

SEPTEMBER ~ 2023

“CHANGE IS INEVITABLE.
GROWTH IS OPTIONAL.”

Messiah Messenger

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Save these Dates

<p><u>Sat. Sep. 9th</u> - How Medicare Works & Protecting Yourself & Others from Financial</p>
<p><u>Sun. Sep. 10th</u> - Packing 100 boxes for OCC - See Page 10</p>
<p><u>Thu. Sep. 14th</u> - Mark Giardinelli's Birthday Party - See Page 10</p>
<p><u>Fri. Sep. 15th</u> - Friday Morning Women's Bible Study begins - See Page 5</p>
<p><u>Sat. Sep. 16th</u> - Adult Game Day at 2:00 pm in the FLC</p>
<p><u>Sun. Sep. 17th</u> - Townhall Meeting - See Page 3</p>
<p><u>Tue. Sep. 19th</u> - Hill Country Pregnancy Care Center Annual Gala</p>
<p><u>Thu. Sep. 21st</u> - Ladies' Day Out Trip to Camp Verde</p>
<p><u>Sat. Sep. 30th</u> - Messiah's 5K Fun Run Event at Boerne's Old No. 9 Trail - See back page</p>
<p><u>Sun. Oct. 22nd</u> - Lutheran High School Golf Tournament - See Page 11</p>
<p><u>Sat. Dec. 9th</u> - Adult Christmas Party</p>
<p>More information can be found on all of these events on Messiah's Website</p>

Sunday, October 8th

Families and friends of Messiah Lutheran Church are invited to join us in our newly refurbished Sanctuary for a Rededication Service. Messiah's first pastor, Mark Dankis, will officiate, and special music will be provided by the Harmony Belles, led by our own Artie Dolt. This will be a glorious service as we open our new doors for all to enter.



In the spirit of NEW CREATION, this is a golden opportunity to reach out to the community, neighbors, new and old friends. We want to extend our invitation to as many as possible! If you know someone you would like to receive an invitation, please notify Maurine Maloy OR pick up an invitation on the table as you enter church on Sunday and pass them out yourself.

In the days to come you will see banners around our campus and publicity advertising our dedication service. This is an exciting time for Messiah and we want to share it with all!

To God be the Glory! Kathy Bibb

Refurbishment Update

Like Christmas Eve anticipation in a 5-year-olds mind, we are waiting with great anticipation to get back into the Church building for worship, discipleship and fellowship. Many are wondering what it will look and feel like being in our new surroundings.

In the last days of August, the Refurbishment team completed a walk through to mark punch list items for touch up as the project is nearing completion. The Joeris project manager submitted updates to the architect, and we received the Certificate of Substantial Completion from the architect on Aug 31st. The forms for the final safety review by the Fire Marshall were submitted and we are awaiting review and approval to occupy the facility.

Hopefully, prayerfully, by the time you read this the final clean up, approval for occupancy and move-in will have occurred, boxes unpacked, computers hooked up and church operations up and running. Then a date set for our first Worship Sunday will be announced. Barring any complications, we anticipate being in the church by mid-September and a Rededication celebration scheduled for Oct 8th.

What started almost two years ago as a “freshening up” with a little paint and replacing a stained carpet has blossomed into a complete renovation. Through many ups and downs during the project we are almost there thanks to the very generous contributions and efforts of many.

May we continue to use this refreshed building to the Glory of God and for the outreach to those in our community that need to know the saving grace of our Lord Jesus. *To Him be the Glory!*

Refurbishment Committee: Bill Thomas, Kathy Bibb, Lori Powell, Rebecca Bottlinger,

David Wendeborn & Ernie Mazurek, Vonda Petmecky

God Labors through Us

The following article was written by Pastor Lofgren for the September 2, 2005 edition of The Herald-Press, Huntington, Indiana.

Soon the season of summer will be over, and for me, one of the surest signs of the end of summer is Labor Day. When I was growing up, after Labor Day, the pools closed, the schools opened, and everyone got back to their “regular” schedules. Even with schools opening in mid-August now, Labor Day continues to mark the end of summer for many and the beginning of another year of “labor.”

With Labor Day being celebrated this weekend, an article recognizing God’s gift of vocation seems appropriate. For many people, the term “vocation” is considered religious, as in a “religious vocation,” such as a priest, a pastor, or a nun. For people of my own religious tradition, the Lutheran tradition, the word “vocation” is understood as properly applying to any type of labor. The factory worker and the teacher, the mayor and the maid all have been gifted and called by God to serve in their respective roles or stations in society. God has called each of us into our unique places in society, and through us God provides blessings to other people in society. Thus, we each serve others in the positions we hold in society in God’s place, or rather, God’s serves others through us. God labors through us. We are, so-to-speak, God’s masks, God being hidden behind us as he serves others through us.

