



THE MESSENGER

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH – MISSOURI SYNOD (LCMS)

Rev. Peter W. Elliott, Pastor
Rachel Robins, Office Admin

September 2022

Vol. 81 No. 8

From the Desk of Pastor Elliott

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I thank my God in all my prayers for all of you. What a blessing it is to be here in Seattle! It is an exciting time. Bible study attendance is growing (you should come!), old friends are returning to church, and new faces are arriving. The Lord is blessing us richly, and it is a time for prayer but also for thanksgiving. We should thank God for the 75 years of blessings that He's given Messiah. Secondly, we should pray that the Lord would grow His Church. If Messiah grows, it won't be because "Pastor Elliott arrived"; rather, it will be because the Lord of the Church has used many people to plant, water, and grow the seed of His Word. It's all about the Word! The power for salvation is in the Word—did I mention Bible class?—for faith comes by hearing the Word of Christ. Luther says about the Reformation:

I simply taught, preached, and wrote God's Word; otherwise I did nothing. And while I slept, or drank Wittenberg beer with my friends Philip and Amsdorf, the Word so greatly weakened the papacy that no prince or emperor ever inflicted such losses upon it. I did nothing; the Word did everything... What do you suppose is Satan's thoughts when one tries to do the thing by kicking up a row? He sits back in hell and thinks: Oh, what a fine game the poor fools are up to now! But when we spread the Word alone and let it alone do the work, that distresses him. For it is almighty and takes captive the hearts, and when the hearts are captured, the work will fall of itself. (LW 51:77-78)

So, I ask that everyone to prioritize the Word, to prioritize attending Church and Bible class every week, and to prioritize devotions in your home. Then, in joy, we'll all sit back and watch what the Word can do!

A few things to remember... We have some open positions on Council and many other volunteer opportunities. Many hands make light work, so please volunteer. September 11th is Rally Day, and it'll be our last summertime joint service. Then, on September 18th,

we will return to our 8:00 am and 10:45 am Divine Services with Bible study in between for all ages. Finally, on October 9th we will have a joint service to celebrate Messiah's 75th Anniversary. Pastor Lassmann will be preaching. Pastor Mankin will not be able to attend, but this would be great opportunity to send him a note thanking God for his years of service.

In Christ,
Pastor Elliott

FROM THE OFFICE

THE NEXT MESSENGER DEADLINE IS SEPTEMBER 19, 2022
Please ensure your announcements/articles arrive at the church office by the date above if you would like them in the next Messenger. The Messenger deadline is the 3rd Monday of the month unless there is a holiday. Please place all messages and articles in the office mailbox located in the choir room or email them to office@messiahseattle.org.

NEW DIRECTORY: It's time for a new, updated directory, but the office has still not received update forms from many of our members. We are also looking for any current photo of yourself and the members of your household. Please submit this to the office as soon as possible so we can proceed with printing and mass distribution. Remember, **all faces in photos must fit in a square** and file formats must be **JPG, PNG, or PDF**.

Send your files to office@messiahseattle.org. If you have further questions regarding photos or need a different means of getting them to the office, please contact Rachel for assistance.

OPEN POSITION AVAILABLE: We are still seeking a new music director. Please send any recommendations to president@messiahseattle.org. Our final candidate will be someone who is available part-time, with great communication skills, and who is adept at overseeing choir and ensemble performances, in addition to

planning music selection in advance.

REMOVAL OF MEMBER PHONE NUMBERS FROM ARTICLES

Due to the high influx of scammers texting members who post their numbers in the announcements or the Messenger, it is Council's decision to remove all member phone numbers posted in these areas to curb this trend from continuing. All phone numbers for non-members listed for community events/notices will remain in the Messenger/bulletin. If you need to contact a member regarding an event, please refer to your paper directory or the online directory at Church360. It is acknowledged that that the most recent directory was printed in 2018 (and might be out-of-date), and folks are asked to please consider sharing their updated contact information using the forms provided on the coffee bar in the Narthex. Contact Mark Jorgensen for future details and if you have any additional questions at president@messiahseattle.org.

FROM THE TREASURER

Below is the 2022 Financial Summary through July:

- 2022 Spending Guide (SG) - prorated through July: \$312,979
- 2022 Actual Offerings/Income through July: \$255,526 (18% below SG)
- 2022 Actual Expenses through July: \$241,398 (23% below SG), including funds set aside for future use: \$38,500

The operating result through July is a surplus of \$14,128. However, Offerings remain below the Spending Guide for the year. Please remember in your prayers to thank the Lord for Messiah's blessings and pray for His continued gifts to sustain us through the year. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns: treasurer@messiahseattle.org

WAYS TO GIVE: In addition to cash or check there are online payment options available either through our website: <https://www.messiahseattle.org/stewardship> or by texting any amount to 206-745-4733. Please note that credit card transactions incur a 3% processing fee to Messiah, but the ACH payment option is free.

