

THE MESSENGER

Summer, 2019

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From the Rector



RECTOR'S ANNUAL MEETING ADDRESS

My Uncle Verlin and Aunt Irene's small farm back in Indiana was where I used to spend a week or two each summer when I was a youngster. It was where I first learned how to milk a cow, do battle with a mother hen for her eggs, and chase a half-dozen sheep around a field.

Or the Lake District in northern England, where I first learned that black sheep are not just an aberration when I saw entire flocks of black sheep on the hillsides. Or fields in the Scottish lowlands and throughout Ireland, while on sabbatical this past fall, in rural districts where the sheep out-number the residents. Or a conversation I once had with BettyLee about her pet lamb when she was growing up on an Illinois farm.

Did this morning's Gospel (*John 21:1-19*) bring to mind any images or memories for you? As you can see, it did for me. Because today, it's all about lambs and sheep . . . and God's people.

Perhaps you have enjoyed driving by a farm or ranch and seeing the cute, docile creatures scampering around in a field. You or your children may enjoy petting or feeding little lambs as they clamber over one another in the petting zoo. And don't we all, regardless of our age, still know the words to "Mary had a little lamb," the pet that followed wherever she would go?

Of course, real shepherds will set us straight by reminding us that feeding and tending and caring for sheep is actually a bit less idyllic. Shepherding as an

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.

occupation had existed for at least 3,000 years before Jesus chose to use as a metaphor – as an example – what shepherds have done for centuries. His hearers would have recognized easily the details of tending and feeding sheep, and those first-century Middle-Easterners who met and listened to Jesus would have known intimately the detailed behavior of the sheep that the shepherds among them fed and cared for and protected.

There were – and still are - in the flocks all kinds of sheep - small and weak, big and aggressive, timid and helpless, sweet and precious and obnoxious and disgusting, those terrified of predators and those who senselessly follow the animal in front, the sick and the healthy, black and white and spotted, horned and unhorned, rams and ewes . . . all kinds of sheep - just like people.

All kinds. Each one unique. Just like the people Jesus intended for Peter to feed and tend. Jesus said to him, “If you love me, then feed my lambs, tend my sheep, feed my sheep.” Here, after his resurrection, Jesus gives Peter – and he gives us – a practical example of what it will mean to take on Christ’s work in the world, and what it means to love God with all our hearts and souls and minds, and to love our neighbors as ourselves.

This example of feeding sheep also prevents us from succumbing to our culture’s and society’s superficial understanding of love that invades our lives so often and in so many ways, an over-simplification of love that has caused the word to lose its true depth and leaving it impotent, robbed of its real power. Unlike the concept of love expressed in crooners’ ballads and Hallmark greeting cards, reaching the highest level of Christian feeding of God’s sheep is, instead, quite trying and very difficult. What Jesus demands from us is



the deepest kind of love – a Gospel kind of love – an abiding and hard and sacrificial and often inconvenient kind of love. Maybe that’s why some people like to refer to Christian love as compassion. We might understand the concept of compassion better than what we often see as examples of love as portrayed in the movies or on television. And the Greek word for the love that Jesus asked Peter about – is not *amore*, but *agape*. It is the self-giving, sacrificial, getting nothing in return, giving without strings or conditions or expectations – it is the Good Samaritan and Prodigal Son’s Father’s kind of love.

So why does Jesus choose this sheep metaphor to teach us about Christian love? Can we learn about this kind of divine love in the extremely earthy and earthly terms of sheep feeding and tending? Yes. Yes, we can. Think about this church. Over the years and down to today - what are the forms of outreach practiced here? What are the ministries that reach beyond the congregation – ministries that help those who need it the most, those who most need to be fed, and cared for, and tended to? Those who need to be loved.

And equally important: Also bring to mind the ministries that occur and are focused inward – focused within this congregation



where we tend and feed and care for one another. And then consider what more this congregation might do in the future by listening carefully to Jesus saying, “If you love me, feed my lambs. Tend my sheep. Feed my sheep.”

Now, pause a moment and think about the sheep – the people – you would just as soon *not* tend to or feed – those within this faith community, our local community, or in the wider world. Who are they? Why is it often so very hard to consider dealing with them and caring for them with an *agape* kind of love?

Jesus came for all of us, to unlock the Holy Spirit, that spark of God within us, and release it in the form of the love he intends not just for the sheep we want to feed and tend, but all of God’s sheep, all of God’s children, all of God’s lambs.

Shepherds of today could tell us what shepherds of Jesus’ day knew about feeding sheep. They would tell us that the job isn’t easy. Sheep will kick you and rough-and-tumble rams will headbutt you. Orphans might require bottle feeding. Sheep are vulnerable to

predators and susceptible to parasites. Sometimes they will fight over food. Separated from the flock, they tend to become stressed and panic. Shearing is labor-intensive and exhausting. And sheep need fresh water – even in conditions of drought in summer and hard freezes in winter. You get the picture – and – oh, yes, all the while you are feeding and tending to them, you find yourself stepping into what they naturally leave behind. A feedlot or barnyard or sheepfold is no place for the faint-hearted or those with an easily offended sense of smell.

