

THE MESSENGER

January/February, 2020



From the Rector

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Our Vision:

Church of the Messiah seeks to be an inviting, welcoming and compassionate Christian community, nurturing spiritual growth through the Word, our actions, and gifts; thereby inspiring and uniting people to be examples of Christ's love.

For the New Year....

The following was sent to me by a parishioner, along with wishes for a happy new year. If you are still searching for a new year's resolution – or looking for one you can stick with longer than a few days! – you could do much worse than adopting this philosophy . . .

As much of the world fights to figure their stuff out, I'll be holding doors for strangers, letting people cut in front of me in traffic, saying good morning, please and thank you, keeping babies entertained in grocery lines, stopping to talk to someone who looks lonely, tipping generously, taking back someone's shopping cart, calling you by the name on your tag, waving at police, sharing food, giving children a thumbs-up, being patient with sales clerks, smiling at passersby, and buying a stranger a cup of coffee as often as I can. Why? Because I will not stand idly by in a world where love becomes invisible. Join me in showing love and judging less. Find your own way to swing the pendulum in the direction of love. Be kind to a stranger today and every day. Pay forward any kindness shown to you in the past. Be the change!!! Be the light!!

May 2020 be twice as good as 2019, and only half as good as 2021! And let us be inspired to speak truth with kindness and to work diligently for peace!

- Keith



IMAGINING OUR FUTURE – PURSUING OUR FUTURE

THANK YOU to all those who submitted comments, questions and suggestions following the November Parish House Renovation presentation. As you heard in the presentation, it has been sixty years since a major renovation was done for the upgrade of the Parish House facility. While we have a great asset in this facility, after consultation with the diocese, we were encouraged to look into upgrading the premises in order to make it more appealing and serviceable for today's needs. Your feedback has been shared among the initial renovation team (Karen Givnish, Dave Prezuhy, Jean London, Marv Walters and the Rector) and your Vestry.

The following questions are a sample of the questions and comments received. It is our intention to keep you informed by providing answers to more questions over the next several months as the project and its details continue to evolve. Meanwhile, we hope all of you will continue the conversation and become involved in whatever capacity you feel called to participate. Also, a great big THANK YOU to those of you who have stepped forward and offered your time and talent to ensure our success. Please stay tuned for more details to be announced and more invitations to meet and take action.

Several questions were received asking about phasing of the project and what work will be done in each phase. For instance:

- What would be done first?

The renovation of the Guild Room will be the first phase scheduled. This will include air conditioning, paint and window treatments, carpeting, and the purchase of new chairs. This first phase can be accomplished relatively quickly and without major or prolonged interruption. Once this is accomplished, the room will present an updated and more attractive venue for small gatherings of parishioners and outside interests: funeral receptions, bridal and baby showers, family dinners, etc. The rental revenue from these occasions could then begin to provide seed money for the follow-on phases.

Stay tuned for more information and more questions answered in future newsletters.

Earth Cares:

Please consider reducing your carbon footprint somehow this new year. Barbara Harvey shared this amazing site with me. I was unaware that the plastic film on cases of food, etc. can be recycled. Go to www.plasticfilmrecycling.org to find out more. Another site that is very helpful is how2recycle.info. Milk cartons have a logo that shows this site. This site tells where these objects can be dropped off instead of being put in the waste stream. I recall one place that takes these objects is the Target store. Remember that I will redirect used markers of any brand. Crayons will pay the postage to mail a box fill of used markers to them. 8.1 pounds of markers is converted into 1 gallon of fuel for your home or

car. This is another way to reduce our carbon footprint. You might not use markers but might know of someone who does. Tell that person about the recycling program. I also collect used Brita water filters. Please simply bring them to church to give them to me. Another suggestion is to use cold water in the rinse cycle of washing clothes.

—Brenda Weir





To follow up on our successful

"Share the Warmth" service project last month we have an update written by one of our teens, Cory Mil-



ler. I'd also like to give a shout out to Cheryl Berry and Derik Stover for helping to chaperone our event and serve alongside of our teens. Our entire group did a great job during our event and truly made a positive impact on the community.



Ending Hunger, Building Community, Transforming Lives

This past Sunday our YOMs took time to start out our New Year by serving at Manna on Main Street in Lansdale. We brought a crew of 12 members to the local organization to serve brunch to individuals in our local community. Manna typically offers two meals each day, and they serve between 70 and 100 people at each meal. Our kids did an outstanding job serving and engaging with the people we met at this impactful organization.

