

# THE MESSENGER

December 2021

A Publication of the Episcopal Church of the Messiah

Unto Us a Child Is Born



## Jesus' Birthday With Us:

**Thursday, Christmas Eve, EVE, December 23**

**7:00 pm**— *Contemporary Communion with the Worship Band in the Parish Hall*

**Friday, Christmas Eve, December 24**

**5:00 pm** — *Children's Service that is 55 minutes with Carols and Holy Communion, especially for wiggly, excited children and their families in the Parish Hall*

**7:00 pm** — *Rite I Traditional Festival Holy Communion with candles and the choir in church. This service will be livestreamed.*

**8:30 pm French & Creole Service— Rite II**  
*Traditional Festival Holy Communion in the church WITH INCENSE. This service will be livestreamed.*

**10:30 pm** — *Traditional Festival Holy Communion with candles and the choir in the Church WITH INCENSE.*

**Saturday, Christmas Day, December 25**

**11:00 am**— *Simple Service with guitar and carols in the Church.*

## Sunday Services:

Sunday Services:

8:00 am.....Traditional Communion

9:30 am.....Family Communion  
(Livestreamed)

9:30 am.....Sunday School

11:00 am.....Contemporary Communion

4:00 pm.....French Service  
( Livestreamed)

5:00 pm.....Diving Deeper Bible Study  
with Father Tom Rutherford

7:00 pm.....Casual Communion

Wednesday Service:

10:00 am.....Casual Communion

11:00 am..... Bible Study

Head of Church: Jesus Christ

Bishop: The Rt. Rev. Greg Brewer

Rector: The Rev. Tom Rutherford 321-945-3958  
TomRutherford@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com

Associate Priest:

The Rev. Soner Alexandre 407-452-2952

SonerAlexandre@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com

Deacons: The Rev. Julie Altenbach 407-462-8001

JulieAltenbach@ChurchOfTheMessiah

The Rev. Sam Katulic 321-230-4756

DeaconSam@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com

The Rev. Tim Wetherington 407-342-4484

Deacontim@outlook.com

Treasurer: Bob Tate treasurer @ChurchoftheMessiah.com

Staff: Jeremy Adams, Facilities & Assistant Music Minister

Garine Adams, Youth Minister

Julie Altenbach, Office Minister

Jane Cartelli, Finance Minister

Barbara Ellerbe, Preschool Director, 407-654-8415

Linda Ellison, Music Minister

Angela Lopez, Children's Minister

Vita Mazzaluna, Tech Minister

Office Hours: Monday through Friday

9am—5pm



Church of the Messiah  
Website

407-656-3218

241 North Main Street  
Winter Garden, Florida 34787

office@ChurchoftheMessiah.com

*From the  
Rector*



# COVID Rules Relax!

We get to start our new Church Year with fewer restrictions from Bishop Greg Brewer as he is giving rectors more freedom to deal with the pandemic as is most appropriate in their setting.

- ✦ We may pass the plates at the Offering instead of the ushers using the long-handled baskets.
- ✦ We may resume events with food! So Coffee Hours, Sunday Night Suppers, and Men's Suppers are back!
- ✦ Sunday Suppers start November 28 with a Pot-Luck. Bring your Thanksgiving leftovers, and we'll help you get rid of them!
- ✦ Women's Suppers will continue as they are now: Bring Your Own or pay \$15 for a catered meal.
- ✦ Men's Supper will stay the same for one more month: you may Bring-Your-Own or Pay \$15 for Barbecue on December 7. But Wally's Fish Fry will be back on January 4! And after that the guys will take turns providing the supper.
- ✦ We may resume Communion by Intinction (dipping the wafer in the cup of wine instead of drinking from the Common Cup). We'll do that by offering the individual servings of Communion that we've used through the pandemic on one side of the altar rail, and have the wafers and a chalice of wine on the other side for you to take the wafer and dip it in the cup. We'll have Dippers and Sippers! When the Bishop allows us to drink from the Common Cup, we'll return to our pre-pandemic tradition of letting you sip or dip on both sides of the altar rail.

For those who choose to continue to wear masks, avoid physical contact, and/or keep your distance from people, we respect your caution and will interact with you as closely or distantly as you are comfortable.

For those who choose to remain at home, or who miss a Sunday service, we will continue livestreaming our 9:30am and 4pm worship services and posting the 5pm Diving Deeper New Testament course online, and we'll continue offering Mail-Out Communion to our folks at home or who live too far away to be with us in-person.

The pandemic has not yet passed completely... but things are getting better!

Please continue praying for COVID to GO AWAY!

I love you all.

