

# The *Messenger*

September



We Come Together to Worship, Learn, Grow, and Serve our Lord, Jesus Christ!

## Messiah Lutheran Church

4703 N. Summit St., Toledo, OH 43611  
OFFICE 419-726-0049 FAX 419-726-0177

## Find us at:

[WWW.MESSIAHTOLEDO.ORG](http://WWW.MESSIAHTOLEDO.ORG)



# Have a blessed month!

## *Greetings, Messiah Family and Friends!*

Last month, I came to you with thoughts of looking toward the start of fall and considering opportunities for faith development. This month, I want to continue with that idea as we consider how to provide opportunities to maintain, equip, and send out as we consider growing our relationship with God.

As I have been considering how this can take place here at Messiah, I was led to John 15:1-8.

*“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.”*

In verse four, Jesus says, *“Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me.”* The word “abide” stands out to me from all eight of the verses of this text. The word “abide” means to remain, stay, or continue. When we take the word abide and apply it to our relationship with God, we cultivate a deep and unwavering commitment to God. It means remaining faithful, dedicated, and obedient to the guidance we receive from the Word of God. The concept of abiding invites us to establish a firm foundation in our faith, allowing us to grow closer to God and experience the transformative love of God.

*Abide in Me*

*And*

*I in you.*

*John 15:4*

Therefore, I invite you to think about the importance of what Jesus said: *“Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me.”* As you think about this, consider how you can grow in your relationship with God, and what that might look like on a regular basis. During September, more information will come about an exciting opportunity each week for growing in our relationship with God.

Grace and Peace,  
Pastor Mark

## *Attention, Card Players*



The once-a-month card playing experience is moving to the FIRST Saturday of the month, starting September 7 at 12:00 pm. We'd love you to join us for this fellowship-and-fun opportunity. If you wish, bring a treat to share and your own beverage. Plates, napkins, cups, ice, and silverware are provided. Please call 419-726-0049, if you have any questions.

## *Card-making Ministry*



Making and sending a handmade card is a beautiful way to connect with our homebound members and friends who need a lift. In the past, people communicated through handwritten notes and cards, so personally-made cards are particularly meaningful. Please join us in this venture. Because of the Labor Day holiday, we will meet Monday, September 9, at 6:00 pm. Please call 419-726-0049, if you have any questions.

## *The Need Never Ends*



When the cold sets in and people suffer, quilters want to help. Many quilters use their gifts and talents to help those in need by donating quilts. Even small acts of kindness can have a significant impact. Thus, the quilters come together to help out. The quilters meet at 9:30 am on the first and third Tuesday of the month to assemble quilts. Then, in November, the finished quilts are blessed and donated to various aid groups. This month, quilting will happen on September 3 and 17 downstairs in the Fellowship Hall. New workers on God's behalf are always needed and welcomed.

## *When did you stop learning?*

Suppose you have a car, smartphone, computer, television, or microwave, to name a few. You have used, taken care of, or been informed by them. So the answer is you haven't stopped learning. Now, ask yourself why I stopped learning about Christ and his church at confirmation.

Many of us know the church has changed, and we have accepted many of the changes, but do we really understand why the church has changed? Before the ordination of women, how many people believed it wouldn't or shouldn't be possible? Well, the ordination of women happened. Can you believe, understand, and defend it happened? Can we see the need for study is essential today?

One answer is coming in September. Adult Christian Education will resume at Messiah. Being Bible-based, it may go beyond just talking about the books of the Bible. It may relate to applying these values to our present life among God's people. These opportunities will be provided at 8:00 am on Sunday, beginning September 8, or Wednesday at 10:00 am, starting September 18. More detailed information about the topics to be covered will be forthcoming. Let Pastor Mark know if you have a significant topic you may want to discuss.

## *Evangelism*

Mark your calendar!

The Point Place Art Walk On the Bay is Saturday, September 21, from 10:00 am until 4:00 pm at the Lighthouse on Summit Street. Once again, Evangelism will host an arts and crafts table for families to stop by and create!

We will also host a community movie night in our parking lot on Friday, October 4, at 7:00 pm. We hope to stream "Inside Out 2" but are still working on a few technical issues. Stay tuned for more details and plan to come out!

