

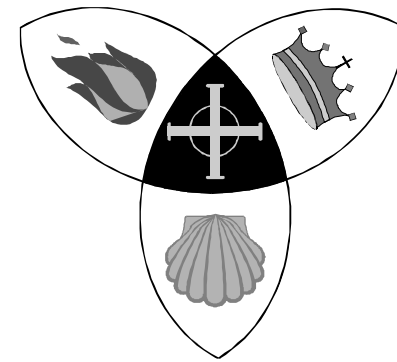
Messiah Lutheran Church
7740 Highway 72 West
Madison, Alabama 35758

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Messiah Lutheran Church (ELCA) is located at 7740 Highway 72 West, just east of Hughes Road. Sunday Services of Worship are at 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Sunday School is at 9:45 a.m. A nursery attendant is provided. All are welcome. **Our website is www.mlutheran.org**. Church Office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., staffed by our Office Manager. The Pastor is Rev. Scott Peterson. Pastor/Developer is Rev. Mark Borseth. The Church telephone is (256) 721-0041 email: info@mlutheran.org. For newsletter articles call Stacy Tidwell

MESSIAH LUTHERAN MESSENGER



Volume 22: Issue 2
www.mlutheran.com

February 2010



ASH WEDNESDAY

February 17, 2010

*Remember that you are dust,
and to dust you shall return.*

Dear Friends of the Messiah,

“MISSION BEGINS AT HOME.” Years ago I would cringe whenever that was said. I heard it as a selfish excuse. As if to say, “Let’s not reach out to those in need outside of our church. Let’s just take care of ourselves.” That certainly would be keeping our God-given gifts ‘at home’, but it would not be ‘mission’. These days I believe that our primary mission indeed is close to home, but we also have the commission from our Lord to stretch our mission around the world.

OEW, ILAG, L4L: Some of you recognize those abbreviations for missions in distant places that have been great blessings to MLC. (Translation of the code in that last sentence: *OEW* = *On Eagle’s Wings* mission to the NW Territories of Canada, *ILAG* = the Lutheran church in Guatemala, *L4L* = *Lunches for Learning* mission in Honduras, and MLC is Messiah Lutheran Church.)

MILESTONE or MCC is a new mission for MLC and it is close to home. *Milestone Children’s Corner* is primarily a pre-school for ‘at risk’ children from low income families. It is located on Jordan Lane in Huntsville. As you probably know, children from low income families tend to arrive in our public schools already behind. They come into kindergarten with far less knowledge than middle and upper class kids in basics like counting and knowing the alphabet. Milestone does a wonderful job of teaching children the foundations of learning so they do not start kindergarten behind. This mission takes the ‘long view’ that realizes that a child well-prepared for kindergarten is more likely to break through some of the barriers that keep people in difficult situations. At the January meeting of MLC’s Church Council it was decided that unless otherwise designated...

THREE-QUARTERS of the mid-week Lenten services’ offerings will go to *Milestone Children’s Corner* to help replace a deteriorating safety fence around their playground. Lent reminds us that our God has no limits on what He will do to save us from all the forces of evil at work to destroy us. So, Lent is a great season for us to help children precious in the sight of our Lord to be protected from destructive forces around their school.

MISSION DOES BEGIN AT HOME, but it never stays only there. Our Lord calls us out into neighborhoods, schools, workplaces, and all over the world. The good news of Jesus cannot be contained and we have the honor of helping to spread God’s Word that gives life and salvation.

*Grace and peace,
Pastor Scott Peterson*

P.S. – See in this newsletter the schedule for mid-week Lenten services. MLC will have guest Pastors on most Wednesdays in Lent.

New Roof for Messiah

The Messiah Lutheran Church complex will have all of the roofs replaced beginning January 26 through February 2 if the weather cooperates. Please excuse the mess during this period and use caution when entering and exiting the Church property. Be mindful of construction workers and additional construction traffic.

Thank You, MLC Property Team

KNOW SOMEONE HOMEBOUND IN NEED OF A MEAL?

MEALS ON WHEELS delivers nutritious meals to the homebound in the Madison area. Right now they are looking for more people who would use this service. Call the Church Office (721-0041) for more information.

Comforters... will meet every Tuesday in February @ 10:00. Thank you to everyone who participated in the silent quilt auction. We can always use sheets, fabric and thread. Questions call Annette Joens.



