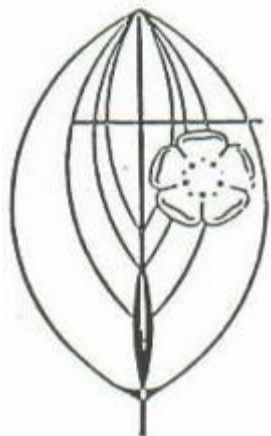


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NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS OF THE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE MESSIAH

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# *Messiah Messenger*

407 Nassau Street at Cedar Lane

Email: [lcmaprinceton@gmail.com](mailto:lcmaprinceton@gmail.com)

[www.princetonlutheranchurch.org](http://www.princetonlutheranchurch.org)

[www.facebook.com/MessiahChurchPrinceton](https://www.facebook.com/MessiahChurchPrinceton)

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## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

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### Interesting Times

THE REV. DR.  
MARTIN K. ERHARDT  
PASTOR

THE REV. DR.  
JOHN MARK GOERSS  
PASTOR EMERITUS

JANICE HOFREITER  
ORGANIST AND  
CHOIR DIRECTOR

ALLY PEXA  
OFFICE ASSISTANT

"May you live in interesting times." While this may not be, as is often claimed, an ancient Chinese curse dressed up to sound like a blessing, seeing the news over the past few months may have convinced you that times can quickly become considerably more interesting than we'd like them.

Living in a fallen world as a congregation of Jesus' disciples has always been interesting but never easy. The world's problems are more than we can manage. We want to help, but are quickly overwhelmed by the magnitude and number of the problems, and discouraged by the persistence of sin in the human race – not least our own sin. It's natural, in response, to become resigned or cynical, to throw in the towel and stop trying, and to think of life in the world as an exercise in futility.

But that's not what God calls us to. God hasn't given up on us or on his world. He loves us, has redeemed us, and has sent us into his world with a gospel that dispels despair and complacency and sows hope, compassion, and reconciliation. That doesn't mean our job is easy. But it is well worth doing, even in the most interesting times.

It can be difficult, as we observe the interestingness around us and wonder if Creation was such a good idea, to know what to do for the best. Should we speak up or do something else? When and how? What should we say? To whom?

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*continued on the next page*

*The symbol in the upper left corner expresses by means of candle and messianic rose the worship of the Messiah and the Truth of Christ. The cross signifies His central deed and the five crosses in the rose the sacred wounds.*

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK (CONTINUED)

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These are a few of the questions we'll address in Messiah's new Adult Forum series, beginning June 30: *A Time to Keep Silence, and a Time to Speak* (Ecclesiastes. 3:7b). We won't debate public policy proposals or decry the state of the world. We *will* learn more about when to speak and when not to, and how to speak the truth in love. God has blessed his church with a diversity of gifts. We don't all need to do everything, and each of us can do something. The Adult Forum meets online at 4:30pm on Tuesdays (except July 14). If you'd like to join us, send me a note at [lcmaprinceton@gmail.com](mailto:lcmaprinceton@gmail.com) and I'll send you information about how to participate.

In these interesting times, we can rest assured not only that God has not abandoned us, but that he remains with us, cares for us, and has given us important work to do.

Trusting in God's care and happy to be your pastor and fellow disciple even in these interesting times,  
Pastor Erhardt



Visit our website to listen to audio recordings of Sunday Sermons.  
<http://new.princetonlutheranchurch.org/worship/service-and-sermon-audios/>

## CHURCH CALENDAR

### UPCOMING EVENTS

***Tuesday, July 7, 4:30 pm***  
*Adult Forum*



***Thursday, July 9, 7:30 pm***  
*Community Book Group*



***Monday, July 13, 4:30 pm***  
*Adult Forum*



***Tuesday, July 21, 4:30 pm***  
*Adult Forum*



***Thursday, July 23, 7 pm***  
*Executive Board*



***Saturday, July 25, 9 am***  
*Men's Forum*



***Tuesday, July 28, 4:30 pm***  
*Adult Forum*



***Tuesday, August 4, 4:30 pm***  
*Adult Forum*



***Thursday, August 6, 7:30 pm***  
*Community Book Group*



***Tuesday, August 11, 4:30 pm***  
*Adult Forum*



***Tuesday, August 18, 4:30 pm***  
*Adult Forum*



***Tuesday, August 25, 4:30 pm***  
*Adult Forum*



***Saturday, August 29, 9 am***  
*Men's Forum*



### COMMUNITY BOOK GROUP

#### July 9:

*The Christians as the Romans Saw Them*, by Robert Louis Wilken

#### August 6:

*Heart of Darkness*, by Joseph Conrad

Discussions begin at **7:30pm** online.

Please obtain and read the book before each discussion, and come with your thoughts and questions. All are welcome, but space is limited, so if you'd like to participate email [LCMprinceton@gmail.com](mailto:LCMprinceton@gmail.com) or call 609.924.3642 to reserve your place.

