



# MESSIAH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## CIRCUIT WRITER



A season of Hope!

Greetings everyone!

As we welcome another change of seasons, it feels as though autumn has quietly arrived. As we approach Advent and the Season of Hope, I am reminded that we have much to be thankful and grateful for. It is important to recognize that during these seasonal transitions, some of us face personal challenges. Many people experience seasonal disorders, which can lead to feelings of depression and melancholy during this time of year. Yet, even as the seasons change and life presents its difficulties, there is still hope, and God's presence is always with us. This Thanksgiving season brings significant changes in how many families will celebrate, as higher prices and massive layoffs will cause many people to seek help this year when they may not have needed it before.

This Christmas season may bring anxiety for some and a sense of dread for others. However, this is truly a season of hope. I trust that God's grace and mercy will be upon us all, and no matter what external cares we face, we serve a God who can give us peace during any storm. If you or someone you know is struggling, please reach out to our church community—we are here to support one another through prayer, conversation, and practical assistance. As we approach the birth of Jesus Christ, Mary's and Joseph's hope reminds us that this season offers joy, love, peace, and anticipation. Despite uncertainty, our faith assures us that God provides for us and remains present.

As a church community, it is important for us to strengthen the bonds of peace, unity, and fellowship during this season. Often, members see one another without forming deeper connections; however, this period presents an opportunity to foster new relationships and build a community founded on the love of Christ. Young individuals such as Mary and Joseph traveled to Bethlehem for the census, facing a period marked by uncertainty and anxiety. Mary, in her ninth month of pregnancy, undertook the journey alongside Joseph, who, as a first-time father, navigated the challenges and unknowns with faith that God would provide guidance and blessings, even amidst adversity. Despite finding no accommodation upon arrival and being unfamiliar with their surroundings, they continued to rely on divine provision. Furthermore, when Mary and Joseph later fled into Egypt to escape Herod's persecution, they did so in pursuit of safety, understanding their position as refugees seeking asylum in a foreign land. Let us look with compassion to those who are doing the same, even in this perilous time. Where they are facing persecution from their home countries.

This narrative recalls my first cross-country trip taken shortly after finishing high school, moving from Philadelphia to Morristown, TN to pursue higher education. The experience involved saying goodbye to family and traveling by bus to an unfamiliar place, accompanied by concerns about fitting in, academic readiness, and adapting to an unfamiliar environment. Upon arrival in Morristown, it became clear that others were facing similar adjustments, with some using the experience to leave difficult circumstances at home, while others saw it as an opportunity for growth. A support network existed to help ease the transition despite the physical distance between cities. Challenges included financial constraints and occasional feelings of loneliness, but connections formed during this period helped address those difficulties. The journey into a unique environment prompted reflection on coping mechanisms and sources of support throughout periods of change. As the season progresses, it can be helpful to remember that support systems exist, regardless of distance or uncertainty, and can provide guidance and encouragement toward future goals.

The political, social, and economic landscape this season has called us all to reflect and change. For many families, they will need the support that the church has. And I know that we are up to the challenge. The Bible reminds us. ***God's Spirit is on me; he's chosen me to preach the Message of good news to the poor, Sent me to announce pardon to prisoners and recovery of sight to the blind, To set the burdened and battered free, to announce, "This is God's time to shine!" Luke 4:18-19!***

Blessings,  
Pastor J

### Messiah Welcomes New Babies

**WELCOME BABY ROONEY,**  
Arnold Stanley Rooney, aka Arnie,  
born to Dan & Liya Rooney,  
born on Friday, born Sept. 1, 2025,  
8lb 8oz, 20 in.  
Pops and Nana Rooney are thrilled, feeling very blessed.

**WELOME BABY AMBERG,**  
Beckie & Jacob Amberg welcome  
Maiselyn Jade, (aka) Maisey  
Oct. 17th, 7 lbs. 6 Oz's and 20.25" long.  
Great Granddaughter to Dalene LaBelle.  
Everyone is happy and blessed



## Recap Sept. & Oct.

Started back to 10:30am worship.