FLOWERS FOR 2010

Look for the 2010 Flower Chart in the narthex this month. Sign up soon to reserve your special Sundays. Two households per Sunday can sign up, making the cost \$25 each.



FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE NEWS

By Mary Ann Stasiak

There were LOTS of Fellowship events in December – thanks very much to all of the people who made the New Member reception, Elfin Magic, Bridge Club, OWLS, Christmas

Cookie/Ornament Exchange, Wednesday Night Café, and Men's Breakfast possible through your help and dedication. You are very much appreciated!

Wednesday Night Café becomes **Lenten Soup Suppers** starting Ash Wednesday, February 17. Betty Roenfeldt will be the coordinator for the Lenten Soup Suppers, which means she will need your help to bring soup, bread, and a dessert. Please watch for the sign-up sheet on the Fellowship Bulletin Board.

Bridge Club will be held Friday, February 5 at 7:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall. New and experienced bridge players welcome! Bridge Club is returning to the first Friday of the month in February. Laura Peterson will be hosting. Bring a friend and a snack to share! Contact Mary Ann and Ed Stasiak.

Craft Day, February 6, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., hosted by Elaine Shriver. Bring your portable craft to the Parish Hall for a day of creative camaraderie, a hot soup lunch, and lots of friends to share your craft with.

First Communion Celebration on Sunday, Feb. 14, after the 11 a.m. service.

OWLS: The Older Wiser Lutherans (OWLS) will be meeting at a Mexican restaurant late in February. Be on the lookout for specific dates and times.

Future Events: ILC Kitchen Shower: Rhonda Gaede is planning a kitchen shower for ILC's kitchen after Easter, date and time to be announced soon.

Can you help with an upcoming event? Contact Mary Ann Stasiak at ejstasiak@aol.com. We need volunteers to lead things in the future including: Coordination of funeral receptions as needed.

Collectibles & More Auction

This spring, Messiah will be hosting an auction to support the *On Eagle's Wings* mission. On its 13th year now, the auction is a fun way to collect some real treasures and support the sharing of the Gospel with people in the remote areas of northern Canada.

Do you have any new or like-new items that you would like to donate? Or, would you be willing to donate one of your handcrafted items? Or a service, such as baby-sitting or lessons? Perhaps you have some tickets to a play, sporting event or concert that you are willing to donate?

In the past, we've auctioned everything from beanie babies, coins, and sports memorabilia to live plants, afghans, piano lessons, home décor items, candlelight dinners, baby items and much more! Also, there are numerous ways that you can be involved in helping with this event like baking, picking up donations from local businesses, cataloging, setting up, etc. Please call Sue Doubleday or the church office (721-0041) if you can help in any way.



February Services of Worship

LBW = Lutheran Book of Worship

WOV = With One Voice

Sundays at 8:30am

Feb. 7 *Now the Feast* with Lord's Supper

Feb. 14 ELW *Setting 1* with Lord's Supper

Feb. 21 WOV *Bread of Life w/LS*

Feb. 28 WOV *Service of Word and Prayer*

Sundays at 11:00am

Feb. 7 WOV *Service of Word and Prayer*

Feb. 14 *Now the Feast* with Lord's Supper

Feb. 21 Contemporary Service

Feb. 28 LBW *Setting 1* with Lord's Supper

FIRST COMMUNION - Feb. 14

FIRST COMMUNION will be celebrated on Transfiguration Sunday, February 14, at the 11 a.m. service of worship.

Ash Wednesday, February, 17

The season of Lent begins with the February 17, Ash Wednesday service of worship. Worship will include the Lord's Supper and imposition of ashes for those who wish to receive them.

Mid-Week Lenten Services of Worship

All Lenten services begin at 7 p.m. Area Lutheran pastors will come to Messiah Lutheran to preach on the events that happened between Palm Sunday and Maundy Thursday. The Wednesday services are February 24, March 3, 10, 17 and 24. Maundy Thursday, April 1 and Good Friday, April 2 services are at 7 p.m. also.

Lenten Soup Supper Schedule

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 17. On Wednesday evenings, everyone is invited to a soup supper serving between 5:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. At 7 p.m., there will be a Service of Worship throughout the Lenten season. A sign-up sheet will be located on the Fellowship bulletin board. Please sign up to bring soup, bread, etc. There will be no soup supper on March 17 (Spring Break) or during Holy Week, March 31.

