

Messiah Lutheran Church **November ~ 2016**

**14920 Hutchison Rd.
(North of Ehrlich)**

**Tampa, Florida
33625-5507**

Mark Adrian, Pastor

444-3147 (C)

pastormark@messiahtampa.com

Tammy Nunes, Office Administrator

961-2182 (Office)

tnunes@messiahtampa.com

968-8895 (Office)

Fax 961-0592

Abby Moss, Family Life Minister

789-7143 (C)

www.messiahtampa.com

Jody Schweichler, Preschool Director/Teacher

968-9534

Kim Capsas, Minister of Music/Organist

948-2767

Worship:

8:30 AM (Holy Communion 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays)

Christian Education:

9:45 AM Contemporary (Holy Communion 2nd, 4th and 5th Sundays)

9:45 AM

11:00 AM (Holy Communion 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays)

Dear Messiah Lutheran Church,

The year continues to roll right along. It's already November! The months of the holidays are upon us. I can't believe it's already time for Thanksgiving. Thanksgiving for me always was a time to be around family and be thankful for all that we had. I have many memories of loading my plate up with turkey, mashed potatoes, stuffing, creamed corn and then topping it off with a slice of apple pie for dessert. My favorite memory of Thanksgiving was being around family. It's a great day to gather around loved ones and remember what you are thankful for.

Even though Thanksgiving is a National holiday and not originally a Christian holiday, it is still a great time to remember our God and be thankful for Him. God's story in scripture talks about giving thanks to God for all he has done in all circumstances. The Psalms talk a lot about giving thanks. One of my favorites is Psalm 107:1 "Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever." This is something to truly give thanks for.

You might be feeling like you have a lot to be thankful for this year. That's great! It's easy to praise God. But, you might have had a tough year. Maybe it's hard for you to find something to thank God for. Whatever your circumstances, God is there for you. He'll continue to be there for you. He's sent Jesus to die so that we might live in His forgiveness. He knows what we're going through and promises one day to return and raise us up. This is something to truly be thankful for. I love reading many of the psalms because even in the darkness the psalmists cry out to God and trust in his promises.

This victory and restoration is truly something to be thankful for. And this is why we celebrate Thanksgiving in the Christian Church! And I look forward to celebrating this as we gather for a pre-Thanksgiving Meal on November 20th at 5:30 and have a Thanksgiving Day service at 9 am. They should be great times to come together as God's People and give thanks to Him for what he does for us.

God's Peace,
Pastor Mark Adrian

Messiah Lutheran Church
14920 Hutchison Road
Tampa, Florida 33625

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Statement of Mission

We, the members of Messiah Lutheran, in grateful thanksgiving for the blessings of forgiveness, life and salvation through Jesus Christ our Lord:

- ~ Consecrate ourselves to grow in faith
- ~ Devote ourselves to grow in service
- ~ Dedicate ourselves to grow in witness outreach

CONTINUING SERVING MESSIAH IN NOVEMBER

8:30 AM

11:00 AM

GREETERS:

6 Dan & Gayle Carlson	Dorothy Biegert
13 Don & Anne Hanto	Jan & Nancy Umbaugh
20 Lorraine Eden	Jim & Dianne Gardner
27 Mark Mirabella	Susan Wood & Matthew Wood

PROJECTIONISTS

6 8:30...Michael Cox	9:45...Annette Ryan	11:00...David Pergande
13: 8:30...Kevin Garriott	9:45...Nathan Nester	11:00...John Lloyd
20 8:30...Teresa Klicker	9:45...Annette Ryan	11:00...Mark Lemke
24 ~ Thanksgiving Day ~ Kathy Larson		
27 8:30...Michael Cox	9:45...Nathan Nester	11:00...Kathy Larson

COFFEE:

6 Donna Bartholomew
13 Judy & Gordon VanLoon
20 Ernie & Gail Munzen
27 Lu Heine

CONTEMPORARY SERVICE 9:45 a.m.

