

Messiah Memos

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

Issue 9

November 2009

Robyn Kistemaker to be Ordained at Messiah Sunday, November 15, 2 p.m.



Messiah's Robyn Kistemaker will be ordained into the Church's public ministry of Word and Sacrament at a special afternoon service on November 15. It will take place at Messiah. Bishop James R. Stuck of the ELCA's Indiana-Kentucky Synod will preside at the ordination, with Pr. Ramirez leading the overall liturgy and Pr. Burce preaching.

Robyn is one of three Messiah members who graduated from ELCA seminaries this past May. The others are Timothy Holt, presently awaiting a call, and Matthew Metevelis, who has taken a one year leave from the call process as he waits for his new wife (he was married in June) to complete contractual obligations to her current employer.

Robyn was called this summer as pastor of Corydon Lutheran Parish in Corydon, Indiana. She moved there in September and has already begun her pastoral duties.

Robyn, the daughter of Rick and Anne Kistemaker, grew up in Lakewood and attended Lakewood public schools. She was confirmed by Pr. Dick Schluep at Faith, Lakewood. The family transferred to Messiah in 2001. Robyn started college that same year, and graduated from Wittenberg University in 2005 as an English major. She promptly enrolled at Trinity Lutheran Seminary in Columbus.

During her seminary years Robyn did field work at Hosanna Lutheran Church in Pataskala, Ohio. She spent her internship year at Grace Lutheran Church in Petersburg, West Virginia.

Robyn was married in June of this year to David Hively, a fellow seminary graduate. The service on the 15th begins at 2 p.m. Since Faith, Lakewood and Messiah both had significant roles in shaping Robyn's faith and future, we warmly encourage members of both congregations to attend. A reception will follow.

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We remember with thanks all who fell asleep in the Lord during the past year

November 1, 8, 15

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A celebration of God's goodness to us as we commit our resources to the mission of Christ in the coming year

November 22

The Festival of Christ the King

The last Sunday of the church year
First Communion for many Messiah children

November 26

Thanksgiving Day—Service at 9:30 a.m.

November 29

*The First Sunday in Advent;
A new church year begins*

From the Pastor—

80 years have gone by since our congregation was established as a mission outpost of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod's English District. Not that the saints who founded it would have called it a "mission outpost." The term wasn't in vogue in those days. Even so, that's what Messiah was. From God's point of view it still is. The challenge for all of us this fall is to believe that.

I grew up on mission outposts—little communities of two or three families living on an acre or two of leased land sprinkled with a standard assortment of buildings: residences, a thatched-roof church, a couple of classrooms, a rudimentary clinic. All around us were the much larger communities we were there to serve. We who lived on the outposts came from other places, hundreds or even thousands of miles away, across mountains and oceans. It was obvious to all that the only reason we were there was to serve those larger communities, above all by passing along the Promise of God's forgiveness and salvation in Jesus Christ. It helped that the people in the larger communities were eager to hear what the missionaries had to say. I can still remember being six years old and watching 508 people, dressed in white, processing two by two to their baptism. Each carried a stick that held a slip of paper, and on the paper the new name that he or she was about to take as a person born to a new life.

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It's tougher at places like Messiah or Faith to see our churches as mission outposts. Truth be told, many of the people who built and developed them did so not with the larger community in mind but for their own sake. Their mission, if they thought in those terms at all, was to their own families. If others came along that was fine, but it wasn't their place to beat the bushes and drag the strangers in. One took it for granted that the strangers had churches of their own to go to. To suggest that your neighbor might need something that your church had to offer was considered rude. It still is, I think. Why, I'm not sure. If I need Christ, doesn't my neighbor need Christ too? And if Christ is the best thing that ever happened to me, isn't it stingy to hog him for myself and not invite my neighbor to check him out as well?

Bear that in mind when I tell you about a class I'm teaching this fall. It has me feeling the way my father must have felt when he started working in the unevangelized hinterlands of New Guinea in 1948. Almost everything about the Biblical story and the Christian faith is new to my students. They haven't heard it before, or so they tell me. So we're starting

with the basics, like how to say the Lord's Prayer, or who Adam was. No, it's not a class for new immigrants. Each of the students is American through and through, with roots going back for many generations. It's time to revise the notion that the people we live among know something about the Bible, or who God is, or why Jesus died. They don't.