When we recognize that God works through us to bless others in society, all roles and positions in society are endowed with divine honor. God not only calls the

“religious” into their offices to serve others for their spiritual welfare, but also the factory worker to provide the goods that serve to benefit others. The doctor is called to serve for the physical benefit of others, and the teacher for their intellectual benefit. The counselor serves others for their emotional welfare, and the mayor serves the whole community for the general welfare of all. Even the maid who sweeps and cooks and cleans is called by God to serve for the benefit of the people of the house where she works.

When you reflect upon Luther’s doctrine of vocation, you may also recognize that each of us is called into various vocations in life. For example, a man might serve as a farmer, a husband, a father, and an officer in his local congregation all at the same time. Likewise, a woman might serve as a homemaker, a wife, a mother, a nurse, and a Sunday School teacher. Through each of these various roles in society, as well as countless others, God serves the human family, providing for the physical, emotional, mental and spiritual needs of people. As they say, “God does not need our good works, but our neighbor does.”

As we celebrate Labor Day this coming Monday, let us give thanks to God for the strength and ability He gives us to fulfill our various vocations in life. Let us also thank God for all other workers in the world, for through their labor God blesses us with his good gifts.

Your co-worker in Christ, Pastor Lofgren

From the Board of Directors

Maurine Maloy recently shared something she read in an old newsletter:

The Lay Ministers are the hands and feet of Jesus.
The Board of Directors are the brains of Jesus.
The Elders are the heart of Jesus.

I liked this because it brings to mind Romans 12:4-6(a):

⁴For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, ⁵so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. ⁶We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us.

As a member of the board, it seems a bit presumptuous to agree that the Board of Directors are “the brains,” but among the leadership groups, we are the ones most focused on the business aspects of running a church. With business in mind, we’ll soon begin the process of building the 2024 budget. If you know of any unusual expenses the church may incur in 2024, please reach out to one of the board members. If you ever have questions about “the business end” of things, please speak with one of the board members. We’re here to serve you. Current board members are *Brad Sanders* (Chairman), *Russ Leachman* (Vice-Chairman), *Anthony Sansone* (Treasurer), *Sharon Loren* (Secretary), and three members-at-large: *Maurice Doublet III*, *Vonda Petmecky*, and *David Theis*. Any of us will be happy to talk with you!

Sharon Loren, Secretary

Becoming a Welcoming

There is a great little book with a quick read that brings many simple points about being a Welcoming church. Below is an excerpt.

The Path to Becoming a Welcoming Church - Excerpt from Becoming a Welcoming Church by Thom S. Rainer. **QUESTION: Would you return to a place where you did not feel welcome?**

What takes place in the first 10 minutes when a first-time guest arrives at your church will largely determine whether he or she returns. **First Step: you must understand and believe in the importance of becoming a welcoming church.**

When non-Christians feel welcomed, they return. When they return, they have more opportunities to hear the gospel preached and to develop relationships with believers. And those relationships are often used of God to bring people to His Son.

Living Up, In and Out

As we move into our newly refurbished church let's remember what this building and congregation is all about. We have a purpose and a Mission. The August 31st Portals of Prayer reading is a great reminder.

Living Up, In and Out - Our Lord calls us to live up, to grow in faith, and He provides for our spiritual well-being so we may do so. By means of the Gospel, His Word, our Baptism, and His Table of Grace, the Lord forgives and strengthens us. He will continue to do so.

This contributes to our living in, in the company of Christ and His people. How blessed we are to enjoy the company of our Lord and others who walk faith's way. What we receive from this companionship is important. What we give is just as much so. We do this also by living

While we should definitely be reaching out beyond the walls of our church facilities, imagine what a difference it would make if we were just as effective welcoming those who showed up.

We need welcoming members who respond positively to the admonition of **Paul in Philippians 2:3:** “*Do nothing out of selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility consider others more important than yourselves.*”

I pray all our members would be on the lookout for those they don't know, and not be shy about introducing themselves with a friendly smile . . . even it is a member you don't know with a name tag! Even more so, taking time to welcome and introduce yourself to those who are visitors. After service or Bible Study take the time to interact, find out a little about them. We should always invite visitors to return again and would you even consider inviting someone to coffee or lunch!

In Christ, David Wendeborn, Discipleship

out. Ensuring our life in Christ and our life together, His gifts now propel us out into the places where we live, move and have our being (Acts 17:28). Having received without paying, let us give without getting paid (Matthew 10:8).

Up, in and out. Not a bad way to live. As each “**has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion,**” but cheerfully.

Our reward? Not heaven; we've already been promised that by grace through faith. Rather, “the harvest of your righteousness,” Paul says. Being enriched “in every way” (2Corinthians 9:7, 10-11). God's gifts come to us so we might live up, in and out for Him.