USHERS:

6 Floyd Skeins
13 Volunteer(s) Needed
20 Ron Dial & Sarah Parker
27 Steve & Gaylene Gay

ELDERS

Paul Riffel
Tim Hohl & Erik Peterson
Mike Parnow
Tim Hohl & Dave Irwin

ACOLYTES

Lily Aldrich
Aiden Skeins
Devin Puigdomenech
Nicky Nicol



November Birthday Blessings!

And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times,
having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. II Corinthians 9:8

1 Barbara Packer	12 Malia Ellis	20 Teresa Ellis
Patricia Plager	Anne Hanto	George Lamp
2 Debbie Schoppa	Megan Jackson	Luann Laxton
3 Silvia Bannister	Karen Lundy	23 Martha DeWeese
Udo Kessler	Katie Owens	Cindy Munro
4 Mary Plotkowski	Hunter Rodrick	Shilo N'Dao
Amy Podosek	13 Tim Hohl	24 Naseaua Gafur
5 Phil Mattice	Thelma Mavrides	Harold Johnson
Connor McKenzie	Bruce Noyes	25 Brianna Martin
Grace McKenzie	Mike Parnow	26 Sonya Kessler
6 Meghann Thacker	15 James Capsas	Phyllis Mattice
7 Ralph Lloyd	Carol Harrigan	Pat Scalise
Paul Meyer	Craig Rozell	27 Lysle Ellis
Sandi Windsor	David Spiwak	Karen Neidig
8 Tim Buchanan	16 Connie Buckner	28 Lenna Ellerbee
Bob Link	Sarah Martinage	30 June Cole
Joseph Martin	Suzie Miller	Kit Judge
10 Alice Edge	17 Beatrice Rose	
Sadie Irwin	Laura Vest	
11 Allison Ekendiz	18 Barbara Johnson	
	Paul Letellier	
	Steven Mane	
	Mark Scheimann	



Angel Stitches, Messiah's crocheting, quilting and crafting club will meet **Sunday, November 13th** at 2pm in classroom 1 of the CLC. We are happy to teach novices the art of crochet and other crafting skills. We are currently discussing new service projects so if you know of any church or community needs, please come share your ideas with us. Contact Lynn Turke 833-9598 or Mary Plotkowski 960-9220 if you have any questions.

Newsletter Information ~ All directors, committee members, and anyone else desiring to place announcements in the December Newsletter, please e-mail to Tammy at tnunes@messiahtampa.com by **Tuesday, November 15th**.


Carrollwood Care Center Birthday Parties ~ The monthly birthday party for this month will be held **Wednesday, November 16th** at 2:15 PM at Carrollwood Care Nursing Home (located right behind Messiah). Any questions? Please contact Mary Plotkowski at 813-960-9220.

LWML Meeting ~ **Thursday, November 17th** at 7:30 p.m. at Cathy Most's home.

Senior adults will meet for lunch at 11:30 a.m. on **Thursday, November 17th** at Longhorn's Steakhouse at 8212 Citrus Park. Please have your reservations in by Monday, November 7th to Dorothy Biegert at 961-0659 or Lois Dworkin at 727-648-4365 or email at lrdmom@gmail.com.



**Saturday Night
November 5th**



ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT TEA
Tuesday, December 6, at 7:30 p.m.
Messiah's Christian Life Center

Advent All ladies, young ladies, and their friends and relatives are invited to attend. Join us for a lovely evening to celebrate the Advent season. The CLC is transformed into a beautiful candlelit room with beautifully decorated tables. You will be served delicious desserts, coffee and tea. You will be entertained by the beautiful voice of Amy Mathews. You won't want to miss this event. Please bring Baby food or feminine hygiene products, these items will be going to Helping Hands and Kaye Prox Food Bank.

Come and celebrate the Advent season and the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ.

