

# THE MESSENGER

Lent (February/March), 2019



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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.

## From the Rector

### *First of All, Love!*

While traveling in Scotland and Ireland on my recent sabbatical, I kept a journal, making notes not only of the sites and my experiences, but also my thoughts, reflections and insights. On the island of Iona, an early Christian settlement located just off the coast of western Scotland, I saw the following quote by the German Roman Catholic mystic, Angelus Silesius:

*Love goes into God's presence,  
while at the gate  
Reason and Knowledge  
must remain  
and for an audience wait.*



We live in a world where mental ability is valued, encouraged and rewarded. But unlike the mind, the heart is often not educated and trained. Sadly, far too often, it just muddles along on its own in the belief that affairs of the heart are too private to be taught. And we have all witnessed the result: soon we know more and more, and understand less and less. Sophisticated media reports bring near-instantaneous information to our many electronic devices and into our living rooms. And while these reports keep us informed, the constant bombardment numbs us so that we are becoming less affected than previous generations by news of mishaps and disasters in the neighboring town or across the world.

Yet human compassion still maintains the ability to reach out across barriers of status, class or ethnicity and touch the person that is hurting. Thankfully, compassion and empathy do not depend upon knowledge or learning. The Good Samaritan only needs to recognize and know where the sore is, so he can anoint it with oil and healing can begin.

As long as something within us is still able to respond – even a little - then all is not lost. The heart is alive and kicking, able to be coaxed into generosity, able to prioritize its focus. Love of God should always be our first priority, for true love of self and neighbor both flow from this.

Another quote; this one from the 6<sup>th</sup> century church on the island of Lismore:

*Love is the nature of the soul. When we love and allow ourselves to be loved, we begin more and more to inhabit the kingdom of the eternal. Fear changes into courage, emptiness becomes plenitude, and distance becomes intimacy.*

- John O'Donohue, *Anam Cara*.



**RISE AGAINST HUNGER Pack-A-Thon on April 7, 10:30 am, at Messiah—Register today!**



Rise Against Hunger is an international hunger relief organization that distributes food and life-changing aid to the world's most vulnerable.



Driven by the vision of a world without hunger in our lifetime, Rise Against Hunger seeks to mobilize the necessary resources to end hunger by 2030.



Messiah has committed to hosting a Pack-A-Thon on Sunday, April 7, 2019 to pack 10,000 meals. We are **looking for AT LEAST 50 VOLUNTEERS** (we're hoping for 100) for two hours—plus seven to ten folks who can lift 50 pounds to help load the truck.



According to the Rise Against Hunger folks, 40-50 people can pack the 10,000 meals in two





hours, so if we have more than that - **HOPEFULLY WE WILL** - we will be able to complete this outreach in even less time than two hours. This is a family-friendly event. Children age five and up can participate in Rise Against Hunger's meal packaging program. There are a variety of jobs throughout the assembly line process that can accommodate young children and people with special needs.



You can [watch this video to see what to expect.](#)

Included in this outstanding, family-friendly outreach service opportunity is our commitment to raise \$3450 for the event. Participants and friends are invited to make a contribution of any amount toward offsetting the \$3450, in addition to each registering participant being invited to make a suggested donation of \$10– to \$20. You may register at the table in the Church narthex [or by using this link](#) which is also on our website

([www.messiahgwynedd.org](http://www.messiahgwynedd.org)) and in our weekly Constant Contact email.



Please help in any of the tasks: **setting up, packing meals, loading the truck, cleaning up, or babysitting for kids under five.**

**Together**  
**WE CAN!**  
Make a DIFFERENCE ■

# LENTEN WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY:

## ENTERING THE PASSION OF JESUS: a guide to Holy Week

Join us for either Wednesday mornings or evenings in Lent  
March 13, 20 and 27; April 3, 10 and 17

11:00am-12:30pm and 7:00-8:30pm

The Passion accounts in all four Gospels speak directly to our hearts. They are stories of failure and courage, despair and hope, political machination and theological inspiration. When we read the Passion narratives with compassion, they become more meaningful. And when we study the texts and learn the history behind the texts, we see what brilliant writers the evangelists were.

In every good story, there is history and there is risk. And in the stories of Holy Week, also called Passion Week, we find both history and risk. In each ninety-minute session throughout the six weeks of this course, we will delve into the history and literature of Jesus' last days. In so doing, we will be led to understand and question our own lives through these stories of trials and choices. As we examine our own consciences and deepen our relationship with Jesus and the biblical narrative, we are brought into closer relationship with others and the world.

Session 1 – March 13 – *Jerusalem: risking reputation*

Session 2 – March 20 – *The Temple: risking righteous anger*

Session 3 – March 27 – *Teachings: risking challenge*

Session 4 – April 3 – *The First Dinner: risking rejection*

Session 5 – April 10 – *The Last Supper: risking the loss of friends*

Session 6 – April 17 – *Gethsemane: risking temptation*



## WE ALL NEED TO DO OUR PART

Dried markers of any brand can be kept out of the waste stream. Bring them to the parish house where a receptacle box, marked "Used Markers" is in the coat area in the hallway. We will collect them and send them to Crayola for recycling.

8.1 pounds of markers can be recycled into one gallon of fuel- for your car or home.





