

Spirit

December 2022

www.messiahmo.org | 925 E. Seminole, Springfield, MO 65807 | 417.881.2192

Join us for Worship: Saturday 5:30 PM and Sunday 9:30 AM

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From the Desk of Pastor Orin :

Dear Saints,

Greetings in the name of our crucified, risen, and ascended Lord and coming Savior Jesus Christ!

Advent is a reminder that Christmas day is coming, the season of good cheer,

Let's all sing a carol for the brand-new year!

If you haven't got a carol, a jolly song will do;

If you haven't got a jolly song, God bless you!

We see and hear about people who haven't got a jolly song. For instance, Iranians have been protesting despite the deadly crackdown since the death of Mahsa Amini, a 22-year-old woman arrested by morality police for allegedly violating the country's strict rules requiring women to cover their hair in public. At the same time, conflict and natural disaster cause unimaginable suffering in Ethiopia. Furthermore, since the withdrawal of Western forces, Afghanistan cannot meet basic needs and the economy and public services are collapsing. Now, on the 279th day of the invasion of Ukraine, Russian attacks on power stations have left millions of people without heat or electricity to endure Ukraine's harsh winter.

In each of these situations, people are eager for a new beginning. However, without an end to oppression, suffering and war, Christmas will be anything but jolly. But we can help make a difference in the lives of more Ukrainian refugees in our area.

Advent reminds us that we live in between the past coming of Christ (our reason for celebrating Christmas), and the future return of Christ to judge the living and the dead. Moreover, Advent readings and hymns encourage preparation for Christ's coming.

As I scan this broken world, I become impatient watching and waiting for Christ. I long for the mighty to be cast down from their thrones and the lowly to be lifted up. Then, I am reminded in the Christmas story that God chose vulnerability and has done the impossible through the manger and the cross.

So, Christmas is more than a memory because Jesus makes God present to us. In the divine and human collaboration, concrete steps have been taken for our salvation. Now the Word is made flesh in you and me wherever there is suffering, powerlessness, and hopelessness.

Today, I have got a jolly song that Christmas is coming, merry making here,
in, by and through our words and deeds, I'd say
We spread good cheer here, both far and near
We spread good cheer here because we care about you.

Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year to you!

In Christ's service,

Pastor Orin

From the desk of the Council President:

Dear Messiah Members,

The Council has been very busy over the past 2 years that I have served as Council President. I would like to take a minute to reflect on some of that work.

- Successfully called and welcomed Pastor Orin Cummings and family to Messiah
- Navigated through the COVID pandemic with virtual services and many improvements to our live streaming capabilities along with masking and singing restrictions
- Implemented a new security system with keyless entry to keep our members and facilities safe
- Completed the Employee Handbook
- Replaced the roof on the Messiah House
- Resealed and striped the parking lot
- Replaced the sanctuary light bulbs and repainted the ceiling
- Replaced damaged windows in Fellowship Hall
- Upgraded kitchen equipment
- Carpet cleaning for the building completed
- Approved multiple Eagle Scout projects
- Celebrated the Installation of Pastor Orin Cummings at an in person service
- Purchased a new property at 2145 S. Kings Street
- Began work on updating the upstairs youth space
- Posted the Youth and Family Minister position
- Started a new Ukrainian Refugee Ministry outreach to support a Ukrainian Family
- Market adjustments made to staff salaries
- Multiple new staff hires over the past 2 years
- Application completed to serve as a collaborative learning internship site and a traditional internship site for Wartburg Theological Seminary
- Many more that I have missed, but all important to allow Messiah to continue to live out our Mission.

We welcome the new council members: 1 yr term Vince Johnson, 2 yr term Dee Parker, 3 yr term Marcie Rosenkoetter, 3 yr term Martha Morris, 3 yr term Frank Noto, 3 yr term Charles Hill

1 male for synod assembly Vic Shelton

1 female for synod assembly Peggy Shelton

Nominating committee for 2024: Carolyn Malcom, Cathy Murrell, Scott Estrem, & Micheal Hoeman

I want to express my gratitude to those going off the council: Zack Bartels, Holly Marsh and myself; what a joy to serve on Council. I also want to thank the congregation for their love and support through my cancer journey. You afforded me grace during this difficult time in my life and I am thankful and blessed to be a part of such a loving faith community.

Blessings,

Beth

Messiah House

The Messiah House has been busy and always full.

