



# *The Messiah* **Messenger**

June 2017

Published Monthly

## **“This is the catholic faith; a person cannot be saved without believing this firmly and faithfully.”** –closing line of the Athanasian Creed

These can be some of the most troubling words that we will ever confess as Christians.

In fact, I can remember confessing the Athanasian Creed one Sunday and a parishioner ran up to me and asked, “What the heck did you just have me say, Pastor?”

June 11 is Trinity Sunday, a day to celebrate the uniqueness of our God. And the topic of God is one that is big these days. The phrase “under God” in our nation’s pledge of allegiance is being examined regularly. References to God and the Ten Commandments in various halls of government are under constant scrutiny and debate. And really, the only ones who have a problem with this are Atheists. Most everyone will admit that there is a God—89% of Americans believe in God.

However, it’s not enough to believe in God. **“You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe—and shudder.”** (James 2:19) The demons believe that there is one God and that belief frightens them to their very core because that belief means that they will be judged and punished eternally. You see, dear Christian, it is not a belief in God that saves; it’s a belief in Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of the Father that saves. And, dear Christian, you and I have only come to know and believe through the work of the Holy Spirit.

The Athanasian Creed reminds us that the true Christian faith is not monotheistic, believing in only one God—like Judaism or Islam—but instead it is Trinitarian, worshiping one God in Trinity and the Trinity in unity. There’s more to our confession of faith than simply saying “I believe in God.”

“God” is too impersonal of a term to describe the One who created us by putting His hands into the dust and formed us with His own hands. “God” is too generic a term to describe the One who redeemed us by putting on flesh and blood, assuming humanity into His divinity, and coming to be where we are so that we might spend eternity where He is. “God” is too distant a term to describe the One who sanctifies us each and every day, converting our bodies into His very temple, that He might live in us and work through us each and every day. These are not “Gods,” but the Athanasian Creed calls them something much more personal: Persons.

The Person of the Father lovingly created us. The God-Man, Jesus Christ, walked with his disciples, taught, preached, cried, laughed, and shared His life with them before He died and rose for them. The Holy Spirit proceeds from the Father and the Son and comes to each and every one of us with comfort and with the power to live and speak as children of God.

We don’t simply believe in “God.” We believe in a Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We believe in this Trinity so much that we baptize every new Christian in the name of all three: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit and not just in the generic name of “God.” We believe in this Trinity so much that we begin every worship in the name of the Trinity, and not just in the name of “God.”

Most importantly, we believe in them so much that we do not fear the second coming of the Son, as do the demons who merely believe in “God” and shudder. We believe in a personal Savior who will come to take us to be where He is forever.

Trinity Sunday reminds us again that we worship and serve no mere “God.” Rather, we worship and serve a personal Trinity who shows His love and care for us each and every day. And, without believing this faithfully and firmly, we cannot be saved.

## A LITTLE FREE LIBRARY AT MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

1. WHAT IS A LITTLE FREE LIBRARY?

A little Free Library is a hand crafted structure the size of a large bird house placed on top of a short post. Anyone walking by can stop and take a book for free. Our church would also be able to add Christian books.

2. WHERE WILL OUR LITTLE FREE LIBRARY BE LOCATED?

The perfect spot for our Little Free Library is next to the bench on our property near Holt Road by the walk and Bike path.

3. WHO WILL THE LITTLE FREE LIBRARY BELONG TO?

Messiah will own the Little Free Library. We will decide what kind of children and adult books we want. We will be able to add and remove books as we see fit.

4. WHAT KIND OF BOOKS WILL BE IN THE LITTLE FREE LIBRARY?

There will be both Christian and secular books for children and adults. The Christian books, Portals of Prayer, tracts and tapes that we add will make our Little Free Library an opportunity to promote our Messiah congregation and a way to share our message of Jesus and forgiveness.

