

July 2021

THE MONITOR

Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church

Dear Church,

Thank you so very much for allowing me to take off to South Africa. If you've read the letter I previously wrote about the inception of the trip, you'll know that it was my hope to be in Israel... and yet God moves in mysterious ways!

In participating in the Mennonite Mission training sessions, one thing that stood out to me was the idea of mission and how it has changed over the course of time. Initially, mission was thought of as replication...Christians went into communities, homes, even other countries, and attempted to replicate what they had been doing at home, without regard for the accommodations, supplies, even languages that were being spoken. An analogy for this would be McDonald's Big Mac. No matter where you purchase it in the world, it will always be "two all beef patties, special sauce, lettuce, cheese, pickles, onions on a sesame seed bun."

Time challenged this ability to simply replicate the home church in other places so missionaries attempted to adapt home to the new place. Finding similarities and parallels yet still transplanting the ideas from home into a new setting. There is, in India, a burger that is this...McDonald's, recognizing that the "all beef patties" were offensive in India created the Maharaja Burger, using an (to me) unidentified meat source, they adapted the Big Mac to local norms.

And still this was not true to who the people in those foreign places, outside the walls of the church building, really were. God did not seem to show up in the same manner that God showed up at home. And so, in our Lutheran theology, we go to accompany people. As does a musician. As does a walking companion for a person with legs that are challenged. As does a parent as a child learns to ride a bike. We run alongside the bike, behind it, watching and allowing mistakes, helping cipher what worked and what did not, we humbly accompany the knowledge and see where we can express God's work in those moments of angst and in those moments of passionate joy!

For Messiah, it seems to me that we are called to accompany people through this time of discernment about our congregation—and I mean all people. Those on our membership rolls, those not on our rolls, those we meet once, those we walk with for days and months and years. As our conversation around becoming a Reconciling in Christ congregation progress, we may or may not end up adopting a Welcoming Statement. We may jump ship and land in the Congregational Vitality venue of self-discovery. We may find that there is no accompaniment towards any change, or we may find an orchestra or a rock band or a hop hip beat that lights up our mission—our being sent by God—to the world.

It is my hope that you will begin to discern what it is you hear God calling the group you participate in here at Messiah to do. Perhaps Fellowship begins a new way of serving by bringing in speakers. Perhaps Christian Ed begins a new outdoor classroom. Perhaps Choir begins to rap. Perhaps...perhaps you have a dream and a way of being sent by God that has not been voiced. It is time to share visions, knowing that like Bubbles, the idea may not last long yet in its being given voice, there is a power released that allows other ideas to grow.

We are seeking our calling. We are seeking a mission—a way of being sent by God to the world. It is my prayer that you will ponder this idea for yourself and your group here at the building, and find a way to begin courageously voicing your dreams so that all of us can be willing to find that to which God is leading us.

I look forward to sharing with you that which God opens to me on this trip. I pray that you are well, that you are vibrant, and that you always know God loves you, forgives you, and never leaves your presence.

Peace be with you, Pastor Amy

Passages:

- a way of exit or entrance
 - the action or process of passing from one place, condition, or stage to another
 - a usually brief portion of a written work or speech that is relevant
- ~Merriam-Webster online

For this year, 2021, Pastor has chosen a passage of scripture for each month. Please use this verse daily for the month. Simply read it, perhaps look at some of the questions with each passage to assist your reflection on its meaning in your life. May the Spirit lead you in the movement of the Word through the passage for each month.

Daily: What idea stands out to me in this passage?

Where does this idea connect to what is happening in my life today?

How might I incorporate this idea in my life today?

With whom could I share these thoughts and/or this idea?

July: Hebrews 11: 1-3

1 Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. 2 This is what the ancients were commended for. 3 By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.

How do I define faith?

What does confidence in God mean to me?

How am I reassured that God is there for me?

