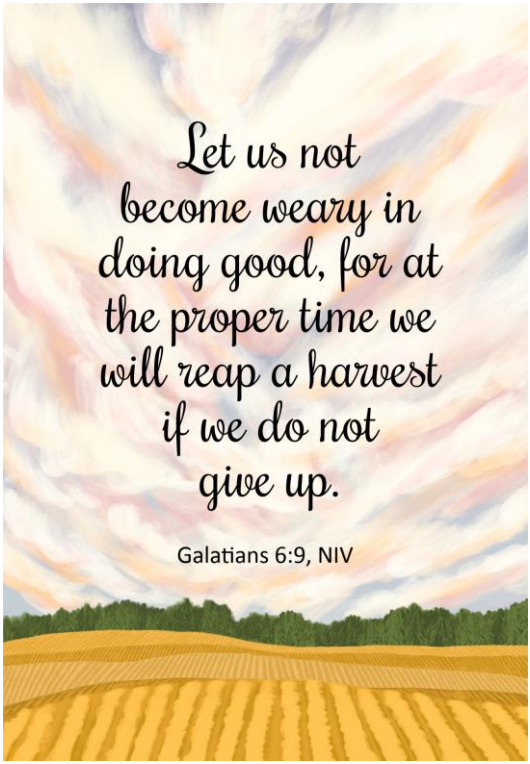


October 2026
Messiah Messenger

Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church
465 Pond Path, East Setauket, NY 11733
(631)751-1775
www.messiahny.org
e-mail info@messiahny.org

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHURCH COUNCIL PRESIDENT:

Dear Brothers and Sisters of Messiah,

Grace, mercy, and peace be to you from our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. As we leave behind the heat of summer and head into the beauty of the fall, we are brought into a season of new beginnings in the church. Our Sunday School classes have started again on all levels. More activities are taking place and more of us are taking the opportunity to gather for prayer, for worship, and to learn. Over the course of the summer, I was blessed with the opportunity to teach 3 wonderful young women about our Lutheran faith, as they were seeking the opportunity to confirm their baptism. More than once, someone said to me, "we don't usually do it this way with adults". While that's true, maybe we should. By looking around us, we can see the innocence involved in having faith like a child. Children approached Christ with no hesitation. They recognized who he was. It was the adults who couldn't see.

In the next year, and maybe even after that, I'm going to take the opportunity to re-introduce all of you to what we believe as a Church and to what I am blessed to teach so many of our youth at Messiah. May we all be blessed with the faith of a child.

Catechism Connection:

In the Explanation of the Small Catechism, Martin Luther re-introduces us to the Ten Commandments, given first to Moses for the people of Israel.

Luther quotes Exodus 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17:

And God spoke all these words, saying "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.
"You shall have no other gods before Me."
You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain."
"Remember the Sabbath Day, to keep it holy"
"Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you"
"You shall not murder"
"You shall not commit adultery"
"You Shall Not steal"
"You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor
"You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male servant his female servant his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's"

Luther then goes onto explain what the Ten Commandments are and how and why God gives them to us. Luther reminds us that God gave us His law, as His good and loving will for the lives and well-being of His people and that above all else, He wants us to love Him and to love our neighbor.

As Jesus told us in Matthew 22:36-40 when asked what the greatest commandment was: *"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the greatest and first commandment. And the second is like it; You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and Prophets."*

God gave us law to limit or prevent outbursts of sin, thereby helping to keep order in the world. He also uses the law to reveal and condemn our sin and to guide and direct our thoughts, words, and deeds as Christians in God-pleasing ways.

As God's fallen creation, we are born into sin, and we recognize that we cannot free ourselves. While God imprinted his law into our hearts by giving us a conscience, we still need the divine forgiveness that we can only get through genuine repentance along with absolution and regularly receiving the sacrament.

Love in Christ,
Liann Dennis
Messiah Council President



An Important Message from our Strategic Planning Committee:

God has blessed our congregation in many ways, and we have an opportunity to build a strong and sustainable future for generations to come.
To help guide that effort, the Church Council has established the **Strategic Planning Committee**.

Our committee has been asked to focus on three primary goals:

1. **Strengthen Messiah's spiritual and financial health.**
2. **Increase participation through our members' time, talents, and treasures.**
3. **Create a sustainable future that supports the calling of a pastor and expands Christ's ministry through Messiah.**

Our Mission

The Strategic Planning Committee exists to prayerfully develop and recommend both a short-term and long-term vision for Messiah Lutheran Church—one that strengthens our spiritual vitality, encourages greater participation in worship and ministry, ensures financial sustainability, and supports the calling of a pastor.

Please join us on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm for a Time of Prayer. We are seeking the Lord together for the future of our church.

A GOOD TIME HAD BY ALL
AT OUR WELCOME BACK PICNIC!

Our Picnic was held on Sunday, September 13th

Thank you to everyone who came out for our picnic kicking off the 2026-2027 Sunday School year!

