



Calendar of Events

Sunday, September 21

9:30 am Worship/Communion
10:30 am Coffee Hour
6:30 pm South Little League

Monday, September 22

6:30 pm Missional Outreach
6:30 pm Nominating Committee
7:30 pm Property Committee

Tuesday, September 23

Wednesday, September 24

6:30 pm Bible Study and Fellowship

Thursday, September 25

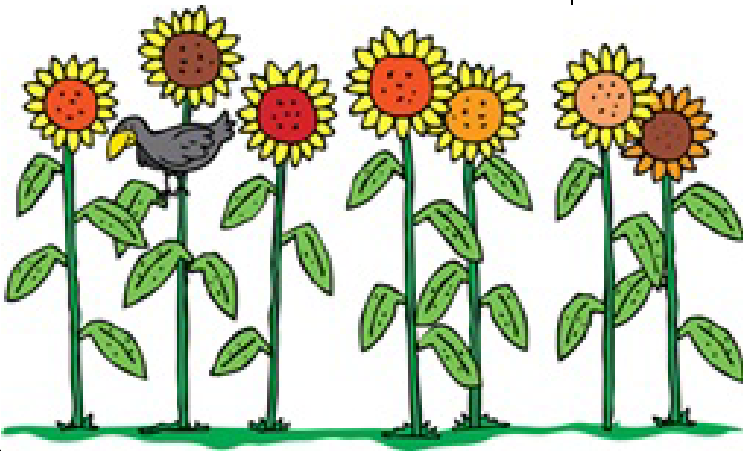
7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal
7:30 pm NA

Friday, September 26

Pack-A-Sack set up

Saturday, September 27

5:00 pm Pack-A-Sack Event



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Harvest Home and Blanket Sunday

On Sunday, October 5, 2025, worshippers will be invited to bring forward their gifts of canned goods, boxes of pasta, or monetary offerings for the hungry during the singing of the Hymn of Praise.

Decorating for Harvest Home will take place on **Saturday, October 4 at 10:00 am.**

Donations of fresh produce (pumpkins, potatoes, apples, squash, etc.), cornstalks and gourds to use in decorating are very much needed.

These perishable items may be dropped off at the church office any time Thursday-Friday, October 2-3, or by 10 a.m. on Saturday, October 4.

Where does the food go? All perishable gifts of food received will be shared with the United Churches Food Pantry and the canned goods will stock our own food pantry and help to supply the Christmas baskets.

Monetary gifts in lieu of in-kind gifts may be placed in plain envelopes marked “Harvest Home.” Checks should be made payable to “Messiah Lutheran Church” and be sure to include your envelope number if you would like your offering recorded.



Blanket Sunday: Donated blankets and quilts will be distributed by Lutheran World Relief. Please place clean blankets or quilts in the **gray bin** located in the elevator entrance ***no later than October 5.***

Monetary gifts may be placed in an envelope on which you mark “Blankets.” Checks should be made payable to “Messiah Lutheran Church.” These monetary gifts also will be received during the singing of the Hymn of Praise.

ONE NOTE, LWR does not want fleece blankets, BECAUSE people wash them in streams, and the lint pollutes the streams. Thank you for your help.



Service Assistants

Ushers: Mike Larson, Brian Bair. Al Cole, Sally Congdon, Kim Brofee; **Lay Assistant:** Susan Brian; **Communion Assistant:** Mandy Feinberg; **Acolyte:** Dylan sherman
Altar Guild: Vicki Bair, Doris Butt; **Greeters/Presenters:** Georgette Copp, Ray Demarest
Cantor: Candy Watkins **Flower Delivery:** Charles Luppert

Sunday, September 14, 2025: Attendance: *In Church: 75; Online: 9;* Offering: **\$3,020.20**

IN BLESSED MEMORY

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of my parents, Bernard and Juanita Collins, by their daughter Sandy Ream and family.

BIBLE READINGS

Sunday, September 21: Amos 8:4-7; 1 Timothy 2:1-7; Luke 16:1-13
Monday, September 22: Psalm 12; Proverbs 14:12-31; Acts 4:1-12
Tuesday, September 23: Psalm 12; Proverbs 17:1-5; 1 Corinthians 9:19-23
Wednesday, September 24: Psalm 12; Proverbs 21:10-16; Luke 20:45-21:4
Thursday, September 25: Psalm 146; Proverbs 22:2-16; 2 Corinthians 8:8-15
Friday, September 26: Psalm 146; Proverbs 28:3-10; Ephesians 2:1-10
Saturday, September 27: Psalm 146; Proverbs 28:11-28; Luke 9:43b-48



Presiding over our worship this Sunday, September 14th, will be Pastor Joel Zeiders, retired minister of our synod.

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.



WELCA will sponsor a **COFFEE HOUR** for the congregation this Sunday, September 21, in Shaheen Hall, along with distribution of "Program Booklets for 2025-2026".



Mark your calendar for "**TRIVIA NIGHT**" on Saturday, **October 11th**. We will have some new faces. George Jansson will be our quiz master for the evening. Pizza and beverages will be supplied. Please bring a snack to share with everyone. The fees are ... \$8.00 per person; \$15.00 per couple. The beneficiary is Messiah's Backpack Project.

Eucharistic Ministers will be sent out this Sunday, September 21st. Please let the office know if you are not available to take communion. If anyone is homebound, can't get to church and would like to receive Communion please notify the church office at 570-326-9171.