Jesus didn’t use this metaphor lightly. He knew that if Peter’s and our love were to lead to feeding and tending “people-sheep,” it would involve very hard work – a demanding commitment that requires sacrifice for the sake of others.

Because this congregation is a part of the fuller and larger body of Christ, it can more easily continue and expand the ministries of loving outreach both beyond the congregation and the loving care within our more intimate Messiah circle of faith. Each of you can do this work better because of your mutual support of and courageous challenge to one another.

As a community, we can do this; but ultimately, Jesus calls each one of us as individual members of the community of Christ to individually respond to his call to feed and tend his sheep.

This has not been a particularly easy year here at Messiah – especially over the past few months:

One staff member, our Parish Administrator, Sue Phillips, has suffered a mild stroke, leaving her without

debilitating physical impacts, for which we are most grateful; but she has a difficult path ahead as she struggles to fully recuperate and regain her ability to focus and multi-task, things her position requires. Along with input from Sue, her family and therapists, we will be assessing what temporary or permanent accommodations, if any, we might make to assist her in performing her job.

But one, I am announcing this morning: We could use some volunteers to come in Monday through Thursday, from about 10:00-2:00 to cover the phones, run the copier, stuff envelopes, proofread bulletins and various communications, and the like, allowing Sue to concentrate on the more detailed portions of the job. If interested, please speak with me.



And I would ask for patience and understanding over the next few months as Sue recuperates. And a few prayers offered up on her behalf would be greatly appreciated.

The fall Stewardship campaign found a decrease in pledged income, as has been the case for the past few years. The vestry began to formulate the 2019 budget with an initial shortfall of approximately \$40,000 – not an easy problem to resolve.

A second asking resulted in roughly an additional \$20,000 being raised – and for that response from you, the congregation, we are truly thankful as it shows that you are invested in the health and welfare of Messiah and truly value the mission and many

ministries that happen here. To each of you who rose to the challenge: a most sincere thank you!

But in spite of such generosity, we were still faced with a \$20,000 deficit. While previous years saw the passing of a deficit budget, the current vestry was determined to work toward a balanced budget. This resulted in the elimination of one staff position – that of Music Director. We can no longer afford the luxury of two staff positions dedicated exclusively to our music ministry, so Rick Rosen will unfortunately be leaving us at the end of June. Our own Hannah Albrecht will assume the newly-combined position as Choir Director / Organist.

The hours and salary for all other clergy and staff were also reduced, some quite severely. Not one staff member was left unaffected. I assure you that these decisions were not made easily or cavalierly, or without angst and many sleepless nights.

And I must tell you that all staff members – each and every one of them - received the difficult news with grace and understanding, continuing, even with reduced hours and salaries, to plan and administer and carry through with their programs and responsibilities at the same high level we have come to expect here at Messiah. To each and every one of the Messiah staff – Sue, Sarah, Mike, Rick and Hannah, Tiffany and Dave – a huge, huge thank you! We truly couldn't do it without you! Please let them know – tell them, show them that they are appreciated.

Other parishes, faced with these same difficulties have floundered or even shut their doors and stopped all together. But not Messiah . . . while faced with hard financial and staffing challenges, we haven't missed a step - and we continue to seek opportunities to worship and learn and minister, not just to ourselves, but to our larger community and into the world.

Our Outreach ministries are a prime example:

Just a month ago, we began the morning in this sanctuary, praising God and being strengthened and nourished at this altar table; then over 125 gathered in the Parish Hall to pack meals that will feed over 10,000

hungry individuals and families in the poorest and most neglected corners of the world. Ranging in age from six to well into their nineties, we came together, along with friends and neighbors and others from our Gwynedd community, to feed Christ's sheep. In the midst of our own troubles, we continued to reach out to others.

And so successful – and fun! – was the event that Susan Miller first brought to the vestry and then arranged and planned – so successful and fun was the first Pack-A-Thon, that we have already scheduled the *“Second Annual Fifth Sunday in Lent Rise Against Hunger Pack-A-Thon”* for March 29th, 2020 – and we hope to up our game and challenge ourselves to pack 15,000 meals next year! Feed my lambs.

Belfry Bargains continued to operate and minister twice: first, in providing good quality clothing and gently-used household goods at exceedingly low prices for those who need these items and can't afford to shop elsewhere and pay full price. In addition to ministering to those who shop there, all the proceeds of the shop – in excess of \$30,000 annually – are distributed to local, national and international organizations who feed and clothe and house and provide for those facing a wide variety of needs. “Tend my sheep,” Jesus says, and through the efforts of those who work at Belfry and disburse the funds on this parish's behalf, Messiah does just that. Thank you to all who volunteer your time collecting and sorting and pricing and selling – as well as all of you who donate goods to Belfry Bargains. Through all the efforts of all of you, Christ's sheep are being cared for.

