

September 2021

THE MONITOR

Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church

Greetings, Church!

This month has been a blur of changing from the slower pace of summer to the ever quickening pace of “the school year!” As many of us have experienced, being beyond having children in the school system somewhat frees us from the restraints of a super busy, activity focused calendar, and yet, even without children buying new notebooks and fresh pens, the change in the pace of time seems to hit all of us as the sense of quickening comes with fall.

And it’s still 100 degrees outside!

Yet the truth is, that as our program year comes into view, we are called to become more intentional about our participation in the ministries of the congregation, in the happenings of our community, in our awareness of the world.

This fall, we begin with a new choir director! Dr. Leslie Mangrum is the vocal professor at Bethany College and brings a lengthy experience of congregational choir leadership from her time in Salina. She’s got a vision for us and a hope for the ministry of music that will enhance worship and grow our faith as we sing, listen, and create together a new melody in our worship experiences. If you haven’t been in choir for a while, now is a great time to consider participating!

We have a new idea for building Christian home-life. I’m planning to lead a six week study on the book “The Spiritually Vibrant Home: The Power of Messy Prayers, Loud Tables, and Open Doors,” by Don Everts. It looks like this will provoke some thoughtful reflection for participants and bring us together on one path to living faith more deeply in our daily lives.

We are awaiting the results of the Congregational Vitality survey. The Synod will bring the report when they have it and we’ll present it after worship in a forum style presentation!

As leaders in the congregation, we hear talk, often, of people who are at unrest with the congregation at large. Please come and talk to me or to our Council President, Ingrid Pohl, or to our Staff Relations chair, Kirsten Bruce. We cannot address what we do not

know. My door is always open. Always. While this isn’t new, it’s necessary that you hear it and know I’m available!

With Hyllningsfest upcoming (as well as the rest of life), we have the challenge of keeping everyone well this fall. Masks and vaccinations are imperative to this effort. Masks do not protect me from you, they protect you from me. I see this as a very humble thing, to wear a mask. To wear a mask is to visibly value your neighbor by protecting your neighbor from your exhalations. It makes me vulnerable to the ridicule of those who believe masks are silly and don’t work. A mask says to the world, “I value you.” Oddly, so many believe that to wear a mask impedes their freedom. I guess this is the message of Christ in a piece of cloth: that I do love my neighbor as myself, enough to keep them safe, enough to be uncomfortable in protecting them via a sacrifice of my ears and face. Jesus went to the cross, himself uncomfortable as he protected us from death.

Finally, this fall, we will celebrate a God’s Work, Our Hands Sunday, Sept 12. This Sunday will find us having our first choir practice (at 8:45), a short worship, then engaging work in the community and in our building, to then, hopefully, return to have a short time of fellowship and refreshment. Everyone can help out, everyone is welcome!

We have a number of blessings that continue to empower the ministry of Messiah. We have resources financially, we have the gifts of persons, we have people who want to use our building, keeping it vibrant and alive, we have visitors among our people, and we love and care for one another through prayer and generosity and friendship!

May this pending autumn bring with it a time of hope and goodwill for you. May you find yourself anticipating time with friends and family that is safe and joyful. And may you come and worship with your family of faith, sharing the blessings of community in Christ. We have so much to celebrate as God’s people!

Peace be with you, Pastor Amy

MONTHLY PASSAGES

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 do I believe about Holy Spirit?

Why are fruits of the Spirit important (beyond the idea that they are good things to be/live by/work towards)?

Where do we learn about Holy Spirit? (Hint: look at the meaning of the 3rd article of the Apostles' Creed.)

Which of these fruits do I seem to produce?

Which challenge me to produce?

Looking at each fruit, what would it mean to have this be part of how I offer love to the world daily, in every relationship?

Does God open all of these gifts to everyone all the time?

Galatians 5: 22-23

*²² By contrast,
the fruit of the Spirit
is love, joy, peace, patience,
kindness, generosity,
faithfulness, ²³ gentleness,
and self-control.
There is no law
against such things.*

EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

FALL BOOK STUDY

The Spiritually Vibrant Home: The Power of Messy Prayers Loud Tables, and Open Doors, by Don Everts, will be the focus of a book study this fall! Designed for families, any household is invited to attend and discover the ways in which God can empower your household to be a vibrant, faith filled home. Dates we'll meet will, tentatively, be Sundays, Sept 19, 26, Oct 3, Nov7, 14, and 21. We'll meet from 2:00-3:00 p.m. If you are interested and these dates do not work for you, please let Pastor know!

MISSIONS TRIP FORUM

On Sunday, October 17, Pastor will present a forum after worship on her trip to South Africa! Join us during fellowship time to hear about this mission trip and the journey she got to take!

KICK

KICK begins Wednesday, September 15 after school. Children grades K-6th are invited to sign up. The first day we will have a cookout at Swensson park with a bounce obstacle course. We need volunteers to help with serving food, helping wash dishes, and help sending baked desserts for dinner. And we always need teachers and helpers in classes. Please contact Rachel Ann if you can help. 785-212-0113

CAMP TOMAH SHINGA RETREAT

Camp Tomah Shinga is holding a prayer and spiritual renewal retreat at Camp Tomah Shinga on Friday evening September 24th to Saturday Evening September 25th. Deadline to register is Sunday September 5th. Please see the following flyer for details.