Boiler project, completed and congregation is on their way to paying back funds. See goal chart in welcome center  
THANK YOU

Welcome Back Sunday with a Cake Bake off and a Rib Off



Heather Belford Cake Bake Off Winner



Michelle Hepburn Rib Off Winner





## Messiah Events UPDATE



**Annual Health & Wellness Community Day**

Messiah U.M. Church  
527 Ridge Pike  
Lafayette Hill, PA 19444

**SATURDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 27, 2025  
10 AM - 4 PM**

- Health Assessments
- Biometric Screening
- Vaccine Clinic
- CPR Training
- Mental Health Resources
- Breast Cancer Resources
- Home Care Services
- Loss and Grief Resources
- Life Coaching Resources
- Mounce Bounces
- Games and Giveaways
- Face Painting
- Stilt Walkers
- Music, Food, and Fun

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

**SEE MINISTER KIM FOR MORE INFORMATION**

### Annual Health & Wellness Fair Unites Community for Education, Prevention, and Fun

The Annual Health and Wellness Fair, hosted by Messiah's Health and Wellness Ministry under the leadership of Minister Kim Charleston, was held on September 27, 2025, and was a remarkable success. The event brought together families, healthcare professionals, and community partners for a day dedicated to health, empowerment, and celebration. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who attended and participated. Your support helped create a welcoming environment where health education, preventive care, and community engagement came together for the greater good of all.

This year's fair featured an impressive lineup of vendors and activities. Fox Chase Cancer Center provided crucial cancer awareness and prevention education, while Healing Hands of Gardenia Home Healthcare offered biometric screenings to promote early detection and health monitoring. Giant Pharmacy administered COVID-19 and flu vaccines to help keep the community protected during the upcoming season. Rx for Change hosted interactive children's activities and provided healthy snacks, and Betty's Bounce House added excitement and fun for families. Jazzy Entertainment delighted children with creative face painting, adding color and joy to the event atmosphere. The Public Health Management Corporation delivered valuable resources on addiction services and overdose prevention, and the Centers of Excellence shared lifestyle and wellness tools to support long-term health management. Attendees also enjoyed delicious food courtesy of Loft Q74, along with access to public health, self-care, and mental health resources.

The fair also showcased engaging entertainment and educational experiences. Charmaine led an energizing line dancing session, promoting wellness through movement and community fellowship, while the HHG Training Institute provided CPR training to empower individuals with life-saving skills. Children and adults were captivated by the High Hopes City Stilt Walkers, whose performance added a festive and uplifting spirit to the day. Together, these activities promoted holistic wellness—mind, body, and spirit. Thank you again to all vendors, community partners, volunteers, and guests for helping make this year's event uplifting, informative, and unforgettable!

Kimberly R. Charleston









**Annual Chicken BBQ**  
**SATURDAY, October 11, 2025,**

**STAY TUNED FOR MORE PICTURES AND DETAILS.  
THANK YOU TO ALL, FOR ALL YOUR HELP AND SUPPORT.**

**TRUNK AND TREAT  
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26TH, 1-3PM  
THANK YOU ANGELA & LOU OANDANSAN**





Pastor Appreciation Sunday.  
THANK YOU Pastor Johnson for all you and your family do for us, here at Messiah UMC.  
We truly do, appreciate you!



## Worship at Messiah



## A VERY SPECIAL 90TH BIRTHDAY TO ELSIE FEIEDGEN



On Sunday, October 19th we celebrated, honored, remembered and prayed for all those women going through, survived or have left us too early because of Breast Cancer. The month of October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month and we would like to see everyone wearing their PINK. We had available pink strips of paper so that you can write someone's name on it and during the service you can come up front and read that name to be lifted and then be placed in a basket for prayers.





