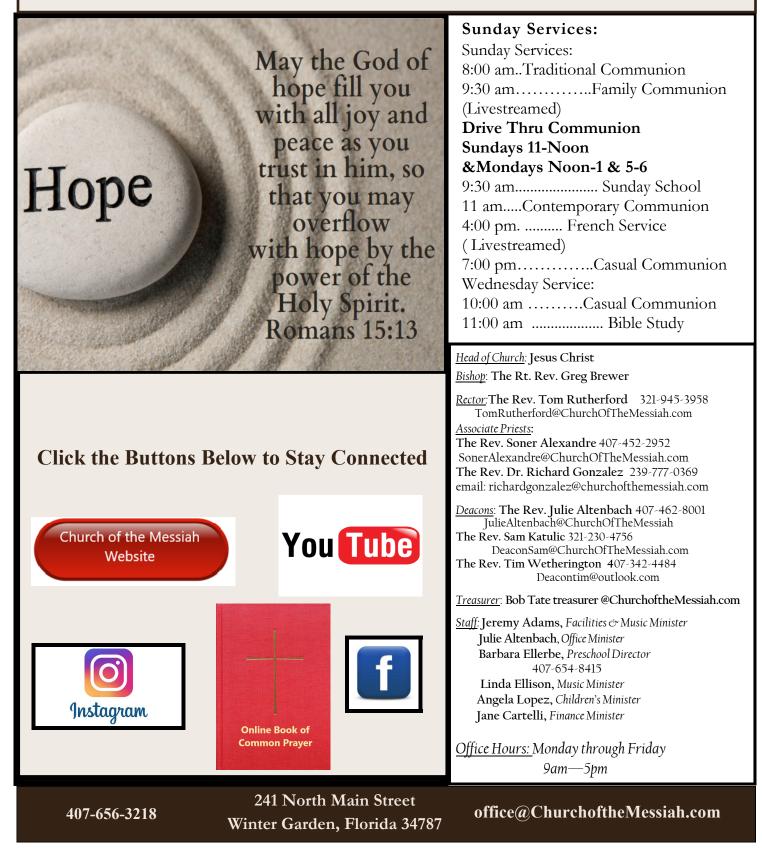
THE MESSENGER August 2020

A Publication of the Episcopal Church of the Messiah







Post-Sabbatical Check-In

This time last year, my wife Debbie and I returned from our 3-month Sabbatical refreshed, renewed, rejuvenated, and bubbling over with ideas and plans for how to be a better rector.

A year later...have I actually DONE any of those things? And what difference – if any – has it made?

The BIGGEST project was based on the book *Good to Great* by James Collins, as I reworked our Parish Staff to "get the right people on the bus and going in the right direction."

The Parish Administrator was responsible for our parish and financial records, bill paying, publicity, and office stuff, and the job had grown larger than any one person could do, so I broke it into two separate positions: a fulltime Office Minister and a part-time Finance Minister.

I offered our former Parish Administrator to become the Finance Minister. She was not interested and resigned.

God raised up Elaina Paige as Finance Minister to pick up the pieces when the Administrator left and to figure out how to keep up with all our income and expenses. Elaina documented the processes and got our finances humming. She also worked for her sister, however, and soon discovered she was unable to do both jobs with excellence, so – appropriately – she resigned from us to concentrate on her primary work for her sister.

✿ God raised up Julie Altenbach as Office Minister, and she has transformed our parish office into a beehive of activity and excitement: recruiting, equipping, encouraging, and resourcing a herd of volunteer Office Angels to produce our publications, give us a presence on social media, take care of our office tasks, and check up on our parishioners from time to time.

God raised up Jane Cartelli as our current Finance Minister, and she has taken Elaina's instructions, honed them, perfected them, and run with them to negotiate better deals with several of our vendors, cut costs in a bunch of areas, set us up for giving online and by smartphone, and apply for – and win! -\$123,000 from the Payroll Protection Program.

I raised the bar on the rest of our Staff, expecting them not just to DO their ministries, but to recruit and equip a Team to do their ministry. I set about to do the same with the Vestry and Staff, equipping them as a Team to serve and lead our parish family.

Children's Minister Angela Lopez and Music Minister Linda Ellison rose to the challenge, building a Team for our children and adding Assistant Music Minister Jeremy Adams.

• Our Youth Minister chose to resign, and God raised up Murph Borno as our volunteer Youth Minister, and he's sustained and grown our ministry to, for, and with teenagers.

In October, Linda Ellison fell at home and broke her wrist. Jeremy was already on board to take up the musical baton and plan and play all our worship services for 6 weeks while Linda recovered.

This time last year, none of us knew COVID-19 was coming...but God did! And all of the changes listed above have proven to be his provision for keeping our parish family healthy before and during the pandemic.

In March, when COVID hit, our new staff rose to the occasion and performed magnificently:

- Jeremy researched and discovered what gear we needed to put our worship online, and then helped install it and figure out how to make it work... which had us up and running, when the Bishop barred in-person worship services and on-campus activities.
- **P** Julie got Office Angels working from their homes calling and checking up on parishioners.
- \clubsuit Julie and Angela set up a food pantry and kept it stocked
- Fathers Soner Alexandre and Richard Gonzalez and I offered Drive Thru Communion and served hun dreds of folks every week while in-person worship was suspended.
- Jeremy led the Emergency Worship Band while Linda and most of the Choir and Bands chose to selfquarantine.
- Julie set us up with ZOOM for online video meetings, which allowed Vestry, Daughters of the King, and several other groups to continue working without missing a beat.
- ✤ Jane already had us ready to receive donations by phone and online, and you took to giving that way and mailing in checks, such that our giving this year is equal to this time last year, while many other churches are hurting... badly... financially and begging their parishioners to give. THANK YOU!!!!!