We have had one woman with difficult health problems who was with us for more than 6 months. She was able to find housing and is doing fine. She was a real trooper through it all and helped herself as best she could while being in and out of the hospital. Many thanks go out to Sydney Marsh, Annetta Svagera, and Mary Keidle for helping out. I appreciate the help so much.

We also have the best woman yet. She keeps great notes, works hard at JCPenny's and is working with me, Safe-to-Sleep, and another Springfield agency. She will soon have a fantastic place of her own. Yay! It is hard to start over.

We have a new used washer and dryer, as ours was giving out. Thank you to Mark Herron and Bud Schwab for installing it.

We would appreciate supplies once again. Thanks goes out to those who donate supplies and help us financially. It allows the women to save money and get on their feet faster.

Things that are needed:

- Tissues
- Toilet paper
- Paper towels
- Bathroom cleaner
- Handsoap
- Shampoo and conditioner
- Laundry detergent
- Body Wash
- New sweatshirts and pants (size Large and Medium)
- Warm gloves and scarfs
- Walmart gift cards (these can be left in the office)
- Warm socks
- Christmas gifts

Thank you to all. We are helping people with our houses!

Colleen Prosser

A Healthy and Safe Winter

With the advent of winter's cold and snow come challenges for trying to stay healthy and safe. Many of us may not be as ready as we should be for winter's arrival.

Take care of your home

- Have gutters cleaned and roof inspected
- Have the furnace inspected
- Have fireplace and chimney cleaned and inspected
- Ensure that smoke alarms and CO detector are tested and have fresh batteries
- Fill the BBQ grill propane tank for an alternate source for cooking/heating water (but never use inside or within 10 feet of the house)

Take care of your vehicle

- Check tire tread and air pressure
- Keep gas tank at least half full to avoid freezing in the gas lines
- Keep an emergency kit in the car with blankets, extra hats and gloves, food and water, booster cables (with directions for use), flashlight with fresh batteries, first aid kit, and plastic bags
- Fill windshield washer with a winter formula

Take care of you and your family

- Keep several weeks of medications on hand in case of emergency
- In ice or snow, wear boots with appropriate soles for the conditions or you may consider purchasing safety traction devices for your shoes (such as YakTrax)
- Keep COVID vaccines and flu vaccines up to date
- Dress in layers, wear a hat and gloves, and apply sunscreen to exposed skin
- Get outside whenever possible. Two shorter outdoor periods are better than one long one.
- Check on children playing outside frequently – if wet or cold, bring them in for dry clothes and warming.
- Maintain a healthy diet and drink plenty of fluids
- Use lotion for dry skin to avoid cracking and use lip balm for lip dryness and protection
- Continue exercise whenever possible. Have a plan for when you can't get outside such as an exercise program on TV and DO IT!
- Participate in social activities – isolation during the winter months can lead to feelings of sadness or depression
- Get out of the house when possible – to the library, mall, neighbor, etc.
- Keep your phone fully charged in case of power outage
- Know the signs of hypothermia – pale skin, swollen face, shivering, slow speech or slurring of words, sleepiness, stiff or jerky arm or leg movements, slow heartbeat, shallow breathing. Treatment is to go inside and warm up
- In case of illness, keep the following supplies on hand: electrolyte replacement (such as Pedialyte), fever/pain reliever (such as Tylenol), digital thermometer, pulse oximeter, and cool mist humidifier

If you need help

- With heating bills – contact your utility company or National Energy Assistance Referral Service (1-866-674-6327)
- With insulation or other needs – locally contact Senior Age 1735 S. Fort, phone (417) 862-0762

www.cdc.gov (National Center for Environmental Health)

www.webmd.com

www.nih.gov

National Safety Council

Stewardship

Stewardship campaign update: As of 11/14/2022 the pledges amounted to \$255,711 for the 2023 year. Thank you for your pledges. As a reminder to those who use the Tithe.ly app, you will need to update your giving in the app if the amounts have changed.

This month the Stewardship Campaign focuses on the Finance Committee and their important role in the church. Thank you to Rex Johnson and Sheila Schaefer for providing information on the committee.

The Finance Committee is one of the standing committees set up in the church constitution. The members of the committee consists of a chairperson, a representative of the church council, the church treasurer, the pastor, the business manager, and several lay members. The committee meets monthly and reviews the financial activity of the previous month and reviews the church's balance sheet, income/expense statement, and the restricted funds accounts of the church. Income/expenses are reviewed for unusual items compared to the budget that occurred during the month as well as an analysis of the year-to-date trends of income and expense. Transactions in or out of restricted accounts are also reviewed and tracked to assure that funds were received or transferred/spent appropriately. Any major item of significance is reported to the church council by the council representative or through the minutes of the meeting sent to the council. Anyone with an accounting or business background is encouraged to serve on the committee.

