



CHURCH of
the MESSIAH

MESSIAHGWYNEDD.ORG

The Rector's Message

The Third Sunday after the Epiphany

SUNDAY, 21 January 2024

A Message from the Warden



Saturday, January 20, 2024

As we move through this year together, there are many things going on at The Church of The Messiah. This is an update including information about some of these happenings.

The Property Committee has been working diligently to identify and prioritize issues and the work to be done to deal with day-to-day issues and

crises. The individual members of the committee are on site frequently. They report to the Vestry regularly so that expenditures are carefully approved and monitored. The members of the committee and the Vestry are anxious to work with others to secure resources to continue to bring all systems on campus up to date and in good working order.

As we move into the next couple of months, the Vestry will be preparing for the Church's annual meeting in May. Part of that preparation is to identify new Vestry members. The Vestry needs the support of congregants to identify potential new Vestry members. If you would like to be considered as a Vestry member, or would like to nominate another congregant for a position on the Vestry, please submit your name or your nominee's name to Barbara Stevenson, Warden (bebstevenson@yahoo.com), Sam Frenkel, Financial Warden (sfrenkel516@gmail.com), Lynn Mangan (lynnmangan3@gmail.com) or Marissa Beaver (beaverm18@gmail.com).

The Vestry will, hopefully, approve the 2024 Church budget at their February meeting. In preparation, the Vestry has with Sam Frenkel's leadership, monitored expenditures, considered alternatives for work to be done, analyzed investment trends, as well as participated in several energetic discussions regarding spending necessities. Part of the process has been to meet with mission leaders to identify goals, request needed monies, prioritize spending and note criteria that will be utilized to evaluate success.

At this point in the Search Process, the Profile Committee is in the final stage of completing its work. The next steps include forwarding the profile to the Vestry and the Diocesan Transition Deacon for approval. Once the approvals are received, the profile will be forwarded to our Search Committee so they can begin their work to identify candidates, with Diocesan support, for our new Rector. The Search Committee will report their progress, as appropriate, through the Spring and beyond, as the process unfolds, to the congregation.

In closing, my heartfelt thanks come to you, our wonderful congregants, for your support of the Vestry, their work for and communication with you, the members of our Property Committee, the Profile Committee and the Search Committee for all they have done and continue to do and the time they devote to the tasks at hand. I extend my thankfulness, and gratitude too, to our dedicated mission groups and their leaders for their selfless work to serve others in the name of our Lord. Thank you and bless you, everyone, for contributing all that you do to our caring Messiah Church Family.

Blessings,
Barbara Stevenson

SUNDAY SERVICES

8:00 am Holy Eucharist

9:30 am Sung Eucharist

To view the service virtually, visit the website:

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

Sunday Bulletin can be found
[here](#)

Visit our Website

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday through Friday 9:30-2:30

FOLLOW US!!



IN CASE OF A PASTORAL EMERGENCY

Please contact The Rev. David Beresford: 302-468-9062

Church Calendar



Announcements

Ride Needed

We have a parishioner in need of a ride to and from Sunday 9:30 am services! They live right around the corner from Messiah at



Foulkeways. Please reach out to Father David or the office for more information.

Confirmation Class

Our next meeting will be in the Rector's Office on Monday, January 29 at 2.30 pm. We will be discussing Chapter 7 - The Creeds.



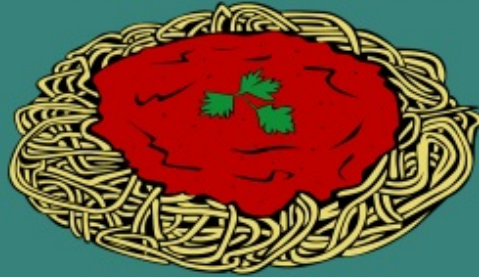


Church of the Messiah

Spaghetti Dinner

Friday: February 9, 2024

5:00pm to 7:00pm



Please plan to join – a time for Fellowship

All Family & Friends are welcomed!



- ❖ A simple meal of spaghetti, meatballs, salad, bread and dessert
- ❖ A vegetarian pasta too
- ❖ BYOB - water, coffee and tea will be provided
- ❖ Questions? See Brenda Weir, Pam Schunke, Barbara Osborne

\$10 donation is greatly appreciated to cover food costs



Messiah Meals - Outreach

Please join us for Messiah Meals preparation. We will be gathering in the church kitchen on Monday, February 5th at 5:00 pm to cook and package dinners.

Or.... You can prepare meals at home. This is a great way to get kids/grandkids involved



in community service. Kits with instructions will be available in the Narthex. Grab some and help feed those in need.

This is Us 2023-2024

As we begin the New Year and continue preparing to call our new minister, let's make sure our images reflect who we are today. Were you at the Wreaths Across America event or in church over Christmas? We would love to share your photos on our website and Facebook page. Please forward your photos or send Google or Facebook invitations to office@messiahgwynedd.org or to jkslondon18@gmail.com.



New Beginnings II - Widows and Widowers

We meet for fellowship, fun and comradery! We also plan upcoming social events which include plays, lunches and bowling, etc. Our next meeting will be Wednesday, February 7, and then the first Wednesday of every month through May.



Widowed Friends

Meetings are held at St. Helena's gym which is behind the school located on 1489 Dekalb Pike, Blue Bell, PA 19422. For more information, please contact Mary Jane Madonna at 610-247-0852.



Altar Flower Spaces Available

There are lots of openings for Altar Flowers for Winter. Please contact the office if you would like to honor a loved one with altar flowers. The suggested donation is \$75.