SERVING MESSIAH IN NOVEMBER

8:30 AM

11:00 AM

USHER:

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| 6 | Jeff Salt/Mark Mirabella
Mark Eicholtz/Leroy Scotland | Jan Umbaugh/John Schweichler
Vic Riveiro/Steve Turke/Cliff Yarosh |
| 13 | Christopher Smith/Keith Bakalyar/Brian Owens
Mike Mekelburg/Christian Moll | Mike McKenzie/Bryan Burgess
Paul Dworkin/Bruce Noyes |
| 20 | Al Knaak/Ann Ferguson
Jack Proeschel/Rodney Swilley | Tim Hohl/Jim Gardner/Dick Larson
Rick Larson/Jay Hanjian |
| 24 ~ Thanksgiving Day ~ Christopher Smith/Keith Bakalyar/Brian Owens
Mike Mekelburg/Christian Moll | | |
| 27 | Jeff Salt/Mark Mirabella
Mark Eicholtz/Leroy Scotland | Jan Umbaugh/John Schweichler
Vic Riveiro/Steve Turke/Cliff Yarosh |
| 30 ~ Advent - 6:45 p.m. ~ Al Knaak/Ann Ferguson/Jack Proeschel/Rodney Swilley | | |

ACOLYTES:

- | | | |
|--|---------------|-------------------|
| 6 | Emma Munzen | Emma Heidelberg |
| 13 | Tristan Clark | Morgan Ellis |
| 20 | Laura Vest | Francesca Aldrich |
| 24 ~ Thanksgiving Day ~ Malia Ellis | | |
| 27 | Kyra Straily | Malia Ellis |

ALTAR GUILD:

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Lu Heine & Susanne Powell | (6) Bev Petts & Allyson Kessler
(20) Bev Petts & Lois Draper |
|---------------------------|---|

ELDERS:

- | | | |
|---|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 6 | Dan Carlson & Erik Peterson | Mike Parnow & Gary Weber |
| 13 | Phil Mattice | Dale Laxton |
| 20 | Phil Mattice & Ed Picillo | Dave Irwin & Paul Riffel |
| 24 ~ Thanksgiving Day ~ Mike Mekelburg | | |
| 27 | Ed Picillo | Paul Riffel |
| 30 ~ Advent - 6:45 p.m. ~ Phil Mattice | | |

Ministries & Activities

Adult Bible Study (Sunday 9:45 a.m.)

Mark Lemke - "Books of the Bible" - Ministry Center Room 201

Bible Study - CLC - Middle

Altar Guild - Lois Draper, 961-8287

American Heritage Girls - CLC - Sheri Irwin, 766-7766

Angel Stitches - CLC - Room 1 - Lynn Turke, 960-7289

Assimilation - CLC - Conference Room - Bruce Noyes, 264-0760

Bakalyar's Neighborhood Bible Study - At her home - Beverly, 300-3085

BAMOMS - CLC - Middle

Boy Scouts - Ministry Center - Room 204 & Gym

Choir - Sanctuary - Monday - Kim Capsas, 598-8160 or Facebook

Christian Education Mtg. - Copier Room - Loraine Eden, 732-3078

Cub Scouts - Pack 18 - CLC - Middle - Joe Bartolotta, 933-9245

Feed Your Neighbor - Bobbie Packer, 614- 937-4005

Florida Suncoast Decorative Artist - CLC - Middle

Girl Scouts - CLC Room 2

Handbells - Sanctuary - Monday - Kim Capsas, 598-8160 or Facebook

LifeLight Bible Study - CLC - Conference Room - Wednesday @ 10:00 a.m.

LWML - Nancy Lemke, 264-5095

Memorial Garden Committee - Cry Room - Lu Heine, 569-9377

Men's Bible Study - CLC - Conference Room ~ Wednesday Morning 7:00 a.m.

