

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

2025 Eastern Avenue Wesleyville, PA 16510

Address Service Requested **Dated Material**

Volume 24, Issue 10

Check Out our Web-site: www.messiah-erie.org

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Newsletter Deadline

All items for the monthly Newsletter must be submitted in writing no later than **October 15** and are subject to editing. No exceptions.

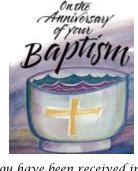


October Celebrations



- 2 Savanna Conner Eva Edwards
- 5 Erníe Wolf Nevaeh Peters
- 10 Tammy Johnson
- 12 Tim Smock

- 14 Dave Frick
- 17 Kayla Bresee
- 21 Kristine Edwards
- 24 Rích Alaníz
- 28 John Needham
- 31 Haylee Juratovíc



"Through baptism you have been received into the household of God, entrusted with the good news of Jesus Christ, and strengthened to serve by the holy and life-giving Spirit."

- 9 Winifred Gardner
- 26 Candy Sprouse
- 10 Cyndi Allen
- 30 Blaine Waters
- 17 Kay-Leigh Conner
- 31 Ray Bennett
- 20 Al Schell



- Day 1: 1 John 4:4
 - Day 2: Romans 8:37
- Day 3: James 4:7
- Day 4: Ephesians 6:10-11
- Day 5: 2 Timothy 1:7
- Day 6: Psalm 23:4
- Day 7: 2 Corinthians 10:3-4
- Day 8: Revelation 12:11
- Day 9: Luke 10:19
- Day 10: Isaiah 41:10
- Day 11: 1 Corinthians 15:57
- Day 12: Psalm 27:1
- Day 13: John 16:33
- Day 14: Psalm 91:4
- Day 15: Colossians 2:15
- Day 16: 2 Corinthians 2:14

- Day 17: Psalm 34:4
- Day 18: Hebrews 2:14-15
- Day 19: Psalm 18:32
- Day 20: 1 Peter 5:8-9
- Day 21: Psalm 118:6
- Day 22: 2 Thessalonians 3:3
- Day 23: Psalm 56:3-4
- Day 24: 1 John 5:4
- Day 25: Isaiah 54:17
- Day 26: Romans 16:20
- Day 27: Psalm 34:7
- Day 28: 1 John 3:8
- Day 29: Revelation 20:10
- Day 30: John 8:12
- Day 31: 1 Peter 1:13



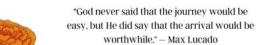
"Bless them so that all may see in their lives together within the community of your people a vision of your kingdom on earth."

From the Nuptial Blessing in the Marriage ceremony

- 5 Al & Pat Schell
- 6 Brad & Lori Bresee
- 7 Terrence & Winifred Gardner
- 8 Mark & Pam Van Horn
- 10 Steve & Linda Porada
- 12 Don & Patricia Kent
- 22 Art & Cindy Anderson
- 24 Marilyn & Steve Rizzo
- 30 Jeff & Kíra Brown

If we missed your Birth, Baptism, or Marriage
Anniversary we apologize.
Please contact the church office to provide us with

that information.



Messiah Messenger

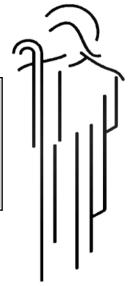
Published by Messiah Lutheran Church

Our Mission:

Glorifying God through our worship, our witness, our service, and our support

Our Vision:

To build and strengthen the body of Christ





Worship Ministry Committee

Next meeting is:
Wednesday, October 2, at 11:00 am in the Conference
Room

To be part of this vital ministry at Messiah, contact the Church Office - 814-899-6386

Online Worship

We are live streaming our Worship Services on our **YouTube-Messiah Lutheran Church Erie** The videos of the services will be uploaded to our YouTube channel after each church service.

Altar Guild Meeting

Sunday, October 20, at 9:45 am in the Study Lounge.

Assisting Ministers and Lectors

The blank schedule for **November** will be in the **Narthex** through **October 15**Please schedule yourself.

If you do not indicate your availability, it will be presumed that you ARE available.

Vídeographers needed



Would you like to help with videotaping the worship services on Sunday?

We need volunteers for both the 8:30 & 11:00 services.

Contact the Church Office!



We are in need of more Assisting Ministers and Lectors for both Worship Services!

Training will be provided.

Contact the Church Office if interested!



The Altar Guild is a very important "behind the scenes" ministry!

The people in this ministry make sure that our worship space is properly prepared for Sunday Worship and other special services.

To be part of this welcoming ministry please contact: Linda Voigt at 899-8618

From the desk of Pr. Tom

The Generosity Challenge Is Coming

Congregations that approach financial stewardship from a biblical perspective do not view the money Christians give to their church merely as a way to pay its bills. Rather, such congregations see financial contributions as a way to help people grow spiritually in their relationship with God by supporting their church's mission and ministry with a percentage of their incomes.

This year's stewardship campaign is *The Generosity Challenge* as a way to connecting to our spiritual gifts of stewardship. Our congregation's finance team is leading the way to teach the biblical and spiritual principles of generous giving in our stewardship education emphasis this year.

The Generosity Challenge is based on the biblical philosophy of the need of the giver to give for his or her own spiritual development, rather than on the need of the church to receive. Instead of treating people like members of a social club who should pay dues, we will treat people like followers of Jesus Christ who want to give unselfishly as an act of discipleship. The Generosity Challenge encourages people toward proportionate and systematic giving in response to the question, "What percentage of my income is God calling me to give?"

During morning worship on Reformation Sunday, we are asking our attendees and members to make an anonymous financial commitment to our church's mission, benevolent, and outreach ministries in this community and around the world.

Every attendee and member who completes an anonymous *Estimate of Giving Card* does so voluntarily by attending morning worship on Reformation Sunday. The procedure is done in such a way so that no one feels personal embarrassment if he or she chooses not to fill out a card. If anyone is unable to attend on October 27 and wish's to complete an *Estimate of Giving Card*, call the office to make arrangements.

We will do no home solicitation to ask people to complete cards. During morning worship, our Bishop will conduct a brief period of instruction and inspiration, climaxed by members making their commitments as a confidential act of worship.

We will encourage participation on Reformation Sunday events through the leadership team and Council members. Since we will make no follow-up visits to ask people to complete their cards, we will make every effort to inform, and inspire everyone to attend a meaningful Reformation Sunday worship.

Thank you in advance for your enthusiastic participation in *The Generosity Challenge* events.

Pastor Tom

VISION TEAM

The Vision Team has finished it's work and presented the proposed Vision to Council on September 19. The Vision is now in the hands of the Council, and the Council is recommending to the congregation to consider.

Throughout these few months of hard work and research, the Team took into consideration what our congregation members said in the interviews, and at the Town Hall meetings. The Team also considered what the demographics of our congregation and our immediate community as well as trends in our denomination and in American Christianity. The proposed Vision is the culmination of work, serious deliberation, and prayers.

The Vision Team will unveil the proposed Vision at the congregation meeting on October 27, 2024. The Team is very excited about this Vision, as it will be a roadmap for our congregation as we modify, tweak, and develop existing and new ministries to meet the challenges of the coming years.

The Team is fully aware that there has been no approved Vision in living memory. Therefore, this particular Vision is for three years as a way for us to get used to the idea. Pastor believes strongly that the congregation should always be operating from a Vision where transparency, mutual goals, and understanding drive the ministries of the congregation. Without one, Pastor and the Team are concerned that we may not know where, what, or why we do any particular ministry or program.

Pastor wants to thank the members of the Vision Team: Blaine Waters, Brian Rogala, Jr., Candy Sprouse, Mary Rush, and Cyndi Allen. They were amazing in their commitments and willingness to work!



Superstitious?

Ordinarily I am not superstitious, but after last Friday the 13th, I am not so confident. I was born on Friday the 13th. I met my husband of nearly 54 years on Friday the 13th. I love black cats. I don't like ladders, but that's vertigo, not superstition.

All day long the WiFi worked just fine. Then the Google mini stopped working—said it couldn't find a connection. Then the camera I use to watch the critters stopped working, but only on my phone, then on Hubby's, then on mine. Google gave us a weather report, giggled, then quit again. The TV stalled in the middle of the movie. This went on for hours. We rebooted. We unplugged and re-plugged. We occasionally cursed.

By that time, my miniscule amount of patience was gone. I was arguing with my phone, the AI, and the camera—all of which (I know this logically) are plastic, metal, and tempered glass.

At 12:02 a.m. on the 14th everything started working again and has been working just fine ever since.

Coincidence? I wonder...

Get to the point, dear. Nobody wants to hear about that.

So let's talk about reality. Google's AI has no real concept of reality, nor does the camera or TV. They are mere conveniences for our entertainment; they make it easy to alleviate some late night boredom. They are manufactured gizmos, even if they seem smarter than we are sometimes.