But that isn't all: Again this year, as they have for the past 12 years, the Youth of Messiah will travel to where people are in great need and work among them. Past summers have found them ministering to Native American and Minnesota communities in Arizona and cities of Philadelphia and New York City and Houston, and in the foreign cultures of Guatemala and Puerto Rico. In spite of financial difficulties, it never occurred to anyone on the vestry that this important mission trip would not continue as it has every summer. So, in the third week of June, fourteen Messiah youth and adult chaperones will travel once again to the city of Ponce on the southern shore of Puerto Rico to assist in repairing homes and lives severely



damaged and, in some cases, destroyed by Hurricane Maria. I guarantee these young people will not return home without lasting memories and a much deeper understanding of just what it means to care for the Lord's sheep – especially, among the least, the lost and the last.

And building on the success of these youth trips, I am thrilled to announce that, in spite of difficult budgets and tight financial situations, not only have we continued the many ministries that Messiah has been known for, but we are actually expanding our ministry offerings. . . . Why should the kids have all the fun? It is with great pleasure that I tell you that in early 2020, the adults of Messiah will have your own opportunity for a mission trip. Plans and details are still being confirmed, but in January or February of next year, I and whoever chooses to join me will travel to Guatemala to work and minister and witness in the small villages around the ancient capital and UNESCO World Heritage site of Antigua. Exactly what the work will entail? That is yet to be solidified. When exactly we will go? Still being worked out. Where we will be lodged and fed? Don't yet know. But I can promise you this . . . we are going forth from this place to feed and care for our fellow sheep, so stay tuned in the next few weeks as more details are released.

Maybe these examples will stimulate your thinking about how in your own life you can love Jesus by feeding and tending and protecting and caring for his sheep . . . the people within this faith community, as well as those in the larger community and around the world.

If we take seriously today's Gospel and try to follow where Peter led after hearing Jesus, it all might seem like a challenge beyond our limits. But today we have heard Jesus' call to us as his Church and as his individual followers to offer compassion, *agape* love, to a hurting and sinful world. And today we have the choice to continue following that call.

Jesus says to us: "If you love me, then feed my lambs. Tend my sheep. Feed my sheep." And so we shall. Amen.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Registration is now open for participants and volunteers for our 2019 summer VBS program! This year's vacation bible school will run from June 24-June 27 from 6-8:30. It's the perfect timing for kids who have other engagements/summer camps during the day! You can still make it to VBS without missing out on any of the fun! We offer all the fun of a typical vacation bible school in an intimate setting that's perfect for building bonds and feeling the love of Jesus. Activities include Bible lessons, science experiments, music/worship, snacks and water games. Our program is also FREE for ALL participants. So make sure you reserve your spot today! Please use the link to register a child. Ages 4-Grade 6 are welcome!



SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

Just a reminder: Beginning on Memorial Day weekend and running through Labor Day, the parish office will be closed on Fridays. The office will be closed for three days (July 3-5) to celebrate the Independence Day holiday.

OFFICE VOLUNTEERS CORPS

Do you have a few hours you could donate to helping out in the parish office? We are forming a corps of volunteers who for a few hours each day (10:00am–2:00pm; Monday through Thursday) will be responsible for answering the phone, responding to requests for information, and directing calls to staff members. In addition, there may be times when the volunteers are asked to stuff envelopes for mailing, make copies, proofread, and other office tasks. Training will be made available and questions are always welcome.

We are hoping to recruit at least eight volunteers, allowing for a schedule to be created where each volunteer serves every other week. If interested and available, please contact the Rector, Keith Marsh: rector@messiahgwynedd.org.

ADULT MISSION TRIP PLANNED FOR EARLY 2020

Why should the kids have all the fun?

Building on the success of the YOM Summer Mission Trips, an adult mission trip is being planned!

How about spending a winter week in the warmer climate of Central America?

Designed for individuals over 18 years of age, we will be traveling to Guatemala to work and minister to the people living in the many small villages located around Paramos and Antigua, the ancient capital and UNESCO World Heritage Site. We are partnering with the group *Adventures in Mission*, an ecumenical organization that for over twenty years has been planning and coordinating church mission trips at sites within the United States and overseas.

While in Guatemala, we will be involved in the following work and ministries:

Relational Evangelism: You'll connect with people and learn their personal stories and share your faith through the power of relationship.

Stove Installation: The vision behind the stove installation project is to see healing and restoration through community development. Many families cook over an open fire, putting women and children at risk of getting burned. The smoke produced by these fires damages the lungs of those within close proximity of the cooking site. We seek to install stoves in the homes of families with whom we have a relationship, to provide a personal element that opens the door for evangelism and discipleship.

