



The Messenger

January 2011

Published monthly for the members and friends of Messiah Lutheran Church, Amherst, NH

Catching Up

Do you get Christmas cards with “holiday family newsletters” in them? We do—and some are quite detailed! They help us catch up with each other—the way we should do all year long, but there never seems to be the time.

Well, with Advent and all the preparations for our Christmas worship, I’ve been so busy, I find the need to catch up with all of you. So, here’s my holiday newsletter article...

The Teichmann’s thank all who sent cards and presents and well wishes and cookies (!) to us. We appreciate you remembering us and treating us like one of the family.

I would personally, and in Messiah’s name, like to thank all who worked hard at making Advent and Christmas wonderful this year. Linnea and the choir and the band and Laura Soice on the harp. Those who made new worship banners possible through their extra giving. Those who decorated – Marge, the Meldrums, the Sunday School and Confirmation classes, Kurt, the Theils. Lisa for making the new blue paraments, and for doing whatever I couldn’t do myself. The Advent worship speakers. The volunteers for our worship services. Joanne, for countless hours spent –vising and re—vising the bulletins. All of you for showing up, bringing family and friends, and laughing at my jokes! What a great season it was!

It was also a generous season. The annual dinner/auction netted about \$6,000, plus all the goods auctioned were donated. Captive Free was supported financially. The Advent Conspiracy offering made \$850 available for clean water projects through LWR. Gifts were given to needy families. Cards were provided for the prisoners in Concord. Plus it appears we will have done all this while also exceeding our expectations budget-wise. And in this period of economic uncertainty, we were able to build a balanced budget for next year. Thank you, Messiah, for all you good gifts!

It definitely was a wonderful year—even though there were difficulties and sorrows and challenges. Some of us lost loved ones, some found themselves increasingly in the role of caregivers, and others experienced trauma of one sort or another. Through it all, Messiah supported those in need with cards, visits, cash, and assistance—and most of all, prayer.

And I thank you for your prayers for me—as your pastor, and as one living with health challenges. The Parkinson’s Disease continues to advance, and I continue to adapt and accommodate to it. And it’s alright to ask me about it—it’s better we all know how this condition is effecting me and our ministry together. And continue to pray for those who seek a cure.

Now I feel caught up, but as always, I’d love to visit with you and catch up in person. Let me know if you’d like that!

In Christ,

Pastor Tom

In Our Prayers...

Al DeMello, Barbara Wilson (B. Wurst's Mom), **Janey Stokes** (rel of the Wurst's), **Jane Lind** (D. Bonfiglio's Aunt), **Perham Family, Suzy Atwell** (friend of the Mitchell's), **Ed Burgess** (friend of B. Wurst), **Melissa Salisbury** (rel. of the Salisbury's), **Terry Klecker** (rel. of the Costa's), **Sarah** (friend of the Costa's), **Pat Sapienza** (Friend of the Costa's), **Walter Schur** (Dave's Dad), **George A. Ritz** (friends of B. Ensinger), **Pastor Tom, Mike** (friend of R. Bonfiglio), **Andy Wyliee, Jim & Gen Retelle** (T. Retelle's parents), **Marie Brundage** (R. Brundage's Mom), **Margie Rowe, Frank Genna** (friend of the Ensinger's), **Richard Ball, Crystal** (friend of L. Teichmann), **Sue Strook** (R. Ball's sister), **Alice Mullen** (friend of B. Ensinger), **Judy Johnson, Becky Herlihy** (friend of the Davison's), **Millie Bauer, Barbara Bonfiglio** (Bob's Mom), **Our military personel, Peter Chuchul, The Retelle Family.**

Hey, Where Did "The Lutheran" Go???

Lutherans are always on the go.

For Messiah's 2010 church year budget, we did not renew our church-wide subscription to "The Lutheran" magazine. Because we paid for the 2010 subscription at the end of 2009, you've been receiving and enjoying the monthly magazine for this entire year.

But, as they say, all good things must come to an end. And your Messiah-funded subscription to "The Lutheran" will end in December 2010.

If you wish to continue to receive "The Lutheran" magazine, you can get your personal subscription at: <http://www.thelutheran.org/> or you can read portions of it online at that website. You can also call (800) 328-4648. Choose "1" for magazines.

Messiah Lutheran Church

FY 2010 Income and Expenses Summary
(through November 2010)

| | Nov 2010 | Budget | \$ Over | Budget |
|---------------|------------|---------|---------|--------|
| Total Income | \$ 177,511 | 167,528 | | 9,983 |
| Total Expense | \$ 176,279 | 167,990 | | 8,289 |
| | | | | |
| Net Income | \$ 1,232 | -462 | | 1,694 |

Note - Full details of each 2010 Monthly Treasurer's Report can be found on the hallway bulletin board next to the kitchen entrance.

Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of Messiah Lutheran Church will be held on Sunday, January 23rd following the 10:30 am worship service.

On the agenda is adoption of the 2011 spending plan, election of five council members, two synod assembly voting members and the nominating committee for 2012.

Please make every effort to be present as we need a quorum to do this important business.

All team reports are due in the secretary's office January 16th.

