



Calendar of Events

Sunday, January 18

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

Monday, January 19

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day



Tuesday, January 20

Wednesday, January 21

Thursday, January 22

1:00 pm Backpacks Packing
2:00 pm Choir
7:30 pm NA

Friday, January 23

Saturday, January 24



MESSIAH MESSENGER USPS 342-060

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MESSIAH MESSENGER

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CURRENT LEADERSHIP AT MESSIAH

The following persons were elected as officers of the council:

President Mary Schultz

Vice President Jody Fullmer

Secretary Anita Bair

Assistant Secretary Lauren Russell

Treasurer Joanie Jackson

Assistant Treasurer Craig Kropp

Serving on the body of the council are: Al Cole, Jimmy Gardner, Rhonda Koch, Sylvia McCarty, Ron Yeagle



Messiah Staff

Organist: Jared Gist

Administrative Secretary: Pam Eveleth

Financial Secretary: Jean Kelley

Sexton: Chris Haefner

Pastoral Care: Pastor LeCrone Available 24/7

Call the church office during office hours, and after hours press 3 and that will go directly to the Pastor.

Office phone number 570-326-9171

Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 8:30 am – 3:30 am, Friday 8:30 am – Noon

Sunday, January 18, 2026

SERVICE ASSISTANTS

Ushers: Mike Larson, Brian Bair, Al Cole, Sally Congdon, Kim Brofee
Lay Assistant: Dave Bausinger; **Communion Assistant:** Fred Harbaugh
Acolyte: Dylan Sherman; **Altar Guild:** Alice Morrison, April Gardner
Greeters/Presenters: April and Mike Gardner; **Cantor:** Carol Waltz
Flower Delivery: Jody Fullmer

Wednesday, January 11: Attendance: **81**; Online: **9**; Offering: **\$7,238.58**

IN BLESSED MEMORY

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Rodney O'Brien's heavenly birthday, January 19th. By his wife Gail, children and their families.

The Basket of Flowers is given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of George and Helen Stroup on their wedding anniversary, January 19th, with love from their children, Georgie, Kathy, Larry, David and families.

BIBLE READINGS

Sunday, January 18: *Isaiah 49:1-7; 1 Corinthians 1:1-9; John 1:29-42*

Monday, January 19: *Psalm 40:6-17; Exodus 12:1-13, 21-28; Acts 8:26-40*

Tuesday, January 20: *Psalm 40:6-17; Isaiah 53:1-12; Hebrews 10:1-4*

Wednesday, January 21: *Psalm 40: 6-17; Isaiah 48:12-21; Matthew 9:14-17*

Thursday, January 22: *Psalm 27:1-6; 1 Samuel 1:1-20; Galatians 1:11-24*

Friday, January 23: *Psalm 27:1-6; 1 Samuel 9:27-10:8; Galatians 2:1-10*

Saturday, January 24: *Psalm 27:1-6; 1 Samuel 15:34-16:13; Luke 5:27-32*



Presiding over our worship this Sunday, January 18, will be Janet Stroble, ALWL.

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.

Eucharistic Ministers will be sent out this 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.


Bible Study and Fellowship has been canceled until further notice!

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!!



2nd Tuesday Church Ladies

The Library Corner



Children - We have many **Arch Books** which are geared for 3rd grade readers. These are short and easy read books about many of our Biblical heroes including Old Testament figures. These are on the Arch Book Spinner in our Library.

Adult - **Heaven is for Real** – When we think about heaven, endless questions surface: What is it like? Will we have bodies? Wings? Will we see people we know? What does Jesus look like? Are animals there? Through a young boy's breathtaking account of his visit to heaven, poignant answers emerge that will forever change the way you think about God, eternity and even life here on earth. This book is in the Adult Biography section of the library.



Mountie
Backpack Program

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 deliver the food bags each Friday by 9:15 a.m. to the SW High School and 9:30 a.m. 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.*



Thank you to Messiah Lutheran Church, Nursery School and children of the church for the poinsettia, cards and stocking filled with lots of treasures. It is much appreciated. Hope everyone has a "Happy New Year".

Fay Seltzer



Thank you for the lovely Christmas plant. It is still growing good. Also, for all the thoughtful gifts, and cards that the church members and youth have put together and taking their time to do. A thank you also to the ABC singers when they come to the home for entertainment. It's enjoyed by all. Thank you again for everything.

Betty Fenstermacher





CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Call Committee is very delighted to announce that we have recommended a candidate to Church Council for the position of Senior Pastor. Although it must be a unanimous decision by the Call Committee members, there was no hesitation at all concerning this recommendation. The Council will now meet to do three

things: 1. Determine what the initial top priorities will be for the pastor. 2. Outline how the congregation and council will support those priorities. 3. Determine a compensation package.

Once that is accomplished, the candidate will be invited to attend a joint meeting with Council and the Call Committee. The pastor will be asked to leave the meeting while a vote is taken. The Council must have a 2/3 vote in favor to proceed with the call process. If the call is not extended, we will start the process over again.

Thank you for your support and continued prayers through this process.

We will keep you updated! Kathryn Pratt, Call Committee Chairperson



Super Bowl is February 8! This year we will be collecting the following non-perishable food items to help stock the shelves for our **Mountie Backpack Program**. ***Please bring your donations by February 8***, and place them in the bin marked with your favorite team's name. "Vote" for the team you wish to win.

Cash Donations are also welcome! Please make checks payable to *Messiah Lutheran Church* and write *Souper Bowl* along with your team name in the memo line. Cash donations should be placed in an envelope marked *Souper Bowl* along with your team name.

Thank you for your help in our fight against hunger!

MOST NEEDED ITEMS

Please note that they cannot have cans or glass bottles!

pudding cups

fruit cups

jello cups

fruit bars

popcorn

little bags of chips/pretzels

soup (in the cups preferably)

cereal cups/mini boxes

peanut butter or cheese crackers (Lance)

applesauce cups

mac and cheese (box or cups)

juice boxes (apple or fruit)

ramen noodles (cups if possible)

instant oatmeal





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 website at <https://messiahsouth.org/worship-resources/>.

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

Did you know? Messiah's Facebook page is a public page, so even if you do not have a Facebook account, you are still able to view content on our page.



Messiah Messenger Newsletter notes:

Did you know that the Messiah Messenger is available in different formats?

- ✓ The current and past copies of the Messenger are available on Messiah's webpage: www.Messiahsouth.org. If you misplaced your issue or missed an issue you can check it out online.
- ✓ Or you can have the Messenger delivered by email every week to your inbox. This saves on postage and the email version comes in color. This feature is especially nice when pictures of events or of the church are shared.
- ✓ Finally, we also publish large print issues. Sometimes the print and pictures are just too small for some of you.

If you are interested in receiving your Messenger by email or if you would like to receive a large print issue, please contact the office. *Thank you.*