To God be the Glory in all that we do.
David Wendeborn Discipleship/Stewardship

Town Hall Meeting - Sunday, September 17th

For those of you who were able to stay for the Town Hall meeting on the Mission Statement last Sunday, you've already heard this, but I wanted to let those who were not at the meeting know the next steps and timing in the call process. The online Pastoral Profile Survey closed on Monday afternoon and our District representative, Larry Rietz, should provide the compiled results of the survey to the Call Committee by Thursday or Friday of this week. Larry is going to meet with the Call Committee on Tuesday, Sept. 5th to go over the results of the survey. On Wednesday or Thursday, the 5th or 6th of September, the results of the survey will be emailed to the congregation and hard copies will be made available on Sunday the 10th. As we have done throughout this process, we will then have a Town Hall meeting to go over the results as a church

body. This meeting will be held on September 17th after the 10:30 am church service. Once that meeting has been held, the Call Committee will provide one more opportunity for members to provide the name of a pastor they know who might be in alignment with the results of the survey. That period will probably last just three or four days, as once that period closes, the Call Committee is ready to submit Messiah's call package. I encourage you to make every effort to attend that meeting, as the results of the survey are going to be the predominant guide that District will use to try to match Messiah with candidates that have the attributes that we say we want. Please keep praying for Messiah and the entire call process.

Your brother in Christ, Mike Lang

Messiah's Kids Preschool

We are so excited to have our preschool back in session! Our meet the teacher on Thursday, August 24 was an exciting evening for our friends to meet their teachers and visit their classrooms.

Our teachers came back on Monday, August 21 for in-service which included CPR/First aid certification, training from Bluebonnet Pediatric Therapies and lots of fun and food!

This summer, with the funds of our grant, the preschool has been able to complete several improvements to the Family Life Center. The entire building, including the gym, was painted Amazing Gray. The windows, inside and out, have been cleaned. We are waiting on the final turf installation of our playgrounds. Security cameras have been added to the exterior of the building. Electronic key pads have been added to the classrooms and fellowship doors. New video doorbells are being installed to the main door and preschool threshold. These electronic and video installations should be functioning soon!

I cannot begin to say thank you enough for the congregation members who have helped so much over the summer to get us ready for an amazing school year.

- * Our gym is beyond blessed by the artistic scriptures that are now visible by all who enter! I enjoyed getting to know Bill as he would outlast me many evenings creating and displaying his God given talents for all to see. I've now got big plans for Bill to extend his talents outside of the gym, but not so high this time!
- * Thank you Larry and Mike Gissi for making the beautification of our playground a priority! They work tirelessly to tame our weeds for the safety of our kids.
- * Thank you Paul Duennenberg for continuing to keep our church and preschool grounds manicured and trees alive during this drought.
- * A thank you to Pastor Lofgren for the many discussions about our ministry and the importance of Lutheran education, now more than ever.
- * Poor David Rhoads has been working tirelessly on the honey-do lists of our teachers. These lists are never ending and our teachers have been so appreciative.
- * A huge thank you to Maurine Maloy for being our lifeline to the congregation. I cannot get through a day without her!
- * Thank you to Anthony Sansone for all of time he spends keeping our books in order. Anthony's quick mind out performs my calculator punching fingers every time!

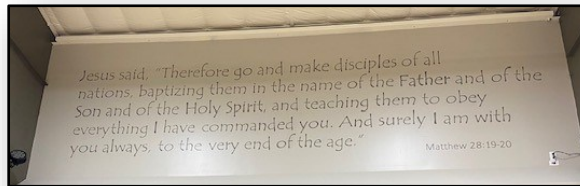
We are looking forward to a year full of blessings!

Gina Huskey, Preschool Director

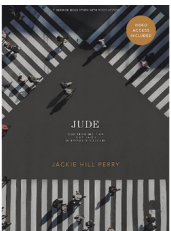


Bill Loren

If you've been in the Family Life Center gym recently, you may have noticed the Bible verses painted on the upper portions of the walls. This was a joint effort between Messiah's Kids Preschool and Bill Loren. MKP paid for the supplies, and Bill donated over 100 hours of his time to paint the verses on the walls. Having Scripture visible for all to see is a great way of reminding everyone who uses the gym that we have a God who loves us. Thank you to Gina Huskey and the preschool and to Bill Loren for helping beautify this space!



Women's Bible Studies



Friday Morning Ladies Bible study begins Sep. 15, 2023 at 10:00 am in the Fellowship room of the Family Life Center. Study is 7 weeks (sometimes we take a little longer) and will be facilitated by Anna Maloy; please come and join us.

Workbook is \$22; Marilyn Mazurek is happy to order the book for you or you can get it from Amazon, Lifeway or other online sources. Marilyn would appreciate payment before ordering. Contact Marilyn 210 380-1906 or marilynptx50@gmail.com

While often overlooked, the book of Jude remains as relevant today as the time it was written. God has commanded His beloved church to do the necessary work of contending for the faith in a world of unbelief, and as we do, He will keep us from falling into the same deception.

