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# The Messenger

November 2022

Carol King, Editor



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Website: [www.messiahchester.org](http://www.messiahchester.org)

## Regular Sunday Worship Schedule

10:00 am Holy Eucharist (w/music)  
indoors in sanctuary &  
live-streamed on  
Facebook

### Messiah Vestry:

John P, Treasurer

Elected Wardens: serving until (year)

(2023)	(2024)
Dani P	Debbie B

Elected Members: serving until (year)

(2023)	(2024)	(2025)
Susan O	Julie C	Keith H
Craig R	Kathy K	Pat K
Dave S	Bernadette R	Holly P



We are a part of the  
Episcopal Diocese of  
Newark, NJ

## A Message from Bishop Hughes

“What is it that God is calling us to do and be as people of faith at this particular time, in our parishes, in our communities, in the world, in our country? Who are we called to be and what is God calling us to do? My hope is this, that every Episcopalian will spend time discerning what they are called to do. That God has created you for something specific in this world, and that you have discovered that, or are in the process of discovering it, and that you are doing that thing to the best of your ability. That is your number one calling, that thing that God has created you to do. That’s how you bring God into the world.

I also hope that every Episcopalian has developed an ability to pray for others, and a deep ability to pray for others, not just to pray for ourselves and the people in our family and the things that we need or that our parish needs, but to pray for the problems of the world. I think that serious Christians also lay their hands on people who are sick. And when I say serious Christians, I mean, the committed Christians and people who have really spent time working on their sense of who God is calling them to be and working on their spiritual life. That when we pray, we expect that

God is going to do something, and that we lay our hands on people, knowing that God is going to do something in response to our prayers.

I also expect that people who are committed Christians, people who are serious Christians, people who have become mature in their spiritual life and in their faith, live the kind of life that the things that they do and say, reflect on who they are as faithful people. That they so live, following Jesus, that they are loving God's people, wherever they find them. They bring God's love and mercy and compassion wherever they go. People actually know they are Christians, not so much from what they say, but for the way that they live.

So I want to encourage you, every single day, to begin anew, to start the day asking that question, God, who is it that you would have me be? What would you have me do this day? Please show me the steps that I need to take and put the teachers in my path that can help me be the person that is needed at this particular time in my life. That all of us in some way, want to be that person that God can count on. Begin anew.”

*Prayer should not be regarded as a duty which must be performed, but rather as a privilege to be enjoyed, a rare delight that is always revealing some new beauty.*

– E.M. Bounds

## A Message from the Warden

Here we are 5 months into our search for a new rector. We've been fortunate to have been able to get supply clergy for at least one Sunday a month and sometimes two. We are also very blessed to have Bernadette, Hans and Kathy serve as officiants to offer Morning Prayer the Sundays we do not have a priest. We continue praying and preparing ourselves and Messiah for the future that God has for us.

November is traditionally the month for stewardship - the time that we all are asked to think about what Messiah means to us. I am going to share parts of my sermon from Sunday October 30<sup>th</sup>.

The other day while Dani and I were talking about stewardship, she asked "what exactly does stewardship mean anyway?". So she looked it up.



Stewardship is defined as the responsible overseeing and protection of something considered worth caring for and preserving. I think our stewardship at Messiah has two parts. One is the obvious - taking care of our building in a financially responsible way and providing a safe space to worship and gather. The second is to provide opportunities for parishioners to reach out to the community to let others see how we share God's love - by treating and honoring all others - past, present and future. Reaching out to others in the community by thought, word and deed is

one of the most important ways that we can oversee, preserve, protect and fulfill God's wishes for us and all others.

There are many ways that each of us does our part as stewards of Messiah: some in obvious ways and some in not so obvious ways. Over the month of November, several people will share during the church service the way they choose to do their stewardship or spread God's word.

In Paul's second letter to the Thessalonians, he shares that thanks should be given to God because when our faith grows so does our love for one another. He also recommends prayer asking God to help everyone fulfill every good deed that they undertake in Christ's name. As our faith grows, so does our understanding and love of every being and the significance of everything we do in thought, word and deed.

In a religion that was born in a barn, an open door goes without saying. At Messiah we emulate that by sharing our building and all that we have with others.

We house a thrift shop which greatly benefits Messiah financially. It also benefits the people who purchase the items, donate their items and those in other countries where season end items get sent. Diane will be sharing more about this ministry one Sunday.

We have a Social Justice Ministry, Outreach and Inreach Ministries and a Music Ministry. Each provide stewardship opportunities for all of us to reach out to

both our Messiah community and the community at large.

There are many other ministries going on behind the scenes too. All help us, from the Church of the Messiah, to meet that definition of stewardship, to responsibly oversee and protect something worth caring for and preserving - our building and grounds, our Messiah community and God's love for all.

