry (SICM). RSVP by 1/12 to [klaws@cgoh.org](mailto:klaws@cgoh.org) or 518-374-8173. Please bring a school supply donation to be distributed to area schools in need.

**SICM Sunday**  
**Sunday, January 21st at**  
**10:15am**

Gosh, there's so many new things happening with SICM (Schenectady Inner City Ministry) that it's hard to keep track! Laurie Bacheldor, Development Director for SICM, will be on hand to join us for worship, give a short Temple Talk and then be available for more in-depth discussion after worship. We can always do more to serve our neighbors together in partnership with others than we can alone as a congregation, so be sure to join us and find out how you can get involved!

**Congregation Council**  
**Monday, January 22nd at**  
**7:00pm**

At this month's council meeting will spend time discussing initial ideas around our capital improvement plan, developing alternative funding strategies

and approving Rianne Johnson's new covenant for the *Messiah Builds Leaders* program. If you'd like to have something added to the agenda, please speak with Council President Dave Barnett.

**Faith Formation Book  
Discussion  
Beginning January 23<sup>rd</sup> at  
11:00am**

The book *Bridges Out of Poverty* will be discussed by chapters beginning January 23<sup>rd</sup> at 11am in the Narthex, starting with chapters 2-4. If you are unable to obtain the book, please join us for the discussion anyway! This book should be of particular interest to those involved in the Social Action and Food Pantry committees. Schenectady Works will be offering training sessions involving this book throughout the year. The schedule is posted in the narthex. If anyone is needing a book, please contact Jean Jones.

**Annual Report Released  
Wednesday, January 24<sup>th</sup>**

Please check your emails on this date for a link to our Annual Report – this is a big document and cannot be mailed to everybody due to the cost of paper, printing, etc. If you do not have email or would much prefer a copy, limited amounts will be available in the Narthex. If there are no more available in the Narthex and you still want one, let Rianne know and she will print one for you. Thanks!



**Patty's Place Ziti Dinner  
Fundraiser  
January 26<sup>th</sup> from 4:00pm-  
7:00pm  
705 Curry Rd. Rotterdam, NY  
12306**

Patty's Place is excited to share that we will be hosting a Ziti Dinner Fundraiser! The dinner will be held on January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 705 Curry Rd, Schenectady NY from 4:00p.m. to 7:00p.m. Menu items will include ziti, salad, bread and homemade desserts. Adults are \$10 and Children are \$5. RSVP's are appreciated but walk-ins are welcome! Please feel free to contact Rachael Williams at (518)723-0232 or via email: [pattysplacecontact@gmail.com](mailto:pattysplacecontact@gmail.com)

**February Newsletter Articles  
Due**

**Monday, January 29<sup>th</sup>**

Please get all February Messenger articles submitted by Monday, January 29<sup>th</sup> – as always, an email reminder will be sent in advance to all individuals in charge of events for that month.

**Team East Mission Meeting  
Tuesday, January 30<sup>th</sup> from  
6:30pm - 8:00pm**

We've been growing by leaps and bounds at Messiah in so many ways! There's so many new faces and families, new ways to support one another and new ways to serve our community. While so much positive stuff is happening our congregation, here's something even cooler... these similar minded folks in nearby ELCA congregations striving to do similar things happen, to leave out God's mission in their local communities! If you're interested in brainstorming with those sort of like-minded folks,

please join Pastor Dustin, Deacon Tom Collins Rev. Norma Malfatti for a conversation we'll be hosting right at Messiah! If you're interested in participating, please RSVP by January 21 to Karen Lapierre at klapierre164@gmail.com or 518.320.5492.

If you're interested in helping cook for our guests, please speak with Pastor Dustin... we're going to need all the help we can get to provide hospitality for such an important conversation!

**Community Family Fun Day  
Planning Meeting  
Wednesday, January 31st,  
2017 at 7:00pm**

Every other summer Messiah plans a massive blow out celebration for everyone in our neighborhood called Community Family Fun Day (or #CCFD). Join us on January 31st as we figure out who will be in charge of what portions of the event and goals for one of our most important community ministries! If you have any questions, please speak with Kristen Olochnowicz.