# Notes from the Music Ministry



For the remainder of the Epiphany season, choral music comes from a wide range of composers including Cowper, Peace,

Durufle, Freylinghausen, Rosen, Berthier, Mozart, Fishel, and Beethoven. Additionally, the chancel choir will debut an especially lovely piece from modern composer Amy Bernon.

To round out Epiphany, the Bell Choir returns in mid-season, and guest musician Gloria Jones will be at the piano bench for much of the February 17th service.

At the conclusion of the March 3rd service (the Last Sunday after Epiphany), the organ will be shrouded and the bell choir will join the chancel choir for the recession from church - neither organ or bells will then be heard throughout the Lenten season.

Throughout Lent, the emphasis will be on more somber and contemplative music. We'll feature instrumental music from pianist Hannah Abrecht; guitarists Robert Herron and Rick Rosen; and choral compositions from Walker, McCabe, Hampton, and Rosen.



**Come Sing with  
the Chancel Choir  
for Easter!**

Thinking that it might be fun to do some singing, wondering if you might actually like it but knowing that you can't deal with a commitment for every *Thursday night*? No problem - join the chancel choir just for part of March and into April, and then sing with us for Palm Sunday and Easter. We'll be making beautiful music, we'd be glad to have you with us, we can show you all you'd need to know, you'd have a good time (promise), and all of us together could help to make the proverbial joyful noise! If you'd like to know more, please feel free to speak to a chancel choir member or contact

Rick Rosen directly, and we'll make it happen!

**Trinitas Trio  
to Perform at  
Church of the**

**Messiah**



A new classical music trio from Delaware will be making one of its first appearances at Church of the Messiah on **Sunday, March 10 @ 4:00 p.m.** The **Trinitas Trio** - **Louis Perazza** (flute and musical friend of Mr. Rick), **Elena Smith** (cello) and **Matthew Jewell** (piano) - plan to present music from Gaubert, Kuhlau, Damase, and Goossens. A free will offering will be taken.

Here are short profiles of the trio members - **Trinitas Trio** founder **Louis Perazza** is a graduate of Temple University and the Peabody Conservatory of Music. He is currently music director of Saint Anthony of Padua RC Church in Wilmington, DE. Louis has appeared as an organ soloist in both the United States and Europe, and is no stranger to Philadelphia audiences as a soloist and conductor. Flute is a second instrument for Louis and as he approaches retirement he has decided to branch out publicly as a flutist. Louis has studied with such esteemed flutists as Mimi Stillman of Philadelphia and Nicholas DuChamp, principal flutist of the Paris Opera Orchestra.

A Philadelphia native, **Elena Smith** maintains an active career performing on modern cello, baroque cello, and viola da gamba. Elena is a founding member of Muse Camerata, an all-female ensemble that specializes in performing music from the sixteenth through eighteenth centuries. She received her B.Mus in Cello Performance from Temple University, where she studied with Jeffrey Solow. Elena currently resides in Haverford, PA, and teaches cello privately throughout the Philadelphia area.

Pianist **Matthew Jewell** serves as the Director of Music at St. Mary of the Assumption Parish in

## Notes from the Music Ministry (continued)

Hockessin, Delaware. He holds a B.A. degree in Music Education from Marshall University in Huntington, West Virginia, and a Master of Music in Piano Accompanying from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music, where he studied vocal accompanying with Ken Griffiths. Matthew performs often in the greater Wilmington area as both a pianist and vocalist. He has performed several musical theatre roles and is a current member of the Opera Delaware Chorus.

This will be a unique & great opportunity for the Gwynedd area to hear high quality classical chamber music from three high quality musicians, and to hear this music in our beautiful, cozy, sonically-friendly Messiah home setting. Be sure to come to this one - you'll be glad you did.

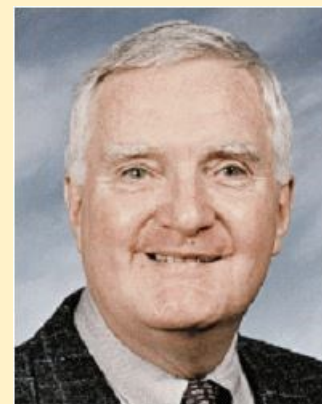
*The music ministry continues to thank you for your support and encouragement!*

—Rick Rosen, Music Leader

### Memorial Service for Dave MacNally

Dave MacNally, a long-time member of Messiah and a faithful attendee at the 8:00 am service, passed away just before Christmas after a long decline following a stroke. At his request, the executor of his estate did not arrange for an obituary or any sort of church service to be held. However, many parishioners have expressed their wish for some sort of service to give thanks for Dave's life and mark his passing. To meet this expressed need, a short Memorial Service will be held on **Sunday, February 3rd**, in the period between the two services, allowing both 8:00 and 9:30 at-

tendees to take part. The early service usually ends about 8:45am. At the close of the 8:00 am service on that day, those who wish to participate in the Memorial Service will be invited to gather around the altar for a service of prayers and readings commending Dave to God's eternal care. The Memorial Service will last approximately 10 minutes



### Altar Linen Help Wanted

If you would be willing to take on the task of washing the altar linens every other month, please contact Altar Guild chair, Bren Weir at [weirhome251@yahoo.com](mailto:weirhome251@yahoo.com) or call 805 407-8992,



## Daylight Savings Time Begins

**2 am, Sunday, March 10**  
Set your clocks **AHEAD** one hour



## Family Ministry: Children

# Special Thanks

I would like to say a special thank you to all who helped with our Christmas Pageant and luncheon in December. It was a great day and hopefully all the children had a blast! Here are some pictures in case you weren't able to be there:



The frigid winter weather has arrived, making most of us want to stay inside to keep warm. Having little ones in the house with lots of energy makes it a little harder to get settled inside on a chilly day. I can't speak for everyone, but in my house we can only make it through so many rounds of crafts, games and imaginary play before chaos inevitably erupts between siblings. At that point there's no amount of bribery that can keep them playing peacefully. I usually find that they settle after a little time apart or some snuggles...or a nice long nap. Stepping away from the commotion gives them the chance to



give their little minds a rest and feel a little calmer. As Lent approaches, it made me think about how we can best present this special season to our children. The season usually carries with it some heavy concepts, and it can be hard to get children excited to take on more responsibilities like fasting and

## Family Ministry: Children

giving. Watching my kids struggle to get along made me think that approaching Lent as a break from the usual commotion of life can help children to feel at peace. Our plan for this Lenten season is to do activities together each week in church school to help children practice the Lenten pillars of prayer, fasting and giving. Hopefully we can help them to feel like they are stepping away from their usual kid responsibilities to do something that helps them connect with Christ and receive his peace. So join us this Lent for pretzel making, relaxing prayer stations and engaging service projects as we travel the road of this important church season.

### **A note from Family Ministry**

Our family ministry is here to serve...well...families! Families come in all shapes and sizes, and we like to think of our Messiah congregation as one giant family. We would like to offer events that best serve our parish, so we would like to find out what you would like to see happen at Messiah. We would also like to invite anyone who is interested in helping to coordinate an event by way of planning, set up or clean up, please contact Tiffany Reichley or Dave Reichley. The more help we have, the more successful an event will be!

## Thinking ahead

I know it's not even Easter yet, but it's not too early to start planning for our annual VBS week! **VBS will run June 24-26** from 6:15-8:00 in the evening. This year our program is **ROAR!** It will be a fun and action packed couple of days for all of those involved! Please consider signing up to help work with the kids for these couple of days. You won't regret it! Stay tuned for sign ups and other ways to help! Please contact Tiffany Reichley with any questions!



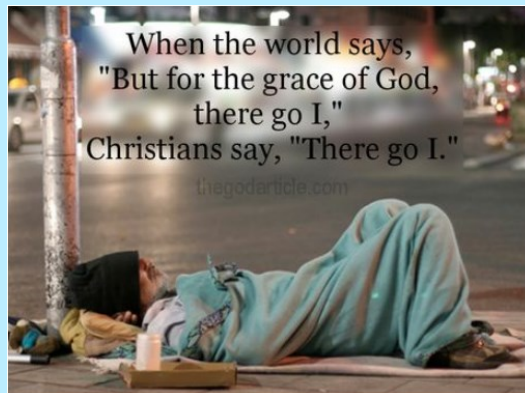




We would like to say a huge “Thank You” to everyone who contributed items of clothing to our Share the Warmth Drive. We were able to go into Philly with several large trash bags of clothing to deliver right to people on the streets. It was such an amazing and eye opening experience that I wanted to share a story with you. When we arrived in Philly, we didn’t have a specific destination on the agenda. As with previous years, we knew the area we wanted to be in but let God lead us as we walked through the city. We could have taken the coats to a shelter or dropped them off at a distribution center, but we wanted to make a personal connection with each person we came in contact with. On this particular day, God surely had a plan for who He wanted us to meet. We were working our way through Center City when we were approached by a man walking by. After giving him some of our donations, he pointed us in the direction of a subway tunnel where he said we would find many people in need. We had a lot of womens jackets still at this point and the man mentioned that a woman and her daughter were in the subway where he was directing us. When we followed his suggestion we found ourselves in a damp and dreary subway tunnel lined with trash and waste. We couldn’t believe that this place was considered home for anyone. We spoke to a few individuals along our way through the corridors, handing out donations of clothing as we went. As we continued further we came across a man in a wheelchair who looked wary of us. He was frantically wheeling himself back and forth to each wall. We could tell just from looking at him that he was harboring some pent up anger, but when he saw us, he definitely wasn’t happy to have

visitors. He started yelling at us, hollering a stream of profanities at us and demanding that we get out. There may have also been a couple other inappropriate words that I chose to leave out. Anyway, we decided to leave him be. A little farther up the tunnel we met another man who was more willing to talk to us. He was grateful for the clothes that we offered him. And he wanted us to know he wasn’t homeless forever. He was once a part of the workforce, making his own living, when his father passed away.

The loss was so hard for him to bear that he couldn’t go to work or continue on with his usual life. He became so unable to meet his financial needs. that he became homeless, and ended up living in this unsanitary subway tunnel. I remember that he said to us: “This is the last day I’ll be homeless. I’m going to



change my life.”

That’s when the man from the side tunnel started coming towards us in his wheelchair. He had noticed we were handing out donations as well as bags of snacks. The man demanded to know what we were doing, and upon seeing the clothing donations asked if we had a “black skull cap.” After looking through our bags full of hats, gloves and scarves we realized we didn’t have what the man was looking for. I was holding a large bag full of women’s jackets and assumed I wouldn’t have what the man was asking for. I thought to myself there’s no way I would have anything for this man in my bag, but I opened it anyway. Right on top of the jackets I saw a knit, black hat. I pulled it out and handed it to the man. He looked at the hat, put it on right away, and thanked me. I have no idea why there was a black hat in the bag I was carrying since we had taken time to sort all of the donations.