It's almost like God knew what 2020 would bring! So he set us up in 2019 to meet the challenges.

You see: God not only provides for all our needs according to his riches in Christ Jesus (Philippians 4:19); sometimes he PREprovides! Which is what he's done for us.

A year after the Sabbatical, what I learned and how the Messiah has worked through it, has this parish family healthier than ever – even in the midst of a pandemic.

Thank you again, for letting me take the Sabbatical and for praying me through it. And thank you for cooperating with the Lord and me as we have put that learning into practice.

I love you all.



Who Ya Gonna Call

LOVING GOD INREACH	LEADER	PHONE	EMAIL
Acolytes	Murph Borno	407.413.4220	youthminister@churchofthemessiah.com
	Trudie Carr	321.287.6478	Trudie21@cfl.rr.com
Altar Guild	Karen Stewart	407.625.7615	Kstewart1208@yahoo.com
	Jennifer Roper	407.760.2393	Jennifer.roper@yahoo.com
Building Maintenance	Chris Brown	407.864.1708	CG_Brown@Live.com
Children's Ministry	Angela Lopez	321.287.9089	Angelalopez@churchofthemessiah.com
Lay Weeders/Landscapers	John Peacock	407.758.2728	jpeacox@cfl.rr.com
Music/Choirs/Band	Linda Ellison	407.417.4229	Lakesongmusic@gmail.com
Prayer Chain	Elise Bradford	407.876.2557	eliserb535@gmail.com
Prayer Intercessors	Wally Stewart	407.468.2545	Stewart3rd@aol.com
Central Scheduling Ushers/Greeters/Lectors/LEMS/LEVS	Mike & Bobby Warren	352.241.8703	customerservants@cfl.rr.com
LOVING GOD OUTREACH	LEADER	PHONE	EMAIL
Christian Service Center	Doreen Stachowski	407.717.5888	Stach45T@aol.com
Communications/Publicity	Joe Eiden	919.523.1869	eidenj@gmail.com
Habitat for Humanity	Bob Tate	407.247.0219	tater7134@gmail.com
Church Outreach	Doreen Stachowski	407.717.5888	Stach45T@aol.com
Pre-School	Barbara Ellerbe	407.654.8415	barbaraellerbe@churchofthemessiah.com
Refugee Team	Murph Borno	407.413.4220	youthminister@churchofthemessiah.com
LOVING EACH OTHER	LEADER	PHONE	EMAIL
Casserole Patrol	Deacon Julie Altenbach	407.462.8001	juliealtenbach@churchofthemessia.com
Coffee Hour	Kelley McRae	407.877.0463	kemcrae@hotmail.com
Fun & Fellowship	Wendy King	407.928.8132	wbking@cfl.rr.com
Grief Groups	Jill Brown	407.656.5776	Jlbrown656@embarqmail.com
Hurricane Disaster Response	Murph Borno	407.413.4220	youthminister@churchofthemessiah.com
Team Kitchen Krewe	Patty Tate	321.331.1435	pattyjotate@yahoo.com
Lay eucharistic Visitors	Deacon Julie Altenbach	407.462.8001	juliealtenbach@churchofthemessia.com
Church Library	Regina Seguin	407.865.3865	libray@churchofthemessiah.com
Men's Supper	Wally Stewart	407.468.2545	Stewart3rd@aol.com
Messiah's Way	Brian Seguin	407.865.1472	seguinbox@gmail.com
Name Tags	Julie Altenbach	407.656-3218	juliealtenbach@churchofthemessiah.com
Newsletters/Bulletins	Deacon Julie Altenbach	407.462.8001	juliealtenbach@churchofthemessia.com
Nursery/Childcare	Angela Lopez	321.287.9089	Angelalopez@churchofthemessiah.com
Office Angels	Deacon Julie Altenbach	407.462.8001	juliealtenbach@churchofthemessia.com
Parish Nurse	Barbara Knappman	630.470.1405	barbnap@msn.com
Pastoral Care	Joyce Taylor	407.222.1290	shadesfan@aol.com
Transportation Aid	Joyce Taylor	407.222.1290	shadesfan@aol.com
Wednesday Evening Bible Study	Joe Wolfe	407.656.4226	Wolfejns@aol.com
Women's Dining Club	Janice Hull	407.413.4220	Jhull1049@gmail.com
Youth	Murph Borno	407.413.4220	youthminister@churchofthemessiah.com

Please contact the church office if you need further assistance at:

407-656-3218 or office@churchofthemessiah.com

Vestry Minutes * July 26, 2020 @2:30 p.m.

2020 Vestry

Ron Bouton, *Properties* Email: eronbo47@gmail.com

Chris Brown, *Junior Warden, Properties* Email: CG_Brown@Live.com

Joe Eiden, Communications/Publicity, Missions & Evangelism Email: eidenj12@gmail.com

Wendy King, Fun & Fellowship Email: wbking@cfl.rr.com

John Peacock, *Properties* Email: jpeacox@cfl.rr.com

Mary Kay Predmore, *Senior Warden* Email: marykayp413@aol.com

Brian Seguin, *Connections* Email: seguinbox@gmail.com

Doreen Stachowski, Missions & Evangelism Email: stach45t@aol.com

Wally Stewart, *Properties, Pastoral Care* Email: stewart3rd@aol.com

Patty Tate, Business & Development, Properties, Outreach Email: pattyjotate@yahoo.com

Bob Tate, *Treasurer* Email: treasurer@churchofthemessiah.com

Joyce Taylor, *Clerk, Pastoral Care* Email: shadesfan@aol.com

Dawn Wirbel, Children & Youth, In reach, Outreach, Worship Email: d.wirbel@yahoo.com Vestry Door Duty for August 2020

Opener at 7:30am: Mary Kay Predmore

Closer after 1:00pm: Patty Tate

Vestry Meeting Host: Wally Stewart

2020 Financial Report

(as of May 2020)

Operating Income	\$355,527.82
Operating Expenses	<u>\$303,793.52</u>
NET	\$51,734.30

ALL Building Fund Income\$65,394.35
ALL Building Fund Expense <u>\$81,337.53</u>
NET(\$15,943.18)

If you need to leave something for Vestry or Staff, you may use their mailboxes in the office.

