



## *Echoes From the Past, 3* by Pastor Glenn Huebel

**Introduction:** After arriving in Keller, Texas on a very hot day in July, 1980 (still the hottest summer on record) Marcia and I labored to find housing within our severely limited budget. Absolutely nothing had been done to start this congregation with the exception of a fund (\$30,000) collected by Peace Lutheran Church in Hurst, and a call extended to me by the Texas District to plant a congregation in Keller. My first order of business was, therefore, to gather families to start a Lutheran mission congregation. I managed to recruit 10 -15 Lutheran families in the area to be the core group. Though I visited each home and tried to explain who I was and what the congregation would look like under my pastoral direction (doctrinally conservative and mission oriented), we had a long way to go to establish an identity as a confessional Lutheran Church. The preaching, which began on Sunday, November 2, began to identify for many what "confessional Lutheran" meant. The preaching also began to do what the Word of Christ always does – divide the hearers. Some were offended – even by such fundamental doctrines as the exclusiveness of salvation in Christ alone. But others were attracted by the message and tone of the preaching. As a young pastor I was surprised and deeply disturbed by the division which appeared to be centering on me. I was raised in a small conservative Lutheran church, and I didn't fully realize that many had moved away from that model. Every time someone walked away it was like a dagger in my heart. I did not fully understand until much later that this painful experience was predictable and probably unavoidable. I learned quickly that Christ's Word is inevitably divisive as it goes forth in the world. Preaching that avoids controversy is not the preaching Christ commands. After a while, we established a reputation as a very different kind of Lutheran congregation in this area. We earned such labels as "old fashioned," "traditional," "rigid," ... and sometimes much worse. While our growing reputation kept many away, it continued to attract those who were looking for Biblical preaching, teaching and practice, who came to seek refuge within our walls. Some of our critics in those days identified confessional theology and practice as "legalistic." No true Lutheran pastor will rest easy with that accusation – it cuts to the quick. I began to realize, however, that definitions were changing. Pastors who were easy-going, friendly, tolerant, and willing to compromise on doctrine and practice were considered "Gospel oriented." Those who held tightly to the Word and refused to compromise on doctrine and practice were considered "legalistic." In other words, these descriptions had begun to be defined in social terms rather than theological terms of law and gospel distinction. Did one expect to hear legalistic, work-righteous sermons from "hard-nosed conservatives"? The sermon below was the one I preached on November 9, 1980, my second Sunday in the pulpit at Keller Lutheran Mission (we did not yet have the name, Messiah). Does this kind of preaching attract self-righteous Pharisees or poor, miserable sinners who hunger and thirst for Christ's righteousness?

### GOOD NEWS FOR SINNERS

Text: Exodus 34:5—9  
11/9/80

Pentecost 24  
Secondarily Sermon at Messiah

**Exodus 34:5—9:** <sup>5</sup>The LORD descended in the cloud and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the LORD. <sup>6</sup>The LORD passed before him and proclaimed, "The LORD, the LORD, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, 'keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, but who will by no means clear the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children and the children's children, to the third and the fourth generation.'" <sup>8</sup>And Moses quickly bowed his head toward the earth and worshiped. <sup>9</sup>And he said, "If now I have found favor in your sight, O Lord, please let the Lord go in the midst of us, for it is a stiff-necked people, and pardon our iniquity and our sin, and take us for your inheritance."

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*That you may believe that Jesus is the Christ,  
the Son of God, and that by believing  
you may have life in His name. —John 20:31*

What a vale of tears this life can be for the Christian! The Scriptures say “the whole creation groans and travails in pain together until now, waiting for its redemption.” Even if we are not called to suffer for Christ at the hands of men, we must all suffer the pangs of our own conscience which can be a heavy burden. Before a person becomes a Christian, he is often oblivious to his own sinful corruption. By faith he is enlightened by the Holy Spirit and becomes painfully aware of how sinful he really is. It’s a common experience.