NOTE from the Bishop



UNITED METHODISTS  
OF EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA  
& GREATER NEW JERSEY

*"Behold, I am sending you out as sheep in the midst of wolves, so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves." -Matthew 10:16 (ESV)*

Beloved in Christ,

I write you today to bring to your awareness some disturbing information that was shared with the cabinet. There are predators who have manipulated images of children that the predators obtained from video feeds of children sitting at the altar during children's messages. In those instances where we received specific reports of this activity all appropriate reporting and notifications were made.

It pains me that I have to request this, but I am asking that churches no longer broadcast video feeds of children during children's message. Please have the cameras focused solely on the person delivering the message or on members of the congregation. If you are broadcasting images of children participating in worship in other ways such as reading scripture, please make sure that you have documented permission from their guardians to broadcast those images. A written consent form or email from the guardians granting permission would be sufficient.

We will be looking for ways to incorporate this new learning into our Safe Sanctuary training. But because of the nature of this activity, I needed to inform you immediately, even though we do not yet have all the training in place we would want in order to assist you in complying with this mandate. If you have any questions about how to comply with this mandate, please contact your District Superintendent.

I cannot articulate my outrage at this development. With all of the work we have done as a denomination to protect our children when they are in our physical spaces, I am outraged that there are those who are abusing our children's images as we broadcast into cyberspace images of our children learning about God. Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy. God have mercy on us all.

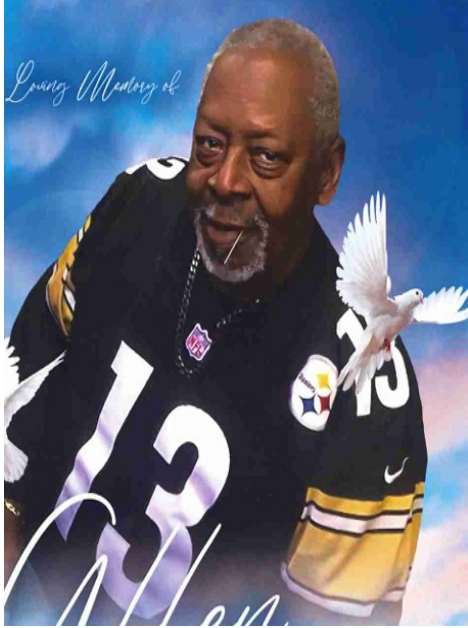
Our children are a precious gift. It is a sacred responsibility to do all that we can to ensure their safety and prevent abuse of any kind. Thank you for your efforts in this regard.

With deep lament,

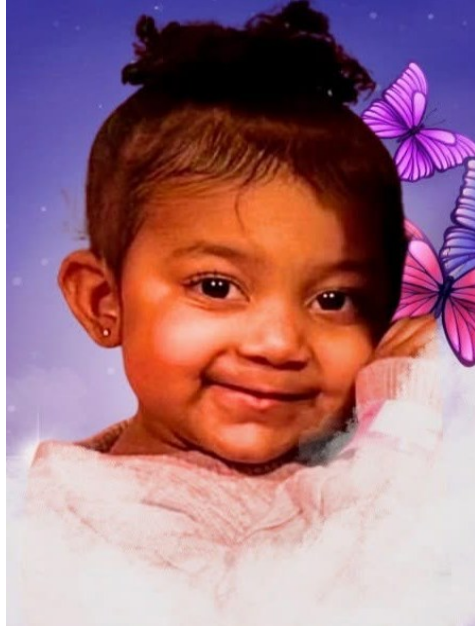
Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi

*The United Methodists of*  
Eastern Pennsylvania & Greater New Jersey  
[BishopMoore-Koikoi@epagnj.org](mailto:BishopMoore-Koikoi@epagnj.org)  
EPA: 484-474-0939 | GNJ: 732-359-1010

Remembering Our Saints



**Allen Shears**  
01/09/1938—  
01/11/2025



**Giselle Morgan**  
02/19/2022—  
06/17/2025



**Linda Heller**  
08/18/1946—  
08/03/2025



**Jane Littman**  
09/14/1932  
08/05/2025

We presented a wreath at the Memorial Garden  
for all of our saints.