In addition to reviewing the church financial statements, the Finance Committee also reviews the financial activity of the Messiah Lighthouse Daycare program. While the Lighthouse program has an Advisory Board that monitors the financial and operating activities of the daycare, the Messiah church council and congregation is ultimately responsible for the operation of the daycare. A member of the Finance Committee serves on the Advisory Board and serves as a liaison between the board and the Finance Committee. The Lighthouse monthly balance sheet, income/expense statement, and accounts receivable listing are reviewed by the committee.

The committee is responsible for preparing the annual church operating budget and reviewing the Lighthouse proposed budget for each year. Work on the budget starts in October/November with the final budget approved by the church council for presentation to the church membership at the annual meeting in January. Each committee is contacted by the business manager in November to provide their budget needs for the new year. Income projections are developed by the committee based on the results of the Stewardship Drive for member commitments held in October and overall historical income trends for the past few years. Any proposed wage or salary increases are set by the church council for both church and daycare employees (who are, in actuality, church employees). The finance committee analyzes the budget income/expenses to see if the proposed wage increases are feasible and advises the church council if the proposal will fit the budget or an adjusted increase should be made. Once the final budget is approved, the annual financial report is prepared and printed which includes the income/expense summary for the just-completed year and the proposed budget for the new year as well as the annual Treasurer's report. Members are provided a copy of the financial report before or at the annual meeting in January.

Finally, the finance committee also monitors the investment of restricted and excess operating funds to maximize any earnings that the church can get off these funds. Most investments or accounts are set up on a short term basis to keep funds liquid in case an emergency of some kind occurs. The committee also monitors the funds for the Upon This Rock building program to ensure timely monthly loan payments are made and if random principal payments on the Thrivent loan can be made to save interest expense and expedite the pay-off of the loan. A reserve of 6-12 months of Thrivent payments is maintained to ensure loan payments can be made if giving drops for several months during any given year. Projected payoff of the church mortgage should occur in 2029 or before if possible.

The Finance Committee serves an important role in the life of Messiah congregation. While not a ministry committee, the work of this committee is key to the success of the many other committees within the church that serve members and the community as a whole.

December Altar Flowers

Dec. 3/4	Vase 1—Cummings' Family, in honor of Samantha's Birthday Vase 2—Cummings' Family, in honor of Samantha's Birthday
Dec. 10/11	Vase 1—Peggy and Vic Shelton, in memory of Geneva Shelton Vase 2—Peggy and Vic Shelton, in memory of Geneva Shelton
Dec. 17/18	Vase 1—Wes and Karen Bowman, in honor of Drew's Birthday Vase 2—Bob and Lynn Starr in honor of Wedding Anniversary and son's birthday
Dec. 24	Vase 1—Carolyn Gerdes in memory of John A. Gerdes Vase 2—Carolyn Gerdes in memory of John A. Gerdes
Dec. 31	Vase 1—Marilyn Dowell for Glory to God! Vase 2—Open

Blood Pressure Screenings

Saturday readings will be done from 4:45 to 5:30 **PRIOR** to the service. Sunday readings will be done from 10:30 to 11:30 **AFTER** the service. If you are not fully vaccinated and boosted, please wear a mask. (Masks will be provided for anyone who needs one.)

Upcoming dates for blood pressure readings:

December 3 & 4
January 7 & 8
February 4 & 5

Mark your calendars—see you there!

Book Club

Book Club meets each 2nd Thursday of the month at 2:30 p.m. in the Church Library.

The book for December is "The Book of Joy" by Desmond Tutu and the Dalai Lama.

