



**Pastor Kris Schroeder**

### DECEMBER SERVICES OF WORSHIP

#### **December 7**

Advent 2 w/LS  
ELW 1 with the Hanging  
of the Greens  
8:30\* & 11 a.m.

#### **December 14**

Advent 3 w/LS  
Children's Pageant  
9:30 a.m.\*

#### **December 21**

Advent 4 w/LS  
Bread of Life with the  
Band  
9:30 a.m.\*

#### **December 24**

Christmas Eve w/LS  
5\* & 7 p.m.

#### **December 28**

Lessons and Carols  
w/LS  
9:30 a.m.\*

*"Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be pregnant from the Holy Spirit." Matthew 1:18*

## How Do We Show Love to God?

Advent is upon us, and it is a time in which we focus upon preparing our hearts and lives for the coming of Christ. We prepare for the coming of Jesus in the season of Christmas, remembering the birth of the savior of the world. We also prepare for the second coming of Christ, making our hearts and lives right with God in our waiting.

This Advent, our midweek worship will focus on *laboring with Mary & Joseph as we prepare to meet Emmanuel.*

In each of our three worship services, we will imagine traveling back in time to offer support to Mary and Joseph as they live through the difficult situation of an unexpected pregnancy, as well as how we can help protect the vulnerable and nurture those in need, like the baby Jesus.

Ultimately we will ask, ***"Where do we see the presence of God?"***

It is our intention to offer possibilities for relationship-building within this congregation we call Messiah and between Messiah and the greater community.

Throughout the entire Advent season, we will collect several items to help new moms, dads, and babies who might be facing their own difficult life situations. Everyone can participate. Tangible offerings will begin to surround our Christmas tree in the sanctuary as we await the birth of Emmanuel.

We will collect these items and distribute them to Kids to Love and The Food Bank of Northern Alabama:

- disposable diapers and pull-ups
- disposable wipes
- sippy cups
- teethers
- bath toys, shampoo & wash
- baby plates, spoons, forks
- bibs

We will also have a special collection of items for Lutheran World Relief Baby Care Kits, to be packed during Epiphany. Baby Care Kit items include:

- cotton t-shirts
- pants/leggings
- gowns
- hooded jackets
- sweaters
- sweatshirts (sizes 6-24 months)
- flannel receiving blankets

All Advent monetary offerings collected will go to Lutheran World Relief Kit Ministry.

This is our opportunity to care for people in need locally and globally as we labor through Advent to the foot of the manger.

ELW =  
Evangelical Book of Worship (Red)  
LS = Lord's Supper  
\*Livestream



**LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF**



**Randall Fields**  
Music Director;  
Choir Director



### Hymn Request Form

Want to hear a favorite hymn in worship? Place your request here:



### To volunteer for all service and outreach opportunities:

Click or scan the QR code to access SignUp Genius or call the office.



*"Praise the Lord. Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty heavens. Praise him for his acts of power; praise him for his surpassing greatness. Praise him with the sounding of the trumpet, praise him with the harp and lyre, praise him with timbrel and dancing, praise him with the strings and pipe, praise him with the clash of cymbals, praise him with resounding cymbals."*

Psalm 150:1-5

## Musical Groups

**Contact Randall Fields to get involved in a music group:**

**Cherub Choir (Grades PK-1)** Music intern Lily Harper directs.

**Seraph Choir (Grades 2-6)** Laura Simeone directs.

Cherub Choir and Seraph Choir both rehearse Sundays at 5 p.m. Students will be practicing for the Christmas Pageant, to be held during combined worship at 9:30 a.m. on December 14.

**Messiah Choir (Grades 7 - adult)** Randall Fields directs.  
Rehearses Wednesday night.

**Notabella (Bell Choir) (Grades 7 - adult)** Rhonda Gaede directs.  
Rehearses Sundays at 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Additional ringers are welcome.

**Instrumental Ensemble (Grades 7 - adult)** Mike Mabry directs.  
Rehearses 12:15 - 1 p.m. on the second and fourth Sundays of the month. Additional players welcome.

### The Band

Stephen Strand leads contemporary worship on the third Sunday each month. Rehearsal is the same Sunday morning and the Saturday before at 10 a.m. Additional instrumentalists and vocalists are always welcome.



- Dec. 7** Hanging of the Greens
- Dec. 14** Children's Christmas Pageant  
Ring & Sing
- Dec. 24** Christmas Eve Services at 5 & 7 p.m.
- Dec. 28** Lessons & Carols



### Sunday Service Needs

Each of our worship services relies on at least **seven volunteers** (in addition to staff).

