

# Messiah Lutheran Church

in the Southeastern Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)

## Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton, Presiding Bishop of the ELCA

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## Rev. H. Julian Gordy, Bishop of the Southeastern Synod of ELCA

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Interim Pastor Devin Strong

The Saints of Messiah – Ministers

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### **December 16th, 2018 Third Sunday of Advent**

The presence of the Lord “in your midst” in the wonder of the holy supper is cause for singing. The nearness of the Lord in prayer, in every circumstance is cause for rejoicing. The coming of one “more powerful” than John, even with his winnowing fork in his hand, is good news-and cause for exultation-for us who are being saved. Great joy is the tone for the third Sunday of Advent.

[www.messiahlutheranmgm.org](http://www.messiahlutheranmgm.org)

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- **VISITORS-** Please introduce yourself and sign our Guest Book in the hallway. We hope you will return to worship with us. If you would like information about membership, please call the office at 277-4213.
- **WELCOME TO OUR LORD’S TABLE** all who are baptized children of God. As Lutherans we teach and believe that Christ is truly physically and spiritually present under the forms of bread and wine; they are his body and blood. Small children and infants are welcome to commune if they have received “first communion instruction,” and should be assisted by their parents. Children who are not yet communing and those who are not baptized are invited to come forward for a blessing. When we are using trays with individual glasses, for those who do not prefer wine, the glasses in the center circle of the trays are filled with grape juice; or you may choose the chalice. Those unable to partake of wine or wheat bread are assured that the fullness of our Lord is received in either of the elements. After communing, please return to your seat for silent prayer.
- **ALTAR FLOWER SIGN-UP CHART** is hanging on the narthex bulletin board. If you would like to sponsor altar flowers, place your name on the date(s) of your choice, and a brief note for what commemoration the flowers are given. We can have up to three sponsors each Sunday. Sponsors will be billed from Ricky Craig at a cost of \$45 per arrangement. You may also provide your own flowers, however they should be on par with the quality of arrangements normally used. Remember to take them home following the 10:45 service to enjoy or share with a friend (or drop by church during the week between 9am-1pm to pick them up). Please return the container to the church.
- The altar flowers for today are given: by: Judy McCune in memory of Jim McCune We will be collecting the following items for the Friendship Mission Men’s Shelter: soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, deodorant, hand wipes, small hand sanitizer.
- **Today’s Anthem:** “Angels We Have Heard on High”. Arranged by: Martha Lynn Thompson. Performed by: The Bell Choir.

## LORD, IN YOUR MERCY, HEAR OUR PRAYERS

### \* New Information

Tina Ruffa ..... Healing after Mastectomy  
Hannah Chase (age 9) ... \*Bone marrow transplant was successful and is home (friend of Kathryn Willoughby)  
Adriane Duvall ..... \*Successful surgery November 13<sup>th</sup> Long healing process(Kathryn Willoughby’s daughter)  
Pastor Jill Henning ..... Aggressive breast cancer (friend of Pastor and Doris Underwood)  
Bobby Bullock.....\* Quadruple bypass surgery( friend of Chuck Wray)

Please include the names listed in your prayers at home during the following weeks. To add or update someone to the prayer chain, call the church office. We will routinely remove your prayer request from this list after 2-3 weeks, depending on the circumstances. If the need arises, please call the church office to have them returned to the list.

### **WONDERFUL WEDNESDAYS**

5:30 pm ..... RSVP Meal \$5 per plate (under 5, free; ages 5-12, \$3)  
6:15 pm ..... Worship  
7:00 pm ..... Choir Practice  
7:00 pm ..... Catechism

### **The Wednesday night meal is sponsored by The SOMM & Choir. The Menu will be: TBD**

Please **RSVP** or cancel before Tuesday noon. You can make reservations by contacting the church office (call 277-4213, e-mail [mlcoffice@messiahlutheranmgm.org](mailto:mlcoffice@messiahlutheranmgm.org)) or place your name on the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the hall outside the office. You may also make reservations on the website at [www.messiahlutheranmgm.org](http://www.messiahlutheranmgm.org).

