



# The Messiah **Messenger**

April 2016

Published Monthly

## **Christ is risen! He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!**

So now what? What comes next? The end of my life is safe and secure in the resurrection of Jesus but how do I get to the end of next week? What is the rest of life for? Am I just supposed to spend the next 10, 20, 30 or more years waiting for Jesus to come?

In a word: No. There is more to do. There is **NOT** more to do in terms of your salvation. That is done. That is secure. Jesus said so on the cross when He proclaimed: "It is finished." But the fact that it is finished changes us. This change gives us more to do.

Consider the words of Paul to the Colossians: ***If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth*** (Col. 3:1-3). The death and resurrection of Jesus Christ changes what we are seeking after, what we set our minds upon in this life, and how we view the world around us. The resurrection of Jesus changes our goals, our thoughts, and our outlook on life.

In the season following Easter, we are going to explore those changes in depth in a sermon series we are calling, "Vivid." The bright light of the resurrection adds a whole new level of depth and color to our perception of the world. It brings out some shadier darkness and also some sunnier brightness. It helps us to see and observe things in a new and different way.

I heard one motivational speaker use the following question as a means to get people to dream: "What would you do today if you knew you could not fail?" As we are joined into the resurrection of Jesus Christ, this is not a hypothetical question. This is a truth. Our success is assured.

The biggest change of Easter is that we learn that our final chapter has been written and is secure. No matter how our lives progress from now until the day of our



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death, our future is assured. So what will we do with today and all the other days between now and that victory?

Please join us as we explore that idea in the weeks following Easter.

Seeking and growing,  
Pastor Tom Vanderbilt

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## The Gift of Life

Think back to the time you were preparing for the birth of your first child. You worked hard to prepare. New paint in the nursery and getting the equipment you knew would be needed soon. How excited you were to discover what this new little part of you looked like. Then the day came and that amazing feeling burst all over you as you gazed upon that new life. New hands. New feet. New eyes and a mouth. What a miracle you have seen with all the intricacies of the body interconnected and working together. All of them never used before but in need of love and care to teach them to work properly.

Who gave your child these new parts? Who gave them the eyes to see, the hands to work and play or the feet to walk? What an amazing God we have! God made everything. The Creator of the universe does it again. But even in that wonderful moment we realize that more is needed. Something is missing.

The greatest miracle happens when that child is baptized. The imperfections of sin are forgiven, washed away by that same Creator who sent Christ into the world to pay the price in our place. That first miracle brought a new life into the world, but the second miracle reserves a spot for us in eternity. Just as you taught your child to speak, to walk, to eat, teach them to worship, to praise the Maker of the Universe. Encourage them to interact with the God that made them. Demonstrate how to pray and spend that quiet time with them learning about God's word. Ephesians 6:4 reminds us, "Fathers, do not make your children angry, but raise them with the training and teaching of the Lord." It secures their future and yours.

You may marvel at the miracle of new life. You may thank God each day for the miracle of Eternal Life. That is a miracle we can share with our children, our grandchildren and the world. As you look forward to the fulfillment of the greatest miracle, you can create your own little miracle. Plan for the time you go home. Communicate your faith and consider leaving a gift as part of your estate plan, to support the ministries that have so greatly impacted your life. It can help insure that your family or someone you haven't met, can become part of God's family and experience the miracle of Eternal Life.

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This document is provided to assist you in your estate planning process and is not meant to offer financial or legal advice. Please contact your Attorney or Financial Advisor to obtain appropriate professional advice relevant to your particular circumstances.



Once again this year Messiah will be hosting the Forts and Sorts Servant Event. This servant event brings youth from all around the country to Michigan to work at Youth Haven Ranch.

Youth Haven Ranch is a non-denominational Christian outreach providing life changing experiences and meeting the needs of disadvantaged youth.



Participating youth spend a week working on various projects that improve the buildings and grounds of Youth Haven. Projects from 2015 included painting a deck, refurbishing a sign at the entry of the ranch, removing weeds, cleaning out a trash pile, and so much more.

### Dates

- June 19-25

### How YOU can Help!

Become a prayer partner for participants

- We are asking members of Messiah to "adopt" a youth or adult participant. We ask members to pray for their participant, write notes of encouragement for their participant during the week in June, and possibly send their participant notes prior to them arriving at Youth Haven Ranch.
- If you are interested in being a prayer partner, contact Sara Vanderbilt at 615-557-6792 or [sara.vanderbilt@hotmail.com](mailto:sara.vanderbilt@hotmail.com), or put a note in Sara's box at church.

Look for more ways to get involved in the coming months.

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For anyone who has participated in the Forts and Sorts servant event in the past, join our alumni Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/groups/fortsandsorts](http://www.facebook.com/groups/fortsandsorts)).

