



2025 Annual Report

+++

Annual Meeting
Sunday, January 25, 2026
immediately following the 9:30 a.m.
worship service

+++

Table of Contents

Agenda	3
Congregational Meeting Minutes	4-5
Council President's Report	6
Pastor's Report	7-8
Christian Education	9-10
Congregational Care	11
Endowment	12
Evangelism	13-14
Internship Program.....	14
Library.....	14-15
Memorials.....	15
Messiah Lighthouse Child & Family Development Center	15-16
Mutual Ministry.....	16
Office & Communication	17-18
Parish Life Committee	18-19
Property Committee.....	19
Safety and Security Committee	20
Social Ministry	20-22
Staff Support/Personnel Committee	22
Stewardship Committee	23
Upon This Rock.....	23
Women of the ELCA	23
Worship and Music.....	24-27



Annual Meeting Agenda

Messiah Lutheran Church
Annual Meeting Agenda
Sunday, January 25, 2026 @ 10:45 AM

1. Call to order — Frank Noto
Determination of quorum
Opening Prayer—Pastor Orin
2. Approval of Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes
 - a. January 26, 2025
 - b. November 09, 2025
3. Amendment to the Constitution
4. 2026 Budget approval
 - a. Messiah Lutheran Church
 - b. Messiah Lighthouse Child and Family Development Center
5. Endowment Committee Elections
Nominations - Chris Hoeman
6. Introduction of 2026 Council President
7. Recognition of Service
8. Adjournment

**Messiah Lutheran Church
Congregational Meeting Minutes
November 9, 2025**

1. **Call to Order**—Frank Noto, Council President, called the meeting to order at 10:47. A quorum was easily declared present.

2. **Opening Prayer** – Pastor Orin Cummings offered an opening prayer.

3. **Elections for 2025**

a. **Council Members**—Candidates for council members brought forward by the Nominating Committee and accepted by the Council were presented. There were no additional nominations from the floor.

Elected by acclamation.

- 3-year term: January 2026 – John Charles
- 3-year term: January 2026 – Marilyn Dial
- 3-year term: January 2026 – Ken Edstrom
- 3-year term: January 2026 – Steve Grochowsky
- 3-year term: January 2026 – Sarah Gunion
- 1-year term: (to complete Penny Gordon-Chumbley’s term)—Frank Noto

b. **Synod Assembly Voting Members**—Candidates for voting members to the 2026 Central States Synod Assembly brought forward by the Nominating Committee and accepted by the Council were presented. There were no additional nominations from the floor. **Elected** by acclamation.

- Lucy Stillwell and Myril Stewart

c. **Nominating Committee** (4 members plus 2 outgoing council members) Candidates for Nominating Committee for 2026 elected positions brought forward by the Nominating Committee and accepted by the Council were presented. There were no additional nominations from the floor. **Elected** by acclamation.

- Lisa Melgren, Sheila Schaefer, Kurt Parker, Zack Bartels, and 2 outgoing council members

4. **Adjournment**—Meeting was adjourned at 10:51.

Nominating Committee Members (for 2027 elected positions)

- Lisa Melgren
- Sheila Schaefer
- Kurt Parker
- Zack Bartels
- Outgoing council member
- Outgoing council member

2026 Synod Assembly Voting Members

- Lucy Stillwell
- Myril Stewart

Congregation Council Members

3-year term (2026-2027-2028)

- John Charles
- Marilyn Dial
- Ken Edstrom
- Steve Grochowsky
- Sarah Gunion
- Frank Noto (1 year term)

Respectfully submitted,
Becky Roark

Messiah Lutheran Church
Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes
January 26, 2025

1. Call to Order, Determination of Quorum, and Opening Prayer—Meeting was called to order by outgoing Council president Lindsey Dillion at 10:45 a.m. A quorum of voting members was declared. The opening prayer was given by Pastor Orin Cummings.

2. Approval of January 28, 2024 Congregational Meeting Minutes—Motion by Frank Noto with second by David Siewert to approve minutes. There were no corrections brought forward. **Motion** carried.

Approval of November 10, 2024 Congregational Meeting Minutes—Motion by Marcie Rosenkoetter with second by Chris Snyder to approve minutes. There were no corrections brought forward. **Motion** carried.

3. Amendment to the Constitution—Chris Davis presented for discussion and approval the following amendment (with recommended changes noted by underline and current wording to be deleted noted by strikethrough) to the *Constitution, Bylaws and Continuing Resolutions of Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church-Springfield, MO*.

C13.04. A Staff Support/Personnel Committee consisting of six ~~(6)~~ eight (8) voting members (in the absence of a staff support committee their duties shall be fulfilled by the executive committee) shall be appointed jointly by the president and the pastor. Term of office shall be two (2) years, ~~three (3)~~ four (4) members to be appointed each successive year. Committee members will hold no other office in the congregation during their term.

A **motion** was made by Bill Roark to approve the amendment with a second by Beth Melgren. **Motion** carried.

4. 2025 Budget Approval

a. **Messiah Lutheran Church Budget**—The proposed budget was made available in print (*2024 Financial Report*). **Motion** made by Lucy Stillwell with second by Penny Gordon-Chumbley to approve the budget as presented. **Motion** to approve the proposed budget as presented in the *2024 Financial Report* carried. (attached)

b. **Messiah Lighthouse Child & Family Development Center Budget**—The proposed budget was made available in print (*2024 Financial Report*). **Motion** made by Mary Keidle with second by Sheila Schaefer to approve the proposed budget as presented in the *2024 Financial Report*. **Motion** carried. (attached).

5. Endowment Committee Election—Nominees to serve on the Messiah Mission Endowment Fund Committee were presented. Nominees presented, to serve 3-year terms, were Becky Roark and Brad Weaver. No other nominations were brought forward from the floor. Nominees were elected by acclamation.

6. Announcement—Pastor Orin announced that Melissa Davis, elected at the November 2024 meeting to serve on the Council beginning in 2025, has resigned.

7. Introduction of 2025 Council President—Frank Noto was announced as the 2025 Council president, having been elected by Council members.

8. Recognition of Service—Applause was extended recognizing the service of the 2024 Executive Committee of the Council, Lindsey Dillion, Martha Morris, and Becky Roark.

9. Adjournment—Motion by Beth Melgren with second by Chris Snyder to adjourn the meeting. **Motion** carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Peggy Shelton, Acting Recording Secretary

Council President Report

A Year of Grace and Growth: Our 2025 Year in Review

As we look back on 2025, we are filled with profound gratitude for the ways God has moved through our congregation. It has been a year defined by stewardship, service, and a deepening of our faith. Together, we have strengthened our foundations—both physical and spiritual—to better serve our community and the Kingdom. All the glory to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for the wonderful year we had. There are far too many accomplishments to mention them all. Here are a few that come to mind.

Spiritual Growth and Outreach

Our mission to share the Gospel took a significant step forward this year. Through our congregational study of the book "**Me an Evangelist?**," many of us found new confidence in sharing our testimonies. This study wasn't just about theory; it equipped our members with practical tools to engage in meaningful, faith-based conversations in their daily lives.

We also continued to invest in the future of the Church by welcoming our new **Vicar**. Through the internship program, we have had the privilege of aiding in the development of future leaders, while their fresh perspective and energy have been a blessing to our pastoral team and various ministries.

Strengthening Our Roots

A healthy church requires a solid foundation, and 2025 was a year of exceptional stewardship:

- **Fiscal Strength:** We are pleased to report that we finished 2025 in a **fiscally strong position**. Your consistent and prayerful giving has allowed us to meet our goals and enter 2026 with the resources needed to expand our impact.
- **Facility Improvements:** Our "church home" received much-needed attention. We successfully completed upgrades to our **HVAC systems** and installed **new lighting** throughout the sanctuary and halls, ensuring our space remains a welcoming and comfortable environment for worship. Many of the improvements were completed by the generosity of our own parishioners.

Serving Our Neighbors, Near and Far

Our heart for service extended from our own backyard to the broader community:

- **The Lighthouse Day Care:** We completed significant improvements to the Lighthouse facilities, ensuring that the children in our care have a safe, modern, and nurturing environment to learn and grow. Hours of time were dedicated to this project through volunteerism and the project was led by one of our own resident architects.
 - **Ukrainian Ministry:** Our commitment to those displaced and affected by conflict remained a priority. Through our dedicated Ukrainian ministry, we provided essential care, supplies, and spiritual support to families in need, embodying the call to "love thy neighbor."
-

"Well done, good and faithful servant... enter into the joy of your master." — Matthew 25:23

Thank you for being a vital part of this community. Whether you gave your time, your resources, or your prayers, you played a role in making 2025 a landmark year for our church. We look forward to seeing what God has in store for us in the year ahead!

It has been a real pleasure serving as your Council President. I am looking forward to seeing what 2026 has in store for us. I know whatever we accomplish next year, all the glory goes to Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Only through the guidance of the Holy Spirit could we have accomplished any of these milestones. God bless you all in the upcoming year.

Respectfully submitted by, Frank Noto

Pastors Report

“Let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up.” — Galatians 6:9

This past year was a strong and meaningful one for Messiah, marked by both growth and transition. As is often the case in ministry, we experienced unexpected changes as some members moved into assisted living, faced illness, or were called to eternal rest. These moments required flexibility, pastoral care, and faithful leadership adjustments. At the same time, we became more aware of aging infrastructure needs, prompting thoughtful planning and discernment for the future.