### **Remember Our Senior Friends in Retirement Homes, Assisted Living, Nursing Homes, or Semi-Shut-ins at Home**

Jim Lincoln ..... 1555 Taylor Rd B8, Montgomery, AL 36117  
Pastor Robert Graetz ..... 1558 Dunbar St., Montgomery, AL 36106  
Judy Forks ..... 390 Aquil Lane, Pike Road, AL 36064-5002  
Signe Nelson .....5801 Eastdale Dr., #106, Montgomery, AL 36117  
Jane Stambaugh ..... 9819 Mid Pines Court, Montgomery, AL 36117  
Katherine Yaworski ..... Pine Needle Place, 600 Glendale Ave., Greenville, AL 36037

### **OUR RESPONSE TO GOD**

Worship Attendance on 12/09/18 8:00 am .....28 10:45.....47  
Contributions to Financial Expense Plan on 12/09/18 ..... \$2,929.00  
Fiscal Year Contributions thru 12/09/18 ..... \$94,762.00  
Fiscal **Y-T-D** Financial Expense Plan Goal ..... \$129,618.40  
Above/(Below) **Y-T-D** FEP Goal as of 12/09/18 ..... (**\$34,856.40**)  
\*Fiscal Year 2019 FEP Goal ..... \$232,419

**Pastor Strong will be using his personal phone and email. If you need to contact him, his number is 770-940-1442. His email address is: [pastordevinstrong@gmail.com](mailto:pastordevinstrong@gmail.com). He is available even if he is not here.**

**Tina Ruffa wishes to express her sincere gratitude for the thoughts and prayers during her surgery and healing process.**

**Adriane Duvall wishes to express her sincere gratitude for the thoughts and prayers during her recovery from surgery.**

Worship Assistant Schedule			
		December 16th	December 23rd
<b>Altar</b>		Diane Davis	Ricky Craig
<b>Communion Assistant</b>	8:00 am	Doris Underwood	Steve Wright
	10:45 am	Iola Williams & Tina Ruffa	Judy McCune & Tina Ruffa
<b>Crucifer</b>	10:45 am	Lily Strickland	Grayson Hataway
<b>Greeters</b>	8:00 am	Paul Morton	Pat Riggins
	10:45 am	Judy McCune	Katrina Matzer
<b>Lay Assistant</b>	8:00 am	Steve Wright	Gene Klocke
	10:45 am	David Hataway	Kay Owens
<b>Lector</b>	8:00 am	Pat Riggins	Doris Underwood
	10:45 am	Jamie McCune	Melissa Hataway
<b>Ushers</b>	8:00 am	Champ Street	Jim Willoughby
	10:45 am	Elizabeth & Adam Strickland	Jaehee Ashley & Iola Williams

<u>Schedule for Week of December 16th</u>			<u>Schedule for Week of December 23rd</u>		
<b>SUN:</b> 12/16	8:00am 9:15am	Worship w/Eucharist Christmas Program And Reception	<b>SUN:</b> 12/23	8:00am 10:45 am	Worship w/Eucharist Worship w/Eucharist
	10:45 am 3:30 pm	Worship w/Eucharist Women of Refined Gold	<b>MON:</b> 12/24		Office Closed
<b>MON:</b> 12/17			<b>TUE:</b> 12/25		Office Closed
<b>TUE:</b> 12/18	9:00 am	Quilters	<b>WED:</b> 12/26		Office Closed
<b>WED:</b> 12/19	9:00 am 5:30 pm 6:15 pm 7:00 pm	Quilters Supper Worship Catechism/ Choir Practice	<b>THU:</b> 12/27		Office Open
<b>THU:</b> 12/20	6:30 pm	Council Meeting	<b>Fri:</b> 12/28		Office Open
<b>Fri:</b> 12/21	6:00 pm	Movie & Pizza Night Pastor’s Apartment	<b>SAT:</b> 12/29		
<b>SAT:</b> 12/22	9:00 am	Yarnovers			