*Tom  
Rutherford*

# Who Ya Gonna Call

LOVING GOD INREACH	LEADER	PHONE	EMAIL
Acolytes	Angela Lopez	321.287.9089	Angelalopez@churchofthemessiah.com
Altar Guild	Karen Stewart Jennifer Roper	407.625.7615 407.760.2393	Kstewart1208@yahoo.com 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	Mary Kay Predmore	352.551-4293	Marykayp413@aol.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
LOVING EACH OTHER	LEADER	PHONE	EMAIL
Bread Brigade	Romeo Mazzaluna	407.335.3762	Romeo.Mazzaluna@gmail.com
Casserole Patrol	Deacon Julie Altenbach	407.462.8001	juliealtenbach@churchofthemessiah.com
Facilities	Jeremy Adams	407.656.3218	JeremyAdams@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com
Coffee Hour	Office Angels	407.656.3218	office@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com
Fun & Fellowship	Wendy King	407.928.8132	wbking@cfl.rr.com
Grief Groups	Jill Brown	407.656.5776	Jlbrown656@embarqmail.com
Kitchen Krewe	Patty Tate	321.331.1435	pattyjotate@yahoo.com
Lay Eucharistic Visitors	Deacon Julie Altenbach	407.462.8001	juliealtenbach@churchofthemessiah.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@churchofthemessiah.com
Nursery/Childcare	Angela Lopez	321.287.9089	Angelalopez@churchofthemessiah.com
Office Angels	Deacon Julie Altenbach	407.462.8001	juliealtenbach@churchofthemessiah.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
Women's Dining Club	Janice Hull	352.217.0967	Jhull1049@gmail.com
Youth	Garine Adams	407.274.8021	youth@churchofthemessiah.com

## 2021 Vestry

**Marci Babione**, *Children & Youth*

Email: mbabione@bk-cpa.net

**Steve Borst**, *Fun & Fellowship*

Email: BorstSF@gmail.com

**Ron Bouton**, *Properties*

Email: eronbo47@gmail.com

**Chris Brown**, *Junior Warden, Properties*

Email: CG\_Brown@Live.com

**Joe Eiden**, *Missions & Evangelism*

Email: eidenj12@gmail.com

**Wendy King**, *Fun & Fellowship*

Email: wbking@cfl.rr.com

**Ron Lancioni**, *Worship*

Email: ronlancioni@yahoo.com

**Brian Seguin**, *Communications & Publicity*

Email: seguinbox@gmail.com

**Doreen Stachowski**, *Missions & Evangelism*

Email: stach45t@aol.com

**Wally Stewart**, *Business and Development*

Email: stewart3rd@aol.com

**Bob Tate**, *Treasurer*

Email: treasurer@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com

**Joyce Taylor**, *Clerk, Pastoral Care*

Email: shadesfan@aol.com

**Sarah Wolfe**, *Pastoral Care*

Email: wolfejns@aol.com

### Staff

**Garine Adams**, *Youth Minister*

Email: youth@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com

**Jeremy Adams**, *Facilities & Assistant Music Minister*

Email: JeremyAdams@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com

**Julie Altenbach**, *Office Minister*

Email: JulieAltenbach@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com

**Jane Cartelli**, *Finance Minister*

Email: JaneCartelli@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com

**Barbara Ellerbe**, *Preschool Director*

Phone: 407-654-8415

**Linda Ellison**, *Music Minister*

Email: lakesongmusic@gmail.com

**Angela Lopez**, *Children's Minister*

Email: AngelaLopez@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com

**Vita Mazzaluna**, *Tech Minister*

Email: VitaMazzaluna@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com

### Vestry Door Duty for December

Opener at 7:30am: Ron Lancioni

Closer after 1:00pm: Chris Brown

Vestry Meeting Host: Chris Brown

### 2021 Financial Report

(as of October 2021)

Operating Income.....\$603,377.00

Operating Expenses.....\$621,417.85

NET.....\$(18,040.85)

ALL Building Fund Income....\$168,496.00

ALL Building Fund Expense...\$173,600.08

NET.....\$(5,104.08)

Rector: The Rev. Tom Rutherford- 321-945-3958

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Associate Priest:

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The Rev. Tim Wetherington 407-342-4484

Deacontim@outlook.com

Treasurer:

Bob Tate

Treasurer @ChurchOfTheMessiah.com

2021 November Vestry Minutes  
Thursday \* November 18, 2021, \* 6 pm

Present: Rector Tom Rutherford, Senior Warden & Clerk Joyce Taylor, Junior Warden Chris Brown, Marci Babione, Steve Borst, Ron Bouton, Joe Eiden, Wendy King, Ron Lancioni, Brian Seguin, Doreen Stachowski, Wally Stewart, and Sarah Wolfe; Treasurer Bob Tate and Deacon Tim Wetherington.

Absent: None

I. **FORMATION**: Ron Lancioni lead Compline. Based on Psalm 136:1-3: "Give thanks to the LORD!" Tom Rutherford invited us to share what we are thanking God for in our life and in our Church right now.

II. **INFORMATION**:

A. **Vestry Ministry Team Reports:**

1. **Outreach Team**: Doreen Stachowski reports:

- a) Our team has been busy with all of the preparations for Thanksgiving gift baskets, Foster Friends of Central Florida Christmas gifts, and the Edgewood Children's Ranch Christmas pizza party. We have been blessed to have a great group that serve God through this ministry.
- b) Several parishioners signed up for our Team in The Messiah's Way.
- c) Our next meeting is in early February, 2022 to plan our budget to assist the ministries we want to serve in the new year.