We enjoyed all kinds of good food and fellowship with one another!

Sincere thanks to all who helped!











All Saints Day is November 1st.

If you have lost a loved one in the faith during this past year, and would like their name included in the Messiah Commemoration, please call the church office at (631) 751-1775.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!

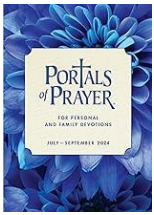
Birthdays



1 Jeffrey Noakes, **2** Megan Wood, **3** Michael Rutowicz, **6** Bryce Wooley, Clayton Hofler, Derek Setek, **7** Robert Anderson, Christian Bell, Pat Klunder, **8** Daniel Ochei, Matthew Genow, Colin Hassell, Ann Gorse, **10** Addison Depinto, **11** Robert Underwood, Judy Dragotta, **12** Heidi Gross, Robin Ochei, Maxwell Furrer, **14** Joseph Cirrone, **15** Madison Mendriski, **17** Kenneth Hass, Walker Bell, **18** Kristin Mertz, Craig Biazzo, **20** Elizabeth Blasco, Nicholas Castellano, **21** Bill Bambina, **22** Jocelyn Riley, **23** Sandra Heatherly, **24** Brynn Smith, **26** Ryan Connolly, Noah Carey, **27** Kirsten Hassell, Lisa Anderson

Church Council Members:

Circuit Visitor	**TBD**
President	**Liann Dennis**
Vice President	**Joe Cirrone**
Secretary	**Carole Trakoval**
Elders	**Kyle Donohue**
Trustees	**Bob Biazzo**
Deacon	**Thom Brownworth**
Treasurer	**Mark Jones**
Finance	**Ken Mertz**
Financial Secretary	**Janet Carey**
Evangelism	**Mike Neenan**
Stewardship	**Tracey Donohue**
Parish Education	**Steve Smith**
Youth	**Luke Van Dyke**



Portals of Prayer

A great way to start each day, readings feature a Bible passage, meditation, and prayer in an easy-to-read format. It's great for personal devotions. Copies can be found on the table in the Narthex.



Messiah Events:

Lumos Experience Candlelight Concert
Rescheduled – Saturday, Nov 7th

2:30-3:30pm, 4:30-5:30pm, 6:30-7:30pm, & 8:30-9:30 pm
This event has been rescheduled due to inclement weather.
Tickets for the Sept 26th shows will be honored.
For more info, go to www.lumos-experiences.com



Blessing of the Animals – Saturday, Oct. 3rd at 2 pm.

Bring your pets for a blessing and enjoy some light refreshments. We would like to thank Pastor Dave Santos who will administer the blessing at this event! SCPD will be there with their canines as well!



Spooktacular Trunk or Treat and Vendor Fair

Saturday, Oct. 24th, 12:00 – 4:00 pm - Join us for a safe alternative to Trick or Treating, Vendors, Free Face Painting, and more! ***We need church members to volunteer to decorate their trunks and hand out candy.***
Join in the fun!



Basket Raffle – It's That Time Again!

We need people to make themed gift baskets
For our annual fundraiser.
Some examples of basket themes: Movie Night, Family Game Night, Pasta Night, Craft Day for the Kids, Tea Party and whatever else you can think of.
Please be sure to attach a list of the items in the basket.
Please have all baskets in no later than ***Oct. 18th*** so we can start selling tickets.
Baskets will be raffled off in November.
Any questions, please speak to Nancy McCabe.



Save the Date:

Thanksgiving Feast & New Member Sunday
Sunday, November 15th
Join us after the service for a wonderful time of food, fellowship, and celebration!

Messiah Reaching Out

The Stewardship Committee sends cards out to members who are homebound or fighting an illness.
We also send greetings to baptism families, college students, military families, and others to let them know that we are thinking about them and are praying for them.
Please contact the church office at (631) 751-1775 or talk to Tracey Donohue if you know of anyone in need of encouragement.
Join us as we send caring thoughts to our members who might be in need of cheering up!

Tender Loving Care Group

The Bible says, "So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith"
~ Galatians 6:10
We are seeking volunteers to join this group.
This group would help our Messiah family with anything they need help with. Yard work, doing things around the house, going shopping, etc. If you would like to join (youth are welcome) or if you need help, please contact the church office (631) 751-1775 or info@messiahny.org

College and Military Care Packages

Living away from home can be a lonely experience.
Please allow us the opportunity to reach out to your student/service member with words of encouragement, spiritual resources, and care packages.
We can even help to find local churches in their community, so that they can continue in fellowship with other believers and maintain a strong foundation in the Christian faith.
Please consider donating non-perishable food items for our Care Packages.
All items should be individually wrapped.
Thank you, as always for your kind generosity!