In response to these realities, the Church Council adopted a strategic focus on evangelism, committing to equip members to share their faith with confidence and care. Through ongoing participation in the study *Me, an Evangelist? Every Christian's Guide to Caring Evangelism* by William J. McKay, members engaged in meaningful discussion, gained practical tools for everyday witness, and developed a shared understanding of how to live out our Mission Statement. It is my belief that this focus has strengthened our sense of purpose and prepared us for new ministry opportunities.

But challenges remain. How do we stay faithful in a changing culture? The temptation to trade core convictions for convenience or social acceptance is real, and doing so can weaken our identity in Christ. Throughout the year, we have sought to address this challenge through teaching and leadership from the pulpit, congregational events, meetings, and outreach. In each setting, we emphasized loving our neighbors and serving our community as visible expressions of the gospel in action.

Navigating political and social division continues to be a challenge. As a congregation, we recognize the importance of ensuring that political differences do not overshadow the gospel. Respectful dialogue and mutual care are essential to maintaining unity. We are called to love all people, including those who hold differing views. This commitment reflects our Mission Statement, especially our call to *Welcome All* and to *Care for All in Need*.

Looking ahead, a guiding theological question will be what it means to live as “Two Kingdom” citizens. Rooted in Lutheran theology, this understanding affirms our dual citizenship in both the spiritual and earthly realms. Living within this tension can be challenging, particularly when cultural norms or public policies conflict with the Word of God. Therefore, faithful witness requires discernment, engaging responsibly in civic life while remaining grounded in Christ. As Bishop Donna Simon reminded us at the Central States Synod Clergy Fall Conference, following Jesus often means embracing a countercultural identity.

As a congregation, we continue learning how to remain faithful to the gospel while engaging thoughtfully and responsibly in moral deliberation and public witness within a society that no longer shares some of the assumptions that once shaped our common life. We recognize that this changing context presents real challenges, but also opportunities for deeper engagement, faithfulness and clearer witness.

In response, we are called to more intentional and sustained engagement with Scripture, allowing God’s Word to form our convictions, shape our love, and guide our actions. We are also called to enter difficult conversations with honesty, humility, and civility, listening carefully to one another even when we disagree. Finally, we commit ourselves to unity in Christ and to compassion for our neighbors, resisting the pull of partisan division and seeking instead to bear witness to the reconciling love of God in both word and deed.

Faithfulness to Christ as baptized people of God—here and now—may at times be inconvenient, but it is precisely this faithfulness that shapes our witness and strengthens our life together.

Holy Communion to homebound	124
Baptisms	0
Marriages	1
Funerals	6
Hospital and or Care Centers or home visits	24

Thank you for the hard work and dedication of the following:

- Pastor Linda Bollenbach for graciously and willingly filling in during my absence from worship, and John and Annetta Svagera for leading the Seder meal with care and dedication
- Altar Guild for setting up and cleaning up after Holy Communion, preparing for Baptism and Baptismal anniversaries, Healing services, and special services. Joy Ward and Linda Michael for baking bread for Holy Communion, and Vic and Peggy Shelton for refinishing the credence table and stands for chancel flowers
- Flower Committee for vibrant floral arrangements that adorn the altar

Assisting Ministers, Acolytes, Crucifer, Cantors, Lectors, Distribution Assistants, Shepherds, Revelations Praise Band, A/V tech assistants, and offering tellers

Congregational Care Committee members:

The prayer team for faithfully maintaining the active prayer list and for your regular intercession. Your prayers cover those facing health crises, loss, the effects of war, preventable disaster, and human-caused tragedies, as well as celebrations of new births and healing

Irene Chaloupecky for cleaning vestments for clergy, acolytes and assisting ministers

Flower Distribution teams for taking altar flowers to the sick, homebound, and the grieving

Irene Chaloupecky for assistance with monthly worship at The Waterford Senior Living

Irene Chaloupecky, Vickie Donnell, Peggy Shelton, Meredith Bartelt and Genny Maroc for Blood Pressure screening

Meredith Ministry for your care and dedication to making prayer shawls, baby blankets and hats

Nancy Hoeman, Vickie Donnell, Jean Bardy, Marcie Rosenkoetter, Irene Chaloupecky and Marilyn Dial for faithfully serving as anointing ministers at Healing services

Carolyn Malcolm for sending greeting cards to members on their birthdays, and during times of illness and grief

Office disciples Ed and Vickie Donnell, Heather Smith, Carolyn Malcolm, Carol Flanders, Pat Schultz, Susan Weaver, Marilyn Dowell, Peggy Shelton, Ileen Kendall, Scot Franson and Jeanie Bardy

Mary Keidle for spending long days caring for outdoor and indoor plants and putting on public display décor appropriate to the liturgical season

Parish Life Ministry for ensuring that coffee hour is offered each Sunday and for providing opportunities for social fellowship

Evangelism Committee for arranging transportation to and from services for members in senior living, assisted living, or those who no longer drive, and for hosting the New Members class and connecting new members with ministries that reflect their gifts

Christian Education Committee for nurturing faith in our children through Fun-School; to Chuck Ryen and Dennis Hoffman for teaching Confirmation class; to Vicar Jackson and Vicar Abbey for mentoring the faith of our youth; and to Jessica Atchison, Rachel Bergin, and Angie Messner for their expert coordination of VBS

Lucy Stillwell, Mark Herron, Rachel Bergin, and Sheryl Hansen for their faithful leadership of Messiah's Music Ministry

Larry and Lucy Stillwell, Charles Hill, Mary Keidle, Mark Herron, Bud Schab, and Colleen Prosser for their work in property improvement and maintenance

Jean Bardy for coordinating Hanging of the Greens

Staff Support and Personnel Committee for upholding high standards of professionalism among all staff and for their dedicated support of staff

Terry Michael for his dedication to the Technology Ministry, providing both solutions to technical challenges and hardware support to the church

Terry Michael and Vickie Donnell for attending Synod Assembly

Social Ministry contributors: Colleen Prosser for Messiah House Ministry, Rose Hohbein for Ukrainian Ministry, Linda Elliot for our Neighborhood Library, David Siewert for maintaining connections with the Seminole/Holland Neighborhood Association, and Mark Herron for coordinating the God's Work, Our Hands Ministry to our neighborhood

Safety and Security Ministry contributors: Terry Michael for overseeing camera surveillance across the campus, including the Childcare and Family Center, and Jason Weaver for managing access control, with assistance from Nathan Carlson and Leisa Rushton

The Finance Committee for faithfully stewarding the church's resources, with special gratitude to Billie Stewart, treasurer, for her guidance throughout the process.

Office staff whose dedication and hard work keep everything running smoothly and support our ministries in countless ways every day

I am grateful to serve alongside each of you as a baptized child of God, as together we seek to live the way of Jesus in our community, our nation, and a world in deep need of God's justice and radical love.

Christian Education

JANUARY - Education classes resumed in January after Christmas break. The theme *Donut Forget, God Loves You* continued. Vicar Jackson continued with his monthly adult education classes on the ELCA social statements.

FEBRUARY – Susie Rucker, Christian Education chairperson and Sunday School superintendent, was presented with a beautiful stain glass of the Lutheran Emblem (graciously made by Paul Melgren) to honor her longtime service on Christian Education. She officially retired from her position on May 31st.

MAY - Graduating Seniors of all ages were recognized during the service on May 4th. Following the service, there was a cake reception in the Fellowship Hall honoring the graduates.

May 18th was the last day of educational classes. Teacher appreciation was celebrated this day.

AUGUST - Vacation Bible School took place from Sunday, August 3rd - Thursday, August 7th at Messiah from 5:30-8:00 PM. The theme: *True North*. Messiah partnered with Prince of Peace. It was well attended. Our new vicar, Abbey Knappman arrived August and assisted with VBS.

During worship service on August 17th, youth were invited to bring backpacks to receive a special blessing and prayer to kick off the 2025-2026 school year.

SEPTEMBER - Rally Day took place on September 7th. The theme for the year *Faith Can Move Mountains* was introduced. The congregation was invited to the Fellowship Hall to sing, play games, and enjoy snacks.

September 14th - Sunday School and Confirmation resumed.

A coed intergenerational Bible study began on September 17th led by Pastor Orin and Vicar Abbey. This class is on Wednesdays at 10:00am in the sanctuary. This study this year is the Old Testament readings of the Common Lectionary. This class pauses during Advent and Lenten seasons for midweek services.

The adult education class studying the book *Me, an Evangelist* began on September 7th and continued through December 7th. This discussion was led by Pastor Orin, Vicar Abbey, and members of the church council.

OCTOBER - Reformation Sunday, October 26th, 4 young men and 2 young women were confirmed during the service. This year's confirmands are Sophia Bradley, Katie Colwell, Felix Cass, Jude Bowers, Jonah Bowers, and Hudson Gebken. A cake reception was held in their honor after the service. Each confirmand received a Lutheran Study Bible.

NOVEMBER - The *NIV Discoverer's Bible for Kids* along with a book bag was presented to Christian Gutierrez, Carmelita Russell, Charlotte Carroll, and Harrison Carroll on November 2nd during worship service.

DECEMBER - On December 14th, "KIDS" of all ages presented a delightful Christmas program to the congregation with songs, bell ringing, and readings during the church service. It was a nice celebration of Jesus' birth. The annual congregational Christmas dinner was celebrated after the program. Christian Education is not meeting regularly as of now and a new chairperson is being sought. Children's Sunday School has an average attendance of 10 students. There are currently 4 confirmation students. Classes will resume in 2026 on January 11th.

