

Pastor's Page

I always like how Memorial Day weekend transitions us into summer. End of school year events are wrapped up & Memorial Day observances remind us how fortunate we are. I especially like how we sing the hymnal's "patriotic songs" so well at Messiah that Sunday. Memorial Day weekend is our first step into summer routines. Here are a few at Messiah.



June 5th we'll resume the Wednesday bible study. I'll teach this every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. Here's the thing – I'm not sure yet where the class will meet. The church is always an option but this summer we may consider having the study at someone's house or a park or a library. For the topics, I usually just follow the weekly lectionary. But when we get side tracked onto some tangent that is always more interesting. Coffee, snacks, and laughter combine to make this a favorite event.

June 19th brings us Vespers at Red Brook at 7:00 p.m. We started this tradition back in 2008. It has gained in popularity thru the years. We sing and pray together and then we break out refreshments and fellowship together. Some linger to watch the sun set over Lake Erie. This year the songs will be evening light hymns.

July 22-23-24 brings VBS to Messiah. We've enjoyed great Vacation Bible School experiences thru the decades, each of them a little different. VBS 2019 brings the theme "Christmas in July". VBS always brings together families who have been here for years and new kids without connections to Messiah. We like making new friends, learning new things, making interesting art projects, having outdoor fun, singing, and praying. Also, the final three weekends in July, I return to the stage at Ashtabula Arts Center. I have supporting cast roles in the fun, fast musical "Freaky Friday". It ends with forgiveness, acceptance, and moving forward as a family. "Freaky Friday" celebrates a household, after much struggle, finally unified.

So, Memorial Day is ended, now let the summer begin! We go from place to place, from event to event. As we head out into summer we take along a lesson from the Ascension of Jesus. Forty Days after resurrection, he takes disciples out to a hill and he disappears into a cloud as he ascends back to the Father's right hand. He promises, "I am with you always." As we go out into our places and schedules, Jesus gazes with love on us from above. He is also within us, thru baptism. He is especially with us in community of faith as Christ among us. Christ is above us, within us, and among us. This fills any plan or event with hope and promise.

Welcome home to Messiah
Michael Meranda

John the Baptist Vespers

John the Baptist Vespers will be held Wednesday, June 19, at Redbrook Boat Club, Lake Road West. The evening will begin at 7:00 P.M. with a half-hour vesper service, led by Pastor Meranda. We will then enjoy appetizers and drinks, followed by watching the sunset together.

Our Hospitality Committee members will be bringing appetizers, and anyone else who attends is welcome to help out by contributing a goody, although you do not have to bring anything. Just come and enjoy.

The Redbrook gate will be open from 6:30 to 7:15, but will be closed after that. If you will be arriving later than 7:15, please let me know, so we can arrange to let you in. Please join us for fellowship at the lake.

Tina Tallbacka, 440-812-1947

Pianos on the move...

A recent addition to the Luther Room is this donated Steinway piano. We acquired this used piano from the Nazor family through the efforts of Debbie Fleming.



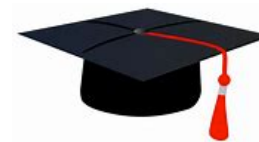
GARDEN SCHEDULE

I apologize for the lateness of this schedule. If you cannot water/weed on the week listed, please let me know and we can adjust it. Also, feel free to stop by the garden and water/weed whenever you would like. Please let the person whose week it is know if you watered.

6/2-6/8 Rick
6/9-6/15 Dawn
6/16-6/22 Lanny
6/23-6/29 Robin
6/30-7/6 Gary
7/7-7/13 Renee
7/14-7/20 Sue
7/21-7/27 Rick
7/28-8/3 Dawn
8/4-8/10 Lanny
8/11-8/17 Robin
8/18-8/24 Gary
8/25-8/31 Renee
9/1-9/7 Sue

Will add to this as needed as the growing continues.

Thank you,
Renee Spencer



MESSIAH GRADUATES

Congratulations to all these names that have some association with Messiah who are graduating from various institutions this May:

Paden Cochran, LHS
Alexis Dibell, LHS
Samantha Osowski, LHS
Garrett Webster, EHS
Taylor Cochran, graduating from Ohio State.
Grayson Quay, Masters from Georgetown University. Grayson will be teaching English & Theatre Arts in Fairfax, VA.

Also Grayson is getting married July 27th. Congratulations!

Bus Trippin' with Barb

Trip to:
Walnut Creek Amish Flea Market.
Shopping and Dining
Bus Pickup at Messiah Lutheran Church.
Leave 8:00 A.M.
Arrive back at 6:00 P.M.
\$32.00 per person.
Twenty passengers only.
RSVP by July 14. After July 14, cost is \$37.00.
No Refunds.
Non Transferable.
Contact Barb Lewis 440-228-0872.



Trip to:
Rabbit Run Theater and Dinner.
Saturday August 3rd
Mama Mia
Dinner at Grand River Cellars
Chicken and Rib combo
Wine Tasting
Bus Pickup at Messiah Lutheran Church
Leave 3:00 P.M.
Return 11:30 P.M.
Ticket Price \$83.00
RSVP by July 21st, Price \$78.00
Must pay by July 31st
In partnership with Richmond Transportation.
Non Transferable
No Refunds
Contact Barb Lewis 440-228-0872

Birthday Announcements

After June, we will not be putting birthdays in the weekly bulletin. Instead monthly birthdays will be posted on the bulletin board for you to refer to. Please feel free to add birthdates to these monthly lists.



Church Mouse Says...

*"Want home improvement?
Bring your family to church."*



**Messiah Lutheran Church
615 Prospect Road
Ashtabula, OH 44004**

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Permit No. 313**

Messiah Messenger June 2019

**“We’re Open Sundays”
11:30 A.M. – Worship**



*An ELCA Congregation
in mission to Ashtabula*

*Produced for the members and friends of Messiah Lutheran Church,
615 Prospect Road, Ashtabula, Ohio 44004.*

Phone 440-992-9392

Fax 440-992-1348

E-mail: messiahlutheranbulao6@windstream.net

web page: www.messiahashtabula.com

The Rev. Michael Meranda, Pastor

Phone: 440-998-7321