

October 2011



Messiah Fall Worship Schedule

Sunday Church School 9:00 am
 Worship 10:30 am
 Fellowship-Coffee Hour 11:30 am

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From Ghoulies to Ghosties and Long-Leggedy Beasties and Things That Go Bump in the Night Good Lord, Deliver us!

What are you gonna be this Halloween? A Fairy Princess? An Astronaut? Something traditional like a witch, or something avant-garde like a Jackson Pollack painting, or something trendy like a Smurf? There's always the ever-popular-amongst-older-teens hobo costume. Beyond that you can get into pretty gory stuff—headless people, zombies, skeletons, and other such stomach churning delights!

Halloween has changed. Not only in the way kids are regulated for their own protection. But mainly in the fact that it has been taken over by adults! Statistics show that Halloween is number two in consumer spending, and number one in money spent on decorations. Sales of costumes for adults outrun those for kids. You're more apt to go to a Halloween party than a Christmas party anymore. Maybe this is all because the 70% of our population who claim no religious affiliation can totally get behind an observance that seems to have no religious ties whatsoever.

Yes, I know some people consider Halloween to be a pagan observance. But this wouldn't be the only pagan tradition that Christianity usurped and trans-

formed to make conversion more palatable. Some say the practice of Halloween is dangerous—that we are messing with things we do not understand. I don't believe that. But I do believe that there exists some peril in Halloween.

The true danger comes, though, not when little children dress up as demons, witches, and devils—but when we fail to see that the evil such figures represent is present and active in the world, in the disguise of our daily lives. Evil dressed in the form of hunger, homelessness, addiction, violence, racism, poverty, and too many others to count. The demons we face, we face here and now, today—not in some threatened fiery existence that we concocted ourselves, also to aid in conversion.

So maybe you're thinking now of a costume more evil stomping—like Buffy the Vampire Slayer, or a superhero, or a crusader, or at the very least—a “good” werewolf, or a “re-souled” vampire like we've come to accept as de rigeur of the genre. No doubt some see that as the answer to Halloween-like evil.

But they are wrong too. Evil is only overcome by love. And love is the way of God's kingdom—of which you are a cherished member. So put on your usual garb and meet evil with God's love. Instead of carving pumpkins, carve some more out of your paycheck for World Hunger. Instead of scaring the heck out of kids with your spooky haunted house—build a house with Habitat for Humanity. Instead of just collecting treats, pass out invitations to Christmas Eve at Messiah.

Love triumphs over evil. All Hallowed's Eve is a de-fanged vigil of death. For we as Christians know and believe that when the dead rise—they will not be monsters—they will be reformed, restored, reborn children of God, with new spiritual bodies and Jesus at their sides.

No trick. Only the treat. Thanks be to God!



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Communications Team,
 All of the people of God at Messiah
 Editor, Lisa Teichmann

News From Anne Marie House

An addition to Pastor's "Did You Know" list:

Did you know that there are still, yet, continually 34 volunteers who, at least, every six week spend time at Anne Marie House. This includes 7 people from the community who help us out when it is our turn. I really think this is tremendous. I believe we have, aside from people who have moved, just about everyone who began when the program started seven years ago. And

we have added a few. We are truly blessed! I do think we are about the only congregation that has kept as many volunteers that they started off with.

Of course, as with any other ministry, we could always use more volunteers. There is no firm commitment that you must volunteer when it is Messiah's turn. Life happens.

There have been some staff changes; and we are waiting to receive a training schedule. So

far, we have one person waiting. Bryan Clickner will be joining us upon training.

Pastor and Richard are hoping to take a few confirmands with them when they cook their turkey dinner on Sept 29th. Here is a chance to take care of some of those community service hours.

Save the Date! Fundraising or Fun-Raising

Guests will sample fabulous creations from top restaurants and wineries and enjoy a silent auction and live entertainment!

On Thursday, December 1st 6:30-9:30 there will be **HOMEWARD BOUND** at the Radisson Hotel in Nashua.

This is a food and wine tasting event, all in the spirit of "ending homelessness one family at a time."

Guests will sample fabulous creations from top restaurants

and wineries and enjoy a silent auction and live entertainment. All proceeds will benefit Anne Marie House.

Tickets are \$50 each; and there are tables of eight available at a discounted rate. See Marge for more info; or to purchase tickets online

visit www.annemariehouse.org/events/homewardbound.

Or call 883-7338 ext 5.

Hope to see you there. Maybe some Messiah members could have a table or two.

Pampered Chef Party!



Please join us for a Pampered Chef party on November 3rd at 6:00 pm at Messiah.