Respectfully submitted, Christian Education Committee

Youth and Family Committee

During 2024, the Youth and Family Committee formally dissolved due to declining membership, with no remaining members to continue or transition responsibilities. As a result, no official committee meetings or coordinated programming have occurred. Currently, activities for junior high and high school-aged youth are led by the present Vicar, while a Young Adult Support Committee remains active and continues outreach to 16 young adults through notes and cards of encouragement, supportive text messages, and shared music links to assist with studying and well-being. This will continue over the spring semester. In the past, the church made attempts to call a Youth and Family Leader; however, an appropriate candidate has not yet been identified, and there is no current plan to resume the search. This year reflects both the season of transition and an opportunity for continued prayer, discernment, and planning regarding how the church may best support youth, young adults, and families in the future.

Submitted by, Katie Dogwiler, Rose Hohbein, and Faye Hudson

Youth Group

Youth Group is currently meeting twice a month with an attendance of 3 to 8 youth. The youth group continues to be a changing and evolving part of Messiah as each new Vicar comes in and brings their own ideas to the group. Currently the youth group is led by Vicar Abbey and Chuck Ryen. They led the youth group, while ensuring that the youth have their own opportunities to lead. Each meeting includes an icebreaker, Bible Study (which is often youth led), and games.

The youth group continues to have an active participation in the wider congregation. Since the fall, they have run a Trunk-or-Treat for the families of the congregation and the neighborhood. In this year's Christmas program, they played several roles and even helped create the script used for the program. The youth group also went Christmas caroling to several members in care facilities. As the new year comes, the youth group will continue to take an active role in church life at Messiah.

Fireflies

The Fireflies is a new group created this year. It is for upper elementary to middle school aged girls. They have been meeting once a month and at the start of January they will begin meeting twice a month. The group is run by Vicar Abbey and Lisa Melgren. There are 5 girls who are currently a part of the Fireflies, and they have all been coming to each meeting.

The Fireflies is about encouraging young women to explore their faith in ways that speak to them. We play games, have Bible Studies, and discuss our lives. The mission of Fireflies is to encourage the girls to let their lights shine during very formative years of their lives. So far, there has been tremendous excitement surrounding the group, both on the side of the girls and parents.

Fundraisers

Since the fall, the Youth Group and Fireflies have had two fundraisers. The first was Trunk-or-Treat where donation boxes were placed around for people to donate to the youth group. The second fundraiser was a pie sale before Thanksgiving. Currently the youth are working to save enough money to purchase a Gaga Ball pit. This is a game played in an octagonal pit that is played similarly to dodgeball. The pit would be portable and collapsible so that it can be used for a multitude of occasions. The cost to buy the pit is about \$1,600, the youth group has currently raised just over \$600.

Vicar Abbey Knappman

Backpack Blessing

This year, was no exception, Backpack Blessing during worship included blessing teachers, students, Education staff, upon the resumption of school.

Easter Festival

This event is on Sunday of Easter weekend. Candy stuffing and games are planned for the ever popular egg hunt. The kids had a wonderful time.

Scouts

Messiah Lutheran Church is the Chartering Organization for the Scout Pack 193 and Troop 193. These groups continue to meet under the leadership of Tom Lepdegraff— Scout Matter and Matt Bills, Cub Master. Please contact Pastor Orin Cummings at the church office 417-881-2192 with any questions.

Instead of SPLASH! Parent Pages, We will be using Frolic: Little Steps, Big Faith

Adult Education

Sunday 10:45 to 11:30 AM— Our adult education class gathered on Sundays in the Sanctuary and discussed ELCA Social Statement, presentation on Suicide Prevention, Gambling Addiction, and Human Trafficking. In addition, the Council led a series on "Me, An Evangelist?" to impact the Council goal: Learning to share our faith.

Tuesday Men's Bible Study—7 AM—The men's Bible study group continue to meet weekly in the Library.

Congregational Care

MISSION STATEMENT: OFFER HEALING AND CARE TO ALL IN NEED

Members include Jean Bardy, Irene Chaloupecky, Marilyn Dial, Vickie Donnell, Barbara Hover, Marcie Rosenkoetter (Council Representative), & Louann Sherman.

Under the Congregational Care Committee umbrella, the following teams include:

- Baptismal Anniversary Celebrations
- Birthday Cheer visits to members with milestone birthdays
- Birthday Remembrance Ministry
- Blood Drive donation of 20 + units
- Blood Pressure Screenings
- Cards and Notes to Members Ministry
- Christmas Love Project Visits to homebound members
- Educational Programs including, Suicide Prevention, Gambling Addiction and Human Trafficking
- Flower Deliveries to members after Sunday Worship Services
- Funeral/Memorial Support
- Grief Support Mailings and Grief Support Group Offerings (Cox Chaplain)
- Healing Services on the 5th Sunday of each month
- Health Concern Follow-ups
- Holy Communion with Visitations
- Medical Response Team for Emergencies
- New & Expectant Parent Ministry
- Prayer Partners pray for a specific person having a prayer concern like premature birth or cancer
- Prayer Support prays for people on our prayer list, new & expectant parents, college age members and other Messiah ministries
- Meredith's Ministry knits and crochets items like Baby Blankets for gifting
- Splash Mailings (faith builder information) to new parents until age 2 years
- "Spirit" Articles (monthly health information)
- Transportation Ministry
- Ukrainian Refugee Support

As we "Hunger for Ministry," the Transportation Ministry continued, with a faithful driver and member riders to assist those they pick up for worship services. Many of the monthly Health Spirit Articles were written by individual Messiah members who work in the Medical Field. A September Messiah Community Blood Drive donated 20+ units of blood to the Community Blood Center of the Ozarks. In addition, we will continue to implement all the teams listed above, having deemed them important to our Mission to Offer Healing and Care to all in Need.

Submitted by Marcie Rosenkoetter

Endowment

This report is to summarize the activity of the Endowment Committee for 2025.

Fund Summary

The Endowment Fund as of December 2024 held total assets of \$610,013.65. The total contributions to the Fund, which represent the restricted fund which may not be used for awards, is \$385,750.90.

Grants Awarded

Each grant request submitted to the Committee was at least partially funded. A total of \$41,500 in grants were awarded as follows:

Missions of the ELCA

<u>Request</u>	<u>Committee/Ministry</u>	<u>Description</u>
\$1,000	Congregational Care	Purchase Gift Cards for Joyful or Hardship events
\$9,000	Property	Drainage Improvements for Daycare
\$1,600	Member Request	Professional Training on Church A/V System
\$2,500	Outreach Ministry	Supplies for Quilts, Baby Care Kits, and Personal Care Kits
\$1,000	Outreach Ministry	Shipping Costs for Quilts and Care Kits sent to Lutheran World Relief

Outreach into the Community and Synod

<u>Request</u>	<u>Group/Individual</u>	<u>Description</u>
\$3,000	Safe to Sleep	Remodel Expenses for Sleeping and Bathroom Facilities
\$600	Messiah House	Cleaning Supplies and Tools for Women
\$2,000	Member	Transitioning to Their Own Housing Community Partnership Suicide Prevention
\$1,000	Member	Support for AMMPARO, ELCA Organization Aiding Children and Families Immigrating to the U.S.
\$2,700	Messiah Lighthouse	Tablets and Cases for Staff Use
\$1,100	Property	Backup Generator to Run Freezers and Refrigerators During Power Outages

Capital Improvements at Messiah

<u>Request</u>	<u>Committee/Ministry</u>	<u>Description</u>
\$5,000	Property	Standalone A/C Unit for A/V Room
\$5,000	Property	Additional Costs for Sanctuary A/C Unit
\$6,000	Audio/Visual	Sanctuary Projector Replacement

Committee Members

Chris Hoeman (Chair)	Term Expires 2025
Brad Weaver (Treasurer)	Term Expires 2027
Terry Michael (Secretary)	Term Expires 2026
Joy Ward	Term Expires 2026
Becky Roark	Term Expires 2027

Respectfully submitted by, Chris Hoeman, Chair

Evangelism

During 2025 the Evangelism Committee continued to carry out its responsibilities to Messiah congregation as summarized below.

1) **Endeavor to bring new members to Messiah congregation.** The most important work we do to fulfill this responsibility is to provide a meaningful welcome when guests attend worship or other activities at Messiah. To this end, we are indebted to those who faithfully serve as members of the Shepherding Teams—those who provide hospitality and facilitate the many ‘behind the scene’ activities that support worship. Those currently serving as Shepherds include: Jessica Atchison, Jean Bardy, Barbara Blaha, John Charles, Debbie Corlett, Chris & Jayne Davis, Katie Dogwiler, Ed & Vickie Donnell, Terry Dunham, Richard & April Gebken, David & Patty Hangen, Mike & Faye Hudson, Mary Keidle, Susan Lane, Bonnie Luder, Beth Melgren, Elaine Novak, Kurt & Dee Parker, Bill & Becky Roark, Bud & Jane Schwab, Chris Snyder, and Jolynn & JP Szesny. When contact information has been captured, we follow-up with all visitors via a personal message by written or e-mail message or phone call.

Messiah welcomed the following into membership during 2025: Dick Needham and Debbie Powell, Jacob and Michael Russell-Rivera, Beth, Mary Ellen, and Alex Eggleston, Linda Goodson, Marge Fisher, Terry Miller, Dean McDowell and Donny McKinney, Linda Heitman, Steve & Donna Koehler, Sharon Raines, and Frances Crawford. As we move into 2026, we will continue our effort to welcome all guests, with special regard to those who have a desire to be received into membership. The dates for new member classes—Lutheran/Messiah Basics—have been set for 2026 and are planned for February, June, September, and November. As we end this year, we are blessed to have several family units that are regularly worshipping at Messiah we look forward to potentially welcoming them into our community of faith.