Lent Choir Schedule Changes

There will be some minor changes to the Wednesday choir rehearsal schedule during Lent. All choirs, with the exception of the Adult Choir, are cancelled on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 17; Spring Break, March 17; and Holy Week, March 31. Rehearsal times Feb. 24, March 3, 10, 11, 24 are as follows:

Children's Choirs (Cherub, Seraph and Junior)	6:00 – 6:30 pm
Youth Ensemble	6:30 - 6:50 pm
Adult Choir	7:45 - 8:45 pm
Notabella Choir	6:00 - 6:45 pm
Cantabile Choir	Sundays 5:30 - 6:30 pm



LIFE PASSAGES

This newsletter feature announces significant transitions in the life of our community of faith. Birth, Death, Baptism, Graduation, Confirmation, Job Change Relocation, Engagement, Marriage, or any other life passage you would like announced will be included. Contact Claire Strand.

BIRTH: *You knit me together in my mother's womb... Psalm 139:3*

- Jackson Ryan Gulden - 6 lbs, 12 oz, was born Jan. 24 in Ft. Hood, TX. Proud parents are Amanda & Brian. Proud grandparents are Jack & Deb Gulden.

BAPTISM: *Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them...*

- Savannah Coates was baptized January 10th. Her baptismal sponsors are Stephanie White, Raphael Daniels, Martha Bishop, and Linda Thompson.

ENGAGEMENTS *the greatest of these is love. I Corinthians 13:13*

- Allison Wade and Stefan Schmidt are engaged to be married on August 14, 2010.
- Kari Doubleday and Tim Pitchko are engaged to be married on May 14, 2011.

DEATHS: *Remember I am with you always to the end of the age Matthew 28:20*

- Vera Graff, Chris Gloe's grandmother, died January 15th.
- Sally Kidd, Tammy Weber's mother, died January 12th.
- Jean Swank, mother of Carolyn Scroggins, died December 31st.

BUILDING COMMITTEE

A Building Committee has been appointed by the Church Council. This Committee was authorized at the November Congregation Meeting for the purpose of 1.) working toward finalizing a design for expanding the current sanctuary and 2.) to get bids from at least three building contractors on what this sanctuary expansion will cost. Watch for info on gatherings when the Building Committee will report its progress and will welcome Congregation input on proposed plans. Those who were asked to serve on the Building Committee and accepted appointment are Chair Bill Emerson, Vice-Chair Pete Woods, Secretary Ed Stasiak, Treasurer Rhonda Gaede, at large Janet Smith, Jack Mast, Joe Stuart, and Pastor Scott (ex-officio).

Spiritual Gifts

Have you ever considered the spiritual gifts you have been given by God? Or been told by a friend or family member that you have a spiritual gift? God has given to all of us gifts that will strengthen our service to Him and to one another.

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. 1 Corinthians 12:4, 7

Please take the time to take the spiritual gifts inventory online, located on our website (www.mlutheran.com) homepage or simply go to <http://archive.elca.org/evangelizingchurch/assessments/spiritgifts.html>.

Paper copies are located at the Welcome Center or in the Church Office. The results are confidential and can be very surprising and meaningful to your discipleship and walk in faith. Who knows? You may discover a gift you never knew you had!

Yours in Christ, The Stewardship Committee

Community Outreach Events at Incarnation (con't.)

Autism Event – Tuesday, April 27. Several of the families at Incarnation are affected by Autism, and we know there are many of people in our community who are in need of information and support regarding Autism. We are planning a free event which will include information, support and an opportunity to network with others who have similar needs. More information will be coming out soon.

Men's Breakfast – Saturday, February 13 at 7a.m. at Incarnation. All men are invited to Incarnation for breakfast, fellowship, a devotional time and prayer. We have had some great gatherings the past few months. Come and join us!

Pastor Developer Mark Borseth

OUTREACH NEWS from Claire Strand

Outreach Committee Meeting – February 7, at noon in Room 12



Habitat for Humanity- This spring, Messiah Lutheran Church will again

work with Thrivent Builds Homes to construct a home for someone in our community. Thrivent Builds Homes is a national program that joins nearly 3 million Thrivent Financial members with Habitat for Humanity volunteers, other Lutherans, their families and their communities to build homes in the U.S. The builds for spring 2010 are still in the planning stages, but watch for announcements soon. You may also check the Habitat for Humanity website for information on the 2010 build and pictures of the 2009 build at www.hfhmc.org



What is a Stephen Minister? A congregation member who is recruited, selected, trained, commissioned, and supervised by Stephen Leaders to provide one-to-one Christian care to persons in need on behalf of the congregation.