January—"Peace Like A River" by Leif Unger
February—"Caste" by Isabell Wilkenson
March—"Damnation Spring" by Ash Davidson
April—"Ordinary Grace" by William Kent Krueger
May—"The Orphan Collections" by Ellen Marie Wiseman
June—"The Tender Land" by William Kent Krueger

Lutheran World Relief

Lutheran world relief volunteers for 2022:

Cathy Carleton
Marilyn Dial
Vickie Donnell
Bob Forke
Mark Herron
Nancy Hoeman
Rose Hohbein
Mary Keidle
Ileen Kendall
Mark Krueger
Susan Lane
Mike Lane
Bonnie Luder
Angie Myers
Pat Lindquist
Nadine Melgren
Pauline Moeller
Cathy Murrell
Mary Nau
Nancy Niewald
Kurt Parker
Margaret Petersen
Sue Polly
Sheila Schaefer
Peggy Shelton
Louann Sherman
Alexis Shiklo
Betty Thomas
Joy Ward
Norma Wiemer

The names above are only the known volunteers who helped make it possible to send to Lutheran World Relief this year:

- 48 Mission Quilts
- 119 Personal Care Kits,
- 100 School Kits,
- 108 Baby Care Kits
- 5 Fabric Kits

A total of 44 boxes was taken to the In-Gathering Site at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Jefferson City, MO, on Saturday, October 29th.

A big thank you to all those who donated their time, yarn, crochet thread, fabric for quilts, flannel, gently used sheets and t-shirts to make our 2022 donation possible. A special thank you to the Endowment Committee for approving our request of \$2,000.00 to purchase all the new supplies needed to make the kits and to the Thrivent members who used Team Action Funds to work towards our 2022 goals.

2022 LWR Mission Quilts and Kits (including Messiah's) sent from Mid-Missouri LWR collection at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Jefferson City, plus the greater St. Louis LWR Collection at Shepherd of the Hills in partnership with St. Mark's-Clayton, yielded: **1,335 Mission Quilts, 670 Personal Care Kits, 634 School Kits, 167 Baby Care Kits, and 45 Fabric Kits.** All these Mission Quilts and Kits have now been sent on to the LWR Warehouse to be sent to offer care to those in need around our world. Please pray for those who will deliver these donations of love and most especially for those who receive them.

Parish Life

Dear church family,

Mark your calendars for December 18 to attend the Sunday School Christmas program, followed by our Christmas dinner. Chicken, rolls, and beverages will be supplied by Parish Life committee. We ask that you bring a dish to share. There will be a sign-up sheet in Mission Hall.

Our activity for January will be on January 29 following the morning service. Parish life committee will provide a taco bar for lunch. Following lunch we will enjoy boardgames. There will also be a sign-up sheet for this beginning in early January. You are invited to bring a snack to share for during game time.

Crosslines

At Crosslines on November 10th, Sandra Carlson, Mary Keidle, Susan Lane, Martha Morris, and Jane Schwab worked with our partners from Grace Methodist and served 91 families/196 individuals.

Continue to save empty water bottles and Best Choice labels. We are now serving homeless people so items with pull tabs and packaged items that can be eaten as is are appreciated, in addition to the usual canned goods/shelf stable items. Everything can be put in the wagon outside of the Fellowship Hall.

Christmas Eve Prelude

Christmas Eve Preludes will be presented by members of all ages. Each prelude will begin 30 minutes before the service, prelude for Family service will begin at 5 p.m. and prelude for Late Night service will begin at 9:30 p.m.

Youth and Family

Save the dates:

Saturday 12/10—Christmas Lights tour following church. All welcomed

Sunday 12/18—Youth Christmas party/Hot chocolate bar (6th-12th grade)

*Please see Church Facebook page, Youth Facebook page or midweek messenger for sign up closer to date!

Crosslines Toy Drive 2022

For many years Messiah has collected toys for the Crosslines Toy Store and we will participate again this year. **We have chosen the age group of 12-18 years to focus on for our collection of toys.** Teenagers are a more difficult category to fulfill for much needed gifts. I am sure Messiah is ready for the challenge this group provides. Of course, any toy, no matter what age group is gratefully accepted!

A collection box will be located in the Narthex from November 23, 2022 (Thanksgiving Eve) until December 11, 2022. Please place UNWRAPPED, NEW toys in the box or bring to the office. Toys will be delivered to the Crosslines Toy Store (located at the fairgrounds) on December 12, 2022. Crosslines will be setting up the Toy Store starting December 12, 2022 to be ready on Saturday, December 17, 2022 for shopping by the parents. Crosslines also gives out the Holiday Food Baskets on the same day so several activities will be happening on the 17th.

Opportunities to Volunteer:

1. Help organize incoming donations of toys at the fairgrounds.
2. Set up toy store starting December 12, 2022.
3. Help shoppers during event on December 17, 2022.
4. Help shoppers take toys and Christmas Food Baskets to their cars on December 17, 2022.