+ + +

I pray with all my heart that long-time members of churches like Messiah and Faith will step up to the challenge of the age we're living in. When Julie Bacon asks for help with the Kids of the Kingdom project at Faith, God grant that we answer. So too when Peggy Schauer underscores how badly Luther Memorial School needs our support, or when Pr. Glenn casts yet another net for gifts and volunteers for the mission in North Ridgeville. Closer to home, I pray that every Messiah parent will bring their children to Sunday School and teach them the habit of sitting through church. I hope even more that the light of faith and hope in God is shining in each of our homes, with prayers said before meals and Bible stories being read to little children. Those children will not know the joy and strength and comfort of Jesus' promise unless they learn it from us; and in the day when they're parents themselves, the neighborhoods of places like Fairview Park and Lakewood will be even emptier of basic Christian knowledge than they already are. A huge piece of our missionary job today is to train tomorrow's missionaries. From God's point of view, that's exactly what our church is for.

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Imagine 500 people marching to their baptism along Lorain or Hilliard Road. What a sight! Not that you or I will ever see it. Our culture doesn't work that way. Then again, there are easily 500 empty seats waiting to be filled at the services that are offered every weekend at Messiah and Faith combined. May God in his mercy save us from being content with that.

--Pr. Burce

P.S. To any and all who are itching for further word from your pastors about ELCA issues: look for something in the mail over the next several weeks when some pending conversations are behind us. In the meantime, see the website for what we've said already, and if need be, ask us for copies. Remember too that our doors are always open. Come see us. Give us a call. Above all, ask the Holy Spirit to guide us well in our guiding of the precious flock he has given us to feed and serve.



"Still Trusting Together"

Our Calling this month as Saints and Stewards

November is commitment month at Messiah, a time for the saints of God to offer pledges toward the ministry and mission of the Church in the coming calendar year. At the heart of any commitment lies *trust*. Trust that God the Father will provide, not just our daily bread but the blessings of his Kingdom. Trust that God the Son is our living Lord, good and gracious, whose Gospel is worth everything we can possibly invest in it. Trust that God the Holy Spirit will ensure that our investments are not in vain.

Trusting is something Christians do *together*. Your believing helps me believe. Your spending on God and his good news inspires me to spend as well. When Jesus says, "Follow me," he invites us into a group of followers who help to keep each other going. That's why, at Messiah, we try to make our commitments together, in church, surrounded by prayer, with the promise of the Gospel still echoing in the air. The first commitment Sunday is November 1. Commitments will be invited at the next two Sundays as well, for the sake of any who couldn't attend on the previous days. And after that a letter will go to people at home or away, reporting on responses already received and inviting their participation too.

Trusting together is something we get to do because others did it before us. At Messiah the saints have been living and showing their faith in God for over 80 years. We'll remember those saints on our first commitment Sunday, November 1, which is also All Saints' Day. What a wonderful opportunity to demonstrate that we're *still* trusting as they did, together with them, in the word and promise of Jesus Christ and the love of God that knows no end.

May the Lord grant a strong and faithful response from all his saints at Messiah as we prepare to serve him with joy in the year to come.

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Questions for faithful stewards to ask—

- ✦ *Where God's work is concerned, there is always more to do. How much more can I give to help get it done?*
- ✦ *What are my priorities? Is God at the top of the list? How do I show that?*
- ✦ *Trust involves risk, and risk leads to trust. What will I risk for God this year so he can he underwrite my confidence in him?*

(continued in the next column)

- ✦ *Trusting saints have always taken 10% of income as a threshold of faithful giving. How close am I to that? Am I ready to move closer by a step or two, or even past it, to stand with saints who there already?*

Matching Gift Programs 2009

Giving Plus Program from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans changes 1/1/2010

\$41,865 Received through October from Thrivent's Giving Plus Program!

If you are a member of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, you have recently received a letter describing the changes to the GivingPlus Program beginning January 1, 2010. We do not have the specific details for the new Thrivent Choice Program yet. We can confirm that the process will change beginning next year. ***We can also confirm that nothing changes in the program between now and December 31, 2009.*** This is the time of year when many matching gifts are received. In order to take advantage of this great program, we need to continue to ask for your support through the balance of this year.