**February Newsletter Released  
Wednesday, January 31st**

As long as nothing goes wrong and a computer doesn't randomly shut off, our February Messenger will be released on Wednesday, January 31st. Be in the lookout!

**Souper Bowl of Caring  
Sunday, February 4th at  
10:15am**

Super Bowl 52 is rapidly approaching and our confirmation students are once again gearing up to support SICM's annual "Souper" Bowl Fund Drive! One hundred percent of monies raised from this drive will be used to help the SICM Emergency Food Pantry. Confirmation students will be collecting funds in soup pots in the back of the sanctuary before worship and during our Annual Meeting of the Congregation so be sure to contribute to worthy cause!

**Annual Meeting of the  
Congregation  
Sunday, February 4th at  
11:30am**

Join the people of Messiah as we celebrate all we accomplished together in the last year, break out into small groups to discuss our three priority mission areas for the year ahead, elect new leaders and approve a new budget. As a change in format from previous years, the meeting will take place over a light brunch in the Fellowship Hall with food provided by our Congregation Council, so please RSVP on the narthex bulletin board! If you have any questions, please speak with Pastor Dustin or President Dave Barnett.

**SAVE THE DATE: Used Christmas  
Decoration Sale  
Saturday, November 3rd**

The Social Action committee is sponsoring a fund raising opportunity in November. We

know it is early to be reporting this, but the reason is, we will be having "Used Christmas Decoration" sale! So, as you are putting away your decorations and you have some that you are tired of or no longer use, pack them up and bring them to church - we will store them until November. We will also be having a bake sale. More information to follow as we get closer to the date

## News You Can Use

### Social Action

December was a great month for our committee. Due to a very supportive congregation, we collected \$1000 for the families we adopted for Christmas. We were able to provide gifts for 4 families, totaling 28 people. They were all very grateful. We had money left over, so we sent donations to "Patty's Place" at Trinity Reformed, "The Little Food Pantry" at Bellevue Reformed, and the balance went to our food pantry. Thank you all so much for your generosity. We are looking forward to 2018 and excited to see where we might find opportunities to serve.

### SICM

SICM 50th Anniversary Celebration March 20th at Glen Sanders. More information to be given in Feb. Next Assembly meeting is February 6th, no Jan meeting. Topic will be Area immigration issues and resources. Mt Olivet Church will

no longer hold meetings. Meeting places will be changed. Next meeting will be at First United Methodist Church, 603 State Street. Please Contact Nancy Stellrecht or Betsy Ryan for any questions.

### Realm Directory News!

This has been in the works for quite a while, but we have finally converted our church directory software! This may not mean much to you since you're not in the office doing church secretary related tasks, but this will serve to be very beneficial for all members of our congregation – not just staff. You will soon be able to log into our database from your phone, computer, tablet, etc. and update your personal information, statement mail and email preferences, gather phone numbers or addresses of members who you may need to look up, and it will greatly help us keep our Sunday School rosters and committee information up-to-date on a much more regular basis. Be on the lookout over the next couple of months for an email invite to join!

### New Office Hours AGAIN???

College is starting back up, and Rianne's office hours are once again changing! Rianne's new hours will be Tuesdays from 8am-3pm and Wednesdays from 1pm-6pm, effective January 16<sup>th</sup>. As always, she will continue to be available outside of those times via email

(office@messiahschenectady.org) and cellphone texting calling (available in our church directory.)

### Thank You from Pastor Dustin

I'd like to deeply thank everyone at our Spirit filled church for your generous gift this Christmas and in general for such a wonderful year. I've always felt very supported in my ministry here at Messiah. Everyone is so dedicated to welcoming folks, helping others and sharing the good news. I have no doubt we'll have another blessed year together in 2018.