If you want to volunteer to help during the dates above please contact:

Crosslines Toy Store Coordinator
Nathan Mortensen
(573)619-2849

Suggested Gift Items:

- Cosmetic bags, shaving kits, cosmetics, hair ties, headbands, combs, brushes
- All types of music, art kits, art supplies
- Robes, slippers, fleece blankets, pillows
- Purses and scarves
- Sleeping bags, camping equipment, tents
- Sports bags, backpacks, luggage
- Science kits, cookbooks, DVD movies
- Picture frames, alarm clocks, desk lamps, twinkle lights
- Book store gift cards, restaurant gift cards
- Volleyball, soccer ball, basketball, baseballs, softballs, bats, footballs, helmets
- Gift cards for athletic shoes
- Games: cards, chess set, board games, electronic games
- Jewelry, wrist watches
- Radio

If you wish you may also donate rolls of wrapping paper, scotch tape, and bows for the families to use in wrapping their selections. Monetary gifts may also be made by indicating in the memo line (Crosslines Toy Store) and placing in the collection plate. Checks should be made out to Messiah Lutheran Church. Credit for your gift goes to your giving statement.

Many thanks for your support of this traditional ministry opportunity in our community!

Any questions please don't hesitate to contact me at 417-866-7620.

Terry Dunham

Safe-to-Sleep

Safe to Sleep NEEDS HELP!

Springfield's shelter for homeless women is struggling and has not recovered from the loss of volunteers during COVID. Even with overnight staffing volunteers are essential to keeping the shelter operating. If you have a heart for helping women in need, please contact Lisa Melgren (417-224-7391) for information about how you can become personally involved. THANK YOU!

Cookie Delivery

It's time for us to remember our shut-in, widowed or just members who might need a little Christmas cheer. In the Narthex you will see a poster with names of some of these people. Please consider taking a name (or several) and delivering to them some cookies or a plant or treat of some kind and wishing them holiday blessings. It is sure to be appreciated and you will be blessed in return. "We love because He first loved us." 🎄❤️🙏

Ryan Dillion Eagle Project

My eagle project was to rebuild an old bridge and remove an old playground equipment spring at Messiah Lutheran Church. In October of 2021, I started the project through approval. Then, I started planning in regard to tools, materials, and fundraising. I had to sketch it out with the help of others. After that, I had two bake sales to raise money and received donations for the materials and tools for the project. After the most recent bake sale, I bought materials and a week later we started on the project. The project consisted of members of troop 1890 and family members. The hardest part of the project was finding good jobs for people and constantly focusing on what others needed. My favorite part of the project is the bridge coming together and seeing people work together to complete it. The project strengthened my leadership skills and vision. If I could do it over again, I would know more about how to assign jobs to fit people's needs and have a more detailed plan. Fun fact, we removed a large concrete chunk that was set in a hole that was left over after removing the playground equipment spring. Instead of breaking it up, the kids rolled the block back and forth filling it in side to side which slowly inched the block to the surface until the hole was filled under the block. This made it easier to remove.



Messiah Social Ministries

S. Kings House (Ukrainian Ministry): Prior to Thanksgiving, a contractor will place flashing on a windowsill containing rot to solve the leak problem. Cabinets in the Laundry area were anchored by Property and a utility table is being purchased for that area. Donated small wire shelving will be installed in the laundry/bathroom area. The Support Team is working with the family and seeing to their needs.

Seminole Holland Neighborhood Association: Through their efforts at Messiah's Gods Work, Our Hands neighborhood cleanup this association has added 17 new members which includes an attorney from the neighborhood who has been willing to provide advice on addressing the undesired rezoning for a coffee shop at Jefferson and Sunshine. They held a Lantern Walk on November 12, beginning at the Messiah property. Not only was this a chance for meeting one's neighbors, but they also shared some tips on walking safely in the neighborhood. In addition, they cast ballots for adopting their proposed Bylaws and electing Board members. One of their members, Penny Gordon-Chumbley, is being recognized by the University of Missouri Extension for "an Outstanding Act of Neighboring". On October 1 she hosted a potluck/campfire for those on her block, with 23 in attendance and continues to organize other activities. Penny has also been involved in Messiah's Ukrainian refugee ministry and resides on South Kings.

Crosslines: Messiah members serve monthly and, as the numbers of those in need continue to grow, they are seeking additional assistance in this area.

Lutheran World Relief: On October 29th all the work of our members who created Mission quilts, personal care kits, school kits, baby care kits and fabric kits was delivered to the Gathering Site for LWR in Jefferson City. A total of 370 items were delivered from Messiah.