### ADULT FORUM

*A Time to Keep Silence, A Time to Speak*

Meets online at 4:30 pm every Tuesday (and on July 13, but not July 14). To participate, email Pastor Erhardt at [lcmprinceton@gmail.com](mailto:lcmprinceton@gmail.com) for details.



**QUARANTINE HAIR**



**Before**

**After**



**Before**



**After**

## MESSIAH'S LOCKDOWN LYRICS

### HAIKU BY DEBBIE ZAK

#### Social Distancing

Physically distant  
Socially closer online  
Joined separation

#### No Matter Where\*

Sing a joyful noise  
Hear and pray with distant friends  
His word, hearts renew!

#### Online church

Distant, yet right here.  
Sometimes buffering, always  
proclaiming His love!

### POETRY BY ROGER TABRIS

#### Haiku:

God is the greatest  
He is the best, the strongest  
He is the great Lord

#### Limerick:

My son is blind as a bat  
He can see dust on a hat  
He finds tracks in woods  
Or casts off of hoods

### POETRY BY BEATRICE TABRIS

There was a polar bear  
Whose heir had orange hair  
Orange hair? he thought  
Hair dye he bought  
His son now has green hair



### CORONA HAIKU & LIMERICK BY JOHN BLEIMAIER

The breath of spring  
Masked by executive order  
*à votre santé*

#### **Nudas Veritas Limericus**

There is a Texan scholar named Rex.  
The lock-down did him sorely vex.  
He shunned masks with composure.  
When convicted of COVID exposure,

### LIMERICKS BY MIRANDA HEMPEL

There now is a nasty new virus  
Which sickens and tries to expire us  
But we don't despair  
We have faith in God's care  
And his presence will cheer and inspire us.

There once was a Lutheran pastor  
Who asked to make services faster  
He cut down text,  
But the people were vexed,  
And cried "Stop! That was a disaster!"

There once was sinner named Saul. \*  
Who like Christ's believers to maul.  
To Damascus he went,  
With evil intent,  
But then Jesus transformed him to Paul.

\* Selected as best in class: haiku or Limerick



## PICKING CHERRIES AT TERHUNE ORCHARDS: JUNE 26



Photos courtesy of Janice Hofreiter



## BLAST FROM THE PAST

**Our  
forbears in  
faith**



**whose legacy  
we receive with  
gratitude and carry  
on with  
joy.**



*Photos courtesy of Messiah archives*

## UPCOMING READINGS IN JULY

SEASON AFTER PENTECOST YEAR A	FIRST READING	PSALM	SECOND READING	GOSPEL READING
Fifth Sunday after Pentecost  <i>July 5, 2020</i>	Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67	Psalms 45:10-17	Romans 7:15-25a	Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30
Sixth Sunday after Pentecost  <i>July 12, 2020</i>	Genesis 25:19-34	Psalms 119:105-112	Romans 8:1-11	Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23
Seventh Sunday after Pentecost  <i>July 19, 2020</i>	Genesis 28:10-19a	Psalms 139:1-12, 23-24	Romans 8:12-25	Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43
Eighth Sunday after Pentecost  <i>July 26, 2020</i>	Genesis 29:15-28	Psalms 105:1-11	Romans 8:26-39	Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52





## UPCOMING READINGS IN AUGUST

SEASON AFTER PENTECOST YEAR A	FIRST READING	PSALM	SECOND READING	GOSPEL READING
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost <i>August 2, 2020</i>	Genesis 32:22-31	Psalms 117:1-7, 15	Romans 9:1-5	Matthew 14:13-21
Tenth Sunday after Pentecost <i>August 9, 2020</i>	Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28	Psalms 105:1-6, 16-22	Romans 10:5-15	Matthew 14:22-33
Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost <i>August 16, 2020</i>	Genesis 45:1-15	Psalms 133	Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32	Matthew 15:10-28
Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost <i>August 23, 2020</i>	Exodus 1:8-2:10	Psalms 124	Romans 12:1-8	Matthew 16:13-20
Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost <i>August 30, 2020</i>	Exodus 3:1-15	Psalms 105:1-6, 23-26	Romans 12:9-21	Matthew 16:21-28

# July 2020



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5 9:30am Holy Communion	6	7 4:30pm Adult Forum	8	9 7:30pm Book Group	10	11
12 9:30am Holy Communion	13 4:30pm Adult Forum	14	15	16	17	18
19 9:30am Holy Communion	20	21 4:30pm Adult Forum	22	23 7pm Executive Board	24	25 9am Men's Forum
26 9:30am Holy Communion	27	28 4:30pm Adult Forum	29	30	31	



# August 2020



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 9:30am Holy Communion	3	4 4:30pm Adult Forum	5	6 7:30pm Book Group	7	8
9 9:30am Holy Communion	10	11 4:30pm Adult Forum	12	13	14	15
16 9:30am Holy Communion	17	18 4:30pm Adult Forum	19	20	21	22
23 9:30am Holy Communion	24	24 4:30pm Adult Forum	26	27 	28	29 9am Men's Forum
31 9:30am Holy Communion						



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RETURN SERVICE  
REQUESTED

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