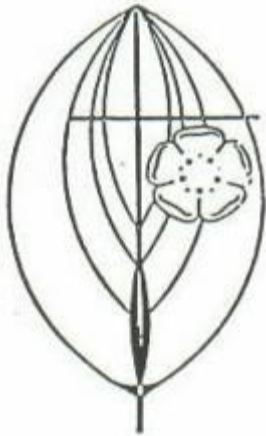

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS OF THE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE MESSIAH



Messiah Messenger

407 Nassau Street at Cedar Lane
Email: lcmprinceton@gmail.com
www.princetonlutheranchurch.org
www.facebook.com/MessiahChurchPrinceton

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

THE REV. DR.
MARTIN K. ERHARDT
PASTOR

A Way of Seeing

Visitor: This church is full of hypocrites.

THE REV. DR.
JOHN MARK GOERSS
PASTOR EMERITUS

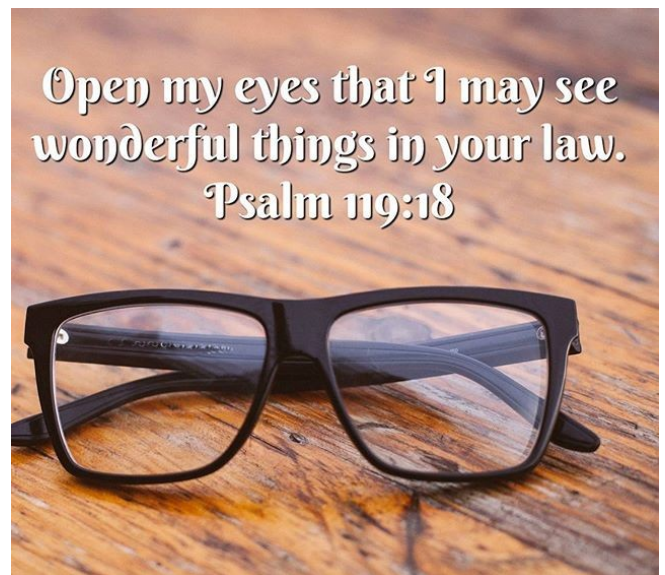
Pastor: Not at all! We always have room for one more.

JANICE HOFREITER
ORGANIST AND
CHOIR DIRECTOR

I like that joke because it reminds me that though we are sinners, our sin does not prevent God from working in and among us. When we see a flaw in ourselves or someone else, it's tempting to give up on them (or us) – to write them off, and to conclude that nothing good can come from them. Which is the opposite of the truth.

KATHERINE ELLIS
OFFICE ASSISTANT

God works through sinners, even hypocrites. Our fellow sinners have much to offer us, if only we would see the diamond in the rough. This is not to say we should disregard the character of those from whom we take advice, or to minimize the seriousness of sin, but to acknowledge that all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God (Romans 3:23).



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

It's easy to let our disapproval of sin turn into cynicism, sloth, and hopelessness. God does not want that for us. In Jesus Christ, God has provided us with a perfect hero and Savior whom we can trust completely.

Knowing that we have one whom we can trust without reservation gives us the confidence to believe, learn from, and put the best construction on ourselves and our fellow sinners. They and we have much to offer and much to receive despite their flaws and ours. We can learn to recognize and keep the baby when throwing out the bath water. We can see in the bad behavior of others their need for love, encouragement, and security. We can regard their need as an opportunity to build them up. We can become agents of positive change by seeing ourselves and each other through the eyes of faith, which see beyond the sinner to the saint God has declared us in Baptism. The eyes of faith see through the Old Adam to Christ in us.

Sin is serious and should never be trivialized. But neither should we minimize the righteousness that is God's gift to us. We are not hopeless and neither are our neighbors. We can ask God to help us see with the eyes of faith, and we when do, we may find springs of hope and love welling up where we never thought possible.

In the hope and joy of Jesus's resurrection,

Pastor Erhardt



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

CHURCH CALENDAR & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CAMILLA ANNE RICCO

Camilla Anne Ricco was born on March 20, 2018.

Her proud parents are Nadine and Sam Ricco.

Her even more proud grandparents
are Doris & Hank Gerwers.



TRENTON THUNDER GAME MAY 18

Join us for pork roll night with the
Trenton Thunder at Waterfront Park at 7pm
on Friday, May 18.



Contact Debbie Baer for tickets.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, May 3, 6:30 pm
LCM Table Talk



Thursday, May 17, 7 pm
Prayer Shawl Meeting



Friday, May 18, 7 pm
Trenton Thunder Game



Saturday, May 19, 9 am
Men's Forum at Wegmans



Sunday, May 20, 12:15 pm
Voters Meeting



Sunday, May 27
Last day of Christian Education classes

Saturday, June 2, 7:30 pm
La Fiocco Concert



Sunday, June 3
9:30 am worship begins (June-August)

Thursday, June 7, 7 pm
Executive Board Meeting



Thursday, June 19-21
English District Convention
Ann Arbor, Michigan



Saturday, June 23, 9 am
Men's Forum at Wegmans



Messiah's Mantles (Prayer Shawl Group), by Doris Schubert-Gerwers

We began our small group in 2006 and promptly named ourselves "Messiah's Mantles."