Our Triune God is our reality. He made everything that was, everything that is, everything that will be. He has given us the intelligence to survive, the talents to cure, to build, to grow food. He gave us the means to take care of ourselves (and others). We wouldn't even have our toys if God hadn't provided the ideas.

The colors of autumn could only be given by our God; no man can ever create such a palette. As Christ was resurrected, so will be the green of spring. What a wonderful sight He has given us!

God is real. Jesus is real. The Holy Spirit is real. We need not see Him; we can feel Him in us and see His work all around us. Christ will come again!

This, my friends in Christ, is the gift of God's reality.

Your servant in Christ,

Marilyn DiLuzio Rizzo



October 6 at 2:00 pm in the Parking Lot.

Come Find Jesus at Messiah!

There are 7 little Jesus figures hidden on the main floor of the Church and Educational Buildings.

Let the office know when you have found all 7! Let's see who can find Jesus.

There may be a sweet treat for the first non-employee to find all 7!



Combined Service Attendance Streaming services from web site

Date	8:30	11:00	On Line	Total
Aug. 25	19	41	29	89
Sept. 1	13	50	32	95
Sept. 8	20	41	35	96
Sept. 15	19	42	51	112
Sept. 22	18	38	38	94

^{*} indicates no live stream for one or both services

Change in address

Gerrie Elias has moved! Her new address is:



Gerrie Elias 5456 East Lake Road, Rm#209 Erie, PA 16511

Serve
wholeheartedly, as
if you were serving
the Lord, not
people.
Ephesians 6:7

Property

Property Committee

Do you have an interest in helping to keep our church property in top condition?

Join the Property Committee!

Next meeting is September 8 at 9:45AM.

To get information about any project for the church or to Inform us of something that needs to be repaired, please contact Art Anderson at 881-1680

Snow Shoveling Volunteers NEEDED!

We will be needing





Stewardship/Finance

The goal of our Stewardship/Finance Ministry is to help God's people grow in their relationship with Jesus through the use of the time, talents, and finances that God has entrusted to them.

Year - to - Date Financial Picture

The financials can be found posted in the binder marked Council in the Narthex the first Sunday of every month.

Thank you for your continued Financial Support.
Your generosity is most appreciated!

Counter Ministry

Are you good with figures?
Do you like to handle money?
Maybe the Counter Ministry is for you!

Time commitment is about 30 minutes after worship.

Training will be provided! Contact the

Training will be provided! Contact the Church Office if interested.

Make your Contribution from our Website!

Now Live!! Check it out!

Donate



Located on the home page

Members and website visitors will be able to contribute to
the ministry happening at and through Messiah from our
website. You can choose one time or recurring
transactions. You can also choose to cover the small fee!
You can pay for the sponsorship of Altar Flowers,
Worship Aids, and Vigil Candles too. You will still need
to sign up for them on the flower chart!

The Stewardship/Finance Ministry Committee will next meet on
Tuesday, October 8, at 4:30 pm
in the Conference Room.

Contact the office if you would like to share your talents as part of this important work of the congregation.

DID YOU KNOW...

that your offerings to Messiah Lutheran Church can be made electronically while you're on vacation or if you prefer the convenience of scheduling a monthly/weekly automatic withdrawal from your account?

It's easy to set up the following option:

Electronic transfer from your bank account

For more information, call the Church Office, 899-6386.

Attention Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Members...

Thrivent Members can designate Messiah
Lutheran Church as a recipient of the charitable
giving that Thrivent offers through Choice Dollars.
Visit their website, www.thrivent.com, or call
your Thrivent representative for more information.

To those who have designated Messiah as a recipient of Thrivent Choice Dollars, we gratefully thank you!

For more information about Thrivent Financial for Lutherans contact Vince Kremer, Financial Associate, at 814-878-5727 or visit Thrivent.com



Wesleyville Food Pantry

Please consider a financial gift for the Food Pantry.

Checks should be made payable to Messiah Lutheran Church, marking "Food Pantry" in the memo line.

Food Pantry Distribution:

Tuesday, October 1 <u>5-6:00 pm</u> - Country Fair Items Only **Tuesday, October 15** <u>10-11:30am and at 5-6:00 pm</u>

Thank you for your generosity!

About Our Members

Please keep the church office informed of any changes in your contact information. It is important for us to keep our database up-to-date. Thank you for your cooperation.



2ND MILE GIVING APPEAL

2nd Mile Giving is that support we offer above and beyond our regular giving.

