

Messiah Weekly Memos

December 23, 2021

Christmas at Messiah, 2021

Christmas Eve (Friday)—

* 5 pm: Family Service. **Masks Required.**

Young ones invited to come dressed as sheep.

* 7 pm: Communion and Candlelight

* 9:30 pm: Communion and Candlelight

** Please register [HERE](#) for whichever service (s) you plan on attending. Registration is not required, but it will help us get a sense of how many to plan for.

Christmas Day (Saturday)—

* 10 am: Festival Eucharist

Sunday, Dec. 26 (First Sunday after Christmas)

* 8:30 am: Holy Communion

New Year's Eve

* 7 pm: Zoom Evening Prayer

Join [HERE](#); Meeting ID: 847 9934 2455 Passcode: 7rEqFY

Urgent: Pandemic Precautions

COVID infections have been soaring in Cuyahoga County for the past week and on December 20 are at an all-time high, twice as many per day as at this time last year. **Regard this as an invitation from God to care for each other this Christmas.**

* In keeping with CDC recommendations, **we strongly encourage everyone to wear a mask** at services this weekend. This includes those who are fully vaccinated. Masks will be available in the atrium and narthex if you left yours at home. **Masks will be required at the 5 pm Family Service on Christmas Eve.**

* Please observe social distancing guidelines. Greet each other by waving or bowing. No handshakes, please.

* Allow deacons to assist with seating so we can maximize our use of available pews.

* We will not pass collection plates. Continue to look for them in the narthex. If you brought an offering, look for the plates in the entrance area as you leave.

* On Christmas Eve the sanctuary will be ventilated between services with fresh outside air. Pardon the chill if you find one on arriving.



Click the Messiah logo above to visit our website.

Weekend Service Times

* Masks optional *

Sundays

8:30 am - in person & online

11 am - in person

9:45 am - Family Service (1/23)

** Masks are Required**

This Week at Messiah

[CLICK HERE](#) to see what's happening at Messiah.

For a children's bulletin

3 + [CLICK HERE](#)

7 + [CLICK HERE](#)

[CLICK HERE](#) to view the winter serving schedule

For online services, [CLICK HERE](#)

* **An audio recording of the worship service is available through any phone by calling 440-276-4450.** You can listen anytime with no charge. Ideal for people without a computer or internet access.

Our 8:30 am Sunday Service is live streamed online. You can watch the service live or at your convenience.

Watch Online [HERE](#)

* Continue scrolling for more information

Stay Connected w/Messiah

December/January Monthly Memo, [CLICK HERE](#)

Christmas Joy Cards

Are you sending out Christmas cards this year? Have a few extras? Looking to spread the Joy, Peace and Hope this season? Here is something for you, Christmas *Joy Cards*.

Call the church office or email them and they will send you a list of 6-7 Home bound members or other member who need a loving, hopeful and good cheer this Advent/Christmas season. Thank you.

God's peace and blessings,
Deaconess Ruth

Offering Envelopes

Your 2022 offering envelopes are available for pick up outside our church offices. Please notify the church office if you do not see your name. Also notify us if you are giving online and prefer to not receive boxed envelopes in the future.

Bible Studies

Wednesday morning and evening Bible Classes are in recess until Wednesday, January 12.

There will be no Thursday evening Bible Study on December 23 & 30. Bible Study will

Transition Team Update

The transition team began work on a survey that will be mailed to the congregation early next year. The team is also preparing for focus groups. Look for more information in early January. Team members include Joe Roman, Sharon Ratvasky, Mike Waugh,

Employer Matching Gifts Contributed \$27,300 to Messiah in 2020

Many companies offer matching gift programs to educational institutions and non-profit charitable organizations. Messiah Lutheran Church and School qualifies as one of these organizations. We have been blessed to receive matching gifts over the years from the Benevity Impact Fund, Google, Key Bank, Lubrizol, PNC, Progressive Insurance, Schwab Charitable Fund, The Sherwin Williams Foundation, Thrivent Financial and more. Check with your Human Resources Department if this benefit is available to you. Don't miss out. This is the easiest matching gift program available. Questions? Contact Darlene Waugh, 440-331-2405.

Another Way To Give To Messiah At Year-End

- Do you own an IRA investment?
- Are you age 70 1/2 or older?
- Do you need to make a distribution this year?
- Do you know you can make a required minimum tax-free donation to Messiah from your IRA?

As you think about your year-end donations, please consider directing your IRA distribution to Messiah Lutheran Church and School as another way of giving. Contact your investment officer to discuss this possibility. Thank you.

Are You A Thrivent Member?

Direct Your 2021 Thrivent Choice Dollars to
Messiah Church & School

If you are a Thrivent member you may have Choice Dollars to direct to Messiah Church & School. Choice Dollars are free to members and provide an opportunity to give back to a charitable organization. It's a gift that costs you absolutely nothing. Messiah is registered as one of the many charities in this program. Log into your Thrivent account or call **(800) 847-4836**. This is free money for Messiah Church & School and is likely already sitting in your account waiting to be donated. If you need additional help, call Darlene Waugh at 440-331-2405.

Giving

Thank you for your continued, steadfast donations to Messiah. Your support is greatly appreciated. You may mail checks, give online or text to give.

- **Mail:** Messiah Lutheran Church
(21485 Lorain Rd, Fairview Park, OH 44126)
- **Text:** 855-913-1744
- **Online:** [CLICK HERE](#)

You Can Help Our Neighbors Fight Food Insecurity

Our Little Free Pantry is part of Messiah's Laundry Love PLUS efforts to fight food insecurity in Fairview Park.

Members of our Care Team restock the box throughout each week, at an average cost of \$50 worth of groceries each time. Contributions are always welcome!



Best Winter Gifts for Messiah's Little Free Pantry include:

- Mac & Cheese that is already prepared
- Tuna, canned meat, spam
- Canned foods with pop-tops (soups, stew, chili, pasta, vegetables)
- Cake mix & frosting
- Small bags of sugar and flour
- Cartons of broth (chicken, beef, vegetable)
- Small bottles of cooking oil
- Soft baked breakfast bars and/or cereal
- Hot chocolate packets
- Peanut butter/jelly
- Holiday cookies
- Teabags or coffee
- Dishwashing detergent
- Feminine hygiene products
- Knit hats/gloves or socks

Donations can be left in the shopping carts in the area by the church elevator during

business/worship hours. Thank you in advance for your generosity! For more information, contact Janice Snyder at jsnyder@messiahfp.org

Online Giving & Text to Give

Thank you for faithfully giving to Messiah Lutheran Church.
You can make a donation online by visiting messiahfairview.org.

Or, simply text your donation amount to **855-913-1744**
It takes 30 seconds to register and 10 seconds to type a donation.

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