2. **Ladies' Night Out**: Wendy King reports,

- a) We had 19 vendors this year, including one that drove 560 miles to attend.
- b) 10 of our vendors were parishioners.
- c) Of the 57 items donated this year for our online auction, 10 items did not sell.
- d) 14 items came from our rummage sale.
- e) Six of the rummage sale items sold for a total of \$81.
- f) Last year we had 16 vendors and 33 items on our online auction, with only one item not sold.
- g) Our auction sales netted \$1,578.42 after expenses.
- h) Thank you to all of our volunteers and vendors who donated their time, talents, and gifts. We couldn't have pulled off this event without you.
- i) Thank you to the following companies who sponsored our event – Babione, Kuehler, and Company; Signco, Architectural Signage Corp; Mike the Mechanic; Kelly's Foods; Celestial Center Massage; and Creative Concrete of Central, FL.
- j) And thank you to the following companies who gave large gifts toward our online auction: Plantation Jewelers; Palm Casual; Lake Meadow Naturals; West Orange Country Club; The Local Butcher; Driftwood Market; Writer's Block Bookstore; Polka Dotz Jewelry & Gifts; Trades of Hope.
- k) Our total earnings were **\$6,495.42**. Last year's total was \$5,745.86

3. **No others received.**

B. **Staff Reports:**

1. **Children of the Messiah Preschool**: The Financial Report was emailed separately.

## **2. Children's Minister Angela Lopez reports:**

- a) Children's Church: We are continuing with the "Jesus in Jeans" curriculum and have been learning that Jesus felt the same things we feel. He experienced fear, "bullying" and feeling alone, so he understands when we feel those things. We have talked a lot about the Holy Spirit living in us and being with us always and how that is a wonderful gift from God. We have welcomed a couple of new friends at the 9:30 service. They have been a wonderful addition! The children are showing a lot of enthusiasm for memorizing their focus facts and focus verses. 11 o'clock service has a group of regulars who love to ask deep questions. We sometimes take a detour from the lesson for the day, but that is fine by me! I have kids from both services and some who only attend SHINE in the cast for the Christmas pageant. We have been practicing every Sunday and it is going together nicely.
- b) SHINE: The bulk of our time has been spent preparing for Christmas, learning lines, positions, songs, and hand motions. I shopped Goodwill and found some really cool items to use as costumes and I will be letting one of our artists help with the scene setters. Trunk or Treat went really well. Many of our families and families from the preschool came out. We had loads of visitors who were thrilled with the availability of dinner for the kids so they were not eating only candy all evening long. We gave out 120 hotdogs, 100 bags of chips, 140 juice boxes, and many totes full of candy. Many of the participants are planning their themes for next year. HUGE high fives and many thanks to all of the participants and donors this year!
- c) Nursery: Our usual caregiver has requested a 3-week break as she is trying out a new, higher-paying job. In her absence, I have recruited Miss Kaila who works in the preschool. She is fabulous with kids and is super loving. In the event that Bailey does not choose to return, Kaila would like to stay on. I am praying for her mother and grandmother to attend our church as well. They visited at 11 o'clock one Sunday and really enjoyed it. We are lacking in high school-college age girls to sub in the nursery and babysit for our church members, if you would like to offer your services, please reach out to me via text or email.
- d) Outreach: Thanksgiving baskets will be packed and passed out this week. I will be visiting Dillard Street Elementary this week to drop off some baskets and will collect the names of children in need of Christmas gifts so I can set up the angel tree. I was contacted by a parishioner whose employer is looking to sponsor a family for Christmas. They asked if I knew of anyone. I was able to find a family of four children as well as a mother and grandparents who could use a blessing. Dillard Street has asked if we could sponsor one of their 12 days of Christmas for the teachers by donating a meal or treats. I will connect with Deacon Julie as we usually partner up for these activities.
- e) Upcoming events: Acolyte pizza party, Friendsgiving at SHINE, My heart grew three sizes Christmas party and The Christmas Eve pageant.

## **3. Facilities Minister Jeremy Adams reports:**

- a) Maintenance Minister Kara Altenbach "retired," and Matthew Barrett, son of parishioners Bill & Kathy Barrett (who made all the banners in the church), started this month in Kara's place. He's enthusiastic about helping the church by serving in this role.
- b) This month starts a busy season for our facilities that will continue into 2022. We hosted a Broadway revue called "All Together Now" presented by the Horizon West Theater Company on November 12th. The Horizon West Theater Company youth theater program is presenting "Once Upon a Mattress" on December 3rd and 4th with rehearsals on the evenings of November 29th - December 2nd. The Messiah School for the Arts winter concert is on the evening of December 10th.
- c) In addition to the many church events during the Advent and Christmas seasons, we have some private rentals on the horizon including an event on New Year's Eve, another theater rental in January, and three weddings in the first quarter of 2022.
- d) Thank you to everyone who has congratulated Garine and me in the past few weeks concerning our pregnancy announcement, and also another deep, heartfelt thanks to everyone that has come to talk to me about my call to the diaconate. I'm constantly humbled by the love and support that you all provide here at the Church of the Messiah.

**4. Media Minister** Vita Mazzaluna has requested a change in job title to **Tech Minister**. Tom Rutherford approved. She reports, things are certainly picking up! With more events and activities happening, some of the areas I've been working on have grown.