Messiah's Followers Forever - Ministry Center ~ Barbara Packer, 428-6204

Narcotics Anonymous - Ministry Center - Youth Room

Pinochle - contact David West at 972-8861 or westbaysol@hotmail.com; play monthly

Preschool Fellowship - Ministry Center - Gym

Senior Adults - Lois Dworkin, 727-648-4365 or Dorothy Biegert, 961-0659

Social Ministry - CLC - Conference Room

Stephen Ministry Support - Ministry Center - Rm. 201- Walt Halfmann, 792-8406

Trail Life - Ministry Center - Joe Gabriel, 765-2196

Wednesday Evening Adult Bible Study ~ 6:45 - 7:45, Ministry Center #201

Youth Choir/Flag Team - Contact Kim Capsas @ 598-8160 or Facebook

Youth Sunday Afternoon - Ministry Center - Gym & Youth Room - Abby Moss, 789-7143

Carrollwood Care Center



Please join us to celebrate the residents having birthdays in the month of November - the date is Wednesday, November 16th at 2:15 PM and the place is Carrollwood Care Nursing Home (located right behind Messiah). Thank you for your support of this ministry and for your continued donation of small gifts for the residents (bed socks, slipper-socks, lap robes, handkerchiefs, scarves, etc) and place in the box in the narthex. If you have any questions, please call Mary Plotkowski at 960-9220.



Playgroup will not meet November 21 as school is not in session.



Women of Messiah – LWML

The LWML Tampa Zone is having a Fall Rally on Sat. Nov. 5 at 11:00 a.m. We will be meeting at Mission BBQ at 5602 W. Waters Ave. (corner of Waters and Anderson Rd.). We will have a Bible study and short meeting followed by lunch at your own expense. The ingathering will be for the Pregnancy Care Center. Please bring baby items, diapers, etc. This is for all the Lutheran churches in the area. Hope you can attend.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, Nov. 17 at 7:30 p.m. at Cathy Most's house, 7103 Halifax Ct. All ladies are invited. If you need a ride from church call Nancy, 264-5095.

The Advent by Candlelight Tea is fast approaching. It will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 6, at 7:30 p.m. Mark your calendars now and invite your lady friends and family. We need ladies to volunteer to be table hostesses. The hostesses decorate a table with their lovely Christmas decorations. There will be a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board or you can call Nancy Lemke. This year we will again be entertained by the lovely voice of Amy Mathews. It is always a beautiful evening you will not want to miss. Please bring Baby food or feminine hygiene products, these items will be going to Helping Hands and Kaye Prox Food Bank.

Everyone is doing a great job putting change in their mite boxes and depositing the money in the large mite box in the narthex. Please keep your mite box and keep refilling it. We have some new district projects that the mite money funds. Check out the bulletin board to see where all the mite money goes. It is so worthwhile and so easy.

"Feed your Neighbor " November pilgrim shopping list

We are looking to help several of our local schools over the Thanksgiving break. Many of the children receive free breakfasts and lunches at school. During the Thanksgiving break these same children will not receive daily meals since school is out.

This is where our congregation comes in to help. Beginning October 30th when you leave church you will receive a grocery bag with a shopping list. We are asking that you use the shopping list to fill the bag with the items on the list so that the children in need can have food during the Thanksgiving break. We need the bags filled and returned by November 13th.

Bags received after November 13th will help the children during December since the time is so short before the children are out for Christmas break. Thank you for all the blessings that you are sharing with those in need.

Please help us feed the children of 200 families.



We want You to attend the Pre-Thanksgiving & Consecration Dinner

Sunday, November 20

5:30 PM

Ministry Center

We provide the Turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy, stuffing and rolls.

Please bring either salad, vegetable or dessert.

Sign-Up sheet on the Bulletin board in the Narthex.



Do you decorate for Christmas with wreaths and greenery?

Then consider placing an order with the Messiah youth group for your 2016 Christmas wreaths and greenery. Proceeds will go towards the Middle & High School Gathering and summer mission trip. Order forms are available on the youth bulletin board or from any teen. Orders must be turned in by Sunday November 13th. Greenery will be delivered during the first week of December.