Our late service is especially in need of some helping hands. Whether you've served before or are brand new, we'll provide all the training you need.

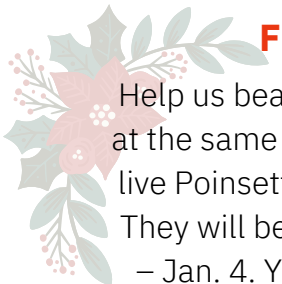
If you feel called to serve, there are lots of easy ways to get involved:

- Download the app and join the groups that interest you
- Sign up through SignUp Genius
- Call or email the church office
- Talk to Laura Peterson



### Flower Orders Due Dec. 14

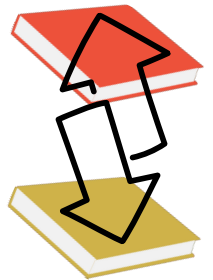
Help us beautify the sanctuary AND honor loved ones at the same time. The Flower Guild will take orders for live Poinsettias and Amaryllis plants through Dec. 14. They will be on display in the Sanctuary from Dec. 21 – Jan. 4. Your plants will be available to take home any time after the 7 p.m. Christmas Eve service. Order forms are in Sunday bulletins and in the Narthex.



### Women's Book Club

Monday, Dec. 15  
6:30 p.m.

Bring a potluck dish to share and a book to swap.



### Collection Continues

Messiah members have been so generous as we collect blankets and outerwear for the homeless in our area to keep them warm during the cold months. We have already made **FOUR DELIVERIES** to North Alabama Coalition for the Homeless (NACH).



We will continue collecting through February, so keep these items coming:

blankets  
hats  
sleeping bags  
gloves



coats/jackets  
scarves  
sweaters  
socks

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

**1** Heidi Goebel  
**3** Jerry Baker  
**3** Mark Winge  
**4** Diane Cline  
**5** Caroline Kokan  
**6** Jean Stuart  
**7** Mike Kidd  
**7** Nicholas Vande Griend

**8** Glen Long  
**8** Johanna Winge  
**12** Don Palmer  
**13** Valerie Christensen  
**14** Frazier Douglass  
**15** Judy Kidd  
**17** Betty Roenfeldt  
**17** Jude Williams

**18** Jackson Bennett  
**18** Joan Ellsworth  
**21** Dorothy Hanson  
**22** Mary Burke  
**22** Odin Doubleday  
**24** Rachel Fry  
**25** William Saari  
**26** Steve Peirce

**27** Marc Neely  
**27** William Rydbom  
**28** Edward Hamlet  
**28** Michael Montgomery  
**29** Robert Montgomery



## Faith Formation

### Pub Theology



Where Faith is Always on Tap

**First & Third Tuesdays**

**Dec. 2 & 16 at 6:30 p.m.**

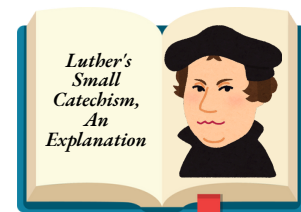
The format is simple: **Beer, Conversation, and God.**

Dec. 16 will be a holiday potluck. Please bring a dish to share for a casual holiday gathering.

### Adult Bible Study

Adult Bible study will be on break Dec. 14-Jan. 4, resuming Jan. 11 with a study of *Luther's Small Catechism, An Explanation*.

We invite anyone who is new to Lutheran theology or who is looking for a refresher to join the class. Questions? Email Dottie Hanson at [mark5h@att.net](mailto:mark5h@att.net).



### Youth Sunday School, MESY, & MOES

**Dec. 7** Regular Sunday school

**Dec. 13**

9-11:30 a.m. Dress rehearsal for the Christmas program

11:30 a.m.- 12:30 p.m. Happy Birthday Jesus party

**Dec. 14** Children and Youth Christmas service and program during combined service; no Sunday school

**Dec. 21 - Jan. 4** NO SUNDAY SCHOOL (Holiday Break)



## Youth

### NEW Youth Resource

Our youth has a new hub for events and information! It's not linked through the website, since it's only for youth and their families. Check it out!

### Secondary Youth Groups:

**Junior Youth (Grades 6-8) &**

**Senior Youth (Grades 9-12)**

Most youth group activities are Sunday evenings at 5 p.m. We start as a big group and then split for separate Junior and Senior Youth activities.

**Dec. 7** Youth Christmas Party at the home of Pastor Kris! Please bring a Christmas dish to share and a dirty Santa gift of \$10 or less.