2) **Facilitate immersion of new members into the life of Messiah congregation.** Opportunities for participation in Messiah activities are discussed at the new member class and follow-up with new members facilitates that they are welcomed into the ministries of Messiah. We are thankful that some of the newly received members are already immersed in ministry. As part of the 2025 stewardship program, all newly received members were contacted to seek their interest in ministries and to ensure they are invited to serve. A reminder to all Messiah members—it is the responsibility of everyone to reach out to those that are new to Messiah and to invite them to participate in Messiah’s programs and activities. Biographical information of new members with pictures, published in the **Spirit**, facilitates introduction of those new to Messiah. Thanks to Jeanine Siewert for preparing the information for publication. While immersion of new members into the ministries of Messiah is a focus, the Committee is attentive to the participation of all members in the life and work of Messiah congregation. I think all would agree that Messiah is a member-driven congregation.

3) **Be attentive to members who have lapsed in their worship attendance and/or congregational presence.** As members, it is the responsibility of all to reach out to those you are not seeing in worship—we all should strive for healthy worship attendance. Please reach out to those you are not seeing in worship and let them know that they are missed. We give thanks for the technology that allows us to provide virtual opportunities to worship via *Facebook* and *YouTube*. We are grateful for Drew Bowman who leads the cadre of volunteers who provide audiovisual support for on-site worship and live streaming. The transportation ministry, with Gene Chrisman as our dedicated driver, continued to provide rides for those who might not be able to worship in person without the assistance. Currently this ministry is paused due to work that needs to be done on the shuttle. The committee supports the Congregation Council in carrying out its constitutional charge to “provide for an annual review of the membership roster”. Maintaining accurate membership records is an ongoing challenge in today’s world where members relocate without notifying the church office or begin worshipping in another congregation, but do not seek transfer. It is important to maintain accurate membership records and we are grateful to Leisa, our office administrator, who partners with us in this work. Early in 2026 the annual review of membership will be completed for inclusion in the Annual Congregation Report submitted to the ELCA. Completion of the most recent report for the year ending December 31, 2024, reflected that 347 individuals were actively participating in the life of Messiah congregation.

4) **Ensure that appropriate congregational correspondence is on-going with prior visitors, members, and distant and prior members.** Maintaining an up-to-date pictorial directory of Messiah’s membership is an on-going and challenging process. The current approach, which requires personal responsibility to maintain a current directory, has been well received by many. Sets of updated pages containing replacement pages for updated information and additional pages for newly received members were distributed.

The monthly **Spirit** newsletter (distributed via USPS), the weekly **Midweek Messenger** (distributed via e-mail), and **Weekend Messenger** (distributed at worship services) continue as the current correspondence methods. If you are not receiving the **Spirit** or **Midweek Messenger** and wish to, please notify the church office. We strive to be an informed congregation, so reading these publications is critical. **Living Lutheran** has returned as a print publication of the ELCA! The ELCA at the churchwide level listened when the approach to online distribution of audio stories, podcasts, and videos did not achieve a healthy level of engagement. This publication, while not serving as the official voice of the ELCA, provides a platform for diverse voices and dialogue in faith and life as an ELCA Lutheran. If you would like to subscribe, click on this link: [Subscribe to Living Lutheran Magazine | Living Lutheran](#)

5) **Seek ways to encourage Messiah members to be joy-filled, vibrant witnesses to Jesus Christ.** The committee was able to again have a presence at the September **God's Work. Our Hands.** We provided cold drinks, donuts, pizza, smiles and conversations for both those doing the work and members of the neighborhood who took advantage of Messiah's effort to clean up the Seminole-Holland neighborhood. There are additional opportunities for witnessing within our neighborhood that need to be explored. We encourage all to participate in Sunday School, adult education classes, and Bible Studies that are offered at Messiah. The recent education program, led by church council members, based on the book, *Me, an Evangelist?* generated healthy discussion regarding how we can better share our faith and communicate the love of Christ to others—this is the witness we owe our Jesus Christ. Learning more about who we say we are as Evangelical Lutherans and 'being in the Word' surely strengthens our ability to witness for our Lord and Savior.

We are seeking others to join us in this work of evangelism. We need your ideas and your energy as this work is never done and it is work each of us is called to do. We are known as a 'welcoming' congregation; however, our sense is that we need to put energy into being an 'inviting' congregation. Invite acquaintances and those you meet who do not have a church home to come to worship with you or share that Messiah is streamed on *Facebook* and *YouTube*—then follow-up with them. Most importantly, live a life using words and actions to share how you experience God, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit in your daily life.

Jean Bardy, Vickie Donnell, Rose Hohbein, Jane Schwab
Submitted by: Vickie Donnell

Internship Program

After saying 'good-bye' to Vicar Jackson at the end of June 2025, we were blest to welcome Vicar Abbey as our third intern in August. In partnership with Wartburg Theological Seminary (WTS), we continue to engage with the wider church by providing a teaching and learning environment for the pastoral formation of a seminarian completing theological studies in preparation for ordination. As we continue to live out our mission, Messiah's ministries have surely been enhanced by incorporating the gifts of our interns. This committee meets monthly, led by Vicar Abbey's agenda, to carry out three primary responsibilities. First, to provide support for Abbey in her role as intern. To pray regularly for her, extend ongoing welcome and hospitality, and to see she is acclimated to the community. Second, to engage in meaningful dialogue, support her in her learning and growth in pastoral formation, provide regular feedback, and complete the required evaluations. Finally, to provide connection between Abbey and members of the congregation and the community. As a congregation, in August 2025, during the Service of Beginning Internship, we agreed to the following: "to accept Abbey as Vicar and a fellow worker within our church family, to invite and welcome her into our homes, and in every way possible to strengthen and encourage her throughout this year of learning and teaching in Springfield and the surrounding communities." This extends a reminder that we all have a role in serving as an internship site for Vicar Abbey until her time with us concludes in July 2026. Members of the LIC are Rachel Bergin, Jack Dimond, Vickie Donnell, Charles Hill, Nancy Hoeman, Faye Hudson, Kip Scott, and Billie Stewart.

Submitted by: Vickie Donnell

Library

The Library Committee, consisting of Steve Grochowsky, Ileen Kendall, Sue Polly, Jane Schwab and myself took on the task of purging and re-cataloguing the books starting in 2024 and completing the task in 2025. Books that were removed from the shelves were first offered to the congregation and then those that were left were donated to the Friends of the Library.

Then in early 2025, bins were found in the church attic that contained photos and historical paperwork. Pastor Orin requested that these be digitized. Photos were sorted into categories by office volunteers, labeled and then Heather Smith and I began the task of scanning them all into the computer. They were compiled into photo books and placed on the Library shelves. In addition, the historical information, dating back to the establishment of Messiah, were also digitized. This included various documents, newspaper articles, church directories, annual reports, correspondence, pamphlets, information regarding special events and anniversaries, etc.

While everything has been scanned into the computer, some finishing touches still need to be completed. Access to all of this information will be available in the church office.

Note of interest: Messiah's first service was on May 27, 1956. Our charter was signed by 83 members on April 5, 1959. And look at us now. Our 70th Anniversary is fast approaching. I invite you to look back and see where it all began! If you have any

questions, please contact me at any time. Many thanks to all who took part in this project and to the Library Committee members for their help in giving the facelift to the our Church Library.

—Debbie Corlett, Chair

Memorials

I became the coordinator for the memorials given to Messiah in July 2025. When a gift is received, it is recorded in the memorial notebook, located in the black file cabinet in the office. I then write a thank you to the donor(s) and let the family of the deceased know a gift has been given in memory of their loved one.

There was a total of 39 memorials in 2025 totaling \$5,470.00.

Submitted by Peggy Shelton

Messiah Lighthouse Child & Family Development Center

Messiah Lighthouse Child and Family Development Center (MLCFDC) completed its 16 years of serving children and families in our community in October 2025. The mission of Messiah Lighthouse is to provide quality childcare in a Christian environment, with a focus on strengthening families through community support. Messiah Lighthouse is licensed to care for children six weeks to six years of age and has the distinction of being one of only seven childcare facilities in Greene County and the only faith-based center to achieve accreditation through Missouri Accreditation for Children and Youth.

Jessica Phillips has been Center Director at MLCFDC since December 2021. Jessica holds a bachelor's degree in child and family development and previously served as director at another local daycare center. Melody Farabee was hired for the position of Family Support Coordinator in 2025, after serving as lead infant teacher and assistant center director at MLCFDC since its opening in 2009. Another key staff change this year was the retirement of Sally Hollingshad, lead cook since the opening of the center.

In 2025, additional improvements to the childcare facility were completed with construction of a redesigned storage room and shelves, installation of an observation window between the preschool classroom and hallway, modifications to desks that furnish administrative offices, and exterior drainage improvements including shrub removal. A new classroom for toddler/ young 2-year-old children opened in the fall, increasing capacity to accommodate up to 24 children age two and under, the area of greatest need in the community.

MLCFDC's enrollment is currently 44 children, 79% of our capacity of 56. Approximately 35% of families enrolled are income-eligible for tuition subsidy from the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Office of Childhood.