12" Candle Ring (candle not included) for \$25 _____

20" Deluxe Wreath with Bow \$30 _____

20" Advent Wreath \$30 _____

22" Deluxe Wreath with Bow \$32 _____

26" Deluxe Wreath with Bow \$37 _____

22" Rustic Wreath \$32 _____

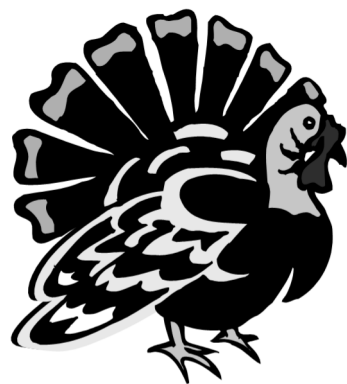
26" Rustic Wreath \$37 _____

28" Cross Wreath \$36 _____

28" Door Swag with Bow \$28 _____

15ft Cedar Garland \$30 _____

Would you like to give a wreath as a gift for someone who lives out of town? Would someone out of town like to buy from us? You can still help us! Log onto <http://www.alpinefarms.com/shop/> and click Shop. Order whatever item you like, send it wherever you like and when it is time to input billing information credit our group under Fundraiser Group Code with the sale by typing in MEFL (for Messiah Florida). A portion of that sale will then benefit our youth group (online pricing is higher and profits are smaller so we prefer you order from us, but this is a great opportunity for out of state family to be involved or to give a special gift to someone that will also benefit us). Thanks for your support!



Attention Youth! Looking for something to do during Thanksgiving break? Check Out These Events!



Join us when you're off of school on Tuesday November 22nd at 9:45AM for a special service project with Metropolitan Ministries. Wear your closed toed shoes and get ready to help with the Tent Event. We will be busy sorting and packing groceries that will be given to families in need for Thanksgiving. The project will go from 10:45-2PM. We'll grab some lunch after our shift and return to Messiah around 4PM. If you want to attend but can't meet us at the designated time because of working parents, talk to Abby and we can coordinate a pick up. We can take 15 middle school and high school youth and we need at least 3 adults. Sign up if you can help. We have to turn names and numbers in ahead of time. The deadline to sign up is Sunday November 6th.

All Youth (grades 5-12) Celebrate your week off of school for Thanksgiving break by joining us for bowling Monday November 21st from 3-5PM!

Pin Chasers – Veterans Location

5555 W. Hillsborough Avenue Tampa, FL, 33634

Please bring \$10 which will cover drinks, shoes, and games.

Meet us there or talk to Abby to schedule a ride.

Sign up to attend.



Let us know if cost is an issue, we don't want anyone to not be able to attend because of cost.



Thanksgiving Weekend Special Services & Programs

Sunday, November 20th, 5:30PM Congregation Pre-Thanksgiving Dinner.

Thursday, November 24th, 9AM Thanksgiving Worship Service.

Sunday, November 27th, 9:45AM Special Sunday School/Bible Class for all ages in the Gym.

Normal Sunday School/Bible Class resumes December 4th.

THANKSGIVING DAY WORSHIP ~ We invite you to pause on our National Day of Thanksgiving and offer worship, praise and gratitude to our Gracious Lord God. The service is at 9:00 a.m. Dress is casual, we know it's a busy day. But do join your family at Messiah to sing hymns of thanksgiving in celebration of all the physical and spiritual blessings our generous God has bestowed on us.

Thanksgiving offering will go towards LCMS Disaster Relief, to help Haiti with Hurricane Matthew relief.



2017 God's Creation Calendars

We still have a few calendars left. Get them while supplies last.

Cost is \$7.00 each.

See or contact Abby or any youth group member to purchase.

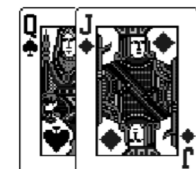
They make great Christmas gifts.

Proceeds raised will benefit Youth Group programs.



The Pinochle Christmas Party

Will be held at the home of David and Annie West 6pm Saturday, December 3rd. All past, present, and future players are invited. Please sign up to bring main course, appetizer, salad, vegetable, or dessert. Your response is important for seating. For information – call 972-8861 Annie/David





Thanks to everyone for their help with the Fall Festival on Sunday October 30th. Thanks to Lorraine Eden for coordinating trunks, and the Confirmation class and youth for running the games and activities. Thanks to Outreach for doing registration and Assimilation and Social Ministry for handling food. This event was truly an all hands on deck event! Thanks for your help! We couldn't have done it without you.