Stephen Ministers typically are assigned one care receiver at a time and meet with that person for about one hour each week. Stephen Ministers usually serve for two years, which includes an initial 50 hours of training followed by twice-monthly supervision and continuing education sessions. MLC's Stephen Ministry is now accepting applications to begin Stephen Minister training in the spring. To apply, contact Anita deJong, or Claire Strand.

Financial aid for Haiti is urgently needed. Your gifts can be made directly to ELCA Disaster Response at their website www.elca.org or through Messiah Lutheran Church. Just designate your check "Haiti."



Thank you to Tom Ballard and Tracy Armstrong for their commitment to changing our street sign to reflect important events at Messiah.

perspective. Pastor Mark has taken it and highly recommends it. Talk to Tim Mansfield or Pastor Mark if you are interested or have questions.

Incarnation Information **February 2010**

“They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers...and day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.” Acts 2:42 & 47

We are just beginning our first full year of being in our building and worshiping on Sunday mornings. We finished 2009 well and hope to continue to build from there. To build our ministry, we plan on using 2010 as a year to build people. We are still a long way from being ready to build a building, but we won't be ready to build a building unless we can become a place that builds people. So often, churches focus on building buildings and then trying to get people to come to the building. Our plan is to build people and send them to bring the ministry of the church out of the building.

We are planning on using all of 2010 as our “New Member’s Class.” Instead of trying to get people to come to special meetings for becoming members, we are going to build our whole year around this theme. New member’s classes are valuable in that they help people build relationships with each other and they equip people to fully participate in the ministry of the church. We are going to offer lots of opportunities to develop and deepen relationships this year. To equip people to fully live out their faith both at Incarnation and in the world, we will build the whole year around basic themes of Christianity. My hope is that by the end of the year we will have developed deeper relationships with God and with each other, and we will all have a greater connection between faith and daily life.

Our first “New Member Class” is Sunday, January 24 at 10:45 a.m. Our worship format for these classes will be based on the things the early church saw as most important – teaching, fellowship, the breaking of the bread & prayer. We will begin with simple worship, watch a video to introduce a basic topic of the Christian faith, share in some time for discussion on the topic, pray together, share Holy Communion and eat a meal together. We will do this about once a month. Our topic for January 24 will be “Who is Jesus” and will fit with the overall theme of the season of Epiphany (where the identity of Jesus is revealed). On February 14 we will focus on the theme “Why did Jesus Die” to introduce the season of Lent where we will travel with Jesus to the cross. By the end of the year we will focus on many of the basic questions of the faith including such topics as prayer, reading the Bible, the Holy Spirit, healing, sharing our faith with others, and what is the church supposed to be and do. We are assuming there will be new people coming to the church who will have questions such as these, and we want everyone to know enough about their faith to get into conversations with others about it.

To those of you from Messiah, St. Mark’s and All Saints:

1. Thanks for your prayers and support
2. Come and visit us on occasion for Sunday worship (maybe for one of our “New Member’s Classes”)
3. Tell friends who live in Harvest about us
4. Keep praying for us just as we are praying for you!

Community Outreach Events at Incarnation

We are attempting to connect with people of the Harvest community in several ways. Included in our efforts will be events held to bless people in the community. Come and join us as we seek to connect with and serve our community.

Financial Peace University –Saturday Mornings starting February 20. Tim Mansfield is planning on offering Financial Peace University at Incarnation. This course is a wonderful way to develop healthy financial habits and is taught from a biblical

Education News

Celynn Ballard

Sunday School

Don't forget about our Sunday School fundraiser! We will be collecting money until the end of the school year to help Incarnation Lutheran Church buy a baptismal font. We will now be using offering envelopes to encourage giving!

Adult Sunday School:

- Room 12 - " The Life of Meaning: Reflections on Faith, Doubt, and Repairing the World" with Bonnie Jane Peterson
- Room 11 - The book of Genesis Bible study with Dottie Hanson
- Parish Hall - Pastor Scott's class Bible Study on CWA Decisions

Youth News

SENIOR YOUTH

- Several youth members joined the Incarnation Youth for a holiday party hosted by Brandon Pittman.
- The transition of the Senior Youth Advisor role from John Shriver to Dan Casey began this month. Many thanks to John and his commitment to our youth! Dan is looking forward to his new leadership role.
- Some of the Sr. Youth joined the Incarnation Youth for a Ski Retreat in North Carolina from 15-18 January 2010.

