

# Messiah Messenger



## Starting new . . . Again!

During the late summer and early fall, many people will be starting new ventures in life – new schools, new churches, and new jobs. Others will be returning to old ventures – former schools, churches, and jobs, that is, they'll be starting new . . . again! Whenever we human beings begin something new, there's a natural sense of apprehension or fear involved. We don't really know what to expect, what to think, or how to act with the new people we'll meet and the new situations in which we'll find ourselves. My call and agreement to serve as the Intentional Interim Pastor at Messiah, Boerne is such a situation for me. On the other hand, if we're returning to something old, we may fear starting again. After all, with each new try, there's always the possibility of failure.



The people of Israel faced a similar situation when they crossed the Jordan River into the Promised Land. Their ancestors, including the patriarchs Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, had started to live in the land of Canaan over 400 years earlier, but Jacob (Israel) and his sons had traveled to Egypt in order to escape widespread famine in the land. After Joseph died, the Israelites were made slaves in Egypt, but they were freed from their slavery by the strong arm of the LORD. Moses served as their leader from Egypt to Canaan, but because of their sinful rebellion against the LORD God, they wandered in the desert for forty years and Moses was not allowed to enter the Promised Land. Now under the new leadership of Joshua, they were about to start living in the Promised Land . . . again! Before entering the land, the Lord encouraged Joshua with this promise: "Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go" (Joshua 1:9).

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# Starting new . . . Again! continued

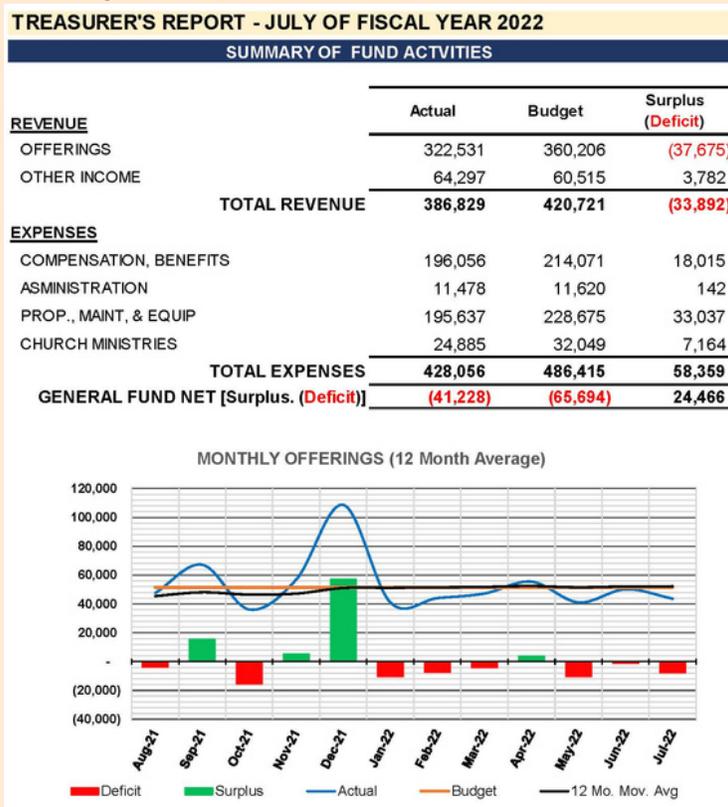
You and I also receive encouragement from God's promise for the new challenges that await us this fall. Whether we're starting a new school, a new church, a new job, or just returning to an old job with new assignments, God knows all about our fears and apprehensions. He dwells within us by the Spirit sent from Jesus, our Joshua (Jn 15:26). (Jesus is the Aramaic form of the Hebrew name Joshua. Both names mean, "the LORD saves.") He is present with us in our stress, and Jesus promises to be with us always (Mt 28:20). By his suffering, death, and resurrection, He has delivered us from all our enemies, our sins, and Satan himself. Even when we fail to live up to our commitment as Christians due to the weakness of our flesh, he still speaks to us with words of forgiveness and encouragement Jn 14:26.

As you start new ventures this month, or start old ventures again, trust in God's encouraging promise to you. You might even use the following prayer which is a favorite of mine:

*Lord God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untraveled, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ. Amen.*

God bless you richly, now and forever!

Your co-worker for Christ,  
**Pastor Richard Lofgren**



# Board of Director Notes

Notes from the August Board of Directors meeting. The Messiah board of directors met on August 8, and all members were present. Topics:

- Renovation Update | Still waiting for some subcontractors' bids, millwork, etc. No firm timeline for starting.
- Preschool Charter | Preschool charter updated to reflect that a quorum of the Preschool Committee is four members instead of five. Since the Preschool Committee is responsible to Messiah's board, they will begin sharing copies of the preschool committee meeting minutes with Messiah's board.
- Finances | Anthony presented year-to-date (YTD) financials. Offerings are \$37,600 below budget, but two expense areas - compensation / benefits and property maintenance / equipment - have spending below plan, yielding a net YTD surplus of \$24,500. Complete details are available in Anthony's financial reports.
- Replacement of Upstairs AC unit | David Rhoads has secured three bids to replace one of the upstairs AC units. The board voted to accept the bid of \$12,937 from KCA Systems. This is the highest of the three bids, but it's a better, more efficient system with a warranty period twice as long as the other bids. We have \$27,000 remaining in the 2022 budget for Repairs and Maintenance.
- Call Package for Pastor Lofgren | The board voted on a tentative compensation package for Pastor Lofgren. That package was amended after discussions with Pastor Lofgren, and a subsequent e-vote ratified the new package.
- 2023 Budget | Anthony has prepared a draft 2023 budget. Compared to the 2022 budget, the budget includes a 3% increase in offerings and an overall 3.2% increase in General Fund Revenues (\$744.6k). The expense portion of the budget had several placeholders since Pastor Lofgren's contract was not yet final. As presented at the meeting, total General Fund Expenses were \$709k, or a decrease of 11.8% from 2022's budget. In this first iteration, the budget has a net surplus of \$34,579, but this is without the updated contract for Pastor Lofgren, and it doesn't include adding any positions in 2023. It does include funds for a part-time office manager (currently filled by Maurine Maloy) and a part-time bookkeeper (not currently filled).
- The next meeting of the Board will be on September 12 to continue discussions on the 2023 budget.

## Refurbishment Project

The Refurbishment Team and several Board members met with Joeris Contractors and Ziegler Cooper Architects, August 25th. Discussion was held on a proposed budget and on the proposed construction schedule. Joeris has worked diligently on our behalf to identify subcontractors for supplying the materials needed while keeping costs under control. If the contracts and paper work can be completed, the proposed start date of construction will be September 19th! The proposed schedule includes the potential (not guaranteed) to be back in the sanctuary in time for Christmas with some finishing touches to be completed after the first of the year.

*Refurbishment Project continued on Page 4 . . .*

# Refurbishment Project continued

The team is working with the church staff on a plan for dealing with: worship, moving/storing equipment, furniture and relocation of offices once a start date is identified. We will need LOTS of HELP with preparing for construction, stay tuned for more information on what help will be needed.

David Wendeborn, Refurbishment Team

## 3 Ts or 4 Ts ?

Fill in Pastor Don Porter spoke with me after Bible class recently about Stewardship. He had heard our class discussion about the traditional September / October Lutheran Stewardship thought of, "Time, Talent and Treasure."

*Mark 10: 42-45 Jesus called them together and said, "You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."*

Pastor Don shared with me from his years of Stewardship experience, that Stewardship is not just "3 Ts, but 4 Ts Stewardship is 24/7/365, Time, Talent, Treasure and Testimony." As he mentioned in his pre-sermon introduction we are "Saved to Serve." Mark 10:42-45

What do the 4 Ts mean for us at Messiah? Many may think Stewardship is only the church "asking for money" (Treasure). While financial support is absolutely necessary for us to exist as a congregation to be a light in our communities, it is not the only consideration. As members of the Body of Christ at Messiah, do each of us contribute Time, more than just attending Worship or Bible Study? Do we look for ways to offer our worldly Talents and Skills? Are we utilizing the 4th T of offering Testimony in our daily lives?

While we ponder the 4 Ts, I pray each member will step up and support all of the functions of our calling to be the Light of the World in our communities, near the church and in our own neighborhoods. Please consider how you will fulfill the 4Ts at Messiah.

Once Pastor Lofgren gets settled, we will be asking for each of our members commitments for Time, Talent, Treasure and Testimony with a Stewardship / Discipleship Survey.

