

Messiah's Mission Statement....

"Touching Lives
With Christ"

January 2021

**Messiah Lutheran Church
4102 Trinity Drive
Corpus Christi, TX 78410**

PASTORAL MUSINGS

[Pastor Scott & Janis Herbert], *servant[s] of Christ Jesus,*
To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are at [Messiah Lutheran Church—Corpus Christi, Texas],
with the overseers and deacons:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Jesus Christ. And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

(Philippians 1:1-11 [inserts mine])

Dear Saints of the Lord,

Glory to Jesus! Glory to Him Forever!

As we have now closed out the year of our Lord 2020 and all the unique craziness brought about by COVID-19, the national election, and as our society continues to reject the One True God as it moves away from Christian morality towards the damning evil of the ways of the world and human sinful flesh, let us step back and consider all the blessings of God as we begin the year of our Lord 2021.

I wanted to take a moment to thank all of you for all that you are and do. From the very first day Janis and I arrived here in Corpus Christ and at Messiah, it is obvious that you are a body of believers that loves the Lord and desires to serve His people and witness to the world. This past Thanksgiving and Christmas, you have proven your faithful generosity over and over. Also, you continue to show your love and care for Janis and me as, by the grace of God, we have settled into a new home and begun ministry together with you. For all of this and the continual prayers you raise on behalf of so many, all praise, honor, and glory be to God, the Father, the ✠ Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

As we move forward together into the new year, with so much yet unknown, I pray that together we will continue to seek the Lord in all that we think, say, and do. I pray that we will work to grow closer to Him and to each other through increased active participation in Word and Sacrament ministry. I pray that, through the careful, daily study of His Word, we will discern the Lord's will for our lives individually and together as the body of believers at Messiah. I pray that we will continue to stand firm on the Truth of the Word of God, that through all knowledge and discernment, we faithfully and obediently answer His call upon our lives, to the glory, honor and praise of God.

Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it...The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

(1 Thessalonians 5:23-24, 28)

In Christ's Service,
Pastor Scott & Janis



Echo

Dear Lord, help us and guide us as we enter yet another New Year, Amen!

As we leave 2020, and all the turmoil, chaos and confusion; the pandemic, and an election like we have never witnessed before, we must look to God for help and guidance. The traditional new year resolutions seem empty, and somewhat meaningless as we survey the overall scheme of things. Sure, we would like a new beginning, a way to shake off the helpless feeling the pandemic has caused – we must look to His word; to the Bible for encouragement, and the promise of hope.

Perhaps this would be a good time for us to make a commitment, not to exercise more, eat more healthily, lose a few pounds, but instead, to commit ourselves to the Lord, to doing His will. Perhaps we should attend church a little more diligently, even try Bible class, and maybe even dig a little deeper to help the expenses of maintaining the Lord's house of worship, and his ministry in our community, and the world. What could it hurt? In this terrible time, we may even find that God's blessings are all around us; we just need to recognize them. Instead of dwelling on things we wish we had; maybe we should be thankful for things we DO have. Instead of dwelling on things we can't do, maybe we should be thankful for the things we CAN do. As Christians, we can show our love for God by doing His work, by sharing His word with family, friends, and neighbors. While doing good works does not save us, it shows others our faith, and becomes contagious. Please think about a new beginning in your life, a renewed effort to be more pleasing to God, in thought, word, prayer and deed. He is with us in all things, times, and places. He will help us if we believe, trust, and ask. Dear Lord, help us, and guide us as we enter yet another New Year! Amen!

-Tom Griffith
Elder

LWML

The Women of Messiah, LWML will have the first meeting of the year **Tuesday, January 19, at 7 p.m.** in the Narthex. The new officers will be Laura Lopez, President, Judy Kunkel, Secretary, and Sharon Schrader, Treasurer. Please join us as we begin the year and plan for the coming months. All confirmed ladies of Messiah are encouraged to attend.



MDO

Greetings from our wonderful MDO. Merry Christmas and God's blessings. We are now officially out for Christmas break. Our annual Christmas program was great and the parents did so well taking all precautions. We will be back to our normal schedule January 5th.

Women's Bible Study

The Women's Bible study will begin a new study on Wednesday, January 6th, at 10 a.m. in the Narthex at Messiah. The study is "**Joy**" by Deb Burma. This close look at Paul's Letter to the Philippians, the "letter of joy," unpacks messages of contentment, confidence, humility, and hope—all found in Christ and infused with joy—in the mountaintop moments *and* in the mundane. All Women and their friends are welcome to attend. You will receive a book for this study to help you in your study.



Communion Help

The signup sheet is on the bulletin board in the kitchen to set up and clean up the communion ware on Sunday mornings. The signup is by month and is a very important part of every service. Laura Lopez is always ready to help you understand what is done. This is an opportunity for a person or family to assist in preparation for the service. Please consider this opportunity to serve your church and fellow believers.

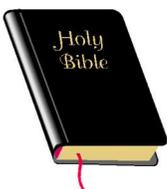


Flower Calendar

The Flower calendar for 2021 is up and ready for you to fill out for dates of importance to you and your family. It is on the bulletin board by the water fountain. Simply put your name on the date and bring a bouquet. Flowers can be bought from the store/florist you wish and brought to the church on the Sunday you choose. For your convenience, vases are available in the cabinet above the sink in the kitchen. **Help us beautify the Altar for services.** Thank you in advance.