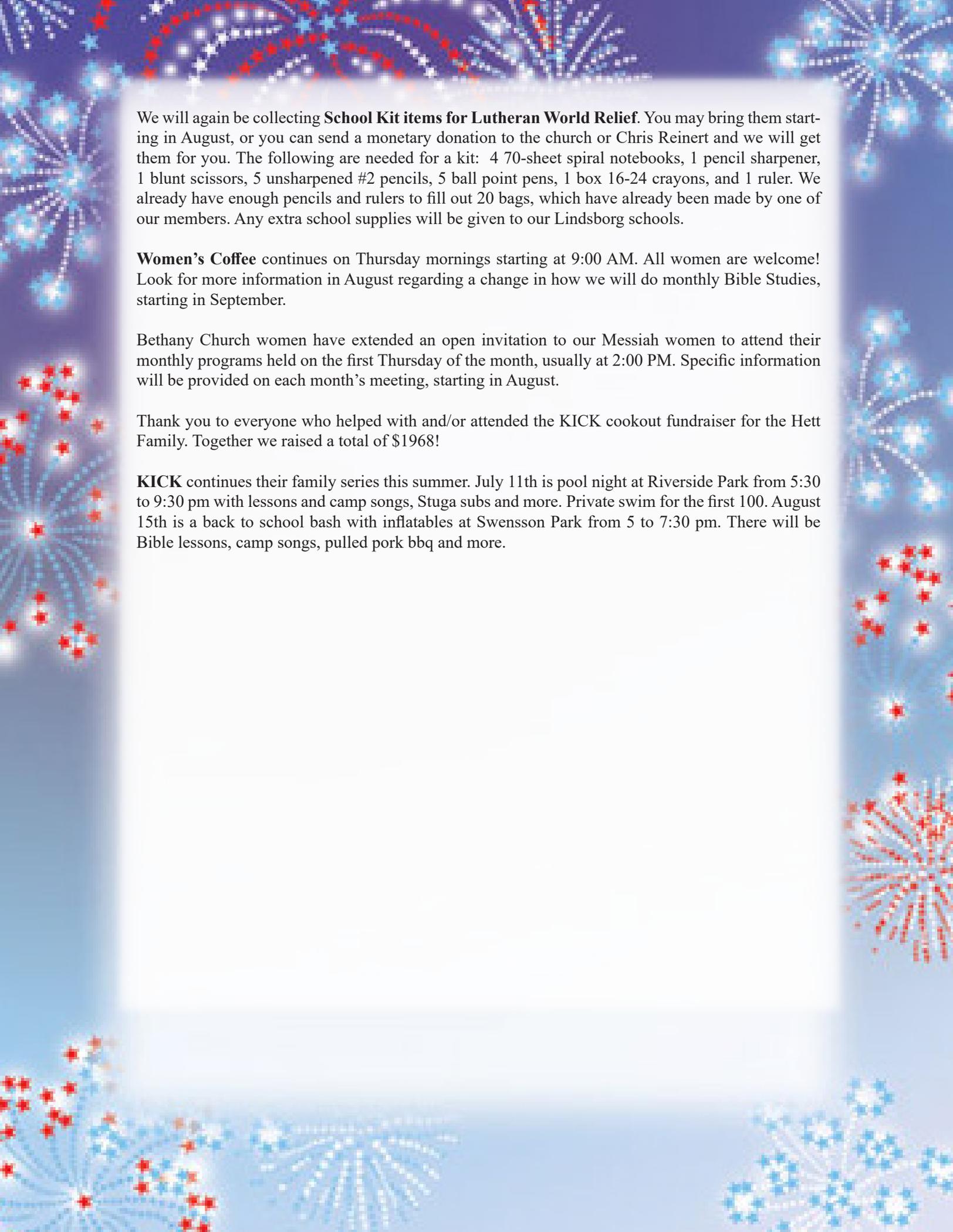
God made all things out of chaos, beginning with light.

How does this awareness offer me confidence that God created all that is created?

What would I like God to create in my life?

Where do I see chaos in my path?

Where does the light shine through that chaos?



We will again be collecting **School Kit items for Lutheran World Relief**. You may bring them starting in August, or you can send a monetary donation to the church or Chris Reinert and we will get them for you. The following are needed for a kit: 4 70-sheet spiral notebooks, 1 pencil sharpener, 1 blunt scissors, 5 unsharpened #2 pencils, 5 ball point pens, 1 box 16-24 crayons, and 1 ruler. We already have enough pencils and rulers to fill out 20 bags, which have already been made by one of our members. Any extra school supplies will be given to our Lindsborg schools.

Women's Coffee continues on Thursday mornings starting at 9:00 AM. All women are welcome! Look for more information in August regarding a change in how we will do monthly Bible Studies, starting in September.

Bethany Church women have extended an open invitation to our Messiah women to attend their monthly programs held on the first Thursday of the month, usually at 2:00 PM. Specific information will be provided on each month's meeting, starting in August.

Thank you to everyone who helped with and/or attended the KICK cookout fundraiser for the Hett Family. Together we raised a total of \$1968!

KICK continues their family series this summer. July 11th is pool night at Riverside Park from 5:30 to 9:30 pm with lessons and camp songs, Stuga subs and more. Private swim for the first 100. August 15th is a back to school bash with inflatables at Swensson Park from 5 to 7:30 pm. There will be Bible lessons, camp songs, pulled pork bbq and more.

Messiah Lutheran Church Council Minutes
(these minutes will be approved at the August council meeting)
June 16, 2021

Council Members present: Pastor Amy Truhe, Kirsten Bruce, Becky Anderson, Linda Lewis, Mary Lindgren, Muriel Gentine, Robert Peterson, Sharon Bruce. **Absent:** Warren Olson, Ingrid Pohl

Opening Prayer & Devotions: Pastor Amy Truhe
Reports:

Secretary: Motion to approve minutes of the May 16, 2021 council meeting. M/S/C.