AN ADDITIONAL MESSAGE FROM THE TREASURER: The last few years have been challenging in many ways and that has been reflected in a downward trend in weekly giving.

Through the month of July, Offerings are 18% below the approved Spending Guide and about 12% below what we collected last year. We are blessed with savings from prior years and our expenses have come in below the Spending Guide, so we are fully capable of meeting all obligations. However, the downward trend in giving provides the opportunity to reflect on good stewardship and the joy that comes with freely giving back to the Lord.

St. Paul encouraged the believers in Corinth to "decide in their heart what to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." (2 Cor. 9:7). We look to the Gospel rather than the Law to guide our giving. It is not a requirement, but rather a joyful opportunity to give back a portion of that with which God has blessed us. As David prayed, "...Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand." (Chron. 29:14)

Proportional giving (a percentage of income) is a good practice as our finances can fluctuate. It is not about the amount we are able to give. A good example of this is the story of the widow, where Jesus observed the widow putting in her offering, which, in comparison with others was meager, yet elicited His highest praise because of the trust and thanks with which she gave (Luke 21:1-4).

Our offering is an act of Thanksgiving for the blessings we receive and a participation in the Word being preached throughout the world in the various missions we support. We have been richly blessed with faithful pastors and lay leaders. Each week we are blessed with receiving the Word, faithfully preached, and taught and Sacraments, faithfully administered.

As we head into Rally Day and get back into our normal patterns of daily life, let us prayerfully consider our many blessings and the joy and privilege we have to help proclaim the news of forgiveness and salvation found in Jesus Christ.

FROM THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

Greetings to the members of Messiah from the 75th Anniversary Committee!

We are fast approaching our celebration slated for Sunday, October 9th! We will begin with a combined single Divine Service with Holy Communion starting at 9:30 am. After that at 11:00 am, we will have a reception in the Fellowship Hall with a potluck light lunch. There

will also be numerous displays and activities all around the church, so that everyone can see and learn about our history, our members, and numerous current activities. The reception and food will allow for mingling and walking around the church, and spending time talking with the many people in attendance.

Here are a few reminders:

- Please provide any addresses of folks who need a USPS mailed (or e-mailed) invitation - put these in the box in the Narthex.
- Stay tuned for more information on the potluck.
 - We'll be asking all members to bring something
 - The food will be finger food, easy to eat while we mingle, and should be non-heated items
- There will be several items of memorabilia for you to take as a reminder of our celebration
 - More to come as those items become available
- Pastor Elliott will lead our Divine Service, Pastor Lassman will be preaching, and we've invited numerous dignitaries to attend

Please keep the Committee and our planning in your prayers and be ready for an exciting day of celebration of Messiah's 75 years of God's rich blessings!

If you have questions, please reach out to us via e-mail at 75anniv@messiahseattle.org.

In His Service,
Messiah 75th Anniversary Committee

MINISTRIES OF MESSIAH

SINGERS WANTED! – NOEL CHANNON

Choir rehearsals start up again September 1st at 7:00 pm sharp. We are always looking for singers, so if you'd like to join us, go for it. Our rehearsals are every Thursday, and we sing twice a month. Any questions, email me at nchannon6514@gmail.com.

MEN'S NIGHT OUT – BRIAN DANFORTH

Please join us on Monday, September 12th at 6:00 pm at Mandarin Gate, located at 10000 Aurora Ave N #14. Please RSVP to Brian Danforth.

MESSIAH WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY GROUP – ANN MELVIN

The group meets online 1st and 3rd Mondays at 7:30 pm. We finished Ephesians and will be starting a study exploring the history and scriptural basis of some of our favorite hymns. We will skip September 5th and start again on September 19th. Contact Ann Melvin at

annmelvin@comcast.net if you would like the zoom link or if you have any questions or comments.

QUILTING DAY – JEAN MINDEMANN

We will be meeting on September 28th at 9:30 am to make quilts for Lutheran World Relief. Bring your own lunch. No sewing experience necessary. If you have any questions, contact Jean.

HELP SUPPORT OUR FUNDRAISER! Have you seen the renovations in the parsonage? Beautiful, isn't it? But in light of good stewardship, it's time to make up the deficit accrued by this necessary and long overdue update to the parsonage. Our current goal is \$80,000 and so far we've raised **\$16,100!** That's awesome! We're off to a good start, but we still need your support. Be sure to watch the "temperature" raise over the next several weeks on the thermometer posted in the Narthex. Contributions can be made through incremental offerings, just be sure to label your envelope or check as "Parsonage Renovation." In addition to cash or checks, there is an online payment option available as well halfway down our Stewardship page at <https://www.messiahseattle.org/stewardship>. Have further questions regarding this fundraiser? Reach out to Mark at president@messiahseattle.org.

