

The MESSENGER

A faithful, serving community, joyfully sharing Christ's love.



2017

Messiah Lutheran Church

Rev. Julie Haspel, Pastor

Church phone: 201-337-4900

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SUNDAY WORSHIP

Contemporary Worship: 8:45am

Christian Education: 9:45am

Traditional Worship: 10:45am

The wooden shoe of worry

The word sabotage has a fascinating history. Sabot is the French word for a wooden shoe. Sabotage was the act of throwing a shoe into machinery to stop work. Now it means any attempt to hinder production or spoil a product.

Satan tries to cast a wooden shoe into our souls to prevent us from accomplishing God's plan. That shoe is worry, which can crush the spirit, sour our disposition and interfere with Christian service. That's why Jesus instructs: "Do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself" (Matthew 6:34, NIV). Jesus isn't promoting laziness or indifference; instead, he encourages us to trust our Father, who provides for all our needs.

Be on guard, and don't let worry sabotage your faith!

Live it out

The greatest single cause of atheism in the world today is Christians who acknowledge Jesus with their lips, walk out the door and deny him by their lifestyle. That is what an unbelieving world simply finds unbelievable.

—Brennan Manning, *The Ragamuffin Gospel*

Doing faith

Faith is better understood as a verb than as a noun, as a process than as a possession. It is on-again-off-again rather than once-and-for-all. Faith is not being sure where you're going, but going anyway. A journey without maps. [As theologian] Paul Tillich said ... doubt isn't the opposite of faith; it is an element of faith.

—Frederick Buechner

Holy Spirit, blow through our hearts and set us on fire for you! Amen



“When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.” Acts 2:1-4

Pentecost begins on the first Sunday of June. The Day of Pentecost has become the occasion for the gift of the Holy Spirit to the church. The Spirit is the power of the resurrected Jesus in our midst, claiming us in baptism, feeding us at communion, and sending us into the world to be bearers of that divine word which raises the dead to new life. We are claimed by this gift of the Holy Spirit and sent to be the Church in this time and place.

The Season of Pentecost is the longest season of the church year. It begins in June and will end on the first Sunday of Advent. It is no accident that it is the longest season as this is where we focus on being the Church. In the season of Advent, we prepare for the coming of Christ into our midst, which we truly understand in the season of Christmas. Epiphany has us ponder the nature of Christ, ‘who’ he is. Lent helps us understand the ‘why’ of Jesus’ death and resurrection. Easter celebrates the gift of the resurrection and what it means in our lives. In Pentecost, we learn that we are given the gift of the Holy Spirit in order to live our callings as Christians and be the Church.

On June 11, we will celebrate the season with one service that day. We will worship at 10 a.m. and celebrate the Spirit through readings and song. The Choir, the Band, and the children of Sunday School have been eagerly preparing for this day. We will also celebrate the Holy Spirit with the baptism of Declan Leininger. It looks to be a wonderful day that will lead us into the Summer months, the growth period of our land and of the Church. I do hope that you will celebrate with us throughout the season.

Peace,
Pastor Julie

God our creator, the resurrection of your son offers life to all the peoples of the earth. By your Holy Spirit, kindle in us the fire of your love, empowering our lives for service and our tongues for praise, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

Prayer of the Day for Pentecost

WHAT'S HAPPENING at Messiah

Saturday, June 3, 9:00am-3:00pm: [Messiah's Share Your Treasures Day](#)

Garage Sale: free will donations accepted. All proceeds go to the Youth Gathering.



Saturday, June 3, Church BBQ: Mark your calendars because the church's favorite BBQ will be here before you know it! Appetizers will be at 4:00pm in the picnic area. Chicken and ribs will follow at 5:30pm.

Sunday, June 4 Outdoor Worship: We are beginning our monthly worship in the Outdoor Chapel (ODC). Plan to join us in the ODC for the 8:45 service. We will continue to meet outside on the first Sundays of the month through September. See you there!

Saturday, June 10, 9:00am: Property Work Day

Sunday, June 11, 8:00am: Men's Breakfast.

