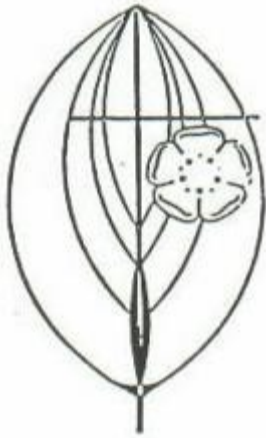


---

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS OF THE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE MESSIAH

---



# Messiah Messenger

407 Nassau Street Princeton NJ 08540  
Church Email: [lcmprinceton@gmail.com](mailto:lcmprinceton@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.princetonlutheranchurch.org](http://www.princetonlutheranchurch.org)

---

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](mailto:EVA.M.GROVES@GMAIL.COM)

---

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

---

### Time for Refreshment

It's summertime! That came home to me in the stands of Waterfront Park on June 23 as about a dozen of us from Messiah were sweating through a Portland Sea Dogs' shut-out of the Trenton Thunder. As the Sea Dogs increased their lead and the sun its withering heat, the Thunder fielders looked more and more like the hart (deer) of Psalm 42 panting for cooling streams



when heated in the chase. We had sung a paraphrase of the psalm, LBW 452 in the worship service that morning, and now we were being treated to a vision of the first verse on the baseball field.

Summer can be a delightful time of rest and recreation. It can also wither us as we find ourselves more tired than we once were, less certain about the future, and increasingly conscious that our expectations may exceed our ability to meet them. When that happens, verse 5 of hymn 452 (and Psalm 42:11) is refreshing:

*Continued on next page*

---

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK (CONT'D)

---

**For now I trust in God for strength,  
I trust him to employ  
His love for me and change my sighs  
To thankful hymns of joy.**

It's a relief to know that however withering the summer heat or the pressure of expectations, we can trust God for refreshment. A summer vacation is one way God may refresh us. But R&R is not for summer only. God invites us to build a vacation day of sabbath rest into our weekly schedules.

God refreshes us not only individually, but corporately through congregations. A thirsty man in the desert is usually better off heading for an oasis than opening his mouth to the sky and waiting for rain. Messiah is an oasis at which we can find God's refreshing gifts. That's an image to keep in mind as we seek to be an embassy of God in a fallen world. God works through us even when we don't realize it, but realizing our role in God's mission to the world can make our life together a lot less confusing and contentious. This summer, let's let that oasis image cascade over, refresh, and shape us as we continue to realize our role as a Christian community in this time and place.

*Pastor Erhardt*



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

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

---

### WORSHIP SERVICE

9:30am Summer worship June 2nd - September 1 (inclusive)

10:30am Sunday worship will resume September 8

**Christian education classes, choir, and Prayer Shawl meetings will resume in September.**

**COPIES OF THE CURRENT CHURCH DIRECTORY** are available to pick up on the back pew. The directory is intended to be a handy reference tool for regular attenders. It is not a membership list. Please note that the directories are for personal use only, and should not be reproduced, distributed, or used for solicitation.

### THANK YOU TO RETIRING SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS



Debbie Baer, Pastor Martin, and Belkys Wacker-



Debbie Zak, Debbie Baer, and Belkys Wackerman

**If you would like to contribute to church-related disaster relief efforts in the United States or abroad, consider giving through one of these aid organizations:**

LCMS World Relief and Human Care  
(domestic and international aid)

Website: [www.lcms.org/worldrelief](http://www.lcms.org/worldrelief)

Address: PO Box 66861

St. Louis MO 63166-6861

Tel. (888) 930-4438 (toll-free)

Lutheran World Relief (international aid only;  
4/4 stars from Charity Navigator)

Website: [www.lwr.org](http://www.lwr.org)

Address: PO Box 17061

Baltimore, MD 21298-9832

Tel. (800) 597-5972 (toll-free)

---

## CONGRATULATIONS



Roger W. Amidon III and Elizabeth Soskin were married on June 3, 2013 in Washington Crossing State Park, PA.

Troy Sabatura and Shellie Vargo will be married August 30 in Dunellen, NJ, at Shellie's church. A beachside ceremony in Bethany Beach, Delaware, will follow in September to celebrate!

Congratulations to Earl and Judy Whitcraft,

who celebrated their **75th** wedding anniversary on June 26th.

Judy and Earl now live in Silver Spring, MD.



## NOTE FROM MARTHA PECK

Dear Friends,

Many thanks for all the many phone calls, get-well cards and best wishes for my recovery. I am doing well and hope to continue so. Thanks to Pastor Erhardt for all his visits, for bringing communion and keeping me informed of all of Messiah's activities and other goings on.

With the Lord's blessings to all, Martha.