The MLCFDC ministry benefited from the support of the congregation and community in numerous ways in 2025. Special appreciation is expressed to the following people:

- Messiah Endowment Fund for grant funding of new iPad tablets used to run the ProCare software used by the center for record keeping and communication with families.
- Carolyn Malcolm, Peggy Shelton, Irene Chaloupecky, and Barbara Hover who serve on the Tuition Assistance Committee and review and approve applications for short-term assistance with tuition for families experiencing financial hardship
- Charles Hill for architectural design work and project management for facility renovations including addition of a toddler unit classroom, installation of interior and exterior windows, interior doors, and desk modifications
- Mary Keidle for her work on building renovation and maintenance, grading and landscape work to improve drainage, and many other forms of support to children and staff of the center
- Messiah members who assisted with facility renovations completed in 2025: Mary Keidle, Bud Schwab, Mark Herron, Terry Michael, Tom McConnell, Larry Stillwell, and Charles Hill
- Nathanael Cummings, for the construction and installation of a classroom wall storage unit as his Eagle Scout project, and for mentors Charles Hill, Don Blumberg, Dave Hangen, Colleen Prosser, and Vic Shelton for their expertise and assistance
- Nathan Carlson for assistance with financial and administrative functions, Leisa Rushton for office administrative and accounting support, and Joy Ward for accounting expertise
- Vicar Abbey Knappman for leadership of chapel services in the Center, with volunteer assistance from Scott Estrem, Mary Keidle, Lisa Melgren, and Chuck Ryen, and for writing and coordinating the MLCFDC Christmas program
- Brenda Blumberg, who regularly reads to children in the three-year-old and preschool classrooms, and Jean Ann Christensen

for presenting a special program with her talented dog

- Jean Bardy, chair of the Personnel Committee, for human resources expertise and support
- Advisory Board members who assisted with setup, serving, and cleanup for the MLCFDC family Christmas dinner and celebration
- An anonymous donor for the purchase of a new heavy-duty washer and dryer for the center
- Messiah Lutheran congregation members who provide ongoing support to the Center through prayer and regular giving
- Pastor Orin Cummings, Dennis Hoffman, Charles Hill (Council Representative), Nancy Hoeman (Chair), Mary Keidle (Finance Team representative), Joy Ward, and Jason Weaver for service and guidance as members of the Advisory Board, and Billie Stewart for participation as Messiah's treasurer

Many Messiah members are involved in the MLCFDC ministry as mentioned above. You are invited to participate as well. If you would consider helping minister to children and families as a volunteer, your skills and interests are welcome and there is a place for you!



Vicar Abbey leading Christmas program



Nathanael Cummings with Eagle Scout project

Respectfully submitted by Nancy Hoeman on behalf of MLCFDC Advisory Board

Mutual Ministry

Hebrews, 13:7 "Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God; consider the outcome of their life and imitate their faith;" and verse 17 "Obey your leaders and submit to them; for they are keeping watch over your souls, as men who will have to give account."

The Mutual Ministry committee is tasked in Messiah's bylaws to support our Pastors in their ministry for Messiah. *"The Mutual Ministry Committee shall support and facilitate the mutual ministry of the rostered minister and congregation members. We have typically met monthly with Pastor Orin and Vicar Abbey for devotion, mutual feedback, and discussion of how to help our Pastors. As a special thanks and support again this year, Mutual Ministry along with Parish Life committee organized a Pastor appreciation celebration for Pastor Cummings, Vicar Abbey, Pastor Bollenbach, Father Chumbley, and former Pastor Dan Friberg. On October 12th. Messiah celebrated and thanked our Pastors after morning service with baskets of cards, well wishes during the "open mic." The celebration included the Sunday School children presenting thank you posters for the Pastors and songs. Of course, thanks to our Pastors is appreciated anytime and ongoing prayers for our Pastors and their family are important. The members are Chuck Ryen, Myril Stewart, Joy Ward, Alex Hover, Carolyn Gerdes, and Elaine Novak. Myril is the committee representative for Council. If anyone has suggestions for the committee, we are most happy to listen.*

Submitted by Alex Hover

Office & Communication

Business Manager Report

The financial strength of Messiah has maintained this year. The staff and volunteers have done very well assuring we can sustain the Ministries of Messiah by much planning and funding support of the many programs we offer daily. We have met the spending needs due to a few very large donations in December. We continue to rely on a few to meet our budget needs. We budget for the ministries of Messiah that we strongly need to be funded. With many new needs and plans for the coming year, it will be a challenge for us all to meet these needs with giving and support.

The operations of Messiah continue to support the many Ministries of the church locally, regionally, nationally, and worldwide. Our support has reached so many areas across the region and the globe as we support the ELCA missions monthly.

Messiah Lighthouse Child and Family Development serve youth and families of the community in a very unique way. Providing a FAITH based Child Care Center is a great addition to our family of faith. We have given many families the chance to improve their lives in many ways. We have added strength and dedication to families and staff of both Messiah and Messiah Lighthouse Childcare. We did a major remodeling of the Child Care Center again this year to allow for more youth to attend and much better conditions for all ages. This upgrade has also benefited the Messiah Church facility as a whole for fire protection, flooring, offices and many areas not always noticed by our membership.

This year Messiah has done even more with the surrounding community. We have had several projects that involved the entire Holland Neighborhood. We have shown ups and downs in giving support and volunteer support.

Messiah House, is a very special Ministry of Messiah helping homeless women get a new start. Donations support this mission that is so very important to the Springfield community.

The Ukraine Mission House family of five moved in September. The house is being renovated and will be rented in 2026. We are currently using the 2125 S. Kings house as another Ukraine Mission House. It is being supported from donations.

We have teams that regularly work on projects that involve the Mission House Properties and the Church Properties. The Property Committee is very busy and needs more hands-on support.

A special Thank You to the members of the Financial Support Committee. Their guidance and support have allowed me to handle the many new changes for the Business of Messiah Lutheran Church.

Our office manager has assisted with much of the daily financial recording for the Messiah Lighthouse Child Care in 2025.

Messiah must continue to grow in Ministries and support. We as a Church can do much more to reach those in need as well as continue to provide for our members and friends in their daily needs. We must always challenge ourselves to do more for those that have less.

Serving in Christ, Business Manager, Nathan Carlson

Office Manager Report

As I reflect on 2025, we have now had our volunteer program in place for a full year. It has truly been a pleasure working with all the ladies and gentlemen who serve as the first friendly faces you see when you enter the church office. Each volunteer has contributed in meaningful ways—answering phones, greeting people, and assisting with the many projects we completed this year, including *The Spirit* and postcard mailings. I am deeply grateful to everyone who is always willing to lend a helping hand.

We also tackled a large and important project thanks to the dedication of Debbie Corlett and Heather Smith. Several totes of church photos, directories, and documents were discovered, and they took on the task of scanning, labeling, and organizing these materials into a digital format. Debbie, along with several other volunteers, also worked to sort photographs, identify individuals, and place them into protective sheets and binders for our library. If you are interested in learning more about Messiah's church history, please feel free to browse the binders in the library or ask Debbie Corlett.

Messiahmo.org

As we continue to enhance our website, we are excited to introduce a new page for Messiah Lighthouse Childcare. This page will serve as a central hub for all childcare-related information, including calendars of events, closings, enrollment details, special events, and hiring updates.

On our website, you can view the church calendar, *The Spirit*, weekly worship bulletins, give online, submit prayer requests, connect with us, view special events, and much more.

The Mid-Week Messenger

The office continues to send out the *Midweek Messenger* to keep the congregation informed of important upcoming information. *The Spirit* is sent out once a month, reflecting on current events and sharing news and information for the coming month. I could not produce *The Spirit* without the help of our volunteers, proofreaders, and everyone who submits articles. Regarding our other social media platforms, I post events and news about church activities on our Facebook page. Drew live-streams Sunday services to Facebook and YouTube for those who are unable to attend in person or who would like to watch the replays.

The Church App

Go to your app store (Apple App Store or Google Play Store) and search for **Church App — Tithe.ly**. Once the app is downloaded and opened, the screen “**Connect with your church**” should appear. Type in **Messiah Lutheran Church**.

Look for the church logo Messiah Lutheran Church and select it. You will then add the church, grant permissions, and follow the prompts.

If you experience any  problems, please feel free to contact the church office.

The Church Directory

Our church directory is put together by Evangelism Committee and we will soon be making it available online in our Church Member Resources area under the About section. You will need a password for this section of our website as everything will be made password protected. If you are interested in a physical binder copy please contact the church office and we will get you one.

As we look ahead to 2026, I am excited for what is to come. If you are a new member and interested in volunteering in the church office, please contact the church office, Vickie Donnell, or Pastor Orin.

We have several areas where you are welcome to volunteer: Proofreaders for the Spirit Newsletter, of course Office Volunteers, and assistants to help with preparing large mailings. We welcome anyone who is interested and has a willingness to serve.

Respectfully submitted Leisa Rushton Office Administrator

Parish Life

The purpose of our group is to provide opportunities for our church family to get to know each other better and to grow closer. We usually meet the first Tuesday of every month at 5:30pm in the church office. Besides providing for the fellowship time following worship on Sunday mornings, we have hosted the following activities this past year:

January- Pizza and a Movie

February and March-facilitated the Lenten Wednesday night suppers

April- Easter breakfast

July- Pizza and a Movie

August- Potluck breakfast

September- Supper and scriptures meet and greet

November- Potluck and Christmas cookie decorating

November- Thanksgiving Eve pie social

December- Congregational Christmas dinner

We will continue to provide fellowship opportunities for our congregation. If you have ideas for a new activity, please contact us.

Respectfully submitted, Lucy Stillwell

Pub Theology

We gathered monthly on the 4th Thursday to discuss many Theological topics. This is a group of men, usually 8-10 attend and often we have visitors. Many and varied topics some of which were: *How does God speak to us, Luke 20, Christian Nationalism, Creation, Bitterness, Faith and Civic Life, What is the Gospel, Missing and Lost Bible Books, Frozen Souls, Faith and Social Media, and 6 Things that Made Jesus Angry*. We usually enjoy about 2 hours of discussion, food and beverage. Date, time and location are listed on all Messiah news calendars on a weekly basis.