> The Office is open Monday-Friday

> > 9-5

2020 June Vestry Minutes Sunday * July 26, 2020, * 2:30pm

Present (in person or by ZOOM video conferencing): Rector Tom Rutherford, Senior Warden Mary Kay Predmore, Junior Warden Chris Brown, and Clerk Joyce Taylor; Ron Bouton, Joe Eiden, Wendy King, Brian Seguin, Doreen Stachowski, Wally Stewart, Patty Tate, and Dawn Wirbel, and Treasurer Bob Tate.

Absent: John Peacock

FORMATION: Joyce Taylor led Noonday Prayer. Based on Matthew 20:25-28 and Neal Michele's book *Beyond Business as Usual*, pp. 69-70, Tom Rutherford talked about "The People Pyramid," how leaders give up rights and accept responsibility, and how we all carry around with us two buckets – water and gasoline – to treat any emotional or relational fires in our parish. Tom thanked the Vestry for taking responsibility and for using water on fires.

II. INFORMATION:

A. Vestry Ministry Team Reports:

- 1. Outreach Team Doreen Stachowski reports
 - a) The Team had a Zoom meeting on June 11 and made decisions to keep moving during the COVID crisis.
 - b) Foster Friends of Central Florida received a check for \$85.00 so they could have dinner out. Our Spa Day plans will be done either later this year or next year.
 - c) Father Tom presented the Apopka Pregnancy Care Center a check for \$1000 for help in their move to a new location.
 - d) Dillard Street school received \$180 for their new teachers' luncheon.
 - e) The Edgewood Children's Ranch has started accepting the children back to the Ranch. They should have all of them within the next two weeks. Strict rules will be applied to each house to keep them safe. They needed kitchen supplies, so we shopped and delivered \$256.02 in groceries.
 - f) Our charities are helping one another:
 - (1) The Christian Service Center has been donating baby formula, baby food and other supplies to the Apopka Pregnancy Center.
 - (2) The Apopka Pregnancy Center has been donating clothes and merchandise to the Edgewood Thrift Store on Dillard Street
- 2. **Messiah's Way:** Brian Seguin is working with Office Minister Julie Altenbach on the best format for the digital Messiah's Way sign up for this year. My initial plan is to use Google forms for this that will prepare a database that the Office Angels can then input into Servant Keeper for next year, but I need to review this with Julie to make sure that will work. If so, I probably will have a draft of the Google form for the Vestry in July to use for a test group.

B. Staff Reports:

- 1. **Children of the Messiah Preschool:** Director Barbara Ellerbe reports the July Summer Camp session is FULL! After consulting with parents, the preschool will follow Orange County Public Schools schedule and open August 21, instead of the 10th as originally planned. The financial report was emailed separately.
- 2. Children's Minister Angela Lopez reports:
 - a) It has been a rather slow month for me. There has been a decline in attendance of families with children, because of the virus.

- b) I have been connecting with parents via email, text and Facebook to keep up with the children and let them know I am thinking of them.
- c) With the options that Orange County Public Schools have given parents for school this fall, I have been brainstorming how I can serve the multitude of kids who will be distance learning. Many parents are looking for tutors and or nannies to sit with their children, so I am going to compile a list of contacts and make myself available to them. I am planning a party, I hope with a waterslide, for August 15 to celebrate the kids returning to whatever type of school their parents have elected.
- d) I have signed up for a couple of seminars on Ministry during a pandemic and will be participating in those in early August.
- e) In an attempt to retain some normality, we are having Vacation Bible School the July 27-31. I restructured a program I bought on clearance, and I believe it's going to be a wonderful time for those in attendance. It will be small, but I trust God will bring out the kids and adults that need to have this special time.
- f) Wendy King and Esther Gonzalez approached me about offering an intergenerational component to the Parish Birthday Party on September 20. We will include making Anglican rosaries and have begun gathering supplies and ironing out details. While it is still quite a few weeks out, I suggest we offer our regular picnic style dinner and have staff and vestry serve it while wearing gloves and masks. Many buffet restaurants have reopened and instead of serving themselves have staff serving. We could always advertise it as "buffet items will be served by volunteers or bring your own if you are more comfortable".
- 3. Youth: The summer mission project was cancelled due to the COVID pandemic. Volunteer Youth Minister Murph Borno and the Youth Team are looking at options for ways to serve locally rather than going on a trip and what to do with the funds they raised for that project.
- 4. **Finance Minister** Jane Cartelli is working diligently collecting all the numbers surrounding a possible Cost of Living Adjustment in Staff compensation. See the early results of that research in the DISCUS-SION portion of this Agenda.
 - 5. Music Minister Linda Ellison reports:
 - a) Due to the pandemic, the Music Ministry has greatly reduced numbers only one or two people to sing at 8 and 9:30, and four instrumentalists playing with me at 11. In spite of that, we continue to praise God with our instruments and voices at all the services.
 - b) Recently Fr. Tom, Jeremy and I have moved forward with plans to upgrade our sound systems in the parish hall and in the church. You'll see those numbers when they are solidified.
 - c) I have continued to practice and compose, of course, as well as research new repertoire for the choir and worship band for when they do return. I have also continued to read relevant books and articles about music in worship. It has also been interesting and challenging to explore the different sounds that our new keyboards are capable of creating.
 - d) I continue to communicate with and pray for all the music ministry members, including the ones who have chosen to quarantine at home
 - 6. Office Minister Julie Altenbach reports more Office Angels have started back in the office, and they are continuing to reach out to our church family to check on the folks who are choosing to self-quarantine. In addition, they and I accomplished a lot:
 - a) The food pantry is still being utilized and restocked, as well as the freezer from the Casserole Patrol Ministry
 - b) Finance Minister Jane Cartelli, Jr. Warden Chris Brown, and I met with representatives from Carrier Air Conditioning to get a proposal for replacing the chiller. They will give a detailed report.
 - c) I coordinated plumbers for the Preschool; interacted with Adam, who installed our new kitchen floor; Blake, from Anax Pest Control; and Ken Lyons, our Tech Expert for services around and for the church this month.

