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January, 2019

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

As principal of Messiah Lutheran School, I write to acquaint you with Messiah, and to inform you of our *Partners in Ministry* program. We offer academic excellence in a Christian community to students and families in the Cleveland metro area, and we seek to make Christian education accessible to the ecumenical community. We opened our doors in Fairview Park in 1954, and our campus is located at Lorain and W 215<sup>th</sup>. A bit about us:

**Mission:** *Messiah Lutheran School aims to equip students for lives of world-changing Christian service. Together with their families, we facilitate students' growth in mind, body, and spirit. We offer first-rate academic, faith, and co-curricular programs so that, confident in God's abundant love in Christ, students are emboldened to use their well-developed skills, understandings, and character in new and diverse ways.*

**Philosophy of Celebration and Preparation:** *Messiah Lutheran School is committed to the growth of children as Christian individuals-- spiritually, academically/cognitively, socially/emotionally, and physically. Each student is taught appropriately for their age, stage of development, and individual needs in a nurturing environment of academic rigor and Christian love.*

*Our high standards of achievement for all students are both a celebration of the gifts that God has invested in them and preparation to utilize these gifts to the fullest in their future lives, education, vocation, service, and challenges. We believe that learning extends beyond the classroom walls, and we provide a variety of co-curricular learning experiences through athletics, activities, and service opportunities.*

*Faith in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and in His gift of salvation to us through his death and resurrection are the focus and motivation for everything we teach. Through this faith, each child learns that he/she is a redeemed child of God, and that he/she has been gifted with abilities from God in order to share God's love with those in our community and the world.*

Enclosed you will find more information about our *Partners in Ministry* program, which we initiated as a way to join in ministry with other churches to serve families, while encouraging families to remain active in their home congregations. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have about our program and/or guide you on a tour of the school.

Yours in Christ,

Helen Casselberry  
Principal, Messiah Lutheran School



### ***Partners in Ministry Programs*** **2019-2020**

**Rationale:** Messiah Lutheran School is an essential part of the ministry of Messiah Lutheran Church, seeking to offer an outstanding Christ-centered education to its members and to *others in the Christian community*. While the presence of a school has benefited the membership of Messiah Lutheran Church, it is not our intention to attract transfers from other Christian churches in the area. While we encourage Messiah School families without home congregations to consider membership at Messiah Lutheran Church, we also encourage families who *do* have a home church to remain active members there.

Messiah Lutheran Church currently provides a generous scholarship (\$1,930) to *all students* who attend here, regardless of membership in our congregation. For some families, the support of a home congregation, in addition to the Messiah scholarship, is what makes a Christian education accessible. The donors of our congregation also fund a multi-child discount of \$300 per student, and fund a generous need-based financial aid program which meets much, though not all, of families' financial need.

Therefore, in order to make the education at Messiah accessible to families at our area churches, we are offering two partnership programs as outlined in the attached pages.

1. ***Partners in Ministry Tuition Subsidy Program*** (donations by the student's home church are matched by Messiah Lutheran Church)
2. ***Partners in Ministry Referral Program*** (for churches who support a Christian education, and are not able to contribute financially, but can refer students to Messiah)



### ***Partners in Ministry Tuition Subsidy Program***

- Churches participating in the Tuition Subsidy program subsidize the tuition of individual member students to attend Messiah Lutheran School.
- A *Partner in Ministry* church may subsidize its member's tuition cost and Messiah Lutheran Church will match dollar for dollar the amount. The maximum combined subsidy amount may not exceed the active member discount (\$1,345).
  - Example: John's tuition is subsidized by his *Partner in Ministry* church in the amount of \$500. Messiah Lutheran Church matches the subsidy with \$500. The total tuition reduction for this student for the school year would be \$1,000.
- Subsidies by the *Partner in Ministry* church may be paid in full before the beginning of the school year or budgeted in equal amount with monthly payments from August-May of the school year.
- Subsidies by the *Partner in Ministry* church are matched by Messiah Lutheran Church upon payment (not before). *[The exception to this rule is that when significant financial need (greater than \$1,000) is demonstrated, Messiah Lutheran School will provide need-based financial aid before receiving contribution from a partner church. If Messiah Lutheran Church has already granted need-based aid of \$1,000 or greater, they reserve the right to credit that aid to the match of a Partner church.]*
- An enrollment form enables Messiah Lutheran Church to plan for the subsidy, but does not commit Messiah Lutheran to a tuition subsidy before payment by the *Partner in Ministry* church. Any unpaid subsidies will not be matched, and any unpaid tuition amounts would become the responsibility of the student's family.



**Partners in Ministry Tuition Subsidy Program  
Enrollment Form**

Families and congregations who intend to participate in the *Partners in Ministry* program should complete the form below. Please be advised:

- Subsidies by the *Partner in Ministry* church may be paid in full before the beginning of the school year or budgeted in equal amount with monthly payments from August-May of the school year.
- Subsidies by the *Partner in Ministry* church are matched by Messiah Lutheran Church upon payment (not before). Subsidies by the *Partner in Ministry* church are matched by Messiah Lutheran Church upon payment (not before). *[The exception to this rule is that when significant financial need (greater than \$1,000) is demonstrated, Messiah Lutheran School will provide need-based financial aid before receiving contribution from a partner church. If Messiah Lutheran Church has already granted need-based aid of \$1,000 or greater, they reserve the right to credit that aid to the match of a Partner church'.]*
- An enrollment form enables Messiah Lutheran Church to plan for the subsidy, but does not commit Messiah Lutheran to a tuition subsidy before payment by the *Partner in Ministry* church. Any unpaid subsidies will not be matched, and any unpaid tuition amounts would become the responsibility of the student's family.
- Terms established by the family or congregation for participation in the program are independent of this enrollment form, and cannot be monitored or enforced by Messiah Lutheran School.

Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent(s)/Guardian(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Home Congregation/*Partner in Ministry*: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

*Partner in Ministry* planned contribution: \_\_\_\_\_

Messiah Lutheran Church will match the contribution above, upon payment, for a combined amount not to exceed the active member discount (\$1,345).

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



### ***Partners in Ministry Referral Program***

- Churches participating in the Referral Program refer multiple students to attend Messiah Lutheran School. These congregations recognize the value of an excellent education infused with Christian faith and love, and encourage multiple students to attend Messiah, but may not be able to extend financial support to all attending students.
- These congregations allow Messiah School to visit and share print and other information with families in the congregation.
- Students from Partners in Ministry Referring congregations receive progressively greater discounts when larger numbers of students attend.

<b>Number of Students from Referring Congregation</b>	<b>Discount</b>
1-4	\$300
5-10	\$500
11-15	\$750
15-20	\$1,000
21 or more	Equal to active member discount (\$1,345)

- These discounts are applied to full-year tuition; late enrollment would result in a prorated discount.
- Enrollment which would move participating students to a higher discount level partway through the year would result in the discount being prorated for the remainder of the year for all students in the partner congregation.



***Partners in Ministry Referral Program***  
**Enrollment Form**

Families and congregations who intend to participate in the *Partners in Ministry* program should complete the form below. Please be advised:

- Each participating family from a congregation should submit this form to be included in the referring congregation total.
- Enrollment which would move participating students to a higher discount level partway through the year would result in the discount being prorated for the remainder of the year for all students in the partner congregation.
- Terms established by the family or congregation for participation in the program are independent of this enrollment form, and cannot be monitored or enforced by Messiah Lutheran School.

Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent(s)/Guardian(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Home Congregation/*Partner in Ministry*: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_