### Bottles

Thanks to all who have been bringing bottles to church. We are averaging about \$30+ a month. There are 2 requests, please rinse bottles, especially beer, as they create an odor in the foyer, and also, check your bottles and cans to be sure they have a deposit on them. Some that don't, are tea, lemonade, fruit drinks, flavored waters, etc. They would go in your recycling bins. It saves time at the redemption center. Thanks again for your support

### Care and Concern

We now have the defibrillator up in narthex. It is locked and keys are nearby. Hopefully we will never need it, but it's here. We made a couple of visits to Glendale this past month on our visit two weeks before Christmas, we delivered the decorated trees that WELCA decorated. The people were so

excited and appreciative what a great gesture to let them know that we haven't forgotten them. Ann Mastro (a Messiah congregante) is also in Glendale temporarily after leg surgery. We had a care and concern meeting this month, where we discussed a plan for medical emergencies, pastor took notes and was planning to discuss with council. Our next pot luck dinner at Glendale will be January 21<sup>st</sup>, hope to see you there. We always have a great time and good food. Judy Becker continues to remember our members who are ill or in need of cheering up.

### Dedication YTD

Many thanks to all of those who generously contributed in 2017 to the following funds in memory/honor of loved ones.

#### **Endowment Fund** YTD \$9,300

Carol Jurewicz  
Tom Town  
Pastor Richard Rieger  
Charles Friday  
Betty Friebe  
Lorraine Simpson  
Richard King  
Phyllis Brown  
John Engvold

#### **Memorial Fund** YTD \$1,374

Carol Jurewicz  
Richard King  
John Engvold  
Louise Engvold  
Betty Friebe

#### **Richard Hallett Accessibility Fund** YTD \$2550

Richard Hallett  
Bill & Betty Jones (In honor)

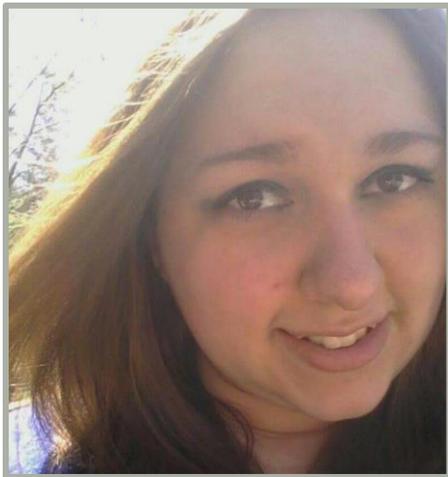
#### **Property Fund** YTD \$1555

Betty Friebe

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## MINISTER OF THE MONTH: SOPHIE MATHIS

Sophie Mathis lives with her Mom, Dad, Brother, 2 dogs, and cat and is a Junior at Mohonasen High School. Sophie enjoys being in band, plays, a cappella, and choir! Sophie hopes to major in music at college and is going to be in one of Mohonasen High School's upcoming plays. Sophie looks very forward to revamping our youth group, where she will be leading high school youth in deep discussions, getting more involved with thinking about social issues, and opening the group up for other youth across different religions. At Messiah, you can find Sophie up in the choir loft with her Mom and the other choir people who LOVE her! Congratulations, Sophie, for being our Minister of the Month!



## PARISH ADMINISTRATOR'S LETTER: RIANNE JOHNSON

New year, new... goal? So here it is, Tuesday the 2nd and I've been so bogged down with bulletin stuff, newsletter stuff, helping get Realm set up, more newsletter stuff, and still trying to have a last few days of relaxation before it's time to buckle down and start studying for the Spring 2018 semester. I have a few loose ends left to tie together, and this one major one is my 2018 Learning Covenant. I've had a difficult time thinking about what to learn with such little extra time I have, but decided that hey – why not go back to the roots? Christianity is awesome and everything, but how has it evolved in the past couple thousand years? Has it always been like this?

Technology and life has advanced so much, it's sometimes hard to slow down and reflect on where it all began. My goal for this year – besides staying alive and maintaining super good grades – is to learn more about the bible, early Christianity, and the future. Pastor Dustin and I had a great sickness-filled lunch earlier today at Tops during Community Office Hours brainstorming what we would like the midweek Lenten series to be about, and this will be covering just a glimpse of things I'll be doing some reading and deep thinking about. Stay tuned, and keep warm!

## PASTOR'S LETTER: REV. DUSTIN G. WRIGHT



Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

To think about our future in the year ahead, it might be helpful to reflect our past.