5. WHERE WILL THE BOOKS COME FROM?

Those who walk by and take a book are encouraged to leave one of their own for someone else to take. Also, when more books are needed, a Little Free Library tub will be available and members of Messiah will be invited to donate books. Many of the Christian books will be purchased.

6. HOW CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS?

This Messiah project is being led by Gary Volker and Jim Keat. They are ready to answer any other questions you might have.



SEEK THE LOST GROW THE FOUND

### Sunday Schedule

#### Regular Worship

8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

#### Fellowship Time and Adult Bible Study

9:45-10:45 a.m.

### Office Hours

9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Tuesday through Friday

Phone: 517-694-1280

email: [messiahlutheranholt.org](mailto:messiahlutheranholt.org)

## Members of the Governing Board

Following the elections from the Voter's Meeting on May 7, the following individuals are the current members of the Governing Board. They will be installed on June 4:

Larry Russell

Rich Jenkins

Kim Blodgett

Jackie Lack

Jack Chamberlain

Ken Horne

Sue Jennings

Dale Nunheimer



# VBS 2017 – COMING SOON!

**When: Sunday July 9 – Wednesday July 12**

**Time: 5:30 – 8:00 p.m.**

At Mighty Fortress VBS we will learn about Jesus, our Savior, and meet new friends. We will also do fun activities, sing great songs, make crafts, play games, enjoy food and more! It's going to be fun – but it's going to be more fun with you there!

Help Needed:

Volunteers!!!! Please look for our sign up in the narthex. We need volunteers to be crew leaders, bible story leaders, craft leaders, to help with check in, to help with publicity and more! Volunteers can be anyone 6th grade and older! Please see Erin or Angie if you have any questions.

Dinner Volunteers! In order to continue providing complimentary dinners we need donations to cover the costs and volunteers to work in the kitchen! Please see Tom Large for details.

Please consider helping us out this year as we celebrate with the children that Jesus, our champion, has won the victory over sin, death, and Satan; that He acts through His Word and keeps his promises. At Mighty Fortress, the children will look into the Bible, God's Holy Word, to discover that God is our Mighty Fortress, our Shield, and our Deliverer. We look forward to another great year!

For more information – please contact Erin House (646-6989) or Angie Greene (505-0512)

## Messiah Child Development Center Preschool Graduation Class of 2017

MCDC's 2016-2017 preschool class graduated Wednesday, May 24, 2017. There were 18 graduates who walked down the sanctuary aisle to "Pomp and Circumstance." Those in attendance were able to enjoy a wonderful program as the children recited the "Pledge of Allegiance", sang songs from preschool and chapel, prayed the "Lord's Prayer" and shared what they want to be when they grow up. The program ended with a slide show of the children throughout the years. A reception with light dinner followed the program.

Thank you to ECM Action Team & Leslie Soule for assisting me with the food and reception. Thanks also to Pastor Tom, Tom Large, Ron Pride, Ned Gottleber, Debbie Pentecost & Ken Horne for assisting in many ways. The evening was very special for the preschoolers and their families.