Messiah is a place where we learn about and share God's love in the world and where faith and real life come together. Here we do this through involvement in our community, through hospitality, serving one another and our community, and through providing a safe place for developing a relationship with God. These are the reasons I call Messiah my home and community and why I choose to share my gifts here.

Please continue to keep Messiah and our Messiah community in your prayers as we go through our transition and search for a new rector. Think of what part you do to help our Messiah community stay viable and share God's good with others by thought, word and deed. At the end of the month we will ask you to prayerfully consider a financial pledge to help Messiah continue with its stewardship- to responsibly oversee and protect something worth caring for and preserving.

**Debbie B., Warden**

*To this end we always pray for you, asking that our God will make you worthy of his call and will fulfill by his power every good resolve and work of faith, <sup>12</sup>so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.*

2 Thessalonians 1:11-12

## Homeless Solutions

Saturday, Nov. 19<sup>th</sup> & Friday, Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>

This is an opportunity for “hands-on” ministry: cooking and serving the dinner at the Morris County Homeless shelter called “Homeless Solutions.” We serve there at least once a month (12+ times each year.) Anyone aged 9 years or older is welcome to help. The sign-up sheet is on the board in the parish hall. We will be serving next on Saturday, November 19<sup>th</sup> and on Friday, December 9<sup>th</sup>.



If you would like to know more about what is involved, talk to Julie or any of the people who have already been there.

At this time due to Covid restrictions all volunteers much be registered.

We intend this ministry to be a way to serve “hands-on” instead of just sending money; **but** serving about 70 people costs roughly \$100 each time. Your financial support is also welcome. If you can sponsor a meal or part of a meal, please mark “Homeless Solutions” on your check.

## St. Elsie's Thrift Shop Schedule

Thursdays 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm  
Saturdays 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

50% off sales: Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>  
\$1 dollar sales: Nov. 17 & 19<sup>th</sup>

Closed for Thanksgiving Day  
Thursday, Non. 25<sup>th</sup>

## November Birthdays

5 Kathy K  
7 Kristin P  
17 Christine B  
29 Joyce M



*Knock, knock!*

*Who's there?*

*Arthur.*

*Arthur who?*

*Arthur any leftovers?*

## Coffee Hour



After the 10 am service, we will join with our friends for a time of fellowship and conversation. Coffee, tea & wrapped snacks will be available.

## November Anniversary

27 Christy W & Pieter V



## “Plus One” Campaign

This is a very simple way to remember families in need. When you go to the supermarket, just add one item to your cart. Your single item, added to everyone else's single item, will make a huge difference.



**HELP  
WANTED**

**NEEDED!**

## St Elsie's Thrift Shop Needs Your Help!

Front sales desk help is needed: Saturdays 12 -.2.  
Two other volunteers will be there to help, so this is truly a “no experience needed” situation.

Contact Diane if you are available

[Dianecardillo9@gmail.com](mailto:Dianecardillo9@gmail.com).

Our thrift shop provides:

- ▶ vital income for our parish
- ▶ a “shopping spree” for many who can't afford boutique prices
- ▶ a resource for filling emergency needs for families in crisis.

## Neighbors in Need

“Neighbors in Need” in November is **Long Valley Food Pantry**. All shelf-stable donations are appreciated. Always-needed items include:

- oil, vinegar, salad dressing, mayo,
- powdered & shelf-stable milk
- canned chicken, soups, veggies
- body wash, shampoo & conditioner
- paper towels/tissues/napkins
- feminine hygiene products
- cereal, rice, pasta
- flour, sugar, cake mix

## Save the Date Sunday, December 11

A team from the diocese will be with us Sunday December 11 after the 10 am service. Bishop Carlye described the visits this way:

"We have begun a process of strategic visioning and planning in our diocese. It is a time for us as a whole diocese to ask the question, what is God calling us to do now? Who is God calling us to be? What will we do with our time and our energy and our resources in order to serve God at this time in our lives? So that question is one that the entire diocese will be a part of asking and answering. Members of the visioning and planning team will visit every single parish, and all clergy, all lay professionals, all lay members and lay leaders, all who want to participate, will have the opportunity to sit and think about those questions and answer them together. And then all that information will be collected together, and we'll start considering what our next steps are.



## What does the church believe on public policy issues? Make your voice heard.

The Office of Government Affairs of The Episcopal Church represents us on critical public policy issues, advocating for positions taken by our bishops. Follow this link to learn what those positions are: [www.episcopalchurch.org](http://www.episcopalchurch.org). Click on Ministries, then on Office of Government Affairs. There you will find a list of Action Alerts that spell out the church's position on such matters as the Cuban embargo, the Arctic Refuge Protection Act, gun reform, immigration reform, voting reform and police reform. It is easy to add your voice on these issues. On the website, you can find a letter on each issue, add your thoughts, and immediately email it to your representatives in Washington. You can sign up to receive email alerts from the Office of Government Affairs.