David Wendeborn, Discipleship

# Mission Opportunities All Around Us

This was a hard month for me to write a newsletter because I have so many ideas floating around in my head, but I have been delayed by Covid and life in implementing them. I made a mental list of things I think we as a small congregation can do. In some cases I might be a little late to put these into effect, but here are my ideas.

Outreach to the preschool should be very important whether the children are going to our church or another, we're building the kingdom for God's glory. We also need to remember the children of our congregation and people in our circle of friends and community!

- Back-to-School Blessing Bags
- Preschool: Coffee, Pastry and Prayers with the parents
- Invitation to the October 16th Potluck: Invite the preschool, friends and visitors to come and hear Crysta Dunda speak about her experience in Namibia with Operation Christmas Child.
- Operation Christmas Child Shoe Boxes begins October 16 with a goal of 40 Shoeboxes to be filled by the preschool and 60 Shoeboxes to be filled by our members.
- Fall Fest for the Preschool and Community is another opportunity. Could you volunteer to decorate your vehicle and hand out candies? Can we have pizza, bottled waters and a devotional for the kids?
- Soon nearby apartments will be finished, and would you be willing to visit them with a small welcome bag?

If you think you would like to participate in any of these ideas, please let Mark or I know. We look forward to serving with you and glorifying God in all we do!

*Your sister in Christ - Kathy Giardinelli*

## Messiah Ladies Time Out



Messiah member Lindy Eschenko invites all women, young and old, to join her for breakfast on **Wednesday, September 14th** at the Little Gretel, from 9:00 am to 11:00 am.

Kids are welcome, please RSVP to Lindy so that she knows how many to expect!

Call or text: (979) 299-7760.

# Reading thru the Bible

SEPTEMBER  
2022

YEAR 3

Thank you to all the faithful readers who have participated in this plan since we started in November 2019! We are in our last two months of our study and will conclude with Revelation in October.

A couple years before 2019 we had a good size group who read through the Bible in a year. That was good, but we wanted a slower, more methodical way to study God's Word. We decided to do a three-year, chronological reading of the Bible at about a chapter a day. Early on we began sending daily emails with a reminder of the day's reading plus context and commentary on each reading. The email goes to people at Messiah and a few others including various friends around the country and in our Colorado church. We have about 120 on the email distribution. Now many are asking what should we do next? Send us your ideas.

For September we have a great line up of Bible Books to read as you can see on our daily reading list. We start with Titus, the second of Paul's pastoral letters. Then we move to 2nd Timothy, the third pastoral letter. From there we will read 1st & 2nd Peter, Hebrews, Jude and conclude with 1st John. Never too late to join us.

*Dennis Parker*

## Small Groups

We thank all the small group leaders who led sessions last Spring and look forward to starting again in the fall. Let me know your start dates, hosts and subjects and we will share them.

I thank Ernie and Marilyn Mazurek who hosted a weekly group in their home, Mario and Eve Betancourt who had a monthly group in north Boerne, The Lady's group led by Kathlin Jauregui weekly at church on Fridays, and Lindy Eschenko's Ladies Day out group. Who am I forgetting?

*Small Groups continued on Page 7 . . .*

- 1. Titus 1
- 2. Titus 2
- 3. Titus 3
- 4. 1 Peter 1
- 5. 1 Peter 2
- 6. 1 Peter 3
- 7. 1 Peter 4
- 8. 1 Peter 5
- 9. Hebrews 1
- 10. Hebrews 2
- 11. Hebrews 3:1 - 4:13
- 12. Hebrews 4:14 - 5:10
- 13. Hebrews 5:12 - 6:20
- 14. Hebrews 7
- 15. Hebrews 8
- 16. Hebrews 9
- 17. Hebrews 10
- 18. Hebrews 11
- 19. Hebrews 12
- 20. Hebrews 13
- 21. 2 Timothy 1
- 22. 2 Timothy 2
- 23. 2 Timothy 3
- 24. 2 Timothy 4
- 25. 2 Peter 1
- 26. 2 Peter 2
- 27. 2 Peter 3
- 28. Jude
- 29. 1 John 1
- 30. 1 John 2:1 - 27

## ***Small Groups continued***

We would like to get a couple of small groups going in the Fair Oaks area and Russ Leachman and I are looking at reviving a group in the Bergheim area perhaps with a focus on Apologetics. We also look forward to expanding our small evangelism group with some others interested in studying the basics and applying what we have learned. Let me know your interest in hosting and / or leading one of the new small groups.