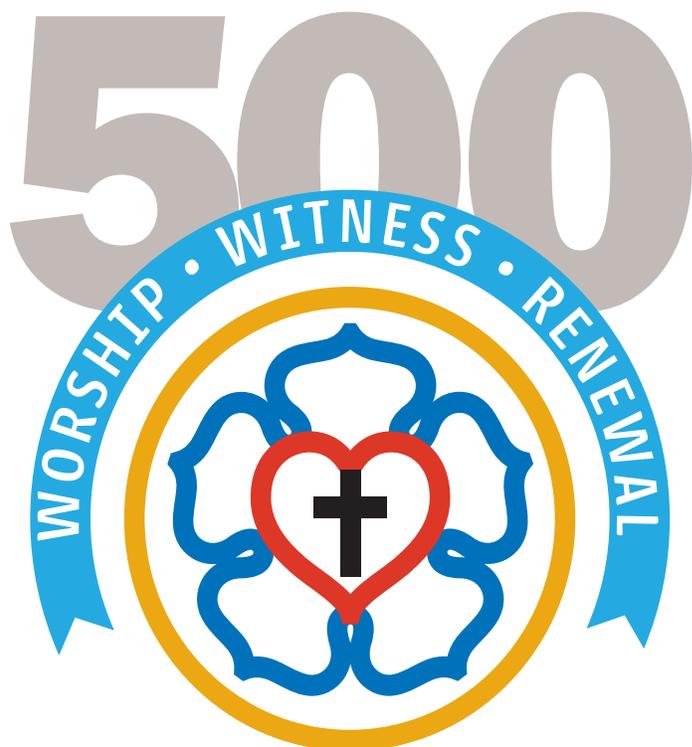
The children have been a blessing to watch as they have matured into wonderful young ladies and gentlemen. I feel blessed to have known 12 of these children since they were infants in our program. What a wonderful testimony to our ministry! I shared with the parents that evening that I have the best job in the world. 😊

The children have made wonderful memories and friends throughout the year(s). We wish them the best as they begin their kindergarten year.

God's Blessings,  
Kelly Marble  
Director  
Messiah Child Development Center



*Graduating Class of 2017*



# Here We Stand

*Mark Your Calendars*

**Michigan District-wide  
Reformation Worship Service**

**Sunday, October 15, 2017**

Breslin Center  
at Michigan State University  
2 p.m. Concourse Displays Open  
4 p.m. Pre-Service Concert  
5 p.m. Celebration Worship

**[michigandistrict.org/500](http://michigandistrict.org/500)**

To reserve your tickets for this unique service, you can go to the site listed above and click on the "Reserve Tickets" button to go through the reservation process or you may sign up for tickets on the sign up sheet located in the Narthex. Just be sure you select our congregation when reserving online, so that we can all be seated together. There is no cost for the tickets, the tickets are just to simplify seating and make the process smoother.

## Leave a Life Legacy

When we think of leaving a legacy to our family we often think of money and other assets. Our many years of experiences may be even more valuable to our children and grandchildren. Giving the next generation our earthly resources without informational, mental, emotional or value foundations can be like giving them a loaded weapon without instruction or caution.

Holiday and family gatherings provide an opportunity to capture the wisdom elders have to offer. Adult children and grandchildren can start by asking older relatives to share memories and anecdotes. But don't stop there. Ask what they learned from the experience. When you ask a person for advice, it empowers them and honors their life.

In a comfortable setting you can start the process without anyone realizing you are passing along your wisdom. Maybe it's sitting around a campfire or in the living room at a family gathering when you encourage each generation to talk about family traditions they love and how they think they got started.

Karl Pillemer from Cornell University suggests some questions to ask important people in your life. What "Words of Wisdom" will come by discovering answers to these questions?

1. What are the most important lessons you have learned in your life?
2. What advice would you give about getting and staying married?
3. Share your best advice about raising children.
4. How did you find fulfilling work and start a successful career?
5. Explain how key events or experiences changed the course of your life.
6. What do you know now about living a happy life you didn't know at age 20?
7. What are the values or principles that direct your life?
8. How did your faith in God shape your decisions over the years?
9. What was the most difficult experience you had and what did you learn from it?
10. What advice would you give to people about growing older?

You can also be a living example to your family. Talk to them about your faith and reasons for making contributions to the ministries that have made a difference in your life. Tell your family what you wish to have happen to the assets God has entrusted to you through a Will or Revocable Living Trust. You can find additional Family Communication Resources on the Church Extension Fund website at [www.mi-cef.org](http://www.mi-cef.org). Click on Gift Planning and scroll to the bottom of the page to find several PDF files that you are free to use with your family. Share your experience and wisdom today.

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Bill Burmeister  
Church Extension Fund – Michigan District  
800-242-3944 ♦ [bill.burmeister@mi-cef.org](mailto:bill.burmeister@mi-cef.org)



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.