Water Filters: During house visits with local families, we realized they did not use clean water when cooking or drinking. Children complained of upset stomachs which was a result of drinking unfiltered water. Clean water costs money and is not easily accessible. We now help provide families in need with clean water.

What about the room and board arrangements? We will stay at the Adventures Guatemala base camp with bunk beds, showers, and bathrooms. Electricity and spotty wi-fi are available. Meals will be prepared by local cooks at the base.

In addition to our work days, at least one day will be set aside for touring the beautiful ancient capital and countryside; perhaps including a walking tour, a coffee plantation tour, a local jade jewelry-making shop, the extensive local arts and crafts market, and a tour of the meat and vegetable market followed by a cooking class.

Specific details – dates, costs, airfare – will soon be finalized and announced, so be on the lookout for more information to follow . . .

SAFETY AND SECURITY COMMITTEE FORMATION

Recently, a small group of parishioners and Keith Marsh, formed a Safety and Security Committee for our Church. Although we do not like to think that our Church could experience an event that would precipitate the need for emergency management, the events that have taken place in schools, other public entities and churches have forced us to plan proactively.

The purpose of the committee is to create, share and facilitate practice of an emergency plan. The plan will contain Church policies, possible scenarios, as well as, procedures to follow in the event of an emergency in the Church. The work of this group will be shared with members of the congregation. The committee members will request feedback and suggestions to strengthen the plan as the components are created.

The members of the committee, Ulrich Taglieber, Ed Steinbauer, Jean London, Dave Prezuhy, Keith Marsh and Barbara Stevenson (chairperson), are currently working on different pieces of the plan. They are creating maps of escape routes from all areas of the Church and the Parish Hall, writing policies and procedures, and exploring ways to share information and facilitate trainings for and with our congregants. The committee meets about once a month.

THANKING RICK ROSEN

Be sure to join us on Sunday, June 30th, as we bid farewell to Rick Rosen. Beginning as paid section leader, then as Messiah's Music Director, Rick has been a part of the Church of the Messiah music scene for over fifteen years. On his final Sunday with us as a staff member, many of the musicians who have worked with Rick over the years will be in attendance. The 9:30 service that morning will provide a cornucopia of music! Then join Rick and his guests on the terrace for refreshments and an opportunity to thank him for his many years of service and ministry among us.

ANNUAL MEETING HANDOUTS AVAILABLE

If you missed the Annual Parish meeting on Sunday, May 5th, copies of the financial report and other handouts are available in the narthex for your review. Please take a copy. Questions should be addressed to the Wardens: Dave Prezuhy and Jean London.

CONSIDER DIRECT DEPOSIT FOR YOUR PLEDGE

Have you considered setting up your pledge to be directly deposited to Church of the Messiah on a regular basis? The process is relatively easy to do through your bank's online banking program. You can determine how often you want the transfer made – weekly, monthly, quarterly; and you will be assured that your pledge is paid even while on vacation or unable to get to church. And Messiah appreciates knowing that pledged income is received on a regular basis, assisting with a more consistent cash flow and making the payment of bills and other expenses more easily covered.

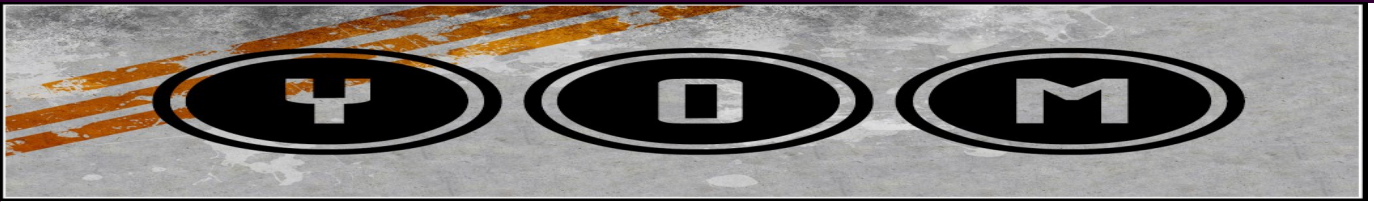
VESTRY CHANGES

After completing their three-year terms on Messiah's vestry, three parishioners have retired: Tina Madison, Mike Mulroy and Marcalino Senteio. We are very grateful for their dedication and commitment, and the time and effort they invested in the parish during their tenure. Thank you to all three of you!

And four new members were unanimously selected at the Annual Parish Meeting held on May 5th. Cheryl Berry, Meghan Myers, Michael Stinson and Paul Vollmar were chosen to serve three-year terms. Thank you for your willingness to serve!

**PENTECOST TO BE CELEBRATED WITH
'MASS ON THE GRASS' & SPRING
PICNIC**

Sunday, June 9th, marks the Church's annual liturgical Feast of Pentecost. The feast day, held on the 50th day after Easter, commemorates the release of the Holy Spirit among Jesus' followers in the world after Jesus' Ascension. This year, Messiah will mark the day by celebrating an outdoor Eucharist at 9:30, followed by the annual Spring Picnic. Bring you lawn chairs, dress casually, and join us on the church front lawn for Communion; then stay for the picnic planned and prepared by the Fellowship Team. Hoagies will be provided and we are asking that everyone bring a salad or side dish to add to the buffet table. A sign-up board will soon appear in the narthex for you to indicate your donation for the day.



