



January 2016

Published Monthly

## UNITY, DIVERSITY, AND MATURITY

One of the marks of an individual's maturity is a growing understanding of, and appreciation for, his own body. There is a parallel in the spiritual life: as we mature in Christ, we gain a better understanding of the Church, which is Christ's body.

In recent years, there has been a growing and disturbing trend toward people who are "spiritual but not religious." This has led to a number of people who claim that they can be Christian without being a part of a local congregation. This has also led to a number of people who believe that attending worship on a Sunday morning is the same as being a part of the body of Christ. My participation in a congregation is all about me, my preferences, and my happiness. This has resulted in an interesting phenomenon: hundreds of people coming together for a worship experience, taking what they need, and returning to their homes without any thought to the rest of the congregation. This would be like a body's stomach digesting just enough food for itself and not providing any to the other parts of the body. If that practice keeps up, there will no longer be a body!

In January, we will spend three weeks looking at two familiar chapters of the Bible, 1 Corinthians 12 and 13. In those three weeks, we will chase three themes. On January 17, we will talk about **Unity**, four wonderful bonds that tie us all together. On January 24, we will talk about **Diversity**, a blessed difference that keeps us alive, literally. On January 31, we will talk about **Maturity**, what Christians and congregations look like when they fully embrace the Unity and Diversity of the Holy Spirit.

The Season after the Epiphany is one that is always marked by growth into the fullness of Jesus. I pray that you'll join us as we learn how to grow in unity, diversity, and maturity so that we can seek the lost and grow the found.

Seeking and Growing with you,

Pastor Tom Vanderbilt

**MESSIAH FISH DINNERS**

Messiah fish dinners will be starting soon! For several years now Messiah has sponsored fish dinners during the Lenten season. Messiah members and Holt community residents look forward to our dinners each year. We regularly serve over 500 dinners each Friday night (nearing 600 many nights) during the Lenten season. These dinners require a lot of planning and a lot of helping hands. Listed below, you'll find some wonderful opportunities to help serve. Please contact Leslie Soule if you have any questions about the dinners. For questions about a specific "opportunity" please contact the person listed below.

**Advertising Opportunities**

Our first fish dinner will be Friday, February 12th. To help raise some "seed money" before the dinners start, we ask for businesses to advertise on our placemats used at the fish dinners. If you have a business or know of a business that may be interested in advertising on the placemats, we ask for \$100 and two business cards. We need to have the placemat information to the printer by January 18th. If you are interested, checks should be made payable to Messiah, placed in an envelope with the business cards and placed in Todd Pentecost's mailbox at church. We provide the advertisers with two free dinner tickets. The funds from the placemats are used to purchase initial food and supplies. If you have any questions about the placemats or advertising contact Debbie Pentecost.

**Kitchen Clean-Up**

To get everything ready for the big night, we are having a cleaning session. Saturday, January 16th beginning at 10:30 a.m., all of the fish fry equipment and utensils that are just used during the fish fry season need to be washed and sanitized. We will also wash down all tables and make sure everything is ready for February 12th! It won't take long with lots of helping hands. Please join us. For questions contact Sondra Klepper.

**Wrap the Plasticware**

It's time for our annual wrapping of the plasticware! Please plan on joining us as we wrap the plasticware in napkins to be used for the dinners. We serve over 3,000 dinners during the six weeks of Lent, and all of those dinners need a set of plasticware to go with them! We will be wrapping the plasticware on Sunday, January 31st, in the gym immediately following second service. Come join in the fun (No previous experience required!). For questions contact Sharon Keller.

## Dessert for Dinner

What is dinner without dessert? Again this year, we will be asking for donations for our homemade pies. Large cans of apple, cherry and blueberry pie filling are always needed. This year we are adding to our wish list large boxes (32 oz) of cook and serve vanilla pudding needed for parfaits. A box will be in the narthex for your donations. Also a group of ladies meet every Friday morning of our dinners to make and bake about 40 pies. If you would like to help out in the pie making or have any other questions about desserts, please contact Elaine Volker.

## Looking for a Volunteer

If you are looking for a short-term job to help with the fish dinners, we have just the job for you. The team is looking for a volunteer to take the frozen fish out of the freezer on Sunday after church (takes about 45 minutes) and then turn the fish every other day (takes 20-30 minutes). This is needed to ensure that the fish thaws completely before it is needed on Fridays. Please contact Sharon Keller or Ron Switzer if you are interested.

