



50 State Route 24 West,
Chester, NJ 07930
Phone: 908-879-7208

The Messenger

Carol King, Editor

Summer 2022



Email: messiahchester@earthlink.net

Website: 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

About Transition—Now that we have honored and celebrated Margaret’s time with us, we can share with you our plans for transition.

First, we’d like you all to have faith that God has a plan for us. Our Messiah community will always be guided by God. If you have concerns, questions, suggestions or needs; please let us, your wardens (or someone on the vestry) know. We need to be made aware of things in order to address them. Your concern or need may be unique to you, or may be the same as others; it may be something we are already addressing; so please let us know directly. It would be really great if you could also send it in an email. Please do bring it up again if you don’t think it’s being addressed: that would remind us, allow us to explain, or prod us to re-examine our response. Thank you in advance for honoring this request. Each parishioner is an important part of Messiah.

We have made arrangements to have at least two Sundays a month, through September, covered by supply priests so that we may have Holy Eucharist. On the other Sundays, we will have Morning Prayer led by Bernadette R. Sister Victoria Michelle will be the preacher one Sunday in July and one in August; we will have guest preachers the other Sundays. If you are willing to be a guest preacher, please let us know. You can base your homily (that’s a short sermon) on one of the excellent sermons available on the internet. It’s even OK to preach just what you find on-line; if you find something you feel is just right (but not too long!).

At this time, the supply priests we have scheduled are the Reverend Katherine Rollo, Sister Eleanor Francis, and the Reverend Joanne Epply-Schmidt. We will continue to do our best to cover additional

Sundays with supply priests, but they are hard to find during the summer.

The vestry will be meeting with Canon Clark from the diocese to formally begin our transition. We have faith that it will be fruitful; but we are realistic. It took over two years to find Margaret.

Messiah has been known to have many miracles, but God’s time does not follow our schedule. This transition may be unsettling for some. We must all prayerfully work together, stay focused, continue our faith journeys, and help one another. Be assured that we are here for each other.

Margaret and Mike appreciate all that we have been to them. Following Episcopal policy, Margaret is not permitted to be in close contact with former parishioners, and cannot provide pastoral care. This will be very hard for Margaret, who so openly shared her heart with so many; so please respect the boundaries that have been placed on her. We have three priests who will be available for pastoral care if you need it. Many of you already know one of those priests, the Rev. Sharon Hausman.

Sister Victoria Michelle has already started leading the weekly prayer group, and the EfM class will be led by Lorna Erixson, rector of Saint Mark’s in Mendham.

We have lots to do, but our Outreach and In-reach will keep going! We will be getting really organized and “cleaned up” so that prospective new rectors, (and members) will clearly see all the programs and gifts we have to offer. Keep Messiah in your prayers, and let’s honor Margaret’s wishes to continue the work she has done to keep Messiah Forever!

Debbie Burnet and Dani Pietrowski, your wardens

It’s OK to worry, but it’s much better to hope.. — Carol H.

July Birthdays

- 1. Peter VB
- 09 Christy W
- 12 Darla T
- 13 Chris O
- 25 Jackie M
- 27 Kendra T
- 28 Charles DB
- 29 Jim T



August Birthdays

- 1 Isabella T
- 4 Frank H
- 10 Gareth H
- 12 Drew W
- 14 Mija G
- 17 Merica D.
- 18 Hardee K
- 18 Linda F
- 21 Fenton H
- 27 Melinda M
- 27 Erowyn R
- 31 Jan S
- 31 Jansen I.

August Anniversaries

- 4 Linda & Chris O
- 7 Marie and Marcus B-P
- 8 Vicky & Jim W
- 9 Caroline & Gareth H
- 21 Peg & Peter VB
- 23 Dottie & Drew W
- 24 Dale & Wil R



No July Anniversaries

Neighbors in Need—July

“Neighbors in Need” in July is **North Porch. Women’s & Infant Center**

Please donate formula, baby & toddler food.

Non-food items such as baby wipes or large size diapers (6 or larger) are another critical need.

