



Messiah's Messenger

Messiah Lutheran Church

2026 22nd Avenue—Kenosha, Wisconsin

Church (262)551-8182

Christ Lutheran Academy (262)697-6044

www.messiahkenosha.org

Volume 50, Number 8

Parsonage (262)551-9081

Little Lambs Learning Center (262)551-8167

Email: info@messiahkenosha.org

September 2011

A Month of New Beginnings

Next to January, September is probably one of the biggest and busiest start over months in the year. A number of congregational ministries which may have been on a summer break start up again. A new school year has started. It is interesting to note that September opens with Labor Day when we pause to thank God for honest and fruitful labor. Perhaps that is appropriate since things pick up after vacations and other summer activities and we have more opportunities for service.

September also marks the beginning of autumn and that will be a welcome change for many people who this past summer were impacted by a record number of tornados, serious flooding around major rivers, heat and drought that broke many records, along with many wild fires that caused so much destruction.

In spite of all the above problems God still richly blessed much of our country with seasonable weather so that seedtime and harvest prevailed and the activities of agriculture, commerce and transportation continued so that the earth was fruitful and yielded its increase to supply food for all of God's creatures. Praise God from Whom all blessings flow!

God's stewards appreciate new opportunities to start over again after life has become like a long, hot summer. In September many of God's faithful stewards can get involved with new and exciting volunteer activities in their churches and communities. In September many of our students can begin one of their best years of learning. In September many of our churches and schools can get involved with some of the most exciting ministries in their history. A fresh start is always appreciated. The past is behind us; the future is still in front of us but the present is where we do our work as God's stewards. God has some great things in mind for us as His stewards. He wants us to use our talents, our time, our resources and our relationships in ways that honor Him and bring blessings to those around us.

Sometimes we may feel like we just can't get started! We may feel inadequate to take on new challenges. We may remember when we have tried some bold ventures before and they didn't work out. We can chase those negative thoughts away when we remember words like these from one of our well-known hymns:

*Let none hear you idly saying, "there is nothing I can do,"
While the multitudes are dying and
the Master calls for you.
Take the task He gives you gladly, let
His work your pleasure be;
Answer quickly when He calleth,
"Here am I, send me, send me." (LSB
826)*

So, keep your eyes open for some new opportunities to put your time, talents and resources to work for the Lord and His people, and when those opportunities come, **GO FOR IT!**

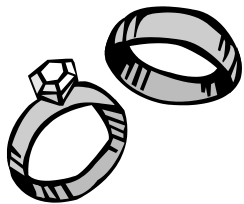
**This article was found
on www.LCMS.org.
It is meant to be used
for church news-
letters.*



Events/ Volunteers

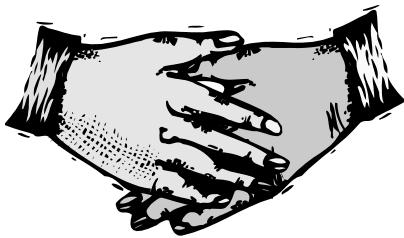
Wedding Anniversaries

- 9/10 Bill & Marilyn Dissen
- 9/12 Scott & Katherine Tobalsky
- 9/15 Shane & Kelly Pederson
- 9/20 Jason & Allison Stephans
- 9/26 Pat & Debi Tauschek
- 9/29 Bob & Evone Hagerman



Ushers

- 9/4 Keith & Jacob Kentala
- 9/11 Mark Varvil & Mike Snodgrass
- 9/18 Sam Braya & Dale Miller
- 9/25 Tyler & Austin Nehls



Greeters

- 9/4 Stacey Cleereman
- 9/11 Gail Kulbacki
- 9/18 Mary Rusch
- 9/25 Toni Marshman

Birthdays

- 9/2 Tracy Scholz
- 9/3 Phil Jacobs
- 9/7 Diana Dissen
- 9/8 Thomas Tobalsky
- 9/9 Betty Boness, Katie Hart & Vincent Hernandez
- 9/10 Katy Billings
- 9/12 Dennis Metallo
- 9/14 Ryan Busse
- 9/16 Kathy Capriotti & Monica Scholz
- 9/17 George Rabey
- 9/19 Kevin Brothers
- 9/21 Cheryl Piel
- 9/23 Tim Capriotti & Miles Cleereman
- 9/26 Aaron Ratzburg & Amy Loberger
- 9/30 Kathy Rabey, Tyler Nehls & Paige Lauer



Elders

- 9/4 Brent Jiter
- 9/11 Todd Walther
- 9/18 Phil Jacobs
- 9/25 Don Moe



Baptisms

- 9/1 Paul Rusch & Kathy Capriotti
- 9/3 Noah Jiter
- 9/7 Brent Jiter & Logan Maki
- 9/8 Matthew Brothers
- 9/10 Leland Pratt
- 9/18 Diana Dissen
- 9/19 Michelle Carpenter & Grant Noble
- 9/22 John Hernandez
- 9/30 Tracy Scholz



Altar Guild

- Lois Metallo
- &
- Diane Eisenbraun



Flower chart

- 9/4 Barb Miller
- 9/11 George & Lois Metallo
- 9/18 Jason & Allison Stephans
- 9/25 No one signed up yet

My Journey From a Contemporary, Seeker-Driven Church to Confessional Lutheranism

By Cara Zietz

The first Sunday I came to Messiah I was in a state of grief and shock. Just a few weeks prior the Lord revealed to me that I needed to leave my former church. Why, you might ask would I leave a what seemed to be a growing, healthy church. With the average weekly attendance at about 1000, volunteer staff of about 300, the atmosphere was lively and exciting Sunday mornings. The message relevant and very entertaining and the band rocked.

This was a new church and at the time I was a new believer. I was the very first person to be Baptized at that church. I was what some would call, on fire for the Lord and proved it by volunteering on 3 teams as well as serving as a "group leader" in study group. I was also very naive and biblically illiterate.

It was in fact a phone call I received from another group leader

that led me to begin an investigation. I knew my church had been criticized for being called "seeker sensitive" and that they closely followed the methods and philosophy of Rick Warren. "Seeker Sensitive Rick Warren" was the first string of words I entered into my Google search. This search returned a plethora of results, the most interesting and revealing being by a man named Chris Rosebrough* who hosts a daily radio show called "Fighting for the Faith" who also happens to be a confessional Lutheran. I read many of his articles but the most shocking thing I came across was an audio piece called **"Exposing The Cult-Like Hostile Takeover Tactics of the Purpose-Driven Church Transitioning Seminar"**** This audio is from a seminar on how a church can transition from a small traditional church into a thriving seeker-friendly mecca. The speaker uses the bible to back up his methods. In turn Mr. Rosebrough pauses the audio, reads the scripture in context, and reveals the bible twisting. Being that I was so biblically illiterate, I had no idea pulling verses out of context in such a way was considered to be false teaching and thus now hearing right from the words of God how severe of an offense this is...I was shaken to the core.

I gathered up all my sermon notes, books I bought that were recommended and a contract of sorts

that I signed with the church and began to study them only to keep discovering that I was not being shepherded, but rather devoured by a wolf. I made the decision to leave.

Now came the time to pick out a new church. This is an intimidating task. How does one pick out a church or even more daunting a denomination? What is the difference between all these churches? A phrase I kept hearing on "Fighting for the Faith" that was foreign to my ears was "we preach Christ and Him crucified". I recall still being a little resistant to that. Having been indoctrinated in the teaching I was used to. On the other hand, I trusted the teaching of this so called confessional Lutheran and how could I argue with that statement. So again I turned to the internet and searched "confessional Lutheran church". As a result I

In this article, we take a break from learning about members of our church that have been here for many of the last 50 years so that we can learn more about one of our newest members and how her journey led her to Messiah. Thank you very much, Cara, for sharing your personal and inspirational story with all of us!

Looking Back to Look Forward



(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

happened upon Messiah's website. In big bold letters it read † **WE PREACH CHRIST CRUCIFIED**†. In spite of the warnings from some friends, I decided *this* was the church to check out.

The first Sunday I attended I was welcomed very warmly by the greeter Toni Marshman then a few minutes later by a nice lady whom I later found out was the Pastor's wife. The opening hymn was "Thy Strong Word" which the congregation sang in full and powerful voice. I admit I was a bit lost in the liturgy not knowing to follow the bulletin until about halfway through. But you can well imagine my shock to discover that the sermon that day was based on the gospel reading about wolves in sheep's clothing. After the service another nice lady, Cheryl Piel, sitting next to me welcomed me and commented on the

striking artwork on the cover of the bulletin. Then I met Pastor Peperkorn. He asked me what brought me to Messiah. I decided to be blunt, told him what church I left (since I figured their reputation preceded me) and what radio show had inspired me to do so. To my surprise Pastor had heard of the radio show and recommended another that he'd been a guest on (Issues, Etc.).

A couple weeks later Pastor met with me over coffee and let me unload my story on him. It was cathartic to say the least. He gave me some very wonderful words to meditate on. He assured me that Messiah was a place only for sinners and that rather than being a gym, it was a hospital. I have been a patient ever since.

John 21:15-17

¹⁵When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Pe-

ter, "Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Feed my lambs." ¹⁶He said to him a second time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Tend my sheep." ¹⁷He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" Peter was grieved because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" and he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep.

* <http://www.extremetheology.com/seekersensitivecritique/>

** <http://www.extremetheology.com/2010/02/the-cultlike-hostile-takeover-tactics-of-the-purposedriven-church-transtioning-seminar.html>

Call Update

Currently there is no update on the call process. If you have any questions, please ask someone on the call committee:

Ted Scholz

Mike Snodgrass

Keith Kentala

Brent Jiter

Sarah Billings

Marge Harmon

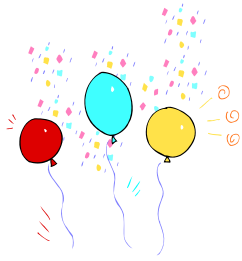
LeAnnVarvil

Todd Walther

Bob Trapp

Anita Brothers

They are also interested in hearing what your suggestions are for what to look for in a pastor. Please talk to them if you have input to share.



Messiah's 50th



Anniversary Celebration

Invitations have been sent!

Saturday, October 22nd Banquet at the Fireside 6:00

Sunday, October 23rd Anniversary Service 9:00



Don't forget to RSVP!



The anniversary committee is working on getting addresses of former members so that they can be invited to the events. If you know the CURRENT addresses of any former members, please let Gail Kulbacki, Deleen Nehls, or Mary Rusch know.



Thanks for your help!

September 2011

September 2011							October 2011						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
25	26	27	28	29	30		22	23	24	25	26	27	28
							29	30	31				

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Aug 28 9:00am 10:15am Divine Service 10:15am 11:15am SS & Bible Class	29 Labor Day	30	31	Sep 1	2	3
4 9:00am 10:15am Divine Service 10:15am 11:15am SS & Bible Class	5 Labor Day	6	7	8 7:00pm 8:00pm LWNML Meeting	9	10
11 9:00am 10:15am Divine Service 10:15am 11:15am SS & Bible Class	12	13	14 9:00am 10:30am Women's Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)	15 6:00pm 7:30pm Parish Planning (Messiah Lutheran Church) 7:15pm 8:15pm Spiritual Life	16 6:00pm 9:00pm Craft Night	17
18 9:00am 10:15am Divine Service 10:15am 11:15am SS & Bible Class	19 6:30pm 8:30pm CLA using fellowship hall	20	21 9:00am 10:30am Women's Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)	22 6:30pm 7:30pm KALEA	23	24
25 9:00am 10:15am Divine Service 10:15am 11:15am SS & Bible Class	26	27	28 9:00am 10:30am Women's Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)	29	30	Oct 1

October 2011

October 2011							November 2011						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31					
30	31												

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9/25 - 30	Sep 25	26	27	28	29	30	Oct 1
10/2 - 7	2 9:00am 10:15am Divine Service 10:15am 11:15am SS & Bible Class	3	4	5 9:00am 10:30am Women's Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)	6	7	8
10/9 - 14	9 9:00am 10:15am Divine Service 10:15am 11:15am SS & Bible Class	10 Columbus Day	11	12 9:00am 10:30am Women's Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)	13	14	15
10/16 - 21	16 9:00am 10:15am Divine Service 10:15am 11:15am SS & Bible Class	17	18	19 9:00am 10:30am Women's Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)	20 7:00pm 8:00pm Spiritual Life	21	22 5:00pm 8:00pm Anniversary Banquet (Fireside)
10/23 - 28	23 ANNIVERSARY SERVICE 9:00am 10:15am Divine Service 10:15am 11:15am SS & Bible Class	24	25	26 9:00am 10:30am Women's Bible Study (Fellowship Hall)	27 6:30pm 7:30pm KALEA	28	29
10/30 - 11/4	30 9:00am 10:15am Divine Service 10:15am 11:15am SS & Bible Class	31 Halloween	Nov 1	2	3	4	5

Upcoming Events at Messiah



Thurs. Sept. 15th	Parish Planning	6:00 p.m.
	Spiritual Life	7:15 p.m.
Fri. Sept. 16th	Craft Night	6:00 p.m.
Sun. Sept. 18th	CLA Bake Sale	10:15 a.m.
Mon. Sept. 19th	CLA using fellowship hall	6:30 p.m.
Thurs. Sept. 22nd	KALEA meeting	6:30 p.m.



Messiah Lutheran Church

Christ Lutheran Academy
Little Lambs Learning Center
2026 22nd Ave., Kenosha, WI 53140