As a little book called *Sacred Roots* by Jon Tyson explains, in the first couple centuries after Jesus' earthly ministry, cities in the Roman Empire weren't always the best places, often filled with disease and death. In fact, when a plague hit a city, half the population might be devastated, the rich and anyone else with the means would flee,

leaving the poor to suffer. Not a good situation, but look what a leader named Dionysius wrote around 270 CE about how Christians reacted at the height of a great epidemic:

*Most of our brother Christians showed unbounded love and loyalty... heedless of danger, they took charge of the sick, attending to their every need and ministering to them in Christ, and with them departed this life serenely happy...*

A Roman historian named Eusebius, writing a few decades later, adds the following:

*[The Christians] deeds were on everyone's lips, and they glorified the God of the Christians. Such actions convinced them that they alone were pious and truly reverent to God.*

Now, I'm not suggesting we all go out and catch an infectious disease, but gosh, we have so much to learn from our forebears. The early Christians deeply grounded themselves in their local communities, staying put and helping out when everyone else abandoned ship. And in that deep sense of community and connection, they found happiness, they found purpose, they found meaning.

This will be a big year at Messiah Lutheran Church. We're going to make some big decisions about how to improve our building in order to make sure it will continue to support our growing ministries and serve our local neighborhood. We're going to figure out how to strengthen our Bread of Life Food Pantry and discover new community service opportunities. We're going to build new relationships and programs to support our young people.

And we're going to do all of it, just like the earliest Christians, grounded in Jesus, grounded in community. Let's get to work!

God's peace,  
Pastor Dustin

## PRESIDING BISHOP'S LETTER: REV. ELIZABETH EATON



A colleague at the Lutheran Center related this story. An unchurched friend of hers was visiting and noticed her Advent calendar. "What is Advent?" she asked. A simple question. But my colleague soon discovered it wasn't that easy to explain [Advent](#) to someone who had never heard of it, but who also had no frame of reference for it.

My colleague talked about a season of hope, longing and preparation, about the coming of the Christ child. Noticing her friend's puzzled look, she stopped short of talking about the eschatological and hermeneutical possibilities presented by the season.

It's not that my colleague lacks an understanding of Advent or isn't herself a faithful person. Nor are her communication skills deficient—she is wicked bright and funny, and relates well to people. No. She had come face-to-face with the

reality that a growing segment of our population has had little or no connection with the church or any other religious tradition. They don't speak our language. They don't know our stories. They don't measure time the way we do—Advent, [Christmas](#), [Epiphany](#), [Lent](#), Holy Week, [Easter](#), [Pentecost](#). They literally don't know what we are talking about.

You might have had a similar experience—not just an encounter with someone from another religious tradition, but with someone with no religious tradition. How do we talk to them? How do we tell them about the intimate, abiding, deep love that God has shown to us in Jesus? How do we even tell them about Jesus? How do we explain Jesus and the incarnation, the crucifixion and the resurrection?

We know what we are talking about, but we can't assume that others do. Many people don't even know that they need to know Jesus—or that the Jesus they think they know isn't the Jesus they need to know.

I once asked a group of our pastors and deacons to explain the gospel in a tweet without using the words sin, grace or gospel. A tweet then was 140 characters—it's now 280 characters, but I don't think that would make the assignment any easier.

We know what we mean, we understand key phrases and metaphors. We know what makes sense to us. But for those who have either no experience with the church or a painful one, we speak an unintelligible language.

Those of us (myself included) who have spent our lives in the church live in a kind of bubble. We do speak the same language—church speak. We know what we mean, we understand key phrases and metaphors. We know what makes sense to us. But for those who have either no experience with the church or a painful one, we speak an unintelligible language.

So where do we start? I believe we should start from the conviction that Jesus has the words of eternal life, that he is the way to truth and hope and life. Can we even explain that to ourselves? Do we have the words that speak to our own hearts? Can we explain the Christian tradition to ourselves, and do we believe it? When we are able to confess, live and breathe that we live, move and have our being in God, we then need to find the language that speaks to those outside of the church bubble.

We can't cede the public space to the popular culture or to a distortion of the Christian message. It's hard to take that both Harry Potter and the Marine Corps (I'm a huge fan of both) have a more compelling exposition of the gospel ("It's all about love, Harry") or of *koinonia* ("Serving something greater than themselves"). We are missionaries again. Without diluting the gospel or in any way pandering for popularity, it falls to us to commend the faith within us clearly and genuinely.

