

Pastor’s Column

At our October 27th meeting of the congregation, we elected four new persons to begin a three-year term on our congregation’s council. Jill Carle is a life-long member of Messiah who enjoys a career in broadcasting. She has served previously on the council and serves currently on the Foundation Board. Fred Leitert enjoyed his career as a chemical engineer. He also earned an MBA from Case Western Reserve University. Fred is known for several projects around Ashtabula. Russ Jepson is a life-long member of Messiah. He’s a United States Air Force veteran, a retiree, and appreciated in Ashtabula for many things, including work on the Greenway Trail. Russ is a founding originator of Messiah’s Lend A Hand Food Bank. Renee Spencer is a life-long member of Messiah. She’s enjoyed several careers, has raised two children (one of whom, Chelsea, is an ELCA pastor), and is appreciated at Messiah for a number of projects including the recent health fair and community garden. Those four persons will join existing council members Sue Riley, Candace Rodgers, Beckey Young, and Emilia Lindberg.



We are fortunate those gifted eight persons will form our council beginning January 2020. In the next three years, 2020, 2021, and 2022, Messiah will experience major events. In the Spring of 2020, I’ll celebrate the 40th Anniversary of my ordination. Pastors Grimm and Anderson have agreed to lead that worship service; my family will host an open house in the fellowship hall. In August of 2020 our Bishop Allende will retire. So, our synod will be busy in all the steps that lead to the election of a new bishop. February 2021 brings a HUGE event for Messiah, the 100th Anniversary of the founding of our congregation. At some point in the future I am going to retire. I do not have a firm date in mind yet but I will announce that after consulting with the new council. After I retire the bishop will appoint an interim pastor for Messiah. Messiah will appoint members to serve on a Call Committee. After Messiah goes thru the interim and call process Messiah will issue a Call to its next pastor. It’s important that a strong council be in place to steady this congregation thru those events. We have such a council and we are grateful to God for them.

All the councils in my tenure here have been strong, positive, helpful, and reliable. Most recently we have thanked Mark Anderson, Frank Maenpa, Ruth Hlinovsky, and Mike Shaffer for their combined 21 years of service on our congregation’s council. Capable church administration is the necessary backdrop for the congregation’s ministry of Word and Sacrament. For 99 years Messiah has been a well-managed community of faith for baptisms, confirmations, Lord’s Supper celebrations, bible studies, sermons, prayers, and fellowship. Thanks be to God.

Welcome Home to Messiah,
Pastor Michael Meranda

Thanksgiving Dinner

By: Ruth Hlinovsky

Hospitality is preparing for our 2019 Thanksgiving Dinner on Sunday, November 24. As always, we provide the turkeys, stuffing, mashed potatoes, gravy, yams, green beans, and dinner rolls.

Sign up sheets for volunteers are on a table in the narthex for all who are able to give of their time.

Sign up sheets for the number of people in your group of family and guests, and any dessert you are able to provide , are going to be in the love , care and concern folders. With many thanks for your generous contribution to the success of this beloved tradition.



11 Years Ago in 2008

Messiah hosted an “end of year” banquet for 50 Thurgood Marshall Elementary School students enrolled in their “after school discovery” program.

The students were served a delicious meal of salad, lasagna, bread and brownie sundaes by Marie Blood, Maggie Anderson, Jan Koschik, Sherri Hurst, Sue Riley, Donna Kiddle, Pastor Meranda, and Kelley and Eric Meier.

Led by Kevin Meier, this was an outstanding example of Messiah’s outreach effort.



Letters & Emails

Messiah Lutheran Church Family,

Thank you for all of your prayers and kindness throughout this difficult time. Your time and efforts hosting Carolyn’s funeral reception is so very appreciated. Our family is so very thankful to be part of Messiah Lutheran Church.

From the family of Carolyn P. Tallbacka.

Love,
Dee Dee, Frank and Tina

Clothing Sacks from Signature Health Staff person.....
very appreciative of how her clients are received at Messiah!

Boxing Day Tea

By: Mary Meranda and Joan Malkie

Boxing Day Tea is at Church on December 26 from 2:00 to 4:00 pm. Box up left over Christmas sweets to share with the ladies and friends of Messiah for a relaxing tea filled with laughter, stories and treats!

Boxing Day is a traditional English holiday that extends the celebrations and good will of the season!

Please call the Church office so we can plan for you. We’ll have more information in the December Messenger.



Offering Envelopes Available

Offering envelopes for 2020 are now available and on a table in the hallway near the Luther Room. Secure yours soon.

Regular use of your offering envelopes assists the Finance Committee in keeping an accurate accounting of your gifts to the Church.

Reunion Dinner A Big Success!

Over 90 people participated in the October 20 Reunion Dinner. Planned by the Committee composed of Mark Anderson, John Lovas, Renee Spencer and Kathy Shaffer, this dinner was the first of several events that will attempt to increase numbers at worship at Messiah.



In the picture at the right, L to R, Carl Malkie, Ruth Hlinovsky and Kurt Nordquest are seen “setting up” before the banquet.

In the picture lower right, Traci Teudhope is shown making a few comments after dinner.

In the bottom picture, folks are going through the buffet line to get their food. The meal was catered by Meola Catering and was delicious. Members of the Church provided cookies for dessert.



Our thanks to the committee for a job well done!



Pastor Paul Baille Was Supply

Pastor Paul Baille conducted services at Messiah in late October when Pastor Meranda and Mary were at a family wedding in New York.

Here Pastor Baille is meeting with Deacon Rick Ranta prior to the service.

Pastor Baille was formerly Assistant Pastor at Good Shepherd in Conneaut.



Church Mouse Heard Pastor Ask:

Pastor Meranda told me the other day I should be thinking about the Hereafter.

Church Mouse told him, "I do, all the time. No matter where I am --- in the parlor, upstairs, in the kitchen, or in the basement. I'm always asking myself, now what am I here after?"



We Had A Meeting

Mark Anderson, President, calling the semi annual meeting of the congregation to order at the conclusion of the service on October 27. There was only one item of business to consider and that was to elect four people to Church Council.

The four elected were; Jill Carle, Fred Leitert, Russ Jepson and Renee Spencer.

They replaced four outgoing Council members. They were; Mark Anderson, Ruth Hlinovsky, Mike Shaffer and Frank Maenpa.

The meeting lasted only 10 minutes and adjourned. We congratulate the four new members of Council and wish them "good luck".



Joan Malkie Becomes A Member



Joan Malkie, here between her husband, Carl Malkie and Pastor Meranda, officially became a member of Messiah on October 6.

We welcome Joan to this fellowship of caring Christians and we look forward to working with her.

**Thanksgiving Dinner
November 24 After Worship**

Redbrook Vespers Crowd

A great crowd was on hand for the Redbrook Vespers this summer. Here part of the crowd in the meeting room of the Redbrook Boat Club in Saybrook Township.



Coffee Hour Hosts

Dawn and Fred Grimm were coffee hour hosts in October. They are shown here serving people in the line in the Luther Room.



Giving Tree Goes Up Nov. 24

The 2019 Giving Tree goes up in the Luther Room on Nov. 24. Please select an ornament, purchase the gift, wrap the gift and return it by mid December. (Watch the bulletin for an exact deadline) If you cannot shop, but would like to help, you may put a donation in an envelope and place it in the Sunday morning offering. Mark it "Giving Tree".

This tree is a long time tradition at Messiah.

Shown here is our 2018 Giving Tree.



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

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Ashtabula, Ohio 44004
Permit No. 313



**Welcome
Home To
Messiah**



Messiah Messenger

November 2019

Worship:
11:00 am Sunday
Sunday School:
11:00 am Sunday
Adult Forum:
9:45 am Sunday

*Produced For The Members and Friends of Messiah
Lutheran Church, 615 Prospect Road, Ashtabula, OH 44004
Phone 440-992-9392
Fax 440-992-1348*

Email: messiahlutheranbulao6@windstream.net

*The Rev. Dr. Michael Meranda, Pastor
Phone: 440-998-7321
Cell: 440-645-2586*