They can be any variety; inexpensive brands are fine.



Thrift Shop Schedule

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

50% off sales: July 7th & 9th
\$1 dollar sales: July. 14th & 16th
50% off sales: Aug 11th & 13th
\$1 dollar sales: Aug. 18th & 20th

“Plus One— or 2,3, or more?”

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

If you see an especially good sale price, or have a good coupon for something you would not ordinarily buy for yourself, consider giving more than one item.

Food pantries everywhere tend to experience a drop-off in donations during summer months, when affluent folk may be taking extended vacations. At the same time, the need for hungry children increases when a free school lunch is not an option. Please keep those always-generous Messiah donations flowing in!

Neighbors in Need—August

“Neighbors in Need” in August is **Long Valley Food Pantry.**

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

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.



Coffee (or Lemonade?) Hour

We join with old and new friends, in the parish hall, after the 10 am service. It may be bottled cold drinks & wrapped snacks; but it’s still “the 8th sacrament;” for truly the kind and caring listener, the sense of being welcomed, or the opportunity to say a kind word to another person can heal broken spirits.



RAMP Will Participate in Diversity Day

Once again RAMP will have a table at Diversity Day on Sunday, July 10th on the Green in Morristown. It's a fun and informational event for all who care about diversity in our community.



**DIVERSITY COALITION
OF MORRIS COUNTY**

Connecting People to Celebrate Diversity

**JOIN
US!**

DIVERSITY DAY
Sunday, July 10, 2022

One Community, Together Again!
CULTURE. FOOD. ENTERTAINMENT.

Learn more at www.diversitymc.org

ON THE MORRISTOWN GREEN

Sponsored by the Diversity Coalition of Morris County

11:00 AM INTERFAITH SERVICE
NOON TO 4:00 PM FESTIVAL



ABOUT THE EVENT

The Diversity Coalition of Morris County Diversity Day brings the community together to experience many cultures and faith!

- Featuring an Interfaith Service followed by music, food, and entertainment!
- Visit with various religious, ethnic, and cultural groups that make up our community!

WHAT IS THE DIVERSITY COALITION OF MORRIS COUNTY?

We are a non-political coalition of faith-based community organizations and individuals who live, work, and serve in the greater Morris County area. We share the common belief that all people should be treated with dignity, respect, and understanding.

How beautiful

How beautiful, our spacious skies,
Our amber waves of grain,
Our purple mountains as they rise
Above the fruitful plain.
America! America!
God's gracious gifts abound
And more and more we're grateful for
Life's beauty all around.

Indigenous and immigrant,
our daughters and our sons:
O may we never rest content
Till all are truly one.
America! America!
God grant that we may be
A sisterhood and brotherhood
From sea to shining sea.

How beautiful, sincere lament,
The wisdom born of tears,
The courage called for to repent
The bloodshed through the years.
America! America!
God grant that we may be
A nation blessed with none oppressed,
True land of liberty.

How beautiful, two continents,
And islands in the sea
That dream of peace, nonviolence,
All people living free.
Americas! Americas!
God grant that we may be
A hemisphere where people here
All live in harmony.

1993, Miriam Therese Winter (1938-)
Medical Mission Sisters

*After all is said and done,
more is said than done.*

Aesop



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.

- 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.

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.



The Summons

"Will you come and follow me, if I but call your name?
 Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
 Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;
 will you let my life be grown— in you, and you in me?"

"Will you leave your self behind, if I but call your name?
 Will you care for cruel and kind, and never be the same?
 Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?
 Will you let me answer prayer—in you, and you in me?"

"Will you let the blinded see, if I but call your name?
 Will you set the prisoners free, and never be the same?
 Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen;
 and admit to what I mean—in you, and you in me?"

"Will you love the 'you' you hide, if I but call your name?
 Will you quell the fear inside, and never be the same?
 Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around
 through my sight and touch and sound—in you, and you in me?"

*Lord, your summons echoes true, when you but call my name!
 Let me turn and follow you, and never be the same.
 In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show;
 thus I'll move and live and grow—in you, and you in me.*

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Homeless Solutions

Saturday, July 17th & Friday, August 13th

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 July 17th and on Friday August 13th.