The Library Corner – Highlighted Books



Children - **Touch-and-feel Creation** - This beautiful touch and feel board book teaches children about colors and textures and variety in the created world, and about the God who made them. This book is in the Board Book section of the library.

Adult - **The Shoes of the Fisherman** - In a last desperate effort to prevent WWII, a secret meeting is arranged. One man is called upon to succeed where all the world leaders have failed. That man was once a prisoner in a Russian labor camp. He is now the pope. This adventure book is in our Adult Fiction section.



Knitters for Neighbors is completing our 20th year of crafting and contributing items to many area organizations, hoping that we've realized our goal of warming heads, hands, paws, and hearts. We all agreed that we have reached our "all good things must come to an end" point. In this, our final year, we will donate 75 pair of mittens to Head Start, 29 chemo caps to UPMC Cancer Center, 17 dish cloths to Divine Providence Gift Shop, 15 watch caps to our Seafarer's Christmas project, 12 cat mats to the SPCA, and 47 baby hats to UPMC Newborn Nursery.



Did you know ... that Messiah accepts clothing donations year-round for Daniel's Closet? Daniel's Closet is a ministry of Redeemer Lutheran Church on Washington Boulevard to provide free clothing to anyone who has a need. Clothing and accessories (belts, shoes, ties, gloves, purses, bags, etc.) may be placed in the large blue bin inside the alley entrance at Messiah on Sunday mornings or whenever the church is open for other functions. Please bag all clothing in kitchen size trash

bags or smaller so that our volunteers can handle them ... clothing is heavy! ***All are welcome to "shop" the closet, too! Please take only what you can use personally or share with a friend. The next closet will be open Saturday, September 27, 8:30-11 a.m. All are welcome!***





Last Week to Sign Up for Pack-a-Sack! Saturday, September 27, 5:00 p.m.

God's Work. Our Hands. The total number of school kits we can fill now stands at **over 800!** *With so many bags to fill, much help is needed ... and we need you!*



There are jobs for every ability – from more active roles to sit-down jobs as “quality control” inspectors. We'll start with pizza for supper and then roll up our sleeves and get to work! And a little birdie told us there might be some chocolate chip cookies for break time. ***Sign up in the narthex by this coming Sunday, or call/text Kathy*** to tell her how many are coming so that we can order enough pizza. We always have a lot of fun and hope you will join us!

Questions? Call/text Kathy at 570-651-2802.

We cannot say it enough ... thank you all so very, very much for answering the call! ☺



MLP Gift Card Bingo is Saturday, October 25 at 11:30 am. Presale tickets are \$20 and at the door \$25. Tickets will be available before and after each service in the Narthex on these dates: **Sunday, September 21st and 28th or anytime in the church office.** **To make this event a success we are asking the congregation for your support. Ways you can help:** donate a gift card of your choice for our Gift Card Bingo; make a themed basket to donate for our Chinese Auction; or make baked goods to sell during the event. Deadline for gift cards and themed baskets is **October 17th.** Baked good items are due **Friday, October 24th by NOON** in the church office. **PLEASE DROP OFF ALL DONATIONS TO THE CHURCH OFFICE.**



Mountie
Backpack Program

The Mountie Backpack Program, centered here at Messiah, is getting ready for the new school year. These food bags close the gap in meals for children over the weekends and longer holidays. Volunteers are needed to help pack the food bags on Thursday afternoons and deliver the bags on Friday mornings before 11 am to Central Elementary School. ***Mark your calendars for Thursday, September 25, at 1 PM, in Shaheen Hall, to come help this program get a great start.*** Many hands make the load

light. All are welcome on Thursday afternoons to pack the food bags. Two volunteers are needed to deliver the food bags on Fridays, please contact Dianne Larson, 570-220-3702, or Connie McLaughlin, 570-356-3618 to schedule a Friday. Success of this program depends on your help to relieve children's hunger in our area.





Bible Study and fellowship will begin on Wednesday, September 24th at 6:30 pm. *All are welcome!*



We can't wait!!! Sunday School will resume this Sunday, September 21st at 9:30 on the top floor of the Christian Education Building. Hope everyone had a great summer and we look forward to seeing you soon! Mrs. Pratt



NOMINATIONS

Messiah's Nominating Committee will be meeting Monday, September 22. The committee's responsibility is to provide the name{s} of any member who would be interested in serving on Messiah's Congregation Council for a three-year term beginning January 2026. Please contact any member of the nominating committee if you would like to submit your name or if you have questions about what is involved in serving the church in this capacity. To submit a name from

the congregation at large, permission from that member must be obtained before submission to the Nominating Committee. Members of the Nominating Committee are: Lauren Russell, Cindy Bennett, Gary Hutchinson and Carol Winter.



Volunteers are needed. All of our committees are in need of members. The primary goal of a committee is to support the mission and goals of the church through their specific area of work. Committee members attend meetings usually once a month or every other month, they contribute to discussions and decisions, and collaborate to carry out tasks related to the committee's focus area. Please consider joining one or more. Here is a list of the chairpersons of each committee, please reach out to them or to the church office to get more information and to see when the committee meets:

- ❖ **Worship and Music Committee** – Jody Fullmer
- ❖ **Fellowship Committee** – Alice Morrison and Georgette Copp
- ❖ **Life Long Faith Formation** (Christian Ed/Youth) – Kathryn Pratt
- ❖ **Property** – Dave Bausinger
- ❖ **Missional Outreach** – Carol Winter
- ❖ **Support and Finance** – Craig Kropp
- ❖ **Preschool Committee** – Mary Schultz
- ❖ **WELCA** – Ruth Doran

