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From the Pastor

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
August is typically the month where we gear up for another ministry year. All of our summer activities are winding down and our activities for the 2025/2026 ministry year are beginning once again. Below are a few events that will be taking place during the next few months.

Beginning Sunday, August 24, during our Sunday morning Bible study, we will begin a discussion on a book entitled "The Gift of Empathy – Helping others feel valued, cared for, and understood." This book was written by Joel Bretscher and Kenneth Haugk. The book is used by our Stephen Ministers, but we decided it would be a great book for all of our members to study. I hope you make a point later this summer to be a part of the discussion.

I am excited about our outdoor worship and church picnic planned for Sunday, September 7, at 10:00 a.m. We will meet where we have met the last couple of years – at the Sweetgum Slope picnic area south of the Lake just off of Harper Meadow Drive. There are picnic tables, but you can bring lawn chairs if you desire.

We all have the opportunity and privilege to be a part of this ministry we call Messiah Lutheran Church, Greenhills, Ohio. God has placed us all here for a reason. He has given us a unique set of skills to use in this place. And He has given us the wonderful message of God's love and forgiveness found in Jesus Christ that we can communicate not only through our words but through our actions. I like the thought of adorning the Gospel of Jesus Christ with a godly life. Living a godly life does not mean living a perfect life. It is impossible for us to live a perfect life. But we can live a godly life when we seek God's will, pray for forgiveness for past failures, and focus on the tasks that God has set before us. We live a godly life when we let go of ourselves and let God use us according to His will.

Blessings to us all as we seek to live and serve as God's children.
In Jesus' name.

Pastor Allen Stuckwisch

stephen
MINISTRY.

Question of the
Month



What kinds of life challenges do Stephen Ministers offer care for?



THE PARK ROAD WILL BE CLOSED

Lakeview Drive, the park road that many of us utilize to get to Messiah, will be closed beginning August 12th through October 3rd. The closure will be from the campground to Carlsbad Drive (before Sharon Road). Those of you who come in from Sharon Road will need to temporarily find an alternate route.

Upcoming Events

Aug 3 Stephen Ministry
Aug 17 Sunner Brunch during Education
Hour
Aug 24 Stephen Ministry
Aug 19 NO OWLS
Sept 7 Church Service and Picnic in
Winton Woods
Sept 16 OWLS
Sept 20 Potluck dinner
Sept 24 Federation Auxiliary Fidget
Mats



From the Elders

Throughout the month of August, we will hear readings from the Gospel of Luke. In these readings, Jesus gives us a number of warnings through a series of parables he tells to his followers (and, so, to us), as well as to the Pharisees who are carefully watching him as he goes about his ministry. He draws a stark contrast between those who follow his commands and those who follow worldly wealth and prestige.

Jesus warns against greed – being rich towards ourselves rather than towards God. He tells us not to worry about where we will get our food or clothing or other necessities, telling us how He provides the birds of the air with what they need and clothes the flowers of the field in beautiful colors. Why would he not also feed us and clothe us? Indeed, he has given us much more than food and clothing. He has given us the promise of his Kingdom. But not everyone will enter God's Kingdom (Luke 13:24). He warns us to always be prepared for his return by always following his commands to the best of our ability, to do what we know is the right thing. Jesus tells us that he has not come to bring peace, but division (Luke 12:49-53). We, his followers, will be in conflict with those who do not follow his teachings – maybe even with our family and friends.

In all of these passages Jesus urges us – indeed *commands* us – to stay faithful to His teachings; to be ready for his return; to not fall prey to the temptations of this world. In this way will we reach our ultimate prize of eternal life with Jesus.

The prophet Micah writes, “He has shown you, O man, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.” (Micah 6:8)

May God give us the grace and strength to do all these things.

The Elders – Jean Floyd, Joan Ramahi, Pat Magill, Mark Gottula, Kevin Budke

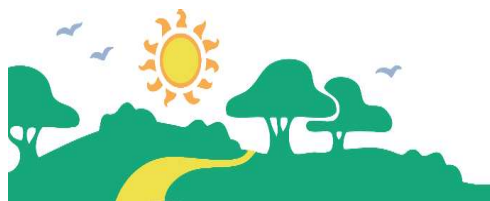
stephen
MINISTRY.