November 19–20, 30 Hour Famine

Youth join us for this interactive experience. We will experience hunger in a new way, in an effort to benefit others. We will meet at Messiah at 11AM on Saturday for the leader training and service project. We will camp out in the ministry center over night with limited food, don't worry water and juice will be permitted. We will fill the time with Devotions, activities, planning the upcoming year, hang out time, and some service projects to distract us from not eating. We will conclude the event by breaking the fast and eating dinner together with the congregation at 5:30PM Sunday at the Pre-Thanksgiving dinner. Please bring a sleeping bag as we will be resting up in preparation for the service project and Sunday morning. By participating in this famine we will benefit hungry children of the world. We are encouraging each of you to try and raise a minimum of \$30 (enough to feed a child for a day).



Ask 15 friends to donate \$2 or 30 friends to donate \$1 and you've made your goal or save a few dollars of your own money to benefit someone else. Information packets on the famine and event details can be found on the youth bulletin board. Sign-up to get involved today. Can't participate in the whole event or fast? Consider going on a partial fast or technology fast instead.

Please let Abby know if you plan to attend.

Special Thanks to those Volunteers who helped with youth activities During the Month of October.

Thanks to....

**Open Gym Helpers: Paul Dworkin, Tim Schultz, & Steve Jones
Special Event Helpers: Paul Dworkin, Doris Hogan, Tim Schultz, Fran & Brian Owens**

We appreciate you and couldn't do it without you!

Special Thanks to all who helped with fall festival!



Messiah's Social Ministry

"SILENT AUCTION"

**Bidding Begins Sunday,
November 6th and Ends
Sunday, November 13th**

NOTE THE DATE!! The beautiful, themed gift baskets are getting their final touches in October and will be on display for bidding on November 6th and 13th. There will be gift baskets appropriate for many occasions, especially for folks on your Christmas list. There will remain only 42 days 'til Christmas at auction's end!

Funds raised will support Messiah's Social Ministry projects to assist disadvantaged individuals, children, and families in our community. Join with other Messiah members and help make this year's Silent Auction another, big success!!

A prayer for your personal witness outreach in 2016:

*Lord, lay some soul upon my heart,
And love that soul through me;
And may I nobly do my part
To win that soul for Thee.*

~ Tucker

Youth News

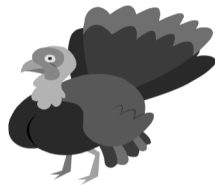
Youth Sunday Afternoon Open Gym & Youth Night

For youth grades 5-12 -Sundays from 4pm-6pm

We begin with a short devotion. Parents we need your help as ones. Open Gym dates for November are 6,13, & 27



No Open Gym November 20 because of the Pre-Thanksgiving Dinner. Consider having your whole family join us at 5:30pm for dinner instead! Sign up to attend. Lets enjoy some food and fellowship all together with our whole church family. This will also be when we break the 30 Hour famine fast.



Senior High, join us for the 2nd Sunday of the Month Senior High Only Night! Lets get together on Sunday the 13th at 6:30PM at Messiah for food and fellowship. Bring a salad, side dish, or dessert to share, main course/drinks provided! This month we will have sloppy joes!



Senior High, the 4th Sunday of the Month Senior High Only Night will be meeting at Panera Bread at 13256 N Dale Mabry Hwy. on Sunday November 27th at 6:30PM. Please make plans to join us. RSVP for rides and table size purposes.

Middle School Gathering!

If you registered to attend the Middle School District Gathering (Grades 6-8) the retreat is November 4-6. We will depart from Messiah at 5:15PM on Friday the 4th, and stop for dinner on the road. We will return to Messiah on Sunday November 6th~1PM (we will stop for lunch on the way home). Talk to Abby Moss or Mr. Paul Dworkin with questions. Packing lists were emailed out several weeks ago. Let us know if you need a list.