Piecemakers: In October baby and adult quilts which had been assembled and tied by our members were delivered to 5 local agencies including the Study High School Nursery, Lutheran Family & Children's Services and Newborns in Need.

Messiah Lighthouse Child & Family Development Center: We will begin seeking additional funding for this ministry, as well as volunteers for special activities. We will keep you updated on our progress and how you might become involved in this mission.

Transportation Ministry

Messiah is considering starting a transportation ministry to ensure that our members who want to come to worship are able to safely attend. Transportation is sometimes a deterrent.

There are several situations that are affecting our members. Some have had to give up their cars and are no longer driving, some may still be driving to church, but don't feel safe, and often the inability to drive to church is a temporary situation following illness or surgery.

Our current approach is that members are providing rides for those in need of transportation.

Would you be able to serve Messiah by providing a ride for someone?

Considering your own situation, are you in need of transportation?

Do you know of anyone that would attend worship if a ride was available for them?

If the need is significant enough to use Messiah's shuttle, would you be willing to be part of a 'ride-along team' to provide support to riders and the driver?

If you are able to provide rides to worship, are in need of transportation, know of someone in need of transportation or are willing to 'ride-along', we want to hear from you.

Contact vickiedonnell@yahoo.com or call/text Vickie at 417-839-8862.

Congregational Care Committee

From the Church Office

A few reminders going into the holiday season and end of the year.

- Our Christmas Eve Services are at 5 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. on December 24. They will begin with special music by members of all ages.
- There will be no services Christmas Day OR New Years Day
- **Annual Reports are due by 12/30 by 5 p.m.**
- If you need to have the office order anything, please make sure to have the line number (or line title) from your budget that the money is supposed to come out of! This is so that Nathan knows where the money is coming from.

Welcome to our New Members

Don and Brenda Blumberg

Don and Brenda have been worshipping with us for quite some time, but recently made their permanent move to Springfield from Turtle Lake, WI. Brenda grew up in Iowa, was raised Methodist, and attended Dallas Center High School. She then attended Augsburg College in Minneapolis where she earned a degree in education. She was a dedicated preschool teacher for 34 years, retiring in 2004. Brenda enjoys cycling, gardening, reading, and puzzles.

Don attended Prior Lake High School in Savage, MN, and grew up in the Catholic Church. Following graduation he joined the US Navy, serving as a Navy Seabee and is a Viet Nam veteran. Don retired in 2011 after being affiliated with Ziegler CAT as a heavy equipment mechanic. He is a Harley-Davidson enthusiast and enjoys golf and woodworking.

Don & Brenda's most recent home congregation was First Lutheran in Turtle Lake. We're surely glad they found Messiah when they moved south.



John and Linda Charles

John was born in Mesa, AZ, with his family moving to CA when he was 5-years old. He completed elementary, junior, and high school in Modesto. His family moved to Greenfield, MO in 1968, returning to where his father grew up in Cedar and Dade County. He earned a Bachelor's degree in education from what is now MSU, but found teaching not for him and joined the Navy Hospital Corps. After completing several tours of duty he returned to SMS and completed a degree in medical technology. He was employed in the laboratory at what is now Mercy for 38 years—working in microbiology and information systems.

Linda was born and raised in Springfield, attended business school after high school and eventually finished a degree in business and accounting at Drury University. She worked in accounting for over 50 years, being employed by several businesses and finishing her career with the City of Springfield in 2019.

Both enjoy researching family history. John has documented lineages to eight Mayflower passengers, as well as four Revolutionary War ancestors. Linda belongs to five genealogical organizations: Daughters of Union Veterans (4 ancestors), Daughters of 1812 (2), Daughters of Revolution (5 with 4 pending), Daughters of American Colonists (1) and DAMES—1600 Century Americans (3). She has documented 22 Missouri pioneers who came to MO before 1860.

They live close to Nathaniel Greene Park and enjoy walking there when the weather allows. They began streaming Messiah services during the pandemic. John states he enjoys the traditional service, but also enjoys the contemporary music. Linda enjoys the sermons, the presence of God, and the welcoming smiles and greetings of parishioners.



Melissa Gambriel

We are glad to have Melissa joining us as she and Messiah member Eric Carlson will be married on December 9th at Messiah. She is currently the director of the daycare at North Side Assembly of God Church in Springfield. In her leisure time she enjoys reading, working on art and craft projects, and 'spoiling' her 3 grandchildren. She has enjoyed the sense of family at Messiah, experiencing the welcoming and friendly nature of Messiah members.



