

July 2018 Edition

The Messiah Messenger

Newsletter of
The Lutheran Church of the Messiah



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Sunday Worship Services: 8:15am & 10:00am

*Sunday School : 9:00am 2nd Sunday in
September to third Sunday in May (Dates can vary)*

*Adult Bible Class: 9:00am 2nd Sunday in
September to third Sunday in May (Dates can vary)*

**PreK School Director: Rose Aloian 791-1046
Assistant Teacher Brandi Krassopoulos**

**Sunday School Superintendent &
Christian Education: Jackie Sutherland**

From Your Pastor

Dictionaries define “prodigal” as “wastefully extravagant and lavishly abundant” That certainly describes the God that Jesus incarnates and reveals.

We see this in the parable of the Sower. God, the sower, goes out to sow and he scatters his seed generously, almost wastefully, everywhere –on the road, among the rocks, among the thorns, on bad soil, and on rich soil. No farmer would ever do this. Who would waste seed on soil that can never produce a harvest? God, it seems, doesn’t ask that question but simply keeps scattering his seed everywhere, over-generously, without calculating whether it is a good investment or not in terms of return. And, it seems, God has an infinite number of seeds to scatter, perpetually, everywhere. God is prodigious beyond imagination.

Among other things, this speaks of God’s infinite riches, love, and patience. For us, there is both a huge challenge and a huge consolation in that. The challenge, of course, is to respond to the infinite number of invitations that God scatters on our path from minute to minute. The consolation is that, no matter how many of God’s invitations we ignore, there will always be an infinite number of others. No matter how many we’ve already ignored or turned down, there are new ones awaiting us each minute. When we’ve gone through 39 days of lent without praying or changing our lives, there’s still a 40th day to respond. When we’ve ignored a thousand invitations, there’s still another one waiting. God is prodigal, so are the chances God gives us.

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Sr. Margaret Halaska once captured this wonderfully in a poem she entitled, **Covenant**:

*The Father knocks at my door, seeking a home for his son:
Rent is cheap, I say
I don't want to rent. I want to buy, says God.
I'm not sure I want to sell,
 But you might come in to look around.
I think I will, says God.
I might let you have a room or two.
I like it, says God. I'll take the two.
 You might decide to give me more some day.
 I can wait, says God.
I'd like to give you more,
 But it's a bit difficult. I need some space for me.
I know, says God, but I'll wait. I like what I see.
Hm, maybe I can let you have another room.
 I really don't need that much.
Thanks, says God, I'll take it. I like what I see.
I'd like to give you the whole house
I'm not sure I want to sell,
 But I'm not sure-
Think on it, says God. I wouldn't put you out.
I'm not sure I want to sell,
 Your house would be mine and my son would live in it.
 You'd have more space than you'd ever had before.
I don't understand at all.
I know, says God, but I can't tell you about that.
 You'll have to discover it for yourself.
 That can only happen if you let him have the whole
 house.
A bit risky, I say.
Yes, says God, but try me.
I'm not sure-
 I'll let you know.
I can wait, says God. I like what I see.*

From Your Pastor continued...

If we look back on our lives and are truly honest, we have to admit that of all the invitations that God has sent us, we've probably accepted and acted on only a fraction of them, There have been countless times we've turned away from an invitation. For every invitation to maturity we've accepted, we've probably turned down a hundred. But that's the beauty and wonder of God's richness. God is not a petty creator and creation, itself, is not a cheap machine with barely enough energy and resources to keep it going. God and nature are prodigal. That's plain everywhere. Millions and millions of life-giving seeds blow everywhere in the world and we need only to pick up a few to become pregnant, fecund, capable of newness, maturity, and of producing life.

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Word search Puzzle
Animals & Insects

H	B	S	G	E	D	P	L
O	A	M	L	O	R	R	O
R	R	G	A	E	A	O	C
N	A	W	D	L	P	T	U
E	P	I	G	E	O	N	S
T	P	S	R	A	E	B	T
S	K	C	O	L	L	U	B
R	A	M	S	N	O	I	L

Bear, Bullocks, Eagle, Goats, Hornets, Lamb,
Leopard, Lions, Locust, Pigeons, Rams, Spider

From The Treasurer: "Count our Blessings"		
Receipts	June 3, 2018	\$2,368.00
	June 10, 2018	\$838.00
	June 17, 2018	\$1,440.00
	June 24, 2018	\$1,237.64

If you would like to make a donation on
line you may do so through a PayPal link
on our website.

www.messiahlewiston.org.

Thank you.