I can't believe we are about to finish up another school year already. Every year it seems like May sneaks up suddenly before we are quite ready to finish the year. Although we are heading into the summer months we still have some great plans ahead of us.

Our next event coming up (if we can ever get a break from this rain!) is our YOM Car Wash fundraiser. Right now, we are looking at Sunday, June 2nd as our rain date. Stop by our table in the Narthex to sign up and we will Wash While You Worship! All money donated will go towards support our youth on our Puerto Rico mission trip in June.

Our youth will also be hosting our annual YOM Service and Honoring of the Graduates on Sunday, May 19th. Each year we look forward to this opportunity for our teens to fulfill important and essential roles and organizing Sunday Worship. From ushering to reading lessons and leading prayers, our youth really gain an understanding of what it takes to run a Sunday morning service while taking an active role. We hope that you will join us for this annual event in support of our young people in the church. During this service we also take time to recognize our graduating seniors and all of their hard work to achieve their high school diploma. Of course we also have to take time to recognize our parents as well, and all of the time and love they have poured into support their children throughout their journey growing up. We want to wish all of our seniors the best of luck moving forward, and pray that God will continue to provide his Love and Guidance to you in your journey ahead! We love you and look forward to you returning home to Messiah during breaks and between semesters.

Also coming up in June is our annual mission trip. As many of you know already, we are heading to Puerto Rico this year. During our time there we will be serving in the city Ponce on the southern coast of the island. Since being devastated by hurricane Maria a little over one year ago, Puerto Rico is a place that has been on my mind and on my heart. The last time we were in this beautiful country was about six years ago. Among all of the trips we have taken with our ministry, it is one that has always stood out for me. The location is beautiful of course, but we had a loving church hosting us with local families preparing meals for a bunch of teens they didn't know. While we were rehabbing a dilapidated home gifted to the church we constantly had strangers from the community stop by to say hello, check out what we were doing, ask if we needed anything, and offering to pray with us. As is true of any trip, we also had an amazing group of kids with us who connected with each other, the community, and with our faith and God. I have al

ways wanted to return to Puerto Rico, and with the news of their hardships and efforts at recovering from their recent disaster, it feels like the right time to return. With their current struggle to return power and other basic necessities to their citizens, taking a trip last summer would have been more of a burden to their efforts than providing a helpful presence. During our time in Puerto Rico I pray that we are able to make an impact through our work rehabbing homes and connecting with the people we meet. Please keep us in your prayers during the coming month.

If you would like to receive daily updates and photos from our trip to Houston we will be sending emails through the Church of the Messiah Office email. You can also see more updates through our Facebook page. If you haven't "Liked" us on Facebook search for The Church of the Messiah in Gwynedd, PA. You can also follow our youth ministry on Instagram by searching YOM or YouthofMessiah (all one word).

(Photo of previous Puerto Rico trip with YOMs and the house we were rehabbing)



Dine In Only

LET'S MAKE SOME NOISE TOGETHER FOR A GREAT CAUSE!



