

***This month at a glance:***



**Senior Support Dinner**

Thursday, August 3, 5:00 p.m.

**Church Council**

August 8, 6 p.m.

**League of Hope**

Thursday August 11, 6:00 p.m.  
at Susie Anderson's

**Messiah Mountain**

**Picnic**

August 20, 1pm  
At Messiah Mountain

**Sunday Mornings**

Services at 9:30  
Coffee time follows service

**New Office Hours**

**Monday - Thursday**  
**9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.**  
**Friday**  
**10:00 a.m. to Noon**

**Message from Pastor Bev**

*Ministry and Finances*

*How long should an interim last? As long as needed to determine if a congregation is in a position to continue and enter a call process or move toward Holy Closure. For a healthy and financially strong congregation, an interim might take a year. When that is not the case, an interim will take longer. As long as needed.*

*Ministry and Financial health are the two main challenges for Messiah's interim and for the Transition Team. Tremendous progress has been made that offer signs of hope for renewed ministry and financial vitality.*

*The sense of mission and purpose has been shaped by the Transition Team through conversations, study and prayer. The Team feels that a viable focus for Messiah to gather around is two fold: Earth Justice and Human Justice. If the present congregation responds with enthusiasm and energy to unite around these, "The Jesus Way" will be demonstrably present in the life and work of this congregation and I predict that Messiah members will experience personal transformation in their own journey of faith.*

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***"If you are working on something exciting that you really care about, you don't have to be pushed.  
The vision pulls you."***

Steve Jobs



*Pastor Bev (cont'd.)*

*The first step toward financial viability was the right-sizing of staff. With that accomplished, the next step is to use the facility as the asset that it is. We have long considered it a liability but we have not looked with eyes that see its potential for the community. By transforming space from unused to useful, this asset could bring needed revenue and financial viability for the congregation. Not only that, it can provide needed, below market space for other non-profits or small businesses. This means that things will need to change. Some changes will be small, some big, but the biggest change could be a level of financial support that will allow Messiah to shed the burden of debt and begin to realize a path toward healthy mission and ministry.*

## *Season of Creation*



*Sunday worship through the month of September will focus once again on the Season of Creation. Weekly themes are: Earth, Humanity, Sky and Mountain. The Green Team is involved in planning worship and Adult Education for each week. On Mountain Sunday, September 24, we will take worship TO the mountains – our own Messiah Mountain.*

*The creation series will conclude with a St. Francis celebration with Blessings of Pets on October 1.*

*Many thanks to Barbara, Glenn, Michael, Denise, Patrick, Tom, Mason & Desmond who helped with the many outdoor clean-up projects around the church during June and July. This is an ongoing challenge, so keep your eyes open for another work day and/or list of "to do's" on the church property. Also, if you see things that need doing, please let us know! THANKS!*

*Sue and Dave Edwards*

## **Council Spotlight:**

After moving to Colorado in 2010, Karen began attending Messiah, becoming a member in 2013. Karen and husband Joe, drawn by five grandchildren, had come from New York State. There, Karen worked in state and local government and in the not-for-profit sector for over forty years. The Schimkes lived in Buffalo for thirty years, raising three daughters and enduring numerous blizzards - notably the record-setting one of 1977.



Karen Schimke

From 2010 to 2014 Karen worked part-time at the Education Commission of the States based in Denver. Since her second retirement she has been volunteering at Place Bridge Academy and RAFT (Resource Area for Teachers). Her first few years at Messiah were as a Sunday attendee only. Then, at the suggestion of Barbara Ritchen, Karen decided to become a real participant in the community of faith. She is a greeter, lector, Council member and also serves on the Transition Team and the ad hoc team working with Our Saviour's Lutherran and St. Paul's Lutheran and Roman Catholic Communities.

## **Getting-to-Know-You Potluck Noon, August 13 St. Paul's Lutheran at 16th and Grant**

The second "Getting-to-Know-You" potluck will be at St. Paul's at noon on August 13. There was a great turnout for the first event at Messiah. Let's turn out in force to keep the momentum going. We'll learn about some of St. Paul's outreach ministries, too. Bring something for the potluck table and your good vibes.

## **Tweet your vacation!**

Going on vacation this summer? Share a picture on our Twitter account @MessCoChurch. tweet pictures of the places you worship at the hashtag #vacationworship and photos of places of experience that inspire or recall the love of God at #godis good. Bring a worship bulletin back for Pastor Bev and share your worship away from home.



Pastor Bev & Messiah members:

Thank you for your thoughts and prayers during my hospital and rehab visits. I am now home and doing well, with some home health care assistance. Also, a BIG THANK YOU for my 100th Birthday greetings, and the planned after-church cake & coffee party, which unfortunately I was unable to attend due to other plans. Love & blessings to all and God bless Messiah Church!

Vera Thorne

## **Messiah Women**

We begin our year of service September 9th. It has been quite a while since we have donated cookies to the "Give a Jam" project. This project provides sack lunches to day laborers. We are asking for your donation of 4 dozen +/- cookies that we can bag and deliver to "Give a Jam". We meet the 2nd Saturday of the month, September 9th, 1:00, at Susie Anderson's house. Even if you can't bring cookies, come join us.



## **Messiah Mountain Trailhead**

Messiah Mountain has hosted two congregational picnics so far this summer and have two more scheduled: August 20 at 1pm and the last one for this year on September 24 after our church service there.

In July, MMRC played host to the wedding of Barb Ritchen's son, Blake. You will have to ask her about the special day.

Prior to the wedding, the west deck of the Bock Lodge saw some minor repairs to the deck and railing, then was scrapped and painted. Should last another few years before it is needed again.