Requirements to make plan = \$3,625.00
Weekly.
Treasurer



July 2018 Edition

Calendar of Events for 2018

July 1st	6th Sunday after Pentecost <i>Holy Communion</i>
July 2nd	Heritage Christian Services Day Program
July 4th	Office Closed
July 6th	Heritage Christian Services Day Program
July 8th	7th Sunday after Pentecost "Welcome New Member: Darinda Hoffman"
July 9th	Heritage Christian Services Day Program
July 11th	Heritage Christian Services Day Program
July 12th	Messiah Work Group
July 13th	Heritage Christian Services Day Program
July 15th	8th Sunday after Pentecost <i>Holy Communion</i>
July 16th	Heritage Christian Services Day Program
July 18th	Heritage Christian Services Day Program
July 20th	Heritage Christian Services Day Program
July 22nd	9th Sunday after Pentecost
July 23rd	Heritage Christian Services Day Program
July 25th	Heritage Christian Services Day Program
July 27th	Heritage Christian Services Day Program
July 29th	10th Sunday after Pentecost 11:30am Pastor Jordan Miller-Stubbendick 10th Anniversary reception at St. Paul's Lutheran Church.
July 30th	Heritage Christian Services Day Program

Happy Anniversary

07-02-00	Ralph & Joan DeVantier
07-03-99	George & Jennifer Adamson
07-03-04	Joseph & Monica Condino
07-04-99	Jeff & Janice Wayland
07-07-07	Roderick & Melissa McGill
07-12-97	Brad & Susan Martin
07-18-81	Don & Pam Lord
07-30-05	Jennifer & Jonathan Payne



Happy Birthday

07-02	Jonathan Adamson
07-02	Christopher Bennion
07-05	Jenny Adamson
07-06	Savannah Attardo Smith
07-07	Denise Hetrick
07-07	Elizabeth McCarthy
07-09	Raedin Schroeder
07-10	Winifred Walton
07-11	Tara Cassidy
07-13	Jason Scarf
07-13	Peter Spira
07-14	Oliver James Perry
07-20	Alana Davids
07-20	Chantal Kivi
07-22	Ralph DeVantier
07-23	Fred Guard
07-25	Amy Mazur
07-28	Ginny Keiper
07-31	Breanna Maglio
07-31	Tom Krajcirik
07-31	Mari Salada



* Please excuse the typo in June's Newsletter with the May dates*

Christian Education Summer 2018

The annual church picnic was a great success. Lots of delicious food and fun, not to mention PERFECT weather, made it a good time for all in attendance. We added some new activities for the children to enjoy, along with the ever popular "bounce house". Many were seen running across the lawn, trying to contain a 6-foot beach ball! Putting the picnic together takes a lot of work. Thank you to all who helped make it such an enjoyable day for us all!

I had some excellent helpers in preparing all the "play things" for the kids. Noah Balcom, Charlie Haskell, Jersey Haskell. Lizzie, Josh and Matt Adamson, and Emilee and Natalie Payne, were all there to assist filling water balloons, filling the 6-foot beach ball, the slip and slide, as well as the "bop balls". Sabrina was there to do everything else!

It has been a very busy year at Messiah Sunday School. It would not be possible without the dedicated teachers and support team, who generously volunteer their time. Alice Attardo does the cooking portion of our lessons. I do the art and Bible story instruction, while Candy Ingwersen does the computer lab, which is now using tablets. Jenn Adamson teaches our pre K class. Terry Walck is a major help with anything musical, and otherwise, as well the Christmas program. Last, but far from least, Jeanne Balcom and Sabrina Balcom-Haskell, who willingly step in whenever and where ever needed. A big thank you to each and every one of you!



We were able to do two field trips this year when the children had a day off school. It all started with our discussion after the Good Samaritan story in our lesson. The children brought in toiletries, and we all made up kits for the Heart, Love and Soul Pantry. Then after more discussion, we decided to collect non-perishable food items for our local Care and Share food pantry in Ransomville, which serves our surrounding communities.

We will move our collection bins down to the narthex for the summer months and invite the congregation to contribute when possible.

I hope to see all of your children again next Sunday School year, and perhaps some new students too. All the children are encouraged to bring a friend. Rally Day is scheduled for September 9th, beginning at 9am. Three year olds are welcome to join our pre-K thru Kindergarten class, located in the lower level of the Sunday School wing. The 1st-6th graders are in classrooms upstairs, and divided by grades 1-3, and 4-6, for various activities, doing large group activities as well. Hope to see you all in September, and do not forget your non-perishable food items for the food pantry bin over the summer!

Jackie Sutherland 754-7324
Sunday School Superintendent



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**“Connor Martin”
Messiah Lutheran Scholarship Winner**

Connor Martin was awarded a check for \$250.00 at our June 10th, church service. Connor is the son of Ken and Melanie Martin. He is a graduating senior from Lewiston-Porter High School. Connor will be attending the University of Buffalo in the fall, with a major in Business. He will be living at home during his studies, hoping to graduate debt free. Certainly a young man with some fore thought!

Connor was baptized and confirmed at Messiah. He has been an active member, serving faithfully as an acolyte through the years. He has proven himself to be worthy of this scholarship at church and at school. We wish him God’s speed as he goes forward with his future plans and hope to see him around Messiah whenever possible.

Congratulations Connor!

Pre School News

Summer vacation has begun! What a great year with great children and families, very blessed we are. Our graduates are going to exceed the expectations of their kindergarten classes, and continue to make us so proud. We are so grateful to our returning students and excited to have our new students to join us in September.