Answer



Care receivers can
be people who are
encountering grief, divorce,
career challenges,
family issues,
illness,
caregiving,
financial struggles, and
many other life
challenges

Mark your Calendars Now



CHURCH and PICNIC
In the Park

September 7, 2025
at 10:00am in Winton Woods park. We
will use the **Sweetgum Slope Shelter** (same as
last year) which is off Lakeridge Drive, south
of the lake. As you go south on Winton Road,
turn left on Lakeridge, take the first left and
then the first right.
Follow the sign to Sweetgum Slope



From the Congregation President

This summer has been a challenging one for the Major Repair Fund and those who have a significant role keeping the church building and property managed. In addition to the electric and landscaping needed for the new sign, there was another lightning strike affecting our electronics, a broken AC compressor in the midst of 90+ temps and many smaller yet annoying tasks like keeping the mice population out of the building!

Please take the time to thank **Randy Green, Rick Walter and Jerry Rice** for all the time they selflessly give to our building and property. Without their commitment we would not have the beautiful and functional facility we have. Additionally, your financial commitments to the budget enables the repairs to be taken care of. Thank you! We are all part of the whole body and each part is important (I Cor 12). Yes, it's been a busy summer for the hands and feet of our Business and Property Managers and it may be a challenging time for you too. As each of us serves in various ways may we be reminded of Galatians 6:9 - ***"Do not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."***

So, the next time the temperature in the building isn't quite right or the AV equipment in the sanctuary is glitching, know that there are fellow servants behind the scenes using their time and talents to make things right for the entire body. And that's GOOD NEWS!

Diane Wolford, Congregation President

"Gratitude can transform common days into thanksgivings, turn routine jobs into joy and change ordinary opportunities into blessings."

—William Arthur Ward

Our electronic message board is up and running. Due to some underground utilities we had to adjust the location of the sign slightly. As a result, the sign did not match the contour of the ground exactly. When the final landscaping is completed an additional piece will be added to more closely match the slope of the hill.

The final piece was recently added indicating that the sign is **"In Memory of Nancy Langner Logsdon"**. Again, we want to thank **Gary Logsdon** for this very special gift in Nancy's memory.





The Staub Family – Featured Family for August

Cherry Staab and her husband Bob came to Cincinnati in 1964 after graduating from the University of Florida. Bob was employed as an analytical chemist for Procter and Gamble. They rented a house in south Greenhills where new neighborhoods were developing. They became familiar with Messiah through Interim Pastor Nordieck's son, Herb, and within the first week, Pastor Kettner visited. Cherry has been a member of Messiah ever since! If you want to know anything about the history of Messiah, ask Cherry!

Cherry is particularly fond of the organ, and attends the traditional service on Sundays at 8:30. As a musician herself, she appreciated the many superb musicians blessing Messiah's worship services. She sang in the choir for many years and accompanied the Sunday School.

In past years Cherry served as president of Messiah's Women's Guild, Sunday School and VBS teacher. When Messiah started a preschool, Cherry was one of the first teachers, and taught for 10 years. Additionally, Cherry produced the Sunday bulletins for Pastor Kettner and was typist, interviewer and editor of the Messenger.

Cherry says "the old saying that 'you retire to go to the doctor' is very true." Medical appointments and therapy sessions consume a lot of her time following recent surgeries. Although retired, she enjoys many activities, including the Cincinnati Ballet and the Broadway performances, and Museum organ concerts as well as membership in the Cincinnati Woman's Club.

Cherry was born in Kentucky and lived in Bardstown, the town today known as the "Bourbon Capitol" of the U.S. Upon moving to West Palm Beach, Florida, she graduated from West Palm Beach High School where she played clarinet in the band and was piano accompanist for the Girls' Choir and the school's Broadway production each year. On campus at the University of Florida, Cherry was in the Gator Band and worked student jobs as typist and secretary. She graduated with a B.S. in Business Education and after moving to Cincinnati reared two very active daughters, both Messiah members (Leslie Schultz and Carole Baldwin). Cherry worked for two attorneys (Al Mangels being one) and then 16 years as Secretary to the Dean of the College of DAAP at the University of Cincinnati. Currently Cherry is cleaning out "stuff" that has accumulated over 60 years in the house she and Bob built in 1966.