Our 2nd Mile Giving recipient for Our 2nd Mile Giving recipient for **October** is:

THE HIGHMARK CARING PLACE

You may contribute through your regular envelope, marking how much to designate to 2nd Mile on the "other" line on your envelope, or by sending a separate donation.

Through **September 26, \$150.00** has been donated for *Bethesda Trinity Center*

Thank you for your generosity!

Want to know more about our 2nd Mile Giving organizations?

The death of a loved one is devastating to a child. The impact can be overwhelming and the children and family often need support. The Highmark Caring Place can provide that support through its various programs.

Thousands of community members are helped by the Caring Place each year at no cost through our peer support programs, and our education, consultation, and referral services.

Church Life

Contact Cindy Anderson at 881-2161 to be part of the Church Life Ministry Committee.

We would love to have some fresh faces helping with our fellowship events!

All Church Life events are for our members and friends to come together in Fellowship.

Please come and enjoy each other's company!

Fall Congregational Meeting

Sunday, October 27

In Fellowship Hall & on Zoom



Lunch to be served at 12:00 pm

(Soup & Salad)

Meeting to start at 12:30 pm

October Sponsors						
	8:30 Bulletin	11:00 Bulletin	Flower (1)	Flower (2)	Candle	
10/6			Porada			
10/13						
10/20		Sprouse				
10/27		Rush				

Please consider sponsoring the Bulletins during the year. Every sponsorship helps to defray the cost to the congregation. Thank you!



2024 Sponsorships

The completed form, and payment, are due prior to date of sponsorship

Altar Flowers: \$30/1 vase

\$55/2 vases (for same day)*

Bulletins: \$7/service/week*

*(except Easter & Christmas)

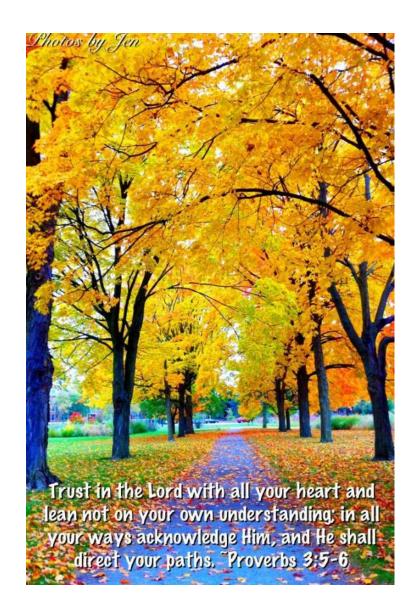
Vigil Candle: \$3/service/week

Pennies for Poverty An ongoing project of the

An ongoing project of the NWPA Women of the ELCA

Consider dropping your spare change, or even bills, into the container in the narthex for this project.

Each year a charity is selected to receive the money collected by the participating churches.





CYFM/Faith in Action Committee

Next meeting is **Thursday, October 3**, at 12:00 noon in the Conference Room

Guided Meditation on Mondays is now a "traveling" group. Please call Bonnie Stearns at 814-460-0556 to find out how you can participate in this prayer ministry!

In order to make a Prayer Chain request, please

Every Monday (except the 3rd)- 6:30PM



email or call the Church Office



It's All Greek to Me Bible Study

Bible study with Pastor Tom (new topic: some of the women of the Bible)

Wednesday nights at 6:30 pm. Starting October 2!

Study lounge (which is the old music room)

All are invited to attend!

The Grateful Prayer Group



THURSDAYS AT 10:00AM
CURRENTLY MEETING BY CONFERENCE CALL
CONTACT JEAN PARKER AT 814-528-5817
OR LINDA FRYER AT 814-899-6899.
ALL ARE WELCOME!



BOUND TOGETHER

(BOOK REVIEW CLUB)

Wednesday, October 1, at 1:00 pm in the Study Lounge

Oct Lessons In Chemistry by Bonnie Garmus (Candy)

Nov The Aviator's Wife by Melanie Benjamin (Karen)

Dec My Grandmother Asked Me to Tell You She's Sorry by Fredrik Backman (Mary)

Jan West With Giraffes by Lynda Ruthledge (Jean)

Feb The Girls of Atomic City by Denise Kierman (Cyndi)

Mar The Women by Kristin Hannah (Sandy)

April ?? (Anna Mae)

May The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store by James McBride (Bonnie M)

COME AND JOIN US!



Servant OutreachParish Health Ministry



Servant Outreach/Parish Health Ministry Committee will meet October 6 at 9:45 am.

Sewing Circle

Do you like to sew? Need something to do? The quilters are meeting again in the sewing room and are sewing up a storm!