We are also excited to announce that we will be heading up to the Boston, Massachusetts area for our upcoming summer Mission Trip week. We will mainly be serving in the community of Lynn, which lies a few minutes outside the city of Boston. Our group will partner with local ministries to assist with providing programming for children,



caring for the elderly, and supporting community members struggling to meet their basic needs. We're looking forward to spending time in Lynn while engaging with the many kind, strong, diverse individuals within this community. While there, we will also be working to build relationships by sharing a meal at My Brother's Table, which is a local outreach program. We will also have the opportunity to host a community cookout one night of the week. During our week we will be partnering with the youth ministry organization YouthWork, which has been hosting youth ministry groups in this community since 2002. Our trip is scheduled for the week of June 21st through the 27th.

We also are looking forward to a few upcoming events we are excited about.

On February 15th we are taking our annual trip up to Bear Creek Mountain Resort for some Snow Tubing.



We plan on meeting up at the church at 12:00pm. Every year this is a great trip that allows our YOMs to build relationships and have a bit of seasonal fun together.

Our other event this month is also an annual event we look forward to each year; the **"Shrove Sunday" Pancake Breakfast. Be sure to join us on Sunday February 23rd for this event.** As always we will be serving up breakfast casseroles, sausage, and of course a variety of pancakes. This fundraiser will help to sponsor our teens for our upcoming Mission Trip. Keep an eye out for our ticket sales table in the next few weeks.



SHARE THE WARMTH - OUTREACH UPDATE

By: Cory Miller - YOM Member



On Sunday December 8, 2019, seven (7) members of the Youth of Messiah traveled with Dave Reichely and Cheryl Berry to Philadelphia for our annual Share the Warmth Outreach Project. After worship on the 8th, we gathered the clothing and food that had been generously provided by members of Messiah and drove to the North Penn Train Station. We then took the train from North Penn to Suburban Station in Philly.

Once we were finished giving clothes out to everyone below-ground, we made our way above-ground.

People who encountered us and saw what we were doing often told us “what a great thing we were doing”. One little girl, who was walking with her mother, saw our bags of clothes and what we were doing, and put a spare mitten she had in one of our bags. It was amazing to see how our outreach project could impact a little girl we did not know and prompt her to try and help others as well.



Upon arriving at Suburban Station, before we made it above-ground, we were almost immediately bombarded by people who were looking for something to keep them warm and something to snack on. Many of the people who initially approached us quickly told others what we were doing, which brought an even larger crowd. The individuals we were able to “Share the Warmth” with told us how thankful they were for our jackets, scarves, gloves and socks, as well as the food we provided. Their appreciation was quite apparent as many of them had little to no winter clothing, and nothing to eat.

We then proceeded to walk the streets of Philadelphia handing out clothes and food to those who needed them. Everyone we helped was grateful for our kindness. Finally, we took what few items remained, and tied them around some trees in a park so that anyone who needed something could come and simply take something. Overall, the day was a huge success as we passed out all of our food and left the city with no spare clothes.

Thank you to everyone who donated to this annual YOM outreach project, and please know that each of you made a big difference in someone's life. On a more personal level, our Share the Warmth day is also very impactful for the YOM's because there is no better feeling than giving back to those who need it most.

 **Thank You**
FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

The Directors of **Harmony Theater** ^{Inc}

Present

**25 YEARS
OF MAGIC**

And They Lived Happily Ever After.
Well...Not Exactly.

DISENCHANTED!



Friday January 24th 7:30 p.m.
Saturday January 25th 7:30 p.m.

TICKETS: Online \$20.00
(unreserved seats)

Church of the Messiah
1001 Dekalb Pike
Gwynedd, PA 19002

harmonytheaterinc.com

PARENTS STRONGLY CAUTIONED
PG-13
SOME MATERIAL MAY BE INAPPROPRIATE FOR CHILDREN UNDER 13
THEMATIC ELEMENTS, CRUDE AND SUGGESTIVE CONTENT, AND FOR LANGUAGE

Willing Hands Needed for the Altar Guild

There is always room for new members of this ministry. Please consider joining, even to simply give it a try to see if the ministry suits you. Keith is a dream of a minister to work for as an altar guild person.

—Brenda Weir, Altar Guild Chair

Stewardship for 2020

Thank you fellow parishioners for participating in the 2020 Stewardship Campaign. As of 1/1/2020, we have reached a pledge total of \$449,423 and have 153 pledges participating for 2020. The budget for 2020 is being finalized and the Vestry sees no significant changes to our various programs in 2020.

Faithfully,
Paul Vollmar, Chair

Family Ministries: Children

We had a wonderful journey through Advent with our church school this past month, and we ended with our annual Christmas pageant! Thank you to our awesome kids and our amazing teachers: Ciara Prezuhy, Jennifer Marsh, Tim Beaver and Marissa Beaver. Also, thanks to the efforts of the fellowship committee and the contributions of parents, we were able to have a wonderful luncheon following the pageant!



