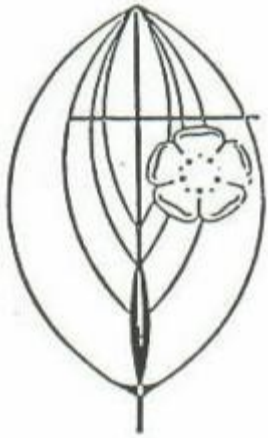


NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS OF THE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE MESSIAH



Messiah Messenger

MESSIAH MESSENGER

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

**THE REV. DR.
MARTIN K. ERHARDT
PASTOR**

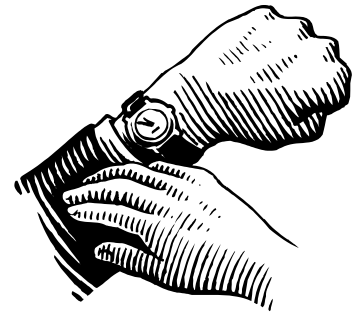
**THE REV. DR.
JOHN MARK GOERSS
PASTOR EMERITUS**

**JANICE HOFREITER
ORGANIST AND
CHOIR DIRECTOR**

**EVA GROVES
CHURCH SECRETARY
EVA.M.GROVES@GMAIL.COM**

MARKING TIME

We often mark time by epoch-making events. I imagine many future conversations in our region will include the question, "Was that before or after Sandy?" Sandy was a shared experience for everyone in our area last Monday night, with some sharing more than others and considerably more than they would have liked. It wasn't something you could have missed if you had momentarily let your attention wander.



After a devastating and disorienting event like Sandy, marking time helps us to get our bearings. This weekend we changed from Daylight Saving Time to Standard Time – a welcome hour gained after a trying week. In the coming weeks, we will be marking time by an event more epoch-making even than Sandy – the incarnation of the Son of God as Jesus of Nazareth, which Christians celebrate over the seasons of Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany. Our Gregorian calendar too marks the approximate date of Jesus' incarnation – during the season of Christmas, it will turn over to AD 2012.

Following Sandy, we're especially grateful for God's gifts of heat and light we receive through the hands of PSE&G repair crews. Like heat and light, we often take for granted God taking on our humanity

Continued on next page

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK (CONT'D)



and living among us as one of us. Sandy was costly for many of us, but the incarnation was far more so for God. In Philippians 2:7, the apostle Paul describes the incarnation not just as a loss, but as an emptying. The Son of God emptied himself of the benefits of Godhood so that he might give them to us – God's own righteousness, a place at God's feast of victory over death and the grave, and eternal life with God and God's people, reunited across space and time.

That's a big, even epoch-making, deal. The joy of Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany is co-mingled with sober acknowledgment that God's free gift to us was not free for God. It was a loss, a humiliation, and came at great cost. That doesn't mean we shouldn't celebrate Jesus' incarnation, but it does mean we shouldn't take it for granted.

God became subject to time so we might transcend it. God did not consider our troubles too insignificant, inconvenient, or unsightly for him to get involved. He jumped right in and blazed a trail for us from the transience and tears of life in our fallen world to the security and salvation of his kingdom. At this time of loss following Sandy, it continues to be good to remember that our most precious gifts are from God, and they can't be taken away from us. No power, or lack thereof, can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. That's good news – so good that we continue to mark time by it today.

Pastor Erhardt

Visit our website to listen to audio recordings of Pastor's Sunday Sermons.
<http://www.princetonlutheranchurch.org/services.html>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Christian Education
9:00am Sunday Mornings

Worship Service
10:30am Sunday Mornings

Taize Services at the University Chapel
7:30pm Tuesday Evenings

Choir Practice
8:00pm Wednesday Evenings

8:00pm Thanksgiving Service
Wednesday November 21



8:00pm Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service
Monday, December 24

10:30am Christmas Day Service
Tuesday, December 25



ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY TOUR OF PRINCETON UNIVERSITY



Many thanks to Jon Hlafter for leading a fact filled historical tour of the origins of Nassau Hall and surrounding Princeton University buildings. Stay tuned for upcoming tours of the southern campus.