I know we stake our lives on the truth of Jesus' death and resurrection. This brings freedom and life to us so we can invite others into God's freedom and life.

## Prayer List

**Our members:** Bill Becker, Tom Collins, Mary Davis, Dave Ellis, Lore Ellis, Sue Force, Gerald Hoffstetter, Marion Lewis, Bob Reisinger, George Small, Theo Wegner. **Our friends and family:** Donna Biler, Brendan Bradshaw, Maria Caruso, Ned Cornman, Nicholas, Regina & Hudson Davis, Jamie DeCanio, Pat Disbrow Koch, Terri Dufleck, Brittany Eilers, Kathy Faina, Florence Friebe, Samantha Gainswith, Barb Hamlin, Cindy Heydrick, Margit LaForest, Kathleen LaPointe, Victoria Lindman, Syliva MacFarlane, Harold MacMurray, Michael O'Neill, Carol Presley, Alicia Rizzo, John Roberge, Chris Sabatini, Nzinga Smith, Kay Snodgrass, Bonnie Spiegel, Jaxon Stanley, Jason Townsend, Susan White, Carol Winick. **Our loved ones serving our country and others:** Jason Maione, Ken Ryan, 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](mailto: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!*

### January Birthdays

Amanda Stigberg ..... January 4<sup>th</sup>  
 Chip Crowther ..... January 9<sup>th</sup>  
 Linda Buehler ..... January 16<sup>th</sup>  
 Dick Gresham ..... January 18<sup>th</sup>  
 Rebecca Davis ..... January 18<sup>th</sup>  
 Karen Keenan ..... January 21<sup>st</sup>  
 Ron Force ..... January 24<sup>th</sup>  
 Neal Fisher ..... January 25<sup>th</sup>  
 Joyce Gresham ..... January 26<sup>th</sup>  
 Richard Keenan ..... January 31<sup>st</sup>

### January Anniversaries

David & Lore Ellis ..... January 4<sup>th</sup>  
 Jean & Peter Jones ..... January 22<sup>nd</sup>

***If we're missing your birthday or anniversary, or have an incorrect date, please let Rianne know at [office@messiahschenectady.org](mailto:office@messiahschenectady.org)***

### Readings for January

#### January 7<sup>th</sup>

Genesis 1:1-5  
 Psalm 29  
 Acts 19:1-7  
 Mark 1:4-11

#### January 14<sup>th</sup>

1 Samuel 3:1-10 [11-20]  
 Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18  
 1 Corinthians 6:12-20  
 John 1:43-51