January/February, 2016

# Maverick Messenger

2418 Aurelius Road, Holt, MI 48842

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Dear Parents and Friends of MLHS,

Welcome to the **Maverick Messenger**, your update for MLHS happenings. Our growing community is alight with excitement over our projects and upcoming events. Truly, we are a new creation ... and are made new in Jesus through the cross and through our baptism. Thanks be to God that He sent his Son to save us from our sins and make us His own! May we all be encouraged in His grace this Lenten season, as we await the blessed Easter dawn!

Serving Christ with you,

Traci Backus, Superintendent

## MLHS Faculty Update

We recently bid goodbye to our Chemistry teacher and STEM program designer, **Tyler "Dr. J" Jordison**. Tyler was approached in late December by a biofuel corporation in South Dakota. After an interview over Christmas break, Tyler was offered, and ultimately accepted, a position with the company that would put him at the cutting edge of the alternative fuel research and development that he completed at Michigan State University. While we miss him greatly, we know that God has a mighty plan for both the Jordison family and our program. Mrs. Mandie Jordison will continue to work from us remotely for the rest of the year, serving as our intervention specialist. She will be wrapping up all student 504 plans and projects related to meeting the needs of our students. We pray that God will continue to bless their growing family and Tyler's career!



## Upcoming Events

### February 9

Shrove Tuesday / Paczki Party!

### February 10

Ash Wednesday Chapel –  
Pr. Tom Vanderbilt

### February 15

Presidents' Day – *No School*

School Board Meeting – 7 pm



Partnering in Ministry

Ash Wednesday brought about a very special opportunity for us to join in Lenten worship with the students and staff of Our Savior Lutheran School. We were invited to lead the chapel music, and I had the particular privilege of delivering the message. We were also honored to take part in the imposition of the ashes, as shared by Pastor Wangelin and Vicar. Two of our current students are OSL alumni, and enjoyed the chance to be back at their alma mater for worship. Timothy Nechuta (gr.9) played the prelude and postlude music on the organ, and Luke Berends (gr. 11) played bass guitar with the MLHS Praise Team. MLHS Music Director Greg Howe and students Andy Backus (gr. 12), Nea Harris (gr. 10) and Myah O'Sullivan (gr. 10). Two MLHS governing board members (Chris Brandenburg and Shannon Schlegel, OSL) also joined us for the service and are pictured below. We look forward to many more opportunities to gather with the OSL community and share in ministry opportunities!



MLHS Student Timothy Nechuta & OSL Music Director John Horak



OSL Alumni and Staff: John Horak, Luke Berends, Tim Nechuta, Matt Couser



(Back, L to R) Andy Backus, Greg Howe, Luke Berends, Tim Nechuta, MLHS Board Member Chris Brandenburg, Rev. Bill Wangelin (OSL)  
 (Front, L to R) Matt Couser, Myah O'Sullivan, Nea Harris, Traci Backus, MLHS Board Member Shannon Schlegel, OSL Vicar Aaron Hauser, John Horak



MLHS Praise Team Members Myah O'Sullivan, Nea Harris, Director Greg Howe, Andy Backus

## Maverick Creativity

One of the greatest challenges in education today is finding the balance between meeting all of the standards set for us in the current educational system and allowing our students the chance to be creative. How do we, as educators, help our students incorporate creativity into the everyday processes of education?

The faculty of MLHS chose to think outside the box in providing the chance for our students to create in a framework that fit our PBL model. We've created a **MakerSpace**! This space is one facet of the STEM curriculum developed by Dr. Tyler Jordison. Each week, a question or create task is posted for the students to explore, such as:

- How would you design a replacement for a ligament?
- Create a new musical instrument.
- How can you incorporate gravity into a new machine with an everyday use?
- How would you create an ecosystem on Mars? Make one ... in a 2-Litre or similar container.

The room is filled with all kinds of supplies, from magnetic-based Makey-Makey circuit boards that provide power to paint, clay, and a variety of other art equipment. We have buckets of Lego blocks and other building materials, craft sticks and cardboard ... virtually anything can be incorporated into an invention. Our students have also built their own 3-D printer, under the direction of Dr. Jordison, and use it along with our newly built and delivered Rostok Max V2 3-D printer. The students are free to research the weekly framing question or use it as a springboard to get to a new project. They can work as individuals or within small groups, implementing their research and collaborating with others to make the very unpredictable creative process relevant to their own interests.

*Every day is a creative day at Martin Luther High School!*



*Our newly built Rostok 3-D Printer (at the shop)*



Youth at Messiah is comprised of the High School Program (grades 9-12) and Head to the Heart (for grades 6-8). Both programs are built upon Discipleship, Service, and Fellowship – all three elements help develop relationships with Christ and each other.

## Upcoming Events

### Confirmation

- On **April 17 at the 11:00 service**, Anika Reid and Noah Waugh will make public confirmation of their faith. Please join us for a cake and punch reception following the service and congratulate Noah and Anika on this big step in their walk with Jesus.



Grades 9-12



Grades 6-8

### Pizza Party

- Date - April 10
- Time - 5pm to 7pm
- Place - Grethe Nielson's House  
4604 W. Holt Rd, Holt

### Details:

Grethe had invited our youth to her house for a Pizza Party. We will get to know Grethe and each other while eating Pizza and having some fun!

