



# An Appointment We Cannot and Should Not Ignore— by Pastor Glenn Huebel

We all have many appointments in life. Some are more important than others. We forget some of them and possibly ignore others, but most of them we either keep or reschedule in situations of conflict or emergency. In some cases, our appointments rise to a very high level of priority so that they will not be forgotten and nothing will be allowed to interfere with them. Such things as major surgery, an expensive air flight, or a wedding are a few such high-priority appointments that we cannot take lightly. But there is one appointment we ALL have that rises above all others. The Bible reminds us that we have an appointment with DEATH.

*It is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment.* (Hebrews 9:27)

The inspired writer refers, here, to physical death. We may not think of our death as an “appointment” because God has not revealed to us the day which He has fixed for the event, but He has determined it, for God numbered our

days before we were born (Psalm 139:16). Not only has God numbered our days, but He also implores us, through the Psalmist, to number them (Psalm 90:12). But how are we to number what we don’t know? He wants us to recognize our mortality and to live this life in recognition that it will end, and that our days ARE numbered (finite). When we so consider our days as compared to human history, and especially to the concept of eternity, we recognize that life is fleeting. It appears only for a moment and then passes away. Why should we reflect upon the appointment we have with death? We do so that we may consider our priorities in this brief pilgrimage; namely, that we may PREPARE for death.

Many, if not most people today, do not prepare for death, but rather deny it and ignore the reality, as if refusing to face it openly will make it go away. Jesus shows us how foolish this philosophy is in His parable about the rich man who depended upon his earthly wealth and was not rich toward God (Luke 12:13-21). When, on the other hand, we recognize that everything we collect in this world will be taken away from us at death, we are highly motivated to prepare for death. But how does one prepare for death? A few very wealthy people have prepared for the preservation of their corpses so that if science discovers how to reverse death they can be revived. Most people recognize that this is a silly waste of money by eccentric people. A few people prepare for death by trying to immortalize their names through historical achievements or even by

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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*

## An Appointment, cont.

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having their names placed on buildings, university chairs, philanthropic gifts, etc. Others prepare by trying to accomplish as many goals as possible in their short lives (bucket lists). But all of this is just mitigating the pain of death. God calls us to prepare in a far better way.

As we face the reality of our appointment with death, let us remember that what man, with all the collected wisdom of science, will never be able to do, GOD DID. God has conquered death and He is able to reverse it. He has done this ONLY through the incarnation, life, death, and resurrection of His Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ. The Bible says,

*Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil,<sup>15</sup> and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery. (Hebrews 2:14-15)*

Jesus gives us a wonderful and glorious promise: *"I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live,<sup>26</sup> and*

*everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die"* (John 11:25-26). Jesus uses the word "death" here in two ways. First, when He acknowledges we will die ("though he die"), He speaks of physical death. Then, when He speaks of "never" dying, He refers to eternal death. Though our bodies are appointed to die, that is not our end. Physical death is not the last word for a Christian. The Bible refers to it, both in the Old and New Testaments, as a "sleep" from which we will be awakened. Jesus refers to resurrection, and the power of resurrection is found only in Him. Why? Because He is the only "Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world" (John 1:29). It is sin that causes death. Only when the guilt of sin is removed can death be reversed and conquered. When Jesus died on the cross as the innocent Son of God bearing, by imputation, the sin of the world, He removed the curse of death. On the third day, God showed this by raising Him from the dead.

How does that help us? When we are connected to Him through baptism, we are united together with both His death and His

resurrection (Romans 6:3-4). That union of faith means that WE receive all the credit for His life, and that this means we follow Him from the grave to eternal glory through resurrection. Even as death has no dominion over Jesus, it no longer has dominion over those who are united to Him. "Christ has abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the Gospel" (2 Timothy 1:10). We are no longer slaves to death. We no longer even fear death, for we know that death cannot hold us in its grip. Christians can say with St. Paul, "Death is swallowed up in victory!" (1 Corinthians 15:52).

Preparation, then, means renouncing all that we have in this world (repentance) and living in the righteousness of Christ that comes through faith so that we may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, that by any means possible we may attain the resurrection of the dead." (Philippians 3:10)

We have an appointment with death, but through Christ we have another appointment, with salvation (1 Thessalonians 5:9). Thanks be to God who gives us the victory.

JESUS IS RISEN!

HE IS RISEN, INDEED!

ALLELUIA!

Pastor Glenn Huebel



# MLCA Update by Erika Mildred, Headmaster

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Spring brings about so much excitement and activity at MLCA! We hope that you can join us for many of the upcoming events listed below.