BLAST FROM THE PAST



Last month's challenge: Do you recognize this family? Esther Fischer won last month's challenge by being the first to answer the question. Answer: *Debbie Baer and family*

WELCOME BACK POT LUCK DINNER SEPTEMBER 22ND



LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY



Evening Prayer in the spirit of the Taize Community will continue until December 18th. Please join us Tuesdays at 7:30pm in the Princeton University chapel for contemplative prayer, scripture, and song. All are welcome.



For schedule updates and more information on the Taize Community, see <http://www.princetonlutheranchurch.org/lcm/>

MIRANDA HEMPEL AND RICH DELGADO MARRIAGE BLESSING CELEBRATION



The congregation was treated to a special coffee hour in honor of Miranda and Rich's October 27th wedding.

Thank you for sharing your special day with Messiah!

Congrats and Blessings from all of us.



UPCOMING READINGS

All Saints Day November 4, 2012	<i>Isaiah 25:6-9</i>	Psalm 24	Revelation 21:1-6a	John 11:32-44
Proper 27 (32) Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost November 11, 2012	Ruth 3:1-5; 4:13-17	Psalm 127	Hebrews 9:24- 28	Mark 12:38-44
Proper 28 (33) Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost November 18, 2012	1 Samuel 1:4- 20		Hebrews 10:11 -14, (15-18), 19-25	Mark 13:1-8
Thanksgiving Eve November 22, 2012	Joel 2:21-27		1 Timothy 2:1- 7	Matthew 6:25- 33
Christ the King - Proper 29 (34) Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost November 25, 2012	2 Samuel 23:1- 7	Psalm 132	Revelation 1:4b-8	John 18:33-37
<u>First Sunday of Ad- vent</u> December 2, 2012	<u>Jeremiah 33:14-16</u>	<u>Psalm 25:1-10</u>	<u>1 Thessaloni- ans 3:9-13</u>	<u>Luke 21:25-36</u>
<u>Second Sunday of Ad- vent</u> December 9, 2012	<u>Baruch 5:1-9</u> or <u>Malachi 3:1-4</u>	<u>Luke 1:68-79</u>	<u>Philippians 1:3-11</u>	<u>Luke 3:1-6</u>
<u>Third Sunday of Ad- vent</u> December 16, 2012	<u>Zephaniah 3:14-20</u>	<u>Isaiah 12:2-6</u>	<u>Philippians 4:4-7</u>	<u>Luke 3:7-18</u>
<u>Fourth Sunday of Ad- vent</u> December 23, 2012	<u>Micah 5:2-5a</u>	<u>Luke 1:46b-55</u> or <u>Psalm 80:1-7</u>	<u>Hebrews 10:5 -10</u>	<u>Luke 1:39-45, (46-55)</u>

MILDRED COYNER'S 90TH!



CHRISTMAS READINGS

<u>Nativity of the Lord - Proper II</u> December 24 , 2012 <i>Christmas Eve</i>	<u>Isaiah 9: 2-7</u>	<u>Psalms 97</u>	<u>Titus 3:4-7</u>	<u>Luke 2:1-20</u>
<u>Nativity of the Lord - Proper III</u> December 24 & 25, 2012 <i>Christmas Eve & Day</i>	<u>Isaiah 52:7-10</u>	<u>Psalms 98</u>	<u>Hebrews 1:1-12</u>	<u>John 1:1-14</u>
<u>First Sunday after Christmas Day</u> December 30, 2012	<u>1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26</u>	<u>Psalms 148</u>	<u>Colossians 3:12-17</u>	<u>Luke 2:41-52</u>

NEEDLEPOINT AND KNEELERS

We have placed an initial order of 6 black kneelers for those of you who have requested them. They should arrive within 60 days.

MANY THANK YOUS!

Many thanks to Suzanne Manczuk for her generous gift to the Needlepoint Group making it possible to begin stitching! Thank you also to Patricia Wolf for placing the order for the "Creation Series" needlepoint kits.