Submitted by, Nathan Carlson

Wine, Wit, & Wisdom

Wine, Wit and Wisdom is a women's dinner group that meets on the fourth Thursday of the month at different restaurants for a meal and fellowship. Currently we have anywhere from 5 to 15 women, of all ages, that come and sip a little **Wine** share their faith stories, engage in **Wit**-ty conversations, and perhaps gain a little **Wisdom** from our evenings together. We always have room at our table for more, so we invite you to join us when you can. Meeting times are always published in the Spirit and the Midweek Messenger. For more information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 417-848-9426 or debbiecorlett@sbcglobal.net.

Debbie Corlett, Coordinator

Property

Property Committee was busy this year with issues concerning the church building and church owned properties. Thank you to Property Committee members: Nathan Carlson, Paul Melgren, Wes Bowman, Ed Donnell, Bud Schwab, Mary Keidle, Charles Hill, and Frank Noto-council rep.

Smaller repairs were completed by committee members throughout the year. For larger projects the committee along with much appreciated congregational volunteers completed several workdays.

- Repair a damaged concrete section on the sidewalk.
- Repair playground equipment.
- Clean out the attic above the pantry of old AC and water heaters.
- Trim and/or remove trees next to the church building and clean the EFIS coating on the north side of the building.
- Improve drainage on the NW corner of the church to stop water entering during rain.
- Expand the AV platform/desk in the sanctuary.
- Participated in a redesign and remodel of the daycare area for new offices and new classrooms. Charles Hill leading.
- Maintain and improve church landscaping. Mary Keidle leading.

Properties

- Clean out, organize, and partially paint the Dollison storage house
- Remove and replace the fence on the 2135 S. Kings property.
- Repair a section of damaged concrete.
- Clean the 2145 S. Kings property after the Tsilinsky's moved out. The house is being prepared to use as a rental property.

In addition, several maintenance items required use of contractors for completion and the property committee was involved in specifying work to be done, getting quotes, and follow-up activities.

- Replace the sanctuary northside HVAC unit.
- Install a mini-split AC unit for the AV office/equipment room.
- Repair the elevator.
- New flooring in the kitchen and daycare.
- Replace the sliding door in the Messiah house.
- Tree removals at the 2135 S. Kings house.

For 2026 several projects are planned:

- Replace the sanctuary south side HVAC unit
- Replace HVAC unit that supplies the west side of the library room.
- Repair the van ceiling.
- Repair cracks in the parking lot.
- Rebuild deck on 2135 S. Kings. (Damaged by tree roots, tree removed in 2025).
- Replace siding on south side of 2145 S. Kings house.

Colleen Prosser, Mark Herron co-chair)

Safety and Security

The purpose of the Safety & Security Committee is to oversee the safety and security of the congregation as it relates to church buildings and property, church members and guests, cybersecurity, and other church records.

Safety Child Training is required for all Shepherds and volunteers involved in the church's children and youth programs. Much of this training can be completed online following the initial orientation. CPR training is also encouraged.

Jason Weaver – Chair,

Social Ministry

Crosslines: Thank you to everyone who donates dry goods, canned goods, and hygiene items. As always, check expiration dates before donating. We also collect barcodes from Best Choice products. This is an easy way for Crosslines to make some money. Just a quick reminder that we DO NOT collect egg cartons! Thank you to everyone who donated to the Crosslines diaper drive for October. We collected around 40 boxes and packages of diapers. Messiah also participated in the annual Crosslines Toy Store, giving to the teenage group.

Susan Lane and Terry Dunham

God's Work, Our Hands: It was another successful year of the *God's Work. Our Hands.* neighborhood clean-up on Saturday, September 6, 2025. The number of neighbors bringing items to fill dumpsters was down this year, with only 31 vehicles bringing items or lawn/garden waste. However, we managed to fill one dumpster to overflowing and another approximately half filled. The amount of yard waste/tree limbs collected was surely decreased this year due to the city-wide pick-up following the storm earlier in the summer.

There was an excellent turnout of volunteers from Messiah and the neighborhood. Those in attendance took advantage of the light turnout and went to work to trim trees, remove stressed evergreens, and did an overall clean-up of the church properties.

It was a day of good work with time also for fellowship among members and interaction with our neighbors. On September 23rd, a group met to review the project. While the outcome was viewed as positive the decreased response of the neighborhood was somewhat puzzling. The discussion of the group centered on how we might expand the day to become more of a neighborhood event with the clean-up being only a part of what we might be able to accomplish with our neighbors on that dedicated Saturday in September.

Holland Elementary School: The committee provided over 30 coats (some brand new) for students in need. A big thank you to Messiah for providing coats for kids. This committee exists to act as liaison to Holland Elementary School and to help meet needs of students, teachers, and staff. In early 2025 we furnished books to teachers that they requested. Thrivent funds were used for this purpose. The shoe closet for students funded by Messiah endowment funds continued. In partnership with the school, Messiah collected food for contribution to Ozarks Food Harvest. We provided 5 "Meals in a Bag" as prizes for a PTA meeting in April. Snacks for teacher meetings are provided twice monthly throughout the school year. During teacher appreciation week in April, all teachers received a boxed lunch in thanks for all they do throughout the year. We thank Messiah for all the support you give to Holland school and committee.

Sheila Schaefer, Vickie Donnell, Irene Chaloupecky

Little Library: Messiah maintains the Little Outdoor Free Library located inside our neighborhood playground. The library has books that have been donated to the church and is free for anyone to take and read. With Linda Elliott being sick, the library did not serve the community as intended.

Lutheran World Relief: On Saturday, October 18, 2025, 104 warm Quilts [17 boxes], 2 blankets [1 box], 134 Baby Care Kits [31 boxes], 100 School Kits [10 boxes], 152 Personal Care Kits [13 boxes], and 6 Fabric Kits [1 box] for a total of 73 boxes were driven in a U-Haul trailer to the regional LWR IN-GATHERING at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Jefferson City, MO. All donations brought there were driven to an LWR Warehouse, to be distributed to our neighbors in Christ. Neighbors we have never met, ...a part of those God has called us to "love as ourselves". None of this would have been possible without the many, many volunteers and individual donations, Thrivent Action Teams, and the support of the Messiah Endowment Fund of \$2500 for supplies and \$1000 to help with shipping costs! All this and more....Helping fulfill Messiah's Mission Statement of "offering healing and care to all in need".

Rose Hohbein, LWR Coordinator

Meredith's Ministry: The group continues to meet twice a month to knit and crochet functional and comfort items for adults and babies.

Marilyn Dial

Messiah House: Colleen continues to work closely with three residents at a time to support, guide, and challenge the formerly homeless women. Colleen also provides repairs to the house as needed. Recently, one of the residents moved into an apartment and almost all of her household needs were met by shopping at Messiah's storage closets. The resident was thrilled with all the supplies and household items that she received. She said, "This was better than shopping at Walmart!"
Donations of household goods are always gratefully received.

Colleen Processor

Piecemakers: This year the Piecemakers donated 55 quilts and 11 crocheted blankets to four local charities. The charities are Lutheran Family Services, Veterans Coming Home Center, Rare Breed, and Newborns in Need. As always, our quilts stay within the Springfield community.

I would like to thank Virg Wood, who was a long-time member of Piecemakers, for crocheting the baby blankets.

We have nine current members, and we meet in the Fellowship Hall on the first and third Mondays of the month at 9:30 am.

This year we decided we needed a way to use up some Christmas fabrics. We held a bazaar selling Christmas stockings, aprons and many other items and the money raised would go towards the air conditioner for the church. It was a huge success. We have raised \$2830.00. Thank you to everyone who shopped with us.

Linda Michael

Seminole Holland Neighborhood Association: The Neighborhood turned out to cheer on the Bass Pro runners on November 2nd. Messiah hosted a SHNA Board Meeting on October 22nd. The Association is also holding Board elections via an online form. And the neighborhood will benefit greatly from a \$1million donation to improve McDaniel Park, including a new pavilion with restrooms and lighting for the pump track.

- The neighborhood association is a Registered City Neighborhood and a 501(c)(3) non-profit
- Received a Great Neighborhoods grant award of \$500 from the City of Springfield
- Received a grant award of \$650 for participating in the Bass Pro Marathon (2025) as the "Dancing Pickles"
- Julia Schulze, association vice-president, received an award from Community Partnership of the Ozarks for outstanding volunteer service to the S/H Neighborhood
- Bruce Adib-Yazdi, association president, was elected to the Springfield City Council for Zone 4
- Collaborated with the Springfield-Greene County Park Board to bring enhancements to McDaniel Park
 - A Bicycle Pump Track was fully funded with private funds raised by TrailSpring, a Springfield-based 501(c)(3) geared toward creating and funding trail-building opportunities in the Ozarks
 - Funds have been allocated to construct a new driveway entrance off South National Avenue to the south of the current entrance and a new parking area
 - Additional grant funds have been obtained to enable the Springfield-Greene County Park Board to construct a pavilion, restrooms, and additional lighting in the park
 - Construction to bring these projects to reality to begin in Spring 2026
 - These improvements will be in the park to the west of South National Avenue
- McDaniel Park will continue to be a trailhead for access to the South Creek Trail
- More improvements to McDaniel Park are being planned
- In January 2025, membership was changed to a contribution of money or time, and donated amounts have exceeded the dues collected in the past
- Current roster includes 93 residents and businesses
- The Association maintains a website at www.SeminoleHolland.org and a variety of social media pages and groups

Ukrainian Ministry 2145 & 2125 S Kings: Inna's Family: The Finance Committee requested an inspection of property and discovered several items needing repairing. These property needs have been reported to Pastor Orin and Nathan Carlson. Inna continues to miss her home in Ukraine. For a time, her house was occupied by the Ukrainian military, but they have moved on, so she would like to return permanently in the Spring of 2026 with her youngest son, Vanya. Inna's 23 year old daughter Maria still lives in Ukraine and Inna wants to be reunited with her. Ilya would like to remain in the States and is actively looking for work. He has graduated from high school.