Cherry's interests include family activities (5 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren), travel (49 countries and all 50 states), needlecraft, music, art, photography, reading, gardening, Chihuly glass, Russian history and Native American Indian history and culture. Cherry is her real given first name- named for the founder and president of Kentucky Western University, John Cherry. Not only is Cherry a wealth of experience, she is an example of faithful service to Messiah.



Lord preserve and protect those affected by recent flooding and soothe the grieving.

Here are the options to support Texas in their recovery efforts.

- Thrivent Members can make a private donation through the donation portal on their website, and 100% of the donation will go to the organization, plus \$1 for every \$2 donated. There are 3 organizations to search for on that platform - Austin Disaster Relief Network, Convoy of Hope, and TEXSAR (Texas Search and Rescue). Simply log into your Thrivent Account and click the banner at the top that says **Support those affected by the Texas floods. Go here to learn more.**
- A Thrivent Member can also apply for an Action Team Card to create a fundraising event. Action Teams dedicated to this particular cause will be expedited.
- Donate through Messiah, either through Vanco or by check. Those donations can either be made to the Ohio District or the Texas District. Harold will hold those donations until they are ready for them.
- Donate directly to the Texas District by going to <https://txlcms.org/>
- Donate to Matthew 25 Ministries and designate the Texas Flood as the specific purpose for your donation. <https://donatenow.networkforgood.org/matthew25ministries>
- Donate to the Salvation Army. 100% of the donation goes to the cause (no administrative fee) Go to <https://www.salvationarmyusa.org/> and click **Ways to Give**.
- Lutheran World Relief. Go to www.lwr.org and click on the red banner that says **TEXAS FLOODS: You can rush help to neighbors. Give Now**



Book Club will meet on August 24 at 2:30 at Messiah, hosted by **Becky Coffey**. The book is titled "The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian" by **Sherman Alexie** and tells the story of Junior, a 14-year-old Spokane Indian boy living on a reservation, who decides to leave the reservation school for a predominantly white high school in a nearby town. There will be extra copies in the church office. Come join us!



Tri-County SOUL Ministries – we are once again in need of hearty soups as fall approaches. Any brand and flavor is appreciated! Don't forget to keep saving your grocery bags for the pantry.



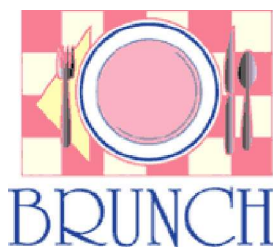
Wednesday Ladies' Bible Study will resume on August 6th.



OWLS still on summer break but will resume September 16



HELP WANTED:— Can you turn on a computer? Can you press the down arrow on a keyboard? If you answered yes to these questions, you have the skills required to help Messiah in our weekly worship services. The A/V (Soundboard) team is looking for some additional volunteers to help out advancing the slides during the services. We wouldn't just drop you in without support, but would teach you everything you need to know by shadowing one of our existing experts until you feel comfortable. If you're looking to become more involved in our ministry, please reach out to **Chris Berndt** (berndt_chris@yahoo.com) and we can get you started.



Remember to Join us for the
Summer Brunch on August 17
during the Education Hour (9:30
–10:30) for a time of fellowship
and good food



The LWML convention was fun, informative, and uplifting beginning with the opening worship service. The music, message, and communion were very moving. Singing and reciting liturgy with around 3000 others is overwhelming to me as I think about "the great cloud of witnesses".

One of the highlights was to hear Kelly Bristow give a report on the Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch. Many of us got to know her when she served as DCE at Prince of Peace. Mission grant reports are always a great part of the agenda.

The new mission grant goal is \$2,622,270! 33 grants have been approved. You can see them all at <https://www.lwml.org/mission-grants>. Two of the more unusual grants were for a shower trailer and a laundry trailer to be used for natural disasters here in the U.S.

2025 Outreach Calendar

Sept	Greenhills Coop Preschool Meet the Teacher Night
Sept 10	Prince of Peace Dinner
Sept	Reception for Members over 90
Oct 18	Messiah Oktoberfest Community Meal
Oct 22	Prince of Peace Oktoberfest Style Dinner
Oct 25	Greenhills HarvestFest
Nov 4	General Election - Snacks & Poll Worker Lunch
Nov 19	Prince of Peace Pre-Thanksgiving Dinner
Dec 5	Light-up Greenhills on the Commons
Dec 10	Prince of Peace Dinner



From Family Ministry

Sunday School:

Ages 3 through high school meet together each Sunday. We sing together, learn a Bible lesson, and often have a craft or other activity. We will not meet when there is brunch following the early service.