And finally, thank you to the women who have taken on the needlepoint challenge!

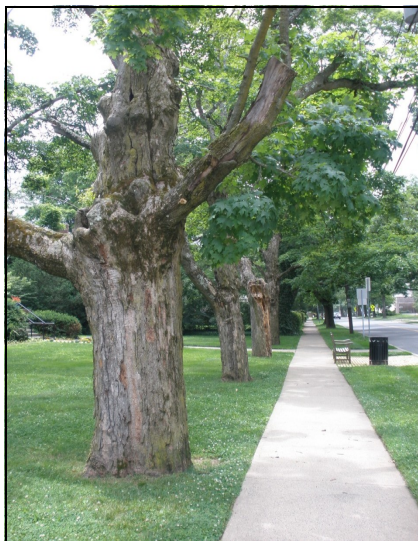


GARDENING COMMITTEE



Good bye to the old trees on Nassau Street, and hello to plenty of firewood for anyone who is interested.

First come, first served!
The wood pile is in the back of the church on the gravel lot.
Help yourself!



Thanks to timely preventive measures, (*see last month's letter from Pastor Martin*), Messiah had no tree damage due to the recent hurricane. The neighboring streets were not so lucky as Princeton saw many trees fall and knock out power lines. After 4 days power was restored to the church and All Saints Sunday will be celebrated in comfort on November 4.



GARDENING UPDATE

Paul Majsztrik has been working hard to remove the old trees in front of the church and the job is now almost complete.

Miranda Hempel replaced the geraniums with seasonal chrysanthemums and the church is looking well cared for.

Upcoming plans call for two flowering cherry trees to be planted on either side of the front walk.

Fall work day is scheduled for 10-4pm on Saturday, November 10th. Come join us as we prepare

HURRICANE SANDY STRIKES THE EAST COAST

Hurricane Sandy struck the Princeton area on Monday, October 29th. Thankfully, our congregation fared well even with power losses due to fallen trees in the area that lasted from 1 to 4 days.



Psalm 46

God is our refuge and strength,
an ever-present help in trouble.
Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way
And the mountains fall into the heart of the sea,
Though its waters roar and foam
And the mountains quake with their surging.



ISI: LETTER FROM JOHN DESAI

"God is light; in Him there is no darkness at all... and the blood of Jesus, His Son purifies us from all sin" (1 John 1: 5,7).

To Dearest Servants of the Lord in His vineyard at Lutheran Church of the Messiah.

We greet you in the Lord who came as a true light to give light to everyone in the world (John 1: 9).

We thank for you our Lord who has chosen you to declare the praises of Him who called you out of darkness in his wonderful light (1 Peter 2: 9).

We thank you for your generous giving and faithful partnership through hosting the Annual Garage Give Away and monthly Friendship Dinners as well as prayers which enable us to exalt the Lord who is the Light of the world and proclaim that whoever follows Him will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life (John 8: 12).

We pray for Pastor, leaders and members of the church that you will lead many to righteousness and shine like stars forever and ever. (Daniel 12:3).

Serving with you the Sun of Righteousness (Malachi 4: 2),
Aruna and John Desai

MESSIAH'S MANTLES: PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Many thanks to Mildred Coyner for continuing to host our Prayer Shawl meetings in her home once a month. Dozens of completed prayer shawls were blessed in church on Sunday, October 7th.

Thanks to Messiah's knitters, we were able to comfort those who grieve, and to celebrate the birth of new babies and the service of long-time Messiah members in a tangible way. These recipients will continue to feel comfort each time the shawl is wrapped around their shoulders.

Thank you to all who knit and all who support the Prayer Shawl Ministry. Our next meeting is at 7pm on November 8th.

If you would like to request a shawl, please contact any one of the knitters or contact Eva Groves at eva.m.groves@gmail.com.



We begin each meeting by lighting a candle and sharing a prayer .

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Nancy Amidon and Mark Yunque as they welcome new granddaughters.