- d) Created and sent an email to our folks for a 4Rivers BBQ Fundraiser for the Dioceses of Honduras.
- e) Created a trifold board to display our Outreach Ministry's Baby Bottle Fundraiser for the Apopka Pregnancy Center.
- f) One of our Office Angels has taken on the task of taking the photos from the bulletin board and creating a photo album to be kept in the Narthex for parishioners and visitors to enjoy
- g) Starting July 3rd, I send a copy of the 9:30 Bulletin with Sermon Notes and announcements to our people so those watching the livestream version of our service have access to them while they watch.
- h) Office Angels have been helping to prep for VBS and creating materials for Daughters of the King
- i) I have begun creating a document listing the tasks I do as Office Minister, so if I'm out of the office, and anyone needs to fill in for me, they have an easy guide to follow.
- 7. School for the Arts: Garine Adams reports:
- a) We are currently playing each week by ear by offering in person and online lessons in music and art. Some students prefer one over the other, and some need to be online for health reasons. Our only current monthly class held every first Friday was well attended in July with 9 participants playing hand drum rhythms together. It was said to be a great way to relieve stress in this tough time. Also, we've just started our free online classes on our YouTube page with a 45min painting class featuring our Paint Like a Pro! teacher Ashley Gillam. The link is: <u>https://youtu.be/pE5bmrysQFQ</u> and it's entitled "Alone Together Art: Painting a Terrarium with Messiah School for the Arts."
- b) Our upcoming concert on July 24th, at 6:30pm, will be live-streamed on our Facebook page. We are asking for anyone not in the immediate family of a performer to please watch via the livestream rather than seeing the concert in person in the Parish hall.
- c) Thank you for your prayers and support!
- **B.** Parish Hall roof leak: Facilities Minister Jeremy Adams got estimates from 4 roofing companies to fix the intermittent leak in the Parish Hall by the sound booth and will accept the most reasonable bid to get that fixed.
- C. **COVID-19 Response:** We had a month without a new wrinkle or piece of technology to buy or install! We have distributed over 3,000 individual servings of communion and are on our 4th box of a thousand servings.

III. DISCUSSION (to help make a decision next month):

- A. We got a \$123,000 gift from the Payroll Protection Program. We gave \$20,000 to the preschool to cover their payroll during the COVID shutdown and more will go to cover their payroll in June. That frees up about \$60,000 from our regular funds to utilize for new initiatives. Joe Eiden, Wendy King, Brian Seguin, Doreen Stachowski, and Dawn Wirbel joined Rector Tom on a Team to pray, think, imagine, research our needs and the costs for meeting those needs and make a list for Vestry to consider to utilize those funds. The Team gave a list of possible projects, and we discussed them. We will not make any decisions about this until August...or later.
- B. **The Rectory:** The roof of house the Alexandres live in leaks. Since this is an ongoing issue, Facilities Minister Jeremy Adams will contact a roof contractor to see what our options might be to fix it or replace the roof.
- C) Staff Compensation: Since giving this year had us with a \$40,000 surplus at the end of May, Rector Tom proposed our considering giving our long-time Staff, who were hired before 2019, a 3.5% Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA), since we haven't adjusted Staff compensation in several years, due to financial constraints. He and Finance Minister Jane Cartelli mostly Jane! began 3 weeks ago collecting the numbers for what that would cost, and, in her digging, Jane discovered some surprising details about pension payments we owe, due to our not knowing the Canonical requirements.