#### January 21<sup>st</sup>

Jonah 3:1-5, 10  
 Psalm 62:5-12  
 1 Corinthians 7:29-31  
 Mark 1:14-20

#### January 28<sup>th</sup>

Deuteronomy 18:15-20  
 Psalm 111  
 1 Corinthians 8:1-13  
 Mark 1:21-28

#### February 4<sup>th</sup>

Isaiah 40:21-31  
 Psalm 147:1-11, 20c  
 1 Corinthians 9:16-23  
 Mark 1:29-39

#### February 11<sup>th</sup>

2 Kings 2:1-12  
 Psalm 50:1-6  
 2 Corinthians 4:3-6  
 Mark 9:2-9

## Worship Assistants for January 7<sup>th</sup> – February 11<sup>th</sup>

	January 7 <sup>th</sup>	January 14 <sup>th</sup>	January 21 <sup>st</sup>	January 28 <sup>th</sup>	February 4 <sup>th</sup>	February 11 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Assisting Minister</b>	Susie Schaffer	Kody Schaffer	Pamella Ford	Linda Klein	Kristen Olochnowicz	Betsy Ryan
<b>Acolyte</b>	Haileigh Thiessen	Ella Roether	Kyle Avery	Hannah Borski	Hannah Crowther	Austin Karrel
<b>Crucifer</b>	Devin Hodoroski	Mark Lavenia	Olivia Tedford	Hanna Avery	Devin Hodoroski	Mark Lavenia
<b>Lector</b>	Beth Waugh	Margaret Glennie	Rich Becker	Rich Stigberg	Beth Waugh	Brian Karrel
<b>Ushers</b>	Charlie Zitzmann Zack Schaffer	Marilyn Barnett Pamella Ford	Tom Chilton Ann Marie Gray	Paul Bode John Crowther	Susie Schaffer Phil Davis	Amanda Stigberg Kyle Avery
<b>Greeters</b>	Kristie Becker Ann Marie Gray	Carly DiSanto Barb Sandmeyer	Beth Waugh Marilyn Barnett	Allison Bode Nancy Stellrecht	Rianne Johnson Lisa Mell	Carly DiSanto Barb Sandmeyer
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Jill, Linda, Grace	Dotty Diegel Sarah O.	Pamella, Ella, Denise	Joyce Gresham Abriel McGuire	Betsy Ryan Beth Waugh	Jill, Linda, Grace
<b>Bread Baker</b>	Jean Jones					
<b>Nursery</b>	Amber Hodoroski Hannah Borski	Melissa & Amaya DiGiovanni	Diane Fisher Hanna Avery	Erica & Mark Lavenia	Molly Karrel Hannah Borski	Melissa & Amaya DiGiovanni
<b>Snow Shovelers</b>						

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 try to find somebody to fill in for you. Thanks !

Parish Calendar for January 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p style="text-align: right;"><b>7</b></p> <p><b>9am</b> Sunday School &amp; Breakfast Club  <b>10:15am</b> Service  <b>11:30am</b> Visitation Minister Training  <b>6:30pm</b> Confirmation Class</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>White</b></p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>8</b></p> <p><b>7pm</b> Monday Evening Crafters  <b>7pm</b> Worship &amp; Music Committee Mtg.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>9</b></p> <p><b>10am</b> Education Advocacy Day  <b>12pm</b> Executive Committee Mtg.  <b>7pm</b> Budget Reconciliation Mtg.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>10</b></p> <p><b>7pm</b> Social Action Committee &amp; Food Pantry Mtg.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>11</b></p> <p><b>7pm</b> Choir Practice</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>12</b></p> <p><b>6pm</b> Creation Care Bootcamp  <b>7pm</b> Jr. Luther League Event</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>13</b></p> <p><b>9am</b> Creation Care Bootcamp  <b>1pm</b> Chili Cook-Off</p>
<p style="text-align: right;"><b>14</b></p> <p><b>9am</b> Sunday School &amp; Breakfast Club  <b>10:15am</b> Service w. Baptism of Grayson Tallman  <b>11:30am</b> Baptism Reception  <b>6:30pm</b> Confirmation Class</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Green</b></p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>15</b></p> <p><b>9am</b> Food Pantry</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>16</b></p> <p><b>12pm</b> Community Office Hours</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>17</b></p> <p><b>7pm</b> Film Night: Journey of the Universe</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>18</b></p> <p><b>6pm</b> Troop 2062  <b>7:00pm</b> Choir Practice</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>19</b></p> <p><b>5pm</b> SCAH MLK Soup Shabbat</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>20</b></p>
<p style="text-align: right;"><b>21</b></p> <p><b>9am</b> Adult Ed, Sunday School, Breakfast Club  <b>10:15am</b> Service  <b>11:30am</b> SICM Sunday Presentation  <b>4pm</b> Glendale Gathering  <b>6:30pm</b> Confirmation Class</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Green</b></p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>22</b></p> <p><b>5pm</b> Food Pantry  <b>7pm</b> Congregation Council Meeting</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>23</b></p> <p><b>11am</b> Book Discussion  <b>12pm</b> Community Office Hours</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>24</b></p> <p><b>Annual Report Released</b>    <b>6:30pm</b> Stewardship Committee Mtg.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>25</b></p> <p><b>7pm</b> Choir Practice</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>26</b></p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>27</b></p>
<p style="text-align: right;"><b>28</b></p> <p><b>9am</b> Adult Ed, Sunday School, Breakfast Club  <b>10:15am</b> Service  <b>6:30pm</b> Confirmation Class</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Green</b></p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>29</b></p> <p><b>7pm</b> Monday Evening Crafters</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>30</b></p> <p><b>12pm</b> Community Office Hours  <b>6:30pm</b> Team East Meeting</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>31</b></p> <p><b>6:30pm</b> CFFD Meeting</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>1</b></p> <p><b>6pm</b> Troop 2062  <b>7pm</b> Choir Practice</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>2</b></p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>3</b></p>