The Prayer Shawl ministry creates shawls and lap blankets for comfort.

When the Prayer Shawl creators get together they pray, knit, laugh, share sorrow and joy, and enjoy a delicious dessert provided by members. Join us, generally on the third Thursday of the month from 7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

The Prayer Shawls are created in patterns of three, symbolizing the holy Trinity (3 knit, 3 purl, representing the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit).



Our completed shawls are blessed during a worship service, and then given to the sick, the bereaved, those celebrating a wedding or birth of a child and anyone in need of comfort and prayers. Messiah's Mantles has given away hundreds of prayer shawls and sent them all over the world.



The shawls are created in different colors.

Each color has a meaning

Red: Energy, strength, power, determination, love, courage

Pink: Joy, friendship, femininity

Brown: Stability, masculinity

Orange: Happiness, success, encouragement, endurance

Gold: Illumination, wisdom

Yellow: Cheerfulness, energy, joy, confidence

Green: Healing, harmony, safety, hope, protection, peace

Blue: Stability, trust, loyalty, faith, truth, tranquility

Purple: Wisdom, dignity, independence, creativity, mystery

White: Goodness, purity, innocence, faith, safety, light

Please join us in this rewarding ministry.

Contact Doris Schubert-Gerwers (609) 558-1815 or dischubert@yahoo.com for more information.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

UPCOMING ADULT FORUM TOPICS

Sundays in May:
Looking Forward to a Summer in the
Gospel of Mark (Pastor Erhardt)

If you have a spreader for lawn work that
Messiah could borrow, please inform
Miranda Hempel.



KRISTINA REUTER

A funeral service for Kristina Reuter will be held this Saturday, May 5, at 11:00 am at the Mather-Hodge Funeral Home at 40 Vandeventer Ave. in Princeton.



ELEANORA SPAINHOUR, AGE 98, OF PENNINGTON, NEW JERSEY, DIED ON APRIL, 3, 2018.

She was a longtime resident of Princeton and Pennington, NJ and Greensboro, NC.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Carroll, in 1989, and her sister, Margaret. She is survived by her brother Fred (Ruth) and sister Myrt. She will be deeply missed by her children, Phillip (Susan), David (Dale) and one grandson, Daniel. Eleanora retired as a guidance department secretary after a lengthy career with Princeton High School. She loved playing bridge, traveling, and spending time with family and friends. She was a member of Lutheran Church of the Messiah for many years.

She was laid to rest in Greensboro, NC, April 14, 2018, at Westminster Garden Cemetery in a private ceremony. Please consider a donation to the charity of your choice in Eleanora's name.

The family would like to thank the team of caregivers at Sunrise of Westfield and Homeside Hospice for their kind and compassionate care.

When through one woman, a little more love and goodness come into this world, then that woman's life has had meaning.

EASTER SUNDAY 2018



easter

· CHRIST IS RISEN ·



EASTER SUNDAY 2018 CONTINUED



EASTER
EGG
HUNT



FUN FOR ALL AT MESSIAH'S EASTER EGG HUNT, BY MIRANDA HEMPEL

An enthusiastic crowd of Messiah regulars and first-time visitors thronged the Sunday School's annual Easter Egg Hunt held before services on Easter Sunday. Bobbing balloons on the Cedar Street side of the church festooned the steps up to the entrance, encouraging people to come in and look around. There was a diverse mix of families, all with a common goal: to celebrate Easter.

The event started off with crafts. There were hats galore to decorate: beribboned straw hats in pastel colors, bright



“fedoras,” cowboy hats, sequined caps — something for everyone, male or female, conservative or flamboyant. Most children (and parents!) went for flamboyant, and who can blame them? There were piles of hat decorations ready to embellish the chapeau of one's choice: all kinds of artificial flowers, rhinestones, stickers, ribbons, pipe cleaners. It would have taken a lot of willpower to maintain a minimalist aesthetic given the abundant temptation all around to garnish one's headgear.

continued on the next page



FUN FOR ALL AT MESSIAH'S EASTER EGG HUNT CONTINUED



There were also gift bags for gathering eggs to be decorated — with the flowers, ribbons, stickers, pipe cleaners and other oddments provided, or with drawings made by some enterprising children.

Naturally, all this creativity burns a prodigious number of calories, so a generous spread of clementines, grapes, pastries, and colorfully dyed hard-boiled eggs was set out to sustain everyone's energy. Coffee, tea, seltzer, and juice were available to keep everyone properly hydrated.