Our July
Summer
Brunch.
Plan to join
us for
Summer
Brunch on
August 17



Music

Many thanks to everyone who sang or played for our July Voluntaries.

August music is being planned. Most Saturdays and Sundays are still open. If you would like to play or sing a solo or duet, please let me know. If you've never sung in a group before and would like to learn, I can help with that! Singers are also needed for our contemporary service.

If you would like to play handbells in the coming months, please let me know. I'd especially like to have bells play for Advent and Christmas.

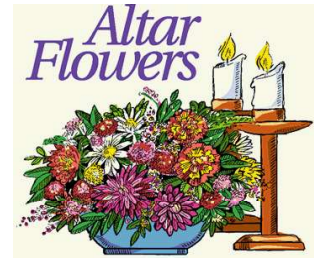
For more information, contact Cathy Carson (513-824-1241) or cathycarson82@gmail.com





2 Cecil Rahe
4 Ella Valerius
5 Debbie Horner
7 Beth Clements
7 Gary Logsdon
8 Katheryn Priebe
9 Owen Valerius
11 Doris Poore
16 Joan Rieger
17 Ethan Daugherty
20 Charlie Neffle
21 Elsie Gottula
21 Meaghan Harrison
23 Bodhi Weikert
24 Jonathan Wingo
27 Michael Rottinghaus
29 Luke Stroeh
30 Megan Rutz
31 Bianca Horner

1 David and Emily Rottinghaus
10 Jason and Sarah Farler
10 Jeff and Beth Reupert
12 Harold and Bev Roppel
23 Darrel and Irene Doran
25 Larry and Jackie Bird
25 Gregg and Carol Dupps



Altar Flowers

The following families have signed up for August:

Mueller/Valerius, Degenhardt, Rice, Schultz, Bird, Baldwin

Please remit your payment of **\$40**

**"MESSIAH
ALTAR
SOCIETY"**

and place in the
Altar Society mailbox
in the church office.

Thank You!

**The flowers must be paid for
before the order is placed**

"Pie of Life"

Ingredients:

3 tablespoons disappointments
1 cup trials
2 cups unanswered questions
1 cup lack of sleep
2 cups misunderstandings
5 teaspoons insecurity

Instructions:

Mix together and realize you cannot handle it another moment
Tell Jesus you accept the bitter taste
Thank Him for taking it when He took that bitter cup at His death
Generously allow Him to slather grace, healing and mercy overall
Let set, absorb in wonder and taste the goodness of the Lord

You will notice the sting of unfairness has left and find yourself coming back for liberal servings of this soothing concoction that is sure to satisfy you.

Messenger Deadline for the September

issue is

August 15.

Send articles to clherron1@gmail.com

August 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 8:00am Men's Prayer Breakfast 9:00am Elders 5:30pm Traditional Communion Service
3 8:30am Traditional Communion Worship Service 9:45am Education Hour 10:45am Contemporary Communion Service Noon Stephen Ministry	4	5	6 10:30am Ladies Bible Study	7	8	9 9:00am Leadership Board 5:30pm Traditional Communion Service
10 8:30am Traditional Communion Worship Service 9:45am Education Hour 10:45am Contemporary Communion Service	11	12	13 10:30am Ladies Bible Study	14	15	16 5:30pm Traditional Communion Service
17 8:30am Traditional Communion Worship Service 9:45am Summer Brunch 10:45am Contemporary Communion Service	18	19 12:30pm No Owls	20 10:30am Ladies' Bible Study	21	22	23 5:30pm Traditional Communion Service
24 8:30am Traditional Communion Worship Service 9:45am Education Hour 10:45am Contemporary Communion Service Noon Stephen Ministry 2:30pm Book Club	25	26	27 10:30am Ladies' Bible Study	28	29	30 5:30pm Traditional Communion Service
31 8:30am Traditional Communion Worship Service 9:45am Education Hour 10:45am Contemporary Communion Service						