All 9th – 12th graders are welcome at any or all activities. Contact Dan Casey or Pastor Borseth (pastor@incarnation-elca.org) for information.

JUNIOR YOUTH

- Jan. 24 – Jr. Youth meeting after the second service to discuss carnation sales and "Souper Bowl Sunday".
- Jr. Youth will be selling carnations again this year. Plans are to sell them between services and after second service on Jan. 31 and Feb. 7. Cost is \$1 per flower. The carnations will be delivered on Sunday, Feb. 14 during church. All Jr. Youth are invited to meet at Messiah on Feb. 13 for a time of fun and fellowship to prepare the carnations for delivery. Profits will benefit Jr. Youth attending LutherRock camp this summer.
- Feb. 7 is "Souper Bowl Sunday". They will be accepting donations after both services to support world hunger relief.

Thanks to Lisa Bartel for temporarily filling in as Jr. Youth Leader. If you can volunteer to help her, please contact Celynn Ballard.

TWEENS

- The Tweens plan monthly outings.

All 3rd – 5th graders are welcome! Contact Debi Peterson or Stacy Tidwell for more information.

February 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 10 am Comforters	3 5pm 1 st yr. Confirmation 5:30 – 6:30 Church Dinner 6:00pm Children’s Choirs 6:30pm Youth Ensemble 6:30pm Notabella Bell Choir 7:30 Adult Choir	4	5 7:30 pm Bridge Club	6 10 am-4 pm Craft Day
	<i>Roger & Annette Joens</i>	<i>Russell & Casie Joens Elizabeth, Matthew</i>	<i>Larry & Judy Johnston</i>	<i>Norm & Terry Juron Jessica, Wesley, David</i>	<i>Mike & Judy Kidd</i>	<i>Maureen King</i>
7 8:30am Worship Now the Feast w/LS 9:45 Sunday School 11:00am Worship: WOV Word/Prayer Noon – Outreach Committee Meeting 12:15 Instrumental Ens	8	9 10 am Comforters	10 5pm 1 st yr. Confirmation 5:30 – 6:30 Church Dinner 6:00pm Children’s Choirs 6:30pm Youth Ensemble 6:30pm Notabella Bell Choir 7:30 Adult Choir	11	12	13 7:00 am Men’s Breakfast at Incarnation
	<i>John & Nancy Knox Kenneth</i>	<i>Russell & Helen Kollman</i>	<i>Al Kyllivas</i>	<i>John & June Labansky Marc</i>	<i>Erik & Victoria Lakso Emma</i>	<i>Scott & Robin Lakso Elizabeth</i>
14 8:30am Worship ELW Setting 1 w/LS 9:45 Sunday School 11:00am Worship Now the Feast w/LS Noon 1 st Communion Reception	15	16 10 am Comforters	17 ASH WED. 5pm Confirmation 5:30 – 6:30 Church Dinner 7pm Worship Service 7:45 Adult Choir	18 8:30am Morning Study Group Church Council 7pm	19	20
	<i>Anneliese Lange</i>	<i>Eric & Autumn Lange Michael, Cara, Quinn</i>	<i>Gary & Juli Langford</i>	<i>Mike & Cheryl Langley Emma, Victoria</i>	<i>Tien & Joy Le Adam, Alex</i>	<i>Brian & Teresa Lee</i>
21 8:30am Worship WOV Bread of Life w/LS 9:45 Sunday School 11:00am Worship Contemporary Service 12:15 Instrumental Ens	22	23 10 am Comforters	24 5pm Confirmation 5:30 – 6:30 Church Dinner 6:00pm Children’s Choirs 6:30pm Youth Ensemble 7pm Worship Service 7:45 Adult Choir	25	26	27
	<i>Gary & Karin Lindsay Athena, Andrea</i>	<i>Phil & Judy Lindsey</i>	<i>Brian & Carola Long Vanessa, Alexander</i>	<i>Craig & Terri Long Rachel</i>	<i>Glen & Rhonda Gaede Long Jeffrey, James</i>	<i>Bob Loshuertos</i>
28 8:30am Worship WOV Serv. Word/Prayer 9:45 Sunday School 11:00am Worship LBW Setting 1 w/LS						NEWSLETTER DEADLINE FRIDAY February 19