- a) Office Minister Julie Altenbach and I have set up an advertising planning board in her office to track everything we will publicize. We call it the "Wall of Wow!" Please come check it out!
- b) December 8th, Julie is going to assist me with presenting an Internet and Tech safety class for parishioners. With the holidays coming, we want to make sure our Messiah Family are not misled by phishing texts or emails that could certainly put a damper on the joy of the season. Regina Sequin knew of a fantastic resource for us so we will be using that and adding any "tidbits" that might be specific to our population.
- c) I have spent a fair amount of time this month troubleshooting some livestream video quality issues. My husband Romeo, who is wise with computers, assisted by optimizing some router settings and lending us a switch so that the computer and camera are able to speak to one another more directly. I also installed some firmware upgrades. I did not realize we wouldn't receive notifications about those, so I have now added firmware update checks to my regular checklist.
- d) We've had some mysterious glitches with our Sunday livestreams, but the livestream on November 14 was TOTALLY glitch free! Thank you, Romeo, PTZOptics support, and God (for answering MANY prayers!).
- e) I helped Children's Minister Angela Lopez get her laptop able to print to the small printer she has in her office.
- f) I have been gradually chipping away at creating "How-to" documentation for various aspects of our online services and will continue to work on that. The Livestream "How-to" has been updated, and I created a "How-to" for ensuring the correct profile is loaded in the Sanctuary for the sound board.
- g) Romeo also installed some additional memory in the new computer and worked on a few other items for me.
- h) Romeo and I conceptualized, and our son Donny designed and 3D printed a temporary mount for the USB camera from the Church to be installed in the Parish Hall. It's not the ideal height, but it will allow us to use the camera now while we search for a better option.
- i) That camera is now mounted and installed! I will make all the tweaks this week, so we can go live from the Parish Hall.
- j) With the USB camera installed, we will now have a better livestream for the Messiah School for the Arts Concert on December 10.
- k) I have been trying (and failing) to stay close to 10 hours/week. Since the beginning of September, I have only been at 10-11 hours three times. All other weeks I have been at 12-15+. The reason I am "failing" is that I keep having to push "to-do" list items to subsequent weeks and I was feeling behind, so I decided to just get the stuff done, even if that meant going over. I keep thinking that once I get "this next thing done" that I will be able to have a slow week, but it doesn't work out that way. I absolutely love what I do so this report is only that, to keep the Vestry apprised of the time being spent.

**5. Messiah School for the Arts** Co-Director Garine Adams reports:

- a) Our next recital is December 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm. It will be livestreamed as well as open for the public. We are continuing to fill up our lesson schedules, so thank you all for the prayers!
- b) Drama club for middle/high school students meets weekly on Thursdays from 3-5 pm in the Parish Hall. Their first production will be sometime in May 2022. They've picked the director and are on their way to putting on a great show!
- c) The Friday morning Mommy and Me style class with Becky Sego is from 10-11 am on Friday mornings and is going great! Lots of laughter and smiles.
- d) Messiah Youth Band is playing music for our children's Christmas Eve service this year. We are very excited about leading the children in song.

**6. Office Minister** Julie Altenbach reports:

Julie Altenbach reports she and the Office Angels:

- a) Hosted a thank you and orientation luncheon for Office Angels that served last year and the new Angels that will serve this year.
- b) Created a new schedule so the office is covered every day with everyone who signed up through Messiah's Way to serve as an Office Angel, and utilized the members who volunteered to be substitutes.
- c) Planned and ordered the Men's Supper from Ellie Lou's BBQ
- d) Our youngest Office Angel prepared the bags for Ms. Angela's Trunk or Treat. She is 13 and will be working on special projects.
- e) Worked with Messiah Librarian Regina Seguin to order furniture and supplies for the library.
- f) Worked with Tech Minister Vita Mazzaluna on an organizational system to keep track of all the ways we advertise and communicate events at COTM.

**7. Volunteer Youth Minister** Garine Adams reports:

- a) The youth group is starting to grow! Our average attendance is 14 on Sundays. It's been really fun getting to know everyone, playing games, and learning about God's Word. We have been diving into the Identity and how to choose the right path over the past few weeks.
- b) Alive Ministries High School Boy's retreat is November 19-21<sup>st</sup> at North Florida Christian Service Camp in Keystone Heights, FL. The cost is \$75, and there are some scholarships available. We still have room for one more boy if you know of any high school aged guy that would like to make some new friends and have a great weekend with the guys. Please contact Garine Adams with any questions. I'll be heading out with the church van Friday night and return Sunday afternoon. Sign up at [NFCSC.org](http://NFCSC.org) as soon as you can. Spots tend to fill up quickly for these awesome weekends.
- c) The Girl's Retreat this past weekend went wonderfully, and the girls had a lovely time worshipping and growing in their faith. Each attendee came back wanting to share what they learned about their worth in God's eyes.
- d) We've begun planning our Summer 2022 Mission Week. Please check in with Garine Adams if you'd like to be a part or help with the funding. Did you know that more than half of our youth group speaks Haitian Creole? We are planning to stay in Florida and are looking to work with the people in the Pine Hills area as well as other places that are primarily Haitian Creole speaking areas of Central Florida so we can use our strengths and resources well. Father Soner and I are planning to start contacting the businesses in those areas as well as partnering with some outreach programs already in place.



**C. Apprentice Rector:** There is nothing new to report and probably won't be until next spring, when seminarians are in their last semester.

**D. Vestry Nominations:** Tom Rutherford gave the list of the 16 possible nominees to the retiring vestry members (Ron Bouton, Wendy King, Brian Seguin, and Joyce Taylor) to contact in early December to see if they're willing to stand for election.