*Dennis Parker*

## **Sunday am Bible Study**

My thanks to Brad Sanders, Russel Leachman, and Sharon Loren who have led the class this summer while I was away in Colorado. From the feedback I got, you all have done a great job keeping people in the Word. Sharon wrapped up her six-week study of Galatians on August 28th.

As I write this from Avon, Colorado, I have not yet had a chance to meet our new Pastor Lofgren, but I look forward to doing so in early September. From my discussions with Mike Lang, Pastor Lofgren has offered to lead this class in September. We certainly look forward to participating with him beginning Sunday September 4th. Everyone please come out and meet our new Pastor at 9:15 am before the worship service at 10:30 am. After I have a chance to visit with Pastor, we will be able to let everyone know the plans for this class into the fall.

*Dennis Parker*

## **Upcoming Women's Bible Study**

Friday, September 23rd, Kathlin Jauergui leads us in a nine-week Bible Study by Lysa Terkeurst entitled "Trustworthy". We will be studying 1st and 2nd Kings. When hard times come and it seems God is deviating from the plan we assume our life should follow, we're more likely to want to tame God, not trust Him. It's then that we begin to press into our ways and our own timing. No human can carry the weight of being their own god, but so many of us try. We will join Lysa in Israel as she honestly reveals the places of distrust in her own heart while exploring the deeply applicable Scriptures that will teach us how to truly trust God. We will meet in the Fellowship Room of the Family Life Center from 10:00 am to noon. You can purchase the workbook on Amazon for \$20.00 or I will be happy to order one for you. I would appreciate payment before ordering books. Please let me know that you will be joining us so know how many chairs to set up.

Email: [marilynptx50@gmail.com](mailto:marilynptx50@gmail.com) or Call: (210) 380-1906.

*Your Sister in Christ, Marilyn Mazurek*

# Messiah's Kids & Youth

## Parent's Meeting

Parents with youth and kids under the age of 18 are invited to stay for a meeting following service on September 11, 2022. We will be discussing Sunday School and youth program options for the new school year.



If you would like to participate but cannot attend, please reach out to *Karen Landinger*.



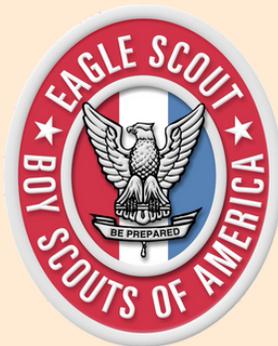
Kid's Church is offered on the fourth Sunday of every month for ages Preschool - 5th grade. Confirmants and older youth are encouraged to participate in leading and connecting with the younger age groups. Come join in the fun!

The next Family Bible Study hosted by Mario and Eve Betancourts, will begin on September 24th, from 4:00 - 7:00 p.m.

This study series entitled "Cold Case Christianity" is an eight-session study written by J. Warner Wallace.



Families with youth and kids of all ages are encouraged to attend. For more information, please reach out to Mario and Eve Betancourt.



Kevin Land with Boy Scout Troop #233 has completed his Eagle Scout Project - the Refurbishment of Messiah's Playground Equipment. If you are interested in helping Kevin to defray the cost of this project, please make out a check to Messiah Lutheran Church designating it to the Kevin Land Eagle Project.



Tuesday, September 20, 2022  
 Lunch: 11:30 am to 1:00 pm  
 or  
 Dinner: 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm  
 Place: Cana Ballroom, 202 West  
 Kronkosky, Boerne, Texas



2022 Gala  
 Once Upon A Time  
 Tuesday, September 20, 2022  
 The Cana Ballroom, Boerne, TX

HCPCC's Annual Gala will be held on  
 Tuesday, September 20, 2022.

Check out [hpcgccgala.org](http://hpcgccgala.org) for  
 registration and more information!  
 Registration closes on Sept. 6.

Questions? Contact our Gala Team.

This event is free; an opportunity to make a  
 financial contribution will be extended.