This is a fundraiser for the senior youth to help them raise money for next year's ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans, LA.

Soup and bread will be served for dinner so come right from work and enjoy an evening of shopping. If you are not able to make it that evening but would like to buy something from the catalog, please see Dianne or Christina Bonfiglio.

Think Christmas Gifts!!! If you have any questions, please call or email Dianne Bonfiglio (603-494-0144 or rdbonfiglio@comcast.net)

In Our Prayers

Al DeMello, **Barbara Wilson** (B. Wurst's Mom), **Janey Stokes** (rel of the Wurst's), **Perham Family**, **Ed Burgess** (friend of B. Wurst), **Terry Klecker** (rel. of the Costa's), **Sarah, Pat Sapienza** (Friend's of the Costa's), **Pastor Tom** (Parkinson's Disease), **Mike** (friend of R. Bonfiglio), **Andy Wyliee**, **Gen Retelle** (T. Retelle's Mom), **Marie Brundage** (R. Brundage's Mom), **Sue**

Strock (R. Ball's sister), **Frank Genna** (friend of the Ensinger's), **Judy Johnson**, **Becky Herlihy** (friend of the Davison's), **Barbara Bonfiglio** (Bob's Mom), **Our military personnel**, **Peter Chuchul**, **Annemarie Chuchul**, **Alan Robinson** (friend of D. Jahns), **Bill Wurst**, **Rebecca Peterson**, **Janell Mensinger** (Doreen Schneller's sister), **Peggy Pulfer** (Doug's Mom), **Arlene Packard** (J. Aunio's

Mom), **Tom & Jeannine** (friends of L. Teichmann), **Jean Ahrendt** (Nancy's Mom), **Lois Yensz** (Mike's Mom), **Suzu Atwell**, **Brandon Hammerstrom**, **Virginia Yensco** (K. Brundage's Mom), **Krista Seckinger** (Karla's sister), **Patty Perkin-Wiley and family** (friend of S. Retelle).



Ladies of Messiah Book Group

Come join us for some reading, fun, and fellowship! The Ladies of Messiah Book Group will resume Oct. 13 at 7:00 at the home of Roxanne Mel-drum. We will be discussing *Heaven is for Real*, by Todd Burpo and Lynn Vincent. For more information, call Tonya Pisinski at 673-1540 or email tonyapisinski@yahoo.com,

or call the church office at 673-2011.

Below is our schedule of books and hosts through the year. We're still looking for a host for June. Come on, *you know* you want to host!

December 15 - *The Arrivals*, by Meg Mitchell Moore – Melissa Clickner

February 16 - *The Sixteenth Round*, by Rubin "Hurricane" Carter – Lynn Schur

April 19 - *Noah's Compass*, by Anne Tyler – Michelle Castell

June 14 - *The Last Days of Dogtown*, by Anita Diamant – To be determined

This month's book is "Heaven is for Real" by Todd Burpo and Lynn Vincent.

Christmas Dinner Auction & Adopt-A-Project

Messiah's Annual Christmas Dinner Auction will be on Saturday, December 3. We are looking for donations of gift worthy items and hope that some gift certificates can be gathered from area businesses as well. Jay Davison can provide our tax free ID number if requested. Stay tuned for more details

Adopt a Project

There are a few jobs we need to get to before our 25th anniversary celebration. We're hoping you as an individual, or as a family, might take them on by "adopting" them. They are – painting the Sunday School room, painting the posts and trim on the entrance to Messiah house, giving the Nanna

Wall a good streak-free washing, plus others. See the Adoption Papers posted in the narthex—just take one and follow the instructions!



Messiah Property "To Do List"



With our 25th anniversary coming up Nov. 20, 2011, we naturally want to have our church looking great! Since we have such a variety of chores that need to be completed, a divided time list be necessary.

Closer to our anniversary: **Sat. Oct. 15 Workday start time 8:30am**

1. Church and Messiah House Power washed
2. Windows washed inside and out; screens cleaned.

3. Benches stored
4. Snow blower tune-up
5. Mold removed from shed and wood walkway to Messiah House.
6. Nursery painted - chair rail
7. Sunday School room painted
8. Clean and organize copy room and shelves
9. Front doors to church stained
10. Venture Group - leaves

List of chores to be done anytime!

1. Grill cleaned and tanks filled

2. Messiah House - scraping and painting - trim and windows
3. Measure for screens - have them fabricated, install (16 1/4 x 30 3/8)
4. Clean out shed - re-arrange items
5. Install banner storage hanger in pulpit side closet in rear of sanctuary.
6. Add crib or playpen for infants. Nursery - clean out shelves, old toys etc.