Youth at Messiah is comprised of the High School and Head 2 Heart programs. We develop relationships with Christ & each other through Discipleship, Service, and Fellowship.

## Upcoming Activities

Below are the upcoming activities in June & July - All activities take place in the Youth Room (unless stated).

### All Youth

*(activities for fellowship & service for grades 6-12)*

#### June

- **June 4** - Youth at the Zoo  
12:30 - 3 pm - We'll eat lunch before we go
- **June 11** - 2019 National Youth Gathering in Minneapolis Information Meeting  
9:45 - 10:45 am - Youth Room
- **June 24** - Youth Day at the Park  
10am-2pm - Picnic & Games at Burchfield Park

#### July

- **July 1** - Deadline for National Youth Gathering Commitment forms (due to Sara)
- **July 16** - Pool Party -  
4-6pm (more details to come)
- **July 21 - 31** - Youth Week in Iowa (High School Only) - \$339 early-bird (\$359 - Registration AFTER June 23) register at <http://bit.ly/2017youthweek>

### Look for the below activities in the coming months:

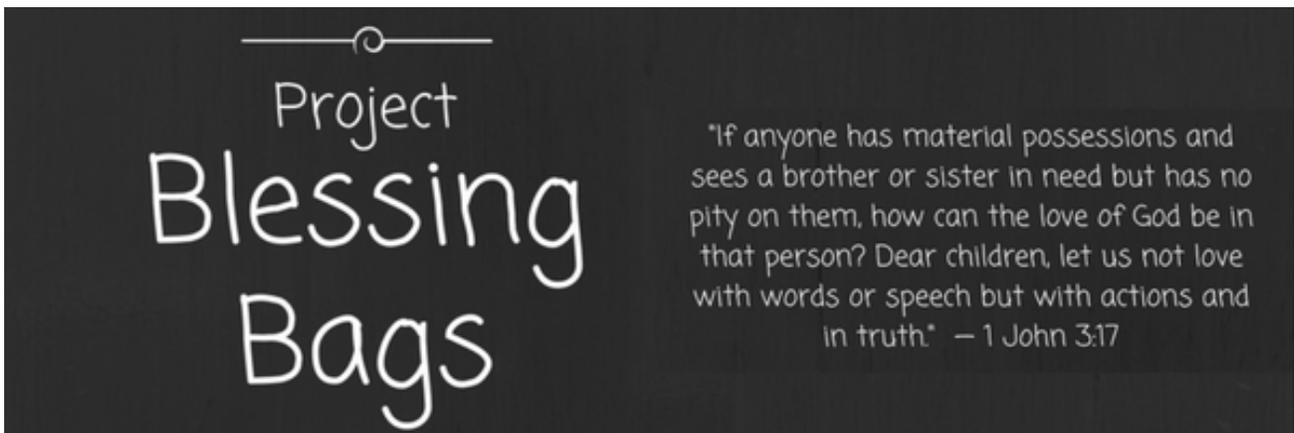
Raking Leaves at Youth Haven  
Animal Shelter Service Activity

Laser Tag  
Cedar Point

We are looking for adults to help plan these activities.

If interested, talk with Sara Vanderbilt - 615-557-6792 or [sara.vanderbilt@hotmail.com](mailto:sara.vanderbilt@hotmail.com)





## JOINT High School Youth & Head 2 Heart SERVANT ACTIVITY

Our Youth will be assembling **Blessing Bags** throughout 2017.

**What is a Blessing Bag you may be wondering?** It is a gallon size bag filled with personal care items, snacks, and a word of encouragement to be distributed to the homeless persons in the Holt/Lansing area. After assembly, the bags will be available in the narthex for congregational members to pick up and place in their cars. Then, when you come upon a person in need, hand them the bag.

