



Messiah Messenger

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FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Summertime News

THE REV. DR.
 MARTIN K. ERHARDT
 PASTOR

THE REV. DR.
 JOHN MARK GOERSS
 PASTOR EMERITUS

JANICE HOFREITER
 ORGANIST AND CHOIR
 DIRECTOR

Lots has happened since our last newsletter: Ascension Day, Pentecost, Trinity Sunday, and the English District convention, and now we're into summer with the apostle Paul's words to the Galatians ringing in our ears: "the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law" (Galatians 5:22-23). As our Garden State peach trees ripen and bear their delicious fruit in these halcyon days of summer, I look forward to the Holy Spirit ripening and bearing its fruit in the life of our congregation.

At the LCMS English District convention (June 20-22 in Ann Arbor, Michigan), Herb Gishlick and I represented Messiah. A number of significant resolutions were passed, and I will forward you a link to the convention minutes when I receive them. Also at the convention, our New York circuit of nine congregations between Scarsdale, NY, and Pennsauken, NJ, selected and received a new circuit visitor: the Rev. Gordon Naumann of Trinity Lutheran Church in Scarsdale, NY. I appreciate Pastor Naumann taking on this leadership role following my seven years in the position, and pray that God will bless him and our circuit in his new role.

At Messiah, 75th anniversary building improvement projects have moved into high gear, with the dead pin oak tree in the back yard having been cut down in May and the kitchen cabinets emptied (thank you, Debbie Baer and Pat Hlafter) on June 29 to prepare for the renovation of the kitchen (planned for late July and early August). Nelson Glass is scheduled to install our new fellowship hall windows June 30-July 1 and July 7-8.

To celebrate Messiah's 75th anniversary, the March 27 voters meeting decided to set up a 75th Anniversary Fund, donations to which will go toward anniversary events and building improvement projects. Fund contributions and anniversary project expenses will be reported in the Sunday bulletins and updated monthly. Donations to the fund are welcome and encouraging, and should be over and above pledged and regular giving.

Spring and summer are bittersweet seasons at Messiah, as we say goodbye to beloved friends and welcome new ones. Among those leaving us are Mitchell Stroebel, who graduated from Princeton University in May, and the Boedecker family, moving to the Midwest where Ben has a job following his retirement from the US Air Force. We are sorry to see them go and wish them God's blessings in their homes and endeavors.

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I thank God for you, the people of Messiah, and for God's faithfulness to us these past 75 years. I look forward to continuing to be salt and light in our community, loving God and our neighbors as we follow our crucified, risen, and ascended Savior, Jesus Christ, into the future.

Pastor Erhardt

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR JULY & AUGUST

Pentecost Year C	First Reading	Psalm	Second Reading	Gospel Reading
Fourth Sunday after Pentecost July 3, 2022	2 Kings 5:1-14	Psalm 30	Galatians 6:1-16	Luke 10:1-11, 16-20
Fifth Sunday after Pentecost July 10, 2022	Amos 7:7-17	Psalm 82	Colossians 1:1-14	Luke 10:25-37
Sixth Sunday after Pentecost July 17, 2022	Amos 8:1-12	Psalm 52	Colossians 1:15-28	Luke 10:38-42
Seventh Sunday after Pentecost July 24, 2022	Hosea 1:2-10	Psalm 85	Colossians 2:6-19	Luke 11:1-13
Eighth Sunday after Pentecost July 31, 2022	Hosea 1:1-11	Psalm 107:1-9	Colossians 3:1-11	Luke 12:13-21
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost August 7, 2022	Isaiah 1:1, 10-20	Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23	Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16	Luke 12:49-56
Tenth Sunday after Pentecost August 14, 2022	Isaiah 5:1-7	Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19	Hebrews 11:29- 12:2	Luke 12:49-56
Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost August 21, 2022	Jeremiah 1:4-10	Psalm 71:1-6	Hebrews 12:18-29	Luke 13:10-17
Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost August 28, 2022	Jeremiah 2:4-13	Psalm 81:1, 10-16	Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16	Luke 14:1, 7-14