In this 7-session study from Jackie Hill Perry, dive into themes of being called, loved, and kept, and learn how to point others to Jesus in grace and truth. We serve others well when we share the whole gospel with them, not just the parts deemed attractive by our culture.

Hill Country Daily Bread

I received a very nice thank you note from HCDBM in response to this year's participation in their Back to School Clothing Drive. Our congregation really stepped up and filled almost all of the 35 clothing bags we were given.

Additionally 3 families donated online and one of our members wrote a check to cover the cost of an additional bag.

Our church helped them provide more than 400 students with brand new clothing. Thanks so much for your wonderful participation and generosity!

Your sister in Christ- Katy Giardinelli

“But among you it will be different. Whoever wants to be a leader among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first among you must become your slave.” - Matthew 20:26-27

Food For the Poor Trip

Dear Messiah Family, From December 4-8, I will be going to Jamaica for a mission trip with Food For the Poor. We will be doing construction, feeding people, and visiting those who are disabled. Please pray for me as I go on this mission trip, that I will be a servant to the adults and children that we meet. I'm the only one from Messiah that will be going, so please pray I'll be a good representative of Messiah Boerne. I'm excited about this opportunity God has given me to minister to His people in Jamaica! Thank you for all your prayers!

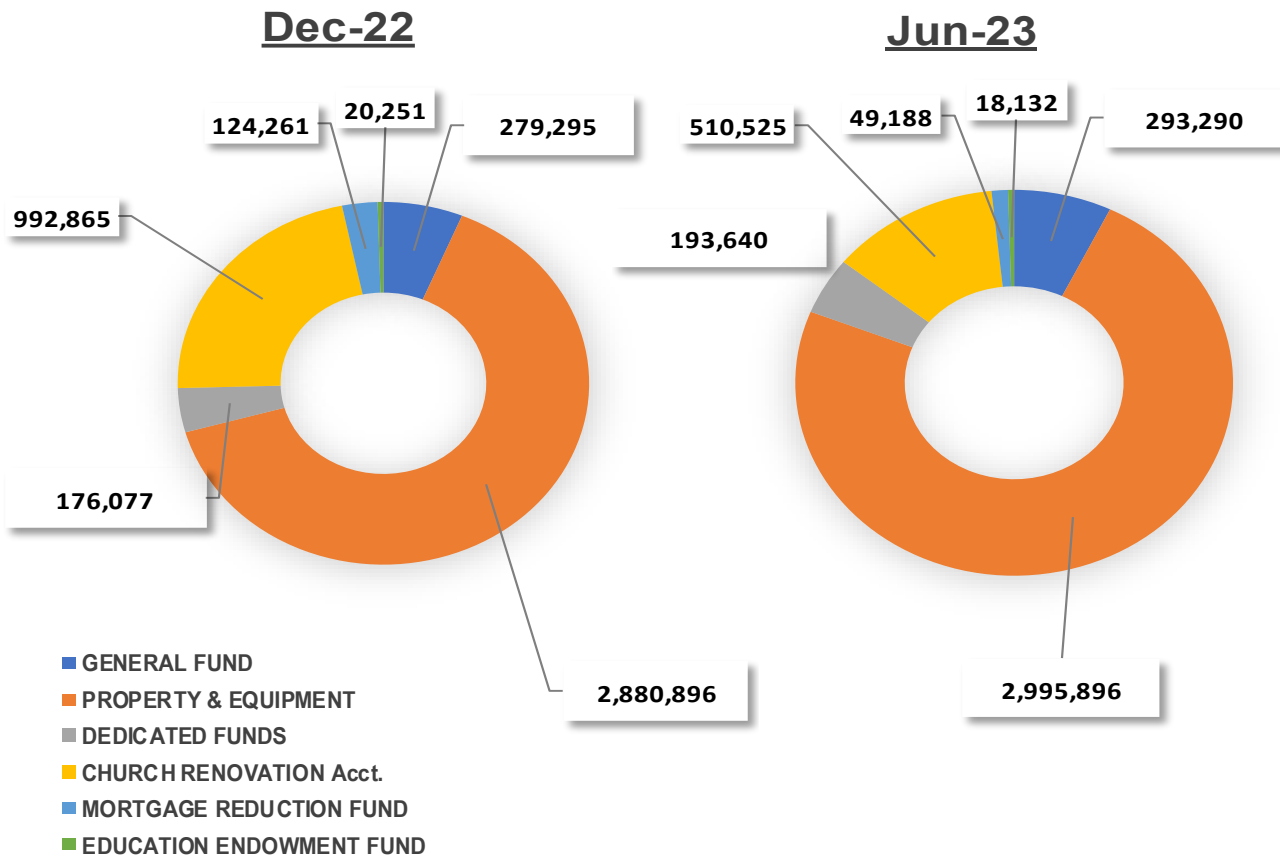
In Christ, Mark Giardinelli

TREASURER’S REPORT - June of Fiscal Year 2023

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION (SUMMARY)