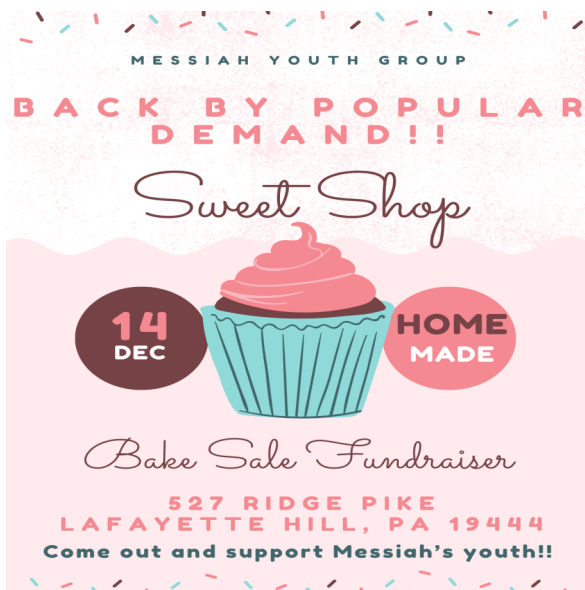




## WHAM—Knitting time



## Welcome back to Messiah Youth



**The Messiah Youth Group has started back with the Pastor and their bible study.**

**They went on a hayride to Winding Brook Farms and had a great, scary time.**

**They have lots more stuff planned.**

**Bake Shop will return, see you in December**

## Bible Studies at Messiah

### Mondays

Kim Charleston, on-line, at 6am for Motivational Mondays  
AND

**Monday evenings at 6pm for Women in the Word  
Luncheon will be on Sat, Mar 28th at Messiah**

### Pastor Bible Study Wednesday nights, 7pm.

Monday, Wednesday & Friday evenings,  
Pastors prayer time on-line at 7pm



**MOTIVATIONAL MONDAYS**

"FUEL YOUR FAITH EVERY MONDAY  
AT 6 AM WITH  
KIMBERLY CHARLESTON, CSM  
— LIVE ON FACEBOOK.

LET YOUR SPIRIT BE RENEWED AND  
YOUR PATH REFOCUSED WITH  
INSPIRATION FROM GOD'S WORD.

"BUT THOSE WHO HOPE IN THE LORD  
WILL RENEW THEIR STRENGTH. THEY  
WILL SOAR ON WINGS LIKE EAGLES..."

ISAIAH 40:31

Good morning

610-828-0118 | messiahchurch@verizon.net | MessiahMethodistChurch.com



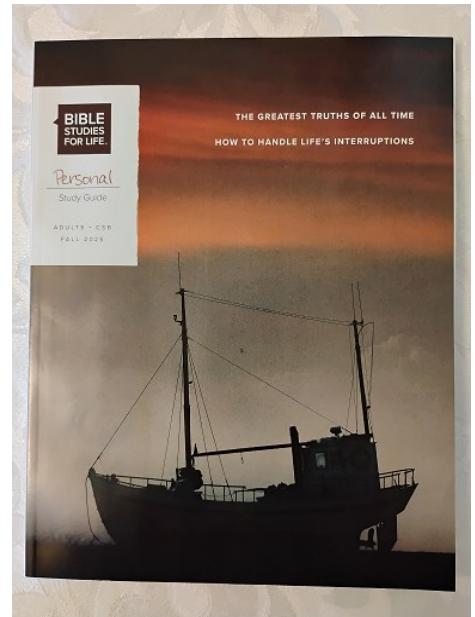
**MESSIAH UMC**

**Women in the Word**  
Fall/Winter Bible Study  
The Gospel of John

**Mondays, 6:00-7:00 PM via ZOOM**  
Nov 17, 2025 – Mar 16, 2026

Join Zoom Meeting:  
[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87936413987?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87936413987?pwd=8rjFYpRD2VIpiIakbNfJiCfv69VFTs.1)  
[pwd=8rjFYpRD2VIpiIakbNfJiCfv69VFTs.1](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87936413987?pwd=8rjFYpRD2VIpiIakbNfJiCfv69VFTs.1)