God calls us to be loyal, devoted followers of Him, loving Him above all others and yet we confess that we have not loved and trusted Him completely. We have often worried and sought help in other sources. We are idolaters. God calls us to hear His word, to treasure it, to honor it, to regard it as sacred, and yet we confess that we have often despised his Word. We have, at times, not gladly heard it, but indeed let it pass without the slightest bit of our attention. We know, again that we should love our neighbor, help him in every need, but in our hearts we sometimes harbor bitterness and anger and jealously against him. We know that we should honor and uphold his reputation but with our lips we speak against him. We experience the same tension as Paul ... “the good that I would do that I do not, but the evil that I would not do, that I do.” We WANT to be holy, but each day, each hour, sin drags us under. At times we experience the grief of David when he cried “My sins are ever before me. They are more than the hairs on my head.” To you who have experienced these frustrations and sorrows the words of our text should be like a sweet medicine, for today I will speak to you who are burdened:

#### GOOD NEWS FOR SINNERS

- I. Let me show you that GOD HAS OPENED HIS HEART OF MERCY AND COMPASSION TO YOU
- II. Let me invite you earnestly to COME TO HIS THRONE OF GRACE, AND TRUST IN HIS MERCY

##### I.

The words of our text are comforting in and of themselves, but their true value is perceived only when one understands the context in which God spoke them. This event occurred soon after the children of Israel were delivered from the bonds of Egypt. The Israelites had directly seen God’s almighty power at work on their behalf repeatedly. God plagued Egypt with ten separate mighty plagues before the Egyptians allowed the Israelites to go freely. And not only had God taken these people out from Egypt with his mighty power, but they left with all the treasures of Egypt. Then God used his power to protect the Israelites from the Pharaoh’s army. He stood between the Pharaoh and the Israelites in the pillar of cloud and the pillar of fire. Then He opened before them the Red Sea and led them across it on dry land. He used the same path to drown the entire Egyptian army. They had seen many of the most dazzling miracles in all of Scripture in that short period of time.

They were led immediately to Mt. Sinai to receive God’s holy law. At that sacred Mountain they saw more evidences of God’s amazing power. The mountain was covered with a thick cloud and it thundered and quaked, and the people heard a loud trumpet and the voice of God Himself. Moses was called to ascend the mount to receive God’s law. With all of this evidence and this mighty deliverance, one would think that these Israelites, anyway, would have remained forever faithful to their God. But Moses stayed too long for them – a whole 40 days! And the Israelites grew impatient. They induced Aaron to make for them a golden calf that they could worship in the place of their might God, and they began to indulge themselves in sinful pleasures and wickedness. In spite of all this evidence of God’s presence and power, they turned away from Him and rejected Him.

Moses was angry with them and he broke the tablets which the Lord gave to him. The Lord’s wrath burned against them and He threatened to destroy them and to make another nation for Moses. But Moses, as a type of Christ, interceded for his people and turned His wrath away. God said He would send an angel to lead them, but that He would no longer go in the midst of them. Moses again interceded and God promised again to go in the midst of the children of Israel. He directed Moses to go into the mountain to receive the 10 commandments again - and that is the setting in which the events of our text occur.

Against this background of sin and rebellion the wonderful words of our text are properly understood, “And the Lord descended in a cloud and stood with him there and proclaimed the God who is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, and abundant in kindness and faithfulness, who keeps mercy for thousands, forgiven iniquity and transgression and sin.” What a precious text for rebellious sinners! Here God revealed Himself to Moses and to the Israelites. He opened His heart of grace to them. Consider the adjectives which God uses to describe Himself. He is a compassionate God – a God who is moved by pity and sympathy for those in need. He is a gracious God. Graciousness is kindness and good will toward the miserable and afflicted, joined with a desire to relieve them. He is slow to anger – patient with the weakness of men, willing to forgive, not desiring to punish. He is rich in kindness and faithfulness – He remains faithful to His promises no matter what. What a precious revelation to a sinful and disobedient nation. God says He will not deal with them according to their sins, for His heart is full of compassion, mercy and forgiveness. It is a revelation which Israel grasped. We hear its echo throughout the Old Testament, especially in the Psalms. “A God compassionate and gracious, slow to anger and plenteous in kindness and faithfulness.”