Calling ALL HANDS!



We are seeking many hands on Sunday November 27th starting at 2PM to decorate the church campus for the Advent Season. We need hands to set up and decorate the trees in the Gym and the Sanctuary, to hang greenery, and to help get our nativity and lights out around campus. Many hands make light work. We hope you will consider joining us for this time of fellowship and decoration preparation for Jesus the Advent King.

SANTA'S MAILBOX FOR HOPE CHILDREN'S HOME

Messiah Social Ministry is making the annual call to all of our Christmas angels! Please show your love and help make a happier holiday for one or more of the children at Hope Children's Home, located only a few miles from our church. The precious children in residency at this Christian-based campus are separated from their parents for months or years due to domestic or economic reasons. You will find envelopes containing Christmas gift "wish lists" for each child in Santa's Mailbox which will be located in the Narthex between **November 20th and December 11th**. Please place your *wrapped* gift(s), clearly marked with the child's name, under the Mailbox.

Plan your holiday activities to include attending our **Hope Children's Home Christmas Party** scheduled for **Friday evening, December 16, 2016 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.** Your generosity will bring smiles to the faces of Hope's children and joy to your heart. Thanks to all who respond to this special project for the dear children at Hope.

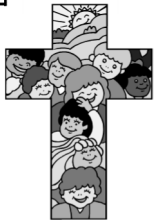


Messiah Social Ministry.

HOPE CHILDREN'S HOME CHRISTMAS PARTY



All of the Christmas gift donations from Messiah members and friends will be distributed to the children at Hope Children's Home during a Christmas Party scheduled for **Friday evening, December 16, 2016 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.** Anyone wishing to join in the fun evening may meet at the church parking lot at **5:30 p.m.** to carpool to Hope. During this party, you will have the opportunity to get to know the children and enjoy seeing their happy faces as they receive and open their special Christmas gifts. Messiah Social Ministry Team thanks you for your expressions of love and thoughtfulness to our Hope kids!



PRESCHOOL NEWS

November is a special month at our preschool as we will be talking with the children about the many blessings we receive and teaching them about the first Thanksgiving. We will also be celebrating Thanksgiving in our classrooms with our own special feasts.

Thank you to the congregation for helping make our Used Book Sale a huge success. We appreciate the donations of used books for the sale and everyone who purchased books. Your support is greatly appreciated as we raised \$469.00 from this sale and all this money will be used to purchase educational materials and programs for our preschoolers.

We also greatly appreciate your support of Messiah Lutheran Preschool's monthly Spirit Nights. Our preschool's Spirit Night this month will be on Wednesday, November 16 from noon until 8:00pm at *Glory Days Grill* on Dale Mabry Highway. The general manager plans to bring in a balloon artist that evening too. Please remember to mention our preschool's name when placing your order so we will receive a percentage of the receipt. Hope to see you there!

We are very excited to share with you our big news that starting in August 2017 our preschool will offer classes for two year olds! Please let your friends and family know about this new program and that we will soon be offering classes for children from two to five years old. For more information about all our preschool classes or a tour of the facility, call Director Jody Schweichler at 813 968-9534 or email her at jschweichler@messiahtampa.com.

Our next school board meeting will be November 29th at 6:00pm in the conference room located in the church office. New members are always welcome. For more information about the school board please contact Nancy Umbaugh at 813 428-6459.

Have a wonderful and blessed Thanksgiving!

“Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these.”

From Abby... (Not to be confused with Dear Abby.)

In this season as we prepare for Thanksgiving. I'm reminded that a thankful and grateful heart for what God has done speaks greater witness to God than any grumbling or complaining. I have no profound words or insights on this, so instead, I use the words of the first 22 verses of Psalm 107.