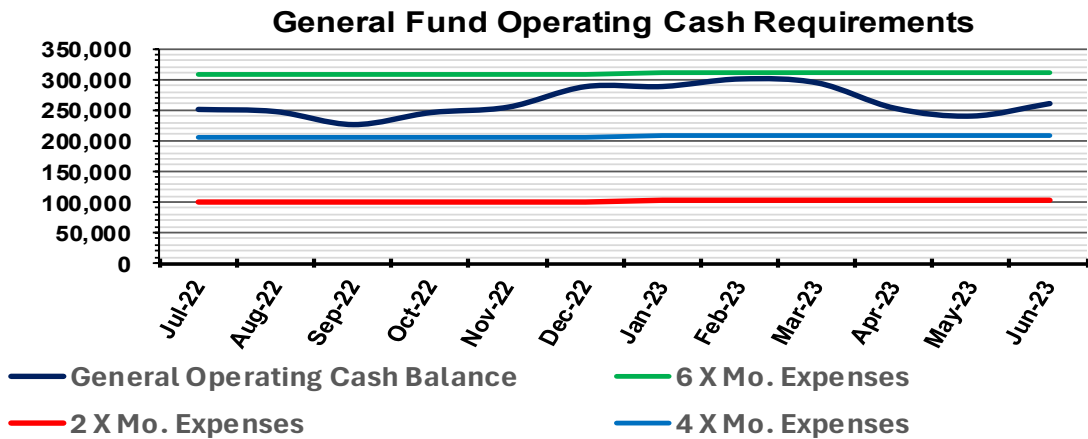
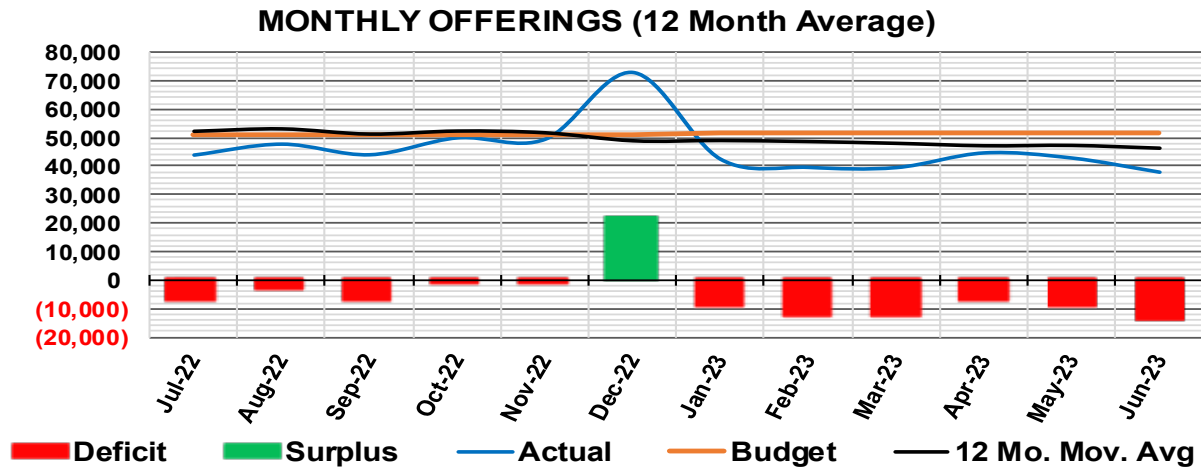
	Balance 12/31/2022	Balance 6/30/2023	Net Increase (Decrease)
ASSETS			
CASH	1,602,137	1,031,704	(570,433)
CURRENT ASSETS	19,400	33,570	14,170
FIXED ASSETS	6,082,738	6,082,738	0
TOTAL ASSETS	7,704,274	7,148,012	(556,263)
LIABILITIES			
CURRENT LIABILITIES	28,788	500	(28,288)
MORTGAGE PAYABLE	3,201,842	3,086,842	(115,000)
TOTAL LIABILITIES	3,230,630	3,087,342	(143,288)
NET ASSETS (Equity)			
GENERAL FUND	279,295	293,290	13,995
PROPERTY & EQUIPMENT	2,880,896	2,995,896	115,000
DEDICATED FUNDS	176,077	193,640	17,563
CHURCH RENOVATION Acct.	992,865	510,525	(482,340)
MORTGAGE REDUCTION FUND	124,261	49,188	(75,073)
EDUCATION ENDOWMENT FUND	20,251	18,132	(2,119)
TOTAL NET ASSETS	4,473,644	4,060,670	(412,975)
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	7,704,274	7,148,012	(143,288)

NET ASSET BALANCES 12/31/2022 VS 6/30/2023



TREASURER’S REPORT - June of Fiscal Year 2023

SUMMARY OF GENERAL FUND CASH FLOW AND RESERVES			
REVENUE	ACTUAL	BUDGET	Surplus (Deficit)
Offerings	276,535	311,248	(34,713)
Facility Rent	24,061	14,998	9,063
Interest Income	1,267	800	467
MKP Contribution	31,800	31,800	0
Processing Fees Income	645	0	645
TOTAL	334,308	358,846	(24,538)
EXPENSES			
Compensation & Benefits	123,420	146,915	23,495
Administrative	15,652	13,135	(2,517)
Property	60,243	69,381	9,138
Mortgage Interest & Principle	94,224	101,500	7,276
Church Ministries	27,743	32,893	5,150
TOTAL	321,282	363,823	42,541
NET SURPLUS (DEFICIT)			
	13,026	(4,977)	18,003
Current Assets [Dec. (Inc.)]	(14,170)		
Current Liabilities [Inc. (Dec.)]	(28,288)		
Prior Period Adjustments [Inc. (Dec.)]	969		
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH	(28,464)		



Adult Education - September 2023

Congratulations to all the learning teams for accomplishing their purpose of making Messiah a more sustainable Church body. Now we have a vision and a mission we can all support. How can our lay ministries support this vision and mission?

In Matthew 28, right after Jesus resurrection, “18 And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

Our vision and mission are in alignment with what Jesus said. We are to go, and make more disciples, from all nations (all neighborhoods, our town, our county, and state plus other nations). We are to make disciples by sharing the law and Gospel, by baptizing them and by teaching them all that Jesus commanded.

Two of our lay ministries are called Discipleship and Adult Education. These and others are called to support and help implement this mission, this outreach to others. I suggest there are three aspects to “making disciples”:

1. We first must “go and make new disciples” through evangelism to those outside our existing membership. This is a challenge for us, and we need to face it.
2. The second step is the one we all love: discipleship of “teaching them”. Once a person comes to Jesus, there’s a

whole host of baggage that needs to be unpacked from their life. There’s the sin nature to wrestle with, addictions to break, mindsets to change. Transformation needs to happen through catechesis, community and growth in Bible knowledge so new disciples grow in their faith through the Holy Spirit. But if that’s where we stop, we haven’t yet made devoted disciples of Jesus.

That’s where so many churches stop, on a never-ending treadmill of more and more Bible knowledge (which is great) and more and more fellowship with other believers (which is needed). But a fully-devoted disciple is not simply the Christian with the most Bible knowledge. In Jesus’ day, the people with the greatest Bible knowledge were the Pharisees. Do we ever behave like Pharisees?

3. The last step in creating devoted disciples circles all the way back around to evangelism. The mark of a disciple is one who is making other disciples, a disciple who is bringing others to the faith either through personal evangelism or bringing others with them to church to introduce them to Jesus.

Let us “teach all things” and with the Holy Spirit create disciples who are making other disciples. Evangelism is the greatest form of discipleship. This should be our focus going forward.

Dennis Parker, Adult Ed

Properties - Paul Duennenberg

We are currently working on the irrigation system for the Family Life Center. It has problems with the control box radio frequencies of which I am addressing with Grounds Control - the company who installed the system.

The Sanctuary irrigation system seems to be operational after many leaks have been repaired.

The Oak trees around the Sanctuary are being cleaned by

Joey’s Trees of Leon Springs. Over 50% of the trees are complete. We still have over 20 trees to go including the 3 giant trees in front of the church.

Due to the lack of rain - we do not need help with mowing or weed eating at this time. PRAY FOR RAIN!

To volunteer for a small work day before the Dedication Service on Oct. 8th - call either Paul Duennenberg or Mike Lang.

Paul Duennenberg

LINC Seminar

How Medicare Works and Protecting Yourself and Others from Financial Fraud and Scams

By *Laura Sanders*

Tammy and Kelly Northcutt will be our hosts at Messiah in the Adult Fellowship Room to connect us to this free education seminar offered by LINC South Texas on Saturday, September 9th, from 9am to noon. Offering it at Messiah will save you the drive to Alamo Heights for the live presentation, and Messiah has the added bonus of Tammy’s 15 years of Medicaid experience. Please invite your friends and family in the community to this event at Messiah so they get to know us a little better and learn how to protect themselves and others.