## FATHER'S DAY

Pastor Erhardt's parents were visiting on Father's Day weekend.

Many thanks to Christine Knight who provided a special coffee hour in honor of the fathers among us!



Pastor Erhardt with his parents, Walt and Gretchen, and his aunt, Shirley Wiser. Pastor Erhardt's stole belong to his great uncle, Pastor Leonard Stohs (now deceased), Shirley's husband.



Pastor's mother was given a Prayer Shawl by Messiah's Mantles.



## FELLOWSHIP EVENTS

### *PEACE ISLANDS INSTITUTE*



Turkish lunch was provided by the Peace Islands Institute after Sunday worship on Pentecost Sunday.



### *LAMBERTVILLE GARDEN TOUR*



Karen and Werner Hartl hosted lunch at their Lambertville home during the hidden garden tour.



## UPCOMING READINGS

<b><a href="#">Proper 9 (14)</a></b> Seventh Sunday after Pentecost July 7, 2013 <a href="#">ART</a> -- <a href="#">PRAYER</a>	<a href="#">2 Kings 5:1-14</a>  <a href="#">Psalm 30</a>	<a href="#">Galatians 6:1-16</a>	<a href="#">Luke 10:1-11, 16-20</a>
<b><a href="#">Proper 10 (15)</a></b> Eighth Sunday after Pentecost July 14, 2013 <a href="#">ART</a> -- <a href="#">PRAYER</a>	<a href="#">Amos 7:7-17</a>  <a href="#">Psalm 82</a>	<a href="#">Colossians 1:1-14</a>	<a href="#">Luke 10:25-37</a>
<b><a href="#">Proper 11 (16)</a></b> Ninth Sunday after Pentecost July 21, 2013 <a href="#">ART</a> -- <a href="#">PRAYER</a>	<a href="#">Amos 8:1-12</a>  <a href="#">Psalm 52</a>	<a href="#">Colossians 1:15-28</a>	<a href="#">Luke 10:38-42</a>
<b><a href="#">Proper 12 (17)</a></b> Tenth Sunday after Pentecost July 28, 2013 <a href="#">ART</a> -- <a href="#">PRAYER</a>	<a href="#">Hosea 1:2-10</a>  <a href="#">Psalm 85</a>	<a href="#">Colossians 2:6-19</a>	<a href="#">Luke 11:1-13</a>
<b><a href="#">Proper 13 (18)</a></b> Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost August 4, 2013 <a href="#">ART</a> -- <a href="#">PRAYER</a>	<a href="#">Hosea 11:1-11</a>  <a href="#">Psalm 107:1-9, 43</a>	<a href="#">Colossians 3:1-11</a>	<a href="#">Luke 12:13-21</a>
<b><a href="#">Proper 14 (19)</a></b> Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost August 11, 2013 <a href="#">ART</a> -- <a href="#">PRAYER</a>	<a href="#">Isaiah 1:1, 10-20</a>  <a href="#">Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23</a>	<a href="#">Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16</a>	<a href="#">Luke 12:32-40</a>
<b><a href="#">Proper 15 (20)</a></b> Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost August 18, 2013 <a href="#">ART</a> -- <a href="#">PRAYER</a>	<a href="#">Isaiah 5:1-7</a>  <a href="#">Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19</a>	<a href="#">Hebrews 11:29-12:2</a>	<a href="#">Luke 12:49-56</a>
<b><a href="#">Proper 16 (21)</a></b> Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost August 25, 2013 <a href="#">ART</a> -- <a href="#">PRAYER</a>	<a href="#">Jeremiah 1:4-10</a>  <a href="#">Psalm 71:1-6</a>	<a href="#">Hebrews 12:18-29</a>	<a href="#">Luke 13:10-17</a>



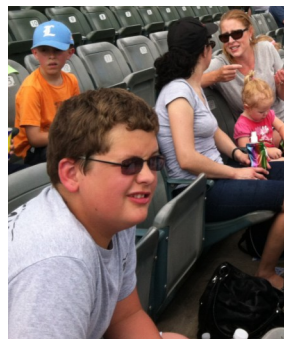
## CONGRATULATIONS AND FAREWELL



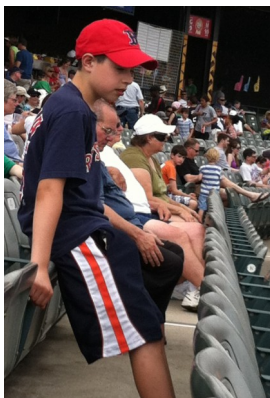
Congratulations to Nat and Rachel Tabris on the occasion of their daughter's baptism!

Beatrice Rose Tabris was baptized on Trinity Sunday (May 26).

Farewell to Erik Meyer and Sarah Aubert, and son, Emmett Meyer who have purchased a home in Pennsylvania. We miss you!