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever.² Let the redeemed of the LORD tell their story—those he redeemed from the hand of the foe,³ those he gathered from the lands, from east and west, from north and south.⁴ Some wandered in desert wastelands, finding no way to a city where they could settle.⁵ They were hungry and thirsty, and their lives ebbed away.⁶ Then they cried out to the LORD in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress.⁷ He led them by a straight way to a city where they could settle.⁸ Let them give thanks to the LORD for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for mankind,⁹ for he satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry with good things.¹⁰ Some sat in darkness, in utter darkness, prisoners suffering in iron chains,¹¹ because they rebelled against God's commands and despised the plans of the Most High.¹² So he subjected them to bitter labor; they stumbled, and there was no one to help.¹³ Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, and he saved them from their distress.¹⁴ He brought them out of darkness, the utter darkness, and broke away their chains.¹⁵ Let them give thanks to the LORD for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for mankind,¹⁶ for he breaks down gates of bronze and cuts through bars of iron.¹⁷ Some became fools through their rebellious ways and suffered affliction because of their iniquities.¹⁸ They loathed all food and drew near the gates of death.¹⁹ Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, and he saved them from their distress.²⁰ He sent out his word and healed them; he rescued them from the grave.²¹ Let them give thanks to the LORD for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds for mankind.²² Let them sacrifice thank offerings and tell of his works with songs of joy.

This Thanksgiving, I'm thankful that God loves us. I'm glad he protects and provides for His people. I'm glad that He hears us always, especially when we are in trouble and that He forgives and restores us. I'm thankful God guides and leads. I'm thankful He is never far off and that He hears and answers even when I've screwed up and forsaken Him. I'm glad there is purpose and plan and God working out all for good, even during trials that we face.

I'm thankful that no matter what is happening around us or what is out of our control God hears and answers our prayers in the best way. I find comfort in knowing that when others fail, God is still worthy of my trust and will not disappoint.

My prayer is that this Thanksgiving and always, we would see God at work and praise Him privately and corporately and that our spirit of thanksgiving will be contagious.

MUSIC MINISTRY NEWS

Save the Date! Invite Your Friends!

Saturday, December 10th at 7 p.m.

“Sing With the Angels”



Music Ministry Presentation

CHOIR—No auditions, high school age and up meets Mondays at 7:30 p.m.

BELLCHOIR—Let Kim know if you are interested. (Mondays 6:30 p.m.)

GIRLS CHOIR—Sundays after late church as needed. Please text me at 598-8160 if you are interested, girls 7th grade and up. (FLAG TEAM also)

CHILDREN'S CHOIR—Please let me know if you are interested.

INSTRUMENTAL BAND—Make sure I have your cell number—high school and up, experience please.

LESSONS are available with our adult church musicians:

Piano, Organ, Flute, Cello, Drums, Violin, Viola.

Check with Kim Capsas, Minister of Music for more info.

Home 948-2767, Cell 598-8160. kcapsas@gmail.com

Christmas Poinsettias

Every year, we enjoy the special beauty of poinsettia plants in our sanctuary on Christmas Eve. Again, with your support, beautiful poinsettias will line the sidewalk approaches to church and be placed in the sanctuary.

For a \$12 donation to *Messiah's Memorial Garden*, a poinsettia plant will be purchased for use on Christmas Eve. If desired, you may designate the poinsettia in memory or in honor of a loved one(s). The list of loved ones so designated will be acknowledged in a special worship bulletin insert.

Please place your \$12 cash/check and completed form (below) into the offering plate or drop it off at the church office. Plant(s) may be taken home after the Christmas Day service. **THE DEADLINE FOR ORDERING IS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18th.**

Thanks in advance for your interest in this opportunity to beautify our celebration of Jesus' birth, 2016 A.D.

----- Detach Here -----

Christmas Poinsettia Order Form

All orders are to be prepaid and accompanied with this completed order form.

Make checks payable to *MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH* (“Poinsettia”) in check memo line. Please place payment and completed form in the offering plate or drop off at the church office. **THE DEADLINE FOR ORDERING IS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18th.**

Your name: _____

I wish to order ____ poinsettia(s) @ \$12 per plant. **Check total = \$** _____

Please designate my donation of poinsettias as:

____ **Given to the Glory of God by** _____

____ **Given in memory of** _____

____ **Given in honor of** _____