When the time came for everyone to head outside and start searching for Easter eggs, the younger children were given a head start. Within minutes, the packed fellowship hall was nearly empty.

Outside, children scoured the landscape for Easter eggs bursting with chocolates. Their parents helped, of course, and so did helpers from Messiah, including the Easter Bunny himself, who hopped around greeting children and posing for photographs. It didn't take long for the children to pick the site clean!

After every egg had been collected, the children and their families came back down to the fellowship hall for last-minute crafting and snacking. Any children who hadn't found at least five eggs were invited to take some more from a stash set aside in advance, "hidden" under a table. Naturally, some enterprising participants who had bags bulging with eggs noticed that there were more for the taking, and helped themselves.

continued on p.10



FUN FOR ALL AT MESSIAH'S EASTER EGG HUNT CONTINUED

Brightly colored gift baskets filled with toys waited on tables at the side of the room. Children were invited to take a basket before leaving. New visitors to Messiah were given information about services and finding us on Facebook and our website. Volunteers had just a few minutes to make some semblance of order and prepare for fellowship hour before dashing outside for the service, which began with the congregation gathered at the front doors.

After the service, the congregation was invited downstairs to feast on the remains of the pastries, muffins, and other tasty treats. A festive air prevailed as people chatted and greeted each other; it was a fitting valedictory to the Messiah's celebration of Easter Day.

Many people helped make the event a success - Mark van Bargaen and his children Drew and Katie, Skye Jerpbak, Karen MacDonald, Herb and Carolyn Gishlick, Debbie Baer, Werner and Karen Hartl, and my husband Rich Delgado and his good-hearted son Robert. A special mention goes to former member Ryan Spaude who was visiting from Washington D.C. Instead of taking it easy and relaxing, Ryan donned the Dread Bunny Suit (it is quite toasty inside - if you've heard about the mythological Shirt of Nessus, that should give you some idea). He was a super friendly Bunny who hopped and cavorted to entertain everyone at the event. Of course, the members of the congregation who attended the Easter Egg Hunt also helped make it a success with their warm and welcoming attitude. Several first-time visitors commented on how friendly the church was!

If I have inadvertently omitted your name from this list of volunteers, please forgive me and let me know so I can add a note to the Sunday School article in the next newsletter.

Miranda Hempel



Blast from the past



SEE ANYONE YOU RECOGNIZE?



Photos courtesy of Messiah archives

LECTIONARY READINGS FOR MAY

LENT HOLY WEEK YEAR B	FIRST READING	PSALM	SECOND READING	GOSPEL READING
The Sixth Sunday of Easter May 6, 2018	Acts 10:44-48	Psalms 98	1 John 5:1-6	John 15:9-17
The Sunday after Ascension May 13, 2018	Acts 1:1-11	Psalms 47	Ephesians 1:15-23	Luke 24:44-53
The Day of Pentecost May 20, 2018	Acts 2:1-21	Psalms 104:24-34	Romans 8:22-27	John 15:26-27, 16:4b-15
The Holy Trinity May 27, 2018	Isaiah 6:1-8	Psalms 29	Romans 8:12-17	John 3:1-17



LECTIONARY READINGS FOR JUNE

EASTER YEAR B	FIRST READING	PSALM	SECOND READING	GOSPEL READING
The Second Sunday after Pentecost June 3, 2018	1 Samuel 3:1-20	Psalms 139:1-6, 13-18	2 Corinthians 4:5-12	Mark 2:23-3:6
The Third Sunday after Pentecost June 10, 2018	1 Samuel 8:4-20; 11:14-15	Psalms 138	2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1	Mark 3:20-35
The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost June 17, 2018	1 Samuel 15:34-16:13	Psalms 20	2 Corinthians 5:6-17	Mark 4:26-34
The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost June 24, 2018	1 Samuel 17:1a, 4-11, 19-23, 32-49	Psalms 9:9-20	2 Corinthians 6:1-13	Mark 4:35-41



May 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 6:30pm LCM Table Talk 7:30pm Choir	4	5
6 9am Christian Education 10:30am Holy Communion	7	8	9 7:30pm Choir	10	11	12
13 9am Christian Education 10:30am Holy Communion 12:15pm Voters Meeting	14	15	16 7:30pm Choir	17 7pm Prayer Shawl	18 7pm Trenton Thunder Game	19 9am Men's Forum
20 9am Christian Education 10:30am Holy Communion	21	22	23 7:30pm Choir	24	25	26
27 9am Christian Education 10:30am Holy Communion	28 Memorial Day	29	30	31		

June 2018



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



THE LUTHERAN CHURCH
OF THE MESSIAH

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RETURN SERVICE
REQUESTED

If we missed your birthday, we're sorry, but it means it's not on file. Help update our data...
Call (609) 924-3642 or email the church office at lcmherald@gmail.com