My friends, can we not identify with these sinful people of Israel? These were not heathens – they were God’s own people, His Church. They had fallen into sin and

*(Continued on page 3)*

rebellion. Do we not stand before Mt. Sinai and God's holy law just as they did? - guilty of sin and rebellion against God? Isn't it true that "we all like sheep have gone astray, everyone to his own way?" But there is good news for us sinners. God has not changed. His heart remains the same. He has descended to us and has opened His heart to us as He has to the whole world.

He opened his heart to us in His Son, Jesus Christ. Anyone who wishes to see what the heart of God is must see Him in the face of Jesus Christ. In Christ he has revealed His grace to us completely. John says "No man has seen God at any time. The only begotten son of God, He has revealed Him." And what kind of God do we see in Christ - a God who deals with us according to our iniquity? A God who justly burns in wrath against a disobedient people? A God who hates sinners? No! In Christ we see "a God, compassionate and gracious, slow to anger and plenteous in kindness and faithfulness." We see a God who is so full of mercy and pity that He humbled himself to be born of a virgin, to become a servant of men, and to die a criminal's death on the accursed cross. We see a God who is forever reaching out to sinful mankind, a God who congregates with sinners, who invites Himself into the home of the sinful cheater, Zachaeus, and preaches mercy to him. He is a God who "preaches the gospel to the poor, heals the broken-hearted, preaches deliverance to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind and sets at liberty them that are bruised." He is a God who weeps over Jerusalem and at the grave of Lazarus. He wants us to know His heart. "God commends His love for us in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." That is the heart of God that we see in Jesus.

## II

As God opened His heart to the Israelites, He has opened His heart to us. ***Let me encourage you then to follow Moses example and thrust yourself upon this mercy.***

Moses was encouraged and inspired by this wonderful revelation of God's merciful heart. He quickly responded in worship. God's message emboldened him to intercede in behalf of himself and his people on the basis of God's mercy. "If now I have found grace in Thy sight, O Lord, let my Lord, I pray thee, go among us, for it is a stiff-necked people, and pardon our iniquity and our sin, and take us for your possession." Moses thrust himself upon the mercy of God which he had just revealed. He responded to God by confessing the sins and wickedness of his people and bringing these to His throne for forgiveness. He did not petition God on the basis of his own goodness or the merit of his people but on the mercy and kindness of God alone.

God's revelation of His merciful heart is a kind invitation to you. He invites and urges you, like Moses, to respond to His grace with worship and to bring your burdens before His throne of grace. I have shown you the heart

of God as He has revealed it in His word. I am not painting for you a make-believe god, a god created from my own selfish imagination. This is the true God, the God of heaven and earth. I speak in His place as His ambassador, and by His own commandment when I say to you that His heart is opened, His mercy and kindness is abundant. He is ready to pardon your sins. Don't delay. You who are burdened with a guilty conscience now. You who are plagued with your sins. You who fear death and the day of judgment. You who fear his wrath - know that your God is merciful and gracious. He desires not the death of the sinner. He will not turn you away. Jesus invites you, "come ye you who labor and are laden and I will give you rest." He promises "He that comes to me I will in no wise cast out." Don't wait until you have something to offer Him - you never will. Come boldly while His gates are open. Confess your sins and thrust yourself completely on His mercy as Moses did.

But beware of despising His grace—for those who despise His mercy, God has only warnings of wrath and punishment. We despise His mercy when we come before Him, not as the publican who trusted in His mercy alone, but as the Pharisee who trusted in his own righteousness. We despise His grace when we use it as an excuse to sin, when we sin willfully, persistently and unashamedly after coming to the knowledge of the truth. He warns those who refuse to confess their guilt, who continue impenitently in sin that He will not count them guiltless. He will indeed, "visit their iniquity upon them," punish them, and not only will he punish them, but will take the guilt of the father and place it upon the children and grandchildren and the great grandchildren of all those who refuse to repent. May these words of the law always serve to remind our unruly flesh that the wrath of God is no idle threat. Let us continually hide in the wounds of our Savior who suffered under that wrath that we may not have to.