## Community Leaders & Contacts

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

### Church Officers (Executive Committee)

President: Dave Barnett

Vice-President: Christine DeMento

Secretary: Stacey Hodoroski

Financial Secretary: Penny Incitti

Treasurers: Lisa Mell and Pete Jones

Pastor: Rev. Dustin Wright

### Congregation Council

Name	Phone	Email Address	Term	Liaison Committee
Penny Incitti	518.461.5499 (m)	pennyincitti@gmail.com	15-18	Stewardship, Care & Concern, Property
Christine DeMento*	518.569.6002 (m)	cdemento@northway.aaa.com	15-18	Personnel, Mutual Ministry
Pete Jones*	518.867.2489 (m)	poppi62@verizon.net	15-18	Social Action
Lisa Mell	518.355.0942 (m)	mlisa942@gmail.com	16-19	Budget & Finance
Merle Longwood	518.944.4475 (m)	longwood@siena.edu	16-19	Faith Formation
Kiersten Becker*	518.416.5651 (m)	kiersten.becker@guilderlandschools.net	16-19	Kitchen & Outreach
Dave Barnett	518.281.9676 (m)	pdavidbarnett@gmail.com	17-20	Audit
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
Rev. Dustin Wright	603.953.8782 (m)	pastor@messiahschenectady.org	N/A	N/A

\*Fulfilling partial term.

### Staff

Rianne Johnson, Parish Administrator: office@messiahschenectady.org

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

Nicole Fatato, Sexton: drumrchic19@yahoo.com

Dakota Schaffer, Communications Coordinator: dakotaaschaffer@yahoo.com

## Committee Chairs, Organization Chairs and Other Appointed Leaders

<b>Committee / Position</b>	<b>Chair/ Leader(s)</b>	<b>Phone</b>	<b>Email Address</b>
Audit	Neal Fisher	518.355.5193 (h)	Nfisher1@nycap.rr.com
Budget & Finance	Kristie Becker	518.469.4817 (m)	kristiebecker032801@gmail.com
Care & Concern	Betsy Ryan	518.847.6111 (m)	qwilll@yahoo.com
HudMo Conference Assembly Delegates	Rianne Johnson Susie Schaffer	518.925.0819 (m) 518.813.0930 (m)	office@messiahschenectady.org susanschaffer03@icloud.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
Luther League	Rachel Mathis	518.788.8221 (m)	Racheldmathis@gmail.com
Men's Group	Phil Davis	518.365.2834 (m)	pdavis03@nycap.rr.com
Mutual Ministry	Christine DeMento	518.569.6002 (m)	cdemento@northway.aaa.com
Outreach	Molly Karrel Tom Collins	518.878.9338 (m) 518.605.1304 (m)	relyeam@hotmail.com collinscomm@gmail.com
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
SICM Delegates	Nancy Stellrecht Betsy Ryan	518.630.5299 (m) 518.847.6111 (m)	nancywestervelt@yahoo.com qwilll@yahoo.com
Social Action	Judy Becker	518.374.5104 (h)	wbecker001@nycap.rr.com
Stewardship	VACANT	VACANT	VACANT
Sunday School Superintendent	Cheryl Borski	518.429.6955 (m)	cborski@transtechsys.com
Upstate NY Synod Assembly Delegates	Rianne Johnson Penny Incitti	518.925.0819 (m) 518.461.5499 (m)	office@messiahschenectady.org pennyincitti@gmail.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](http://www.messiahschenectady.org)

**Pastor**

Rev. Dustin G. Wright  
**Community Office Hours:**  
Tues. 12p - 2p

**Parish Administrator**

Rianne Johnson  
**Office Hours:**  
Mon. 8a-2p  
Tues. & Thurs. 4p-7p

**Council President**

Dave Barnett



# **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 & 6:00pm**