As most of our group moved on up the tunnel to a ticket booth and platform area, the man in the wheelchair started talking to me about how he was trying to make his weekly money last—that most people assume he just uses it on alcohol or drugs. He said “Look at me. Why would I do that? How’s that going to help me? How would that make my life better?”. The man was missing both his left arm and left leg. Then, he began to stand up. I began to reach out but he held up his hand, saying “Relax, I’m just standing up. I just want you to see me. I just want you to know that I’m more than you think I am”. After a few more minutes I continued on down the subway tunnel. I kept thinking about this man—that he was most likely looked down upon constantly and judged unfairly. This man just wanted to be seen for who he was, and not for his situation, his struggles, or his physical handicap.

### Upcoming Events

**February 23rd - Snow Tubing, Boarding, and Skiing at Bear Creek (noon to 5 pm).** Join us on Saturday, February 23rd for a day at Bear Creek Mountain Resort. Whether you like snow tubing, skiing, snowboarding, or enjoying some snacks and hot cocoa in the lodge, you can join us for a day at Bear Creek! We will be meeting at Messiah at 12 noon and driving up for tubing beginning at 2pm (they run a few session per day). The cost per session is \$30. We will also be grabbing something to eat at the lodge afterwards, so your teen may need some extra money for a meal. If anyone is interested in skiing or snowboarding the resort also offers day passes. Lastly, **we are looking for at least one other parent to join us.** You are welcome to come tubing with us, or just relax at the lodge and join us for a meal. **Please RSVP** so we can coordinate transportation as well! We look forward to seeing you there!



### March 3rd - Shrove Sunday Pancake Breakfast.

We are continuing with our new tradition of having a Shrove Sunday Breakfast on March 3rd following the 9:30 am Service. This will be the last Sunday before the beginning of Lent. You can purchase your tickets ahead of time at our table in the Narthex. The ticket **sales will go towards our 2019 Mission Trip** to Puerto Rico.



Don't care for pancakes? We will also have plenty of breakfast casseroles, side dishes, and of course desserts and coffee. How can our teens help out? Come help us sell tickets on Sundays up until our event, following the 8:00 and 9:30 services. You can also help us decorate, cook, and serve food the morning of March 3rd. If you aren't a teen, be sure to purchase your ticket and join us for a delicious breakfast before the Lenten Season begins!

On **March 9th** YOM is invited to **Bowling with the Bishop!** We will be joining other youth ministry groups from the Diocese to bowl with Bishop Gutierrez at Wynnewood Lanes in Ardmore. Come out for some bowling, pizza and



snacks, and a live DJ at this Diocese sponsored event. Our YOMs meet at Messiah at 1 pm before heading over to Wynnewood Lanes together. You can register by clicking on the link for the event [HERE](#). There is not cost to participants, as our Diocese is sponsoring the event. We hope you will join us for this great event!

### Upcoming YOM Sunday Regular Meeting Dates (6:00-7:30 pm)

February 10

February 24

March 17

March 31



## CONFIRMATION CLASSES TO BE HELD IN ADVANCE OF BISHOP'S VISITATION

Join us as Church of the Messiah extends a warm welcome to our Diocesan Bishop, **The Rt. Rev. Daniel Gutierrez**, on **Wednesday evening, May 8<sup>th</sup>**. On Wednesday evening, May 8 Church of the Messiah will host our Bishop, The Rt. Rev. Daniel Gutierrez. Bp. Gutierrez will be the preacher and celebrant at the Eucharist; and following the service a festive reception honoring the Bishop and Confirmands will complete the evening.

**The Bishop's Visitation also presents an opportunity for the sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation/Reception/Reaffirmation to be celebrated.**

### **Are you ...**

- an adult who has received the call to Christ and now wish to be baptized into the Church and become a disciple?
- an older teen or adult, ready to make a mature decision to confirm the promises and assume the responsibilities first made by your parents and godparents at your baptism?
- a baptized and confirmed member in another branch of the Christian faith and now wish to be received into the Episcopal Church?
- Merely interested in learning more about the Church's history, sacraments and creeds, and explore your own spiritual needs and calling?

**If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, then our upcoming Lenten Sunday Adult Forums are for you!**

As part of the Diocesan Bishop's Parish Visitation, the parish clergy are invited to present members of the congregation seeking the sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation/Reception/Reaffirmation. In preparation, those interested will meet for six Sundays in Lent, beginning **March 10<sup>th</sup> through April 14<sup>th</sup>**. Classes will begin at 11:00 in the Guild Room and run for 90 minutes, adjourning at 12:30 pm.

### **If interested:**

- **Please enter your name on the sign-up sheet located in the narthex;**
- **Speak with the clergy or call the parish office (215 699-9204)**
- **Join us for six Sundays for the first steps on a new faith journey!**



## OBERAMMERGAU PASSION PLAY AND EUROPE'S IMPERIAL CITIES September 1-11, 2020

The original performance of the world-renowned Oberammergau Passion Play dates back almost four centuries to the year 1634. During the Thirty-Year War, the small Bavarian village of Oberammergau was spared the ravages of the Black Plague. In thanksgiving, the residents vowed that every ten years they would reenact the last days of Christ in a magnificent passion play. All of the performers of this once-each-decade event are required to be native to the village, from babes in arms to village elders. To be chosen for the various roles is a great honor, and to lend authenticity to the performance, the cast starts to grow their hair and beards more than a year in advance.