Lana and Serhii's Family: The property is now vacated and is under renovation by church members to get it ready for rental. The family had lived there for 3 years but they were able to purchase their own home this summer. Members of Messiah were invited to their new home for a housewarming celebration.

Lana has a full-time job at a local bank working with the Ukrainian and Russian communities. Serhii continues to seek permanent, full-time employment in the Springfield area. He has picked up odd jobs through his contacts in their church community. Grandma was able to secure subsidized housing in December and now lives on her own. Paullina continues to provide care for Grandma, who has some health challenges. Despite her health, Grandma continues to take English classes at OTC.

Submitted by Penny Gordon-Chumbley

Staff Support/Personnel

Committee Members: Jean Bardy, Barbara Blaha, Zack Bartels, Ed Donnell, Carol Felzien, Dennis Hoffman, Chuck Ryen, Kip Scott, Scot Franson (Council Representative).

Staff Support/Personnel Committee completed its fourth year focusing on six goals:

- Build rapport with staff to facilitate cooperation and development for team building and personal growth. (new in 2024)
- Increase employee retention by continuing to appreciate and support staff.
- Increase the utilization of employee performance reviews to be done in October.
- Continue to evaluate ongoing staffing needs, and fill positions as identified.
- Ensure the continuity and success of ongoing staff meetings.
- Research fair market values for salaries/rates. Recommendations would be forwarded to the finance committee for further consideration.

The new Staff Support/Personnel committee notebooks were reviewed by the new committee members with this year's focus on "collaboration." In March we revised all the job descriptions to change the supervisor reporting status along with updating the hourly wage changes to be compliant with the Division of Labor Standards. In August, we expanded and adjusted the wage for the Assistant Audio/Visual Technician position for Drew Bowman since he has assumed the responsibility for the Audio/Visual technician job. In October we interviewed and hired Kenny Lourwood as our Audio/Visual Sound Technician. The Audio/Visual Team is comprised of Drew Bowman, Kenny Lourwood and several loyal volunteers.

We met with several staff members to discuss ideas for operational improvement or staff team-building efforts. We collaborated with the Messiah Lighthouse Child & Family Development Center Advisory Committee members and the center director on several issues as well as supporting their Performance Review Process.

Performance Reviews were completed in October with a few adjustments to job descriptions. The reviews were signed by the council president and personnel chair. The original review was then placed in the personnel file and a copy returned to each employee copy for their own files.

In December a meal of sandwiches was provided for office and Lighthouse staff. Christmas cards were given with a thank you for all the work that has been done.

2026 begins a new year with Ed Donnell, Jean Bardy and Scot Fransen stepping off the Staff Support/Personnel Committee. Remaining committee members Barbara Blaha, Dennis Hoffman, Chuck Ryen, Carol Felzien, Kip Scott, and Zack Bartels will be joined by new committee members appointed by the Pastor and Council President.

Report submitted by Jean Bardy, Chairperson

Stewardship

The Stewardship Committee completed a campaign in October and November with the title *To Glorify and Serve Through Generosity*.

The campaign included sermons by Pastor Orin and Vicar Abbey concerning Giving as Learned Behavior, First Fruits, Proportional Giving, Intentional Giving and Sacrificial Giving. Mailings were sent to the congregation with pledge cards. New members also received a spiritual inventory sheet.

As of this report, 79 pledges for \$354,852 have been submitted. Overall information will be forwarded to the Finance Committee and Church Council for budgeting purposes. Individual information will not be shared.

Thank you to the Stewardship Committee: Vickie Donnell, Nathan Carlson, Pastor Orin, Vicar Abbey, Penny Gordon-Chumbley (council representative).

Submitted by Mark Herron-Chair

Upon This Rock

While no additional principal payments were made to pay down the Thrivent loan balance in 2025, the monthly loan payments of \$8,687 did reduce the outstanding loan balance to \$278,905 as of 12/31/25, down from \$374,543 at the beginning of the year. The balance of the building fund reserves was \$159,597 at year end, up \$18,003. The Thrivent loan interest rate is now 2.6% and will be adjusted to a current market rate in May, 2026. The building fund reserves are earning more interest than the current loan rate, but a significant principal paydown of \$75,000-80,000 from the reserves is planned before the loan rate is raised in May. Members are encouraged to consider making an additional donation to the building fund before May so the principal can be reduced as much as possible before the loan rate is increased. What makes Messiah a great church is its ministries and members. The sooner the building mortgage is paid off, the sooner Messiah can increase funding and support for our current ministries and new ministries to better witness and serve God within our church and our community.

Thank you to all who have supported Upon This Rock in the past. We have come a long way because of your efforts over the years. If you have not donated to the building fund in the past, consider a commitment in 2026 to join the members and friends of Messiah who have supported Upon This Rock over the last 20 years. Messiah has a beautiful sanctuary and facilities that provide a wonderful worship environment and location for many neighborhood and community programs. If we continue to make monthly payments of \$8,687, the Thrivent loan should be paid off by the end of 2027, even with a higher loan rate. But, wouldn't it be great to pay off the loan in 2026, twenty years after the first Upon This Rock campaign?

Submitted by, Rex Johnson

Women of the ELCA

The Messiah women's organization has been active in 2025. We have three circles which meet monthly. The Deborah Circle (Little Debbies), led by Lisa Melgren, meets at different women's homes at 6:30 pm (either the second Monday or Tuesday of the month depending on what works best for people). Little Debbies study the scripture of the week using the Serendipity Bible. The Lydia circle, led by Jean Bardy, meets on the third Monday of the month in the church office at 7:00 PM and discusses the Bible Study in the Gather magazine (the official publication of the National Women of the ELCA). The Martha Circle, led by Marilyn Dial, meets the third Thursday of the month at 9:30 AM in the church library and also discusses the Bible study in Gather magazine.

The circles collect offerings, 25% of which are sent to Central States WELCA. At the end of 2025, we voted to gift our excess funds to the Central States Synod WELCA for the Lynn Starr Scholarship Fund, Lutheran Disaster Relief for the Middle East, Lutheran World Relief (for shipping), and our own Messiah House. We also gifted new women members of Messiah with an annual subscription to Gather magazine.

We have three general meetings a year. In 2025, our spring meeting was entitled, "Caring for Creation," and our fall meeting included Vickie Donnell's report about the national convention that she attended. We had our annual Christmas gathering in December, which included a devotion, craft, Christmas hymn sing, and optional cookie exchange.

We want to encourage all women of Messiah to participate in our Women of the ELCA activities, whether they are active in a circle or find that they can only attend one of the various meetings.

Submitted by Jean Bardy, Marilyn Dial, and Lisa Melgren.

Worship & Music

Alleluia Singers

It is my honor to be the director of Alleluia Singers. We meet every Wednesday night at 7:30 p.m. to prepare music for the traditional worship services.

We just completed the Advent/Christmas season, always a busy time for all church musicians. We led worship the weekend of December 20th and 21st with the presentation of a new Cantata, "Glory to the Newborn King." It was a little more challenging than cantatas the choir had taken on in the past, but I am very proud of how hard everyone worked to make it an inspirational worship service for all. We have talented and dedicated singers who made it possible.

The Lenten season is right around the corner, so we are back at work every Wednesday evening learning new music and enjoying the fellowship of singing together and making music for the Lord.

New members are always welcome! If you are interested in joining us, please speak to me or one of our choir members and we will get you involved!

In His Name, Sheryl Hansen

Altar Flower Committee

For more than 40 years, the altar flower committee has praised God with flowers on the altar and accents for the Gospel message.

Currently, there are 9 arrangers who work in pairs each week. They are Terry Dunham, Susie Rucker, Dee Parker, Tara Melgren, Martha Morris, Patty Hagen, Nancy Niewald, Katie Dogwiler and myself.

We obtain our flowers from a wholesale florist thereby maintaining our \$20 cost per vase each week. We are able to do so through the generosity of members of the congregation who sign up to donate. (in honor of, in memory of, or to the glory of God) This can be done online or in the church office where there is a notebook.

During the summer months we are blessed with flowers from the gardens of David Adams and Carolyn Malcolm. We have also been the recipient of the woodworking talent of Vic Shelton in creating a number of our accents.

Lastly, we are grateful to those who deliver our flowers each week following services. These are taken to the hospitalized or shut-ins to show our mission statement of offering care to all in need.

In the service of Christ, Peggy Shelton, Chairperson Altar Flowers

Altar Guild

Messiah's Altar Guild is a ministry of volunteers who serve God and the congregation by preparing the sanctuary and altar for worship services. Each week, members of the Altar Guild prepare the chancel for the celebration of Holy Communion. The Altar Guild also cares for the paraments for each season of the Church year, the altar linens, communion vessels, and sanctuary furnishings including the processional crosses, acolyte's candlelighters, and baptismal font. Members select appropriate banners for each season of the church year, and prepare for special services such as Holy Baptism, weddings, and funerals.

Currently the Altar Guild is comprised of six teams who serve on a rotating basis: Terry Dunham and Susan Spaethe; Lisa Melgren and Katie Dogwiler; Cathy Murrell and Pat Lindquist; Linda Michael; Samantha Cummings and Karen Grochowsky; and Nancy Hoeman. After many years as an Altar Guild member, Linda Elliott found it necessary to step back this year, and we thank her for her faithful service.

We are grateful to Joy Ward and Linda Michael for their dedication in baking the bread used for Communion. Sincere thanks to Mary Keidle for weekly maintenance of the flame in the sanctuary lamp, and to Terry Dunham and Susan Spaethe for weekly changes of the Advent wreath candles and the Advent and Christmas tree skirts. A special acknowledgement is given to Vic Shelton for refinishing the credence table and flower stands in the chancel.

The Altar Guild would welcome inquiries from any member of the congregation who may be interested in becoming a new team member; training and support are gladly provided. Please prayerfully consider this opportunity.

Submitted by Nancy Hoeman, Chairman

A/V Team

On November 1, we hired a new A/V Audio Specialist, Kenny Lourwood, to run Sanctuary sound for Sunday services and Friday night Praise Band rehearsals.

In late 2025, the AV sound booth was expanded. The usage of the AV Booth was outgrowing what the original footprint allowed. The countertop was also beginning to fall apart. The expanded sound booth and new countertop will allow for further expansion of the AV Team in the future. Thank you to Charles Hill, Mary Keidle, Mark Herron, Bud Schwab, Larry and Lucy Stillwell, Ed Donnell, and Tom McConnell for helping with this renovation. Also in late 2025, a new mini-split unit was installed in the AV Office. This will allow for precise control of the temperature in that room while allowing for isolation from the Music Office and Bell Room. Thank you to the Property Committee for working to resolve this issue, and Larry and Lucy Stillwell for contributing their labor for the electrical work.

Thank you also to all the volunteers who have helped make this ministry possible. These include Elaine Novak, Lynn Carlton, Mel Davis, Marty Bowman, Sarah Gunion, Nathanael Cummings, Karen Bowman, Jay Bowman, Wes Bowman, Ethan Bartels, Taylor Brannon, Trevor Brannon, Terry Michael, Zac Bergin, and Carter Bergin.

We are always looking for more volunteers willing to serve in this ministry, especially with slide presentations in both the Sanctuary and for the live stream.

In 2026, we hope to host regular training sessions on the appropriate usage of A/V equipment and training for new volunteers. Please look for these events in upcoming Spirit and Midweek Messenger publications.

We are also continually looking for ways to upgrade and improve our systems, including the Long-Range Planning Committee's goal of improving acoustics in the fellowship hall. Another improvement in 2026 will be the replacement of our projectors. Our current projectors are approaching their end of life. We are in the process of looking at replacing the projectors. In 2026, we hope to replace the projectors, pending additional funding.

Drew Bowman and the A/V Tech Team

Revelations Praise Band

Revelations Praise Band is responsible for leading the blended worship services on the first and third Sundays of each month. In addition, we regularly share leadership of special services such as Good Friday, Easter Sunday, and Christmas Eve with the choir and organ. We meet every Friday evening to prepare service music which is liturgical in focus and contemporary in style. Current members are Karen Bowman, Jeffery Brannon, Scott Estrem, Lisa Melgren, Frank Noto, David Siewert, and John Svagara. For several services in 2025, the band collaborated with additional Messiah music groups, including God's Kids and Alleluia Singers. We also shared special musical offerings written or arranged by Scott Estrem, with the help of additional musicians Rachel Bergin, Marty Bowman, Mark Herron, and Lucy Stillwell.

In February, we began projecting music for the songs for the congregation, both in the sanctuary and online. This resource has allowed us to fulfill further the mission goal: Welcome All To Worship by providing written music and words to the contemporary songs used in the blended service.

We are thankful for the technical support of Drew Bowman and Kenny Lourwood and their volunteers as they share their gifts to enable the band to lead the congregation in worship.

Newcomers are welcome! We are always looking for additional voices or instruments to join us, whether on a short-term or long-term basis. In addition, we welcome any comments, requests, or suggestions.

Karen Bowman

God's Kids (Ages: K-5th)

Rehearsals: Wednesday at 6:30 PM

Director: Rachel Bergin

God's Kids is our K-5th grade choir that meets each Wednesday evening from 6:30-7:00 PM in the Choir Room (E-127). Children learn songs that worship God and are shared during Sunday services while developing musical skills, learning their role in worship, and growing in God's Word through music.

We would love for your children to be part of God's Kids.

Cherub Bells (Ages: Grade 3rd-5th)

Rehearsals: Wednesday, 6-6:30 PM

Director Mark Herron

Cherub Bells is a beginning handbell choir for students in grades 3–5, though older members are welcome for the first semester. Music-reading ability is not required, as notes are color-coded, and several experienced ringers are available to help beginners.

Rehearsals are held on Wednesdays at 6:00 PM in the Bell Choir Room. The choir will offer four musical selections to the congregation and may ring alone or accompany a vocal or solo instrumentalist.

Please consider joining Cherub Bells for a fun and educational introduction to handbell music.

Joy Ringers (Ages High School and Up)

Rehearsal: Wednesday, 6:30-7:30 PM

Director Lucy Stillwell

Joy Ringers is our adult handbell choir. We rehearse weekly and ring approximately once a month during the choir year. We enjoy making music together, contributing to worship services, and occasionally ringing for special events.

If you are interested in being part of the handbell choir, please contact Lucy Stillwell.

Attendance

The following report is prepared to show the AVERAGE weekly attendance for each month, years 2021-2025. All numbers have been rounded to the nearest whole number.

MONTH	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
JANUARY	87	81	157	131	137
FEBRUARY	90	121	175	162	149
MARCH	108	126	153	182	163
APRIL	145	190	188	149	198
MAY	80	125	155	154	146
JUNE	91	119	136	142	145
JULY	82	120	130	144	149
AUGUST	110	141	155	151	166
SEPTEMBER	105	116	122	147	169
OCTOBER	103	159	146	164	160
NOVEMBER	116	143	137	123	154
DECEMBER	121	170	165	157	173
AVG. WEEKLY ATTENDANCE	103	134	152	151	159

Ash Wednesday	N/R	91	121	118	107
Maundy Thursday	54	N/R	88	90	75
Good Friday	78	N/R	N/R	89	99
Palm Sunday	103	187	171	191	199
Easter	131	299	334	262	304
Thanksgiving	45	85	87	43	47
Christmas Eve	137	249	238	264	279

Successfully organizing weekly worship requires the dedication of many individuals. In addition to the pastor, key leaders include Marilyn Boston, Nancy Hoeman, Karen Bowman, Jean Bardy, Sheryl Hansen, Drew Bowman, and Leisa Rushton, the office administrator, with Kenny Lourwood joining in the last quarter of the year. Ex officio members who contribute to leadership are Vicar Jackson Reynolds and Vicar Abbey Knappman.

The presence of vicars in worship is a blessing, offering the congregation the opportunity to hear different voices and experience varied leadership styles. Worship has also been enriched by the contributions of our music ministry groups, special music from Lana Tsilinskyi, and offerings by students from Marilyn Boston's piano studio.

Altogether, the central elements of our community's faith have been faithfully nurtured and stewarded throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted by, Pastor Orin W Cummings

Messiah Lutheran Church

Our Identity Statement:

Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church is a worshipping community so firmly and confidently rooted in the Gospel, strengthened by God's love, mercy and grace, through Word, sacrament and Christian fellowship, that we strive to be God's witnesses through caring in our congregation, in the community, and in the world.

God Cares . . . We Care

Our Vision

Imagine...

A place open and inviting to all, welcoming those in need and searching for the Word of God.

Imagine...

A community of disciples, guided by the Spirit, learning to know the Lord, studying the Word and sharing the good news.

Imagine...

Laity and staff set free, caring and authentic, hungry for ministry, discovering their gifts, alert to the opportunities around them.

Imagine...

Excited youth, growing, learning, committed, filled with the possibilities of living life guided by the Gospel.

Imagine...

A congregation renewed and renewing, sustained by prayer, equipped through worship, alive to the Spirit, seeing Christ in every face- with all the resources necessary for growing ministries.

Imagine...

Wounds being healed, the lost being found, the hungry being fed, hope replacing despair and lives being changed.

Imagine... Messiah Lutheran Church!

Messiah's Vision Statement:

With God's help and guidance, Messiah will be transformed to welcome all to meet Jesus' renewing love, learn to live as His disciples, and develop their gifts to offer care and healing in His name.

Messiah Staff

Orin Cummings	Pastor	pastor@messiahmo.org
Abbey Knappman	Vicar	vicar@messiahmo.org
Nathan Carlson	Business Manager	nathan.carlson@messiahmo.org
Leisa Rushton	Office Administrator	officemanager@messiahmo.org
Missy Fite	Custodian, p/t	janitor@messiahmo.org
Chris Evans	Custodian, p/t	custodian@messiahmo.org
Drew Bowman	A/V Tech Team p/t	drew.bowman@messiahmo.org
Kenny Lourwood	A/V, Specialist, p/t	kenny.lourwood@messiahmo.org
Karen Bowman	Contemporary Worship Coordinator	karen.bowman@messiahmo.org
Sheryl Hansen	Senior Choir Director	sheryl.hansen@messiamo.org

Messiah Lighthouse Child & Family Development Center

Jessica Phillips	Messiah Lighthouse Director	jessicaphillips@lighthousecfdc.org
Melody Farabe	Messiah Lighthouse Family Coordinator	messiahlighthousefsc@gmail.com

Contractor

Marilyn Boston	Organist	bostonmarilyn@outlook.com
-----------------------	----------	--