Some program highlights:

- Thrivent members age 16 or older are eligible to participate in this program.
- Your donations, payable to Messiah School, for any amount up to \$600 will be match \$1 for every \$2 donated, up to a total supplement of \$300.
- Do you volunteer your time to Messiah? Mark that circle on the form and Messiah receives an additional \$25 in matching gifts.
- Complete a GivingPlus form, available on the Thrivent table in the atrium, or ask at the church office and return with your donation.

Questions? Contact Darlene Waugh at 440-331-2405.

PLUS ~ Employer Sponsored Matching Gift Programs

Are you employed by a company that offers matching gift benefits to accredited elementary schools or religious institutions? Messiah Church & School qualifies as this type of organization. We have already received matching gifts from National City Bank (PNC), The Progressive Insurance Foundation and The Sherwin Williams Foundation. Contact your Human Resource Department for details.



“Notes” From the Director of Music

It seems that the six men for Messiah Choir, requested in past MEMOS, are waiting for a yet another invitation to join our most excellent musical throng. The invitation is cast lightly, but sincerely. We continue to grow in numbers and skill, but we would especially welcome more men into the ranks. We are nothing if not flexible with regard to accommodating the difficult schedules we all have these days. There are countless benefits to choir participation – ask any of our members! Quite seriously, six additional men to the Choir Loft, please.

The Eucharistic liturgy for this Reformation Sunday is a setting we have used quite a few times in the past three years, but in its full festival garb, with brass and timpani added to the choir, organ, and you, the congregation. It is our service, cast in the current tradition of ELCA settings. It is a congregational service...

its melodies are within a generally accessible range, its spice is in the accompaniment, where serious contemporary harmonies meet tradition. It was frankly inspired by you, a far better than typical singing congregation. I look forward to Reformation Sunday, as we join together in giving voice to the Messiah Setting, expressly composed for the people of Messiah, and dedicated to the Glory of Almighty God.

Music For Tuesdays at 12:10 is up and running splendidly. Come when you can, bring a friend...the cookies are abundant, the tea and coffee are hot and fresh...the music is grandly varied from week to week...do put it on your list!

In His Name,
David Gooding,
Director of Music Ministries

Music for Tuesdays Program Continues

The programs are in the sanctuary. Bring your brown bag lunch—we provide coffee, tea, and cookies. The programs conclude before 1:00 pm and are entirely informal...come when you can, and leave when you must. A freewill offering, benefiting the Messiah Choir Fund, is always welcome.

- 10/27 – David Gooding, organ; Bach, Brahms, Boellmann
- 11/3 – Andrew Lipian, countertenor; Barbara Lipian, soprano; David Gooding, keyboard; Duets by Schütz, Bach, Mendelssohn, and Brahms
- 11/10 – David Tidyman, organ; Program TBA
- 11/17 – Jonathan Snyder, English Horn; David Gooding. Organ; Leo Sowerby: Ballade
- 11/24 – James Meyers, violoncello; David Gooding, keyboards; Bach, Handel, Marcello, Vivaldi
- 12/1 – Barbara Bartels, organ; Christmas is Coming
- 12/8 – North Coast Consort of Viols; Early music with a nod to the Season
- 12/15 – Edith Yerger, recorders; David Betts, recorders; Music for Two...to Celebrate the Holidays

From the Principal's Desk

Living Lean

As we continue to struggle through difficult economic times, many of us (if not all of us) have been forced to “live lean,” that is, to cut out much of the “fat” or extras out of our lives. Now I am not talking about the gravy on your mashed potatoes or that large slice of pumpkin pie (with whipped cream, of course) that may be gracing your table at the celebration of our annual November holiday, but I am referring instead to the extras of life.

Maybe you have held off on buying that big-screen television or the new computer. Maybe you took a “staycation” this past summer instead of an expensive trip to a fancy resort. Or maybe you think twice before heading to the local restaurant and decide to cook a meal at home instead.

For us living in a country known for its abundances, yes, even excesses, our “living lean” probably still looks pretty luxurious to many folks around the world. The same could be said for our church and school. While we know we need to tighten our belts and stretch every dollar as far as we can, we still are blessed in so many ways: A church blessed with faithful servants, dedicated to the Word of God, and a school with talented, committed staff, supportive parents, and wonderful children.

