



The Messenger

November 2011

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

We Gather Together

The cars roll in, and the people get out. They are the family and friends—invited guests and last minute additions. All coming together, a wonderful kaleidoscope of humanity. They head up the walk, bearing gifts and food. The people enter the house en mass, and those inside greet each of them heartily by name. The kids run out to play, while the adults sit and shoot the breeze, catching up on one another's lives. A feast is spread. The kids are called in. The people gather at the table. A prayer is said. The meal commences with a clattering of silver on china. The conversation swells, as ideas are exchanged and opinions vary on a wide range of topics. Some forget themselves and speak sharply, or touch old wounds yet to be healed. But the bond between the people overrides the clumsily inflicted pain. And the festivities continue, interspersed with laughter and tears, as those gathered recall the past, give thanks for the present, and hope for the future. Finally, filled to overflowing, the travelers are sent home with memories and leftovers. The hosts decide to leave the dishes and to instead sit and enjoy the exhausted afterglow of the day. And the children, snug in their beds or the backseats of cars, sleep—dreaming of the day when *they* will join their children, or grandchildren, at the feast.

Believe it or not, the gathering described above—so obviously overflowing with Thanksgiving imagery—will be experienced by Messiah this November not just once, or twice. But *three times!*

The first is All Saints' Sunday (November 6th), during which we will remember in prayer those of this congregation who died since last All Saints. Adding to them all our departed loved ones, we gather at the table of the Lord as a family of God for a foretaste of the feast to come. And we remember the hope, promise—certainty—of the resurrection as we move to the Garden of Peace, and bless its holy ground. For All Saints is as much about today and tomorrow as it is about those of yesterday. At the conclusion of the day will be sent out, leaving the dead to their awaiting the trumpet's blast, and going off to our homes and schools and communities to share the promises of the gospel, that allow us so to do.

The second gathering of the Messiah family takes place on Sunday, November 20th. The occasion is celebrating 25 years of ministry for Messiah. We hope to have as much of the "family" here as possible, so please spread the word—Worship at 10:30am, with lunch to follow. We have also invited other folks to share in our joy, from our past, our present—and even our future: we will be presenting the 25 for 25 fund to Imanuel Indonesian Church in Newington, NH as the starting point for a partnership in ministry with them. (*We're gonna need another table!*)

As with any family gathering, there will be a mixture of emotions and behavior—cold shoulders and warm hello's, happy memories and sad regrets, there will be wariness and there will be forgiveness. That's because we're human. The church is not an angel factory, after all, but a gathering of saints who are sinners and sinners who are saints. And it's that 'impossible-for-anyone-but-God' reality that faithfully preserves the bond holding us together as Messiah Lutheran Church. That bond of course, is Jesus. And again, we look not so much to our history (celebrating our past) as we do to our response to God now (tending to the present), and being open to the Spirit's call to new and unknown endeavors (visioning the future). Let us dedicate ourselves to that forward missional thinking, and head off into the next 25 years boldly inviting, caring, growing and sharing!

Oh, and the third gathering *is* Thanksgiving.

Thanks be to God!
Pastor Tom

Celebrating God's Faith , Hope and Love.

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 step-Mom), **Marie Brundage** (R. Brundage's Mom), **Sue Stroock** (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, Bill Wurst, Rebecca Peterson, 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), **Suzy Atwell, Brandon Hammerstrom, Virginia Yensco** (K. Brundage's Mom), **Krista Seckinger** (Karla's sister), **Taylor Cordts**.

Operation Sparkle!

Our Messiah Clean-up Day

Sat. Oct. 20th was blessed with a fine day and fantastic work crew!

Kurt Vaughn	Aria & Rande Neukam
Jay Davison	Connie & Henry Wisneski
Dean Jahns	Jim & James Smugeroski
Wynne Snell	Gail & Jean Pituck

With the church's 25th Anniversary upon us the 20th of Nov. we are anxious to get the church and property looking great! All buildings were power washed outside including windows. Inside windows, screens, ceiling lights and cob webs were cleaned. Before painting walls in education wing we will need more preparation. Forming a painting and cleaning group now. Please contact Jean 673-6939 as to what hours you can be able to help. Additional volunteers are needed to organize and clean out shelves in copy room (Pastor & Joanne) need to be there.

Norm our custodian will wash rugs etc. Venture crew (scouts) will rake leaves on Sat. Nov. 5th. We will probably need some leaf-blowing closer to 20th date. Please keep up with the latest news by reading bulletin, posters, signs & newsletter.

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, Deama Cordts

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

Income and Expense Summary (through September 2011)

	Actual	Budget	\$ Over Budget
Total Income	\$ 148,157	144,177	3,980
Total Expense	\$ 143,812	141,538	2,274
Net Income	\$ 4,345	2,649	1,706

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

Messiah Holiday Auction

December 3, 2011 @ 6pm



Feeling Scrooge-ish? Need help with your gift shopping?

Get in the Holiday Spirit with Messiah's Annual Dinner and Silent/Live Auction! Guaranteed to be Festive and Fun!

\$10/pp for Dinner Signup at Messiah in the Narthex

All proceeds to benefit:

Lutheran Social Services

NH Food Bank

Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research

Ash Street Recipe

Italian Sausage Bake Casserole Recipe

12 oz. mini penne pasta (cook and drain)
1 1/2 lbs. Italian Sausage (casings removed)
1 cup chopped onion

Sauce

1 can (15 oz) Italian style tomato sauce
1 can (14.5 oz) diced tomatoes and roasted garlic
1 can (6 oz) tomato paste
1/2 cup water

2 cups of shredded mozzarella cheese

Combine with sausage and onion and simmer 10 minutes or until light brown.