NOCHE MEXICANA

Fundraiser

PARTNERSHIPS WITH A PURPOSE

Wednesday May 29th - ALL DAY

Present this to your server to have
20% of your dinner bill donated to

The Church of Messiah



1650 Sumneytown Pike, Lansdale, PA 19448

May 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5 3 EASTER 9:30 am - Yom Car Wash Fundraiser NO 8 AM Service today Team 1 -Altar Guild 9:15 AM Church School and Nursery care 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist , Annual Meeting and Vestry election	6 6:00 PM Harmony Theatre rehearsal - 6 to 10 pm 7:00 PM Fellowship Ministry Meeting-Guild Room	7 7:30 PM AA, Alanon, and Alateen meetings	1 1 Dine & Donate Bertuccis 9:30 AM OA 4:30 PM BELFRY BARGAINS COCKTAIL PARTY 7:00 PM Bell Choir - Sanctuary 7:30 PM ACOA meeting upstairs YOM classroom	2 2 Dine & Donate Bertuccis 7:00 PM Music (7-9 pm) 7:00 PM Outreach Committee Meeting	3 3 Half day	4 4 Harmony Theatre using guild room and kitchen 9:00 AM Harmony Theatre in Parish Hall - 9 am to 2:30 pm
5 3 EASTER 9:30 am - Yom Car Wash Fundraiser NO 8 AM Service today Team 1 -Altar Guild 9:15 AM Church School and Nursery care 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist , Annual Meeting and Vestry election	6 6:00 PM Harmony Theatre rehearsal - 6 to 10 pm 7:00 PM Fellowship Ministry Meeting-Guild Room	7 7:30 PM AA, Alanon, and Alateen meetings	8 8 7:00 pm -Bishop's Visitation/Confirmation - evening 9:30 AM OA 6:00 PM Harmony rehearsal 7:00 PM Bell Choir - Guild Room 7:30 PM ACOA meeting upstairs YOM classroom	9 9 7:00 PM Music (7-9 pm)	10 10 Half day Harmony Theatre stage setup and tech - 1 pm to 9 pm	11 11 Harmony Theatre stage setup and tech - 1 pm to 9 pm
12 4 EASTER Fellowship in Parish House foyer Harmony Theatre stage setup and tech - 1 pm to 9 pm Mothers Day and Church School Sunday NO YOM (Youth of the Messiah) today Team 2 -2 baptisms 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist and Fellowship 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist and Baptism of Cora Marie DiMauro and Annaliese Jean Meier	13 13 Harmony Theatre stage setup and tech - 1 pm to 9 pm 6:00 PM Harmony Theatre meeting 6 pm to 9 pm 6:00 PM Montgomery County AA Zone Meeting-Parish Hall	14 14 11:15 AM Holy Eucharist at Brittany Pointe 7:30 PM AA, Alanon, and Alateen meetings	15 15 Harmony Theatre using guild room and kitchen Keith vacation 9:30 AM OA 6:00 PM Harmony Theatre rehearsal - 6 to 10 pm 7:00 PM Bell Choir - Sanctuary 7:30 PM ACOA meeting upstairs YOM classroom	16 16 Keith vacation 6:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry 7:00 PM Music (7-9 pm)	17 17 Half day Harmony Theatre performance in Parish Hall Harmony Theatre using guild room and kitchen	18 18 Harmony Theatre Performance
19 5 EASTER Harmony Theatre performance NO YOM (Youth of the Messiah) today Youth Sunday and Honoring of High School graduates 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist and Fellowship 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist and fellowship (PH foyer)	20 20 7:00 PM Vestry meeting-Guild room	21 21 7:30 PM AA, Alanon, and Alateen meetings	22 22 9:30 AM OA 7:00 PM Bell Choir - Sanctuary 7:30 PM ACOA meeting upstairs YOM classroom	23 23 7:00 PM Music (7-9 pm)	24 24 Office Closed Summer Fridays begin	25 25
26 6 EASTER NO YOM (Youth of the Messiah) today 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist and Fellowship 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist and fellowship 2:00 PM Holy Eucharist at Meadowood	27 27 Memorial Day - office closed	28 28 7:30 PM AA, Alanon, and Alateen meetings	29 29 9:30 AM OA 7:00 PM Bell Choir - Sanctuary 7:30 PM ACOA meeting upstairs YOM classroom	30 30 7:00 PM Music (7-9 pm)	31 31 Office Closed	

June 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Wedding- The Rev. Andrew VanBuren
2 7 EASTER 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist and Fellowship 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist and Fellowship	3 Belfry Bargains 50-cent Sale 7:00 PM Fellowship Ministry Meeting-Guild Room	4 Belfry Bargains 50-cent Sale 7:30 PM AA, Alanon, and Alateen meetings	5 Belfry Bargains 50-cent Sale 9:30 AM OA 7:00 PM Bell Choir-Sanctuary 7:30 PM ACOA meeting-upstairs YOM classroom	6 Belfry Bargains 50-cent Sale 7:00 PM Outreach Committee Meeting	7 Belfry Bargains 50-cent Sale Office Closed	8 Belfry Bargains 50-cent Sale 1:00 PM Belfry Bargains Thrift Shop Closes for the summer
9 PENTECOST 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist and Fellowship 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist and fellowship 10:45 AM PARISH PICNIC	10 6:00 PM Montgomery County 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 7:00 PM Bell Choir-Sanctuary 7:30 PM ACOA meeting-upstairs YOM classroom	13 7:00 PM Last music of the season	14 Office Closed	15
16 TRINITY SUNDAY Last choir in church YOM Mission Trip 8:00 AM HE/Fellowship 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist and Baptism of Owen Thomas Piper	17 YOM Mission Trip 6:00 PM Vestry dinner at the Marsh's home	18 YOM Mission Trip 7:30 PM AA, Alanon, and Alateen meetings	19 YOM Mission Trip 9:30 AM OA 7:30 PM ACOA meeting-upstairs YOM classroom	20 YOM Mission Trip 6:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry	21 Office Closed YOM (Youth of Messiah) Mission Trip	22 YOM (Youth of Messiah) Mission Trip
23 2 PENTECOST Proper 7 Tea on the Terrace begins 8:00 AM HE and Fellowship 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist and Tea on the Terrace 2:00 PM Holy Eucharist at Meadowood	24 6:00 PM VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (6 TO 8:15 PM)	25 6:00 PM VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (6 TO 8:15 PM) 7:30 PM AA, Alanon, and Alateen meetings	26 9:30 AM OA 6:00 PM VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (6 TO 8:15 PM)	27 6:00 PM VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (6 TO 8:15 PM)	28 Office Closed	29
30 3 PENTECOST Proper 8 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist and Fellowship 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist and Tea on the Terrace						