- 1. Those requirements:
 - a) For Clergy Staff whether part or fulltime we owe 18% of their compensation to the Church Pension Group from their date of hire.
 - (1) Tom hired Office Minister Julie Altenbach as a layperson, not as a Deacon, but since she's a Deacon, this rule applies to her.
 - (2) Tom thought the rule was only for fulltime, so we were not paying this for Father Soner, who is half-time.
 - (3) Therefore, we owe back pension payments for both of them.
 - b) For Lay Staff working over 1,000 hours per year, and starting after a year of employment, we pay 5% of their compensation into a retirement account. When we expanded Children's Minister Angela Lopez's job over the years from ¹/₄ to ¹/₂ to ³/₄ time, her hours went over 1,000 per year in 2019, and we weren't paying attention to that, so we owe back retirement for last year and this year.
- 2. Whether or not we give anyone a COLA, we owe \$20-25,000 now for retirement benefits plus an additional \$8,000 in retirement payments for the rest of this year, for a total cost of \$28-32,000 over this year's current budget.
- 3. Rather than a COLA, Music Minister Linda Ellison would like a Sunday off per month. Tom granted that request, and that began this month.
- 4. Having Assistant Music Minister Jeremy Adams fill in on Linda's Sundays off doubles his job responsibilities with the extra services to play and rehearsals to conduct. Tom recommends doubling his compensation.
- 5. Expanding Jeremy's job and giving the rest of the long-time Staff a COLA would cost an additional \$5,000 over the current budget for the rest of this year, plus the \$28-32,000 in retirement we owe now, for a total additional cost of \$33-37,000 for this year
- 6. If we adopt the COLA and keep payroll the same in 2021, that increases our payroll costs \$14,000/year or \$1,200/month over what we pay now (or SHOULD have been paying!) for stipends and retirement benefits.
- 7. The details of each position and estimated costs were in the Agenda. Tom will send the precise figures for each position and the total when Jane is able to nail all those down.
- D) Air conditioner repair and replacement: Junior Warden Chris Brown reports we have two fans in the chiller that need attention. One is completely dead, and another is dying. The cost to replace is \$4,000 for one or \$6,000 for both. Vestry decided to replace both.
 - 1. Over the past 13 years, since the Parish Hall was built, we have spent \$230,000 to maintain, repair, and replace air conditioning equipment for the Parish Hall, Church, Youth Hall, and Classroom building. That's \$17,700 per year.
 - 2. Chris recommends we begin setting aside money each year to cover repairing and replacing air conditioners as the need arises, and to do the same in anticipation for replacing roofs.

IV. DECISIONS (usually based on the Discussion last month) : None

V.<u>MEETING MINUTES & FINANCIAL REPORT – (10 MINUTES)</u>:

- A. Minutes from the June meeting: APPROVED
- B. June Financial Report from Treasurer Bob Tate: APPROVE
 1. Operating Account: Giving in June was \$11,796.68 MORE than expenses! That INCREASES our SURPLUS year-to-date to \$51,734.30. THANK YOU, JESUS!
 - 2. **Building Fund** net income in June was \$6,069.75 MORE than our \$11,996.01 monthly mortgage and other expenses, DECREASING the DEFICIT year-to-date to \$15,943.18.

The meeting closed with prayer and adjourned at 3:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

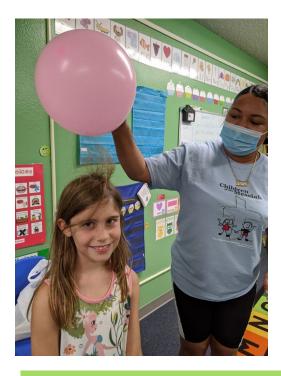
Joyce Taylor, Vestry Clerk





Summer Camp fun included building a robot and painting with dye.





Kids at Preschool Summer Camp learned about Static Electricity and built catapults.













Yummy dinners by Ms. Cindi

Dinner with the Tech Crew, Osni & Joel







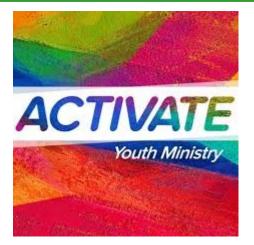
Crafts





Future VBS Kid





While we were blessed to resume Activate in person on June 7th, I made a risk based decision to shift back to virtual attendance at the beginning of July to minimize the number of exposure risks/events that our youth and their families would experience. Attendance has been consistent, and we have been enjoying short scripture lessons, and playing games such as skribblio and virtual scavenger hunt. If there are any other teens not currently active in youth group who would like to join in let me know.

We continue to focus on what it looks like to have a Christ centered approach and attitude towards others in these times of stress, strife and discord. I am encouraging them to have open hearts and minds towards everyone, and to be respectful of all people, especially those who may think or feel differently than they do. Please pray for our kids and their families as they struggle to decide what is best for them in regard to returning to school next month. The youth and I are praying that GOD will provide you with the courage, strength and peace to endure what looks to be an extended SARS-CoV-2 situation, because he will if you let him! We have the most awesome kid's, make sure you tell them that you love them as often as you can! Please reach out if you are in need of anything (prayer, logistics support, conversation, etc.), we are here to love and serve you.

Please feel free to contact me anytime!

Grace and Peace

Murph Borno

Activate Youth Minister

YouthMinister@ChurchoftheMessiah.com

407-413-4220

The APOPKA Pregnancy Care CENTER

Serving our community with compassion and dignity

Church of The Messiah 241 N Main St Winter Garden, FL 34787 Attn: Rev. Tom Rutherford

Dear Rev Rutherford;

We at the Apopka Pregnancy Care Center wanted to take a moment to thank you again for all the help you have given us over all these years. We especially wanted to thank a number of your parishoners who have bent over backwards to help us get our new location up and running:

Father Soner and his three children Mary Kay and Jay Predmore Youth Pastor Murph Borno and his daughter Chelsea Doreen and Tom Stachowski

Words really do not suffice in thanking you; you have helped in a huge way for us to progress to where we are now. Our new center is fully renovated, and just beautiful! We have completed everything and have been seeing women and families in the last few weeks that we have been open.

We have a date for our Ribbon Cutting Ceremony with attendance by the Mayor of Apopka and City Commissioners. This event will be held on Thursday, August 13th @ 11:00 am. We would love for you to come and be a part of the event and tour the center. We will be

abiding by the mask and social distancing guidelines handed down for Orange County. We did not want another moment to go by without telling you how much we appreciate your donations; we could not have come this far without your support.

Thank you for helping us move forward to help our wonderful community. We hope to see you at the Ribbon Cutting.