Combine sauce ingredients and pasta and put into 9 x 13 baking dish. Sprinkle with 2 cups of shredded mozzarella cheese.

Cover and bake in 350° oven until bubbly hot (20 minutes). Cook longer if dish has been refrigerated.

Pampered Chef Party!

Please join us for a Pampered Chef party on November 3rd at 6 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.

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

Ladies of Messiah Book Group

Come join us for some reading, fun, and fellowship! The Ladies of Messiah Book Group will meet again December 15 at the home of Melissa Clickner. We will be discussing *The Arrivals*, by Meg Mitchell Moore. Here is the review from Publishers Weekly:

For more information, call Tonya Pisinski at 673-1540 or email at tonyapisinski@yahoo.com, or call the church office at 673-2011.

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

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

Notice of Special Called Congregational Meeting

A meeting of the Messiah congregation will take place Sunday, November 27th, 2011 immediately following the worship service (11:30 am). The item of business on the agenda is to review proposed changes to the constitution of the church, and to approve or disapprove them. A quorum of 43 is needed to vote.

The changes are given below, along with a look at the procedure.

Proposed Amendments to Messiah Constitution Oct 16, 2011:

On this day the Congregation Council proposes the following changes to Messiah Lutheran Church's Constitution, to be effective immediately upon ratification at the 2012 Annual Meeting on Jan 15th.

Chapter 21

C 11.01

d The Congregation **Council** shall elect the President, Vice-President, **and** Secretary and Treasurer from the membership of the Congregation Council. **If the treasurer is not selected from the membership of the Congregation Council, the treasurer shall have voice and vote at meetings of the Congregation Council.**

C 11.02

The Congregation **Council** shall elect its officers...

C 12.02

The members of the Congregation Council except the pastor(s) may be elected by written ballot and shall serve for two **three** years...

Procedure for amending –

1. Amendments must be presented in writing to council at least 60 days before any congregational vote—*the task group formed completed its work and reported to council in September*

2. 30 days notice to the Congregation is needed to bring any amendment forward to a regular or special meeting. Amendments require a simple majority of those present and voting to pass. *30 days from this day is Nov 14th. Since we are having the 25th worship and meal on the 20th (the next Sunday after), then November 27th would be the earliest special meeting date.*

3. The approved amendment is then ratified at the next annual meeting. Ratification requires 2/3 majority of those present and voting *Since our Annual Meeting is Jan 15th, we can ratify the changes quickly for the good of the church, and then send them in for final approval with Synod.*

Doing What Matters

SAVE THE DATE!

Saturday, November 5th, 2011

"Was ist das?"
("What is that?")

Last June, after a year of listening and discernment, the purpose statement and guiding principles for the New England Synod were revealed. This November we'll have a chance to talk about what it means

To GO where LOVE leads, To SERVE where LOVE calls.

Join the conversation!

Watch your inbox for registration forms and event schedules For more information visit "Doing What Matters" on [facebook](#), the [blog](#), and [web](#)

Be Who You Are. . . See What You Have. . . Do What Matters to God!

Homeward Bound Food and Wine Tasting Event!

Please join Anne-Marie House for *Homeward Bound*, a food and wine tasting event to benefit Anne-Marie House on December 1 from 6:30-9:30PM at the Radisson Hotel in Nashua! Event participants will enjoy a variety of sampling from local restaurants and wineries, as well as a large silent auction perfect for holiday shopping, a live band and success stories from AMH graduate families! Tickets are \$50 each or tables of 8-10 people can be purchased at a discounted rate of \$45/person. This is a great way for YOUR company or group of family and friends to celebrate the holiday season, and make it tax-deductible to boot! To purchase tickets or for more information, please visit www.annemariehouse.org/events/homewardbound.

Join us for this festive event in the name of helping local children and families, your neighbors, get back on their feet and secure sustainable housing, income and transportation. 100% of proceeds benefit Anne-Marie House and its mission of ending homelessness one family at a time.

For more questions or more information, please call Jennifer Lorrain, Director of Development, at [\(603\) 883-7338, ext. 5](tel:6038837338) or e-mail Jenni.Lorrain@annemariehouse.org. Thank you in advance for your support!

From Pastor, On the PD Path

I have been traveling down the road of Parkinson's Disease for about seven years now, and you have been accompanying me for just past five. I spoke to you as a congregation about my diagnosis about two years ago. I said that as the disease progressed, I wanted to keep the communication flowing back and forth, so our relationship and ministry together would adapt as needed, and good decisions could be made.

Let me tell you how things are going. I have started on the dopamine replacement drug Levodopa, which has greatly improved my physical symptoms and consequently, my general well-being. One thing you may have noticed is that my right hand shakes quite a bit—which I find embarrassing, but does not get in the way of daily life. This shaking may or may not spread or get worse—and it can be controlled with medication for quite a while more.

At this point I don't see too much encroachment of the PD into my calling and responsibilities. I have adapted in a few ways (always using a mic, just accepting that things take longer to do), and I invite you to point out areas which you feel could use more attention.

As for what you can do to help. Pray for me and for us. Treat me as you always have. But help me if I'm struggling with some otherwise easy task, like putting on a coat, or writing a note. Don't feel like you're bothering or tiring me with your ideas. If you can't hear me—ask me to speak up; if what I say is tangled—ask me to try again. I won't be offended

I also invite you to ask me any questions about PD and Me. I will be putting some information on the table in the narthex, but you can always go to www.parkinson.org to find out more. I will also be adding to my blog about life with PD (Pastor's Pantry – available from the website for Messiah)

. . . Faith, Hope, and Love.

The Messenger

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.

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>

Catch the Spirit at Messiah



Sunday School 9:00 am
Worship Service 10:30 am



**Messiah Lutheran Church
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