RSVP at www.MessiahBoerne.org or if you prefer, conveniently email LSandersCoach@gmail.com

Free Educational Seminar

WHEN:
Saturday September 9th from 9am to 12pm

WHERE:
Messiah Lutheran
9401 Dietz Elkhorn
Boerne, TX

WHAT:

- Medicare Confusion
- Telephone Scams
- Phishing Scams
- Contractor Scams
- Charity Scams
- Stolen Mail
- Artificial Intelligence

RSVP:

- LSandersCoach@gmail.com

HOW MEDICARE WORKS AND PROTECTING YOURSELF AND OTHERS AGAINST FINANCIAL FRAUD AND SCAMS

Don't Be A Victim
Free Seminar

Bob Wetesnik, Licensed Independent Insurance Agent/Broker with Texas Medicare Solutions

Brad Sanders, San Antonio Police Department for 29 years and Property Crimes Detective

Laura Sanders, Certified Fraud Examiner with 36 years experience, Author, District Evangelist Trainer and Coach

The seminar will be led primarily by Messiah member Brad Sanders, Detective with the San Antonio Police Department. You might have heard Brad and Laura Sanders give this presentation in January 2020 at Messiah; however, they have updated it to show how Artificial Intelligence is changing the world and exposing you to more fraud. Victims range from all ages and professional backgrounds, so no one is immune to being targeted.

Therefore, this presentation is geared toward all ages, as evidenced by the number of victims and total dollars lost in 2022. Last year, the largest age category of victims was those in their 30’s, with 94,506 reported. The age bracket that lost the most money was those older than 60, with \$3.1 Billion reported in 2022. That should get your attention. So join Tammy and Kelly Northcutt in the Adult Fellowship Room on September 9th at 9am. Please let us know you’re coming, and they will have the coffee and snacks ready.

27 Years of Braille Workshops

On a Wednesday in January of 1996 the first Braille Team from Messiah traveled into San Antonio to learn the necessary skills to assist in the production of Braille Books of the Bible.

“Lutheran Braille Workers exists to bring the Word of God to the 338 million people throughout the world who are Blind or Visually Impaired, completely free of charge in Braille and Specialized Large Print.

Men, Women and children find hope in the Light of Christ through the Bible and other Christian materials provided by LBW in multiple languages in every part of the globe. LBW is one of the last remaining free resources available to them in which the Good News of Jesus is shared quickly and in high quality formats.

In over 80 years of ministry, Lutheran Braille Workers has produced and distributed over 15 million volumes of Christian material, in 40 languages, to people in 164 countries. LBW has never charged a recipient to receive these materials as we believe in freely sharing God’s Word!” (taken from LBWINC.org website)

27 years later there is still a group from Messiah Lutheran Church that travel to Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church in San Antonio on the first Wednesday of each month.

Come help Messiah’s Braille team produce these important volumes. If you would like to join this group please contact Marilyn Mazurek via email: mairlynptx50@gmail.com or give her a call (210) 380-1906.

Letting Others Know about Messiah

By Laura Sanders



Social Media, love or hate it, is here to stay. It is one way to let the world know Messiah exists. According to PRNewswire, 76% of consumers look at online presence before physically visiting a business. The same would be true for churches. I know long before we even visit a church, Brad and I are checking LCMS church websites and Facebook pages as we prepare to move once he retires.

So what can you do?

Like, comment, or share the Messiah Facebook posts so that they get a boost and appear on more newsfeeds.

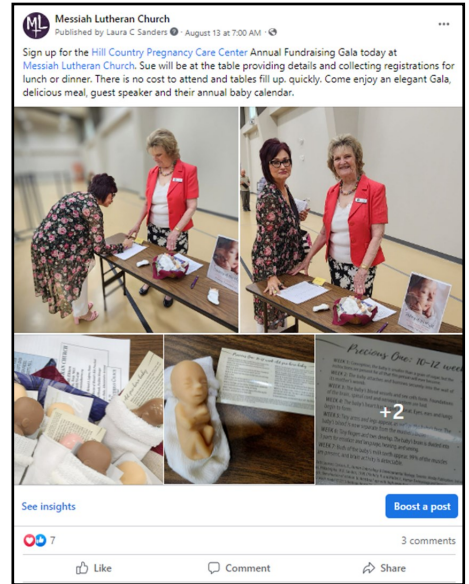
<https://www.facebook.com/MessiahBoerne/>

Take pictures as we gather Sunday or at other events and email them to me at LSandersCoach@gmail.com. Photos are especially helpful as I can't be there every Sunday and don't attend all the events we host.

It's like the age-old question, "If a tree falls in a forest and no one is around to hear it, does it make a sound?" Today, the question becomes, "If it isn't posted on Social Media, did it really happen?"



Let's let the world know about Messiah and all the great things we have to offer as the Good News is preached and the fellowship of believers gather each week.



Mark's Birthday Party Update

We're looking forward to hosting Mark's packing party on Thursday, September from 1-3. We will have cake, a fruit platter, and a veggie platter, along with beverages. Everything will be provided to pack the 100 Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes. We're only asking that you bring a "Wow" item for either a 10-14 year-old girl or a 2-4 year old boy. Donations for help with shipping are also greatly appreciated!

