

The SPIRIT

Hello
June
2026



Vacation Bible School

This month our congregation and sister church, Prince of Peace, will host Vacation Bible School. For several days, the children of both congregations come together for songs, prayers, games, and faith learning.

I have loved Vacation Bible School since I was very little. I remember all the old songs and the lessons I was taught. They have stayed with me throughout my life and in my ministry. It was those teachers and counselors, the simple Bible lessons, and catchy songs that made me fall in love with God, while teaching me how much God loves me.

Our congregation has the incredible ability to make a difference in the lives of the young people who walk through our doors. Vacation Bible School is just one of the many ways we work with the youth of our congregation. We fulfill the promises made at each child's baptism by guiding them through faith questions, encouraging them to grow, and teaching them how much God loves them. We are looking forward to another great year of Vacation Bible School with all the laughs, games, crafts, and Bible studies that we know God has in store for us and the children who will come.

Blessing

Vicar Abbey

This Month's Highlights

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**FIND
YOUR
STRENGTH
IN GOD**

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From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Saints,

Grace and peace be to you in the name of our crucified, risen, and ascended Lord and coming Savior, Jesus Christ.

Summer is here! With it comes reunions, vacation travels, and longer days. It is a time for being outdoors. But there is more to summer at Messiah. This is the season for VBS. As we have done for several years now, we will once again host joint VBS with Prince of Peace. To allow for Vicar Abbey's participation, VBS is scheduled for Monday, June 22 to Wednesday, June 24 from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. The theme is *ROME*, and we look forward to gathering children and families together for learning, fellowship, and fun centered in God's Word.



On Saturday, June 6 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Mary Keidle, Myril Stewart, Vicar Abbey and I will participate online in this year's Synod Assembly. The theme, *Life Together*, will invite us to reflect upon what it means to be a community of believers sharing together in the glorious fellowship of the Body of Christ during a time marked by division and discord.

Summer is also a good time to prepare for our God's Work, Our Hands outreach to the neighborhood. This will include a community cookout with hot dogs, burgers, and beverage to share with neighbors as an expression of Christian hospitality and fellowship.

Also, this year we will celebrate Marilyn Boston's 50th anniversary as organist at Messiah. We give thanks for her many years of faithful service and the gifts she has shared through music ministry among us.



Before these celebrations, however, let us prepare to mark an important milestone for Vicar Abbey as her internship comes to an end. We give thanks for her ministry among us and look forward to celebrating her time with the congregation in the weeks ahead.

May God continue to bless you throughout the summer season with rest, renewal, and joy in service and praise to the triune God, in the name of Jesus Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit.

In Christ's service,

Pastor Orin

From the Desk of Council President

July 4, 2026, marks the 250th anniversary of American independence. This significant date will be celebrated with various events and activities across the United States, commemorating the signing of the Declaration of Independence in 1776.

But what was America like in June of 1776?

- The Continental Congress convened in Philadelphia to discuss independence from Britain.
- Thomas Jefferson was appointed to draft the Declaration of Independence.
- The Congress debated the draft of the Declaration, focusing on its key principles.
- On June 7, Richard Henry Lee proposed a resolution for American independence.
- The Congress officially adopted the Declaration of Independence on July 4th, but discussion began in June.
- Missouri was part of the vast Louisiana Territory, largely unexplored by Europeans.
- Various Native American tribes including the Osage and Missouri tribes inhabited the Missouri region.
- The Missouri area was under French control, having been claimed by France in the early 18th century.
- The Spanish gained control of the Missouri territory in 1762, influencing trade and settlement patterns.
- The first European settlers began arriving in the late 18th century paving the way for future development.
- Springfield was not yet established; it was founded in 1838.
- The Ozarks were primarily inhabited by Native tribes including the Osage.
- The Missouri region was part of the Louisiana Territory; acquired by the U.S. in 1803
- The American Revolution was beginning, which influenced future westward expansion.
- The Ozarks were largely untouched wilderness with abundant natural resources.
- Lutheran immigrants began arriving in America in the 17th century, primarily from Germany and Scandinavia.
- By 1776, there were established Lutheran congregations in Pennsylvania, New York, and the Carolinas.
- The American Revolution prompted many Lutherans to navigate their identity between loyalty to Britain and support for independence.
- Lutheran leaders played a role in the formation of the new nation advocating religious freedom and separation of church and state.
- The establishment of the Lutheran Church in America was post-Revolution, leading to greater organization and unity among congregations.
- The period also saw translation of Lutheran liturgical texts into English more accessible to American congregants.

