



Calendar of Events

Sunday, July 27

9:30 am Worship/Communion

Monday, July 28

Tuesday, July 29

Wednesday, July 30

Thursday, July 31

7:30 pm NA

Friday, August 1

Saturday, August 2



OFFICE HOURS

Week of July 27– August 2

9:00 am – 3 pm



MESSIAH MESSENGER USPS 342-060

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MESSIAH MESSENGER

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www.messiahssouth.org Phone: 570-326-9171

e-mail address: messiahoffice@comcast.net

July 23, 2025

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When Ye Pray

Lutheran Hour Ministries Devotions

June 23, 2009

“And it came to pass, that, as He was praying in a certain place, when Jesus ceased, one of His disciples said unto Him, “Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples.” And He said unto them, “When ye pray, say, Our Father which art in heaven. . . .” Luke 11:1-2a

A long time ago, the disciples asked Jesus to teach them to pray. Jesus did as they asked, setting forth, in a few short words, the most beautiful and comprehensive prayer this world will ever see. If it weren't for His being all-knowing, even the Lord might be surprised to find out how that prayer was recently used in Florida.

Let me explain.

Some time ago, the principal of Pace High School in Santa Rosa County, Florida, asked the school's athletic director to bless the meal at an awards ceremony. It was one of those religious acts that just drives the American Civil Liberties Union nuts. So the students might be protected from the praying coach, the ACLU filed a lawsuit against the school. And they did more. Along with the lawsuit, the ACLU warned the school to make sure none of the parents, the faculty, or the students gave any religious message at the upcoming graduation. For many of the students, that warning pushed the issue too far. In protest to the heavy-handed threats of the ACLU, 400 graduating seniors of Pace High School got up at their diploma ceremony and recited the Lord's Prayer. I haven't heard how the ACLU felt about that. I'm guessing they didn't like it.

Prayer as protest?

That's probably not what Jesus had in mind when He taught His disciples to pray.

On the other hand, I am proud of those students for not being intimidated; I'm pleased they followed their consciences; I give thanks they stood up for their faith in the face of persecution. Now, by God's grace and the Holy Spirit's direction, I would urge them, and you, to keep on saying The Lord's Prayer, even when it's *not* in protest.

THE PRAYER: Dear Lord Jesus, You who lived, suffered, died, and rose for our salvation, have also taught us how to pray. Today we bring before You the young people of our country. Grant they stand up for their faith in the face of persecution. In Your Name, I ask it. Amen

July 27, 2025

Service Assistants

Ushers: Fred Harbaugh, AnnMarie Hohman, Jean Nolan, Diana Rooker, Susan Christ
Lay Assistant: Anita Bair; **Communion Assistant:** Candy Watkins
Acolyte: Weston Sherman; **Altar Guild:** Marie Welter, April Gardner
Greeters/Presenters: Mary Schultz; **Cantor:** Candy Watkins
Flower Delivery: Jody Fullmer



Sunday, July 20, 2025: Attendance: *In Church* :73; *Online*: 9; Offering: \$2,294.61

IN BLESSED MEMORY

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Karen Hockman Thomas, who passed away 14 years ago, August 3rd by her sister Linda and nephews Matthew, Michael and grandson Michael who is currently in the military.

The Basket of Flowers is given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Dennis Ream on the third-year anniversary of his passing July 28, 2022, by his wife Sandy and children Dennis Jr., Kelley and their families.

BIBLE READINGS

Sunday, July 27: *Genesis 18:20-32; Colossians 2:6-19; Luke 11:1-13*

Monday, July 28: *Psalm 55:16-23; Esther 5:1-14; Colossians 2:16—3:1*

Tuesday, July 29: *Psalm 55:16-23; Esther 6:1—7:6; Romans 9:30—10:4*

Wednesday, July 30: *Psalm 55:16-23; Esther 7:7—8:17; Matthew 5:43-48*

Thursday, July 31: *Psalm 49:1-12; Proverbs 23:1-11; Romans 11:33-36*

Friday, August 1: *Psalm 49:1-12; Proverbs 24:1-12; Ephesians 4:17-24*

Saturday, August 2: *Psalm 49:1-12; Ecclesiastes 1:1-11; Mark 10:17-22*



Pastoral Care Number: Please call (570) 326-9171. (Available 24 hours a day) During work hours the office staff will assist you. After hours, please press "3" for a Pastoral Emergency to be connected directly to the Pastor.

Reminder: *Articles for the Messenger and Bulletin are due in the office by Monday at noon.*



To My Messiah Church Family,

Thank you to all for the beautiful cards and special prayers for my recent surgery. I would especially like to thank all the volunteers who have made it possible to keep the office running and to those who will continue to help me until I am able to get around better. I will be returning back to the office on Monday, July 28.

*Blessings to you all,
Pam Eveleth*

The Library Corner – Highlighted Books



Children - Quigley's Village - The Super Shoot-for-the-Stars Space Ship DVD - The Quigley's Village kids want to buy a Super Shoot for the Stars Space ship for their treehouse, so they decide to have a lemonade sale to raise money. But when Bubba accidentally breaks Mr. Quigley's glass pitcher, they have to decide on the responsible thing to do. DVD found in the DVD Religious Section.

Adult - Quest for Atlan - The future of Noah and the remnant of faith are uncertain at best. Atlan has fallen under the evil influence of Zorin, but the Gardner of Eden has other designs. He commissions Zorin's brother, Rhone, to take back Atlan. There will be great obstacles to overcome - some that surpass human strength and understanding, and some that even reach beyond the forces of evil, threatening the very heart of human love and hope. Enter into the author's fascinating world as he cuts through the mist of history and myth, creating a poignant tale of antediluvian culture, complete with biblical history, angels and sheer literary magic! book is in the Adult Fiction section.



SCHOOL SUPPLY KITS for Lutheran World Relief

Throughout the summer, we will continue to collect school supplies to fill school kits to be sent to children in need around the world. *These supplies often mean the difference between getting an education or not.*

Between 600-800 backpacks are available to be filled. *How will you hear the call to help?*

Items we are collecting are as follows:

- ♥ 70-sheet notebooks (wide-ruled or college-ruled, approx. 8" x 10 ½") – 4 per backpack
- ♥ UNSHARPENED #2 pencils - 5 per backpack
- ♥ black or blue ball point pens (STICK pens – NO gel ink) – 5 per backpack
- ♥ safety scissors ♥ 2 ½" eraser ♥ box of **24** crayons

Don't like to shop? Monetary donations are also welcome! Make checks payable to Messiah Lutheran Church with LWR School Kits in the memo line and place in the offering plate or in the smaller schoolhouse at the back of the church.

Here's where we stand in our collection as of last Friday: At this time, we are still counting the notebooks and other supplies that have come in. Our best estimate, counting both supplies in hand and cash donations to purchase supplies, is that we can fill **at least 260** backpacks.

Thank you so much for your help in shopping for notebooks! We have made a big dent in that pile! Thank you also for the array of other supplies that have come in as we need those, too!

Especially needed at this time (besides notebooks!) are *scissors, pens, and pencils*. This will change throughout the collection, so stay tuned to see where we need the most help each week.

260 and counting – good job, everyone! Keep 'em coming!

Questions? Call Sally at (570) 547-6193 or call/text Kathy at (570) 651-2802