For info contact: Kim Charleston  
[messiahumc.events@gmail.com](mailto:messiahumc.events@gmail.com)  
[Charleston.kimberly@yahoo.com](mailto:Charleston.kimberly@yahoo.com)



MESSIAH UMC PRESENTS

**7PM PRAYER**

MONDAY  
WEDNESDAY  
FRIDAY

[WWW.MESSIAHMETHODISTCHURCH.COM](http://WWW.MESSIAHMETHODISTCHURCH.COM)



## Messiah Calendar

### Church Calendar:

<b>Nov. 1st</b>	<b>Charge Conference, 9am, at Messiah w/Dr. Foster</b>
Nov. 4th	Election Day, Office Closed
Nov. 8th	Fall Festival, open to all, Adults & Kids, see Laurie Corbin
Nov. 9th	Trustees Meeting, after worship
Nov. 16th	WHAM—Bake Sale
Nov. 18th	Leadership Meeting, 7pm
Nov. 30th	First Sunday in Advent
Dec. 5th	Decorating the Church for the Christmas season
Dec. 12th	Rooney Cookie Exchange
Dec. 13th	YG baking for Sweet Shop
Dec. 14th	YG Sweet Shop Sale
Dec. 19th	Move Night—Polar Express



<b>November Dates</b>	<b>Worship Leader</b>	<b>Usher/Greeter</b>	<b>Hospitality Host</b>	<b>Counter</b>
<b>11/2</b>	Kim Charleston	Gary Ober	Belford Family	Sandi Smith
<b>11/09</b>		Gary Ober	Stone/Plummer Families	Sandi Smith
<b>11/16</b>	<b>HELP!</b>	Gary Ober	WHAM Bake Sale	Sandi Smith
<b>11/23</b>	YOUTH	Gary Ober	Pancake Breakfast	Frank Sylvester
<b>11/30</b>		Gary Ober		Frank Sylvester

**PLEASE PRAY AND CONSIDER HELPING OUR WORSHIP EXPERIENCE, BY SIGNING UP TO BE A WORSHIP LEADER TO ASSIST PASTOR AND FOR HOSPITALITY TO ENJOY FELLOWSHIP TIME AFTER WORSHIP.**

<b>December Dates</b>	<b>Worship Leader</b>	<b>Usher/Greeter</b>	<b>Hospitality Host</b>	<b>Counter</b>
<b>12/7</b>	Kim Charleston	Gary Ober		Sandi Smith
<b>12/14</b>	<b>HELP!</b>	Gary Ober		Sandi Smith
<b>12/21</b>	<b>HELP!</b>	Gary Ober	<b>Sunday School</b>	Frank Sylvester
<b>12/24 Christmas Eve</b>				
<b>12/28</b>	YOUTH	Gary Ober		Sandi Smith



## MISSIONS AT MESSIAH

Colonial Neighborhood Council (helping our neighbors in many ways).

**ALWAYS NEEDS:** Gift cards (\$20 ONLY) WaWa and Giant and non-perishables.

All items may be placed on Mission Hutch in the Welcome Center, Gary Ober will deliver.



### Monthly Community Homeless Outreach

This will continue on the **THIRD** Saturday of every month, **next Nov. 15th & Dec. 20th.**

The Colonial Area Anti-Racism and Social Equity Alliance continues a monthly outreach to people at the Norristown Transportation Center. See Cameron Smith for information.