2-4 year-old boys: Soccer ball (deflated) with a pump, stuffed animals (can be shrink wrapped), trucks, musical instruments, dinosaurs, toys with batteries (include extra batteries if needed), fun flashlights

10-14 year-old girls: Soccer ball (deflated) with a pump, stuffed animals, fashion or Barbie dolls, cute tops and legging sets, craft kits for jewelry making, adult coloring books with art markers or art colored pencils

We can also use help on Sunday, September 10th! This would be a **great opportunity for our youth to get service hours**... Come and help us fold 100 she boxes for the packing event! This could be done with the youth during Sunday School or after church. Adults are also welcome to help!



Thanks - Kathy & Tony Giardinelli

Kathy's cell: 210-334-8820

Coming in 2024 . . .

Dear Messiah Family, Starting next year, Messiah will be hosting a movie Night every quarter for special needs adults 22+. The first movie night we'll be showing "Facing the Giants," the Christian football movie. Popcorn and beverages will be provided. It is also a time for parents to spend the night out by themselves. Dates will be announced in a later newsletter. Anyone is welcome to attend and helpers will be needed. Please invite your special needs friends. I know I'll be inviting mine.

Thanks! In Christ, Mark Giardinelli

September Birthdays . . .

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| Sep 1 - Susan Boenig | Sep 18 - Linda Schulz |
| Sep 2 - Amy Dubuisson | Sep 18 - Tom Bibb |
| Sep 3 - Judy Beauford | Sep 19 - Pam Poulk |
| Sep 8 - Ava Martinez | Sep 22 - Debra Beard |
| Sep 9 - Lori Harrington | Sep 23 - Pam Risley |
| Sep 10 - Abbi Longson | Sep 24 - R.J. Poulk |
| Sep 11 - Bill Thomas | Sep 24 - Izzie Mucci |
| Sep 11 - Rebecca Horn | Sep 26 - Sherry Camp |
| Sep 12 - Josi Longson | Sep 27 - Taylor Behrens |
| Sep 13 - George Bratina | Sep 27 - Judy Georg |
| Sep 14 - Mark Giardinelli | Sep 28 - Mike Gissi |
| Sep 14 - Melanie Gissi | Sep 28 - Eve Betancourt |
| Sep 14 - Maurine Maloy | Sep 30 - Arlyn Maloy |
| Sep 15 - Verna Sorensen | Sep 30 - Gracie Funk |
| Sep 15 - Ardyne Knappick | |

September Anniversaries . . .



Sep 4 - Bill & Linda Dicke - 39 years

Sep 11 - R.J. & Pam Poulk - 55 years

A Child's Letter to God

“I'll bet it's pretty hard for you to love everybody in the world. There are only five people in our family and I can never do it!

- - Martha age 7 - -

News from Jerry Ball !

I received an email from Jerry earlier this month. Happy to hear from him I replied asking how his family was doing in their new home in Arkansas and told him that He & Daniel were missed. He responded with the following:

“We've settled in. My cancer scare that pushed us to move has not materialized. As you can imagine, that has been a relief! Being in northwest Arkansas has facilitated travel. I don't have to drive a full day to get out of Texas! Daniel and I have made three long road trips covering parts of more than thirty states. I'll send some pictures in a few minutes. I have Messiah's call process on my prayer list.”

I then asked Jerry if it was okay if I shared his email & photos with the congregation to which he responded:

“Absolutely, yes, you may share words and pictures! Messiah was my church home for two decades. You're still family to me. Jerry” **Maurine Maloy**



LHS - Mustangs and Mulligans



Lutheran High School's second annual golf tournament tees off Sunday, October 22 at 1:00 pm - join us for a great time on the links!

Join John Beard, Tony Giardinelli, Anthony Sansone & Mario Betancourt for a fun day benefitting the Lutheran High School.

More information at <https://www.lhssa.org/lhssagolf.html>





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WALK, RUN, AND ENJOY MLC FELLOWSHIP 5K FUN!

What: Messiah Lutheran Church Annual 5K Walk / Run

When: Saturday, September 30, 2023

Time: *Check-In 7:30-7:55AM; Walk/Run Start 8AM; Wrap up by 10:30AM*

Where & Wear: Old #9 Trail, Boerne, Texas

Esser Road at River Road, directly across the street from Longhorn Café. Wear your favorite MLC or Messiah Kids Pre-school t-shirt. *All participants will receive an authentic Fun Run medal!*

Entry Fee: FREE

Donations to MLC Fellowship to support year-round congregation and community events appreciated; checks / e-funds payable to MLC, indicating 'Fellowship'.

Registration forms available: **at the Fellowship table before and after church service Sundays 8/27-9/24, on the MLC website, or by contacting Gina Huskey.**
Return completed forms: **at the Fellowship table before or after church service by Sunday, 9/24, or to Gina Huskey by 9/26.**