Miranda Hempel and Rich Delgado on the occasion of their marriage on October 27.

Ed and Kathy Wendel who will celebrate their 61st wedding anniversary on December 23.

Jukka Kaariainen, whose book "Mission Shaped by Promise" has recently been published.

<https://wipfandstock.com/store/>

[Mission Shaped by Promise Lutheran Missiology Confronts the Challenge of Religious Pluralism](#)

OUR SYMPATHIES

We extend our sympathies to those who mourn the deaths of:

Betty Dellinger
Ralph Holtermann
Cora Murray
Doris Esteban
Gunther Wackerman

Helen Majsztrik
Ian Zelazny
Iris Cansler
Sunny Onish
Virginia Stuart

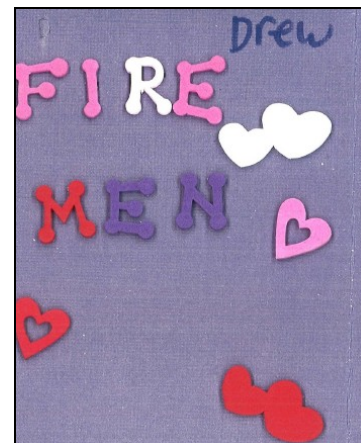
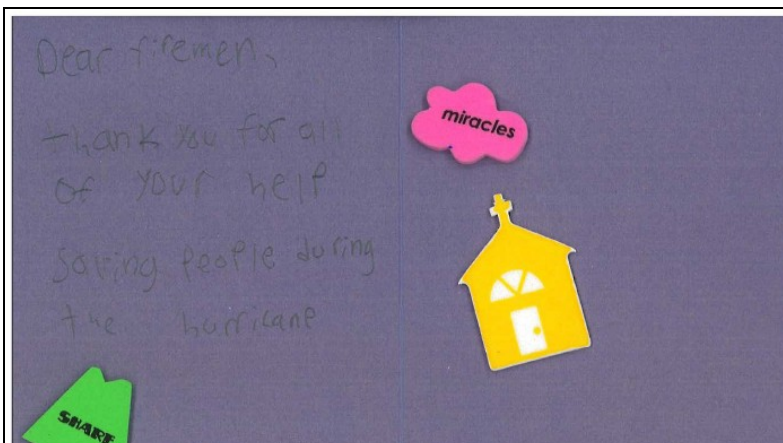
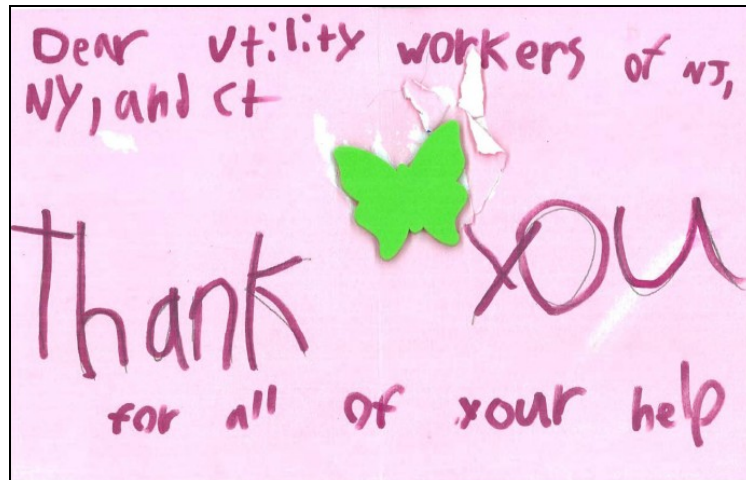
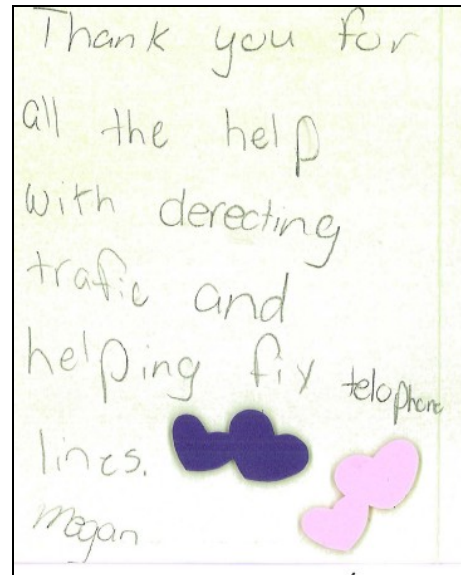
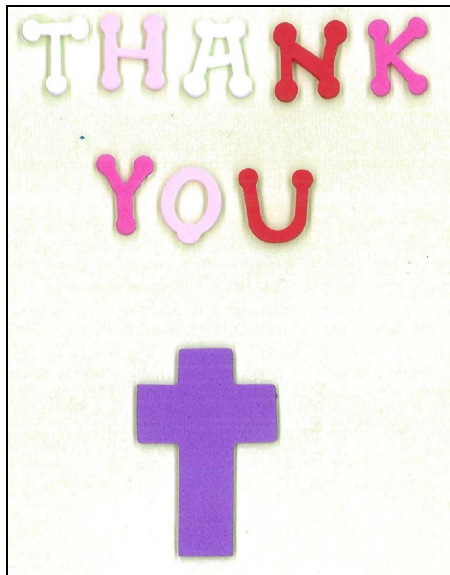
NOVEMBER 2012