Summer officially arrives on June 21st.

See you in Church!



Crosslines

On May 7th Patty Hangen, Linda Elliott, Francis Crawford, Becky Roark, Carolyn Gerdes, Carol and John Flanders and Susan Lane along with volunteers from Grace Methodist Church, served 106 families/245 individuals. Canned goods are always welcome and can be put in the wagon. Please check expiration dates before donating. Cash donations are always needed. Just mark "Crosslines" on an envelope and put in the offering plate.

WELCA Cluster

The women of the Osage Cluster will meet at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Camdenton on June 13th for the 2026 Cluster Event. Registration begins at 9:00 a.m. with opening beginning at 9:40 a.m. It plans to be a meaningful time with Bible study by Rev. Kimberly Knowles-Zeller and presentation by Rev. Jenny Jackson on her recent trip to our Sister Synod in Papua New Guinea. There will be a fee of \$5.00 with all activities finished by 1:00 pm. All women are invited. If interested in carpooling, notify Marilyn Dial at 850-642-0148 or mrddial114@gmail.com

Parish Life

Come join us **June 14** following worship for a cookout with burgers and hot dogs provided by the committee, and yard games. There is a sign-up sheet in Mission Hall so that we can make sure to figure for enough people. Please bring a dish to share.

We will have 2 breakfast potlucks this summer. They will be July 12 and August 16. These will follow the morning worship service and there will be sign-up sheets in Mission Hall 3 weeks prior for folks to sign up for how many and what they will bring.

Our committee continues to sponsor the Sunday morning fellowship time following worship. Join us! It's a great way to get to know your church family better.

Hymn Sing

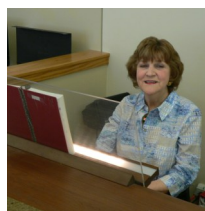
The Hymn Sing will be Saturday and Sunday, June 13-14. We will be playing and singing a lot of your favorite hymns. Come sing and worship
In His Name,
Marilyn Boston, Karen Bowman, Sheryl Hansen



Lunch & Scripture

Everyone is welcome to join us at Ma'Ma Jean's on the corner of South Campbell and Sunshine for Lunch and Scripture on **June 9 at 12 noon**. If you have any questions please reach out to Ileen Kendall.

50-Year Celebration for Marilyn Boston



July 25 we will have a special **Saturday worship service beginning a half hour early at 5:00pm**, followed by a program and catered meal to celebrate Marilyn Boston's 50 years of service to our church.

There will be a sign-up sheet ahead of time for folks to indicate their choice of:

1. mostaccioli (with meat)
2. spaghetti with meat sauce
3. fettuccini alfredo (vegetarian), and gluten free.

There will also be salad, rolls, and desserts.

The cost will be \$8.00 per person so please note that on your check or online giving since we have a special account set up for that.

Please come join us for this special time.

Congregational Care

It's your favorite (only?) congregational member carrying a board certification in Dermatology speaking! It's time for summer activities to begin heating up and I know most of you could use a few reminders regarding safe behavior in the sun. Topics involving the safety of sunscreen usage and the need for natural sunlight are popular discussion points on social media. Unfortunately, those making arguments on both sides often lose their objectivity based on an agenda.

So, do you need sun exposure? I think there are definite proven benefits including maintenance of circadian rhythm, efficient Vitamin D production and mood elevation through both UV itself and fostering a connection to nature. The problem, like most behaviors in America, is excess. We do not require multiple hours of midday sun or an unlimited tanning bed package to get these benefits. Moderate exposure in the morning or evening hours will suffice. I often face questions in the office regarding human evolution and the fact that maybe people aren't supposed to use sunscreen or sun protective clothing. Here are some of my favorite readymade arguments should you feel it necessary to defend your use of a floppy hat, long sleeves, pants, and titanium/zinc based sunscreen on the neck and hands (my favorite gear for mid-day mowing): Most of you guys in Missouri are of Irish, English, northern German or Scandinavian descent- not exactly equatorial/heavy sun locations to have evolved in. I also get complaints from our population that it is too hot for long garments in the sun even though we can all picture the flowing robes in Arab desert populations and long sleeves and pants on the Hispanic roofing crews in Texas. Finally, we can always rely on the fact that any aspect of evolutionary pressure fizzles around reproductive age. I personally would prefer to take my chances with a hat and a little SPF to get well into my 80's or 90's without a rearranged nose from skin cancer.