Save Your Stamps

During the Christmas season, many of you receive cards with Christmas stamps. Save those stamps and turn trash into cash. The Women of Messiah collect used postage stamps to send to the LWML Texas District Stamporee Project. The stamps are sold, and all profits go to the Lutheran World Relief Quilt and Kit shipping fund. All stamps are accepted. Especially valuable are commemorative stamps like Christmas stamps. Please leave ¼ inch border around all sides of the stamps and place them in the purple wooden box on the LWML table.



Sunday school and Bible Class

Classes start at 8:45 a.m. We have classes for all ages and will add more if needed. Please bring your children and join us when you're ready to delve into the scriptures. We are ready for you. If you would like to volunteer for teaching or being a substitute teacher please talk to Sharon Schrader in person.

Greeting Cards

Miscellaneous greeting cards for all occasions are located on the spinning rack in the narthex. If you take a card, please donate any amount to the Benevolence Fund. These donations can be put in the red box on the table next to the card rack.



Recurring Giving Made Easy

We are truly grateful for your donations to Messiah. It's through your gifts that allow us to provide services and carry out acts of ministry in our area. Have you thought making your regular gifts to Messiah using our eGiving tools? Our eGiving tools make it easy to schedule recurring gifts – the gifts you make every week now. By using recurring gifts with our eGiving services, your gift always arrives when you intend and in the correct amount.

Our eGiving options include:

- Online giving through our website www.messiahlcms-cc.org
- The free GivePlus mobile app from the App Store or Google Play

You can set up recurring gifts here or give a one-time donation. This is a convenient way to ensure your gift is made, and you don't have to remember to bring cash or your checkbook to services. Plus, if you have to miss services one week, your gift will still be made.



Your Mites at Work
Mission Grant Mites

Praise be to God! Even with the pandemic, mite giving is on target to reach our goal. Thank you for your support. Your first Sunday mite giving helps support the following project.



E-Kids After School Program — Expansion Ministries, Inc. — \$20,000

This program cares for precious children living in impoverished Latino community apartment complexes of greater Dallas. The love of Jesus is shared while helping with homework. Funds will be used for snacks, special day celebrations, VBS, a computer lab, women's Bible study, and an outreach coordinator.

MEETINGS

- COUNCIL:** Thursday, Jan. 7th – 6pm
- ELDER'S:** Monday, Jan. 11th – 6pm
- Elder Study:** Monday, Jan. 18th – 6pm
- LWML:** Tuesday, Jan. 19th – 7pm

Continued Prayers Requested For:



Janie Guerrero (Marge Lopez's cousin), Marlene DePau, Cindy Divers (Julie Brynestad's sister), Pastor Jim Sturgis, Floyd Hoff, William Bluntzer, Judy Wilson, and Mike Clevenger

OUR MILITARY



- Gary Roznovsky, LCDR – Naval Aviator – Alexandria, VA
- Cole Wilson, MK3 – USCG – Cutter, Seneca. Portsmouth, VA
- Cheyenne Wilson, E3 – USCG, ANT Unit – Morgan City, LA
- Jeremiah Sims, SFC – Ft. Campbell, KY
- Dillon Anderson, PFC – Fayetteville, NC
- Brandin Diamond, SSG – USAF – Deployed, Japan
- Cristopher Diamond, PV2 – USAC – Deployed, Korea

December Servers

Elders: Justin Perkins
Ushers: Jason Schrader
Acolytes: Noah Denton & Kaylee Larson
Alter: Laura Lopez

Flower Schedule



Jan. 3 –
Jan. 10 –
Jan. 17 –
Jan. 24 –
Jan. 31 –

Organists

Jan. 3 –
Jan. 10 –
Jan. 17 –
Jan. 24 –
Jan. 31 –



January 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 9am Adult Bible Study 9am Sunday School 10am Divine Service	28	29 Noe (Jr.) Lopez Jr.'s birthday	30 Abigail Perkins's birthday	31 Robert and Cheryl Patten's anniversary <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content; margin: 5px auto;">OFFICE CLOSED</div>	1	2
3 9am Adult Bible Study 9am Sunday School 10am Divine Service 11:30am Confirmation 11:30am Confirmation	4 Justin and Amy Perkins's anniversary Larry and Tammy Buxkamper's anniversary Whitney Larson's birthday	5	6	7 6pm - Council Meeting	8 Cheryl Strong's baptism Judy Kunkel's baptism Kristi Kirchoff's birthday	9
10 9am Adult Bible Study 9am Sunday School 10am Divine Service 11:30am Confirmation	11 6pm – Elder's Meeting	12	13	14	15	16
17 Tom Griffith's birthday 9am Adult Bible Study 9am Sunday School 10am Divine Service 11:30am Confirmation	18 6pm – Elder's Bible Study	19	20	21 Paul Crozier's birthday	22	23 Kelsi Luckenbach's baptism
24 9am Adult Bible Study 9am Sunday School 10am Divine Service 11:30am Confirmation	25	26	27	28 Audrey Bluntzer's birthday	29	30
31 Teo McDonald's birthday 9am Adult Bible Study 9am Sunday School 10am Divine Service	1 Kate (Lambert) Womack and Jay Womack's anniversary	2	3 Margarita Lopez's birthday	4	5	6

Please e-mail all updates and/or corrections to MLC@stx.rr.com Thanks!