Could it be that changes caused by living lean actually help us to live better? Maybe time *not* spent in front of that big-screen television can be spent in prayer, or Bible study, or in conversation with family members or friends. Maybe the vacation closer to home gives us more time to spend together. Maybe we discover that that home-cooked meal tastes better and is healthier than the one at the restaurant, and we also had the opportunity to work together with others to create it.

Whether we do so by necessity or by choice, living lean may just help us to focus better on those things that are most important: Family and friends who care for us, a world filled with many blessings, and a God who loves us unconditionally and will never leave us alone.

May you experience and appreciate all of God's blessings in this season of Thanksgiving!

In Christ,

Kyle B. Chuhran, Principal



Messiah Lutheran Church
Fairview Park, presents

Paul E. Brammeier

**“How God’s Word can keep you
Sane and Productive,
and your co-workers too”**

**Faith and Theology as Management
Resources
A Seminar for Workplace Leaders**

Friday, November 6,
8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
at Messiah Lutheran Church
21485 Lorain Rd., Fairview Park
Fee: \$15. Includes morning-long coffee,
refreshments

To register: call 440-331-2405, or send an email to
church@messiahfp.org (subject line: Management
Workshop)

Kids of the Kingdom

"Kids of the Kingdom" needs YOU to volunteer during the Fall Festival, an event on the grounds of Faith Lutheran for children and families in the neighborhood.

We need....

- People to pass out Halloween candy during the Festival
- An attendant for our BOUNCE AROUND
- Help decorate!
- Operate a CARNIVAL GAME
- Face paint
- Help with Food

Please help us kick off "Kids of the Kingdom" with this day of celebration and FUN!!!

**October 31, noon to 3 p.m., at Faith Lutheran,
Lakewood.**

If you can help, please call me at (216) 362-0614 or email me at julie-bacon@sbcglobal.net

Bibles for Everyone

If you were born before 1950, a non-Roman Catholic, and read English, you were part of a 350-year cohort—the people who had pretty much one choice when it came to reading the Bible. That would be the *King James Version (KJV)*, so called because it was produced under the auspices of King James I of England in 1611. Up until the *Revised Standard Version (RSV)* came out in the late 1940s, the *KJV* was the Bible used by English speakers.

Since the appearance of the *RSV*, hundreds of translations have appeared. Among them are the *New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)*, the *New International Version (NIV)*, the *English Standard Version (ESV)*, *Today's English Version (Good News Bible) (TEV)*, the *New King James Version (NKJV)*, and the *New Living Bible*. With dozens of editions of each translation available (i.e. Study Bible, Bride's Bible, Teen Bible, Women's Bible, Men's Bible...the list goes on and on) it's a major task just to evaluate the best choice for an individual's or a family's use.

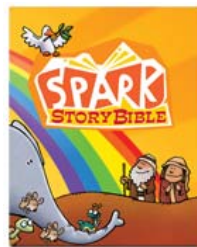
Let me make some suggestions for your consideration:

- ✦ Choose a *translation*, not a *paraphrase*. A translation, as best as language will allow, attempts to reproduce the author's style and vocabulary. A paraphrase is freer, using 'equivalent ideas' rather than word for word translation. A paraphrase can easily slip into *interpretation* without letting the reader know that that is happening.
- ✦ For **adults** (either for individual use or for family use) a **Study Bible** is a good choice. Difficult passages are explained, background and historical context is provided, and introductions to each book are among the many helps available. Concordia's *The Lutheran Study Bible (ESV)* is an excellent choice. It offers a wealth of notes (from a conservative Lutheran perspective), charts, timelines, and the Small Catechism as well. Three other very good Study Bibles are the **ESV Study Bible**, the **Harper-Collins Study Bible (NRSV)**,

and the **Oxford Study Bible (NRSV)**.

The *ESV's* notes come from a generally Evangelical Protestant viewpoint (although it is obvious in places that they have their eye on the Lutheran market). The Harper-Collins and the Oxford are a bit older, and generally have a more liberal leaning. Any of these three would make a good second Bible for study. These study Bibles will cost anywhere from \$35.00 to \$60.00—but at only ten years of daily use, that's a penny or two a day. (And you'll get more than ten years out of a good Bible.)

- ✦ For **family Bible story reading** we recommend the *The Children's Bible in 365 Stories*. Weekly readings are listed in the messiah bulletin. Purchase this Bible from the Church Office—cost \$17.
- ✦ For **children under 8** we've just started using the Augsburg-Fortress *Spark Story Bible*. Purchase from the Church Office—cost \$14.
- ✦ For **children under 14** an NIV, NRSV, or ESV (Messiah School religion curricula are keyed to the NIV at present). Be sure to take the time to teach proper care and respect for the Bible to your children.



Perfect Christmas Gift for Young Children

The *Spark Story Bible* brings God's Word to life through colorful art and rich retelling of 150 of the most popular Bible stories in 555 pages. Cost \$14.

- Easy to read aloud-uses creative language familiar to kids and full page, vibrant artwork
- 150 Bible stories-an excellent foundation for a biblical education
- Encourages imagination through images and text that is engaging, thought provoking, and fun!
- Engages children with an activity suggestion or query for every story
- Designed for age 2-Grade 2

Continued next column

September 27, 2009
Congregational Meeting Notes
(Bob Zalac, President)

The 2009 annual congregational meeting took place on Sunday, September 27. Highlights conclude:

- + Elected to three-year Church Council terms: Phil Bartels, Sam Gmetro, Ken Novack, Ken Schnabel. Officers for 2010 will be elected at the November Council meeting.
- + Council members Nathan Hessler, Ann Kreps, and Gene Schmidtke completed their terms on Council. Thanks for all your dedication and hard work!
- + Elected delegates to the NEO Synod Assembly: Nancy Mickan, Gene Schmidtke, Eileen Spicer, Steve Turnbull.
- + School Principal Kyle Chuhran reported that school enrollment for the 2009-2010 school year is 194 students; 15 of which came from Lakewood Lutheran School. This is a decrease from the 201 students enrolled at the beginning of the 2008-2009 school year.
- + The Administration & Finance Committee presented the final budget results for the 2008-2009 fiscal year. It was noted that Messiah was unable to pay the NEO Synod the final \$9,784 budgeted for the fiscal year. The Committee also presented the Council's proposed 2009-2010 budget. After significant and lengthy discussion, voters asked that the proposed budget be taken back to Committee for further refinement; particularly in the area of earmarking funds for deficit reduction. A motion was presented by the Committee to increase the distribution from the endowment by 1% (from 3% to 4%) for a period of two years. The increased distribution amount (approximately \$20,000) would be used solely for the purpose of hiring a part-time Youth Director. A ballot vote resulted in a tie with the Council President casting the deciding vote in favor of the motion.
- + Building Committee Chairman Marty Uhle reported that they had recently been approached by a property owner to the west of Messiah indicating they are prepared to sell four parcels of property and asked if Messiah had an interest in purchasing the property. After discussion about Messiah's long-term expansion possibilities, the voters authorized the Committee to engage in discussions with the property owner. It was noted that the property owner made clear their desire for a decision sometime in November. With this in mind, a special congregational meeting was scheduled for October 11 to make a determination on Messiah's interest in this opportunity. With respect to the current Capital Campaign, the Committee reported that it had received estimated construction costs from the architect that addressed the reutilization of the main Messiah building. In the interest of time, it was decided to present this information at the special October 11 congregational meeting. Finally, it was noted that \$186,827 remains to be collected by September 30, 2010, of the \$1,029,572 pledged for the construction of the middle school.
- + The Faith Mission Board reported on their progress with the Kids of the Kingdom program and Faith Lutheran Church's desire to hire a mission pastor in 2010.
- + Council President Bob Zalac reported on the three-year strategic plan. A six-month process that included a congregational survey, two small group meetings, two large group meetings, and a working committee of the Council resulted in the development of Messiah's mission and vision statements along with eight strategic objectives that will be the focus of Messiah's work over the next 36 months.

(continued in the next column)

October 11, 2009
Special Congregational
Meeting Notes
(Bob Zalac, President)

The October 11 meeting was a continuation of the September 26 congregational meeting. Highlights include:

- ✦ The Administration & Finance Committee presented a modified 2009-2010 budget. Significant items of note include: projected revenue from State Mandated Services and the Thrivent matching gift program are anticipated to be approximately \$51,000 less than that received in 2008-2009. As a result, a commensurate reduction in expenses was necessary. The only discretionary expenses were contained in the Other Kingdom category. These items include the NEO Synod, Cleveland Lutheran High School Association, LAOS, the Lutheran Home, Spirit of Joy start-up church, and Messiah in the City. In 2008-2009, Other Kingdom expenses paid totaled \$167,702. For 2009-2010, the amount budgeted for these items is \$114,660. A voter motioned that \$3,000 be restored to the Messiah in the City program. The motion passed. To remain in a balanced budget position, the voters approved adding \$3,000 to the "Offerings" revenue account.
- ✦ Building Committee Chairman Marty Uhle provided an overview of costs associated with the reutilization of the Messiah main building. The architect broke down the overall project into three phases – each independent of the others with the opportunity to address each one as funds permit. Marty also noted that the Committee has disbanded with the presentation of this information and has turned over the task of deciding when to pursue the next phase of the project to the Church Council.
- ✦ Mr. Uhle presented information with respect to four parcels of property to the west of Messiah being offered for sale to Messiah. The initial asking price is \$450,000. There are currently two long-term tenants. With respect to finances – the property owner has offered to finance approximately 75% of the purchase price at a favorable interest rate over a ten-year period of time. Additionally, a Messiah member has put up \$100,000 in the form of a challenge contribution. That is, they will contribute \$100,000 toward this purchase if the congregation matches this amount. Since Messiah voters must authorize the purchase or sale of any real estate and a decision to purchase the property may have to be made in a very short period of time, a motion was made and passed that delegates the authority to the church Council to vote on this on the voters behalf on this particular issue.



In Memoriam

On All Saint's Sunday, November 1, 2009 we will remember the saints who fell asleep in the Lord during the last year. On this Sunday a bell will be rung in memory of each.

<u>Date of Death</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date of Birth</u>
11/26/2008	Richard H. Kendall	12/26/1924
12/21/2008	Frederick W. Glaser	6/23/1924
1/03/2009	Edward A. Gale	12/28/1926
1/12/2009	Julia Stofka	12/15/1911
5/11/2009	Paul Jereb	1/18/1918
5/16/2009	Lawrence R. Forni	3/25/1920
5/18/2009	Edward J. Zetts	4/26/1926
7/2/2009	Fred Wilcox	10/9/1921
7/4/2009	Richard Pimm	2/24/1941
9/17/2009	The Rev. Walter J. Kovac	3/1/1937



PARISH NURSE NEWS

By Nancy Mickan

I hope those who attended the Mother/Daughter Tea enjoyed themselves while at the same time learned something new. Here are some other subjects which you may find educational and worth the time spent. All of the programs require registration or an appointment.

MEN – How about a night out at Dave and Busters and at the same time learn a game plan for life? **Join the fun on October 27. Free screenings 4:30 – 6 pm for cholesterol, glucose, blood pressure, etc.** Dinner from 6 to 7pm with the main program from 7-8pm. Speakers will be Chuck Kyle and Dr. David Levy. Reservations required. Call 1-877-234 3488.

On November 10, from 10-11am, learn about the changes in Medicare in 2010. Chris Rug will discuss the changes at the Rocky River Senior Center Auditorium 21014 Hilliard blvd. Call 1-877-234-3488 for reservations.

Women's Preventive Heart Clinic.

Heart disease is the #1 killer of women. One out of 3 women die from heart disease. Find out what your risks are. You can schedule an appointment at Lutheran, Lakewood, or Fairview Hospital for a complete screening which includes a medical history and physical, cholesterol and blood sugar, BP and pulse, EKG, body mass index and stress assessment. Call the hospital of your choice to schedule an appointment. Cost is \$35.

Find out about the latest options in Heart Health. On December 3, 1130 -1pm at the Fairview Hospital Wellness Center. Dr. Gill will discuss atrial fibrillation and a new treatment option. Jennifer Andrey will discuss the latest treatments for women with heart disease. Light lunch provided. Call for Reservations. 1-877-234-3488

On Friday, November 27 give thanks for life and give blood at LaCentre (25777 Detroit Road in Westlake), 11 a.m.—7 p.m. After donating, enjoy a pasta meal and a special raffle of wonderful prizes. Register for an appointment with the American Red Cross at www.givelife.org. *You must be over age 16 to donate.*

GOURMET PRAYER

By Priscilla Hinsch

Our Faith and Prayer

By Norman Vincent Peale

Faith begins as a thin trickle across the mind. Repeated, it becomes habitual. It cuts into the consciousness until, as you deepen the channel, faith-thought overflows and whatever you think about yourself, about your family, about your business, about your future, about the world becomes optimistic and positive. To be efficient in prayer you must learn the art of praying. You can read every book ever written about prayer, and you can attend innumerable discussions on prayer, but the only way to learn to pray is to pray. Make your prayers simple and natural. Talk to God as to a friend.