Lord God, keep us ever mindful of our sins that we may never despise your mercy. Shine the light of the Gospel into our hearts that we may be bold to come to Your throne of grace, trusting that You are "a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger and plenteous in kindness and faithfulness. Go among us, O Lord, for we are a stubborn people. Pardon our iniquity and our sin and take us for Your possession through the merits of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.



# ***“Forget Not All His Benefits”*** by Pastor Tom Chryst

1 Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
and all that is within me,  
bless his holy name!  
2 Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
and forget not all his benefits,  
3 who forgives all your iniquity,  
who heals all your diseases,  
4 who redeems your life from  
the pit,  
who crowns you with steadfast  
love and mercy,  
5 who satisfies you with good  
so that your youth is renewed  
like the eagle's.

Psalm 103:1-5



3. He Redeems Your Life from the Pit  
Take the picture of Joseph, who was thrown in the pit and sold into slavery, but blessed by God nonetheless with success in all he did. Be thankful for this benefit: that God brings us out of the depths of our sin, out of the very jaws of death and hell, and redeems us – buys us back, to be His own. **Let us be thankful!**

4. He Crowns You with Love and Mercy

But he doesn't just set us “back to normal”. Believers in Christ are promised a crown! We are made members of a royal family. But the treasure that is upon us isn't made of gold or silver, but it is the love and mercy of God. A far greater treasure! **Let us be thankful!**

5. He Satisfies You with Good

You have enough – always enough – in Him. There is nothing that you need that you aren't given. And He doesn't just give “fair” or “so-so”. But like his creation when He made it, what God provides is “good”. **Let us be thankful!**

6. Your Youth is Renewed Like the Eagle's

That is to say, like the strength of the Eagle – one of the most powerful creatures – you, too, though old and feeble, though weighed down with the burdens of sin and all its effects – you, too, will be refreshed, renewed, made vigorous and full of life and health and strength. **Let us be thankful!**

All of these are His “benefits”. They are added to us, free of charge, in Christ. They are the gifts God gives to all people, freely, for the sake of Christ. We can all include such things in our remembrance of “all His benefits”.

But what about you, personally? Why not also ponder the particular benefits God has given you? How has He blessed you this year, in particular? With a new job? A new child? Good health? Some personal achievement or improvement? Or perhaps He's kept disaster away, and preserved for you ongoing temporal blessings. Whatever they are, it's good for Christians, from time to time, to enumerate and evaluate the blessings God bestows – in order to cultivate a grateful mindset and a thankful heart.

And together, at Messiah, let us count our blessings as a congregation:

1. We are a congregation where Christ is proclaimed freely and forcefully, Law and Gospel are clear, and where the sacraments are administered so that sinners receive all His benefits. The Gospel is among us! It's our reason for existing as a congregation, and it is no small treasure! We are living proof that a congregation can be faithful, traditional, and distinctly Lutheran and still thrive. **Let us be thankful!**

Probably because it is harvest-time, November has become the month of the year in which our culture especially emphasizes “giving thanks”. The national holiday known as “Thanksgiving” is just an expression of this impulse. And while it is a secular sentiment, we Christians can certainly agree. Even more, we know the true Giver of all good gifts. We know the greatest gifts He gives – all the treasures of heaven that come to us by faith in Jesus Christ.

While the secular world might encourage us to “be thankful”, and a Christian can certainly do that, perhaps these words of Scripture are even more fitting: “forget not all his benefits”. In other words, our thanksgiving has an object. We aren't just thankful in general, but we remember both the benefit AND the one who gives it.