PRAYER CHAIN

If you need prayer, or know someone who does, please let us know.
Please contact the church office at (631) 751-1775, email to info@messiahny.org, or fill out a pink prayer card in the pew.
Our prayer team is ready to pray for you!
Thank you!

Mission of the Month ~ October, 2026
Mill Neck School for the Deaf

Mill Neck Family of Organizations is an organization made up of a group of nonprofits, including Mill Neck Manor School for the Deaf, Mill Neck Deaf Services, Lutheran Friends of the Deaf and Mill Neck Foundation.
Their vision is to create a world in which Deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals are included, empowered, celebrated and embraced as equals through quality education, sign language, spiritual development, employment, and habilitation programs and services.
To donate, please make checks payable to Messiah Lutheran Church, and write "Mill Neck" in the memo line, or for cash donation, write "Mill Neck" on your envelope. ***Thank you, as always for your kind generosity!***

Lutheran Women's Missionary League

Our next meeting will be on **Friday, Oct 23rd at 3:00 pm** to assemble kits for Lutheran World Relief!
– Items needed are: Baby Sweaters, Sleepers, and T shirts (6 – 24 months); Receiving Blankets, Diapers, Baby Socks; Toothbrushes with covers, Nail Clippers, Ivory or Dove Bar Soap, Dark bath towels**.**
Thank you for all the donations and for the time and energy to package these kits for suffering people!



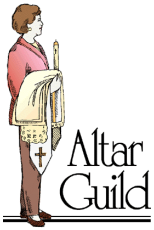
Messiah Shoe Drive

We are collecting gently used or new shoes
to raise funds for Messiah.
Tell your family, friends, co-workers, neighbors, etc.
We need to collect 100 bags of 25 pairs of shoes
per bag so let's spread the word!!
We will continue to collect shoes through November,
so please help us reach our goal!



Fundraising Committee

We are looking for volunteers to join us in setting up and running fundraisers to help our church in meeting operating expenses, as well as preparing to welcome a new pastor.
We value your ideas!
Please call the church office or speak to Tracey Donohue or Nancy Murphy. Thank you!



Altar Guild

Please consider joining the Altar Guild! Watch announcements and emails for our next meeting. Please contact the church office for more details.

+ Soli Deo Gloria +
the Messiah Lutheran Altar Guild



Daylight Savings Time ends Sunday, November 1st
Don't forget to turn your clocks back 1 hour!



Would you like to come to church, but are in need of transportation?
Please contact the church office at (631) 751-1775.
We may be able to arrange a ride for you!



Altar Flowers

If you wish to provide flowers at the altar, we ask for a donation of **$35 (or more)** for two bouquets.
Bouquets may be taken home after the late service, or donated to the homebound or nursing home patients.
Please write your name on the Flower Calendar in the Narthex and complete a flower donation envelope along with your payment. Please include the sentiment that you would like printed in the bulletin.
Thank you!

Please prayerfully consider filling out a
MY GIVING GOAL PLEDGE CARD
Your pledges help us with budgeting and help support the ministries we provide here at Messiah.
Your support will help us to make preparations to welcome a new pastor!
Cards can be found on the little table in the narthex by the grotto.
Please complete card and place it in the box. Thank you!

PARISH EDUCATION:



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School for Adults and Children is held on Sundays at 9:00 am

MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY



Midweek Bible Study is held on
Wednesday mornings at 10:30 am
All are welcome.
Bring your Bible and a notebook!



WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Women's Bible Study will resume on Oct. 10th at 9:00 am, continuing our study of Esther.
Anyone is welcome to join!

CONFIRMATION CLASS



Confirmation Class for 7th and 8th graders
is held on Sundays at 9:00 am



We are looking for Sunday School teachers and substitutes. It's a wonderful opportunity to help our children learn about our faith. If interested, please speak with Liann Dennis.



Find Us on Social Media!



Follow us on **FaceBook** and **Instagram** and
subscribe to Messiah's **YouTube** page!
Here you can view live streamed services, find archived videos of services, and other video resources.
You can find links on our website, **www.messiahnv.org**.

SUPPORT MINISTRY AT MESSIAH WITH ELECTRONIC GIVING THROUGH FAITHSTREET!

FaithStreet provides you with the ability to make your pledges/offerings online to support Messiah's various programs and ministries. FaithStreet allows you to give one-time, weekly, monthly or twice per month securely via your bank account, credit card, or debit card (just like you pay your utility bills). You can make your offerings online or via text. This will help the church keep a consistent flow of funds throughout the year. To give via FaithStreet, scan the QR code above or go to our website, **www.messiahny.org .** In the upper right-hand corner click on **MORE**, click on **ONLINE GIVING/DONATION** and it will take you to the link for Faithstreet.com to set up your on-line giving account with Messiah.

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Your donation helps us keep sending The Messiah Messenger to members and friends of Messiah

Our Messenger is delivered to 400 homes in our area monthly. Contact the church office at 631-751-1775 for more information.

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