**Dec. 14** NO YOUTH GROUP  
6:30 p.m. Ring & Sing Concert

**Dec. 21** NO YOUTH GROUP  
**- Jan. 4** Holiday Break



### Confirmation Class

**Wednesdays at 5 p.m.**

Confirmation classes with Laurie Campbell and Justin Walker every Wednesday from 5-6 p.m. in the youth room (room 5). If you have a young person who is entering grade 8 or above who would like to participate, please contact Pastor Kris or Laurie Campbell.

Class will NOT MEET on Dec. 17, 24, or 31 and will resume on Jan. 7 after the winter holidays.

### Southeastern Synod Events

**All GA Youth Gathering**

Feb. 20-22 at Camp Glisson near Dahlgonega, GA





## German FOOD FEST BEER LIVE MUSIC MARKET Report

*"The most important one is this: 'Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.'*

*The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these."*

Mark 12: 29 - 31

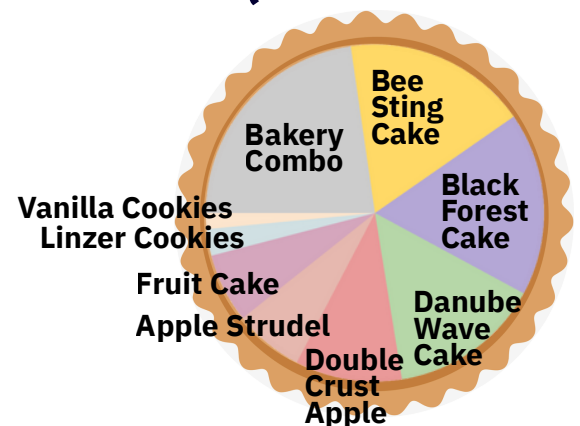
### Estimated Attendance

500

### Entrees Sold

250  
270

### Most Popular Desserts



Donated to  
Shepherd's Fold:

\$1,000

2026 Date:

NOV. 7

### Quotes from attendees:

“Our 1st time going and it was wonderful. The food was delicious & the music was fun, and all the workers we encountered were lovely! Thank you for putting together a fun event!”

“I just wanted to say the German Food Fest was fabulous!!! As we were leaving, my boys were already asking to go again next year.”

“I had such a good time. See you next year!”

“We had a wonderful time. Food was delicious, tasted like my German Mother cooked it. We will definitely be back next year!”



Sun.

Mon.

Tues.

Wed.

Thurs. Fri.

Sat.

Click or scan  
for our up-to-  
date online  
calendar:



Advent 2 with Hanging of the  
Greens

**8:30 a.m.\*** Worship w/LS  
**9:45 a.m.** Sunday School for all ages  
**11 a.m.** Worship w/LS  
**12:15 p.m.** Inst. Ensemble Rehearsal  
**5 p.m.** SR/JR Youth Group Christmas  
Party  
**5 p.m.** Cherub & Seraph Choir  
Rehearsal  
**6:30 p.m.** Notabella Rehearsal

Advent 3  
**9:30 a.m.\***  
Worship w/LS and Children's Pageant  
**12:15 p.m.** Inst. Ensemble Rehearsal  
**6:30 p.m.** Ring & Sing

Advent 4  
**8:15 a.m.** Contemp. Band Rehearsal  
**9:30 a.m.\***  
Worship w/LS: Bread of Life with the  
Band

Lessons and Carols  
**9:30 a.m.\***  
Worship w/LS

**1 9 a.m.**  
Comforters  
**6:30 p.m.**  
Pub  
Theology

**8 9 a.m.**  
Comforters

**15 9 a.m.**  
Comforters  
**6:30 p.m.**  
Pub  
Theology  
(Holiday  
Potluck)

**23 5 p.m.\***

**30**

**2 Noon** Advent Mid-Week  
Worship  
**5 p.m.** Confirmation Class  
**6 p.m.** Wed. Night Dinner  
**7 p.m.\*** Advent Mid-Week  
Worship  
**7:45 p.m.** Choir Rehearsal

**9 Noon** Advent Mid-Week  
Worship  
**5 p.m.** Confirmation Class  
**6 p.m.** Wed. Night Dinner  
**7 p.m.\*** Advent Mid-Week  
Worship  
**7:45 p.m.** Choir Rehearsal

**16 Noon** Advent Mid-Week  
Worship  
**6 p.m.** Wed. Night Dinner  
**7 p.m.\*** Advent Mid-Week  
Worship  
**7:45 p.m.** Choir Rehearsal