**E. Diocesan Convention** is Friday evening and Saturday January 28-29, 2022, in Daytona Beach. All our Clergy are delegates. We get three Lay Delegates and up to three Alternate Lay Delegates. One Lay Delegate needs to be a Vestry Member. Marci Babione, Chris Brown, and Wendy King volunteered, and Tom Rutherford recruited Jeremy Adams, Angela Lopez, and Mary Kay Predmore. Next month we'll choose which are Delegates and which are Alternates.

**F. Tim Wetherington** reported to us about our investments of the gift from the Britt Trust. They have earned about \$100,000 since the gift was given!

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

**A. West Tree Service** gave us a bid of \$5,800 to trim our oak and cypress trees and remove the Spanish Moss. Since West Tree is 6-7 weeks out on their jobs, Sarah Wolfe suggests we add this to 2022's budget now, and it may be January before they can get to us. Wally will check into the feasibility of doing this ourselves and get back to us next month with a report.

### **IV. DECISIONS (usually based on the Discussion last month):**

**A. Endorsing Laura Cook for Ordination to the Transitional Diaconate:** This is the last step before her ordination! Vestry unanimously endorsed her.

**B. 2022 First Draft Budget** was emailed to you last month, and we discussed it last month. The Finance Committee looked over it last night and recommends adopting it as presented. The vestry had several questions. Treasurer Bob will chase down those answers, and we'll reconsider this next month.

**C. \$50,000 gift:** We received a gift of \$50,000 in memory of Lynne Passilla. Her husband Jim doesn't have anywhere he requests it go, so Vestry decides. The vestry decided to put the money into the operating account to decrease our deficit.

### **V. MEETING MINUTES & FINANCIAL REPORT:**

**A. Minutes from the last month's meeting:** APPROVED.

**B. Last month's Financial Report from Treasurer Bob Tate:** APPROVED.

1. Operating Income last month was \$25,793.69 MORE than Expenses, DECREASING our year-to-date DEFICIT to \$18,040.85.
2. Building Fund net income last month was \$926.59 MORE than our \$11,996.01 monthly mortgage and other expenses, DECREASING our year-to-date DEFICIT to \$5,104.08.

The meeting closed with prayer and adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Taylor, Vestry Clerk



**Changing the world for Jesus:  
one child, one person, one family, one community at a time.**

If you visit another church, please put the bulletin, or information in Deacon Julie's mailbox. If you can, please send pictures to:  
[Office@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com](mailto:Office@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com)



**Father Tom prayed for Andrew Brandenburg before he went with his college group to Miami on November 5th. While in Miami, they shared the Gospel with 584 people, helped 42 people get connected to a church and led seven people to pray to say YES to Jesus!**





# PRESCHOOL NEWS

The preschool ended the month of November with our Thanksgiving Feasts. The children dressed as Pilgrims and Native Americans to have a special Thanksgiving Feast with their classmates. The food was lovingly prepared by classroom parents. We appreciate their help more than we can say.

The preschool is collecting gently used toys, books and clothing for the Mustard Seed Charities. We will begin collecting items November 29th through December 3rd. For the past several years we have collected a truck-load of items. We are very happy to share our Christmas with those in need.

In December, with the help of Garine Adams, the children are going to make a special video for their families in place of a Christmas Pageant. We hope that next year we will be back to a big pageant and birthday party for Jesus. The staff and School Advisory Council agreed this would be unwise due to vaccines not being available for our young students.

The teachers are volunteering for our annual Christmas Shopping Day on Saturday, December 11th. Parents will be able to enjoy a day shopping or just relaxing while the teachers make Christmas crafts with the children. This year we are limiting the enrollment to currently enrolled students and siblings to reduce possible exposures.

The preschool teachers and I wish everyone a safe and blessed holiday.

Director Barbara Ellerbe



December 11– Shopping Day from 9 am to 2 pm

December 20th– January 3rd– Preschool Closed for Christmas

January 3rd– Preschool Staff Meeting



Give Thanks to the Lord, for He is good... We were able to bless 22 families this Thanksgiving through our outreach baskets. Thank you to everyone who donated canned goods and baskets!



SHINE Friends “gobble till we wobble” on friendship stew. This year we had popcorn, marshmallows, M&M’s, frosted animal cookies, gold fish and peanut butter filled pretzels. We are thankful for the fun we have together.







Our Acolytes celebrated the end of their year of service with a pizza party and a refresher course in torch bearing, gate closing, flag and cross carrying and setting the table. They found the correct robe size and even learned to strike a match.

Yolwenn, Francesco, Annalisa and Katie Joy did an excellent job on Sunday morning. Not only did they look great but they are a very important part of our morning worship!

We love you Acolytes!



Please join us on Dec 24th for the Children's Service. We will present "The Jazzy Shepherd" a light hearted retelling of the Christmas story.



Parents Night Out Children's Christmas Party!!  
Elementary age children come join the whobalation on Dec  
17th from 5:30- 8:30 pm  
We will eat, play games and make crafts!

RSVP to Ms. Angela

[angelalopez@churchofthemessiah.com](mailto:angelalopez@churchofthemessiah.com)





The youth group is starting to grow! Wow! Our average attendance is 14 on Sundays. It's been really fun getting to know everyone, playing games, and learning about God's Word. We have been diving into the Nicene Creed over the past few weeks, and there has been some great discussions about faith.