In addition to visiting the charming Oberammergau village and attending the Passion Play (Category 1 tickets and seating), we will visit a trio of Europe's most beautiful cities: Budapest, Vienna and Prague; as well as the fairy-tale town of Cesky Krumlov and other sites and experiences throughout the region.



**From the Rector:** "Having escorted a group to the Passion Play in the year 2000, Deb and I can assure you that it is an experience you will never forget, will inform your understanding of Our Lord's Passion, and deepen your faith! For more information, please contact the parish office at 215 699-9204 ([office@messiahgwynedd.org](mailto:office@messiahgwynedd.org)).

## FBI TO ADDRESS CURRENT FRAUD SCAMS TARGETING SENIORS IN OUR AREA

There are a number of fraud schemes currently targeting Seniors. The FBI would like to alert as many people as possible to these fraudulent scams, many of which are quite sophisticated. A number of Seniors in our community have already fallen victim to these schemes. Help to guard yourself by obtaining knowledge about how to recognize these scams and learning what to do if you are targeted.

ST. THOMAS CHURCH, WHITEMARSH is hosting a presentation by FBI agents addressing current scams and fraud schemes and answer your questions.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 31<sup>st</sup> - 2:00PM  
ST. THOMAS CHURCH, WHITEMARSH

In order for appropriate arrangements to be made, please RSVP: 215-233-3970.

For anyone needing transportation to this event, Michael Stinson, who can accommodate three to four people, has offered to drive. His phone is: 267-251-8588.





## Altar Flowers

Altar flowers can be and are more than mere ornaments. They are the expression of our love for God as well as a means of glorifying his name in all the earth (Psalm 9:9). We therefore thank you for your willingness to serve God in this meaningful way.

There is no one signed up to make a gift to the Altar Guild Memorial Flower Fund on the following dates:

March 24  
March 31  
April 7  
July 3  
November 10  
November 17  
November 24  
December 29.



Please note that because 3/24, 3/31 and 4/7 are in Lent, the notation in the bulletin will be listed as being a gift to the Altar Guild Memorial Flower Fund, even though there are no actual flowers placed on the altar on those dates.

There can also be more than one set of flowers dedicated on any particular Sunday, so even if you don't see your hoped-for date being listed above as one of the "open" dates, you may still request any date during the year.

The cost is \$50. If you would like to make a contribution to the fund, in memory of a loved one or perhaps in commemoration of a particular event or in thanksgiving, please contact Sue in the Parish Office (215 699-9204) or [sue@messiahgwynedd.org](mailto:sue@messiahgwynedd.org).

## Outreach Thank you Notes

With gratitude for  
holiday gifts. Thanks  
to all who donated  
time and gifts in  
support of this  
year's  
Outreach  
projects!

Dear secret & generous friends,  
Thank you very much for your gifts  
for our family.  
*Season's Greetings*  
It means alot for us especially  
for my daughter who will joyfully  
scream and smile when she opens  
her presents. Happy Holidays!!

Dear Friends at Church of the Messiah,  
Thank you for your generous donation to Cook County  
people. May He bless you for your kindness.

Merry Christmas  
and a  
Blessed New Year  
Your continued support of the  
Cook and Grace House Soup Kitchen  
is gratefully acknowledged.  
We are now kitchen on the Lane of  
People like You.  
God loves you, and so do we.  
Bill Kinder, President

May the lights of the season fill your home  
with peace and joy throughout the year.

Thankyou for blessing us both.  
It has helped us. May you be blessed  
today, tommorow always. We are both  
so very grateful. Merry Christmas & Happy  
New Year  
Chris & Lee

May the beauty of the season  
fill your home with joy and peace.

My son and I would like to thank you  
so much for your generosity and kindness.  
Your thoughtfulness has added greatly to  
our holiday. Merry Christmas to you!  
Thank you thank you

# Pancake Breakfast

## Sunday, March 3, 2019, 11 am in the Parish Hall

### Pancake Breakfast



Shrove Tuesday gets its name from the ritual of shricing that Christians used to undergo in the past. In shricing, a person confesses their sins and receives absolution for them. When a person receives absolution for their sins, they are forgiven

for them and released from the guilt and pain that they have caused them. This tradition is very old. Over 1000 years ago a monk wrote in the Anglo-Saxon Ecclesiastical Institutes: *In the week immediately before Lent everyone shall go to his confessor and confess his deeds and the confessor shall so shrive him.*

Shrove Tuesday is a day of celebration as well as penitence, because it's the last day before Lent. Lent is a time of abstinence, of giving things up. So Shrove Tuesday has been the last chance to indulge yourself, and to use up the foods that aren't allowed in Lent. Giving up foods: but not wasting them. In the old days there were many foods that observant Christians would not eat during Lent: foods such as meat and fish, fats, eggs, and milky foods. So that no food was wasted, families would have a feast on the shricing Tuesday, and eat up all the foods that wouldn't last the forty days of Lent without going off.

The need to eat up the fats gave rise to the French name Mardi Gras; meaning fat Tuesday. Pancakes became associated with Shrove Tuesday as they were a dish that could use up all the eggs, fats and milk in the house with just the addition of flour.