### Sunday Mornings:

**Regular** worship begins 10:30am

**Nursery** - for ages newborn to 4 yrs. old. **LOOKING FOR HELP**

**Sunday School** - Ages 5—10 at 9:45am

**Youth** - meets on 4th Sundays

**Junior Church** - **LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS**

**Children's Time** - is with the Pastor during worship

**Masks are optional in the church building during worship,**  
**if you feel the need, masks are available by back door.**

Worship will continue to be streamed live on Facebook and YouTube.  
Recordings of past services are on Website, Facebook and YouTube.

## Trustees Page



## Financial Corner

### 2025 Member Plans-for-Giving (as of 7/31/25)

Budgeted Pledge Card Amount: \$163,000  
Pro-Rata Pledge Card Amount: \$ 94,038  
ACTUAL YTD Amount Collected: \$ 72,233  
Fully paid up on Apportionments

HO—MUMC Treasurer





## We Support Our World With:

**THESE ARE OUR PRAYERS—LORD HEAR OUR PRAYERS  
PLEASE HELP THE OFFICE KEEP THIS PRAYER LIST UP TO DATE.**

**Berni** (friend of Barbara Stone) undergoing chemotherapy, **Carole E.** (friend of Dalene) continued prayers, pain, **Joe Craig**, **Karen Davis** (friend of Dalene) cancer, stents in liver, **Tammy Edwards** (friend of D. Carroll) MS & Dementia, **Kate Fabio** (friend of Mindy) double mastectomy surgery, **Falcone family** (friend of Dalene) passing of Elina, **Patty G** (friend of Barbara Stone) surgery for throat cancer, **Jasmine Harris** (friend of Roslyn McGee) needs double lung transplant, **Sue Haven** (friend of Josie) bladder surgery, **Hunt Family**, **Karen & Tom** (friends of Dalene) prayers for healing, **Mike Keough** (friend of Dalene) car accident/paralyzed, some feeling in feet, **Laura** (friend of Plummer) breast cancer treatment, **Lori LaBelle** continued prayers, **Major** (friend of D. Belford) accident, loss of feet, **Charlie Marbles** (friend of Phil) bicycle accident, continue prayers for healing, **Neil Mengel** (Josie's son-in-law) continued prayers for healing after tumor removed from spine, **Cherly McClean** (friend of Charnita) recovering from surgery, **Diane Porter** (friend of Gary O.) **Roseann & Joe** (friends of Dalene) continued prayers, **Logan Washington** (Lafayette C.) 8 yr. old organ shutdown, **Josie Weaver** continued prayers, **Wilson Family** difficult times, **Bob Wood** (Dalene cousin) continued prayers, **Bill Young** (friend of Dalene) Dementia and needs hip replacement.

**LORD HEAR OUR PRAYERS**

### Messiah's Birthdays

IF YOU DON'T SEE SOMEONE, PLEASE LET THE OFFICE KNOW



#### NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

11-Laurie Walters  
15-Deanna Barbay  
21-Madeline Plummer  
24-Dalene LaBelle  
28-Sophia Plummer  
30-Jan Apel



#### DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

02-Toni Chang  
02-Joe Furst  
08-Julia Barbay  
23-John Basmajian  
23-Phyllis Fredericks  
24-Michelle Hepburn