Kindest Regards,

have Hal

Faye Hull, Director Lorri Tolliver, Board President Apopka Pregnancy Care Center

Apopka Pregnancy Care Center, P.O. Box 1064, Apopka FL 32704 Phone: 407-703-5799 / Fax: 407-703-5818 ** After hours: 321-356-2937

www.apopkapregnancy.org



Messiah Outreach Ministry







Having the luxury of time during our RV-quarantining, I've been reading and thinking about our Old Testament readings and Fr. Tom's sermons about Jacob and his twin brother Esau.

It's easy to take sides in this story.

It's easy to see how Jacob was a scoundrel who took advantage of his brother's arrogance/weakness to con him out of his birthright. Then he outright lied to his father (saying he was Esau not Jacob) to get his blessing to make it official. But his inheritance was useless because he had to flee for safety. His brother would get it all anyway.

Others may feel Esau had it coming. He had a total disregard for his inheritance and his father's blessing. He basically traded a fortune for a bowl of soup – which he was going to get anyway. If he was that dumb, then he deserved to lose everything. Furthermore, Esau married a woman just to displease his father. Esau's grudge against Jacob and his family would last a long time.

Reality is that neither of them was perfect. Of course, none of us are. We have all done things that were underhanded - things that have hurt others. Jacob felt justified in what he did. Esau felt he was right in seeking vengeance. Jacob left home with little more than a stick and a sack lunch. Esau stayed home with anger in his heart. Their family was divided against itself.

After nearly 15 years, and with God's help, Jacob has become a wealthy man. But he longs to see his mom and dad while they are still alive. He has two wives and many children. He has vast herds of goats, sheep, camels, cows, and donkeys. He decides to return home, and he sends a messenger with gifts of gold and lots of livestock to inform Esau of his plan. The messenger returns with disturbing news. Esau is coming to meet him...with four hundred men.

When Esau saw his brother Jacob he embraced him, threw his arms around his neck and kissed him. There was no anger, only forgiveness and love.

It's a great story, but I left out an important part. Before Jacob went to face his brother, he wrestled with God ...all night. He wrestled with God over his deceitfulness. He wrestled with God over his running away rather than working things out with his father and brother. He wrestled with God over his lack of faith. He wrestled with God over many, many issues.

Often when we are angry with someone, we are in reality angry with God. We blame God for our circumstances whether we voice it or not. God becomes our adversary, rather than our answer. We run away from the messes in our lives rather than deal with the issues we create. Then we lash out against those we think have it coming. The result is that our family is divided.

Jesus told us to love one another – that has to *especially* apply to those in our family!

He said that we should have *unlimited* forgiveness toward those who hurt us.

Quarantine Chronicles: Toronto Edition



Hey All!

Anyone else surprised it's almost August? I'm pretty sure I still think it's April most days here. The city is opening up little by little though we're still on lockdown for the most part and Wycliffe definitely is. It's been in the 90's here fairly regularly and Wycliffe is a historic building that does not believe in central air. I've never (even in Uganda!) been SO thankful that I grew up in a place that believes in central AC! The buildings are built to keep heat in for Winter so summer here is surely a journey!

I've loved following along with all that is happening at Messiah this summer! I loved the concert and photos from Messiah School of the Arts and was so excited to see so many familiar faces working on the kitchen!

I'm finishing up a summer intensive on History of Christianity which I'm thankful to almost be done with and am still working on the residence side of Wycliffe. People are slowly moving back into Wycliffe which leads to more summer fun like walks with friends down to Lake Ontario!

Prayer Requests + Thanksgivings:

 I think both job stuff and fall residence life at Wycliffe are looking really positive- please keep praying and I'm hopeful next month will have an official update!
 Thankful for growing friends and community here.

Love you guys and miss all of you!

Laura Cook





Dear Messiah Family,

This month, I submitted to our Vestry a new plan for our library. This plan sets forth the mission and goals of the library and communicated criteria for inclusion of materials in the library. I will place a copy of the full plan (about 2 pages long) in the library for everyone to read. Meanwhile, I share the mission, objectives and criteria below. It is my hope that these will be helpful for everyone who desires to use or contribute to our library. Thank you all for your continued support of me and our library, and for your prayers.

Love, Regina



The mission of the Church of the Messiah's Library is to change the world with Jesus by providing Library materials and services that support the ministries of the Church of the Messiah and enhance its members' worship, discipleship and fellowship.



Through the collection development process, we strive for a Library collection that provides:

- Library materials on a wide variety of topics that support the Library's mission
- Materials relevant to current interests, events an ministries within the Church
- Christian, especially Episcopalian, theological perspectives
- Windows and mirrors into the diversity of perspectives and experiences within the Church
- An overall balance of viewpoints and subject matter
- For enjoyment and enlightenment of the Church members



We seek to achieve these objectives by acquiring and maintaining materials that :

- Are in good physical condition
- Are up to date, reflecting current needs, interests and perspectives
- Are appropriate for the target users
- Provide quality content as evidenced by reviews, awards, authority, popularity, etc.
 * Review sources include but are not limited to *Booklist, Library Journal, School Library Journal, Kirkus Reviews, The Christian Librarian* and *Christianity Today*
- Serve purposes not fully met within the existing collection
- Can be acquired and maintained within the limits of our available budget and space



This month my reading has continued to go forward. I finally finished reading *Boundaries*, by Dr. Henry Cloud and Dr. John Townsend; and the last chapters were the best of all in how they spoke to me in particular, that is setting boundaries for ourselves. Which for me is the hardest of all. They also reiterated the need NOT to feel guilty about setting boundaries, though we should expect this response from ourselves in the beginning from our internal "parent." The point is not to give in to it, because setting boundaries is NOT selfish. If we don't assume good stewardship of our own minds and bodies, we can do no good for anyone else. And others definitely benefit when we force them to assume responsibility for their own lives.