*Dave S., Vestry member (Social Justice)*

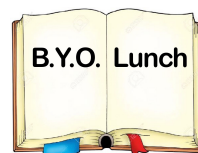


*Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise. Give thanks to him, bless his name.*

Psalm 100:4 NRSV

## Wednesday Lunch Group

November 2<sup>nd</sup> Noon – 1:00,



This lunch group continues to meet on Wednesdays at noon in the lower level. Participants can bring a bag lunch if they wish.

**EST**

**Nov. 6<sup>th</sup> at 2 am**

Too tired to stay up 'til 2 am? Just re-set clocks and watches before going to bed. Enjoy that extra hour of sleep.



## Rhyme Time

*Each clue leads to a 2-word rhyming answer. The numbers indicate the number of letters in each word. For example, "large swine [3,3]" would be BIG PIG.*

1. color of a female sheep [3,3]
2. swamp mist [3,3]
3. thin Timothy [4,3]
4. impolite naked person [4,4]
5. room for storing pepper's counterpart [4,5]
6. intelligent beginning [5,5]
7. border wall with no hollow parts [5,5]
8. energetic celebration [6,5]
9. Casper's bragging [6,6]

## Tree Decorating Workshop

Wednesday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> 10:00 a.m



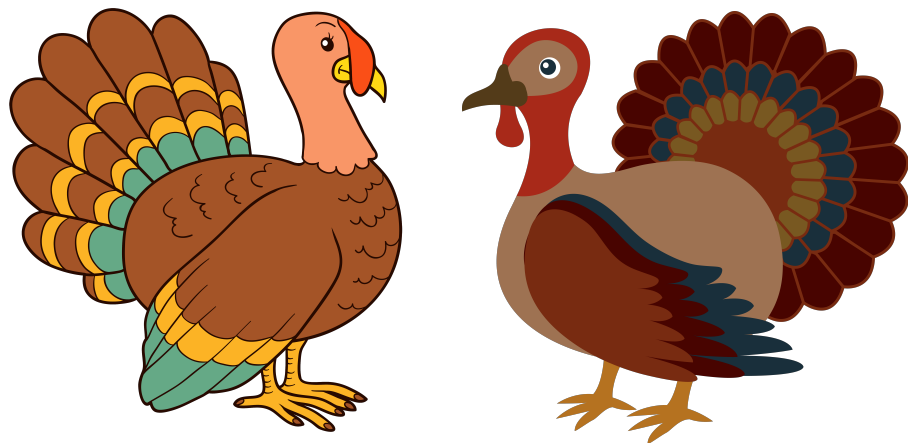
We Gather at the lower level to decorate trees for the Festival of Trees

Answers to the “shifting sands” puzzle  
from the October issue of *The Messenger*.

- |   |                 |                 |                                    |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|------------------------------------|
| 1 | <u>perfect</u>  | <u>pitch</u>    | talent for tone recognition        |
| 2 | <u>purse</u>    | <u>strings</u>  | control of finances                |
| 3 | <u>strings</u>  | <u>attached</u> | conditions required for acceptance |
| 4 | <u>attached</u> | <u>garage</u>   | home feature appreciated in winter |
| 5 | <u>garage</u>   | <u>sale</u>     | event offering used items          |
| 6 | <u>sale</u>     | <u>price</u>    | garage                             |
| 7 | <u>price</u>    | <u>cutting</u>  | <i>offering discounts</i>          |
| 8 | <u>cutting</u>  | <u>board</u>    | useful for chopping veggies        |

Senior Resource Center (SRC)

The SRC continues to offer great programs for seniors, mostly held here at Messiah. If you have questions about the SRC please call the Program Director, Liz Wynne, at 908-879-2202.



My investment advisor told me to  
go for short term capital gains.

Another FUN FUN Fundraising Event!!

Come on out to grab some grub and kick up your heels at our Line N’ Dine Event on Saturday, November 19<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm. Come to the Parish Hall, have a home cooked Spaghetti and Meatball Dinner (complete with salad and bread) for \$10. We will have water, coffee, and tea with sweets for dessert. BYOB



We will have the pleasure of David Cross (an SRC teacher) instructing us in Line Dancing. Also to note, we will be pulling our big 50-50 Winner at 9:00 pm.

SELL SELL SELL

COME JOIN US FOR A GOOD TIME!!!!

Flower Donations for the Altar

Is there a loved-one in your heart who has moved on to Heaven? Perhaps there is a living relative, friend, neighbor, or mentor you would like to honor? Altar flower donations are an excellent way to do so! If you attend church in person, you can sign up on the flower chart, then send your check to the office. You can also sign up by sending your request in via USPS mail, or by emailing it to the office.



You can make a request for the type or color of flowers you would like to have displayed. The suggested donation is \$35.

*The difference between a democracy and a dictatorship is that in a democracy you vote first and take orders later; in a dictatorship you don't have to waste your time voting.*

Charles Bukowski