Just as no human being can fully appreciate and understand how sinful we are (“who can know his errors?”), so also we are unable to fully appreciate and understand how great are the mercies of God. We could go on, indefinitely, remembering his benefits, counting our blessings, cataloguing all the good things God has made for us, and given to us. All of creation would be included! But also the new creation that is in Christ. And here the Psalmist puts it beautifully:

David's list of God's “benefits” to us includes:

1. He Forgives Your Iniquity

The forgiveness of sins is the chief benefit of the Gospel, the foundation of our faith, the number one blessing that all Christians have in Jesus. It was the same for David, who lived a thousand years before Jesus was even born! And it is the same for us 2000 years after. **Let us be thankful!**

2. He Heals All Your Diseases

Any healing we do have, in this life, is a gift and mercy of God. But how can David say God heals “all” your diseases? Perhaps David sees even beyond the grave, to the resurrection and the life to come, where God will, indeed, wipe every tear from our eyes – and no more disease, or suffering, or death can harm us. **Let us be thankful!**



2. We have an excellent school, in which great things are happening!
- A qualified, dedicated and caring Christian faculty and staff
  - Many families who bring us their children and entrust them to our care
  - Daily enrichment in the Word of God as well as excellent classical education
  - A new technology lab established in memory of our dear brother Rick Liddle
  - A determined School Board that is forward-looking and responsive to the challenges we face
  - Growing enrollment, especially among the younger classes - a positive sign for future stability
- For our school, **let us be thankful!**

3. While growth has slowed from the very rapid pace Messiah enjoyed for many years, Keller is still growing, and likely will for some time. Texas, and the DFW metroplex are attractive, and many people are moving to the area. Messiah is far from the path of decline. We continue to welcome visitors almost every Sunday, and many of them become members of our congregation, joining their hands to ours at the plow. The opportunities are before us! **Let us be thankful!**

4. Congregational giving has increased, and remains strong. Our Treasurer reports that last year was one of our "best years" in terms of giving. This, I believe, was in response to a simple appeal from our congregation leaders. We have a generous congregation that responds to needs! We've also received some unexpected gifts at the passing of dear members who have remembered Messiah in their will. For all of this, **let us be thankful!**

5. We have been blessed by the faithful ministry of an excellent shepherd these 37+ years. And while we now face a transition as he retires, we have the joy of celebrating the blessings that God has bestowed through the ministry of Pastor Huebel. This year, let us particularly give thanks for this wonderful servant through whom God has served and prospered His people in this place. **Let us be thankful!**

Surely, this list, too, could go on and on. But like the Psalmist, we must stop somewhere. I hope and pray we all cultivate gratitude for the many blessings God bestows on us – in Christ, and in creation, as individuals and as members of a greater body, and also as a local congregation called Messiah. Let us join with David and "Forget not all His benefits". **Let us be thankful, now and always, in Jesus Christ our Lord.**

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## ***Vocations in Life – Parenting/Grand Parenting Series***

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Grandparents can be a blessing in raising grandchildren in the faith. All through a child's life you can help teach and guide this young life. For parents this can be a welcomed resource to lighten the load from time to time. In our current society, it is rare to have a multi-generation family living in the same general area. It is even rarer if they worship in the same church. So, the challenge here is the devil taking a blessed situation and turning it into conflict within the family. Prayer with good communications between the parents and grandparents is essential to a common understanding of the goals for the grandchildren. For grandparents, good, kind, gentle counsel and humbleness is appreciated.

Our hope and prayer is your child/children would value you the parent and grandparent as a trusted counselor. Your actions and prayers are just important now as when they were younger. The focus of your

prayers may change but the need for prayer does not. Truly it is a blessing to keep your family flock together.

At some point in your adult life, your focus may expand from the younger generation to the older generation, too. As your parents grow older, they may need care from you and your children. There can be some pretty heavy burdens to bear. It is ok to confide with the pastors what these burdens are. Otherwise, how will the congregation know and provide spiritual support. This is also a time for teaching your children no matter what their age is. Your actions will speak loud and clear.

An important goal is for our child to recognize their sinful nature causes us to focus on ourselves. We see this particularly in the early stages of life. Think about your childhood and youth. We have to be taught to focus outward instead of inward. In the Christian faith we are taught

about grace and not rejecting the faith.

God has given us His Word, the sacraments and good works for us to do. Just look at the funeral service in the Lutheran hymnal. The focus of the service will not be on us. It will be on God's law and gospel. So, even in death God has created a good work for us. People will have an opportunity for their faith to be strengthened or to learn of God's love through grace. Praise be to God from whom all blessing flow!