I also completed a book by Mark Hitchcock: **CORONA CRISIS: Plagues, Pandemics, and the Coming Apocalypse.** He delves both into the Bible and into secular history to examine similar instances of these events, concluding that, indeed, we have had more of them in the last century than in the rest of history, though they, for the most part, haven't been as devastating as the bubonic plague. But the escalation may be a *foreshadowing* of the Apocalypse, though definitely not a *part* of it, because the "birth pangs" mentioned in the prophets, in the Gospels, and in the book of Revelation, don't occur until the Tribulation, when the Man of Sin (Antichrist) appears on the scene to take over the world. At that point the Church will have been raptured, and will be watching from Heaven. He goes on to compare the pandemic with the worst pandemic there is, which attacks 100 percent of the people and is always terminal. The disease is sin. Of course the good news is that there is a 100 percent *cure* the blood of Jesus, which, though it doesn't deliver us from physical death yet assures us of eternal life with Jesus both now and after our mortal bodies die.

FORWARD DAY by DAY

The Daily Devotion Books for August, September and October have been delivered. You may pick one up in the Narthex, request one at Drive Thru Communion or call the office at 407656-3218 and we will



Every time you make a purchase through Amazon Smile with Church of the Messiah as the recipient, we get a portion of your purchase. If you are not sure how to set it up, call the office and we can talk you through it, or ZOOM you through it with a shared screen. It is a simple way to give, simply by using the Amazon Smile site when you make your purchases.



Please check the website or call the office for cancellations and changes to the calendar

August

Due to the pandemic our Semi-annual Rummage Sales will now take place in March and October

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Alcoholics Anonyr Open Meeting ev 8:00 p.m. Women Only: Tue Men Only: Thursc <u>https://cflintergro meetings/three-le</u>	ery night at esday 6:30pm lay 6pm pup.org/					1 MSftA 11-12 pm
2* Sunday School 8am Rite 1 *9:30 Rite 2 *11:00 Rite 3 11:30 All Souls Service 2:30 Activate Zoom 4pm French Service 4:00 Financial Peace 5:00 Diving Deeper 4:30 Shine 6:00 Dinner– Picnic Style 7:00 pm Rite 3 BAG SUNDAY	3 MSftA 4-8:30pm 6:30 pm Bible Study (Library)	4 MSftA 10-11:30 am Fr. Tom's Day Off	5 MSftA 3:45- 5:30 10am Holy Communion 11am Bible Study (library) 5:30 pm Bible Study Youth Hall 6– Choir Practice	6 MSftA Online Classes Only	7	8 MSftA 11-12 pm
9 * Sunday School 8am Rite 1 *9:30 Rite 2 *11:00 Rite 3 11:30 All Souls Service 2:30 Activate Zoom 4pm French Service 4:00 Financial Peace 4:30 Shine 6:00 Dinner-Picnic Style 7:00 pm Rite 3	10 MSftA 4-8:30pm 6 PM Daughter's of the King Meeting in Library 6:30 pm Bible Study (Library)	11 MSftA 10-11:30 am Fr. Tom's Day Off	12 MSftA 3:45- 5:30 10am Holy Communion 11am Bible Study (library) 5:30 pm Bible Study Youth Hall 6- Choir Practice	13 MSftA Online Classes Only	14	15 MSftA 11-12pm Alzheimer's Support Group 4:30 in the library
16 * Sunday School 8am Rite 1 *9:30 Rite 2 *11:00 Rite 3 11:30 All Souls Service 2:30 Activate Zoom 4pm French Service 4:30 Shine 6:00 Dinner-Picnic Style 7:00 pm Rite 3	17 MSftA 4-8:30pm 6:30 pm Bible Study (Library)	18 MSftA 10-11:30 am Fr. Tom's Day Off 6:30 Men's Group	19 MSftA 3:45- 5:30 10am Holy Communion 11am Bible Study (library) 5:30 pm Bible Study Youth Hall 6– Choir Practice	20 MSftA Online Classes Only	21 MSftA Summer Concert at 6:00 pm in the Parish Hall	22 MSftA 11-12 pm Conference on Ministry in the Parish Hall
23* Sunday School 8am Rite 1 *9:30 Rite 2 *11:00 Rite 3 11:30 All Souls Service 2:30 Activate Zoom 4pm French Service 4:30 Shine 6:00 Dinner-Picnic Style 7:00 pm Rite 3	24 MSftA 4-8:30pm 6:30 pm Bible Study (Library) VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL	25 MSftA 10-11:30 am 10-11:30 am Fr. Tom's Day Off	26MSftA 3:45- 5:30 10am Holy Communion 11am Bible Study (library) 5:30 pm Bible Study Youth Hall	27 MSftA Online Classes Only	28	29



2- Colby Beck

3– Ashley Chandler Laura Cook Donato Mazzaluna Kaitlyn O'Brien

4- Steve Dunegan Patricia Smith

7– Eric Joiner Wendy King

8– Martha Ficquette Sterling Hinz Ski Hutchinson

9– Tyler Lynn

10– Vita Mazzaluna

- 11– Jaysen– Xavier Felix
 12– Michael Warren
 14– Riley Alford
 16– Romeo Mazzaluna
 Jay Predmore
 18– Pattie Range
 19– Anne Bailey
 Helen Farnsworth
 Jordan Felix
 Bobby Field
- 20– Liam Gold Mary Lynn Levine Deborah Thomson

