



Calendar of Events

Sunday, January 11

9:30 am Worship/Communion

5:45 pm SW Little League

Monday, January 12

Tuesday, January 13

6:30 pm Preschool Committee

Wednesday, January 14

6:30 pm Bible Study and Fellowship

Thursday, January 15

1:00 pm Backpacks Packing

2:00 pm Choir

7:30 pm NA

Friday, January 16

Saturday, January 17



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MESSIAH MESSENGER

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New Year, New You - 26 for 2026

Yes, it's that time of year again — time to set goals to work toward for the next 12 months. With the holidays behind us, many people look forward to the New Year for a new start on old habits. I think most of us recognize ourselves at least a little bit in this notion. **Change is hard.** And despite the best intentions, we often find ourselves falling back into old behaviors and patterns that we once swore we would change.

So, for 2026, why not shake things up a bit and **try creating resolutions** of a different variety? Here are 26 ideas to get you started. Whether you choose one New Year's resolution or all 26, you'll be better off for it. Enjoy!

1. Focus on a passion, not the way you look.
2. Start your day with a Bible verse.
3. Work out to feel good, not be thinner.
4. Give one compliment a day.
5. Take five minutes to rest and reflect every day.
6. Do random acts of kindness.
7. Volunteer regularly.
8. Go someplace you've never been.
9. Write down one thing you're grateful for every night.
10. Find a way to make a difference in someone else's life.
11. Call a friend instead of texting them.
12. Start a new hobby.
13. Donate clothes you never wear.
14. Do something that scares you.
15. Go to bed happy each night.
16. Make time for family.
17. Talk less, listen more.
18. Reduce your weekly average screen time by five minutes each week.
19. Prioritize sleep.
20. Read more.
21. Permit yourself to take a break. Find time to take a vacation (or staycation).
22. Be more generous with your smiles. They look good on you!
23. Clear out the clutter.
24. Drink more water.
25. Keep a journal.
26. Remove negativity or anything that makes you feel lousy.



Remember, change takes time. Be patient with yourself through the progress, and don't get discouraged. By starting small, and creating an actionable plan – you can set yourself up for a successful year around your priorities. Consistency is key, and a little success is always better than giving up. Here's to a great year in 2026!

Sunday, January 11, 2026

SERVICE ASSISTANTS

Ushers: Mike Larson, Brian Bair, Al Cole, Sally Congdon, Kim Brofee
Lay Assistant: Susan Bryan; **Communion Assistant.:** Candy Watkins
Acolyte/Crucifer: Doriann Morris; **Altar Guild:** Rita Strickler, Carol Winter
Greeters/Presenters: Paul and Georgie Ulrich; **Cantor:** Candy Watkins
Flower Delivery: Paul Weaver

Wednesday, December 24: 7:00 pm Attendance: **98**; Online: **10** > 7:00pm and 11:00
Wednesday, December 24: 11:00 pm Attendance: **80**; Online: **7** > Offering: **\$1,805.00**
Sunday, December 28: Attendance: **63**; Online: **11**; Offering: **\$7,708.98**
Sunday, January 4: Attendance: **73**; Online: **6**; Offering: **\$9,108.01**

IN BLESSED MEMORY

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and celebrating the Baptism of our Lord.

The Bud Vase is given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Jamie Wither on the anniversary of his birthday, by his wife and son, Kathy and Sean Wither, his daughter and son-in-law, Vanessa and Brett Hollfelder and grandchildren, Ali Rudinski, Gordy Emick, and Jackson Summers.

The Sanctuary Lamp burns in honor of Ethel Emenheiser's 98th birthday on Jan. 9th, by her daughter and son in law Susan and John Bryan.

BIBLE READINGS

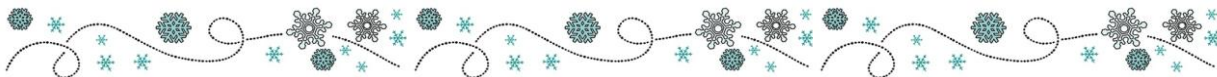
Sunday, January 11: *Isaiah 42:1-9; Acts 10:34-43; Matthew 3:13-17*
Monday, January 12: *Psalm 89:5-37; Genesis 35:1-15; Acts 10:44-48*
Tuesday, January 13 *Psalm 89:5-37; Jeremiah 1:4-10; Acts 8:4-13*
Wednesday, January 14: *Psalm 89:5-37; Isaiah 51:1-16; Matthew 12:15-21*
Thursday, January 15: *Psalm 40:1-11; Isaiah 22:15-25; Galatians 1:6-12*
Friday, January 16: *Psalm 40:1-11; Genesis 27:30-38; Acts 1:1-5*
Saturday, January 17: *Psalm 40:1-11; 1 Kings 19:19-21; Luke 5:1-11*



Presiding over our worship this Sunday, January 11, will be Pastor Amme.