**We at Messiah found that our Pancake Supper on Tuesday evening was snowed out one year and the make-up Pancake Breakfast the following Sunday morning worked so well that we have continued that tradition, but moved it to the Sunday before Ash Wednesday to make sure it occurs before Lent begins.**

Our pancakes are traditionally served by our YOM's (Youth of the Messiah) with any profits directed to their annual Mission Trip, which this year will be to go to Puerto Rico to help the victims of Hurricane Maria.

### Ticket Prices:

Adults \$4   Children \$3  
Max. \$15 per family

**Proceeds benefit  
the YOM's 2019 Summer  
Mission Trip to Puerto Rico  
to help hurricane victims**

Please note that **purchasing tickets in advance will expedite the flow at the breakfast**—Yom's will have tickets available soon following both worship services—or you may purchase tickets at the door.



# Lent Begins March 6



**Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the season of Lent.** The 40 days of Lent (Sundays are not counted), which precedes Easter, is based on two Biblical accounts: the 40 years of wilderness wandering by the Israelites and our Lord's 40 days in the wilderness at which point He was tempted by Satan.

Each year the Church observes Lent where we, like Israel and our Lord, are tested. We participate in abstinence, times of fasting, confession and acts of mercy to strengthen our faith and devotional disciplines. The goal of every

Christian is to leave Lent a stronger and more vital person of faith than when we entered. Lent is a penitential season. That means it is an opportunity to examine your life, give your struggles to God, and invite Him to help you become the best version of yourself.

During Lent, there is a strong focus on prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. All these spiritual exercises help prepare us for the celebration of the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

**ASH WEDNESDAY** begins this somber season. On this day, worshippers traditionally receive ashes on their foreheads as a reminder of our mortality, a prelude to the gift of eternal life promised us in Christ's resurrection. This year, Ash Wednesday arrives on **March 6**. A number of opportunities to receive ashes will be offered. **Noon and 7 pm at Messiah, 10 am at Brittany Pointe.**

## VESTRY HIGHLIGHTS from Meeting on Monday January 28, 2019

Here are just a few of the topics that came up during the December Vestry meeting:

- Response to the [Rise Against Hunger Pack-A-Thon](#) has been strong, and there's still time to sign up. An email script will come out soon to make it easy for you to invite friends and family. This event is a great way to meet and get to know one another in a welcoming and fun way. We can and *will* have an impact on ending hunger!
- **Emergency Safety Planning** is a hot topic these days, and Vestry is taking action by planning information sessions on how to respond in the event of an emergency at church. More information is forthcoming.
- **Welcome Sam!** – We gave a hearty welcome and thank you to Sam Frenkel for becoming our new Treasurer. Sam's experience and enthusiasm for the position are sure to be an immediate asset to us all.
- Next **Coffee with the Vestry** is **Sunday, February 24, 2019**. Tell us how we may help facilitate your spiritual growth, support ministries you may want to start, enhance or simply know more about, and more.

In the words of our Bishop, "We belong to one another. We make one another stronger." Thank you for your continued support! Remember, Vestry meeting minutes are posted on the Parish Hall bulletin board.



## GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN ASSISTANCE

*My heart goes out to anyone facing problems due to the ongoing government shutdown. My head says, how can I help?"* Those are the opening words of a parishioner's email to me. . . Are you a parishioner in need? Do you have a neighbor or friend who may be affected and having difficulty putting food on the table or getting necessary medications? Do you know of someone who could use a full tank of gas or a train pass to travel to a non-paying job?

If so, please contact the Rector and make the need known so Messiah can explore ways to be of assistance. Or if you would like to contribute by preparing and delivering a home-cooked meal,



please let the Rector know. And contributions to the Rector's Discretionary Fund are always welcome and used to assist those within the parish, as well in the larger community. —Keith



606 East Main Street  
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Lansdale, PA 19346  
215-855-5454  
manna@MannaOnMain.org  
facebook.com/MannaOnMain  
MannaOnMain.org

### Are you a furloughed government employee?

If you are a furloughed Federal employee and live within the North Penn School District, Manna on Main Street is here to support you.

- Manna's Market, our food pantry, is available to you and offers a convenient online shopping option. Visit us Monday through Friday between 9am and 5pm to sign up. You can also receive expedited processing by showing your Federal ID. Contact Britt Peterson at [britt@mannaonmain.org](mailto:britt@mannaonmain.org) or 215-855-5454 x15 with any questions or to learn more.
- If you need one-time grocery assistance, please visit Manna between 9am and 5pm, Monday through Friday, to pick up an emergency grocery bag and a welcome packet for our pantry. Contact Britt Peterson at [britt@mannaonmain.org](mailto:britt@mannaonmain.org) or 215-855-5454 x15 with any questions or to learn more.
- Manna also provides emergency financial aid based on case-by-case qualifications. Contact Teri Martin at [teri@mannaonmain.org](mailto:teri@mannaonmain.org) or 215-855-5454 x22 with any questions or to discuss your specific need.
- You are also welcome as a guest in Manna's Kitchen, our inclusive soup kitchen serving hot meals seven days each week. Meal hours are Monday through Friday from 10am – 12:15pm and 4pm – 5:15pm, and Saturday/Sunday from 11am – 12:30pm. All are welcome for any meal.