## OFFICE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Messiah is looking for some volunteers to help with some routine office tasks each week on **Mondays**. The hours are flexible but we would ultimately like someone here from **9 a.m. to Noon** at a minimum. Some of the tasks we would ask them to perform are:

- Answer the telephones, take messages, and provide routine information to callers
- Help with some photocopying, collating, and stapling
- Assist with filing and scanning of documents

These tasks are just the beginning; there may be more that a volunteer could do based on their experience and knowledge.

If you would like to help Messiah in this way, please contact Pastor Vanderbilt at 694-1280 or [pastor@messiahlutheranholt.org](mailto:pastor@messiahlutheranholt.org). Thank you!

November / December, 2015

## Maverick Messenger

2418 Aurelius Road, Holt, MI 48842

[www.martinlutherhighschool.org](http://www.martinlutherhighschool.org) T: 517-525-0116

Dear Parents and Friends of MLHS,

Welcome to the **Maverick Messenger**, your update for MLHS happenings. We have had a wonderful start to our academic year, and look forward to sharing our ministry with you. The Advent Season is upon us! We watch and wait, celebrating the birth of our Lord, even as we rejoice in His resurrection, and await His triumphant return. We are so thankful to be a part of a family of congregations who are united in support of the Lutheran education ministry! May you all have a blessed Advent and Christmas season.

Serving Christ with you,

Traci Backus, Superintendent

### Maverick Senior Student Volunteer – Andy Backus

Martin Luther High School promotes volunteerism within not just our school community, but within our association churches and the greater community as well. One such person that many of you may see around your churches is Andy Backus, who is currently serving as the coach of two peewee basketball teams. Students from area congregations were invited to join the **Our Savior Lutheran Church & School Pee Wee League** this year, and HLS (St. Matthew) fielded two teams. "Coach Andy" and his players enjoy the chance to meet with other teams from the community and fellowship, even as they learn the game of basketball. "My favorite part of coaching is working with the kids and helping them learn sportsmanship," said Coach Andy. "The



### Upcoming Events

**November 19**

Parent Teacher Conferences

**November 21**

Thanksgiving Break Begins

**December 1**

Advent Celebration

**December 18**

Half Day/Break begins



fact that we get to play a bunch of great teams in such a cool facility as OSL makes it even better!" Many thanks to Bill Burmeister and the other OSL Pee Wee League coordinators and volunteers for providing this opportunity to serve. Please contact the school office for more information on Maverick Student Volunteers.



## What is a Gold Standard Project?

Although "projects" have been used in education for more than 100 years, there is much to learn about the main course or "Gold Standard Projects" of today. Many believe that projects are the culmination of research or prior work, drawn from a combination of resources, including textbooks, lectures, and web resources. What differentiates gold standard projects (or "main course projects") is the fact that they are more than just the end product or afterthought revealed at the end of a unit of study, or more than the sweet that follows a "meal". True gold standard projects **are** the main course, because they "contain and frame the curriculum and instruction." (John Larmer & John R. Mergendoller, Buck Institute for Education, 2010) Such projects are designed to require significant inquiry and solve real-world problems.

The MLHS students have spent a great deal of time delving into this process. The STEM class students are currently wrapping up a project wherein they had to create a model survival shelter heated by the fuel they hypothesized would be most efficient. They had to calculate predicted final air temperatures and determine their shelter's efficiencies, then create a brochure to market their product. The goal is to have the students involved in developing innovative forms of shelter and heating resources as people continue to seek alternatives to fossil fuels. By using these projects and incorporating these skills, the MLHS faculty hopes to train the students to manage their time, collaborate with others, and solve real-world problems as life-long learners.

**"A very little key will open a very heavy door."** - Charles Dickens



Coach Backus and his team gather for pre-game prayer



Is that a Spartan hat, Santa?



Duct Tape Mountain Shelters,  
Incorporated:  
Fuel Efficiency Equations

# *Thank you!*

To our church Family,

Thank you for your visits, phone calls, cards and lovely filled gift bag. Most of all, we thank you for your prayers.

May our Lord and Savior bless all of you in the new year.