Ministers, All of the people at Messiah

*Pastoral Care, Reverend Tom Teichmann
672-3734, pastorteich@comcast.net*

*Administrative Assistant, Joanne Theil
673-2011, theil69@msn.com*

Congregation President, Kauko Aunio

Music Director, Linnea Micciulla

The Messiah Messenger is a monthly publication of Messiah Lutheran Church, Amherst, NH. Submissions should be made by the deadline as noted on the back cover.

*Communications Team,
All of the people of God at Messiah*

Editor, Lisa Teichmann

25th Anniversary of Messiah Celebration Team Forming

Did you know that Messiah is nearing its 25th birthday? It was in November of 1986 that the charter was signed and the mission point known as Messiah became Messiah Lutheran Church. That means next year, 2011, is our silver anniversary as a congregation. This calls for a celebration!

Plans are already in the works for events and opportunities to do just that. Primarily, there will be a special Sunday, November 20th, 2011, set aside for a grand party and festive worship. Bishop Margaret Payne of the New England Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America will visit and preach the gospel that morning. Later on, we'll enjoy breaking bread together, and enjoy some entertainment (not Sven and Ollie). So put that on your calendar now – get one if you don't have a 2011er yet!

There will be other things going on during the anniversary ramp-up. There will be opportunity to give gifts to the ministry of your choice. A 25th Anniversary Fund with a goal of \$25,000 is being discussed. A history of the congregation will be published. Also in the dreaming stage are a Sunday at Wilkins School, a church picnic, special guests visiting, and a culminating worship experience in which we will renew our commitment to God through Messiah Church.

Want to be in on the planning? Want to help out? Got a great idea for our 25th year celebration? See Pastor Tom to get involved. An initial meeting to get the ball rolling will be held in December.

Luther Seminary's Communion Bread Recipe

Sift dry ingredients (important!) **together three times:**

2 c whole wheat flour
1 c white flour
1 & 1/4 tsp baking powder
1 & 1/4 tsp salt

Stir in 4 tsp oil. Set aside.

Mix wet ingredients together until dissolved:

3/4 cup + 2 Tbsp very hot water (minimum of 180 degrees F)
3 Tbsp honey
3 Tbsp molasses

Add wet ingredients to dry ingredients and mix well. Dough should be slightly sticky. Do not knead.

Divide into four balls and flatten each into a 1/4 inch thick disk.

Lay the loaves on a baking sheet lined with parchment paper. Bake at 350 degrees for 10 minutes. Remove from oven and brush the tops of the loaves with oil. Bake an additional 5-8 minutes. Let cool. Yield: four 8 oz. loaves. The loaves freeze well.

Epiphany Bonfire and Devotions January 6th at 6:00 pm

Messiah Blood Drive

Saturday, January 15th from 9:00 am—2:00 pm
Volunteers are needed for the usual jobs—see Karla or sign up at church.

Sign up to donate blood at church or online at:
<http://www.redcrossblood.org/make-donation>

Senior Youth News

On Saturday, January 22 there is a Winter Hammo event. This is a new event sponsored by the Hammonasset planning committee. Winter Hammo will take place at Trinity Lutheran in Worcester, MA. It runs from 2:00—6:00. The event will feature music by two different bands, Attaboy and Highland Fall. Food will be provided. All this for a cost of only \$10. It should be a great event and will provide an opportunity to meet up with some friends made at Calumet and Hammonasset. We'll need to get an accurate count of who's attending in early January.

As a reminder, Senior Youth meets the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month after church from 12:00 - 2:00.

Messiah's Mission and Vision Statements

We believe in Jesus Christ, who died and was raised for us. Through Baptism we are called to grow in Christ and to proclaim him in word and deed. We gather in worship to celebrate the promise of God's grace, love and forgiveness. In the power of the Holy Spirit we use the gifts that God has given us for the sake of each other, our communities and the world. Messiah's Vision is to invite people to faith, to care for each other with love, to help one another grow in faith, and to share our gifts with others.

Keeping Up to Date

Hopefully you've noticed that this is a short newsletter. Increasingly we're using email to keep you informed throughout the month. Starting on January 9th this electronic mini newsletter called "Up to Date" will also be available in printed version as part of your bulletin.

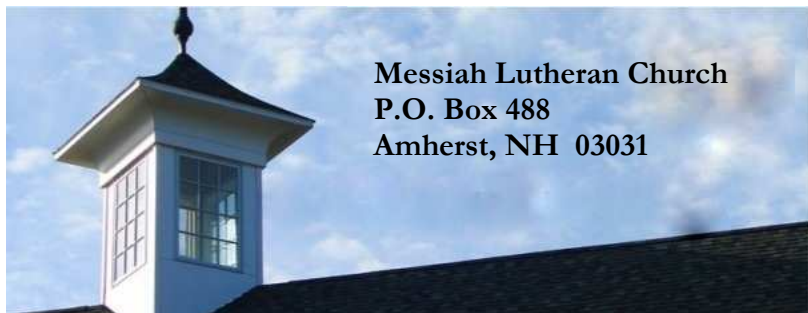
Come Share the Spirit!



Sunday School 9:30 am
Worship Service 10:30 am

Deadline for the newsletter is the 20th of each month. Please submit articles to news@messiahnh.org

Messiah Lutheran Church is located at 303 Rt.101E in Amherst 1/2 mile east of the shops of "Salzburg Square". Contact the church by calling 603-673-2011 or visit us online at <http://www.messiahnh.org>



**Messiah Lutheran Church
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