The Prayer Book

A book with a white cover and cross can be found at the back of the church. In the book please write the names of those who are sick in body, mind or spirit or in any kind of need. Their names will be included the following week in the prayers of the people.



Those whose names are entered will be prayed for on Sundays and by members of our prayer chain. Along with their names, please also write the current date. After four weeks - or before if requested - their name will be removed from the prayer list. To continue to include them on the prayer list, after four weeks their name must be entered again in the book.



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.*

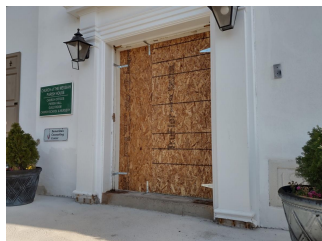
- James Snyder
- G. Brooke Hallman
- Isabelle Ault
- Wes Champlin



Photos for Social Media

We frequently take photographs in and around the church that may appear on our social media account, website and print materials. If you do not wish to be in photos, please contact Tiffany Reichley in the church office, and we will be sure to respect your wishes!

Property News



The New Doors

As we await the arrival of the new doors to the car park in six to eight weeks' time, to enter the Parish Hall and Offices please use the door at the side of the building, across from the driveway from the entrance to the church.

Church School News



This past Sunday the children heard the Story of Joseph. They talked about how God can lead us in surprising ways. The Bible basis is Matthew 1:18-24 and Isaiah 9:6-7.

This Sunday we will hear about the Mysteries of the Wise Men and discuss that those who seek God will find him. The Bible basis is Matthew 2:1-12 and Zechariah 8:22.

What's Going On Around Messiah

Harmony Theater is a creative performance environment for people with disabilities.

They have several shows throughout the year at Messiah. For more information or to purchase tickets, click here:

[Show and Ticket Info](#)
[HarmonyTheaterInc](#)



Volunteer Spotlight

Belfry Bargains News

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT BELFRY BARGAINS

Currently, there is a need at Belfry for additional volunteers. The hours are from 10am to 1pm, and

the shop is open Monday through Saturday (closed during the summer months). If this is something that interests you, please contact Diana Mulroy (267-481-6091), Ginny Oldt (267-664-1863) or Jennifer Christman (610-304-4388).



Where do the proceeds from Belfry go?

ALL of the proceeds from Belfry Bargains are donated to causes and agencies outside the parish. Every dollar raised through the sale of clothing and other goods donated to Belfry are given to support and benefit those in need within our local community, as well as across the country and the world.

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.



Ending Hunger, Building Community, Transforming Lives

Creative Angels

As I've talked with some of you about recipe choices, you've made me aware that vegetarian recipes are favorites! I have made this Vegetable Stir Fry as both a side dish, as well as, a main course offering. It's a refreshing change.

Enjoy!
Barbara

Vegetable Stir Fry

1 large carrot, sliced
2 cups medium broccoli florets
8 oz can baby corn spears, drained
8 oz mushrooms, sliced or quartered
1 whole pepper, seeded and sliced
2 Tablespoons cooking oil
2 Tablespoons unsalted butter
2 teaspoons ginger, ground

Stir Fry Sauce

1/4 cup chicken broth
1/2 cup teaspoon cornstarch
3 Tablespoons low sodium soy sauce
2 Tablespoons honey
1/4 teaspoon hot sauce, optional

In a large non-stick or wok, over medium heat, heat the oil. Add vegetables and stir fry about 3 minutes or until vegetables are crisp tender. Add the butter, ginger and cook until fragrant. In a small bowl, combine all the ingredients for the stir fry sauce. Pour the sauce over the vegetables and stir. Turn heat down to medium low and cook three to four minutes, until sauce thickens and vegetables are desired tenderness.

4 servings



Please join with me as we pray for Messiah in this time of transition:

Almighty God, you know the needs of your Church in every place: look graciously upon us, the people of Church of the Messiah, and grant us the guidance of your Holy Spirit as we move through this time of transition.

Give us discernment, wisdom, and confidence in your timing.

Guide the Warden, officers and members of the Vestry, and leaders of our faith community as they labor to be faithful in seeking your will.

We pray for the life of our parish, that we may continue to be strengthened in our mission to be Jesus Christ's heart, hands, and feet to our neighbors no matter where they are on their journey of faith.

Bless us with mutual trust and respect, courage, and foresight as you shepherd our community through this next course of our journey.

Grace us with continuous direction and inspire us toward genuine self-reflection.

All this we ask as we walk in your ways to the glory that awaits us in your name.

Amen.

RESOURCES FOR SPIRITUAL GROWTH

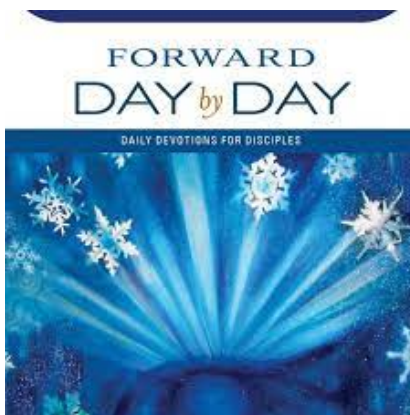


SOCIAL JUSTICE AND OUTREACH





MY WAY OF LOVE
POWERED BY RENEWALWORKS



“

Do Something.

A Message from Bishop Daniel G. P.
Gutierrez on Responding to Gun Violence

Church of the Messiah
www.messiahgwynedd.org



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

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