### TRENTON THUNDER GAME JUNE 23



## NEW LANDSCAPING

New boxwood border



New cherry trees!



Be sure to see the landscaping update article on **page 10** for additional plans for Messiah's grounds.

## BLAST FROM THE PAST

Can you name the people in this photo?

On what occasion was this photo taken?

Email your answers to  
eva.m.groves@gmail.com or call the church  
office.





## MESSIAH'S MANTLES: PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY



June 13th was our last meeting until we resume in September. Meetings are always a celebration at Mildred's— we were treated to seasonal strawberry shortcake. Delicious!

At 11am—2pm on Saturday, July 13th Thrivent will sponsor a special luncheon at the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Somerville, NJ. All local prayer shawl and crafting groups are welcome and will have a chance to get to know each other and share ideas.

Thank you to all who knit and all who support the Prayer Shawl Ministry. 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](mailto:eva.m.groves@gmail.com).



Roses for our favorite hostess, Mildred Coyner!

### FOUR POINTS OF PRAYER SHAWLS

Excerpt from the blog: <http://lighttogrowin.com/>

1. **Prayer Shawls heal the maker**— research shows that doing a repetitive and rhythmic action with your hands such as knitting and crochet has psychological benefits. You have less stress and experience a sense of calm while doing crafts. Combine this action with the contemplative practice of prayer and you have a powerful way to bring body, mind and spirit together. As the maker, you focus on the moment. When you concentrate on the present, you open yourself to a fresh source of energy. Both prayer and craft combine to draw you out of your worries and into your deeper self.
2. **Prayer shawls heal the receiver**— as a receiver, you have a healing item to wrap around you. With a gentle weight and cozy curl around your shoulders, you can rest secure in the knowledge that someone took time to make a gift for you.

## LANDSCAPING UPDATE

### Four Ornamental Trees Now Grace the Front Lawn



Hooray! On Monday, June 24, despite sweltering temperatures and humidity, Peterson's Nursery planted four ornamental cherry trees in the front of the church, completing the first phase of the landscape transformation of Messiah. Planting the trees had been delayed

due to fear of rampaging cicadas, a much-touted threat in the media which never came to pass in our area, although northern New Jersey did find itself blanketed in the insects.

THE FRONT  
WALKWAY OF THE  
CHURCH IS NOW  
EDGED WITH  
BOXWOODS AND  
GERANIUMS

The front walkway of the church is now edged with boxwoods and geraniums, and anchored at the sidewalk corners by azaleas and liriopse. There are four trees; three Yoshino cherries, with white blossoms, and one Kwanzaan cherry, with double pink flowers.



*No cicadas for Princeton!*

Thanks to generous contributions earmarked for landscaping, by the Fall we hope to have a new bed of shade-tolerant, blooming perennials covering the slope on the side of the church, and a bed with shrubs and perennials anchoring the corner of Nassau Street and Cedar Lane.

Unfortunately, in addition to all the wonderful new plantings, we also have WEEDS popping up everywhere. The new flower beds are mulched, which discourages weed growth, but some weeds manage to worm their way to the surface anyhow, and need pulling. The older flower beds are crowded with annoying uninvited guests, including several small oak and maple treelets, as well as ragweed, dandelions, dock, clover, crabgrass, thistles, and purslane.

Messiah needs volunteers to try to keep the marauding weed population in check. Please e-mail, call, or speak to Miranda Hempel if you can help out. Whether you can only come once or twice during the summer, or once or

## LANDSCAPING (CONT'D)



twice a week, your contribution of time will help keep the church's grounds looking neat and well-groomed. We also need help watering the newly planted trees and shrubs, so there is plenty of work to go around!

There will be a meeting of the Gardening Committee after services on a Sunday to be determined in September. Anyone interested in shar-

ing opinions and suggestions on landscaping is invited to attend as well. The more input the better!

### Contact information for Miranda Hempel:

e-mail: [ballroomania@yahoo.com](mailto:ballroomania@yahoo.com) (Please put the word Garden in the subject line - my spam filter is sometimes a little over enthusiastic, and this way I can do a search to see if any messages have mistakenly been sent to the Spam folder.) telephone: 609 865 8117

MESSIAH NEEDS  
VOLUNTEERS TO  
TRY TO KEEP THE  
MARAUDING  
WEED  
POPULATION IN  
CHECK

## WELCOME NEW CONGREGATIONAL OFFICERS 2013-2014 ELECTED ON MAY 5

<b>President</b>	Miranda Hempel
<b>Secretary/Vice President</b>	Laura Bennett
<b>Financial Secretary</b>	Mark Yunque
<b>Treasurer</b>	Nancy Amidon
<b>Board of Social Ministry</b>	Martha Peck, Doris Gerwers, Debbie Baer
<b>Board of Trustees</b>	Carolyn Gishlick, Herbert Gishlick, Paul Majsztrik, John Fischer II