Sign up in the narthex before the church service  
 or call *Sue Theis* (830) 431-0733

# September Servants

	Elders	Ushers	Coffee	Treats	Teller	Chancel Care	Musician	A/V Booth	Reader	Greeters	Nursery
09/04/22	Dennis Parker Roger Winkelman	Hal Eschenko Larry Rottman Anthony Sansone David Theis	Pam Fields Marilyn Mazurek	Sharon Loren	Anthony Sansone	Ed & Gracie Funk	Becca Kuhlmeier	Tony Giardinelli	Judy Beauford	Mike & Melanie Gissi	Kathy Bibb Penny Carter
09/11/22	Dennis Parker Roger Winkelman	Hal Eschenko Larry Rottman Anthony Sansone David Theis	Sue Parker	Sue Parker	Anthony Sansone	Ed & Gracie Funk	Joyce Young	Ernie & Marilyn Mazurek	Sharon Loren	Sue Parker Vonda Petmecky	Kathy Bibb Penny Carter
09/18/22	Dennis Parker Roger Winkelman	Tony Giardinelli Dennis Parker Mike Stender Snookie Moore	Shirley Moore	Shirley Moore	Anthony Sansone	Ed & Gracie Funk	Vickie Lautner	Rutledge Family	Pam Fields	Larry & Kathy Rottman	Kathy Bibb Penny Carter
09/25/22	Dennis Parker Roger Winkelman	Tony Giardinelli Dennis Parker Mike Stender Snookie Moore	David Wendeborn	Anne Zumm	Anthony Sansone	Ed & Gracie Funk	Becca Kuhlmeier	David & Lorrie Wendeborn	Allen Leitko	Ernie & Marilyn Mazurek	Kathy Bibb Penny Carter

# Messiah's Kids PreSchool

Messiah's Kids Preschool began their new school year on Monday, August 29! The teachers are being driven by Romans 14:19 and are excited to grow together with their colleagues, students and families.

Last week the teachers were blessed by an in-person training given by Dan St. Romain. He stressed the importance of building relationships and establishing age appropriate instruction to support emotional and academic development. Many of the teachers became First Aid and CPR certified or completed their renewals for continued certification. The preschool is off to a fantastic start!



The Family Life Center received many upgrades over the summer:

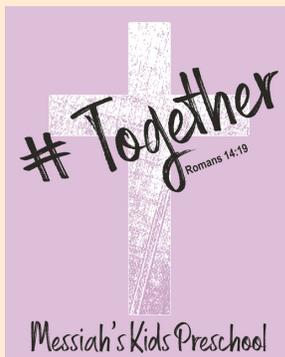
- Floors were stripped and waxed
- Playground mulched
- Fellowship room gained an interactive white board, relocating the television to the side wall



Healthy Blessings,

**Gina**

**Gina Huskey, Director**  
**Messiah's Kids Preschool**



## Romans 14:19

***"Let us then pursue what makes for peace and for mutual upbuilding."***

**Let's spend this year working together for the good of our students. We can do this by working together, sharing with one another and praying for each other.**

# Welcome - Messiah's Kids PreSchool 2022 - 2023 Staff



## September IT'S TIME TO CELEBRATE *Happy Birthday*

Sep 1 - Susan Boenig  
 Sep 3 - Judy Beauford  
 Sep 7 - Tim Bannwolf  
 Sep 8 - Ava Martinez  
 Sep 9 - Lori Harrington  
 Sep 10 - Abbi Longson  
 Sep 11 - Bill Thomas  
 Sep 11 - Rebecca Horn  
 Sep 12 - Josi Longson  
 Sep 13 - George Bratina  
 Sep 14 - Maurine Maloy  
 Sep 14 - Melanie Gissi  
 Sep 14 - Mark Giardnelli  
 Sep 15 - Verna Sorensen



Sep 15 - Ardyne Knappick  
 Sep 18 - Linda Schulz  
 Sep 18 - Tom Bibb  
 Sep 19 - Pam Poulk  
 Sep 22 - Debra Beard  
 Sep 23 - Pam Risley  
 Sep 24 - Izzie Mucci  
 Sep 26 - Dawn Bannwolf  
 Sep 26 - Sherry Camp  
 Sep 27 - Judy Georg  
 Sep 28 - Mike Gissi  
 Sep 28 - Eve Betancourt  
 Sep 30 - Arlyn Maloy  
 Sep 30 - Gracie Funk

## *Happy* *Anniversary*

Sep 4 - Bill & Linda Dicke  
 38 years!

Sep 7 - Jerry & Calla Ball  
 53 years !

Sep 11 - R.J. & Pamela Poulk  
 54 years !



**Messiah's Church Office  
 and Preschool will be  
 closed Monday - Sep. 5th**

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



**MESSIAH LUTHERAN**  
— GROWING UP, GROWING OUT —

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