We introduced our new third teacher at our graduation and we are so happy to announce that Heidi Lauger will be joining our team in the fall! Thank you to our two Cathy’s for their help at our graduation, always to our preschool committee, and to Ms. Ross for trusting me to follow in her footsteps.

“The world is a rainbow with many kinds of people. It takes all kinds of people to make the world go round!”

Have a blessed summer
Rose Aloian and Brandi Krassopoulos



LCW News

From Sally Schoonmaker

Thank you Messiah and LCW, what a pleasant surprise! Not so sure if I deserve Woman of the Year, there are so many other women who serve the Lord and Church more than I. None the less, I am very honored and thankful for this award, and so thankful my family was there with me. Blessings to All!

Stock the Kitchen

It is that time of the year again . Please help us stock the kitchen. Post it notes are in the parish hall, with suggestions.

- Coffee
- Tea
- Ziploc bags
- Take away containers
- Foil
- Cups
- Napkins
- Etc..

Thank you,
Social Concerns

News from the Synod



Join the Lutheran Herd!

Friday July 20 is Lutheran Family Night at the Bisons at Coca Cola Field! A great evening of baseball, fun and prizes begins at 7:05 p.m. with fireworks to follow! Tickets are just \$10! Order deadline is July 12!

Register on-line or contact Lutheran Charities at:

On-line:

www.LutheranNightAtTheBisons2018.bpt.me

Email: info@wnylutherancharities.org

Phone: (716) 632-2623

News from the Synod cont..

School's Out.....

...now what to do with the kids all summer! The Upstate New York Synod supports two campgrounds, Lake

Chautauqua Lutheran Center in southwestern New York, and Vandercamp in the central part of the state. Both

provide various summer programs under the supervision of

Christian counselors. You can rest assured that your kids are having fun in a safe, wholesome environment. You can find out more about either camp on the synod website,

updatenesynod.org.

On the home page, click on Ministries at the top, scroll down, click on "Faith Formation", scroll again and you'll see a list, the camps among them. Your mission donations help keep these wonderful outdoor ministries going. Thank you!

God's work, our hands.

Attention Married Couples:

We would never expect a car to run smoothly forever without a tune-up, so why do we expect our marriage relationship to keep running smoothly without a little maintenance? Treat yourselves to a Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekend! The fall northeast US Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekends are:

- **September 14-16, 2018 at Spruce Lake Retreat in Canadensis, PA. A great hotel-style facility located in 800 acres of woodlands in the heart of the Pocono Mountains. An hour north of Allentown.**
- **October 19-21, 2018 at Olmsted Retreat Center. A stunning, hotel-style retreat next to Olmsted Mansion in Allegheny National Forest. 2 hours north of Pittsburgh.**
- **November 9-11, 2018 at Hampton Inn Berkshires in Lenox, Massachusetts. A lovely hotel beautifully situated on the edge of a 100-acre nature preserve in the heart of the Berkshires. An hour northwest of Springfield, MA.**

Two nights lodging, 5 meals for each of you, and all supplies are included with your \$100 per couple registration fee, plus toward the end of the weekend you will be given an opportunity to make a confidential contribution of whatever amount you wish to help cover expenses and towards the continuation of the program. To be sure to get the Weekend of your choice, sign up at your earliest convenience by going to the website:

www.GodLovesMarriage.org and paying the \$100/couple registration fee with your credit card, or marking the option to mail a check. For questions, or if you would like a brochure mailed to you, contact Northeast US Directors of Lutheran Marriage Encounter, Fred & Julie Schamber, at 724-325-3166 or fjschamber@comcast.net.

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Roger Alexis Sybil Balcom Liz Bevaqua Connor Bills Ted Casper	Gretchen Morgan Charles McElhinney Beth MacSwan Phyllis McMillan
Joe Crano	Ronald Muckley Charlotte Perri Phyllis Peters
Aviya Di Stefano Jessica Dobbertean Erin Deering	Ruth Prindle Pete Sherman Sandra Stevens
Lois Gleason Ted Grose Jeff & Diane Harold Pam Hammond Fred Horwath Bob Jordan Harry Lehman Carter Lord	Julie Tarnowski Jean Walck Winifred Walton Joan Wykrant Carol Zimmerman Betty Zucco



Don't forget to contact the church office when a loved one is ill, injured or hospitalized.

2018 Directory of Members

Please use the space provided below to make any changes and or edits to your contact information for the church directory.

First & Last Name: _____

Children _____

Address _____

City _____, St _____ Zip _____

Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Email: _____

Please tear this page from the Newsletter and return it to the church office **ASAP!**

If **NO CHANGES** are submitted your information will appear the same in the 2018 directory.

Please feel free to mail this form back to the church to my attention: *Gina Lachick*

This form can also be dropped off at church or left in the office on my desk after service on Sunday's.

You may also email me any changes you would like to make at messiahlc@verizon.net.

If you wish to be removed from the directory, please check this section only: _____

915 Oneida St., Lewiston, NY 14092