**The bags are available on the shelves across from the bathrooms.**

**How can you help?** Donate any of the following  
*(place donations in the blue bins in the hallway by the bathrooms)*

### Snacks:

Tuna/chicken salad cracker kits  
Beef jerky/Meat Sticks  
Raisins/dried fruit  
Snack cups/applesauce/pudding cups  
Breakfast/cereal bars  
Granola bars  
Crackers  
Cookies  
Candy/Chocolate/Mints  
Snack Mix/Nuts

### Medical & Clothing Items:

Band-aids  
Chapstick  
Advil Packet  
Cough Drops  
Vitamin C Drink Additive  
Chewable multivitamins  
Hand warmers  
Hats  
Gloves  
Socks (warm ones)

### Hygiene Items:

Moisturizer/Lotion  
Deodorant/Antipersperant  
Hand Sanitizer  
Comb  
Tissues  
Wet Wipes/Baby Wipes  
Mouthwash  
Dental Floss  
Toothbrush  
Toothpaste



### **What is the National LCMS Youth Gathering?**

The National Youth Gathering (NYG) is an event held every 3 years for youth of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS). The Gathering provides youth an opportunity to learn more about Jesus Christ, the Christian faith and their Lutheran identity. Approximately 25,000 youth attend each gathering.

### **When and where is the next National LCMS Youth Gathering?**

The next National LCMS Youth Gathering will be July 11-15, 2019, in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

### **What will be expected of Messiah Youth attending?**

Youth attending from Messiah will be expected to participate in all fundraising and spiritual preparation work. They will be expected to participate in ALL activities during the gathering. They will be expected to treat each other as brothers and sisters in Christ. Most importantly, have fun and experience an awesome event!

### **Age Requirements of Who Can Attend**

The Gathering is intended for high school youth ages 14-19. This includes:

- (1) those who are 14 years of age at the time of the Gathering;
- (2) those entering his or her ninth grade year at the time of the Gathering;
- (3) those who are 2019 high school graduates.

**Basically, this includes any youth currently in grades 6-10.**

### **What are the costs of the Gathering? (These costs are estimates based on previous years)**

- Registration Fee: \$300
- Gathering Housing: \$200
- Travel to Minneapolis: \$300
- Food: \$150
- Other event costs: \$110

TOTAL per person = \$1,110 (we will do fundraising to cover these costs)

### **What are our next steps?**

Pray about and discuss this information within your family. By July 1, I will be asking for a form from those wanting to attend to fill out the commitment form (included in this newsletter). Once we have a commitment, we will start meeting to plan transportation, fundraising, and spiritual preparation.



## Who's going to the National Youth Gathering?

If you want to be part of the group heading to Minneapolis for the 2019 National Youth Gathering, please fill out the below form & put it into Sara's mailbox by July 1, along with a \$100 deposit (make checks out to Messiah Lutheran Church with a Memo of: NYG Youth).

The Gathering is intended for high school youth ages 14-19. This includes:

- those who are 14 years of age at the time of the Gathering
- those entering his or her ninth grade year at the time of the Gathering
- those who are 2019 high school graduates.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, and my child, \_\_\_\_\_  
(Print parent name) (Print student name)

agree to the following:

- My child fully commits to the National Youth Gathering trip— July 11-15, 2019
- While we plan to have fun, we fully plan to learn more about Christ and how to live as Christ's Disciples
- There are no refunds of the initial amount of \$100
- Attendees are REQUIRED to participate in fundraising and other preparatory activities

My child and I have prayed about this commitment and agree to the above statements. We also agree to sign and return all future paperwork associated with this event (ex. medical release, permission consent, code of conduct).