Currently they meet on Tuesdays from 10:00 am12:00 pm.

The day of the week can change, so please call Joyce Hauser to confirm.

Project Linus blankets continue to be made in people's individual homes.

If you are interested in helping or have any questions, please call Joyce Hauser at 814-825-3919.

Thank you!



Wesleyville Food Pantry Volunteer Opportunities

October 1 at 5:00-6:00 pm for Country Fair distribution.

October 7 at 10:00 am to unload senior boxes.

October 14 at 10:00 am to unload food delivery.

October 15 at 10:00-11:00 am & 5:00-6:00 pm for regular food distribution

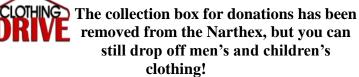
BLANKETS FOR BABIES

Through the Soldiers and Sailors Home we were asked if we could sew, knit, or crochet baby blankets 18x22 that will be part of a kit given to families in the National Guard.

If you want to be part of this project, contact Shirley Damon at 814-899-8805 with any questions or concerns.

This is an ongoing program our ministry would like to support.

Bethany Outreach



Men's and Women's underwear.

Clothing can be dropped off at the office or in the library. Talk to Karen Pistner if you have any questions.

Prayer Shawl Ministry



The Messiah Prayer Shawl group is working from home.

If you are interested in helping with this ministry, please call Shirley Damon at 814-899-8805 with any questions or concerns. We can provide patterns, yarn, and instruction if needed.

Thank you!

<u>Prayer Shawls are available at the Church office for anyone who would like one.</u>

Great for baptisms, baby shower/birth, weddings, illness, hospitalization, men, women, or children who need to feel God's love wrapped around them

OWLs

(Older, Wiser, Lutherans)

Tuesday, October 8, at 11:30 am

Fellowship Hall

We will have Nate Sprouse talk with us about technology. Send Bonnie Stearns questions you have for him.

Bring a dish to share for lunch.

Trunk or Treat

CYFM, Servant Outreach and Church Life are asking for your help!

Please consider donating a large bag or two of individually wrapped candy to distribute to children at the Iroquois School District Trunk or Treat event on **Wednesday**, October 23.

We would like to prepare 800 treat bags with a minimum of four pieces of candy in each bag.

If you are willing to support this by donating a bag or two of candy, it would be greatly appreciated!!

Candy may be dropped off in the Narthex or Church office by **Sunday**, **October 13!** Watch the bulletin for when bags will be assembled. Many hands make light work!

Any bags that are left over from the event will be handed out here at the church on Halloween night by Bonnie Stearns and Carol Lemmon.



Servant Outreach/Sewing Group packed handmade quilts and school kits for Lutheran World Relief!



Thank you to Laurie Hecht, Brad Bresee, Mary Rush, and Linda Voigt who donated at our September Blood Drive. Your next opportunity will be the week of **November 18-23.**

For the young and the young at heart



Dance Exercise Class

Join us starting October 8
Every Tuesday at 6:15 pm
Fellowship Hall

For church members and friends

Facilitated by Briana Alaniz, Cindy Anderson, and Bonnie Stearns. Let the office know if you are planning to join the fun!

Green Corner NWPA Synod Green Team

Sometimes in Our Own Back Yard...

Many times we look high and low for persons, places and things that will teach us about the environment and how to care for our wonderful, God-given earth. And sometimes there is something right in our own back yard which is a precious gem that might get overlooked. This month we want to highlight the <u>Tom Ridge Environmental Center (TREC) at Presque Isle State Park in Erie, PA</u>. This state-of-the-art, green-designed facility encourages visitors to experience the unique history and ever-changing, diverse ecosystems of Presque Isle State Park. It is the first building in the Pennsylvania Bureau of State Parks to earn a LEED silver certification rating.

TREC is an educational center dedicated to teaching visitors about the unique 3,200 acres of Presque Isle and the many different forms of life that inhabit the peninsula. **TREC** also serves as a center for research -- contributing to conservation efforts and promoting environmental awareness, helping to preserve the unparalleled beauty of Presque Isle and Lake Erie, the site of Pennsylvania's only seashore.

While some facilities along the Great Lakes offer environmental education and others do research, only the TREC offers research, education, and visitor services in one place, making it a unique destination for learning, wonder and fun. TREC is open year-round and offers free admission to its interactive exhibits, glass-enclosed tower and orientation movie. Learn about the history of Presque Isle and how you can contribute to keeping it healthy, pristine and beautiful. Perhaps you can plan a day trip to Erie to enjoy and learn more about this wonderful gift to the community. And be sure to check the movie schedule at the center – they are exciting and very educational!! To learn more about TREC go to www.dcnr.pa.gov/stateparks/findapark/PresquelsleStatePark.