MESSIAH WOMEN

Bethany Church women have extended an open invitation to our Messiah women to attend their monthly programs, held on the first Thursday of each month, On Thursday September 2, Chet and Jeannette Peterson will present a Show and Tell Archive program in Bethany's Fellowship Hall. This is a great opportunity to spend time with our fellow sisters in Christ. We thank Bethany women for their generous hospitality!

We have met our goal of supplies for our Lutheran World Relief Kits. Thank you again for all your donations. We will be assembling the School Kits and Personal Care Kits in the Fellowship Hall as part of the "God's Work, Our Hands" workday at Messiah on September 12.

We are not currently planning on monthly Women's Bible Studies, but will experiment with a short devotional study at our Women's Coffee on the 4th Thursday of each month, at 9:00, beginning this month. Our weekly Women's Coffee will continue to meet 9:00-10:00. All are welcome!

Want to reconnect to God?
Feeling distant or spiritually drained?
Facing some transitions in life?
Want to learn some new ways to pray?

Prayer & Spiritual Renewal Retreat

Friday evening, September 24
to Saturday evening, September 25
at Camp Tomah Shinga

Ignatian Examen Prayer * Lectio Divina * Centering Prayer * Journaling
Spiritual Direction * Prayer Stations * Prayer Beads * Prayer Labyrinth
Anointing * Intercessory Prayer * Campfire Prayer * Fasting
Praying the Catechism * Hymns & Psalmody * Contemplation * Silence



Deadline to register is Sunday, Sept 5.
Contact Pastor Chad Langdon
with questions or to register.
pastor@christ-lutheran.org 316-744-1242

Childcare provided at minimal extra cost.

PRAYER LIST

Members, Friends, and Family for Whom We Pray

Members of Messiah:

Rolland Christenson, Walli Ellis, Gloria and Gene Holdsworth, Merl Hilt, Ken Peterson, and Bob Nyquist

Friends of Messiah

Donna Stejksal

Daniels' friend

Denise

Pari Ford's mother

Bill Stephenson

Joy Janis's brother

Dawn

Sharon Hoffman's Daughter

Stephani White

Betty Holcombe's daughter

Karla Goewert

Friend of Kirsten Bruce

Danielle VanDeVyvere

Robbie Peterson's granddaughter

Krista Bahler

Betty Peterson's Niece

Meghan Presley

John & Margaret Presley's daughter

Robert Ahlstedt

Earl Ahlstedt's brother

Amy Wright

Don Anderson's friend

Sharon Texley

friend of Marla Elmquist, Linda Lewis and many others

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

Daniel & Miranda Norland

Randy/Gretchen's son & wife

Luke Hammontree

Daniel's grandson

Seminary

Kaylie Ines

COUNCIL MINUTES

Messiah Lutheran Church Council Minutes

(these minutes will be approved at the September council meeting)

August 18, 2021

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

Opening Prayer & Devotions: Pastor Amy Truhe

Reports:

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

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

Pastor: see written report – BC classes begin Aug. 24, Sunday School and Choir will begin in September.

Old Business:

KICK – Summer activities successful

Lindsborg Summer Recreation program ended August 5 with good attendance here at MELC for indoor projects.

HVAC – Completed 2 units for the Fellowship room, 1 for Sprout House and repaired 1 in Choir and Family room.

New Business:

Choir: Watch for an announcement from Director Leslie Mangrum.

Congregation Vitality: When survey data is returned, we will meet after worship for feedback. Date TBD.

Handicap Parking: Paint one space blue on the North side.

Hyllningsfest: Received donations for 60 loaves of rye bread.

Masks: MELC follows McPherson County direction

Dala Pantry: Summer weekend backpack program served approximately 50 per week.

Nutt Grant: Kirsten Bruce is writing a grant for a dishwasher

August 15: Blessing of the Backpacks has been postponed to a later date

August 29: Bethany College Sunday

September 12: "God's Work, Our Hands" Sunday. Short service and then community Service work.

October 10: Bethany Lutheran has extended an invitation for MELC to celebrate Bethany College Founder's Day at 8:00a.m. or 10:30 a.m. A forum at 9:00a.m. will be led by President Elizabeth Mauch.

Council agreed that MELC will have worship service at 10:00a.m.

Meeting closed with The Lord's Prayer

Committee Reports:

Christian Ed – Pari Ford

Fellowship – Sharon Bruce

Finance & Stewardship – Becky Anderson

Global Missions – Warren Olson

Outreach and Caring – Ingrid Pohl

Property – Rob Peterson

Staff Relations – Kirsten Bruce

TACOL – Linda Lewis

Worship & Music – Muriel Gentine

Youth –

WELCA – Mary Lindgren

Memorial – (Dixie Mattas)

Next Executive Committee Meeting: September 14 @ 4:30

Next MELC Council Meeting: Wednesday September 22 @ 6:30

CALENDAR AND CONTACT

SEPTEMBER

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

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