We are discussing future community events and have a few ideas that we will share more with you next month! Do you have suggestions for how Messiah can get involved with our community? Come to our next meeting on Sunday, September 1, following the service. We'd love to help turn your ideas into fruition!

Thanks,

Leigh, Kati, Nancy, Dawn, Barb, and Linda

## *Speaking of the Kids...*

As our congregation grew older, busier, and fewer, we found that the number of children needing Christian education in multiple classroom styles has returned to a one-classroom arrangement. In some churches, maybe not even that. When Sue Sherlock was with us, we developed a Sunday morning Christian education program called B.L.A.S.T. (Bible Learning and Study Time.)

The purpose was to take children of a certain age out of worship during the readings and the Sunday sermon. A time to engage the kids at their level, bringing them into God's kingdom.

It would be nice to have more children in church regularly. Bring back their involvement in the service. Maybe split B.L.A.S.T. into two different age levels. But at the moment, we can only hope we are doing what we can for the greater good. B.L.A.S.T. will continue to be offered, and we hope it will be there if the number of children grows.

## *Thank you*

*We received a thank you from Lutheran World Relief for a recent donation.*

*We received a thank you from Mustard Seed for their Mission Partner donation.*

*We also received a thank you from Lutheran Social Services, the Genacross Lutheran Services Foundation, and HopeWood Outdoors for their second-quarter Mission Support donation.*

*Thank you for providing 352 school supplies for Mustard Seed to distribute to six local schools.*

*I really appreciated your help in composing a tagline for Messiah. Next in the project is creating a logo incorporating the tagline. Thank you*

*Chuck*

# September 2024



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
<p><b>1</b> <i>Pentecost 15</i> <i>Mark 7:1-8, 14-15,21-23</i> <u>Feed Your Neighbor Collection</u> <b>Worship: 9:00 am</b></p>	<p><b>2</b> <b>LABOR DAY</b></p>	<p><b>3</b> Quilting: 9:30 am  Boy Scouts: 7:00 pm</p>	<p><b>4</b>  Girl Scouts: 5:00 pm Fellowship Hall</p>
<p><b>8</b> <i>Pentecost 16</i> <i>Mark 7:24-37</i> <b>Worship: 9:00 am</b></p>	<p><b>9</b>  Card-making: 6:00 pm</p>	<p><b>10</b> Stephen Ministry: 10:30 am Serving at Salem: Parking lot: 3:00 pm or Salem: 3:15 pm Finance Cmte.: 6:00 pm Crochet: 6:00 pm Boy Scouts: 6:45 pm</p>	<p><b>11</b>  Girl Scouts: 5:00 pm Fellowship Hall</p>
<p><b>15</b> <i>Pentecost 17</i> <i>Mark 8:27-38</i> <b>Worship: 9:00 am</b></p>	<p><b>16</b>  Dartball practice: 7:00 pm</p>	<p><b>17</b> Quilting: 9:30 am  Church Council: 6:00 pm Boy Scouts: 6:45 pm</p>	<p><b>18</b>  Girl Scouts: 5:00 pm Fellowship Hall</p>
<p><b>22</b> <i>Pentecost 18</i> <i>Mark 9:30-37</i> <b>Worship: 9:00 am</b></p>	<p><b>23</b>  Dartball practice: 7:00 pm</p>	<p><b>24</b>  Crochet: 6:00 pm Boy Scouts: 6:45 pm</p>	<p><b>25</b>  Girl Scouts: 5:00 pm Fellowship Hall</p>
<p><b>29</b> <i>Pentecost 19</i> <i>Mark 9:38-50</i> <b>Worship: 9:00 am</b> <i>Quarterly Mission Partner Offering</i></p>	<p><b>30</b>  Dartball away-St. Mark: 7:00 pm</p>		

Office Hours: Tuesday through Friday from 9:00 to 4:00

Office Telephone number: (419) 726-0049

Email Address: secretary@messiahtoledo.org

## September Birthdays

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
5  Troop Committee mtg. 7:00 pm	6	7  Merit Badge Instruction 9:00 am
12  Cub Scouts: 6:00 pm	13  Cub Scouts: 6:00 pm	14
19  Cub Scouts: 6:00 pm	20  Cub Scouts: 6:00 pm	21
26  Cub Scouts: 6:00 pm	27  Cub Scouts: 6:00 pm	28