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

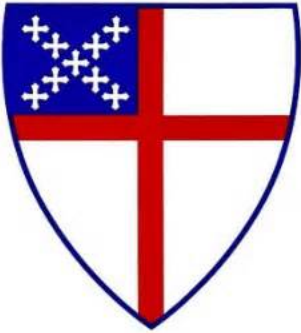
At this time due to Covid restrictions all volunteers must be registered.

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.

Dear God, teach me not to be a victim or overthink myself to death through stifling reflection, but rather teach me to breathe more deeply in faith.

—Søren Kierkegaard

What Does This Symbol Mean?



The Episcopal shield is a familiar symbol on road signs at town borders, usually accompanied by the words, “The Episcopal Church welcomes you.” The red Cross of St. George on a white field is symbolic of the Church of England, recognizing our descent from our parent church and our continuing ties to the world-wide Anglican Communion. The blue field in the upper left corner stands for the Episcopal Church. It features a Cross of St. Andrew, in recognition of the fact that

the first American bishop was consecrated in Scotland. This cross is made up of nine mini crosses, which represent the nine dioceses that met in Philadelphia in 1789 to form the Protestant Episcopal Church of the U.S.A.

Your Story, Your Thoughts, Your Interests

We would love to start running some feature articles in our newsletters. You do not have to be a Vestry member or in any other leadership position to contribute an article. It does not have to be about our parish activities. Any “musings” you think would interest our faith community, or a book review, a journey you found enlightening—what else can YOU think of contributing?

If you are new to Messiah, we would love to read your story in the next or subsequent editions of **The Messenger**. If you have been a member for a long time, we would love to read what has kept you here.

Please contact Susan O. or Carol K.

Backpacks for Needy Children



Once again this year, we are providing backpacks for some needy children attending elementary school. Details and sign-ups are available via your weekly emails.

Education is so very important! Please help these children to be well-prepared for learning.

Fare-thee-well, Troubadour!



Maybe we don’t need archaic language, even if we are part of an ancient tradition. When we think of Mark B., though, “troubadour” seems the apt title. We will miss you, Mark.

June B., your service as a vestry member, your creative leadership of Outreach ministries—your doing of any job that needed doing, leaves us hoping to find 3-4 people to replace you! We offer prayers for a happy new home in Lewes, Delaware.