July 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 7:00 PM Fellowship Ministry Meeting- Guild Room	2 7:30 PM AA, Alanon, and Alateen meetings	3 9:30 AM OA 7:30 PM ACOA meeting-upstairs YOM classroom	4 Office Closed 7:00 PM Outreach Committee Meeting	5	6
7 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist and Fellowship 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist and fellowship	8 6:00 PM Montgomery County AA Zone Meeting- Parish Hall	9 11:15 AM Holy Eucharist at Brittany Pointe 7:30 PM AA, Alanon, and Alateen meetings	10 9:30 AM OA 7:30 PM ACOA meeting-upstairs YOM classroom	11	12 Office Closed	13
14 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist and Fellowship 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist and fellowship	15 7:00 PM Vestry meeting-Guild room	16 7:30 PM AA, Alanon, and Alateen meetings	17 9:30 AM OA 7:30 PM ACOA meeting-upstairs YOM classroom	18 6:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry	19 Office Closed	20
21 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist and Fellowship 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist and fellowship	22	23 7:30 PM AA, Alanon, and Alateen meetings	24 9:30 AM OA 7:30 PM ACOA meeting-upstairs YOM classroom	25	26 Office Closed	27
28 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist and Fellowship 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist and fellowship 2:00 PM Holy Eucharist at Meadowood	29	30 7:30 PM AA, Alanon, and Alateen meetings	31 9:30 AM OA 7:30 PM ACOA meeting-upstairs YOM classroom			

August 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 7:00 PM Outreach Committee Meeting	2 Office Closed	3 11 AM Wedding of Jessica Powell Cohen and Daniel McHugh
4 8 PENTECOST - Proper 13 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist and Fellowship 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist and fellowship	5 7:00 PM Fellowship Ministry Meeting- Guild Room	6 7:30 PM AA, Alanon, and Alateen meetings	7 9:30 AM OA 7:30 PM ACOA meeting-upstairs YOM classroom	8	9 Office Closed	10
11 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist and Fellowship 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist and fellowship	12 6:00 PM Montgomery County AA Zone Meeting- Parish Hall	13 7:30 PM AA, Alanon, and Alateen meetings	14 9:30 AM OA 7:30 PM ACOA meeting-upstairs YOM classroom	15 6:00 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry	16 Office Closed	17
18 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist and Fellowship 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist and fellowship	19 7:00 PM Vestry meeting-Guild room	20 7:30 PM AA, Alanon, and Alateen meetings	21 9:30 AM OA 7:30 PM ACOA meeting-upstairs YOM classroom	22	23 Office Closed	24
25 8:00 AM Holy Eucharist and Fellowship 9:30 AM Holy Eucharist and fellowship 2:00 PM Holy Eucharist at Meadowood	26	27 7:30 PM AA, Alanon, and Alateen meetings	28 9:30 AM OA 7:30 PM ACOA meeting-upstairs YOM classroom	29	30 Office Closed	31