Sunscreen safety is another highly charged issue. In general, most Dermatologists are strong supporters of sunscreen use, and I don't know a single one that is paid by Neutrogena! Unfortunately, our bias might lie in the fact that we see such horrific cases of skin cancer. It is difficult to remain objective when you see the negative effects of too much sun daily. Having said this, I do think broad spectrum chemical sunscreens have a place and have been extensively studied for safety. Fair skin patients in a high UV environment without physical protection are at least twice as likely to develop a melanoma if they report multiple sunburns over their

lifetime. The evidence that sunscreens cause cancer is much less clear and doesn't even adjust for the fact that fair skin people use more sunscreen. If you remain concerned, consider the use of non-chemical (mineral) sunscreens such as titanium dioxide or zinc oxide.

Let's summarize with how a guy like me (50 years old, German descent, skin type II) should behave on a summer weekend day. Let's start with coffee while watching the sunrise for 20 minutes. Then get cleaned up and apply a facial moisturizer with 30SPF. Next, I meet the family poolside but request a table under an umbrella and then move on to the golf range where my long sleeve fishing shirt and floppy hat are waiting in my golf bag. Finally, I'm home by seven and in time to mow the backyard with short sleeves on. That's a full day of outdoor activity with no significantly increased risk of skin cancer. Oh yeah, the wife just reminded me that we ate fruits and veggies at every meal to handle the sun induced free radicals that cause cancer. She always gets the last word!

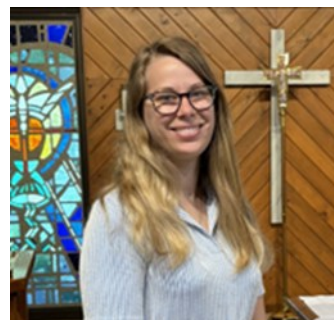
Josh Dimmick, MD

Godspeed Celebration

Vicar Abbey will be concluding her internship here at the end of June. In recognition of her time with us we will gather for a potluck meal and celebration following worship on June 28th. Meat will be provided.

Be watching for the sign-up poster in the narthex and a pastoral letter with more information from Pastor Orin. We hope that you will be a part of this celebration as we wish Abbey Godspeed for a relaxing summer and on to her final year at Wartburg Theological Seminary.

Lay Internship Committee



Messiah Book Club

We will meet June 11 at 2:30 p.m. in the Library at church.



The Measure, by Nikki Erlick, follows eight people after they, like the rest of the world, receive a box containing a string that designates their lifespan. The book explores how these people's lives and relationships change as a result of knowing the length of their lives or choosing not to know at all.

Thank You

Thanks to those who always kindly say "yes" when asked to furnish salads and desserts for luncheons following Celebration of Life services. Also, to those who assist with getting tables ready and helping in the kitchen from turning on the lights to taking out the trash. It's much work, but a meaningful ministry to family, friends, and members of Messiah.

Congregational Care Committee



We invite the women of Messiah to join us for Wine, Wit and Wisdom gathering for great food and fellowship. **Garbo's Pizzeria, 2101 W. Chesterfield St. in Chesterfield Square. It will be on Thursday, June 25 ,at 5:30 p.m.**

For more information, please contact Debbie Corlett at 417-848-9426 or debbiecorlett@sbcglobal.net

Directory Updates

We will be doing directory updates in July after the new members are received the end of June. Please call the church office with any changes such as addresses, phone numbers, emails, etc. , during the month of June so we can make the changes before we print.



Messiah Lighthouse is currently enrolling children ages 1 to 6. We also have a short waiting list for infants aged 6 weeks to 1 year. Please share this information with anyone you know who may be looking for childcare. Interested families can contact the center at 417-881-4119 or via email at messiahlighthousedirector@gmail.com.