- 1 Bill
- 2 John  
Larry
- 3 Sue
- 4 Mia
- 5 Mary  
Nick
- 7 Judy
- 10 Kati
- 12 Sandy
- 14 Arlene
- 15 Jay  
John
- 17 Lee
- 18 Nancy
- 19 Sharon
- 24 Becky
- 26 Andrew  
Colson  
Thadd
- 27 Angie

**(H) Homebound**

*Does the office have your full birth date?*

*If not, talk with Chuck in the office at 419-726-0049.*

# *Church Council Minutes – July 16, 2024*

## **Attendance:**

Present: Pastor Mark, President Jim, Vice President Kati, Secretary Donna, Debbie, Sharon, Marla, Patty, Nick, Sue, Roger, Linda, Nick, and Ellen.

The meeting was called to order at 6:06 pm – Pastor Mark opened with prayer.

Minutes reviewed from June 11, 2024

Debbie motioned to accept the minutes. Marla seconded, and all were in favor.

## **Evangelism:**

- Preparing a Car Show at Messiah on Saturday, August 31. We hope this will shed light on Messiah with the Point Place community
- We continue to thank Nate for his leadership with music on Sundays.
- The organ is now fixed. It sounds great now.

## **Christian Ed:**

- Bible Study will resume in September, and Pastor Mark will update everyone on the program. If you are interested, please get in touch with Pastor with questions.

## **JAMM: Justice and Mercy Ministry**

- Salem Ministries continues to need our support with monthly dinners in their community.
- It was also reported that volunteers are still needed at Mustard Seed in Point Place, so contact John or Pastor Mark for further information.
- We have started a donation for car show cleaning supplies, which will be handed out.
- The Backpack/School supplies for the back-to-school program continues.

## **Finance:**

- Jim presented and reviewed financial reports, and all showed good in the positive columns.
- Thanks to Linda for overseeing the QuickBooks reports.

## **Property:**

- Roger gave the final report for his term
- Much was accomplished by Roger and his committee this year. A tornado highlighted the year, and Roger and others pulled together to keep our church functioning inside and out. Thanks, Roger and the Property Committee.

## **Worship Committee:**

- Sharon reported that some parishioners asked why so many songs were on Sunday. This will be looked at.
- Messiah will be celebrating 100 years of existence in January 2025! A committee will be formed to help put together a celebration with activities and such. If you have any ideas, please get in touch with Katie or Sharon. All ideas will be considered.
- We will also be preparing for fall and winter services.

**Personnel Committee:** No report



## Pastor's Report:

- Pastor Mark stated Bible Studies will continue in the fall. Pastor also said that we may need to look at Sunday service times to bring families with younger children or the possibility of coming later for church. Suggestions then went to the possibility of an evening service during the week. Maybe a Sunday evening service or other suggestions could be offered to bring more families to hear God's Word and be part of the family here at Messiah. Pastor Mark said there may be some uncertainty about his work hours at his other Parish. Please talk to Pastor with any questions.

**Old Business:** no report

## New Business:

- Congratulations to Linda for completing her studies for Stephen Ministries.

Sharon made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Marla; the motion passed. The meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer at 7:50 pm.

**Next meeting:** August 20, 2024, 6:00 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna, Recording Secretary

## *New Council Officers*

President - Jim

Vice President - Kati

Secretary - Nick

## *It's the Time of Year to Think Dartball!*

The dartball schedule for the upcoming season is out, and plans are being made for practice and a forthcoming away game at St. Mark's. Practice and games will begin at 7:00 pm. Let Nick know if you want to sign up for the season or have questions. Please call 419-726-0049, if you have any questions. Remember, men and women can now be on the team.



# The Prayer Chain

Prayer is a sacred and powerful way to communicate with God. Prayer relieves worry, heals the sick, renews the spirit, and gives hope to the hopeless. No matter what you are going through, Jesus hears your prayers. Messiah's Prayer Chain is ready to be your partner to raise your needs before the Lord with prayer. Prayer Chain requests should be made by calling the office at 419-726-0049 or e-mailing the church at [secretary@messiahtoledo.org](mailto:secretary@messiahtoledo.org).

Confidentiality is respected. To share this information beyond the Prayer Chain, please let the office know that you would like your request listed in the Messenger, Worship Folder, or named in the Prayers of the People during worship on Sunday morning.

*Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.*

Philippians 4:6

## Pray for the Homebound

Donna  
Jan  
Debbie and Jim  
Joan and Bob  
Kathleen  
Nadine  
Janie  
Betty

## Remember in Prayer

Fred  
John  
(brother-in-law and nephew of  
Phyllis)  
Kathy  
(sister-in-law of Linda)  
Carol (sister of Debbie)  
Becky

Joyce  
Debbie  
Sue  
Carol  
(sister of Linda Martz)  
Sue  
(Pastor Mark's mother)

**Prayers in time of Grief** For the families and friends of Pat, Patty's mother

## From the Finance Committee

*The next date for their meeting is September 10 at 6:00 pm.*

### General Fund Update

Date	Beginning	Shortfall	Deposit	Disbursements	Balance
July 1 - 7	\$ 39,982.86	.00	\$ 850.00	\$ 4,481.64	\$ 36,351.22
July 7 - 13	\$ 36,351.22	.00	\$ 4,325.31	\$ 839.22	\$ 39,837.31
July 14 - 20	\$ 39,837.31	.00	\$ 4,366.60	\$ 5,813.68	\$ 38,390.23
July 21 - 27	\$ 38,390.23	.00	\$ 1,763.00	\$ 693.60	\$ 39,459.63
July 28 - 31	\$ 39,459.63	.00	\$ 2,834.00	\$ 3,131.68	\$ 39,161.95

*God is working here. Thank you for your financial support.*

***A kind gesture can reach a wound that only compassion can heal.”  
Steve Maraboli***

*“When you're down  
and troubled and you need  
a helping hand.”*

*Let a Stephen Minister  
be your helping hand.*

*Talk with Nick.*



Stephen Ministers will  
meet next on Tuesday,  
September 10 at 10:30 am.

## ***When Can I Help?***

A meal holds a profound significance beyond sustaining our physical bodies. It represents care, compassion, and nourishment for the soul. When we offer a meal to someone who is alone, in poverty, or homeless, we are not just addressing their immediate hunger; we are also acknowledging their humanity and showing them that they matter.

Salem offers such a weekly meal on Tuesdays to show their humanity. Salem Lutheran Church needs volunteers from Messiah to help box the meals for residents who live nearby. If you can help with this meal on Tuesday, September 10, or any second Tuesday, please meet in Messiah's parking lot at 3:00 pm to carpool to Salem or meet at Salem at 3:15 pm. Additional volunteers are needed. Your presence is needed at Salem until 5:30 pm unless you drive yourself.



## We Didn't Know

If you are hospitalized or recovering at home, would you or a family member contact the office by calling 419-726-0049. If you want pastoral care, please add that to your message.

## Guiding Principles

Teach and learn confidently.  
Heal lovingly.  
Inspire others patiently.  
Serve prayerfully.



## Mission Statement

Welcome and serve all people with the hope that every person may come to believe in Christ's promise of eternal life.

## Find Us on the Web

[www.messiah Toledo.org](http://www.messiah Toledo.org)

## Mission Support

Genacross Lutheran Services  
Luther Home of Mercy  
HomeWood Outdoors  
(aka LOMO)  
Lutheran Social Services  
of NW Ohio

## Mission Partners

Salem Lutheran Church,  
Toledo

Feed Your Neighbor -  
Mustard Seed

## Church Staff

### Pastor

Pastor Mark

### Cantor

Leigh

### Organist

Nathanael

### Office Manager

Chuck

[secretary@messiah Toledo.org](mailto:secretary@messiah Toledo.org)

### Volunteer Bookkeeper

Linda

[records@messiah Toledo.org](mailto:records@messiah Toledo.org)

### Volunteers fill the following:

### Office Help

Diana

[dshain@messiah Toledo.org](mailto:dshain@messiah Toledo.org)

### Custodians

Many helping hands

## Church Council

### President

Jim

### Vice-President

Kati

### Council Secretary

Nick

### Treasurer

Pam

### Financial Secretary

Bill

### Members

#### First Term - First Year

Ellen

Nick

Linda

#### First Term - Second Year

Donna

Marla

Nick

Sue

#### Second Term - First Year

Debbie

Sharon

Kati

#### Second Term - Second Year

Jim

## Register of Messiah