Alive Ministries High School Girls' and Boys' retreats were held at North Florida Christian Service Camp in Keystone Heights, FL. Girls' Retreat was the weekend of November 12-14<sup>th</sup>, and Boys' Retreat was November 19-21<sup>st</sup>. The girls and guys and I headed out with the church van on Friday night and returned Sunday afternoon for both weekends. The vans were full with kids. (Hopefully we will have to rent a bigger van if more people sign up than last year).

We've begun planning our Summer 2022 Mission Week. Please check in with Garine Adams if you'd like to be a part or help with the funding. Did you know that more than half of our youth group speaks Haitian Creole? We are planning to stay in Florida and are looking to work with the people in the Pine Hills area as well as other places that are primarily Haitian Creole speaking areas of Central Florida so we can use our strengths and resources well. Father Soner and I are planning to start contacting the businesses in those areas as well as partnering with some outreach programs already in place. Please tell us if you have any contacts in the Haitian community that can help us plan an amazing week of service.

Peace,  
Garine Adams





Thank you to everyone\*  
who helped make the 15th  
Annual Ladies' Night Out  
a success!

**Matt, Jerry and  
Mimi Popsil**



**Regina  
Knappman  
representing  
Polka Dotz**



**Sandra Lopez and her handmade  
bead bracelets.**











## **The Chronicles of Seminarian Laura Cook**

**Laura Cook  
5 Hoskin Ave  
Toronto, ON CA M5S 1H7**

Greetings from the Finally Cold but not yet White North!

Hi Messiah Family! Well it finally got cold here, a nice comforting 28 degrees as I write this, but no snow yet which this Floridian is really more bummed about than she probably should be.

I am in shock that I am entering finals season already and finals in my third year at that! School has been busy. I'm working as a Children's Minister, doing a Hospital Chaplaincy placement once a week and working as Senior Student at Wycliffe. Restrictions here have only continued to improve, a feat that this time last year I would not have thought possible and for that I am extremely grateful.

I've had the opportunity to get out of the city a little bit more this semester, which has been fun! Seeing the leaves change, and a day trip to Niagara Falls has been beautiful and a fun way to enjoy my last year.

A HUGE thank you to all for signing, supporting and loving me through this process towards Ordination to the Transitional Diaconate in January— thank you so much for loving, praying, and supporting me!!

P.S.— I'll see you at Christmas! Wahoooo!

Love and miss you all!

Laura



**COTM ONLINE**  
**LIBRARY**  
**CATALOG**

Church of the Messiah Library  
Librarian: Regina Seguin  
library@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com



**EMAIL REGINA**

**Library@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com**

Dear Messiah Family,

Can it be December already?! The past 2 1/2 months have flown by and I've finished (Or nearly finished) labeling and organizing all the library books. Just browsing? Here's how you will find books and media organized, beginning from your left as you enter and going clockwise. All the new labels have a simple call number and a color dot.

- **Fiction (FIC) = Red**
- **Children (J) - Neon Green**
- **The Episcopal Church (TEC) = Blue**
- **Bibles (BIBLE) = Grey**
- **Teen (Y) = Neon Orange**
- **Devotions, Meditations & Poetry (DEV) = Brown**
- **Holiday (HOL) = Olive**
- **Biography (B) = Neon Red**
- **DVD (DVD) = Neon Yellow**
- **Audiobook (AUD) = White**
- **Small Group Resources (SMG) = Pink (located in the cabinet beneath the DVDs)**
- **Reference (REF) = Magenta**
- **Addiction & Recovery (ADD) = Neon Pink**
- **Grief (G) = Black**
- **Theology & Doctrine (THE) = Yellow**
- **Church History, Ministry & Society (SOC) = Orange**
- **Bible Study (STU) = Light Blue**
- **Christian Living & Spirituality (LIV) = Green**

Also, check out our new web page! Big thanks to Vita Mazzaula for putting this together:

<https://churchofthemessiah.com/ministries/media-ministries/library/>

What's next? Please continue to contact me with your suggestions and questions. Let me know what you'd like to read! I will add a suggestion box in the library and continue to drop in regularly.

I hope everyone enjoys a happy, healthy and holy Advent season!

Blessings,

Librarian Regina Seguin



This month I finished one book—*God's Gift of Christmas* by John MacArthur—and a DVD I found in the library—*Christmas With a Capital "C."*

The book had no really new information in it. It was very basic. But Dr. MacArthur put the cookies on the lower shelf so the children could reach them. And the points he makes after going through all the characters involved are still excellent points, the chief goal of which is to keep the reader from missing Christmas. It would be especially good for a child, to make it clear to him or her what Christmas is really about. (Of course, it never hurts for adults to review the basics, either.)

Pretty much the same can be said about the movie, *Christmas With a Capital "C."*

The story is along the lines of *The Grinch That Stole Christmas*. A man comes to a small Alaskan town where his former high school classmate is now mayor. Having a grudge against the mayor (and against Christians in general and God in particular) he goes to court to stop the town from displaying the Nativity scene on public property. At first, panic sets in, until the mayor's wife convinces the mayor that Christmas doesn't really need these trappings, and that his classmate is right to expect Christians to behave differently. I personally enjoyed watching it.