## Now Enrolling!

We are now enrolling for the 2015-2016 academic year! Classes are already beginning to fill, and space is limited to the first 18 scholars per class. This year, our program includes 2-year-olds through 10<sup>th</sup> grade.

## Annual Auction: Friday, April 24

Please join us for “An Enchanting Evening,” this year’s MLCA Auction. Tickets are now on sale each Sunday in between church services and also every day in the school office. See the invitation below for details.

## Spring Open House: Tuesday, May 5

MLCA will host its Spring Open House on Tuesday, May 5, from 5 – 7 p.m. Members of Messiah are cordially welcome to visit with teachers, see our classrooms, and enjoy scholar work and displays. If you know of anyone who is interested in learning more about the classical Christian program we offer, please invite them to come! Current MLCA families receive tuition referral credits for new families who enroll.

## Upcoming Events

Tuesday, April 14	K – 3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade Field Trip to the Fort Worth Zoo
Wed. & Thurs. , April 15 – 16	Preschool Yearbook Pictures
Monday, April 20	4 <sup>th</sup> – 9 <sup>th</sup> Grade Field Trip to the Perot Museum
Friday, April 24, 7 – 10 p.m.	MLCA Auction
Tuesday, May 5, 5 – 7 p.m.	Spring Open House
Friday, May 15, 6:30 p.m.	Night at the Academy (formerly known as History Faire)
Sunday, May 31	1 <sup>st</sup> Annual MLCA Golf Outing

God’s blessings to all of you in 2015! Thank you for all you do for **YOUR** Lutheran day school through prayers and support. MLCA truly is a mission about which we can all be excited here at Messiah!

Rejoicing in the Lord,

Erika Mildred  
Headmaster

*You are Cordially Invited*  
ANNUAL AUCTION FOR  
MESSIAH LUTHERAN CLASSICAL ACADEMY  
*An Enchanting Evening*

FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 2015  
7:00 — 10:00 P.M.

THE MARRIOTT SOLANA  
5 VILLAGE CIRCLE ~ WESTLAKE

TICKETS MAY BE PURCHASED FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE AND WILL BE SOLD IN THE NARTHEX ON SUNDAYS. CHECKS MAY BE MADE OUT TO MLCA.

*Ticket Information*  
\$55/PERSON  
\$105/COUPLE  
\$500/TABLE OF TEN  
EACH TICKET INCLUDES MEAL AND 1 DRINK TICKET.

*Menu*  
CHOICE OF SALMON OR BEEF  
GARDEN SALAD  
DESSERT  
CASH BAR



**Messiah Lutheran Church & School**

*The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod*

1308 Whitley Rd. Keller, TX 76248

Church Office: (817) 431-2345

Academy (Preschool-10th): (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. Steven Cholak, Assistant Pastor

Mrs. Erika Mildred, MLCA Headmaster

Mrs. Vicki Main, Kantor

Mrs. Shirleen Simek, Financial Director

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

## Swaddling Clothes



*The mission of Swaddling Clothes is to share the mercy of Christ with our neighbors through the gifts of clothing, food, friendship, and the forgiving Word of God.*

At 9:00 a.m. on April 11, just days away, our Swaddling

Clothes store will open its doors for the first time. We will be open every month on the second Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to noon.

Donations of infant and toddler clothing, etc. will always be needed. As our stock grows and is distributed, we will post our immediate needs on the little clothesline above the cradle in the narthex. Right now, our most pressing need is for diapers of all sizes. If you are able to help with this, it would truly be appreciated.

Messiah's Swaddling Clothes Director, Brittany Newton, and many volunteers have been working hard to get everything ready in time. We thank everyone who has assembled shelving, washed and sorted clothing, helped with our successful Lenten dinner fundraiser, and donated items for our store.

Please keep this fledgling ministry in your prayers—that we may be a blessing to the young women seeking our help and to their children.

For more information on this ministry and how you can help, contact Brittany Newton, [Brittany.newton@mlcatexas.org](mailto:Brittany.newton@mlcatexas.org)

*Our Swaddling Clothes Store opens on April 11!*



## Messiah Lutheran Classical Academy

A ministry of Messiah Lutheran Church (LC-MS)

1308 Whitley Road - Keller, Texas 76248

**NOW ENROLLING  
TWO YEARS OLD - TENTH GRADE**

*Classical Education ... Christian Worldview*

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

**817-431-5486**