

Messiah Lutheran Church
Voters Meeting
11 am Sunday, May 22, 2022

Call to order: Mark Elliott

Opening Prayer: Mark Elliott

The minutes from the February voters meeting were approved.

Financial Secretary: Susan Hunley. Susan asked that contributions made to funds other than the General Fund be made in envelopes other than the normal offering envelope, and that the purpose of the donation be stated on the envelope or check.

Treasurer: Jim McCarthy. Messiah has smoothly transitioned the merger of BB&T and SunTrust banks. The 17th street location still has the same bank manager. The church has three (3) money market accounts. Two are in the merged bank (former BB&T) and the other is with LCEF. At the beginning of the month, there was approximately \$55,000.00 in each of the Sun Trust accounts. Those members with Messiah credit cards can continue to use the cards you have. The new bank will be issuing new cards. The bill for the waterproofing done on the Fellowship Hall has been paid.

Board/Committee Reports

Elders: A.J. Vitt. We are still looking for new Elders. Anyone interested please contact A.J. Volunteers are needed as communion assistants. The Elders are hoping to use their existing congregational connections to further their outreach. If there are members not involved in community groups, please talk with you Elder about joining a group. If there are members who do not know who their Elders is, please contact Guest Services. Messiah hopes to reach out to those that may be more isolated, and create a buddy system to help these members feel more connected to the church.

Guest Services: Wendy Elliott. The Baby Blessings Baskets program is up and operating for new parents. The Guest Services team has increased from eleven (11) to sixteen (16) members since February. Two new members, Scott Williamson and Rebecca Mebane, are shadowing members of the Guest Services team. They bring a wealth of knowledge and experience from their previous churches. They may be two or more people shadowing in June. As more members return to church following the Covid pandemic, they are encountering many new people. It's a great opportunity to introduce yourself and offer a hand to new faces.

Fellowship: Carol Ernst. The Spring yard sale was very successful, with more donations than we have received in the past. This included a massive number of boxes of clothes and books donated by a woman in the community. The sale raised a little over \$1100.00, which will go towards the Fellowship Hall renovation. Messiah's Craft Bazaar and Bake Sale is tentatively scheduled for mid-October. If you are a "crafter" it's a good time to start working on your projects. Carol will be conducting a small class on crafting. The time for the class is yet to be determined. There are a few sign up sheets posted in the Kitchen for next Sunday's (May 29th) coffee hour. Thank you to Al Limback and Wendy Smith for updating the member pictures in the Fellowship Hall, as well as providing color photographs for the directory. Please contact Carol for dates for upcoming events. Thank you to Cecilia Rudd for all that she does.

Trustees: No one was present to provide information. The following was provided after the meeting:

- Thank you to all who participated in Mulch Party
- Thank you to Dave, Keith and Cecilia for maintaining property
- Next up.....Parking Lot Resurfacing
- Discussions for Fellowship Hall Renovation are ongoing.

Pastor's Report: **Pastor Timothy Steele.** Choir is resuming in September. To participate, please contact Ivy. The confirmation of Hannah King is scheduled for June 5th. There will be a new confirmation class starting for Messiah youth next term. Messiah has five (5) new families and nine (9) new members. Dates for a new members orientation will be announced. Messiah has new, updated technology for streaming our services. There is a larger TV monitor and people on line can now follow the service better with words provided in the lower third of the monitor screen. More of the church and congregation are now visible because of a new multi-camera system. We want to make more improvements. Pastor Timothy will be reporting for Air Force Active Duty in his new position as Deputy – Command Chaplain with the Global Strike Force Command at Whiteman Airforce Base in Barksdale, La. Pastor Mark Spelzhausen will fill in for Pastor Timothy while he is away. Pastor Timothy will be officiating at the Memorial Day Service at the Wilmington National Cemetery at 11:00 am on Memorial Day.

Old Business: The church evacuation plan is completed and will be presented to the congregation following official approval by the Church Council. Contractors for the Fellowship Hall renovations have been contacted. A walkthrough by a contractor will be planned to review the general condition of the hall, and note any possible issues not yet identified.

New Business: Annual congregation elections were held. The slate was unanimously approved by the congregation. Election results for the upcoming year are as follows:

- President – Bruce Rudd
- Vice President – Mark Elliott
- Financial Secretary – Susan Hunley
- Assistant Financial Secretary – Win Donat
- Recording Secretary – Position is open
- Trustees – Peter La Vecchia, and Suzanne Sykes
- Elders – Mari French, Karen Spike and Bill Chase

Ted French informed the congregation that Gideon's International, of which he is a member, has received permission to distribute Bibles in public schools and Christian private schools. The process has already begun in Pender County. They will have the Bibles available on tables, giving students the opportunity to pick them up. This has been a goal of the Gideon's for 50 years. Ted asked if Messiah would be willing to add support for the Gideon's for this mission in the church budget. The Church Council will consider the request.

A motion was made to adjourn. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned.