Dear Friends in Christ,

Fall 2014 is ushering in an exciting new era at Messiah. Youth & Worship Minister, Charis Bjorklund, has been on our staff for 1 ½ years and in her expanded 30 hour a week schedule has many new, revised and enhanced opportunities in place. It’s going to definitely be a faith growing year for our middle school, confirmation, youth, adult choir, praise band, youth choir, etc.

Amy Swenson and Tanya Winter have also revised and rewritten Messiah’s whole Sunday School rotation program and curriculum. Along with this Children’s Ministry rooms have been redecorated and repurposed. An amazing learning year is ahead for all the children.

Messiah’s Church Council and Vision Team have worked hard on developing a new Mission Focus for our congregation. This new mission and vision will be introduced to the congregation in October. Needless to say, God’s Holy Spirit is alive and moving forward in wonderful ways through the power of Jesus Christ.

Charis and I will be preaching a Dialogue Message on Rally Sunday, September 7, at 9:30 A.M. Please invite a friend/family to come and worship with you. Charis and I will discuss the Biblical foundation and some of the important ministries offered at Messiah.

Be assured that Messiah always welcomes members, non-members and guests to be involved in any ministry or activity we offer. All are welcome!

Please join us in praying that God’s Holy Spirit will fill Messiah with Jesus’ love and power. May our mission together for Christ bless seniors, children, youth, singles, seekers and families.

Blessings & Hope in Christ,
Pastor Nathan
STARTS WITH A PRAYER
Messiah’s second annual “Starts With A Prayer” will be on Tuesday, September 2, at 7:00 P.M. Meet in the Sanctuary for a short time of worship and prayer. Then we will move throughout Messiah’s building facility and will pray for the various people and ministries which meet in those areas.

No one will need to pray out loud and you will not be singled out to pray. Your support and silent prayers are just as important as the spoken ones. Last year over 20 people participated in this prayer event—we would love you to be involved.

At the end Pastor Nathan and Charis Bjorklund will again kneel at the altar for prayer. Those participating will place their hands on Nathan & Charis’ heads and shoulders. Silent and verbal prayers will be offered for their ministries; for wisdom, strength, inspiration and love as they serve our community of faith.

All are welcome and encouraged to come on Tuesday, September 2, at 7:00 P.M.

DIALOGUE MESSAGE ON RALLY SUNDAY
Charis Bjorklund and Pastor Nathan will be sharing a Dialogue Message on Rally Sunday, September 7, at 9:30 A.M. They will discuss the Biblical foundation and some of the important ministries offered at Messiah. Please invite a friend/family to come and worship with you!
We, the members of Messiah Lutheran Church have been called by God and given God’s gifts to:

- Proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ
- Prepare our members for outreach and service.
- Accept all people and minister to their human needs.

THANK YOU

A huge thank you to all of you who prayed for my recovery, for all the cards, visits, phone calls, flowers, rides, etc. It is such an overwhelming thing to receive so much concern and love from all of you. I am so grateful. May God bless you. “God is so good” and I felt His presence in this journey.

Darlene Christensen

Remembering the Saints in Light

Recognizing members who have gone before us during the month of their passing

Eugene Eiken          09-03-07
Hazel Anderson        09-04-09
Maynard Nordquist     09-05-04
Donna Torgerson       09-08-07
Gordon Larson         09-10-10
Leona Gildseth        09-23-04
The meeting was called to order by Connie Bye at 8:05 pm.
Attending: Gene Rolofson, Sylvia Swenson, Marlene Nelson, Connie Bye, Pastor Nathan, Shirley Sampson, Polly Hedstrom, Dan Persons and Marisa Sabolik

Devotions were led by Pastor from Hebrews chapter 12. How does Jesus come to you? How have you encountered Jesus in your daily life?

Motion by Sylvia and seconded by Marisa to approve the agenda with flexibility. Motion carried.

Motion by Shirley and seconded by Marlene to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

Motion by Gene and seconded by Sylvia to approve the financial report. Motion carried.

Pastor’s Report – Charis will be leading worship July 20th. We will be having an outdoor service Saturday, July 26th around the new fire pit. Pastor was happy that not only have people given their time to construct the fire pit, but have also supported it financially. The Vision Team continues to work towards a new mission statement for Messiah. The August church council meeting will be on the 21st at 6:00 pm at Shirley’s home.

Youth Director’s Report – Youth and Family Ministry will be meeting July 13th to continue planning for the upcoming year. The Sunday School kickoff will be in September. They will be serving a meal after the Harvest Festival church service for the upcoming youth gathering. A member from Youth and Family Ministries volunteered each day this week (July 14-18) to bring treats to the volunteers of the “The Group Cares Camp.” Charis is working very hard to develop a curriculum that helps our youth meet Jesus.

Executive Committee – No report

Outreach Committee – There are a few expenses left to be paid on the fire pit and a walkway from the main parking lot to the fire pit may be constructed yet this summer. A new brochure is being created and it will be ready in time for the Grant County Fair. Messiah will be having a float in the Harvest Festival parade. Jen and Phil Hermes would like to donate a gas grill to Messiah, council accepted and thanks them for this generous donation.

Property Committee – A few heat pumps needed to be replaced in the sanctuary as the air conditioning was not working. New signs have been ordered to better direct people to Messiah’s main entrance. Several cracks in the parking lot need to be sealed. Stan Stark has suggested filling them when the City of Hoffman also does such work on their roads.

Worship Committee – No report

Memorial & Bequest – The January through June report was shared.

Stewardship Committee – No report

Education – Vacation Bible School is from July 28th through the 31st with the program being held at the Farmers’ Market on Wednesday, July 30th. Amy Swenson, Tanya Winter, Amy Puchalski, and Sara Strunk are continuing to prepare for the upcoming Sunday School year.

Youth & Family Ministry – Same as the Youth Director’s report

Stephen Ministry – No report

The Vision Task Team – They will be meeting July 21st to continue their work on a new vision statement for Messiah.

Old Business
Financial Statements – We will be working towards centralizing Messiah’s accounting. Sara Strunk and Heidi Johnson will be helping us through this process.

Designated Funds – Discussion concerned what “Outreach grant monies” can be used for. Muriel Krusemark will be contacted as she helped write the original grant for these monies.

Luther Crest “Prepare the Way Campaign” – Polly believes there will be an informational meeting September 20th.

Farmers’ Market Update – Marisa will put a signup sheet at the Welcome Center for those interested in helping prepare, serve and clean up after the July 30th Farmers’ Market. The Outreach Committee is in charge of the August meal.

New Business

Personnel Committee – We will be forming a task group to work on job descriptions, pay schedules, evaluations, contracts and other personnel issues as needed.

Continued on page 5
WORK SERVICE GROUP FOR OCTOBER

If you are in the NEW October/April (listed below) please sign up at the Welcome Center for a duty in October. If you do not sign up a duty will be assigned to everyone to fill the spots needed. This is your chance to choose a date that works best for you. You can also call the church office to sign up. Thank you for your help.

OCTOBER/APRIL GROUP

Tim and Cindy Bolgrean, Jim and Teresa Erickson, Russ and Jessica Froemming family, Paul and Rhonda Gran family, Dennis and Mary Haagenson, Arland and Bonnie Helberg, Lee and Polly Hedstrom, Jerome Kiehne, Phillip and Sandy Koehntop, Julian and Beverly Nelson, Bret and Lori Oelke and family, Ed and Lois Persons, Dan and Kay Persons, Justin and Amy Puchalski family, David and Kayla Sanstead family, John and Deb Starner family, Mark and Cindy Starner, Jennes and Arlou Swenson, Brent and Rachel Volker family

Next Meetings

Executive Council – no meeting, however Marisa will be emailing with the Executive Committee to set an agenda for our August meeting
Messiah Church Council – Thursday, August 21st at 6:00pm at Shirley’s

Motion by Sylvia and seconded by Polly to adjourn. Motion carried.
We closed with the Lord’s Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Marisa Sabolik

YOUTH NEWS

Messiah’s youth programs are kicking off this month with the start of the school year. Exciting new things are happening! Here are some important dates to keep in mind:

The Registration Deadline for the National Youth gathering in Detroit is fast approaching. All Sr. High students interested in going must register and pay their deposit by October 1, 2014. Any students grade 9-12 may register. For more information come to the youth kick-off September 3rd at 6:00pm.

The first day of confirmation is September 10. Some confirmation details have changed for this next year. Parents and students should come to the kickoff on September 3rd for the informational meeting.

Mentor Sunday this year is Sunday September 21. All confirmation students and parents should plan to be there to meet with their mentor and make a plan for the year.
WOMEN OF THE ELCA
SEPTEMBER 2014 CALENDAR
MISSION OF THE MONTH: Local Food Shelf
MISSION ITEMS TO BRING… Personal Care Articles

September 4 Thursday 1:30pm Quilting Mission Fellowship
September 7 Sunday 10:30am Fellowship Coffee – GROUP 3
September 8 Monday 7:00pm Martha Bible Study
September 11 Thursday 1:00pm Mary Bible Study
Sept 12-13 Friday/Sat NWM Synodical Convention, Crookston
September 17 Wednesday 5-7pm Farmers Market Meal
September 18 Thursday 1:30pm Quilting Mission Fellowship
September 18 Thursday 7:00pm General Meeting
September 27 Saturday 8:30-noon Cluster 10 Gathering at First Lutheran, Kensington

A Note from WELCA President, Arlou Swenson:

Messiah Women,

We shift into our Fall and Winter activities now. As of now, we do not have anyone representing WELCA at the Synodical Women’s Convention in Crookston on September 12-13.

We will begin our Quilting Mission Fellowship this month. There is a lot of material to make quilts from. Please consider attending. Also we have Mission Kits to assemble before October. We could use many hands for that project.

General Meeting is on September 18th at 7pm. The terms of President and Treasurer are over for Eunice and me. Be asking women to fill these positions and prayerfully consider taking on the responsibilities yourself. It might work to have co-presidents. That way those who winter away can still serve as officers. We look forward to new leadership and fresh ideas for our women’s group.

Cluster 10 Gathering is at First Lutheran in Kensington on Saturday, September 27th. Looks like an interesting program. Please plan to attend. We need a count of women attending by Monday, September 22nd.

STEPHEN MINISTRY

Dear Jesus, we are your eyes. Help us to see others who are in need. We are your ears. Help us to listen to their cares and concerns. We are your hands and feet. Help us to reach out with a caring touch and walk with others during their time of trouble. We are your voice. Help us to speak your words of love and peace. Help others to see you in us. In your name we pray., Amen If you would like a Stephen Minister to listen and walk beside you contact Sandy at 986-2382, Ardis at 986-2768 or Pastor at 986-2514. Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. 1 Peter 4:10
We are SOOO excited for our new Sunday School year to begin! Our first event of the year is **RALLY SUNDAY**

which is going to be held on Sunday, Sept. 7th following worship. Parents and children are going to have a GREAT time playing games and having FUN! After we are done gaming at 11:30, we’ll have a potluck dinner with the rest of the congregation. Please bring a dish to pass and share in the company of our fellow church members.

Our first Sunday School class day will be Sunday, September 14th, starting at 10:45. We have SO MANY new and exciting things happening this year! We have newly painted and decorated rooms, a brand new curriculum—which means NEW lessons and projects for the kids—and even a brand new WORKSHOP...the “Matters of Faith” science lab! Be sure to check out the rooms!

LOTS OF FUN in store!!

If you have friends and/or neighbors that are looking for a church—or maybe that don’t think that they “need” a church, please invite them to Messiah for worship and Sunday school. Messiah has so much to offer and share with others!

*We will see you on Sunday, September 7th!!*
2014-2015 Sunday School Calendar

September
7 Rally Sunday
14 Sunday School Classes Begin/ Leader & Guide Installation (#1) Rotation #1
21
28

October
5
12
19 MEA Break -- No SS class-- Fellowship Fun Time
26 Preschool-6th Grades perform during worship Rotation #2
Leader/Guide Installation (#2) during worship

November
2
9
16
23
30 Thanksgiving Weekend – No SS

December
2 Preschool-6th Grades perform during worship
Christmas Program Practice
7 Sunday School Christmas Program (Time TBA)
14 No SS alternate date for Christmas Program
21 No SS
28 No SS

January
4 SS resumes, Leader/Guide Installation (#3) during worship Rotation #3
11
18
25 Congregational Annual Meeting – No SS class—Movie Day

February
1
8
15 President’s Weekend – No SS class—Fellowship Fun Day
22 Preschool-6th Grades perform during worship Rotation #4
Leader/Guide Installation Rotation (#4) during worship

March
1
8
15 Mission Sunday
22
29 Palm Sunday--Kids carry in palms at worship

April
5 Easter Sunday – No SS Rotation #5
12 Preschool-6th Grades perform during worship
Leader/Guide Installation (Rot #5) during worship
19
26

May
3
10 Mother’s Day – No SS
17 Last day of SS
Preschool-6th Grades perform during worship
Year End Celebration following Worship service
Leader and Guide Appreciation Meal – 11:30am
Cluster 10 Fall Gathering

Saturday, September 27, 2014

First Lutheran Church
25 State St. E, Kensington, MN

8:30 a.m.   Registration and Coffee
9:00 a.m.   Meeting
10:30 a.m.  Program featuring Rachael McCleary
11:30 a.m.  Lunch

Embracing Hope Ethiopia
By Rachael McCleary

Rachael is the mother of 5 who felt the calling to help the children in Africa. She and her husband Ryan decided to adopt twin boys from Ethiopia. She will share her story and her involvement in the organization Embracing Hope Ethiopia.

Please register by Monday, September 22nd by calling:
Arlou Swenson, 986-2639

The cost is $8.00 which includes morning coffee, lunch,
And registration materials.

THANK YOU
A special thank you to our Messiah Family for helping us celebrate our 50th Anniversary. Thank you to the Men of Messiah for serving our cake at coffee time. Thank you to the Women of Messiah for the beautiful plant. We are blessed to have you all in our lives.

Lee & Polly Hedstrom.
**GOD’S PEOPLE IN SERVICE—SEPTEMBER**

**ACOLYTES** 7-14 Claire Stark 21-28 Shelby Krusemark

**COMMUNION** 7 Jen & Phil Hermes
**PREPARATION** 21 Elmer & Jeanne Anderson

**COMMUNION ASSISTANTS** Hailey Stark Trent Telkamp Ardis Stark

**COMMUNION SERVERS—COUNCIL** Polly Hedstrom

**FLOWERS** Lynn Swenson, Sylvia Swenson

*Ushers and Greeters are asked to come 30 minutes early to check in with the Welcome Team to go over any special instructions for your Sunday*

**GREETERS**
Sep  7 Wanda Kaplor, Shirley Nelson
Sep 14 Betty Anderson, Jelene Backman family
Sep 21 Cincy Christopherson, Bergman family
Sep 28 Jen & Phil Hermes, Elroy Anderson

**VIDEO**
Brooke Anderson
Ireland Winter
Emma Swenson
Grant Beuckens

**ORGANISTS**
Sep  7 Bev Y.
Sep 14 Bev Y.
Sep 21 LaVerne O.
Sep 28 LaVerne O.

**SOUND/Trainee**
Sep  7 Arlyn S.
Sep 14 Bret O.
Sep 21 Steve B.
Sep 28 Aiden W.

**LECTORS**
Sep  7 Jen Hermes
Sep 14 Gene Eblen
Sep 21 Stan Stark
Sep 28 Gene Eblen

**PROJECTION/Trainee**
Lynn S./Ashley Froemming
Kaitlin S./Ashley Froemming
Ross A./Ashley Froemming
Chris O./Ashley Froemming

**COFFEE**
Sep  7 Coffee by WELCA group 3
Sep 14 Coffee by Youth—Sansteads and Froemmers
Sep 21 Coffee by Churchmen—LeRoy Stark in charge
Sep 28 Coffee by Youth—Erick Starks and Franks

**WELCOME CENTER/TEAM**
Sep  7 Jen & Phil H.
Sep 14 Ken & Joan J.
Sep 21 Elroy Anderson
Sep 28 Sylvia & Courtland

**USHERS**
Sep  7 Troy and Brenda Andreasen and Jesse
Sep 14 Eunice and Gene Eblen, Elmer and Jeanne Anderson
Sep 21 Stan and Raelene Stark, Cindy Christopherson, Steve Engelby
Sep 28 Gene and Eunice Eblen, Nels and Brenda Onstad family

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*If you are unable to serve your assigned spot on any Sunday, please find your own replacement and let the church office know who that is. THANK YOU!!*
### SEPTEMBER 2014

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<th>SUN</th>
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<td>OFFICE CLOSED</td>
<td>7:00 “Starts with a Prayer”</td>
<td>6:00 Youth Kick Off 4-12 grades parents and kids for a meal and meeting. 8:00 Executive Com.</td>
<td>1:30 QMF 7:00 Mentor Training 8:00 Stephen Ministry</td>
<td>7:30 Men’s Breakfast Bible Stdy</td>
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<td>RALLY SUNDAY 9:30 Holy Communion</td>
<td>10:30 Coffee—WELCA grp 3</td>
<td>10:45 Sunday School Activities 11:30 Potluck Dinner</td>
<td>3:45-5:30 8 &amp; 9th Confirm 7:00 Messiah Choir</td>
<td>1:00 Mary Bible study 6:00 Education</td>
<td>7:30 Men’s Bkfst Bible Stdy 5:00 Wedding Rehearsal</td>
<td>7:30 MARTHA Bible Study</td>
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<td>9:30 Worship Service-Leader &amp; Guide Installation</td>
<td>10:30 Coffee by Youth 10:30 Outreach Committee 10:45 Sunday School 11:00 Overflow Worship</td>
<td>2:30 Pastor At Barrett Care Center 3:45-5:30 8 &amp; 9th Confirm 3:45-5:30 4-7th Gr Youth 5:00 Farmers Market served by Messiah 7:00 Messiah Choir 8:00 Messiah Council</td>
<td>1:30 QMF 7:00 WELCA General Mtg 8:00 Stephen Ministry</td>
<td>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</td>
<td>7:30 Men’s Breakfast Bible Stdy</td>
<td>9:30 Worship Service</td>
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<tr>
<td>MENTOR SUNDAY 9:30 Holy Communion— 10:30 Coffee by Churchmen 10:45 Sunday School</td>
<td>3:45-5:30 8 &amp; 9th Confirm 7:00 Messiah Choir</td>
<td>NWM Synodical Conv.</td>
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<td>7:30 Men’s Breakfast Bible Stdy</td>
<td>7:30 Men’s Bkfst Bible Stdy 8:30 Cluster 10 Gathering at First Lutheran in Kensington</td>
<td>9:30 Worship Service</td>
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You are invited...

to ACTIVATE YOUR FAITH with the children of Messiah at Rally Sunday!

Please join us at Messiah Lutheran Church for Rally Sunday—lots of games and fun—on Sunday, September 7th. Worship begins at 9:30am and Rally Sunday Festivities start at 10:45 with an all-congregational potluck dinner to follow at 11:30am. ALL FAMILIES are welcome to come! Activities are planned for ages 3 through 8th grade...and parents too, if you wish!

We have an *all new* rotation Sunday School curriculum this year, with Sunday School starting on September 14th. You are welcome to visit and check out our newly painted and decorated Sunday School rooms. We are SO EXCITED to begin a new year!

If you have any questions, please call Amy Swenson at 320.986.2548