Messiah Lighthouse

Messiah Lighthouse Daycare is currently seeking dedicated individuals to join our team!

We are hiring for the following full-time positions:

- Cook (food program experience preferred)
- Infant Lead Teacher

If you are interested, please contact Jessica Phillips, Director, at **417-881-4119**, or stop by the daycare to complete an application.



New Member Session

If you are interested in learning more about becoming a Lutheran, we will be having a new member session on **June 14 at 4:00 p.m.** Please contact the church office at 417-881-2192 or officemanager@messiahmo.org and give us your name and how many plan to attend.

We will Welcome New Members on June 28 during the morning worship.

Joint VBS



We are very excited for Vacation Bible School coming up in June. This year's theme is *Rome: Paul and the Underground Church*. Throughout the week, our kids will learn about life back in the first century and for the first believers. They will spend time with Paul's

writings and learn the lesson that have shaped the church for centuries, while seeing how all of Paul's writings point back to God.

During the week we will be talking about how God's love is a gift, God's love changes us, God's love is always with us, God's love saves us, and God's love is worth sharing. Each one of these lessons may sound simple on its surface, but living into God's love and showing it to the world is much harder. Vacation Bible School provides students the opportunity to learn about God in a safe environment. We then empower them to live out God's calling for them throughout the world. The church may have started underground with Paul writing a few letters, but it has grown into a global phenomenon. It is our job to pass the love of God and the lessons of the early church down to future generations.

We are honored to once again host Vacation Bible School with our sister church Prince of Peace. It will be held on June 22 through the 24 from 5pm to 8pm each night. The program is offered to children in preschool through 6th grade. You can sign up by scanning the QR code below or by going to the website,

<https://vbsmate.com/events/mlcspfmo/32268>.



Evangelism Committee News

One of the 2026 Council goals is to establish a multicultural team to function within the Evangelism Committee. As we strive to be intentional about our mission to **welcome all to worship**, this team will be identifying opportunities for learning about a variety of cultures and will be seeking ways to have a presence via meaningful participation in community activities and events.

This team, under the leadership of Lindsey Dillion, began their work at the Multicultural Festival earlier in the year. We look forward to taking this work to the next level.

Please join us on June 2nd at 10:00 a.m. in the library and be a part of this work. If you have an interest, but can't meet at this time, please contact Lindsey via text at 417-520-6683.

Please join us—we need your ideas!!



June Flowers

	6/7	13/14	20/21	27/28
Vase 1	Bud & Jane Schwab	Mike & Susan Lane	Rex & Mary Anne Johnson	Norma Isenberg
Vase 2	Tom Wiswall & Bonnie Luder	Mike & Susan Lane	Tom Wiswall & Bonnie Luder	Jane Schwab



Flower Vase Costs

Cost per vase is \$20. Please make checks payable to Messiah Lutheran Church, and then in the memo line, write "Altar Flowers" and the date for which you are paying. If you are using an offering envelope, you will find a line for "Altar Flowers" and the amount.



www.messiahmo.org



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MessiahMOELCA



MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA

MessiahMoELCA



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He restores my soul, He leads me in the paths of righteousness, for His name's sake. Psalms 23:3

June Scripture Readings

DATE	FIRST READING	PSALM	SECOND READING	GOSPEL
6/7	Hosea 5:15—6:6	50:7-15	Romans 4:13-25	Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26
13/14	Exodus 19:2-8a	100	Romans 5:1-8	Matthew 9:35—10:8[9-23]
20/21	Jeremiah 20:7-13	69:7-10 [11-15], 16-18	Romans 6:1b-11	Matthew 10:24-39
27/28	Jeremiah 28:5-9	89:1-4, 15-18	Romans 6:12-23`	Matthew 10:40-42

Mark Your Calendars

06/09	Lunch & Scripture	06/28	Receive New Members
06/10	MLCFDC Field Trip	06/28	Godspeed Celebration for Vicar Abbey
06/13-14	Hymn Sing	06/28	Lay Internship
06/14	New Member Class		
06/19	MLCFDC Donuts with Dad		
06/21	Father's Day		
06/21	Church Council Meeting		
06/22-24	Joint VBS		
06/24	Seminole Holland Board Meeting		