Manna on Main Street has served the needs of this community since 1981. If you have any questions or are simply curious about Manna and how we might help you during this season of employment furlough, don't hesitate to contact us at 215-855-5454 or [manna@mannaonmain.org](mailto:manna@mannaonmain.org).

We are located in North Penn Commons at 606 East Main Street, Suite 1001 in Lansdale.




# FEBRUARY 2019



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>3</b> <b>4 EPIPHANY</b> 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist and Fellowship 8:45 AM Dave MacNally memorial service 9:15 AM Church School and Nursery care 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist and fellowship 1:00 PM Guild Room and Parish Hall rented 6:30 PM NO YOM (Youth of the Messiah)	<b>4</b> 7:00 PM Fellowship Ministry Meeting-Guild Room	<b>5</b> 7:30 PM AA, Alanon, and Alateen meetings	<b>6</b> 9:30 AM OA 7:00 PM Bell Choir- Sanctuary 7:30 PM ACOA meeting- upstairs YOM classroom	<b>7</b> 7:00 PM Music 7-9 pm 7:00 PM Outreach Committee Meeting	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 9:00 AM Harmony Theatre In Parish Hall - 9 am to 1 pm
<b>10</b> <b>5 EPIPHANY</b> 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist and Fellowship 9:15 AM Church School and Nursery care 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist and fellowship 6-7:30 PM YOM (Youth of the Messiah)	<b>11</b> 6:00 PM Montgomery County AA Zone Meeting- parish Hall	<b>12</b> 11:15 AM Holy Eucharist at Britlany Pointe 7:30 PM AA, Alanon, and Alateen meetings	<b>13</b> 9:30 AM OA 7:00 PM Bell Choir- Sanctuary 7:30 PM ACOA meeting- upstairs YOM classroom	<b>14</b> 7:00 PM Music 7-9 pm	<b>8</b> AALW Trivia Night-All Day setup Event at 6:45-done by 11	<b>9</b> 9:00 AM Harmony Theatre In Parish Hall - 9 am to 1 pm 12:30 PM Skipjack Marital Arts Studio rental
<b>17</b> <b>6 EPIPHANY</b> 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist and Fellowship 9:15 AM Church School and Nursery care 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist and fellowship	<b>18</b> Presidents Day - office closed 	<b>19</b> 7:30 PM AA, Alanon, and Alateen meetings	<b>20</b> 9:30 AM OA 7:00 PM Bell Choir- Sanctuary 7:30 PM ACOA meeting- upstairs YOM classroom	<b>21</b> 6:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry 7:00 PM Music 7-9 pm	<b>15</b> AALW Trivia Night-SNOW DATE	<b>16</b> 9:00 AM Harmony Theatre In Parish Hall - 9 am to 1 pm
<b>24</b> <b>7 EPIPHANY</b> 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist and Fellowship 9:15 AM Church School and Nursery care 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist and fellowship (Coffee with the Vestry) 2:00 PM Holy Eucharist at Meadowood 6-7:30 PM YOM (Youth of the Messiah)	<b>25</b> 7:00 PM Vestry meeting- Guild room	<b>26</b> 7:30 PM AA, Alanon, and Alateen meetings	<b>27</b> 9:30 AM OA 7:00 PM Bell Choir- Sanctuary 7:30 PM ACOA meeting- upstairs YOM classroom	<b>28</b> 7:00 PM Music 7-9 pm	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 9:00 AM Harmony Theatre In Parish Hall - 9 am to 1 pm