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

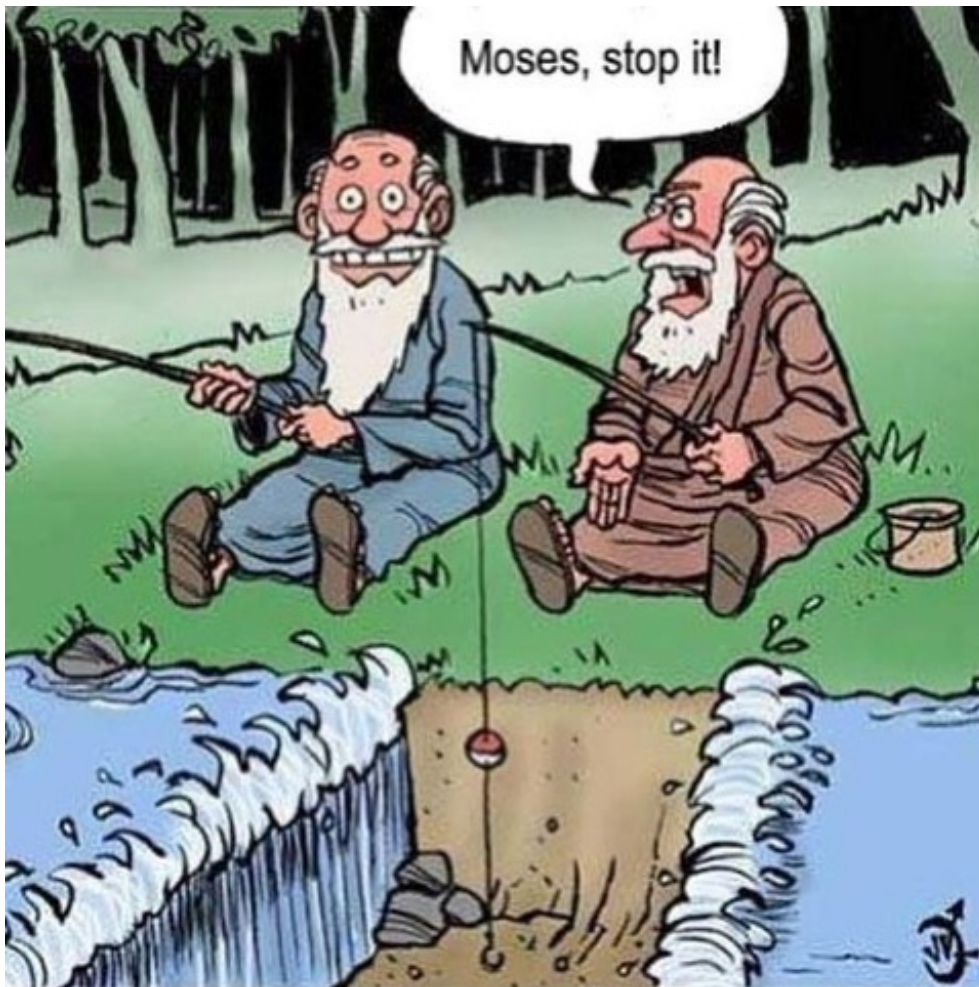
The Office of Government Affairs of The Episcopal Church represents us on critical public policy issues, advocating for positions taken by our bishops. Follow this link to learn what those positions are: www.episcopalchurch.org. Click on Ministries, then on Office of Government Affairs. There you will 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)

Just for Fun—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. Answers will appear in the September issue of The Messenger.

1. Microsoft mogul Bill glides across the ice [5,6]
2. Course of study taught by fashion designer Bill [5,5]
3. Cause “Groundhog Day” star Bill to fret [6,5]
4. “Shake, Rattle & Roll” singer Bill’s Sun.—Sat. newspaper [6,7]
5. former U.S. President Bill droppin’ a clue [7,6]



Good News Gardens: Plant, Pray, Proclaim

In addition to the on-site Community Garden maintained by Frank H., we have a plot and donation bin at the Chester Community Garden and have assisted with The Garden of Hope at the Community of St. John Baptist in Mendham.

Consider supporting the gardens by volunteering for a service day (or days) or by making either an ongoing or one-time donation. More on the Good News Gardens can be viewed here: [Good News Garden](#)

Julie C, Vestry member (Outreach)



The 80th General Convention

In light of ongoing concerns with the Covid-19 pandemic, the Presiding Officers, [the Most Rev. Michael Curry](#) and [the Rev. Gay Clark Jennings](#), at a special meeting of the Executive Council on May 11, 2022, called for a General Convention design team to evaluate how to hold the convention in the safest way.

The 80th General Convention will meet July 8 - 11, 2022, at the Baltimore Convention Center in Baltimore, Maryland. Originally scheduled for July of 2021, the meeting was postponed due to the pandemic. Meeting duration has been shortened from 10 legislative days to 4 legislative days. The number of attendees and the legislative process will also be somewhat altered for safety's sake.

Answers to the "shifting sand" puzzle from the June issue of *The Messenger*.

- | | | | |
|---|--------------|--------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1 | <u>broad</u> | <u>sheet</u> | daily publication |
| 2 | <u>sheet</u> | <u>music</u> | musician's reference |
| 3 | <u>music</u> | <u>video</u> | visual presentation of a popular song |
| 4 | <u>video</u> | <u>game</u> | activity often enjoyed at a computer |
| 5 | <u>game</u> | <u>point</u> | conclusion of a tennis contest |
| 6 | <u>point</u> | <u>blank</u> | at close range |
| 8 | <u>blank</u> | <u>slate</u> | <i>tabula rasa</i> |