LWML OLYMPIC ZONE FALL RAY - Messiah is hosting the 2022 Olympic Zone Fall Rally on October 1st. Registration opens at 9:30 am, and program begins at 10:00 am. There is a \$4.00 entry fee. Please join speaker Paul Peterson from the Tacoma Seafarers' Association. He will discuss the mission there. A light lunch will be provided. Our in-gatherings will be filling boxes for the Seafarers' Center. A list of needs has been provided to each LWML society. Sue Hewitson is the contact for Messiah. For more information, please call zone president Mary Abdi at 206-427-760.

ALASKA MISSION FOR CHRIST - Please pray for all military personnel and families stationed in Alaska. As a large percentage of our population, AMC continues to work on cultivating relationships and offering support to those facing the distinct challenges of military service. Pray that the insights brought by former military staff members will bring hope and healing in Jesus. www.alaskamissionforchrist.org

DID YOU KNOW? The office collects used batteries, plastic film, dead lightbulbs for recycling. Instead of throwing away these things, which are bad for ground water and landfills, feel free to bring them with you on

your way to church, look for the white metal box just outside the blue office door, and place your item in the appropriately labeled bag. Thank you for helping us practice better stewardship of this land God has blessed us with.

CURRENT & UPCOMING BIBLE STUDIES

SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE CLASS

What: *To Be Inspired by the Holy Spirit*
 When: Sundays at 9:30 am (starting 9/18)
 Where: Fellowship Hall and Online
 Teacher: Pastor Elliott

TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

What: The Epistles
 When: Tuesdays, 10:00 am
 Where: Fellowship Hall and Online
 Teacher: Harry Edmon

THURSDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY

What: Genesis - Deuteronomy
 When: Thursdays, 7:00 pm
 Where: Online
 Teacher: Jim Grant

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES & OFFICIAL ACTS

BIRTHDAYS

Jan Grant	9/01
Andrew Petro	9/01
Ann Melvin	9/02
Barbara Sackett	9/02
Gloria Schy	9/05
Jane Krueger	9/06
Phillip Estergreen	9/07
Lee Cohrs	9/08
Ezekiel Elliott	9/09
Rochelle Pemberton	9/11
Alex Miller	9/13
Jill Cohrs	9/15
Arla Mathiason	9/16
Julie McDermott	9/19
Margaret Leary	9/20
Kim Strege	9/20
Brian Danforth	9/26
Kristin Hillmann	9/29
Kent Questad	9/29
Chloe Sholdt	9/29
Leanne Gulden	

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Mark & Sarah Jorgensen	9/03
David & Susan Paeth	9/07
Brian & Michelle Keller	9/09
Andrew & Jill Petro	9/20
David & Leslie Miller	9/21
Justin & Tiana Bourn	9/23
Keri & Marco Valdes	9/25

OFFICIAL ACTS

Rev. Dr. Peter W. Elliott was installed on Sunday, July 31st.

SEPTEMBER SERVICE SCHEDULE

ALTAR GUILD

4 Stephanie Colbert, Jean Mindemann, Erin Goodnow
11 Joanne Estergreen, Jean Mindemann, Erin Goodnow
18 Jack & Donna Holdridge
25 Sharon Christiansen, Joanne Estergreen

ELDERS

9:00 am

4 Lee Cohrs, David Miller
11 Andrew Petro, Neil Strege

8:00 am

18 Mike Boomhower, Lee Cohrs
25 Robin Melvin, Andrew Petro

10:45 am

18 Josh Pemberton, David Miller
25 David Miller, Neil Strege

USHERS

9:00 am

4 Lee Cohrs
11 Harry Edmon

8:00 am

18 Sharon Christiansen
25 Lee Cohrs

10:45 am

Curt Colbert
 Dan Lassman

September 2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 <i>7:00 pm</i> Choir Bible Study	2	3
4 <i>9:00 am</i> Divine Service <i>10:30 am</i> Education Hour	5 LABOR DAY <i>The office will be closed in observance of the holiday.</i>	6 <i>10:00 am</i> Bible Study	7	8 <i>7:00 pm</i> Choir Bible Study	9	10
11 RALLY DAY <i>9:00 am</i> Divine Service <i>10:30 am</i> Education Hour	12 <i>6:30 pm</i> Men's Night Out	13 <i>10:00 am</i> Bible Study <i>6:30 pm</i> Council Mtg	14	15 <i>7:00 pm</i> Choir Bible Study	16	17 <i>2:00 pm</i> Concordia Car Wash
18 <i>8:00 am</i> Divine Service <i>9:30 am</i> Education Hour <i>10:45 am</i> Divine Service	19 MESSENGER DEADLINE <i>7:30 pm</i> Women's Zoom Bible Study	20 <i>10:00 am</i> Bible Study <i>6:30 pm</i> Exec Board Mtg	21	22 <i>7:00 pm</i> Choir Bible Study	23	24
25 <i>8:00 am</i> Divine Service <i>9:30 am</i> Education Hour <i>10:45 am</i> Divine Service	26	27 <i>10:00 am</i> Bible Study <i>6:30 pm</i> Elders Mtg	28 <i>9:30 am</i> Quilting Day	29 <i>7:00 pm</i> Choir Bible Study	30	