## SUPPER & SHARING AND MESSIAH BOOK CLUB



**INVITE YOU FOR A SPECIAL EVENING ON  
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15TH AT 5:15 PM IN  
THE PARISH HALL TO WATCH AND DISCUSS  
A CHRISTMAS VIDEO BASED ON  
LUKE'S GOSPEL, CHAPTER 2  
FROM THE GROUP THAT PRODUCES THE  
CHOSEN SERIES**





# December



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>Alcoholics Anonymous meets every evening</b> <b>For more information visit:</b> <a href="https://cflintergroup.org/meetings/three-legacies-group-8/">https://cflintergroup.org/meetings/three-legacies-group-8/</a>			1 10am Holy Communion 11am Bible Study ( library) 6– Choir Practice 7:15– Praise Band	2	3  Light Up Winter Garden 6 pm in front of City Hall	4 Outreach & Activate to :  <b>Edgewood</b> Children's Ranch.
5 8am Rite 1 <b>BAG SUNDAY</b> *9:30 Rite 2 *11:00 Rite 3 11:00 TVSD Grief Group 4pm French Service 4:30 Shine 5:00 Diving Deeper 5:00 Activate 6:00 Dinner– Simple Supper 7:00 pm Rite 3	6  Planning & Gathering in Parish Hall 5:00 pm	7 Fr. Tom's Day Off Women's Dinner in Parish Hall Men's Supper in Youth Hall 6:30 pm	8 10am Holy Communion 11am Bible Study ( library) Parish Hall 3– Internet Safety in Library 6– Choir Practice 7:15– Praise Band	9	10  MSftA Winter Concert @ 6:30 pm in the Parish Hall	11
12 8am Rite 1 *9:30 Rite 2 *11:00 Rite 3 11:00 TVSD Grief Group 4pm French Service 4:30 Shine 5:00 Diving Deeper 5:00 Activate 6:00 Dinner– Simple Supper 7:00 pm Rite 3	13	14	15 10am Holy Communion 11am Bible Study ( library) <b>5:15 Supper &amp; Sharing in Parish Hall</b> 6– Choir Practice 7:15– Praise Band	16  <b>VESTRY Meeting at 6 pm</b>	17	18
19 8am Rite 1 *9:30 Rite 2 *11:00 Rite 3 11:00 TVSD Grief Group 4pm French Service 4:30 Shine 5:00 Diving Deeper 5:00 Activate 6:00 Dinner– Simple Supper 7:00 pm Rite 3	20	21	22 10am Holy Communion 11am Bible Study ( library) 6– Choir Practice 7:15– Praise Band	23  <b>Christmas Eve EVE</b> 7 pm in the Parish Hall	24  <b>Christmas Eve</b> 5:00 pm Children's Service Parish Hall 7:00 pm Rite I 8:30 French & Creole 10:30 Rite II	25  <b>Christmas 11:00 am Simple Service</b>
26 8am Rite 1 *9:30 Rite 2 *11:00 Rite 3 4pm French Service 4:30 Shine 5:00 Diving Deeper 5:00 Activate 6:00 Dinner– Simple Supper 7:00 pm Rite 3	27  <b>The Church Office will be closed December 27th and December 28th</b>	28	29	30	31	<div>           * Nursery and Children's Church is offered at these services.         </div>

# Happy Birthday

2– Ken Carr  
Mary Katulic

3– Derek Faughnan  
Ina Haughton

5– Barbara Knappman  
Bill Kribs

7– Yester Adamas

8– Keline Julien

9– Garine Adams  
Nancy Laracuenta  
Kirk Smith

10– Tom Lyons

11– Ella Duppenenthaler

12– Brandon Imes  
Katherine Neill

15– Robert Gilbert

16– Marc Imes

17– Joe Wolfe

18– Marilyn Kelyman  
Gloria Richards

19– Ryan Jamail

22– Mike King  
Darlene Powers  
Walter Seguin

25– Sue Riley

27– David Peterson  
Bailey Wise

28– Ray Nathurst

30– Casey Cook

31– Barbara Peterson  
Ginger Sirola

# Happy Anniversary

5– George & Anida Daniel

19– Leo & Nadia Henry

19– Mike & Anndrea Strickland

20– Craig & Jill Brown

22– Dennis & Pattie Range  
Bob & Lynn Somers

23– Hector & Stacy Figueroa

31– Penn & Geraldine Remington

*Please pray for our expectant moms:*



*Garine Adams,  
Tanya McDonald,  
Anna Puterbaugh and  
Cortney Rollo*

**For questions or to volunteer to serve, please contact Mary Kay Predmore at [marykayp413@aol.com](mailto:marykayp413@aol.com).**

**If you see an opening that you can fill, please email Mary Kay or call the office at 407-656-3218.**

### Sunday Servants 8:00 AM

8:00 Service	December 5	December 12	December 19	December 26
Lector	Gretchen Tope	Alex Hujak	Joyce Taylor	Aliena Gaye
1st LEM	Mary Kay Predmore	Gretchen Tope	Deborah Townsend	Joyce Taylor
2nd LEM	Don Greer	Aliena Gaye	Linda Bouton	Ron Bouton
Altar Server	Aiden Morrison	Mary Kay Predmore	Aiden Morrison	Mary Kay Predmore
Ushers/ Greeters	Jay Predmore Ron Bouton	Marsha Dymond Jay Predmore	Joyce Taylor Bill Crawford	Bill Crawford Jay Predmore
Prayer Intercessor	Joyce Taylor	Joyce Taylor	Gretchen Tope	Gretchen Tope