### Wednesday Night Schedule

- April 6 - 6pm to 8pm  
No Class-FAMILY NIGHT/Spring Break
- April 13 - 6pm to 8pm  
Lesson
- April 20 - 6pm to 8pm  
Lesson
- April 27 - 6pm to 8pm  
Fellowship Activity (details coming soon)

If you wish to serve on the Youth Ministry Action Team,  
contact Sara Vanderbilt - 615-557-6792 or [sara.vanderbilt@hotmail.com](mailto:sara.vanderbilt@hotmail.com)

To stay current on all Youth at Messiah details,  
join our Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/groups/youthatmessiah](http://www.facebook.com/groups/youthatmessiah)).

## Messiah Lutheran Servant Schedule

5740 W Holt Rd, Holt, MI 48842  
 www.messiahlutheranholt.org / 517-6941280  
 office@messiahlutheranholt.org

# April 2016

	4/3/2016	4/10/2016	4/17/2016	4/24/2016
8:30 AM Elder Acolyte Reader Usher Screens Altar Guild	Jeff Rutter Kenzie Greene Ellen Biergans Dave Biergans Sara Vanderbilt 0	Ernie Schuette Tyler Rutter Maggie Schultz Dave Biergans Sherri TerBush 0	Gene Wilson Kenzie Greene Janet Robson Dave Biergans 0 0	Ned Gottleber Tyler Rutter Diane Bennett 0 0
11:00 AM Elder Acolyte Reader Usher Screens Altar Guild Worship Team	Jon Wulff Teresa Carl Ron Switzer 0 0 0	Tom Large Cheryl Schlattman 0 0 0	Jerry Smith Carson Mills JoEllen Miskowski 0 0 0	Mike Wagner Cheryl Schlattman 0 0 0

3/31/16 8:41 AM



### APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Isaiah Dixon 1	Martha McDowell 17
Elijah House 1	Ned Gottleber 18
Andrew Cascaddan 2	Levi Krause 18
Ellen Geyer 6	Joan Schneeberger 18
Eric Bailey 8	Patsy Walters 18
Corynn Cooley 8	Taylor Beck 19
David Biergans 10	Christine Gottleber 22
Travis Lueder 12	Jerry Koernke 22
Paul Weishar 13	Zoe Meyer 22
Lois Snover-Hanson 16	Alicia Schmidt 26
Will Hartenburg 17	Ellen Biergans 29

### HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!



Kyle & Danielle Kopper  
4/4/2000

Randy & Debi Kelbert  
4/7/1984

Ken & Bonnie Root  
4/18/1970

Paul & Bonnie Weishar  
4/21/1967

Stan & Kerry Chubb  
4/26/2006

Bob & Ruth Ann McKean  
4/28/1972



### EASTER BREAKFAST

The Easter Breakfast was a resounding success. Many thanks to all who helped with set up and tear down afterwards. Special thanks to all who contributed food and juice. We had plenty of food for everyone. Your efforts were very appreciated and the breakfast would not have come together as easily as it did without your help.

Sara Vanderbilt and Sue Wilson

### POVERTY CURE

Mark Reister will be leading this three week study on April 11, 18 and 25. Each night will have two segments shown and discussion. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex.



Messiah Lutheran Church  
 5740 W Holt Rd  
 Holt, MI 48842  
 517-694-1280  
 Office@messiahlutheranholt.org

# APRIL 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 8:30a Worship 9:45a Bible Study and Fellowship 9:45a Kingdom Quest 11:00a Worship	4 6:15p MC <sup>2</sup> 6:30p Crossways 7p Choir	5 6:15p MC <sup>2</sup> 6:30p Crossways 7p Choir	6 7p Elders Meeting GSR	7 7p Elders Meeting GSR	8	9
10 8:30a Worship 9:45a Bible Study and Fellowship 9:45a Kingdom Quest 11:00a Worship 5:00p Youth Party (Gr 6-12)	11	12 6:15p MC <sup>2</sup> 6:30p Crossways 7p Choir 7p Trustee AT Paul	13 6p Head to the Heart GSR	14 6:30p Education AT Paul 7p Fellowship AT GSR	15 4:30p Newsletter Deadline	16
17 8:30a Worship 9:45a Bible Study and Fellowship 9:45a Kingdom Quest 11:00a Worship w/Confirmation 12:15p Confirmation Reception	18 7p Planned Giving GSR	19 6:15p MC <sup>2</sup> 6:30p Crossways 7p Choir	20 6p Head to the Heart GSR	21 7p Management Mtg GSR	22	23
24 8:30a Worship 9:45a Bible Study and Fellowship 9:45a Kingdom Quest 11:00a Worship	25	26 6:15p MC <sup>2</sup> 6:30p Crossways 7p Choir	27 6p Head to the Heart GSR	28 7p Governing Board GSR	29	30