Treasurer: M/S/C to accept the Treasurer's report as presented

Pastor: see written report – Mission trip is June 18 to July 14. Pastoral pulpit supply will be Rachael Pryor and Dick Monson. Ingrid Pohl is council contact.

Old Business:

Congregational connections: RIC conversations

Dala Pantry: Logan is looking for someone to mentor for the management of the Dala Pantry.

New Business:

Director of Music: Meet with choir August 1.

Treasure's (rummage) Sale: June 26 from 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

KICK: Summer activities for families. Next two will also be fundraiser for the Hett family.

Direction of MELC: RIC conversations

July 17: Annie Reinert's wedding

HVAC: New units are here for the Fellowship room. Upstairs condenser will be repaired.

Handicap Parking: Paint one space blue on the North side. Check with city about access on West side.

Nutt grant: Motion to move the \$1,000 Nutt grant from the Improvement Fund to Inside Property for HVAC units. M/S/C

Synod Assembly: Linda Lewis and Lois Carlson attended the assembly via zoom. Linda gave a summary of the meeting.

Hyllningsfest: MELC has been asked to provide 60 loaves of rye bread.

Masks: Motion that masks are optional and we will continue to respect social distancing. M/S/C

Fellowship after worship: Coffee fellowship with individually wrapped snacks will resume June 23.

June 17: Council meets with Bishop Candea at 3:00.

June 18: Task committees from Bethany College and Messiah Church will meet with Bishop at 8:00a.m.

MELC committee members are Linda Lewis, Kirsten Bruce and Ingrid Pohl.

Meeting closed with The Lord's Prayer

Committee Reports:

Christian Ed – Pari Ford

Staff Relations – Kirsten Bruce

Fellowship – Sharon Bruce

TACOL – Linda Lewis

Finance & Stewardship – Becky Anderson

Worship & Music – Muriel Gentine

Global Missions – Warren Olson

Youth –

Outreach and Caring – Ingrid Pohl

WELCA – Mary Lindgren

Property – Rob Peterson

Memorial – (Dixie Mattas)

Next Executive Committee Meeting: August ___ @ 5:30

Next MELC Council Meeting: Wednesday August 18 @ 6:30

Members, Friends, and Family for Whom We Pray

Members of Messiah:

Rolland Christenson, Walli Ellis, Gloria and Gene Holdsworth, Merl Hilt, the families of Donna Forsberg and Betty Peterson, and father of Bryce Loder, Leroy Loder who passed on June 14th

Friends of Messiah

Donna Stejksal	Daniels' friend
Denise	Pari Ford's mother
Bill Stephenson	Joy Janis's brother
Dawn	Sharon Hoffman's Daughter
Dorothy Carmichael	Friend of Messiah
Stephani White	Betty Holcombe's daughter
Karla Goewert	Friend of Kirsten Bruce
Orin Shogren	Har's brother
Danielle VanDeVyvere	Robbie Peterson's granddaughter
Krista Bahler	Betty Peterson's Niece
Betty Finney	Sharon Hoffman's friend
Meghan Presley	John & Margaret Presley's daughter
Robert Ahlstedt	Earl Ahlstedt's brother
Kim and Jill Hett	

Serving the U.S.A.

Alex Klapp	Betty Russin's grandson
Vicki Charboneau	Elaine Eller's granddaughter
Ben Youngquist	S Hoffman's nephew
Jeremy Guy	Hensley's son-in-law
T.J. Paulsen	Barb Malm's child

Serving the U.S.A. Overseas

Daniel & Miranda Norland	Randy/Gretchen's son & wife
Luke Hammontree	Daniel's grandson

Seminary

Kaylie Ines

JULY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4 10:00 am Sunday Worship	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 10:00 am Sunday Worship	12	13	14	15	16	17
18 6:30 pm Executive Committee Meeting	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 10:00 am Sunday Worship	26	27	28	29	30	31

Messiah Church Staff

Pastor
Office Manager
Custodian
Youth Director
Organist
Treasurer

Amy Truhe
Ida Rencher
Juan Redmon
Ericka Lysell, BLC
Steven Gustafson
Christine Reinert

Contact Us
Office: 785-227-3977
mlchurch@mlc.kscoxmail.com
www.melclindsborg.org
office hours: 9-12 M-F
Call for appointment with Pastor Amy

MELC's Guiding Principles

Jesus is Lord ♦ Everyone is welcome ♦ Love changes people
Everyone has gifts to offer ♦ God sends us as servants to the world
We commit to grow in faith