# MARCH 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<i>Praise God! - "No winter lasts forever; no spring skips its turn." - Hal Borland</i>						
<b>3 LAST EPIPHANY</b> NO YOM (Youth of the Messiah) today 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist and Fellowship 9:15 AM Church School and Nursery care 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist 10:45 AM PANCAKE BREAKFAST (see pg 14)	<b>4</b> 7:00 PM Fellowship Ministry Meeting-Guild Room	<b>5 Shrove Tuesday</b> 6:00 PM AA, Alanon, Alateen Anniversary Meeting 7:30 PM AA, Alanon, and Alateen meetings	<b>6 ASH WEDNESDAY</b> noon and 7 pm ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES 9:30 AM OA 7:30 PM ACOA meeting-upstairs YOM classroom	<b>7</b> 7:00 PM Music 7-9 pm 7:00 PM Outreach Committee Meeting	<b>8</b> 4:00 PM Maya Baker wedding	<b>9</b> 9:00 AM Harmony Theatre In Parish Hall - 9 am to 1 pm 1:00 YOM meets in our parking lot to carpool to Bowling with the Bishop
<b>10 1 LENT</b> NO YOM (Youth of the Messiah) today 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist and Fellowship 9:15 AM Church School and Nursery care 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist and Fellowship 10:45 AM Confirmation Class 10:45 AM Holy Eucharist 4:00 PM "THE TRINITAS TRIO" CONCERT - In the Church Sanctuary (free-will offering)	<b>11</b> 6:00 PM Montgomery County AA Zone Meeting-Parish Hall	<b>12</b> 11:15 AM Holy Eucharist at Britany Pointe 7:30 PM AA, Alanon, and Alateen meetings	<b>13</b> 9:30 AM OA 11-12:30 am and 7-8:30 pm Lenten Bible Study 7:00 PM Bell Choir-Sanctuary 7:30 PM ACOA meeting-upstairs YOM classroom	<b>14</b> AAUW Auction Setup in the Parish Hall 7:00 PM Music 7-9 pm	<b>15</b> AAUW ANNUAL AUCTION-In the Parish Hall	<b>16</b> 9:00 AM Harmony Theatre In Parish Hall - 9 am to 1 pm
<b>17 2 LENT</b> 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist and Fellowship 9:15 AM Church School and Nursery care 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist 10:45 AM Confirmation Class 10:45 AM Fellowship (Coffee with the Vestry) 6:00 PM YOM (Youth of the Messiah) 6-7:30	<b>18</b> 7:00 PM Vestry meeting-Guild room	<b>19</b> 7:30 PM AA, Alanon, and Alateen meetings	<b>20</b> 9:30 AM OA 11-12:30 am and 7-8:30 pm Lenten Bible Study 7:00 PM Bell Choir-Sanctuary 7:30 PM ACOA meeting-upstairs YOM classroom	<b>21</b> 6:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry 7:00 PM Music 7-9 pm	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 9:00 AM Harmony Theatre In Parish Hall - 9 am to 1 pm
<b>24 3 LENT</b> NO YOM (Youth of the Messiah) today 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist and Fellowship 9:15 AM Church School and Nursery care 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist and Fellowship 10:45 AM Confirmation Class 2:00 PM Holy Eucharist at Meadowood	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 7:30 PM AA, Alanon, and Alateen meetings	<b>27</b> 9:30 AM OA 11-12:30 am and 7-8:30 pm Lenten Bible Study 7:00 PM Bell Choir-Sanctuary 7:30 PM ACOA meeting-upstairs YOM classroom	<b>28</b> 7:00 PM Music 7-9 pm	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 9:00 AM Harmony Theatre In Parish Hall - 9 am to 1 pm
<b>31 4 LENT</b> 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist and Fellowship 9:15 AM Church School and Nursery care 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist and Fellowship 10:45 AM Confirmation Class 6:00 PM YOM (Youth of the Messiah) 6-7:30						



# People and Transitions

## February and March Birthdays

2/1	Jayne Wicklund	3/1	Fran Hillman	3/18	Hayden Dunlap
2/2	Ginny Woodbury	3/1	Barb Tudgay	3/19	JD Bastress
2/2	John Grivner	3/2	Bill Griffiths	3/21	Cali Nelson
2/2	Sophie Harrison	3/2	Pam Daveler	3/22	Peggy Kern
2/3	Brian Schneider	3/2	Grayce Hoffman	3/23	Emilie Klein
2/3	Claudette Sudlow	3/3	Helen Vanderslice	3/23	John Sangston
2/4	Lauren Thornborough	3/4	Mary Ann Sabokbar	3/23	Nate Merritt
2/5	Nancy Parke	3/4	Molly Unangst	3/24	Amanda Knowles
2/7	Shirley Bowen	3/5	Diana Mulroy	3/24	Carter Dunlap
2/8	Byard Brogan	3/5	Jami Behm	3/25	Bob Duffield
2/10	Sue Costella	3/6	Doris Griffiths	3/25	Kaylynn MacMinn
2/12	Doug Shank	3/10	Barbara Osborne	3/26	Ed Steel
2/14	Marie Kramer	3/10	Thea Kriebel	3/29	Jim Hautzinger
2/18	Lucas Barry	3/12	Florence Neuhoff	3/30	Ken Melberger
2/21	Paul Vollmar	3/12	Tammy Hoffman	3/31	Dan Moulton
2/21	Kai Flowers	3/12	Trey Evangelisto	3/31	Jackson Flowers
2/22	Jenny Dunlap	3/13	Suzanne Shank		
2/24	Sandy Brady	3/13	Linda Clement		
2/25	Mike Oldt	3/14	Cameron Ruff		
2/25	Maddy Butt	3/15	Dale Stevenson		
2/26	Bob Kramer	3/15	Patricia Wurts		
2/26	Kristin Pickell	3/16	Cecilia Ferullo		
2/26	Connor Gladysz	3/17	Susan Kriebel		
2/28	Tristan Ryan	3/18	Marcalino Senteio		
		3/18	Shirley Wacyk		



**BAPTISM:** “Marked as Christ’s own forever”

**Harper Louise Romano**, daughter of Tara Haley Romano and Nicholas Romano.

**NEW EMAIL ADDRESS:**

**JOEL AND TAMI HOFFMAN:**

Hoffman.sazel@gmail.com



## Clergy

The Rev. Keith A. Marsh, *Rector*

## Staff

Sue Phillips,  
*Parish Administrator*

Rick Rosen,  
*Music Leader*

Hannah Albrecht,  
*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](mailto:office@messiahgwynedd.org)

Website: [www.messiahgwynedd.org](http://www.messiahgwynedd.org)

## Vestry

Dave Prezuhy, *Senior Warden*

Jean London, *Junior Warden*

Sam Frenkel, *Treasurer*

Sam Miller, *Vestry Secretary*

Marsha Althouse   Rich Dunlap

Victoria Fogel   Tina Madison

Jennifer Marsh   Susan Miller

Mike Mulroy   Marcalino Senteio

Barbara Stevenson   Charles Sudlow

Brenda Weir



*Church of the Messiah*

The Episcopal Church in Gwynedd Pennsylvania

1001 Dekalb Pike

Lower Gwynedd, PA 19002