In December we also had the opportunity to travel to the Oak Bridge Terrace facility in the Normandy Farms retirement complex. While there, we visited with the residents, made a craft together and even sang some Christmas songs! It was a really great day, and we made some great new friends!



We are looking forward to continuing our Sunday morning gatherings this winter season as we continue our weekly lessons on the Sundays after Epiphany and as we explore such topics as: "The Lord Delights in you," "The Joy of the Lord is our Strength," and "God calls each of us." We are excited to be together as we dig into some awesome biblical truths!



Nursery Announcement:

We have lost several nursery volunteers over the past month.

If anyone would be willing to volunteer for nursery duty, please contact Tiffany Reichley: tmreichley@gmail.com

People and Transitions

January and February Birthdays

2nd half of January

1/17 Drew Hautzinger
 1/18 Brian Kaelin
 1/18 Shawn Zelner
 1/19 Cathy Wallace
 1/19 Brett Baker
 1/19 Ellie Kriebel
 1/20 John Bergin
 1/21 Gary Pickell
 1/24 Clinton Ely
 1/24 James Snyder
 1/25 Brooke Hallman
 1/25 Isabelle Ault
 1/25 Tessa Quarles
 1/25 Annaliese Meier
 1/26 Jessica McHugh
 1/26 Teddy Harrison
 1/28 Wes Champlin
 1/29 Charlie Kriebel
 1/30 Tim Beaver
 1/30 Helen Wilhelmy
 1/30 Carolyn Sangston

February birthdays

2/1 Jayne Wicklund
 2/2 Ginny Woodbury
 2/2 John Grivner
 2/2 Sophie Harrison
 2/3 Brian Schneider
 2/3 Claudette Sudlow
 2/4 Lauren Thornborough
 2/5 Nancy Parke
 2/7 Shirley Bowen
 2/8 Byard Brogan
 2/10 Sue Costella
 2/12 Doug Shank
 2/14 Marie Kramer
 2/15 Doug Richards
 2/18 Lucas Barry
 2/20 Colton Marshall
 2/21 Paul Vollmar
 2/21 Kai Flowers
 2/22 Jenny Dunlap
 2/24 Sandy Brady
 2/25 Mike Oldt
 2/25 Maddy Butt
 2/26 Bob Kramer

2/26 Kristin Pickell
 2/26 Tim Lawrence
 2/26 Connor Gladysz



Births: "For unto us a child is born"

Birth of a daughter, **Zoe Elizabeth Bragg**, to Laurie and David Bragg (granddaughter to Sue and George Phillips)



Birth of a daughter, **Effie Grace Power**, to Meredith Sisson & William Power; granddaughter for Nancy & Mercer Sisson; great-granddaughter for Effie & Doc Alpert

Address Change: My people shall abide in a peaceful habitation, in secure dwelling places, and in quite resting places:

Lauren Marsh and Nick Kapusta

313 Clear Spring Road
 Lansdale, PA 19446

Drew and Berylle Reynolds

800 Redgate Road
 Dresher, PA 19025


Craig Watson

2027 Birchwood Drive
 E. Norriton, PA 19401

Deaths: "Let light perpetual shine upon them"

Gilbert Negrete Jr., Rose Vollmar's brother
Carl Hautzinger, Jim's father

Second half of January 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
12 1 EPIPHANY The Baptism of Our Lord 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist and Fellowship 9:15 AM Church School and Nursery Care 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist and fellowship with King's cake celebration	13  print newsletter 6:00 PM Montgomery County AA Zone Meeting-Parish Hall	14 mail newsletter 11:15 AM Holy Eucharist at Brittany Pointe 7:30 PM AA, Alanon, and Alateen meetings	15 9:30 AM OA 7:30 PM ACOA meeting-upstairs YOM classroom	16 6:00 PM Bell Choir rehearsal 6:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry 7:00 PM Music - 7 to 9 pm	17 9:00 AM Office hours 9-12	18 7:00 AM Adult Mission Trip to Guatemala 9:00 AM Harmony Theater -9 to noon
19 2 EPIPHANY 7:00 AM Adult Mission Trip to Guatemala 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist and Fellowship 9:15 AM Church School and Nursery Care 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist and fellowship 6:00 PM YOM (Youth of the Messiah)	20 Office closed- Celebration of the life of The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King 7:00 AM Adult Mission Trip to Guatemala	21 7:00 AM Adult Mission Trip to Guatemala 7:30 PM AA, Alanon, and Alateen meetings	22 7:00 AM Adult Mission Trip to Guatemala 9:30 AM OA 7:30 PM ACOA meeting-upstairs YOM classroom	23 7:00 AM Adult Mission Trip to Guatemala 6:00 PM Bell Choir rehearsal 7:00 PM Music - 7 to 9 pm	24 7:00 AM Adult Mission Trip to Guatemala 9:00 AM Office hours 9-12 5:00 PM Harmony Performance	25 7:00 AM Adult Mission Trip to Guatemala ends 5:00 PM Harmony Performance
26 3 EPIPHANY 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist and Fellowship 9:15 AM Church School and Nursery Care 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist and fellowship in the parish house foyer 10:00 AM Cub scouts in parish hall 2:00 PM Holy Eucharist at Meadowood	27 5:00 PM Messiah Meals 7:00 PM Vestry meeting-Guild room-date changed because of MLK day	28 7:30 PM AA, Alanon, and Alateen meetings	29 9:30 AM OA 7:30 PM ACOA meeting-upstairs YOM classroom	30 6:00 PM Bell Choir rehearsal 7:00 PM Music - 7 to 9 pm	31 9:00 AM Office hours 9-12	