				1	2	3
				8:00 PM CHOIR PRACTICE		
4 ALL SAINTS 9:00 AM BIBLE STUDY 9:00 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:30 AM SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION	5	6 7:30 PM TAIZE	7 8:00 PM CHOIR PRACTICE	8 10:00 AM PASTORS' CIRCUIT MTG. 7:00 PM PRAYER SHAWL MEETING 7:00 PM EXEC.	9	10 10-4:00PM FALL WORK DAY
11 9:00 AM BIBLE STUDY 9:00 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:30 AM SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION	12	13 7:30 PM TAIZE	14 8:00 PM CHOIR PRACTICE	15	16 6:00PM ISI DINNER	17
18 9:00 AM BIBLE STUDY 9:00 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:30 AM SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION	19	20 7:30 PM TAIZE	21 8:00 PM THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE	22 THANKSGIVING	23	24
25 9:00 AM BIBLE STUDY 9:00 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:30 AM SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION	26	27 7:30 PM TAIZE	28 8:00 PM CHOIR PRACTICE	29	39	

DECEMBER 2012

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2 9:00 AM BIBLE STUDY 9:00 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:30 AM SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION	3		4 7:30 PM TAIZE	5 8:00 PM CHOIR PRACTICE	6	7	8
9 9:00 AM BIBLE STUDY 9:00 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:30 AM SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION	10		11 7:30 PM TAIZE	12 8:00 PM CHOIR PRACTICE	13	14	15
16 9:00 AM BIBLE STUDY 9:00 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:30 AM SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION	17		18 7:30 PM TAIZE	19 8:00 PM CHOIR PRACTICE	20	21	22
23 9:00 AM BIBLE STUDY 9:00 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:30 AM SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION	24 8:00 PM CHRIST- MAS EVE CANDLE- LIGHT SERVICE	25 10:30 AM CHRIST- MAS DAY SER- VICE	26	27	28	29	
30 9:00 AM BIBLE STUDY 9:00 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:30 AM SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION	31						

SUNDAY SCHOOL THANKS THE FIRST RESPONDERS



SUNDAY SCHOOL CHILDREN GIVE THANKS



Dear President Obama,
Thanks for your support
and thanks for taking
the long trip here
from Dan. P.S. thank
the Pilot of Marine 1.



Thank you, Gov. Christie
for getting out and
looking at the damage.
And putting aside
the election just to
help,
thanks
Dan,



Thank you FEMA
for helping us and
getting more supplies.
Thanks for helping millions
in need of help.

Thanks,
Dan