Young In Spirit—Dorothy Fuldheim



Monday, November 16, Noon

Carol Starre-Kmieck will do a presentation on Dorothy Fuldheim. If you are from the Cleveland Area, you may feel you already know Dorothy Fuldheim, and that she was a friend who come into your home every day for forty years. Or, if you are under 40, you may think of her as a senior citizen that did the news. Dorothy Fuldheim had a long and varied career. Come hear her story

Remember to bring your lunch. Coffee, tea and dessert will be provided.

All 55+ are invited!



5th – 12th Grade Leaf Raking Service Project November 14th, 11:30 am – 4 pm.

Do you have a few hours on Saturday, November 14th, to help various families from our congregation with the huge task of raking leaves? For years the youth and parents of Messiah have provided this service. This year is no different. Meet at Messiah at 11:30 am, rake leaves until 4 pm, and then share in an early dinner at Chick-fil-A in North Olmsted (on the corner of Brookpark and Great Northern Blvd). We need many hands to complete this task. Please bring your own rake, gloves, leaf blowers and tarps. Questions? Contact Brad or Diane Paton at (440) 427-9446 or patonbd@aol.com.

Dessert Bonus Days at Market Day!

Don't forget to place your Market Day orders this month! This month is Dessert Bonus Days. We are offering 8 different pies, 2 cheesecakes and 4 single serve desserts. This is a bonus month so we can earn even more for our school. Also, you can order pies to be donated to shut-ins. This has been a blessing to many in the past. Order forms are available outside the church office. You can order online or turn in an order form outside the school office. Please contact Ina McCaffrey at 440-871-7874 with any questions.



Christmas Cupboard

Christmas Cupboard Needs You!!!

It's that time of year again. This event allows students to shop for their family members and friends and it also helps raise money for Messiah school. We are looking for inexpensive items for women, men, youth, babies, and pets!!! Homemade craft items and jewelry are great! We also need gift ideas for men – gloves, flashlights, coffee mugs, sports collectibles, etc. Drop off donations in the marked bin outside of the school office. We plan to hold this event early December. Questions? Want to help? Call Julie Bacon (216) 362-0614 or email her at julie-bacon@sbcglobal.net.

Prayer Shawl Ministry:

Come share the fellowship with us and learn how to crochet or knit. We are once again busy making Pray Shawls and Baptismal blankets. We meet in the Music Room between services. Stop in to say hello.



Children's Bible Study/Pizza Nights 6 – 7:30 p.m. at Messiah

Drop off your K-4th grade child for this FREE, fun-filled event! Each session will feature a Bible story and a special game or craft. These programs are on Wednesday nights on November 18, December 16, January 13 and February 10, so mark your calendars!

Receive the Messiah Memos via E-Mail and Save a Tree

Would you be willing to receive each month's Messiah Memos electronically versus receiving a paper copy? If so, please let the church office know at church@messiahfp.org or by calling (440) 331-2405. You will receive a PDF of the Memos and the calendar each month in your email. We also post PDF files of both the Memos and the monthly calendar on our website, so you may always access it there. By selecting this option you will be saving paper and helping the environment. This also saves money on postage and paper in the church office. Thank you!!!

Family News

Baptized

Zachary Irvine Wilkins, Son of Toland & Catherine Wilkins, on October 17, 2009

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Phone (440) 331-2405
www.messiahfp.org

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*Drawing in to Christ . . .
Building up in Christ . . .
Sending out for Christ . . .*

*To the glory of God,
through the strength
of the Spirit.*



Messiah Lutheran School Night at the Oscars & Auction

Saturday, November 7, 2009, 6 p.m.
Wagner's Country Inn
30855 Center Ridge Road



Come to this Semi Formal evening and enjoy appetizers,
an Italian buffet, assorted desserts, auctions, raffles, music and more!!

\$30 per ticket.

A few auction items include a Bahamas 4 day cruise,
a week at a Hilton Head condo,
homemade items, wine, spa, restaurant, and sport packages

– just to name a few!

Contact Joy Ellerbruch at (440) 427-8412.