CHURCH CALENDAR

July 2022

Recurring Events

Sundays:
9:30am Service of Word and Sacrament

Special Events

Saturday, July 2
9:00am Men's Forum

Monday, July 4 -- Independence Day
10:00am Delaware River Tubing Trip

Thursday, July 7
7:30pm Community Book Group

Tuesday, July 19
7:00pm Executive Board

Saturday, July 30
9:00am Men's Forum

Sunday, July 31
6:00pm Shakespeare in the Park
Much Ado About Nothing
Community Park North
Amphitheatre, Princeton

August 2022

Recurring Events

Sundays:
9:30am Service of Word and Sacrament

Special Events

Thursday, August 4
7:30pm Community Book Group

Saturday, August 6
10:00am Outdoor Worship

Saturday, August 27
9:00am Men's Forum
10:00am ISI Garage Give-Away

Wednesday, August 31
7:30pm Choir



FAREWELL FROM THE BOEDECKERS

Dear Messiah family,

We are grateful to have been blessed by your friendship and community over the last three years. We are truly sorry to say goodbye to the people of Messiah, though we may not miss the drive from Fort Dix!

In this modern age, it is easier to stay in touch with people who are far away. One way Cristel does this is to send out a regular email newsletter with all our happenings. If you would like to know what we are up to in the future, please give her your email address to add to the mailing list.

We appreciate your prayers as we move and get settled into our new home. We will miss you!

Ben, Cristel, and Barnabas Boedecker

75TH ANNIVERSARY FUND

At the March 27 Voters' Meeting, it was suggested that a fundraising campaign in honor of Messiah's 75th anniversary be instituted. The intent is to raise funds, over and above pledged and regular giving, to support Messiah's 75th anniversary activities and projects, helping to defray the cost of upcoming building upgrades and renovations, as well as special anniversary events. Given the number of projects involved and the complexity of managing gifts restricted to each one, we ask that contributions in support of these projects be made to the anniversary effort as a whole. * To this end, a separate 75th Anniversary Fund is being created.

There are many exciting plans for this anniversary year. A number of building and grounds improvement projects are slated. The sanctuary and other areas have already been freshly painted. The windows in the fellowship hall and kitchen are currently being replaced. The kitchen will also get new counters, cabinets, and appliances later this summer. In addition, the kitchen layout will be reconfigured to improve efficiency and traffic flow. Outside the church building, trees have been removed and replanted, and re-grading is planned in the back yard to direct water flow away from the building.

The anniversary celebration officially began on April 3, when Pastor Goerss preached the sermon and later reminisced at the special fellowship hour about his nearly quarter of a century as Messiah's pastor. In November, the acclaimed organ soloist, Eric Plutz, the University Organist at Princeton University, will present a concert at Messiah as part of the celebration. Festivities will conclude in June 2023 with a gala luncheon.

We invite everyone – the congregation, former members, and friends of Messiah – to celebrate with us and participate by making a donation to the 75th Anniversary Fund.

*If contributions exceed the cost of anniversary projects, the balance will be considered unrestricted.

JULY 2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2 9am Men's Forum
3 9:30am Holy Communion	4 Independence Day 10am Delaware River Tubing Trip	5	6	7 7:30pm Community Book Group	8	9
10 9:30am Holy Communion	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 9:30am Holy Communion	18	19 7pm Executive Board	20	21	22	23
24 9:30am Holy Communion	25	26	27	28	29	30 9am Men's Forum
31 9:30am Holy Communion 6pm Shakespeare in the Park						

AUGUST 2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4 7:30pm Community Book Group	5	6 10am Outdoor Worship
7 9:30am Holy Communion	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 9:30am Holy Communion	15	16	17	18	19	20
21 9:30am Holy Communion	22	23	24	25	26	27 ISI Garage Give-Away 9am Men's Forum
28 9:30am Holy Communion	29	30	31 7:30pm Choir			