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

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



The Library Corner



Where is our library? It's above our Shaheen Hall in the Education Wing. As you go in the alley door, instead of going downstairs, go one floor up, and the door to our library is at the top of that one flight of stairs. (There is also an elevator that stops on that floor, as well). The name of the room where the library is located is Jenson Lounge.

Using our library is easy. 1) Select a book or video. 2) Take the card out of the sleeve on the last page of the book or on the back of the video. 3) Write your name on the card and place it in the small plastic box on the table in the library. 4) Pick up a card with the due date in the lid of the small plastic box and place it in the sleeve of the book/video. 5) Enjoy the book/video. 6) Return the book/video by the due date, placing it in the large plastic box on the table. **DO NOT PUT IT BACK ON THE SHELVES.** 7) Choose another book/video and begin the process all over again.

Daniel's Closet



at Redeemer is in need of ...

- **Coats** for everyone ... *all sizes!*
- **We are in desperate need of men's coats.**
- **Men's clothing** in all sizes but *especially small and medium*
- People are always looking for **shoes**.

We also need **hats and gloves for the blessing hedges**, *especially hats for men and boys as well as gloves for everyone.*

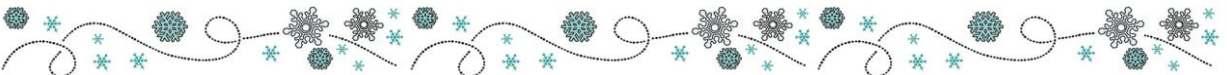
Donations may be dropped off at Messiah and placed in the blue bin in the Chapel alcove whenever the church is open, or brought to the Messiah office, and a volunteer will take them to Redeemer for you. Please use kitchen size bags (or smaller) and don't pack them too heavily with clothes so that they are easier for our volunteers to handle.

All are welcome to "shop" the Closet, regardless of need or circumstances. *The next Closet will be held on Saturday, January 24, 8:30-11:00 a.m.*

Thank you for your support!



If you have recently moved, changed your phone number or updated/changed your email address, **PLEASE notify the church office with your new information.** When snail mail is returned to us we pay a small postage due fee. If we do not have a current phone or email, we have no way to contact you with important information. *Thank you.*



Thank you to Messiah for the Christmas cards from Kids in Mission, the stockings made by the preschool and poinsettia from the church.

Margaret Huyck

Thank you for all the Christmas cards I received from the Kids event and the wonderfully filled stockings made by the preschool children.

Blessings, Carol Hessert

*Thank you to everyone who remembered us during the busy Holiday Season. We really appreciated all the Christmas & New Year Greetings, cards, cookies, candy, etc. You are all very special to us.
The Staff at Messiah*



2nd Tuesday Church Ladies

Ladies of Messiah!!!

Drop in at Perkins the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 9:00 am for breakfast, Christian support and fellowship. If interested, please sign up in the Narthex so we know how many to plan for. It's a great start to a new year. Hope to see you there!!



Our food pantry helped approx. 4-6 families per month in 2024.

Food Pantry Needs: canned corn, canned peas, canned fruit, spaghetti sauce, jelly, rice, tomato soup, canned tomatoes, boxed puddings.



Bible Study and Fellowship will begin on Wednesday, January 7th at 7 p.m.
All are welcome!

Eucharistic Ministers will be sent out Sunday, January 18th. 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 Mountie Backpack Program continues into the Spring Semester to make sure no child goes hungry. We are in need of volunteers to take a turn to



Mountie
Backpack Program

deliver the food bags on each Friday by 11 a.m. to Central Elementary School. We are now scheduling for January through May, 2026. To schedule a Friday please contact Connie McLaughlin, 570-326-3618. We pack the food bags in Shaheen Hall on Thursday afternoons at 1:00 p.m. if you would like to come join us. *Thank you in advance.*

If you give to the church through Simply Giving/Vanco/Automatic deduction, after your December donation, you will need to update your pledge. Thank you.

PLEASE NOTE This is for those members who are changing their amount of tithes or who would like to give to the church in this way. If you are keeping your pledge as is, there is no need to contact us.



Looking for something to do on these cold winter days. Why not do a puzzle or two. The next few Sunday's there will be quality used puzzles in the Narthex offered for donations to help offset major expenses for the church.



SEEKING: Individuals willing to paint our Jensen lounge. Please notify Pam if you are able to join in this fellowship. The date will be established as we go forth.



Can't make it to church? Join us live on Facebook!

Worship services will be broadcast on Facebook Live each Sunday beginning at 9:30 a.m. To watch the service live, visit our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/MessiahSouth>.

If you are unable to join us live, videos will be made available to be viewed later.

To link to the video archive and for additional worship resources, visit Messiah's web site at <https://messiahsouth.org/worship-resources/>.

A copy of the worship bulletin will be posted to both the web site and the Facebook page each week so that you can follow along.