(to be continued)





*"I loved **Borghardt and Wolfmueller** because their classes were interactive and educational. I love the knowledge I take away from the Higher Things breakaways." -JB*

Higher Things occurs in multiple locations every summer with a new theme. This year's theme was "Sanctified." This Christ-centered themed session allows for continued catechetical training for our confirmed youth. During the four plenary sessions, our host speakers taught about the Ten Commandments. At our Kansas location, Pastor Fenker and Pastor Wolfmueller stayed on topic and helped edify our youth by defining how to love God in today's world. They defined love according to God's standards and armed our youth with the Sword of Truth. Here is what our youth had to say when asked to describe this year's plenary speakers and topic with one word: Reassuring, Interesting, Eye-Opening, Love, Informative, Educational, Revealing, and Applicable.

After all attendees open their morning together with Matins and receive catechetical training, each youth determines a break away session of his/her choice. The variety of sessions available each occur twice to give the youth the opportunity to plan out their schedule around their interests. Our youth had two chances to attend six of the 47 different topics. Although it is always challenging to narrow down the topics options, most sessions pull at the children's interest because of the description or teacher leading the presentation. Here are some more comments from our youth:

## **500 years: From Reformation to...This???**

By Rev Dr. Ascher

*This class was super helpful to see all the different denominations laid out and how they were all connected to the beginning of the church with St. Paul. -AB*

## **The Three Realms** by Rev. Cholak

*I learned how all three kingdoms/realms went somewhat hand-in-hand and how our personal vocation fits into it. -OB*

*This class was good...because Pastor Cholak is a good teacher. I learned it was not good for Adam to be alone in the Garden of Eden he was lonely. -JB*

*Pastor Cholak is very energetic and interactive. He focuses on small details.*

## **Why are you Lutheran?** By Rev Dr. Bogs

*This breakaway helped give me points to quickly and clearly explain why I am Lutheran and why I believe it. -BC*

## **Suicide, What does the Bible say?**

By Rev Wolfmueller

*Wolfmueller gave many examples of suicide from history and our Bible. He explained the negatives of suicide. -BC*

This breakaway simplified suicide and showed directly how the Bible was against it and how it contradicted every other religions out there.

Stay tuned next month for more information on our Higher Things Youth Trip!



# ***MLCA Thanks-Giving-BACK*** by Principal Betsy Kirk

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It is with a thankful heart that I send out this announcement! MLCA students, from our tiniest in the 2's class, through eighth grade, have decided to forego our traditional Thanksgiving parties and instead "Give back" to the Keller Community. Each class has chosen a charity and is collecting items that will help each charity meet the needs of their clientele. Please feel free to join us as we collect items in the front lobby of the school (outside the school office) to be delivered the week of Thanksgiving.

## Helping Hands Thankful Hearts!

### ***A "Thanks-Giving-BACK" Celebration***

**Preschool Students** are collecting donations for our **Swaddling Clothes ministry.**

- ◆ Baby Wipes
- ◆ Diapers (all sizes are welcome, but especially larger sizes)
- ◆ Pull Ups
- ◆ New and Gently used clothes in sizes **24 mo – 5T**

**Kindergarten and First Grade** are making homemade cards and paying a visit to **Heritage House of Keller.**

- ◆ Card stock Paper: All colors and white, too!
- ◆ Scrapbook paper pads
- ◆ Markers
- ◆ Glitter glue
- ◆ Stamp pads
- ◆ Thanksgiving Stickers
- ◆ Christmas stickers
- ◆ Alphabet or Letter stickers
- ◆ Glue Dots

**Second Grade** is gathering items for "Birthday Boxes for the **Keller Community Storehouse.**

Each Birthday Box Kit\* will contain the following:

- ◆ Cake mix
- ◆ Balloons
- ◆ Frosting
- ◆ Party Hats
- ◆ Sprinkles
- ◆ Birthday Card
- ◆ Juice
- ◆ Happy Birthday Banner
- ◆ Candles
- ◆ Disposable Foil Cake Pan
- ◆ Cake Plates
- ◆ Napkins
- ◆ Paper Cups
- ◆ Plastic Forks

\*please box the items in gender neutral colors

**Third Grade** is doing a book drive for the Cook Children's Hospital library

- ◆ New Hard Cover Books
- ◆ New Soft Cover Books
- ◆ New Books
- ◆ New Books
- ◆ And more NEW BOOKS!