- 21– Alyse Duppenthaler Jenifer Roper Dawn Wirbel
- 23– Addisyn Duppenthaler
- 24– Dwight Cho-Sam
- 25– Susana Cochrane Brian Hinz 26– Mike Candes

28- Rick Wade

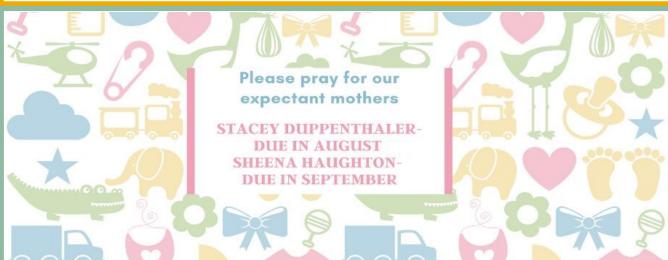
29– Breana Battles Emmanise Soulogue

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

1– Peter & Nancy Glynn

- 5– Bob & Patty Tate
- 6– Brian & Regina Seguin
- 7-Ron & Sharon Lancioni
- 10- Stuart & Linda White
- 11– Gloyce & Becky Fulmer
- 15– Marc & Nikki Imes

16– John & Marit Cairns
19– Tom & Doreen Stachowski
21– Monty & Greer McBryde
22– Norm & Terry Anthony
23– Bill & Kathy Barrett
27– John & Martha Ficquette
28– Ken & Trudie Carr



If you will not be able to serve, please call or email the office . We understand this could change week by week.

Sunday Servants 8:	00 AM
--------------------	-------

		,			1
8:00 Service	August 2	August 9	August 16	August 23	August 30
1st LEM	Deborah Townsend	Linda Bouton		Marvin Haughton	Deborah Townsend
2nd LEM	Frank Chase	Ellie Chase	Bradford Fisher	Mary Kay Predmore	Joyce Taylor
Lector	Mary Kay Predmore	Valery Rice	Joyce Taylor	Deborah Townsend	
Altar Server	Kayrah Elliot	Mary Kay Predmore	Aiden Morrison	Kayrah Elliot	Aiden Morrisor
Ushers/Greeters	Pete Glynn, Jay Predmore	Ron Bouton, Carleen Turnock, Cindy West	Ron Bouton, Karen Boylan, Joyce Taylor	Trudie Carr, Jay & Marsha Dymond	z Pete Glynn
LEV Team	Bradford Fisher			Bradford Fisher	
Prayer Intercessor				Joyce Taylor	
		Sunday Servar	nts 9:30		
9:30 Service	August 2	August 9	August 16	August 23	August 30
1st LEM		Kelsey Beck	Susie Marshall	Stacey Beck	
2nd LEM	Susie Marshall	Stacey Beck		Kelsey Beck	Susie Marshall
Lector		Jay Williams	Dawn Wirbel		Leslie Candes
Altar Server	Osni Alexandre	Chelsea Borno	Katy Babcock	Aidan Brandenburg	Katy Babcock
Crucifer					
Torch Bearers					
Ushers/Greeters	Ken Miller, John Puchein	Jay & Patti Williams	Osni, Sophie, Yolwenn Alexandre, Alex Babcock	Chuck & Deborah Grunder	John Puchein
LEV Team		Mike & Bobbie Warren		Mike & Bobbie Warren	
Prayer Intercessor		Susie Marshall	Sharon Puchein		
1					

If you will not be able to serve, please call or email the office . We understand this could change week by week.

Sunday Servants11:00

11:00 Service	August 2	August 9	August 16	August 23	August 30
LEM #1	Vita Mazzaluna	Geraldine Remington	Helen Farnsworth	Roni Pavan	Joe Wolfe
LEM #2	Roni Pavan	Joe Wolfe	Stacey Jamail	Vita Mazzaluna	Geraldine Remington
Lector	Paul Buzzonetti		Paul Buzzonetti		Stacey Jamail
Altar Server	Giada Mazzaluna	Sophie Alexandre	Giada Mazzaluna	Yolwenn Alexandre	Sophie Alexandre
Usher/Greeter	Mary Katulic, Bob Somers	Lisa Borst	Richard & Kelley McRae	Mary Katulic, Bob Somers	Lisa Borst
LEV Team					
Prayer Intercessor					

Sunday Servants 7:00

7:00 Service	August 2	August 9	August 16	August 23	August 30
LEM	Marvin Haugton				
Lector	Kathy Quesenberry	Wendy King	Kathy Quesenbe rr y	Wendy King	Kathy Quesenberry
Altar Server	Kaitlyn O'Brien				
Usher/Greeter	Mary Pounds	Raul Lopez	Mary Pounds	Raul Lopez	Mary Pounds
Prayer Intercessor		Wendy King		Wendy King	

Readings

	August 2	August 9	August 16	August 23	August 30
1st Lesson	Genesis 32:22-31	Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28	Genesis 45:1-15	Exodus 1:8-2:10	Exodus 3:1-15
Psalm	Psalm 17 BCP 600	Psalm 105 1-22 BCP 738	Psalm 133 BCP 787	Psalm 124 BCP 781	Psalm 105 1-6 BCP 738
2nd Lesson	Romans 9:1-5	Romans 10:5-15	Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32	Romans 12:1-8	Romans 12:9-21
Gospel	Matthew 14:13-21	Matthew 14:22-33	Matthew 15:10-28	Matthew 16:13-20	Matthew 16:21-28



donating car seats for the Apopka Pregnancy Center.



Preschoolers taking off into space!

Garine Adams leading the Youth Band Practice!