Blast from the Past





People and Transitions

May through August

05/01	Karen Givnish	06/06	Julie Sabokbar	07/02	Kim Gruszecki
05/01	Emily Prezuhy	06/06	David (Dave) Prezuhy	07/02	Gail Rusnak
05/01	Charlotte Donovan	06/06	Peter Budd	07/03	Joan Astle
05/02	Benjamin Meier	06/06	Thomas Higgins	07/03	Karen Higgins
05/04	John Herninko	06/07	Patrick Fitzgerald	07/06	Priscilla Tracy
05/05	Cynthia (Cindy) Palen	06/08	Samuel (Sam) Miller	07/06	Austin DiMauro
05/06	Kerry MacMinn	06/08	Michael O'Hara	07/07	Mary Lou Herr
05/06	Samantha Jabs	06/09	Bruce Baumann	07/07	John Murray
05/07	Cynthia Curtis	06/10	Jacqueline (Jackie) Sowden	07/09	Cynthia Grivner
05/07	Emily Zelner	06/10	Martha (Marti) Bender	07/11	Robert (Rob) Poulin
05/07	Sarah (Sarah) Kaelin	06/10	Veronica (Roni) Herninko	07/12	Marie Ann Zelner
05/08	Emmaneta (Emmy) Subers	06/10	Christine O'Hara	07/12	Winifred Backlund
05/08	Rachel Amey	06/11	Dolores (Dee) Hillas	07/13	Suzanne Thomas
05/08	Evelyn Ferullo	06/11	Keith Marsh	07/13	Jonathan Krail
05/10	Kristopher (Kris) Casey	06/12	Joan Benninghoff	07/14	Lynne Smith
05/11	G. Peter (Pete) Beaumont	06/12	Jennifer Christman	07/17	Warren Tudgay
05/14	Shannon Thornborough	06/13	Roxanne Krail	07/18	Ronald (Ron) Robinson
05/16	Linda Unangst	06/13	Emma Kriebel	07/18	Jason Komorowski
05/16	Samuel (Sam) Frenkel	06/14	Rachel Powell-Cohen	07/20	Jessica Ryan
05/17	Melanie Baker	06/14	Zoe Bruno	07/22	Victoria (Vicky) Fogel
05/17	Trystan Behm	06/14	Paul Myers	07/23	Stephen (Steve) Miller
05/18	Sylvia Vogenberg	06/15	Stephen Wacyk	07/24	Rebecca Kaelin
05/20	George Kriebel	06/15	Megan Myers	07/25	Mark Ault
05/21	Carol Schaub	06/16	David Reichley	07/26	WILLIAM PYRZ
05/21	James (Jim) Evangelisto	06/17	Rinaldo (Ron) Minicucci	07/27	Matthew Damico
05/21	Madison Neiber	06/17	Michael Stinson	07/28	Marvin (Marv) Walters
05/22	Rick Rosen	06/19	Colleen Vaccaro	08/02	Marianne Standbridge
05/22	Ben Vaccaro	06/19	Nancy Johnson	08/03	Alexander (Alex) Poulin
05/23	William (Bill) Kaelin	06/21	Richard (Doc) Alpert	08/04	Barbara Stevenson
05/23	Mallory Grivner	06/21	Sarah Patram	08/05	Jane Benz
05/23	J.T. Stavely	06/22	Wilhelm (Wil) Gruszecki	08/05	Marsha Althouse
05/25	Francis (Lee) Mangan	06/23	Frank Vaccaro	08/05	Barbara Brackin
05/26	Cornelius (Neil) Brady	06/24	Henry (Hank) Bowen	08/06	Edward Steinbauer
05/26	Abigail Butt	06/24	Annette Bruno	08/06	Sara Steinbauer
05/27	Jameson Reichley	06/25	Richard (Rich) Dunlap	08/07	Deborah (Debbie) Marsh
05/28	Kristy Boldt	06/26	ROBERT (Bob) KLEIN	08/08	Jean Press
05/28	Nancy Alpert-Sisson	06/26	Ryan Kramer	08/09	Charles Sudlow
05/30	Thomas Mangan	06/27	Sarah Jane (Sally) Little	08/09	Amy Moulton
06/02	Marjorie (Marge) Kraekel	06/27	Akaline (Akcie) Krail	08/09	Maggie-Dickson (Maggie) Budd
06/02	Bruce Givnish	06/27	Grace Vaccaro	08/10	Joan Wertz
06/03	Ethel Pyrz	06/28	Harper ROMANO	08/11	Ulrich Taglieber
06/04	Christine (Chris) Evangelisto	06/29	Walter Mulroy	08/11	Karen Schoelles
06/04	Kristen Unangst	06/30	Phillip Myers	08/11	Julie Cooper
06/05	Nancy Poulin	07/01	Bonnie (Bonnie) Perrone	08/12	Andrea (Andi) Repine
06/05	Bradley (Brad) Pickell	07/02	Lynda Calore	08/13	Kim Stokoe
06/06	Julie Sabokbar	07/02	Dolores Hallman	08/13	Azaria Williams

People and Transitions

08/14	Collin Higgins
08/15	Amy Robinson
08/15	Carrie Damico
08/16	Andrew (Andy) Rusnak
08/16	Julia PATTERSON
08/18	Jean London
08/18	Sawyer Steinbauer
08/19	George (Woody) Woodbury
08/20	James (Jim) Calore
08/20	Perry Selheimer
08/20	Jane Murray
08/20	Diana (Lynn) Mangan
08/20	Lori Ryan
08/21	John Harrison
08/21	Tiffany Reichley
08/22	Dianne Boldt
08/23	Heather Merritt
08/23	Herman Benninghoff
08/25	Barbara (Bobby) Myers
08/25	Sara Stavelly
08/26	Richard (Dick) Thatcher
08/27	Patricia (Patti) Saunders
08/29	Winifred Gillespie
08/31	Dennis Byrnes

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

**Annaliese Jean Meier
Cora Marie DiMauro**

Clergy

The Rev. Keith A. Marsh, *Rector*

Staff

Sue Phillips,
Parish Administrator

Hannah Albrecht, Tiffany Reichley,
Organist *Director of Family Ministries: Children*

Dave Reichley, Sarah Patram,
Director of Family Ministries: *Financial Secretary*
Youth

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*

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

The Episcopal Church in Gwynedd Pennsylvania

1001 Dekalb Pike

Lower Gwynedd, PA 19002