



Church of the Messiah

The Episcopal Church in Gwynedd Pennsylvania

Sixth Sunday in Easter

SUNDAY 22 May 2022

BIRTHDAYS IN THE WEEK AHEAD

O God, our times are in your hands: Look with favor, we pray, on these your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

- J.T. Stavely
- Janice Zintner
- Neil Brady
- Jameson Reichley
- Effie Alpert
- Nancy Alpert-Sisson
- Tom Mangan



STAY CONNECTED

VISIT THE WEBSITE: *Here you can find a video of the Sunday service as well as the bulletin and the sermon.*

<https://www.messiahgwynedd.org/>

VIEW THE CALENDAR

[CLICK HERE FOR CALENDAR](#)

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday through Friday 9:30-2:30

IN CASE OF A PASTORAL EMERGENCY AFTER HOURS

Should you have an urgent need to contact the Rector outside of Church Office hours, please use his cell phone: 215-692-2667.

The Rector's Message:

Jesus says to his disciples at the Last Supper:

My peace I leave with you. My peace I give to you.

I do not give you (peace) as the world gives.

I once saw a painting – I don't remember where; London National Gallery, I think – titled, "Peace." It was a large painting, depicting the raw energy of a mighty storm at sea. The artist had perfectly captured the turbulence of the waves dashing against the jagged rocks and the ferocity of the howling wind. At first glance, it certainly didn't convey the title of "Peace." Until one's eye caught sight of a small bird, sitting quietly on her nest, safely nestled in the hollow of the rocks. And there, amidst the

SUNDAY HAPPENINGS

8:00am: Holy Eucharist

9:30am: Holy Eucharist, church school and nursery, followed by coffee hour

FOLLOW US!!



chaos, was peace.

This true peace that Jesus gives is not a worldly kind of peace:

- not the peace of nature – beautiful and serene;
- not the peace of a loving family – tender and gentle;
- not the peace of an absence of conflict – quiet and calm . . .

but rather a peace of knowing that in the midst of turmoil:

- there is a rock that can shelter us;
- a place where we can nurture a new generation without fear;
- a power that can spread its wings over us and keep us safe.

All of us look for peace in this world. We look for safe places where nothing can disturb us. We look for a quietening of our hearts – so often disturbed by fear. We look for assurance – for hope – for joy. And we define this as “peaceful.”

Many of us pray for peace, work for peace – a peace not only for ourselves – inside our hearts and inside our families. We pray fervently and work earnestly for a larger peace: for an end to armed conflicts, and end to war and terrorism, and end to the violence that nations and communities and individuals do to one another.

To pray and work and hope for peace is a good thing – a godly thing. But often, I think we look for peace in a way that is not helpful. We long for and look for peace, thinking of it as an end to all those things that disturb us. We understand peace to be an absence - absence of fear, absence of conflict, absence of turmoil and distress. We look for a non-tumultuous world, freed of conflict, for that is the only peace we can imagine.

But Jesus tells us:

*My peace I leave with you. My peace I give to you.
I do not give you (peace) as the world gives.*

In Hebrew – “peace” – “shalom” – is much more than the absence of things that disturb us. Biblical peace, Godly peace, expresses a sense of wholeness: of being “at one” with God, “at one” with our neighbors, “at one” with ourselves. “Shalom” is much more than an absence of conflict. It is a sense of peace in the midst of conflict. This is the peace of Christ, the peace the world cannot give. And ultimately, Christ’s peace promises to eliminate the very causes of conflict – greed, hate, fear, injustice, intolerance, prejudices. All of these, in Christ, are made extinct. And there is true peace.

Healing. Restoring. Creating. This is what Jesus was about when he came and walked among us. This is what the Risen Christ is about, and what we, the Church, The Beloved Community of Christ in the world are to be about, through the gift of the Holy Spirit.

A Prayer for Ukraine

God of peace and justice,
we pray for the people of Ukraine today.
We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons.
We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow,
that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them.
We pray for those with power over war or peace,
for wisdom, discernment and compassion
to guide their decisions.
Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear,
that you would hold and protect them.
We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace.
Amen.

Archbishop Justin Welby
Archbishop Stephen Cottrell



Announcements

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS BEGIN THIS WEEK

From Memorial Day through Labor Day, the parish office hours change:

- Monday through Thursday, 9:30am-2:30pm
- Friday through Sunday, closed



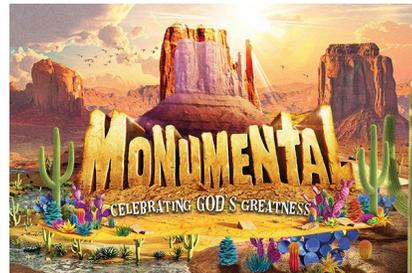
A NEW WAY TO TEMPORARILY FOSTER CHILDREN IN NEED

Catholic Social Services (CSS) is actively recruiting families to welcome unaccompanied minor children into their homes. These children have come here alone from Mexico or Central America and may have experienced significant trauma.

What they need are caring individuals or families willing to provide a supportive and caring home environment for 2 weeks up to 3 months, while they wait to be reunited with their family members. The children attend a daily education program located in Northeast Philadelphia. Households within about a half-hour commute commuting distance to the program would be preferable. Being able to speak some Spanish would be helpful but not required. Please contact Iris Puhiera at ipuhiera@chs-adphila.org or (267) 975-9241 for more information. And our parishioner, John Stoller, is participating in the program and is willing to speak with you about his experience.

VBS 2022 Registration is open and WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!!

We will be having VBS in person this year while trying to do most of the activities outdoors. Our theme is MONUMENTAL! Head to our website to find out more details and to register!
www.messiahgwynedd.org



We are also in need of volunteers so that we are able to have the program!!

Please consider volunteering, even for just one night!! Contact Tiffany Reichley if you are interested.



ADDRESSING SUMMER HUNGER IN OUR COMMUNITY

The end of the school year is less than a month away. Families that rely on school breakfast and lunch programs for their school-age children will need kid-friendly foods throughout the summer months to feed their families. Keystone Opportunity Center in Souderton is working to meet that urgent need from mid-June to mid-August. This past month, the food pantry served families with a combined total of 156 children.

To address this issue, the Center is sponsoring a **KIDS SUMMER FOOD BAG** program. Reusable shopping bags will be

filled with non-perishable food items and distributed to families in need. They estimate they will need 468 bags of kid-friendly food to keep these children fed while school is out.

Here at Messiah, we will be collecting funds to purchase requested food items (see below). Our goal is to fill at least 30 bags of food. Your donations will be used to purchase the requested food items to fill each bag. And the children attending Messiah's Vacation Bible School will assemble the food bags as a service project for delivery to the Center.

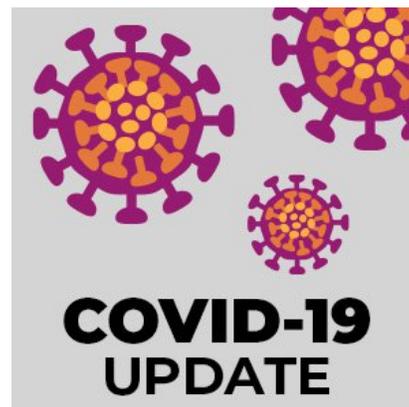
If you wish to contribute – and we hope everyone will – please make your check out to “*Rector’s Discretionary Fund*”; and be sure to note “*Summer Food Bags*” in the notation line. Our community’s children thank you for your generosity and support!

Each bag will contain the following items:

- Macaroni & cheese
- Juice boxes
- Breakfast cereal (low sugar)
- Spaghetios w/ meatballs
- Granola bars, fruit snacks, peanut butter crackers
- Peanut butter & jelly
- Pudding cups, fruit cups
- Applesauce cups
- Tuna or chicken salad kits
- Goldfish crackers, microwave popcorn
- Frisbee, bubbles, craft packets

COVID UPDATE & REMINDERS

Two weeks ago, 150 clergy of the Diocese of PA gathered in Cape May with Bishop Gutierrez. Having been cancelled for the past two years due to the pandemic, it was a wonderful time to greet old friends and welcome the new clergy who have come into the diocese over these past many months. Unfortunately, despite the requirement that all in attendance be fully vaccinated and boosted, in the days that followed the event more than 40 attendees reported that they had tested positive for the virus.



This serves as a powerful reminder that COVID is still very present and will continue to be for months and perhaps years to come. Your health and safety are of utmost importance and because Omicron and its variants are so unpredictable, it is important to revisit what we know about the virus and what steps we can take to help prevent infection.

On the bright side: The current variants, while more infectious, appear to be less virulent. This means that the illness they cause tends to be less severe. Moreover, while the vaccines may not be as effective in preventing infection by these variants, they do continue to be very effective against the risk of hospitalization and death. At the same time, it is important to bear in mind that the CDC currently classifies the entire region of our diocese as being “low risk”, meaning people, particularly those who are vaccinated, can engage in any kind of activity at their own discretion.

So what will Messiah do in light of these developments? First of all, we will not react in an alarmist manner, but thoughtfully and carefully. With the direction of the diocesan offices, we will continuously monitor the science and make adjustments to protocols as appropriate. None of these are new, but a reminder to be vigilant.

- Sunday services will continue to be held.
- While we will not require proof of full vaccination, vaccinations and boosters are highly recommended for all in attendance at church events.
- Please self-screen and stay home if you know you have been exposed or experiencing any of the following symptoms:
 - Fever or chills
 - Cough
 - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - Fatigue
 - Muscle or body aches
 - Headache
 - Loss of taste or smell

- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea
- If you choose to wear a mask, please wear a high-quality mask (N95, KN95, KF94), and ensure that it is properly worn (covering the nose and mouth, close fitting).
- Social distancing (more than 6 feet) is encouraged.
- Doors will remain open to allow as much airflow as possible.
- The 9:30 services will continue to be livestreamed, as well posted to the website for the week following.
- We will respect and honor the decisions of all parishioners regarding in-person attendance. No judgments.

Please, please, please - take care of yourselves - and one another. Together, with God's help and protection, we will get through this.



VESTRY UPDATES

As part of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Sunday, May 1st, retiring members were thanked for their three years of service in this important ministry of leadership and guidance within the parish. Retiring members include:

- **Cheryl Berry**
- **Megan Myers**
- **Michael Stinson**
- **Paul Vollmar**

And four new members were unanimously selected by acclamation:

- **Sue Hess**
- **Dale Murphy**
- **Warren Tudgay**
- **Cathy Wallace**

Welcome to these new individuals as they begin their three-year terms of service. We thank them for offering their time and talents, and dedicating themselves to this ministry.

Continuing to serve are the following parishioners:

- **Officers: Barbara Stevenson, Warden; Sam Frenkel, Treasurer; Tina Madison, Clerk**
- **Class of 2023: Tim Beaver, Jennifer Marsh, Jon Marshall, Mercer Sisson**

- Class of 2024: Joan Benninghoff, Greg Honeyman, Lynn Mangan

ANNUAL MEETING RECTOR'S ADDRESS & PRESENTATIONS

(finances, security system, property & grounds) are available for viewing on the parish website: messiahgwynedd.org. Copies of the handouts are available in the narthex.

Altar Flowers

If you would like to honor a loved one(s) by dedicating the altar flowers in their name, please contact the church office. There are lots of open Sundays for the spring and summer! The suggested donation is \$60.





GIVE %20

Dine with us and we'll donate 20% of your food bill* to:

Church of the Messiah

valid only at the NORTH WALES location on:

6/6 6/13 6/20 & 6/27 2022

Thank you for you for your support

Iron Hill Brewery & Restaurant
1460 Bethlehem Pike, North Wales, PA 19454
www.ironhillbrewery.com



From May 2-26, Sumneytown Pike between Rt 202 and Swedesford Road will be closed to traffic. Traffic from the direction of North Wales will be detoured onto Swedesford Road. Please drive safely when entering and leaving the church!

You can visit the following link for more information:

[PennDot to Close Sumneytown Pike at Route 202 Beginning May 2, 2022 | Lower Gwynedd Township](#)



UPDATE ON AID FOR UKRAINE:

Thank you to all who have generously donated items for Ukrainian Humanitarian Relief! We recently delivered a literal truck load of diapers, protein bars, personal hygiene items, Tylenol and other necessities to the Sisters of Saint Basil the Great, located at Manor College in Jenkintown. While this group continues to collect donations to be shipped to Ukraine, support in the form of fundraising is now preferred to enable more immediate in-country help.

Therefore, we will discontinue collecting physical donations and ask that you please visit the following sites. These sites offer safe and vetted ways for you to make a difference!

Amazon link - frequently updated with current urgent needs

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2XJRDF6MJQDC8?ref_=wl_share

Support Manor College (The Sisters of Saint Basil the Great)

<https://manor.edu/about/supportukraine/>

The Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center

<https://www.ueccphila.org/>

Episcopal Relief & Development

www.episcopalrelief.org



Walk in the footsteps of Jesus!

HOLY LAND PILGRIMAGE

MARCH 5-16, 2023

SPACES ARE LIMITED & BEGINNING TO FILL

You are invited to join the clergy and other pilgrims from Church of the Messiah and Trinity Church, Princeton, as we walk in the footsteps of Jesus. Together, we will visit places of his birth, life, ministry, death, and resurrection. Our experienced personal guides will lead us in exploring ancient places, vibrant markets and modern museums in a land that is suspended between East and West, past and present.

The cost - only \$4,500.00 – includes:

- Roundtrip airfare and airport transfers
- Accommodations for 10 nights
- All taxes, tips and gratuities
- Guides and entrance fees to all sites
- Daily meals (breakfast, lunch, dinner)
- Farewell banquet
- Three evening lectures
- Daily worship opportunities

A complete itinerary and additional details can be found in the narthex. And if you have questions, please feel free to contact the Rector for more information.

A deposit of \$500.00 secures your spot! But spaces are limited and are beginning to fill. Don't miss out on this wonderful opportunity for travel, education, inspiration, and fellowship!

CHURCH OF THE MESSIAH
GWYNEDD, PA
TRINITY CHURCH
PRINCETON, NJ
A JOURNEY TO THE
HOLY LAND


QUMRI PILGRIMAGES
IN THE LAND OF THE HOLY ONE

12-Day Pilgrimage
March 5-16, 2023

Led by
The Rev. Keith A. Marsh
The Rev. Paul Jeanes III

Local Guides

Canon Iyad Qumri
& Rami Qumri

FOR MORE INFORMATION
PLEASE CONTACT
OUR COORDINATORS

 The Rev. Keith A. Marsh
Rector

PHONE: (215) 699-9204
MAIL: rector@messiahgwynedd.org

 The Rev. Paul Jeanes III
Rector

PHONE: (609) 924-2277 Ext 103
MAIL: jeansp@trinityprinceton.org

You are invited to join other pilgrims from Church of the Messiah and Trinity Church as we walk in the footsteps of Jesus. Together, we will visit the places of his birth, life, ministry, death and

resurrection. Our experienced personal guide Iyad Qumri, will lead us in exploring ancient places, vibrant markets, and modern museums in a land that is suspended between East and West, past and present.



Please use your
smartphone's rear
camera to scan
the QR code



Qumri Pilgrimages

Sunday Worship

MULTIPLE WAYS TO JOIN US FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP

Thanks to the wonders of modern technology and the hard work of several parishioners, we are able to offer a variety of ways to participate in Sunday services:

- **IN-PERSON** – 8:00 and 9:30
 - **LIVE-STREAMED** - the 9:30 service will be broadcast on YouTube – follow the link posted on the church website (messiahgwynedd.org)
 - **WEBSITE** – at the close of the service, a video will be posted to the parish website (messiahgwynedd.org) for viewing at a time convenient for you
-

Reaching Out to the Community

SUPPORT MANNA ON MAIN STREET



We Continue to Collect & Deliver Non-Perishable Items

As you do your weekly shopping, please pick up some non-perishable food items, toiletries and cleaning supplies. These donations can be left on the back pew of the church or left outside the Rector's office door. These will then be delivered to Manna to stock their shelves for distribution to meet clients' needs.

Church School News



Church School is back in person!! Please meet us at 9:30 upstairs in the Parish Hall!! Our last day of church school for the year will be May 22. We will resume again in the fall.

YOM News

Please take note of our updated schedule of events for teens!

You will find a variety of events, focused on both fun and service, as well as within the parish and outside in the larger community!

[Click Here](#) to view the schedule!



Creative Angels

NOTE: Barbara Stevenson continues to need recipes and craft ideas to pass along to the parish through the weekly email messages. You can send your submissions to Barbara at bebstevenson@yahoo.com.



Summertime and fresh vegetables from the garden. Sounds wonderful, doesn't it? We're not quite there yet...but the grocery markets have a nice variety of fresh vegetables. You need just a few to make this delicious salad. Panzanella is a salad you will enjoy through the warm months.

Enjoy!
Barbara

Panzanella

3 Tablespoons olive oil
1 small French bread, cut into 1" cubes (6c)
1 teaspoon Kosher salt
2 large ripe tomatoes, cut into 1" cubes
1 hothouse cucumber, not peeled, sliced into 1/2" thick slices
1 red pepper, cut into 1" cubes
1 yellow pepper, cut into 1" cubes
1/2 red onion, cut in half and thinly sliced
Basil leaves, coarsely chopped

VINAIGRETTE

small amount of chopped garlic
1/2 teaspoon Dijon mustard
3 Tablespoons champagne vinegar
1/2 cup olive oil
1/2 teaspoon Kosher salt
1/4 teaspoon ground black pepper

Heat oil in large sauté pan. Add bread and salt. Cook over low heat to medium heat, tossing frequently, for 10 minutes, until nicely browned. Add more oil, as needed. For vinaigrette, whisk all ingredients together. In a large bowl, mix all salad ingredients together, toss with vinaigrette and season with salt and pepper.

12 servings



Church of the Messiah | 1001 Dekalb Pike, Lower Gwynedd, PA 19002-1941

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