**Fourth and Fifth Grades** are collecting items for the **Keller Police and Fire Departments.**

- ◆ Chili "Meal Kit" Items can include all of the non-perishable "fixin's" for a Chili meal for 6 Firefighters
- ◆ Taco "Meal Kit" Items can include all of the non-perishable "fixin's" for a Taco meal for 6 Firefighters
- ◆ Stew "Meal Kit" Items can include all of the non-perishable "fixin's" for a Pot of Stew type meal for 6 Firefighters
- ◆ Spaghetti "Meal Kit" Items can include all of the non-perishable "fixin's" for a Chili meal for 6 Firefighters

**Sixth through Eighth Grades** are collecting Thanksgiving food for the Keller Community Storehouse. They will also be volunteering their time at their Keller storefront location. They will be collecting:

- ◆ Canned Tuna
- ◆ Canned Fruit
- ◆ Canned mixed Vegetables
- ◆ Canned Beans
- ◆ Canned Green Beans
- ◆ Canned Yams
- ◆ Canned Cranberry Sauce
- ◆ Canned "Cream of" Soups
- ◆ 1lb bag of sugar
- ◆ Dry Stuffing Mix
- ◆ Canned Pumpkin Pie mix
- ◆ Evaporated Milk

Thank you for your donations and support! Have a blessed Thanksgiving season!

*MLCA Staff and Students*





## Messiah Lutheran Church & School

*The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod*

1308 Whitley Rd. Keller, TX 76248

Church Office: (817) 431-2345

Academy Office: (817) 431-5486

Sunday Worship: 8:00 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.

Sunday School & Adult Bible Class: 9:30 a.m.

Rev. Glenn Huebel, Senior Pastor  
Rev. Thomas Chryst, Associate Pastor

[www.messiahkeller.org](http://www.messiahkeller.org)



*Join us in singing praises to our God,  
from whom all blessings flow.*

## Thanksgiving Eve Worship

Wednesday, November 21  
7:00 p.m.

## #KeepingKellerClassical



## Miscellany (*/ˈmɪsəˌlənē/*) noun. —a mixture or collection of different things

- **The new office and library copy machines** have been installed. Most codes remain the same, but Sunday School, VBS, and the Youth will now use the Board of Ed code
- **Save the date:** the Huebels will be hosting an Open House on Sunday, December 2, from 2:00—5:00pm. Everyone is invited to drop in, have a Christmas cookie or two, and tour their newly rebuilt house. (Which will hopefully be finished by then!)
- If you are on/use Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram, **please like/follow us!** It's a painless way to help our church and school—and it really does help! #MLCATexas
- Phase 2 of the **library fundraiser with Schwans continues until Jan 2.** We receive 5% of each order. Use code 40105.
- Some of you read this last month...and some did not. So, here's a repeat: **Please check your church mailbox—and EMPTY IT if it's full!** We don't want to have to start charging for storage! :) Seriously, though, this is a major tool of church communication, and we need room in boxes to put the latest news.
- And another one that not everyone is reading: Lights are still occasionally left on in the building all night. **Please make sure to turn them all off** when you and your group leave in the evening.
- The **church calendar** fills up VERY quickly in December! If your group is planning an event, please make sure to check the calendar first.
- If you are having trouble **logging in to the member section** of our website, email Lesley Lara in the church office: [Lesley.Lara@messiahkeller.org](mailto:Lesley.Lara@messiahkeller.org)
- Lesley is also the contact person for the **Look Ahead emails.** If you are not receiving them, let her know.
- If you have **"Gifts in Kind" donations** for 2018 that you would like a tax receipt for, please turn the information in to Jinel Munoz by the end of the year.