Remember, as congregational members, you can utilize the mountain property for no charge so think about it when you are planning events this year as well as next year.

## **League of Hope**

Come join us and learn more about League of Hope. League of Hope's monthly meeting will be August 27, 11:30 during which we will host a mini brunch for women wanting to Join or learn more about our ministry. This will take place in the parlor. Please consider joining us.  
League of Hope

## Green Team News



The Messiah Green Team continues with its efforts to help the congregation and the community learn more about how to care for the earth and its inhabitants, both human and otherwise. In this way, the team believes that God's kingdom on earth can be better served.

The team maintains the Green Team bulletin board to advise about items of interest and concern. The recycling station in the parlor remains active, available for the congregation and the community. Also, you may have noticed that some of the pictures and factoids in the parlor have been updated.

Now, it seems likely that the Green Team will be actively involved in the celebration of the Season of Creation in September. It's exciting to think about this great opportunity to show what the team believes in and strives for on an ongoing basis. Watch for more in this regard in future Messiah Moments and Messengers. Anyone interested in joining the Green Team can contact the church office. Everyone is welcome and new members bring us joy.

## Messiah Birthdays in August

Please inform the office if you are not listed

Stephen Mast	August 1
Etta Wertz	August 9
Roger Miller	August 10
Barbara Westerberg	August 18
Freja Troy	August 21
Dave Edwards	August 25
Sandy Fischbach	August 27
Bonnie Short	August 28
Jim Krebs	August 29

## Council Spotlight



Julie Chickillo

Julie is a Colorado native who grew up in Arvada, CO, and attended church at Saint Andrews for 20 years. One of her favorite childhood memories was attending camp every year at Rainbow Trail. Julie currently lives in Stapleton, CO, with 3 energetic children and a loving husband. She works full time as the Director of Information Security for an international company. When not working long hours she likes to ski, go to concerts in the park, cook, and do photography.



### From the Music Room:

I have often joked that everyone who told me they couldn't carry a tune in a bucket, "I have plenty of buckets; let me show you how to carry a tune." Of course, we all have different talents. No, I don't expect everyone's to be musical. It would be nice... think of all the fun we would have... Who cares if we sing off here and there or play the right note at the wrong time? Perfection is not an entrance requirement – in other words, you don't have to be this tall to ride this ride.

– Hold on to the bucket idea for a second – .

...a few years back, the light bulb went off during one of my piano lessons as a teacher. My pupil was a mom of two in college, married, and active in her church. She had decided it was time to pursue learning to play the piano; a childhood dream. There were times when she could barely play during her lesson due to fear. Fear of playing the wrong note. Fear of what I would say. Fear of never being able to play the simplest tune. Being fresh out of college, I was determined to get her to play. After a few months of trying, we both wanted to give up. While time and other commitments got in the way and neither of us reached our goal, a real lesson was learned. I could help her with her fear. She taught me the real lesson of what music does and can do. Being successful in music isn't just performing in Carnegie Hall. Being successful in music isn't just having amazing students who exceed your own success. Being successful in music is seeing the change in people you share music with, both in practice and in performance.

Music at Messiah is all of this and more. We probably won't be booking Lincoln Center tomorrow or launching our world tour to sell our CD next week. We could (!) but likely won't. That isn't our focus. Our focus is our community, congregation, and ourselves. We are good at what we do because we are good at trying, learning, accepting our mistakes, and communicating a message through music.

So... if you think you can't carry a tune in the bucket, come find out what carrying that tune could be like! I've got lots of buckets and you'll have unlimited chances! You never know what can happen!

Eric

p.s. We are good at having fun too!

## Assisting Messiah Volunteers

### August 6

Assisting Minister: Barbara Ritche  
Lector: Sue Edwards  
Laity Prayer: Sue Bomar  
Greeter(s): Karen Schimke  
Communion Server: Carolyn Smith  
Altar Guild: Tammy Heid, Frances Sitone  
Closer(s): Glen/Barb Johnson  
Counters: Diana Walstrom & Edwards

### August 13

Assisting Minister: Teresa Stenwall  
Lector: Adrienne Adams  
Laity Prayer:  
Greeter(s): Inga Weiland  
Communion Server: Dick Chuvarsky  
Altar Guild: Sue Bishop  
Closer(s): Webers  
Counters: Diana Walstrom & Tammy Heid

### August 20

Assisting Minister: Denise Larson  
Lector: Marcia Chuvarsky  
Laity Prayer: Bill Dillion  
Greeter(s): Myrna Francy  
Communion Server: Tammy Heid  
Altar Guild: Sue Bishop  
Closer(s): Dick Chuvarsky  
Counters: Diana Walstrom & Edwards

### August 27

Assisting Minister: Sue Edwards  
Lector: Jim Bonham  
Laity Prayer: Adrienne Adams  
Greeter(s): Webers  
Communion Server: Frances Sitone  
Altar Guild: Sue Bishop  
Closer(s): Carolyn Smith  
Counters: Diana Walstrom & Edwards



*Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*

**Church Staff**

Interim Pastor + Rev. Beverly Piro  
 Director of Music + Eric French  
 Office Administrator + Suzanne Miller  
 Volunteer Coordinator + Leah Peden

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*After hours pastoral emergency 206-300-1947*

**Sunday Worship  
 and Sunday School**

**9:30 A.M.**

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Volunteer Coordinator	Leah Peden	Leah@messiahdenver.org

***Happy Hour***

The next happy hour will be Friday, August 25th at 6 pm at Jett Asian Cafe. Jett is at 5007 East Colfax (at Elm St). RSVP to Scott not required but appreciated. Hope to see you then!