Questions call Jean 673-6939

From our Financial Secretary

Some people have been requesting donation acknowledgements from the financial secretary.

These can only be provided if receipts are turned in but there really is not a need for this. Receipts for items purchased can be the verification of your donation, a signed acknowledgement is not necessary.

For the holiday auction, a receipt can be provided to a donor for an item given to use for the auction. But, if you purchase something at the auction, the purchase price is not considered to be a donation as you are actually buying something, and a receipt will not be provided by the church.

The exception is that if your purchase price exceeds the value of the item, the difference between the two can be considered to be a donation. Hopefully this clears up any confusion.

--Jeff Cordts

Receipts for items purchased can be the verification of your donation, a signed acknowledgement is not necessary.

Rally Day Excitement...Hallepaloozyah!

Rally Day was action packed this year! Patterned after a rock festival there was music from the main stage, technology in the form of skypeing college students, Moderne Art, games, Ministry Team displays, VBS Art Museum, and a lot more. If you missed it, well, that's too bad—cause it was great!

The winners of the Pin the Pizza on Pastor were Devon Mitchell and Paige Castell. They will get their prize soon—a pizza party with Pastor Tom and a guest each! Over on the putting green, holes in one meant \$17 was raised for World Hunger.

All in all, it was a rocking way to start Sunday School off on another terrific season. If you haven't been to Sunday School or Adult Forum yet—today is always a good time to join in! Just show up!

Bread Machine Communion Bread Recipe

7/8 cup lukewarm water
 1/2 teaspoon salt
 3 tablespoons honey
 1 1/2 tablespoons oil
 1 2/3 cup of white bread flour
 1 cup of whole wheat flour
 1 teaspoon molasses
 1 1/2 teaspoon dry yeast
 (bread make yeast works the best)

Bread Maker Dough Recipe:

Add all ingredients into pan in the order indicated and set machine on dough mode. When finished, remove the dough from the pan and follow "making loaves" below.

Making Loaves:

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Punch/press the dough down, divide in 3 to 4 pieces (depending on size of loaf you want.) Using a lightly floured hands, flatten into round disks,

place loaves on a lightly greased or non-stick cookie sheet and score with a simple cross using a serrated knife. Cover with a damp towel or plastic wrap and let loaves rest/rise for 10-15 minutes. Bake at 350 degrees for 8 minutes and then brush lightly with additional oil. Continue to bake for another 4-5 minutes until golden brown.



Ash Street Shelter

Looking for a few good cooks, bakers and salad makers!

The second Thursday of every month Messiah Lutheran Church provides the meal for Ash Street Shelter. With this meal we feed 25 to 30 people.

What do we need?

We need several people to make a salad and provide

bread, cook the main dish and bake a dessert. If you don't like to cook, we always need additional drivers.

Where can I sign-up?

There is a form outside of Joanne's office window or you can email Stephanie at psapple@comcast.net if interested.

How does delivery work?

The food is brought to the church on the second Thursday by 5:15 p.m. so that our driver can take it to the shelter hot for dinner.

When do you go next?

Thursday, October 13th
 Thursday, November 10th
 Thursday, December 8th

If you don't like to cook, we always need additional drivers.

Income and Expense Summary (through August 2011)

	Actual	Budget	\$ Over Budget
Total Income	\$ 132,635	129,341	3,294
Total Expense	\$ 128,668	126,609	2,059
Net Income	\$ 3,967	2,732	1,235

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

Thanks to... and Adult Forum

Thanks to...

Marge, Lynn, and Messiah members for providing a reception following Art Palmer's memorial service.

Those who helped at rally Sunday – Greg, Meagan, Korina, Mía, Lisa, Roxanne, Deanna, to name a few.

Jean, for her tireless efforts to not only beautify the church gardens and grounds, but also in being the juggernaut that holds property needs before us until they are resolved!

Our new Sunday School teachers – Barbara, Melissa, subs

Nadine and Michelle, Christina and Mía, Linnea with the music, Larry and Doug helping with confirmation, and Dean with a new Adult Forum concept.

Roxanne, for cleaning up Messiah House—looks great! You! For all you do to make Messiah work!

Adult Forum

The Wired Word – topics ripped from the week's news, in conjunction with issues of faith, scripture, and theology. Which sounds heady, but is really simple. Where does our faith intersect with the world? Come one Sunday, two, or whenever you can. You'll grow in faith and knowledge of the Word.

We're on the Web,
www.messiahnh.org

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