**24 Christmas Eve Service w/LS**  
**7 p.m.**  
Christmas Eve Service w/LS

New  
Year's  
Eve

**3 11 a.m.**  
ArtReach

**10 7 p.m.**  
Church  
Council  
Meeting

**17 11 a.m.**  
ArtReach



ELW = Evangelical Book  
of Worship (Red)  
LS = Lord's Supper  
\*Livestream

**12 9 a.m.** Christmas  
Pageant  
Rehearsal  
**11:30  
a.m.**  
Pageant  
Party

**19 10 a.m.**  
Contemp.  
Worship  
Setup &  
Rehearsal









*"Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness."*  
2 Corinthians 9:10

## Executive Committee

Pastor (Ex-Officio of All Committees) President Vice President Treasurer Secretary	Kris Schroeder Andrew King Lee Smith Rhonda Gaede Joanne Weber	<b>CONTACT US</b> <u>via online form</u>
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## Council Representatives

Worship and Music Outreach Stewardship Education and Youth Fellowship Property Finance Youth Representative	Laura Peterson Dana Burton Michael Montgomery Bonnie Flowers -- Peter Woods Dennis Fry Hannah Seitz	<b>CONTACT US</b> <u>via online form</u>
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## Non-Council Positions / Committees

Sunday School Superintendent MESY (Messiah Elementary Student Youngsters) MOES (Messiah Older Elementary Students) Personnel Committee Financial Secretary Stephen Ministry	-- Whitney Morse -- Marc Neely Mike & Peggy Mabry	<b>CONTACT US</b> <u>via online form</u>
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## Staff

Office Manager Music Director, Choir Director Organist/Accompanist Nursery Attendant Communications Director IT Director	Jill Casey Randall Fields Melanie Payne Hannah Seitz Jan Morrison Chris Elegante	<b>CONTACT US</b> <u>via online form</u>
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**MLC staff, officers, or council reps will never solicit you directly for cash, gift cards, etc.**





# Prayer Families



Please lift these Messiah households in your daily prayers. On Sundays and holidays (including staff vacations), please pray for the groups or individuals **listed in bold**.

1 Justin & Emily Walker	16 Paul & Karen Arnold (Randall Jackson, Tera Jackson)
2 Wayne & Bobbi Walker (Heather)	17 Della Axley
3 Owen & Songae Wasmoen (Chad, Cory)	18 Teresa Bacon
4 Richard Webb	19 Rick and LeeLinda Baggett
5 Joanne Weber	20 Jerry and Kit Baker
6 Scot & Sharon West (Jordon, Jacob, Kyle)	<b>21 Church Children, Youth, Adult Teachers, and Leaders</b>
<b>7 Church Staff, Leaders, and Volunteers</b>	22 Adam and Neda Ballard (Ana, Gabby)
8 Hunter & Blakeley Williams (Jude, Jasper, Winnie)	23 Mark & Lisa Bartel (Alison, William)
9 Mark and Johanna Winge	<b>24 Christmas Hope</b>
10 Pete & Devonee Woods (Abby, Aaron)	<b>25 Christmas Joy</b>
11 Mark & Janell Zesinger (Merritt, James, Natalie)	26 Greg & Jeanette Beamer
12 Paul & Anita Zomkowski (Lyla, Henry, Elliott, Rose, George)	27 Heath & Sacha Bennett (Jackson, Miles)
13 Paul & Linda Zutter	28 Beverly Berry
<b>14 Church Musicians</b>	29 Christine Berry
15 Gabino & Janice Aldaco	<b>30 Christmas Peace</b>
	<b>31 Christmas Faith</b>

**If you or a loved one needs to be lifted up in prayer, please contact the office or Pastor Kris.**

Messiah Messenger Newsletter is distributed monthly by Messiah Lutheran Church.

Submissions are due the third Sunday of every month for inclusion in the next month's newsletter.

Submit information and photos to [newsletter@mlutheran.org](mailto:newsletter@mlutheran.org).



# Messiah Messenger

December 2025  
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## Prayer Families

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### Messiah Lutheran Church [mlutheran.org](http://mlutheran.org)

7740 Highway 72 West  
Madison, AL 35758  
Phone: (256) 721-0041  
Office Hours:  
8:30 a.m.: Noon  
Monday: Friday

Please mail church offerings to MLC's official Post Office Box and not our church physical address:

Messiah Lutheran Church  
P.O. Box 526  
Madison, AL 35758

More information on our website:  
<https://mlutheran.org/>