Sunday, June 11, 10am: Combined service for *Pentecost Cantata*

**The Summer Schedule will begin on
June 25th and continue through September 3rd
8:45am Contemporary Service.
10:00am Traditional Service**



Council Highlights

May 17, 2017 meeting

- † Council moved that if we are not exempted from the **Ramapo Mountain Lakes law suit** as a religious organization, we will hire Cole Schotz P.C. to represent us at a retainer fee of \$350.
- † 2 bids will be arriving for a **new speaker system** for the church. New speakers for the band will be held off until we are sure they will work with the new church speakers.
- † The church office is looking into leasing a **new copier** for 5 years for about \$150/month which will include toner and all expenses including repairs.
- † After attending a workshop, it was felt the **Stephen Ministry** would be a great program for Messiah. This ministry provides congregations with the plan and resources to organize, train, and guide laypeople to provide consistent, high quality one-to-one Christian care to hurting people in the congregation and community. Watch for additional details.
- † The **Johnson Amendment** that did not allow churches to encourage voting for any specific person has been rescinded. A recent letter received from Bishop Eaton stated that this is not what the Lutheran Church does.
- † Michele Weintraub took 45 pillows, 46 pillow cases. and some bath towels to **St. Paul's in Paterson**.
- † The **Youth Group** is planning the following fund raisers:
 - September 17, 2017- Painting with a Twist, 1-4pm
 - November 4, 2017 - Fish dinner
 - January 22, 2018 - Clothing by the Pound
 - March, 2018 - Pasta dinner
 - May, 2018 - Car Wash

MESSIAH'S SHARE YOUR TREASURES DAY



JUNE 3
9:00AM - 3:00PM
(JUNE 10 - RAIN DATE)

FREE WILL TABLE DONATION

ALL PROCEEDS TO
YOUTH GATHERING

BENEVOLENCE OF THE MONTH

St Paul's Community Development Corporation

St Paul's is a common name in this church. For many years, once a month we prepared and served meals at the shelter. This shelter is but a small part of the St Paul's CDC. St. Paul's CDC has its roots in St. Paul's Episcopal Church, which has served Paterson, New Jersey for almost 200 years. St. Paul's was home to the city's first Head Start classroom in 1966, it created the [Food Pantry](#) in 1970, and the [Emergency Men's Shelter](#) in 1984.

In the fall of 1990, St. Paul's Community Development Corporation was founded as the outreach mission of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in the City of Paterson. It is a separate, secular, not-for-profit organization guided by a diverse and voluntary board of directors that bridges racial, economic, geographic, and religious boundaries. Its purpose is to alleviate the conditions of hunger, homelessness, unemployment, poverty, and illiteracy in the City of Paterson. They do this by providing emergency services to all in need and by designing long-term approaches to achieving social and economic improvement at the grassroots level. Please visit their website at <http://www.stpaulscdcnj.org> so you too can be impressed by the diversity of community outreach programs they offer.

Stephen Ministry

On April 29th 5 members of Messiah and Pastor Julie attended a Stephen Ministry workshop at Grace Methodist Church in Wyckoff. Stephen Ministry is a program to train lay people to provide caring visitation and support to people who are in a special need such as grief, illness, divorce, job loss, or a life change with which they are struggling. Stephen ministers walk alongside them, being a listening, non-judgmental presence and extend the services that the Pastor can provide. Assigned one to one for as long a time as needed, they meet once a week for an hour or so with the person they are accompanying.

We were very impressed with the program and would like to implement it here at Messiah in the next year or so. The training is quite extensive. 1200 churches, of all denominations and sizes, in the US currently have a Stephen Ministry program. As our planning progresses, you will be hearing more about this opportunity to spread love and care to people in our church and our extended community.

Messiah members who attended are Sue Boyce, Jacquie Kartanos, George Hillier, Joan Ludke, Mary Ellen Twomey and Pastor Julie. You can access more information on the website www.stephenministries.org.



C.F.A. Garden

Many plants are in the ground!

The seeds have been planted with the hope of a bountiful harvest to feed the hungry. We have planted bush beans, zucchini, tomatoes, carrots, cucumbers, peppers and eggplants!

Please sign up to help weed the garden and pick vegetables during the growing season. Make it a “Family Affair” or team up with a friend or friends. It just takes a few minutes to pick vegetables or even weed if kept up regularly. (Hopefully weeds will be kept to a minimum in the path with the weed-block fabric put down!)

A sign-up sheet is posted, or you can call Terry Vollmin, if you would like to help or have any questions.

Oakland Community Vacation Bible School 2017



**Location: Ponds Reformed Church
341 Ramapo Valley Rd Oakland, NJ**

Dates: Monday, August 7 through Friday, August 11 2017

Time: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm (Lunch included)

Ages: From entering Kindergarten to entering 6th grade.