# November 2025



Sunday		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Sunday Mornings:</b> Sunday School at 9:30am Regular Worship at 10:30am						1- Charge Conference, 9am
<b>2-Communion &amp; All Saints Sunday</b> Worship Leader: Kim Charleston Greeters: Gary Ober Counters: Sandi Smith Hospitality Hosts:		<b>3- 6am w/Kim C. Motivational Mondays</b>	<b>4- Election Day</b>	<b>5- Pastor's Bible Study Returns</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>  <b>8- FALL FESTIVAL 1-4pm</b>
<b>9-</b> Worship Leader: Greeters: Gary Ober Counters: Sandi Smith Hospitality Hosts: <b>TRUSTEES MEETING</b>		<b>10- 6am w/Kim C. Motivational Mondays</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12- Pastor's Bible Study</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>  <b>15- HOMELESS OUTREACH</b>
<b>16-</b> Worship Leader: Greeters: Gary Ober Counters: Sandi Smith Hospitality Hosts:		<b>17- 6am w/Kim C. Motivational Mondays</b>	<b>18- LEADER-SHIP MEETING 7pm</b>	<b>19- Pastor's Bible Study</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>  <b>22-</b>
<b>23-YG-Breakfast Brunch</b> Worship Leader: YOUTH Greeters: Gary Ober Counters: Frank Sylvester Hospitality Hosts:		<b>24- 6am w/Kim C. Motivational Mondays</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26-</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>  <b>29</b>
<b>30-</b> Worship Leader: Greeters: Gary Ober Counter: Frank Sylvester Hospitality Hosts:		<b>31- 6am w/Kim C. Motivational Mondays</b>				





# December 2025



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Sunday Mornings:</b> Sunday School at 9:30am Regular Worship at 10:30am	1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>7-Communion &amp; Christmas Concert</b> Worship Leader: Kim Charleston Greeters: Gary Ober Counters: Sandi Smith Hospitality Hosts: <b>PLEASE SIGN-UP!</b>	8-6am w/ Kim C. Motivational Mondays	9	10- Pastor's Bible Study	11	12	13- YG Baking Day
<b>14-Hot Topics with the Pastor</b> Worship Leader: Greeters: Gary Ober Counters: Sandi Smith Hospitality Hosts: YG—Bake Sale	15-6am w/ Kim C. Motivational Mondays	16-	17- Pastor's Bible Study	18	19	20- <b>HOMELESS            OUTREACH</b>
<b>21</b> Worship Leader: <b>HELP!</b> Greeters: Gary Ober Counters: Frank Sylvester Hospitality Hosts: <b>Sunday School Class</b>	22-6am w/ Kim C. Motivational Mondays	23	24-	25	26-	27
<b>28</b> Worship Leader: YOUTH Greeters: Gary Ober Counters: Sandi Smith Hospitality Hosts: <b>PLEASE SIGN-UP!</b>	29-6am w/ Kim C. Motivational Mondays	30-	31			

# MESSIAH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



**Messiah United Methodist Church**  
**527 Ridge Pike**  
**Lafayette Hill, PA 19444**

*(Church office hours are Mon.—Fri., 8:00am—11:30am)*

Church Office: 610-828-0118, Church Fax: 610-828-2463

Church email: [messiahchurch@verizon.net](mailto:messiahchurch@verizon.net)

Pastor email: [revrlj1@gmail.com](mailto:revrlj1@gmail.com)

Website: [www.messiahmethodistchurch.com](http://www.messiahmethodistchurch.com)

Pastor: Rev. Robert L. Johnson  
Music Director: Danielle Whitman  
Choir Director: Kristen Moser  
Admin. Assistant: Mary Basmajian  
Nursery Attendant:  
Sexton: John Basmajian



If you have an article or announcement about yourself, your family, or church activities for a future issue of The Circuit Writer, please submit it to the church office, via email/US mail or hard copy in bin on door of office, by no later than the **15th** of the month. If you have changes of address, phone, or email, please help us communicate with you better, by sending the church office these updates via email or phone.

## **Our Mission Statement**

*Sharing Faith,  
Spreading Hope,  
Serving God.*

## **Our Vision Statement**

We are a church family devoted to building and encouraging a passionate, spiritually healthy community. We are dedicated to embracing change, equipping followers of Jesus Christ and preparing leaders for the future.

We are also fully committed to serving others by sharing the abundance God has given this community.

Focused on the needs of those we may not know, engaging the poor, improving education and spreading hope -- believing that Jesus himself set such an example of service, that we've been given the responsibility to follow it.

Messiah United Methodist Church  
527 Ridge Pike  
Lafayette Hill, PA 19444

PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

**Sent with a prayer to:**