### Sunday Servants 9:30

9:30 Service	December 5	December 12	December 19	December 26
Lector	Vincent Truglia	Beth Ann Carr	Jay Williams	Ralph Groves
1st LEM	Chris Brown	Mary Lynn Levine	Tom Buckner	Roger Watson
2nd LEM	Stacey Beck	Roger Watson	Chris Brown	Susan Kiehm
Altar Server	Katie Joy Brady	Melanie Field	Francesco Fulvi	Yolwenn Alexandre
Crucifer	Annalisa Puchein	Kellin Moseley	Katie Joy Brady	Francesco Fulvi
Ushers/ Greeters	Alex Babcock Ken Miller	Beth Ann Carr John Puchein	Jay & Patti Williams	Chuck & Deborah Grunder
Prayer Intercessor	Wally Stewart	Jennifer Roper	Elise Bradford	Wally Stewart
Worship Tech	Alexis Whitted	Sam Lynn	Wilna Brown	Laura Buckner



December 3	December 10	December 17	December 24	December 31
Anna Clare W.	Tina Sydnor	Pat Crawford	Romeo M.	Anna Clare W.

### Sunday Servants 11:00

11:00 Service	December 5	December 12	December 19	December 26
<b>Lector</b>	Paul Buzzonetti	Vita Mazzaluna	Paul Buzzonetti	Osni Alexandre
<b>1st LEM</b>	Vita Mazzaluna	Elizabeth Kolb-Jackson	Helen Farnsworth	Vita Mazzaluna
<b>Altar Server</b>	Lily Groendaal	Giada Mazzaluna	Jackson Groendaal	Giada Mazzaluna
<b>Usher/Greeter</b>	Richard, Kelley & Logan McRae	Mary Katulic	Richard, Kelley & Logan McRae	Mary Katulic
<b>Worship Tech</b>	Donato Mazzaluna	Donato Mazzaluna	Donato Mazzaluna	Donato Mazzaluna

### Sunday Servants 7:00

7:00 Service	December 5	December 12	December 19	December 26
<b>Lector</b>	Wendy King	Craig Brown	Nancy Gordon	Craig Brown
<b>LEM</b>	Wendy King	Susie Marshall	Angela Lopez	Wendy King
<b>Usher/Greeter</b>	Raul Lopez	Bob Greene	Raul Lopez	Bob Greene
<b>Prayer Intercessor</b>	Susie Marshall	Jill Brown	Wendy King	Jill Brown
<b>Worship Tech</b>	Jill Brown	David Peterson	Cherie Greene	David Peterson

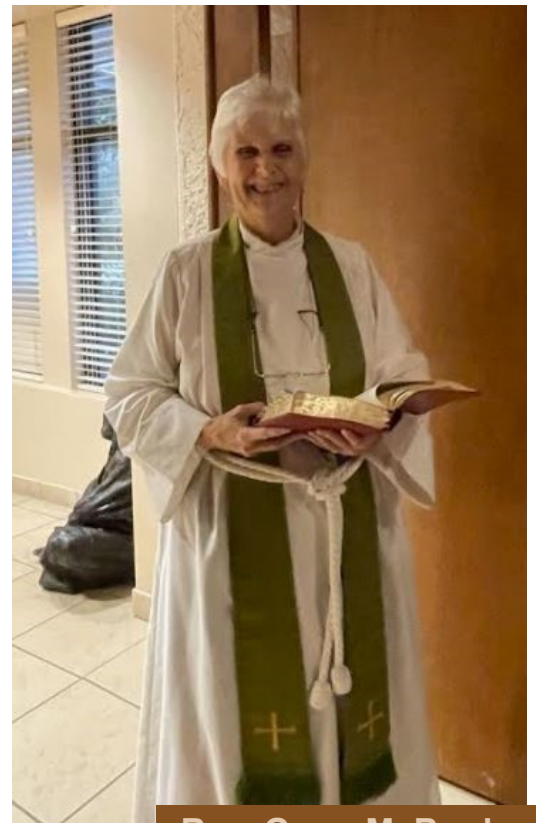
### Readings

	December 5	December 12	December 19	Christmas Services	December 26
<b>1st Lesson</b>	Malachi 3:1-4	Zephaniah 3:14-20	Micah 5:2-5a	Isaiah 9:2-7	Isaiah 61:10-62:3
<b>Psalm</b>	Canticle 16 BCP 92	Canticle 9 BCP 86	Canticle 15 BCP 91	Psalm 96 BCP 725	Psalm 147 BCP 804
<b>2nd Lesson</b>	Philippians 1:3-11	Philippians 4:4-7	Hebrews 10:5-10	Titus 2:11-14	Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7
<b>Gospel</b>	Luke 3:1-6	Luke 3:7-18	Luke 1:39-55	Luke 2:1-20	John 1:1-18





**Birthday  
Blessings!**



**Rev. Greer McBryde  
Celebrant at 8:00 am**



**Sophie Alexandre  
Piano Solo at  
Offertory**



**Yolween  
Alexandre**





COTM Book Club



Julie &  
Patricia Smith



Ken & Trudie Carr



Welcome Home  
Deacon Tim