The Green Team's purpose is to "raise awareness of and advocate for the care of creation." Our mission is to support and encourage creation care ministries, raise awareness, model creation care advocacy consistent with ELCA teachings in our faith communities and public life.

nwpasynodgreenteam@gmail.com

Follow us on Facebook: Northwestern PA Synod Green Team-Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Church Council

Church Leadership

Council:

Briana Alaniz-(1) Secretary

Cyndi Allen- (1)

Art Anderson-(1) President

Robin Curtis (2) Vice-

President

Laurie Hecht- (1)

Steve Porada- (1)

Tim Smock -(1)

Blaine Waters (2)

Conference I Rep:

Blaine Waters

Food Pantry Board Rep:

Pr. Tom Glasoe

Committee Chairpersons:

Church Life: Cindy Anderson

CYFM: Candy Sprouse

Mutual Ministry:

Jean Parker

Property: Art Anderson

Servant Outreach:

Jean Parker

Joe Burwell

Stewardship/Finance:

Brad Bresee

Worship: Linda Voigt

Unofficial Highlights

- Reviewed Financials and Committee Reports;
- + Met with our Financial Advisor and Vision Team to continue moving forward;
- + Conversations were had about where we want to go and what needs done;
- Discussed quotes for boiler repair;
- → Next Meeting: Thursday, October 17, 2024

Nominees For Church Council Needed!

At this year's Fall Congregational Meeting there will be a need to fill 4 vacancies on Church Council with terms to begin January 1, 2025.

We have [4] 2-year terms to replace those whose terms have expired.

Please consider serving your congregation in this capacity!

If you desire to be nominated prior to the Congregational Meeting, please contact the church office.

Church Office Hours

Monday Closed

Tuesday 10:00am-5:00pm

Wednesday Closed

Thursday 10:00am-5:00pm **Friday** 10:00am-5:00pm



Find out what is going on in the ELCA:

Church-wide - www.elca.org

NWPA Synod - www.northwesternpasynodelca.org

Contact Information

Messiah Lutheran Church

Contact Information

Church Office: (814) 899-6386

secretary@messiah-erie.org

Cindy Anderson: (814) 881-2161 **Bonnie Stearns** (814) 460-0556

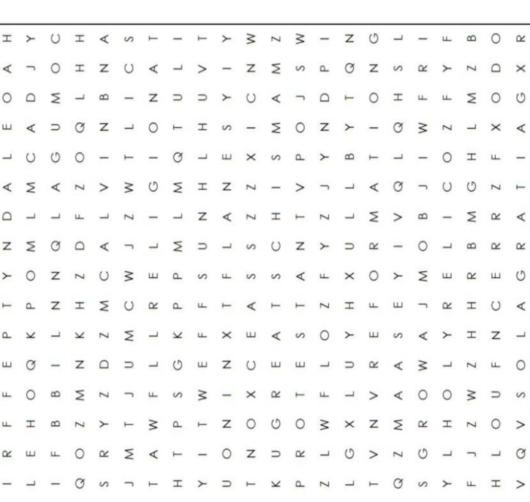
bettis1234@gmail.com

Michelle Flaherty: mlcmusic@messiah-erie.org
Pastor Thomas Glasoe: (814) 460-8529

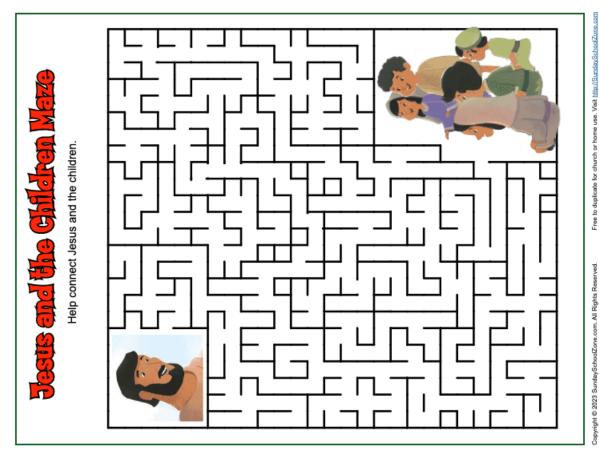
pastor@messiah-erie.org

www.messiah-erie.org

The Reformation









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