## CREATION SERIES NEEDLEPOINT



*Day 1 Light by Patricia Hlafter*



*Day 2 The Firmament by Esther Fischer*



*Day 3 Land and Sea by Suzanne Manczuk – finished!*



*Day 4 Sun, Moon and Stars by Patricia Wolf*



*Day 5 Fish and Fowl by Debbie Zak*



*Day 6 Beasts of the Earth by Doris Gerwers—finished!*



## FOUR POINTS OF PRAYER SHAWLS

*Continued from page 9*

All the prayers, thoughts and hopes that went into the stitches surround you. A prayer shawl around you allows you to feel safe and valued. You can always have a hug from your friend even if she's not there. You can put on the prayer shawl when you meditate, want to feel inspiration, or need a reminder that you're loved.

**3. Prayer shawls connect the past to the present—**We live in a time of rushing, selfishness and distraction. How often are you late for something? How often do you only give someone half your attention— if even that much— because your mind is already gone to the next place you need to be? Or because you're out of practice, you don't pay attention to anything anymore? The act of stopping to sit and crochet while praying on each new loop brings us back to a time when the pace of life was humane. It does us good to slow down and think stitch by stitch, prayer by prayer. It builds our depth of concentration.

In moments of contemplation, we hear the song of the spirit and see ourselves as a small part in a greater whole. Someone made the yarn, someone transported the yarn, someone sold the yarn, someone made the prayers that made the shawl and someone accepted the gift of the shawl.

The texture of the yarn sliding through our fingers as we loop it together reminds us that making something by hand is an ancient art, as old as humanity. We haven't always lived in an industrial, technological age with machines embedded in our lives and devices stuck in our hands. It helps us to have the flexibility of fiber between our fingers, rather than only the flatness of screens and rectangles.

**4. Prayer shawls embody the power of simplicity, prayer and caring-** A shawl is a simple form of clothing. Women often used shawls so they could stay warm and nurse their babies easily. Many cultures use shawls as protection because they can be fashioned into different items as needed, as a cover from the sun during the day, and then wrapped around the neck and shoulders at night. For thousands of years shawls have protected and decorated us, from the ancient Israelites to modern-day women dressed for a summer wedding.

Prayer can also be simple. A call to the divine can be one word, said with intention.

Caring about someone else is a pure act. To want good things for another brings us out of our selfish concern and focuses our mind on community. Generosity helps everyone. Making an item and giving it away is a bigger stretch than any purchase.

Combine a simple piece of clothing with prayer and affection. Give it away.

**~This is the prayer shawl.**

---

# JULY 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
			Pastor Erhardt away July 1—20			
7	8	9	10	11	12	13 11am-2pm Prayer Shawl Luncheon
9:30am Holy Communion Guest Preacher: John Mark Goerss			Pastor Erhardt away July 1—20			
	15	16	17	18	19	20
14			Pastor Erhardt away July 1—20			
9:30am Holy Communion Guest Preacher: John Mark Goerss						
	22	23	24	25	26	27
21						
9:30am Holy Communion						
	29	30	31			
28						
9:30am Holy Communion						

# AUGUST 2013

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

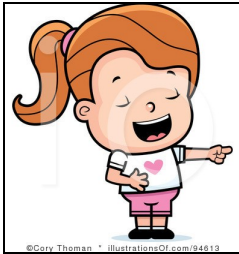
## CHILDREN IN CHURCH

One Sunday in a small West Texas town, a young child was "acting up" during the morning worship hour.

The parents did their best to maintain some sense of order in the pew but were losing the battle.

Finally, the father picked the little fellow up and walked sternly up the aisle on his way out.

Just before reaching the safety of the foyer, the little one called loudly to the congregation, "Pray for me! Pray for me!"



A little boy was overheard praying: "Lord, if you can't make me a better boy, don't worry about it. I'm having a real good time like I am."

A Sunday School teacher asked her little children, as they were on the way to church service, "And why is it necessary to be quiet in church?"

One bright little girl replied, "Because people are sleeping."



On June 18th, Pastor Erhardt and Eva Groves were recognized by the Thrivent Board for participating in *Care Abounds in Communities*.

Eva was recognized for leading the Messiah's Mantles Ministry and Pastor for leading volunteers from Messiah to help with post Sandy clean-up in Point Pleasant, NJ.

Thrivent is looking for a congregational representative from Messiah to serve as a point of contact. They are especially interested in talking to anyone on the Board of Social Ministry. If you are willing to serve in this capacity, please see Eva for more information.