Kip and Kris Scott

Kris and Kip met in Kansas City 36 years ago when Kip was working for J.C. Nichols Company and Kris was in the insurance business. Kip's professional career with home building and development took them to Cincinnati and Chicago. Spending most of his professional career with the same company, he retired as the COO after helping grow the company into a Fortune 600 firm, building and developing in 26 large cities across the country.



After retirement, Kris & Kip relocated and built a home on Table Rock Lake. Kris enrolled at the Law Enforcement Academy at Drury University and became a Peace Officer for the State of MO and joined the Branson West police department. She continues employment there where she handles municipal court and issues that involve children and domestic violence. Both Kip and Kris are trained and certified in executive protection and security.

They have two daughters and two grandchildren, with another arriving soon. They enjoy traveling, bicycling, and tactical firearm training. Kip is a private pilot and plays piano. They serve on local, state, and national boards related to their areas of expertise. Throughout the years they have belonged to several ELCA churches and "were pleased to find a home at Messiah."

Myril and Billie Stewart

Billie grew up in Nebraska, living in several towns as her father pursued his education and career as a journalist, eventually settling in Lincoln. While living in Lincoln, she graduated from high school and attended the University of Nebraska. Her father, a journalism professor at the university, and a Navy veteran, influenced her decision to enlist in the Navy. Myril grew up in northeast Oklahoma and southwest Missouri, graduating from Neosho High School and Crowder College. After working several years, he also enlisted in the Navy.



While serving in the Navy, in 1973 both were stationed at Naval Air Station, Corpus Christi, Texas and

ended up working in the same office. In 1974 the couple were married at Mount Olive Lutheran Church in Miami, OK.

Following the birth of their daughter, Vanessa, the couple left military service and moved to Lincoln, NE, where their son, Jerry, was born. Eventually both returned to military service in the Navy. Myril was assigned to the Naval Reserve Center in Lincoln, while Billie completed her Bachelor's degree in economics, and received a commission as a naval officer. Subsequent tours took them to Charleston, SC; Indianapolis, IN; Springfield, MO; and Grand Prairie, TX. Billie's additional travels with the Navy have taken her to London, Scotland, Bahrain, Japan, Guam, Hawaii, and both US coasts.

Following retirement from the Navy, the couple settled in Battlefield, MO, with Billie retiring from Cox Health as an accountant and Myril retired from MSU, where he managed the parking program. Billie has a degree in economics from the University of Nebraska and a Masters of Accountancy from Missouri State. Myril has a degree in education from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale.

Billie is an avid runner, completing 29 marathons in 27 different states, Rome and Paris. She enjoys running, reading, traveling, and following Nebraska sports. Myril enjoys reading, traveling, fishing, golf, 'piddling' with cars and boats and following Nebraska sports. The couple have been season ticket holders for Nebraska football since 1997, and spend much of the fall in Lincoln, NE, attending Husker football games. Children and grandchildren live close so they enjoy spending time with them.

During their first visit to Messiah they felt welcomed by members of the congregation and Pastor Orin. They enjoy worship and the friendliness of the congregation and look forward to being contributing members.

December Readings

	First Reading	Psalm	Second Reading	Gospel
Dec. 3/4	Isaiah 11:1-10	Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19	Romans 15:4-13	Matthew 3:1-12
Dec. 10/11	Isaiah 35:1-10	Psalm 146:5-10	James 5:7-10	Matthew 11:2-11
Dec. 17/18	Isaiah 1:10-16	Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19	Romans 1:1-7	Matthew 1:18-25
Dec. 24	Isaiah 62:6-12	Psalm 97	Titus 3:4-7	Luke 2:[1-7]8-20

Messiah Financials

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH PROFIT AND LOSS OCT 2022 & YEAR TO DATE