**Aftercare for any registered child available until 4pm at an additional cost of
\$10 per day.**

For more information about VBS or how you can help, call
Ponds Reformed Church at (201) 337-6744

Registration deadline: June 30, 2017

Registration is on a first come, first served basis.

Space is limited

A registration offering is requested of \$70.00 per child
Registration offering includes a T-Shirt,
a group photo, craft projects, and lunch.

To register detach form & mail along with your check to

Ponds Reformed Church,

Attn: VBS, 341 Ramapo Valley Rd. Oakland, N.J.

Make checks payable to "VBS".

*Or drop off at any participating congregation: Franklin Lakes United Methodist, Messiah Lutheran, Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Ponds Reformed, Ramapo Baptist, and St. Alban's Episcopal

VBS Registration for 2017

(One child per form please)

Child's Name: _____

Parent/Guardian: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

E-mail address* _____

* Mandatory for future correspondence.

Child's Age ____ Birth Date ____

Last Grade Completed by June 30, 2017 _____

Will attend Aftercare _____

Home Congregation _____

Allergies or medical issues VBS staff should be aware of _____

In case of emergency contact:

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Relationship to child: _____

Person responsible for picking child up from VBS each day:

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Signature of parent/guardian _____

Circle T-Shirt size below.

Child small (6 - 8) medium (10 - 12) large (14-16) Adult small



**FINANCE
REPORT**

To All Members of Messiah Lutheran Church

Total Income in April was \$17.4K versus expenses of \$19.5K, resulting in a deficit of \$2.1K. YTD Total Income is \$71.6K versus YTD Total Expenses of \$75.4K. YTD there is a deficit of \$3.8K.

Restricted Accounts increased \$1.5K, from \$135.0K to \$136.5K in April. There is a net increase of \$57.2K since January 1st.

Cash Accounts (Checking and Savings) decreased \$.6K, from \$133.3K to \$132.7K in April. There is a net increase of \$56.8K since January 1st.

**Ron Rubner
Treasurer**

Year to Date - April 2017

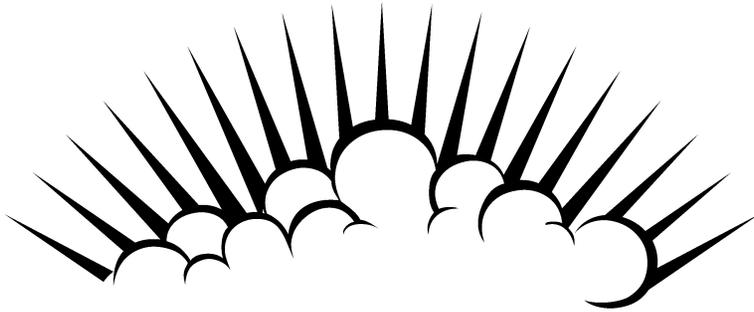
	Budget	2017 Actual	2016 Actual
Income Accounts			
01, Ministry at Messiah	67,587.00	65,941.00	65,645.00
02, Mission Support	6,433.00	5,687.00	6,018.00
Total Income	\$74,020.00	\$71,628.00	\$71,663.00
Expense Accounts			
01, Ministry at Messiah	66,162.00	67,564.00	65,977.00
02, Mission Support	7,800.00	7,874.00	8,113.00
Total Expenses	\$73,962.00	\$75,438.00	\$74,089.00
Income Less Expense	\$58.00	(\$3,810.00)	(\$2,426.00)



Our heavenly Father

Father's Day is the perfect time to remember God, our heavenly Father. What does the psalmist say about him?

Directions: Complete Psalm 89:26 by placing the correct vowels in the blanks.



"H_ w_ll c_ll _ _t t_ m_,"

'Y_ _r_ m_ F_th_r, m_

G_d, th_ R_ck m_ S_v_ _r.'" "

Ps_lm 89:26, N_V

Answer: "He will call out to me, 'You are my Father, my God, the Rock my Savior.'" Psalm 89:26, NIV



Make this heartwarming handprint gift to give your dad or another special man on Father's Day.

What you need:

- Tempura paint (any two colors besides white)
- A paper plate
- Two paintbrushes
- Your dad's hand
- White cardstock
- Paper towels
- A pen



What you do:

1. Place paint on the paper plate.
2. Paint your dad's palm and the insides of his fingers with one color of paint. Set his hand in the center of the cardstock and press down. Let dry.
3. Paint your palm and fingers with the other color. Place your hand in the center of your dad's. Let dry.
4. Write a loving message to your dad on the blank sections of the cardstock.
5. Give your dad the gift – and a hug!