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of parent/guardian)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of youth)

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Aaron Krause	1	Jessica Lueder	13	Laura Hammes	22
Margo Switzer	3	Mathias Nielsen	15	Jennifer Morley	23
Amanda Dixon	4	Paula Reister	15	Allison Dolton	24
Julie Keat	5	Sally TerBush	15	Sally Hartenburg	24
Tarryn Lueder	5	Debi Kelbert	16	Nick Steuber	24
Isabella Kodish	6	Ashley Cumbow	17	Jocelyn Nowland	25
Bonnie Weishar	7	Andrew Rutter	17	Hannah Reister	26
Ben Andrews	10	John Dickerson	18	Gary Volker	26
Courtney Spear	10	Luther Dickerson	19	Jerry Smith	27
Katelyn Curtis	11	Thomas Large	20	Shannon Bonney	29
Joyce McGhee	11	Rhett Ried	20	Danielle Kopper	29
Julie Bailey	12	Audrey Schmidt	21	Sue Jennings	30

## *Happy Anniversary*

Karl & Carolyn Flamme  
6/2/1962

Jon & Cyndy Wulff  
6/7/1970

Pete & Barb Sweeney  
6/8/1974

Ed & LeAnn Mize  
6/10/1989

Jeff & Bonnie Lueder  
6/11/1988

Jack & Sharon Chamberlain  
6/15/1974

Gary & Elaine Volker  
6/15/1968

Tim & Barb Monroe  
6/20/1981

Terry & Jackie Roberts  
6/25/1971

Ned & Chris Gottleber  
6/26/1976

Adam & Amy Kelly  
6/27/1998

Pastor Tom & Sarah Vanderbilt  
6/28/1997



Messiah Lutheran Church  
 5740 Holt Rd  
 Holt, MI 48842  
 517-694-1280  
[Office@messiahlutheranholt.org](mailto:Office@messiahlutheranholt.org)

# JUNE 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 7p Elders Meeting GSR	2 7p MLHS Graduation	3 9:30a First Place 4 Health GSR
4 8:30a Worship 9:45a Bible Study and Fellowship 11:00a Worship Youth - Zoo	5	6 7p Worship	7 7p Worship	8	9	10 9:30a First Place 4 Health GSR
11 8:30a Worship 9:45a Bible Study and Fellowship 9:45a VBS Meeting 11:00a Worship	12 7p Trustee AT Paul	13	14 7p Worship	15 7p Governance Board GSR	16	17 9:30a First Place 4 Health GSR
18 8:30a Worship 9:45a Bible Study and Fellowship 11:00a Worship	19	20	21 7p Worship	22	23	24 9:30a First Place 4 Health GSR 2p Youth Day
25 8:30a Worship 9:45a Bible Study and Fellowship 11:00a Worship	26	27	28 7p Worship	29	30	

## Messiah Lutheran Servant Schedule

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

# June 2017

	6/4/2017	6/11/2017	6/18/2017	6/25/2017
8:30 AM				
Elder	Mark Reister	Ernie Schuette	Ned Gottleber	Scott Greene
Acolyte	Irene Nielsen	Tyler Rutter	Nathan Dolton	Kenzie Greene
Reader	Ellen Biergans	Diane Bennett	Janet Robson	Maggie Schultz
Usher	Dave Biergans	Don Schneeberger		0
Screens	Craig Cumbow	Sherri TerBush	Craig Cumbow	0
Altar Guild	Team A5	Team A2	Team A3	Team A4
11:00 AM				
Elder	Tom Large	Jeff Rutter	Paul Schlattman	Jerry Smith
Acolyte	Peyton Ried	Laney Waugh	Audrey Harmon	Charlie Gietzel
Reader	Sherrie Nunheimer	Teresa Carl	Jessica Bonkoski	JoEllen Miskowski
Usher	Dale Nunheimer		0	0
Screens			0	0
Altar Guild	Team A5	Team A2	Team A3	Team A4
Worship Team				

	6/7/2017	6/14/2017	6/21/2017	6/28/2017
7:00 PM				
Elder	Mike Wagner	Mike Wagner	Tom Large	Mike Wagner
Reader		0	0	0
Screens		0	0	0
Altar Guild	Team A5	Team A2	Team A3	Team A4