Income	OCT 2022	Budget	% of Budget	JAN-OCT 2022	Budget	% of Budget
Pledges	\$25,871	\$34,167	76%	\$324,334	\$341,667	95%
Christmas	\$0	\$0		\$0	\$0	
Loose Collections	\$724	\$417	174%	\$4,932	\$4,167	118%
Coffee Hour	\$66	\$8	825%	\$479	\$83	577%
Building Use Shared	\$375	\$400	94%	\$4,435	\$4,000	111%
Interest Income	\$26	\$50	52%	\$229	\$500	46%
Special Services Income	\$0	\$0	0%	\$2,373	\$4,000	59%
Total Income	\$27,062	\$35,042	77%	\$336,782	\$354,417	95%
Expenses						
Outreach Ministry	\$3,342	\$3,137	107%	\$35,396	\$36,467	97%
Ministry Leadership	\$21,941	\$23,290	94%	\$207,863	\$226,549	92%
Resource Ministries	\$5,976	\$6,109	98%	\$81,050	\$83,500	97%
Making Disciples	\$0	\$104	0%	\$2,788	\$7,042	40%
Welcoming Ministry	\$283	\$517	55%	\$4,432	\$6,050	73%
Worship Ministry	\$836	\$725	115%	\$7,005	\$7,875	89%
Congregational Care	\$0	\$117	0%	\$677	\$1,167	58%
Nurturing Youth	\$216	\$400	54%	\$3,821	\$6,000	64%
Total Expense	\$32,594	\$34,399	95%	\$343,032	\$374,650	92%
Net Income (Loss)	(\$5,532)	\$643		(\$6,250)	(\$20,233)	

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH BUILDING FUND OCT 2022 & YEAR TO DATE

UPON THIS ROCK-GROWING IN MISSION	OCT INCOME	OCT PAYMENT	Y-D INCOME	Y-D PAYMENTS
	\$10,659	\$8,687	\$105,615	\$94,370
LOAN BALANCE-THRIVENT	\$592,259			

Lighthouse Financials

MESSIAH LIGHTHOUSE CHILD AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT CENTER P&L OCT 2022

Income	OCT 2022	Budget	% of Budget	JAN-OCT 2022	Budget	% of Budget
Direct Public Support	\$210	\$1,458	14%	\$7,299	\$14,584	50%
State Grants	-\$1,937	\$125		\$65,281	\$1,250	
Investments	\$20	\$6		\$193	\$53	
Other Types of Income	\$0	\$30	0%	\$200	\$299	67%
Tuition Income	\$20,297	\$26,790	76%	\$216,887	\$262,764	83%
CACFP Food Subsidy	\$0	\$1,667	0%	\$10,712	\$16,666	64%
Total Income	\$18,590	\$30,076	62%	\$300,572	\$295,616	102%
Expenses						
Food Expense	\$2,862	\$4,075	70%	\$39,516	\$40,751	97%
Administrative/ Operations	-\$590	\$804	-73%	\$5,821	\$8,042	72%
Contract Services	\$1,140	\$0	0%	\$1,500	\$0	0%
Building/Facility Operations	\$317	\$645	49%	\$11,285	\$6,500	174%
	-\$569	\$110	-517%	\$401	\$1,102	36%
Accreditation	\$0	\$1,500	0%	\$575	\$1,925	0%
Administrative Salary	\$2,917	\$2,668	109%	\$27,792	\$26,667	104%
Family Support Coordinator	\$417	\$417	100%	\$3,333	\$4,167	80%
Payroll Expenses	\$21,205	\$22,908	93%	\$185,784	\$229,080	81%
Misc Training Expense	\$0	\$5	0%	\$0	\$53	0%
Family Activities	\$0	\$11	0%	\$0	\$105	0%
Total Expense	\$27,699	\$33,143	84%	\$276,007	\$318,392	87%
Other Income		\$1,721			\$32,213	
Other Expense				\$3,098		
Net Income (Loss)	-\$9,109	-\$1,346		\$21,467	\$10,371	

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Messiah Spirit November 2022

Messiah Lutheran Church
925 E. Seminole Street
Springfield, MO 65807

**Return Address Requested*

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Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Springfield, MO
Permit 1339

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.....

December Birthdays

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| December 1
Andrew Bartels
Myril Stewart
Adam Murr | December 11
Katie Dogwiler | December 24
David Siewert |
| December 3
Laura Helmke
Rosemary Nelson | December 12
Lisa Melgren | December 27
Rose Hohbein
Vince Johnson
Martha Morris
Nora Murr |
| December 4
Audrey Dimmick
David Gilbert | December 15
Jackie Brunner
Chelsea Respress | December 30
Julie Harkey
Brandon Dillion |
| December 8
Samantha Cum-
mings | December 17
Britt Bartels
Zack Bartels | |
| | December 20
Drew Bowman
Beth Melgren | |

If you do not see your birthday on the list or would like your birthday to be included on the list for another month (or off!), or if you see anything that needs to be corrected, please call the church office.