In Christian love,

Will & Sally Hartenburg

## **CORRECTIONS**

In the poinsettia dedications on Christmas Eve, there was an error that affected two of them. I apologize for the error. The correct dedications should have read:

Peg & Steve Jenkins  
To celebrate our children

Tom & Sherri Large  
Remembering our family in heaven

**Messiah Lutheran Servant Schedule**  
5740 W Holt Rd, Holt, MI 48842  
[www.messiahlutheranholt.org](http://www.messiahlutheranholt.org) / 517-6941280  
[office@messiahlutheranholt.org](mailto:office@messiahlutheranholt.org)

# January 2016

	1/3/2016	1/10/2016	1/17/2016	1/24/2016	1/31/2016
8:30 AM					
Elder	Ned Gottleber	Mark Reister	Scott Greene	Ernie Schuette	Jeff Rutter
Acolyte	Tyler Rutter	Kenzie Greene		0 Tyler Rutter	Kenzie Greene
Reader	Maggie Schultz	Janet Robson	Sherri TerBush	Diane Bennett	Janet Robson
Usher	0	0	0	0	0
Screens	Meredith Foster	Meredith Foster	Craig Cumbow		Craig Cumbow
Altar Guild	Team A4	Team A5	Team A2	Team A3	Team A4
11:00 AM					
Elder	Jerry Smith	Mike Wagner	Jon Wulff	Gene Wilson	Tom Large
Acolyte	Carson Mills	Charlie Gietzel	Lucas Nunn	Charlie Gietzel	Lucas Nunn
Reader	Sherrie Nunheimer	Teresa Carl	JoEllen Miskowski		0 Krista Ried
Usher	Dale Nunheimer	Zach Gietzel	Don Hartenburg	Jeff Wurzler	0
Screens	Alex Allen	Cheryl Schlattman	Alex Allen	Cheryl Schlattman	Peyton Ried
Altar Guild	Team A4	Team A5	Team A2	Team A3	Team A4
Worship Team	Team 1	Team 2	Team 3	Team 4	0

12/29/15 12:54 PM

**JANUARY BIRTHDAYS**

Margaret Jenkins	1	Austin Alvord	18
Karl Flamme	3	Glenn Kopper	19
Ethan Cascaddan	5	Joy Gietzel	20
Sandra Schuette	5	Erin House	20
Jonathan Wulff	5	Sondra Klepper	20
Zachary Kelly	7	Traci Barcelow	21
Kara Nowland	9	Blake Kelly	22
Samantha Pentecost	9	Kelly Krebill	23
Robin Powers	9	A. Bailey	27
Molly Wurzler	10	Judy Harrington	27
Jerry Priehs	11	Carson Mills	28
Christy Baughman	15	Joseph Criscuolo	29
Eli Schmidt	15	Linda Flamme	29
Dennis Greenman	16	Ava Harmon	29
Randy Kelbert	16	Morgan Volker	31
Kevin Volker	16		

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!**

Mark & Maggie Schultz  
1/5/1980

Jim & Julie Keat  
1/23/1970

Jerry & Marsha Ericks  
1/25/1964



Messiah Lutheran Church  
5740 W Holt Rd  
Holt, MI 48842

517-694-1280

Office@messiahlutheranholt.org

# JANUARY 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9 9:30a First Place 4 Health Peter
8:30a Worship 9:45a Bible Study and Fellowship 9:45a Kingdom Quest 11:00a Worship	9a Winkel Sanctuary & GSR 6:15p MC <sup>2</sup> 6:30p Crossways GSR 7p Choir	6p Head to the Heart GSR				
10	11	12	13	14	15	16 9:30a First Place 4 Health Peter Cleaning Tables and Equipment for Fish Dinners
8:30a Worship 9:45a Bible Study and Fellowship 9:45a Kingdom Quest 11:00a Worship	5:30p ECM Paul 7p Elder Meeting GSR 7p Choir 7p Trustee AT Paul	6:15p MC <sup>2</sup> 6:30p Crossways GSR 7p Choir 7p Trustee AT Paul	6:30p Head to the Heart GSR 7p Fellowship AT GSR	6:30p Education AT Paul 7p Fellowship AT GSR	4:30p Newsletter Deadline	9:30a First Place 4 Health Peter
17	18	19	20	21	22	23 9:30a First Place 4 Health Peter
8:30a Worship 9:45a Bible Study and Fellowship 9:45a Kingdom Quest 11:00a Worship	7p Planned Giving GSR 7p Choir	6:15p MC <sup>2</sup> 6:30p Crossways GSR 7p Choir	6p Head to the Heart GSR 7p Management Mtg GSR	6:30p Education AT GSR 7p Management Mtg GSR		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30 9:30a First Place 4 Health Peter
8:30a Worship 9:45a Bible Study and Fellowship 9:45a Kingdom Quest 11:00a Worship Noon New Member Reception		6:15p MC <sup>2</sup> 6:30p Crossways GSR 7p Choir		7p Governing Board GSR		
31						
8:30a Worship 9:45a Bible Study and Fellowship 9:45a Kingdom Quest 11:00a Worship Noon Wrapping of Silverware						