February 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 9:00 AM Harmony Theater
2 The PRESENTATION 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist and Fellowship 9:15 AM Church School and Nursery Care 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist and fellowship 6:00 PM YOM Meeting - 6-7:30 pm	3 Book on James Bond comes out 7:00 PM Fellowship Ministry Meeting-Guild Room	4 7:30 PM AA, Alanon, and Alateen meetings	5 9:30 AM OA 7:30 PM ACOA meeting-upstairs YOM classroom	6 6:00 PM Bell Choir 7:00 PM Music - 7:00 PM Outreach Committee	7 9:00 AM Office hours 9-12	8 9:00 AM Harmony Theater
9 5 EPIPHANY 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist and Fellowship 9:15 AM Church School and Nursery Care 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist and fellowship	10 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE - Lent (2/26-4/3) 6:00 PM MontCo AA Zone Meeting-Parish Hall	11 11:15 AM Holy Eucharist at Brittany Pointe 7:30 PM AA, Alanon, and Alateen meetings	12 9:30 AM OA 7:30 PM ACOA meeting-upstairs YOM classroom	13 6:00 PM Bell Choir rehearsal 7:00 PM Music - 7 to 9 pm	14 9:00 AM Office hours 9-12	15 9:00 AM Harmony Theater 12:00 PM YOM TRIP - Snow Tubing - noon to 5 pm
16 6 EPIPHANY 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist and Fellowship 9:15 AM Church School and Nursery Care 9:30 AM HE and Baptism of Bennett Raifsnnyder	17 Office closed - PRESIDENTS DAY	18 7:30 PM AA, Alanon, and Alateen meetings	19 9:30 AM OA 7:30 PM ACOA meeting-upstairs YOM classroom	20 6:00 PM Bell Choir rehearsal 6:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry 7:00 PM Music - 7 to	21 9:00 AM Office hours 9-12	22 9:00 AM Harmony Theater 12:00 PM Martial Arts
23 LAST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist and Pancake Breakfast 9:15 AM Church School and Nursery Care 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist and Pancake breakfast 2:00 PM Holy Eucharist at Meadowood	24 7:00 PM Vestry meeting-Guild room-transferred due to Presidents Day	25 7:30 PM AA, Alanon, and Alateen meetings	26 ASH WEDNESDAY noon and 7 pm-HE and Imposition of ashes 9:30 AM OA 7:30 PM ACOA meeting-upstairs YOM classroom	27 6:00 PM Bell Choir rehearsal 7:00 PM Music - 7 to 9 pm	28 9:00 AM Office hours 9-12	29 9:00 AM Harmony Theater

Clergy

The Rev. Keith A. Marsh, *Rector*

Staff

Sue Phillips,
Parish Administrator

Hannah Albrecht,
Music Director/ Organist

Tiffany Reichley,
*Director of Family Ministries:
Children*

Dave Reichley,
*Director of Family Ministries:
Youth*

Sarah Patram,
Financial Secretary

Mike Linn, *Sexton*

Sunday Worship: 8 and 9:30 a.m

Church School: 9:15 am



Church of the Messiah

215 699-9204/Fax: 215 699-2031

Email: office@messiahgwynedd.org

Website: www.messiahgwynedd.org

Vestry

Dave Prezuhy, *Senior Warden*

Jean London, *Junior Warden*

Sam Frenkel, *Treasurer*

Tina Madison, *Secretary*

Marsha Althouse Cheryl Berry Rich Dunlap

Victoria Fogel Jennifer Marsh

Susan Miller Megan Myers

Barbara Stevenson

Michael Stinson Charles Sudlow

Paul Vollmar Brenda Weir

Church of the Messiah

1001 Dekalb Pike

Lower Gwynedd, PA 19002