

March 2024

# THE MESSENGER

A Publication of The Episcopal Church of the Messiah



And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose.

Romans 8:28 NIV

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## Join Us for Worship:

### Sunday Services:

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist (Rite I) in the Sanctuary

9:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist (Rite II) in the Sanctuary

11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist (Contemporary) in the Parish Hall

4:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist (French & Creole) in the Sanctuary

5:00 p.m. Diving Deeper (Adult Study) with Fr. Andrew

7:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist (Rite III-Casual) in the Sanctuary

### Wednesday Service:

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist (Rite II) in the Sanctuary

11:00 a.m. Bible Study in the Library

241 North Main Street, Winter Garden, Florida 34787  
Phone: 407-656-3218 Email: [Office@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com](mailto:Office@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com)  
Office Hours: Monday through Friday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.



# Mission Trip to Israel!



Wait! WHAT???? A mission trip to WHERE????

As you know, there's a war in Gaza, which is on the southwestern border of Israel, and there's conflict on the northern border of Israel with Lebanon.

Though that war is NOT physically touching the rest of the country, it's having a serious impact on the economy, as tourists cancelled their visits, and foreign workers left the country; and on the Israeli population as thousands of military reservists have been called away from their everyday jobs to military duty.

Those dynamics have created a gap in daily Israeli life, as crops are not being harvested, social services don't have the staff to serve people in need, and people displaced by the war are still temporarily housed in other parts of the country.

Christ Church – the folks who hosted our study tour to Israel last summer – is stepping into that gap by arranging Tours with a Purpose, which brings small teams of 8-12 missionaries to Israel to work and serve the local population 2/3 of the time and visit Biblical sites the other 1/3.

I'm assembling a team from the Messiah family for such a Tour with a Purpose.

We fly out of Orlando Sunday, June 2, arrive in Tel Aviv Monday, June 3, and go to work on Tuesday June 4, and we fly home Friday, June 14.

In between, we'll work 6 or 7 of those days and visit Biblical sites 3 or 4 of them – depending upon the needs of the folks there when we get there.

The work may include: serving on farms cultivating or harvesting crops, working in social service ministries feeding and serving people in need, serving victims of human trafficking or people who are still displaced from their homes because of the war.

I told Christ Church we will do whatever is most helpful for them while we're there.

What about the danger? And the war?

We will NOT be anywhere close to Gaza or the Lebanese border. We will be well out of range of the rockets and artillery being used against Israel. Christ Church will NOT send us anywhere there is local tension or conflict – as they did with our group last summer.

We were scheduled to visit Biblical Sychar, where Jesus met the Samaritan woman at the well in John chapter 4, but that place is now the city of Nablus that has a large Palestinian population. There was tension the week before we were to visit, so we didn't go there.

The war is NOT going to reach Jerusalem, as NONE of the Islamic groups will risk an errant rocket hitting the Dome of the Rock on the Temple Mount.

Christ Church – and Christ himself! – will keep us out of harm’s way.

And the people there will LOVE and APPRECIATE our being there – for at least 2 reasons:

The Israeli economy – like Orlando’s – is based on tourism, and the war wiped that out as almost everyone cancelled their visits. So EVERYONE – Israeli AND Arab – will welcome our being there to spend some money.

We will be meeting needs that are currently going unmet, so the folks there – especially “the least of these” – will welcome our servanthood.

#### DETAILS OF THE PROJECT:

Leaving Sunday, June 2 after being prayed for and commissioned by the Messiah family.

Working 6 or 7 days.

Visiting Biblical sites 3 or 4 days.

Returning Friday, June 14.

The cost: around \$4,500:

\$3,000 for food and lodging in Israel (Christ Church is still crunching the numbers, and I will have those soon).

PLUS airfare, which is about \$1,500 (I’m still chasing down the best deal).

The Team will be only 8-12 people, each of whom needs to be:

Over 18 years old.

Fit enough to work outside 5 or 6 hours and to walk up to a couple of miles a day.

Flexible enough to roll with changing plans and emerging needs.

Willing to serve whomever and however is most helpful to the folks there.

Loving enough to be a team player with the rest of our group.

If you’re interested, find me! And let’s talk.

I’m stoked about going back to the Holy Land, but even MORE stoked to be able to serve and experience a different aspect of the people there than I have as a mere tourist. And I hope 7 to 11 of you will join me.

I love you all.

*Tom  
Rutherford*



Jerusalem as seen from the Mount of Olives.



## Clergy

### Rector:

**The Rev. Tom Rutherford** 321-945-3958  
TomRutherford@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com

### Apprentice Rector:

**The Rev. Andrew Lazo** 713-302-6262  
AndrewLazo@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com

### Priest Associate and Facilities Minister:

**The Rev. Soner Alexandre** 407-452-2952  
SonerAlexandre@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com

### Priest Associate

**The Rev. Kathryn Jeffrey** 652-815-5702  
KJeffrey@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com

### Deacons:

**The Rev. Julie Altenbach** 407-462-8001  
JulieAltenbach@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com

**The Rev. Sam Katulic** 321-230-4756  
DeaconSam@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com

**The Rev. Angela Lopez** 321-287-9089  
AngelaLopez@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com

**The Rev. Tim Wetherington** 407-342-4484  
DeaconTim@outlook.com

### Treasurer:

**Bob Tate**  
Treasurer@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com

## Staff

**Jane Cartelli, Finance Minister**  
Email: JaneCartelli@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com

**Barbara Ellerbe, Preschool Director**  
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**Linda Ellison, Artist in Residence**  
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**Wendy King, Office Minister**  
Email: WendyKing@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com

**Sergei Kossenko, Music Minister**  
Email: SergeiKossenko@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com

**Angela Lopez, Children's Minister**  
Email: AngelaLopez@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com

**Vita Mazzaluna, Tech Minister**  
Email: VitaMazzaluna@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com

## 2024 Financial Report

(as of January 2024)

Operating Income.....	\$101,348.74
Operating Expenses.....	\$69,479.11
NET.....	\$31,869.63
All Building Fund Income.....	\$11,827.00
All Building Fund Expense.....	\$12,063.11
NET.....	\$(236.11)

## 2024 Vestry

**Chris Brown, Pastoral Care, Properties Team, DART**  
Email: CG\_Brown@live.com

**Beth Ann Carr, Missions & Evangelism, Business & Development**  
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**Mildred Dubic, Fun & Fellowship,**  
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**Jean Pinder, Communication & Publicity**  
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**Lamer Powers, Junior Warden**  
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**Mary Kay Predmore, Senior Warden, Connections, Lay Eucharistic Visitor, Worship**  
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**Wally Stewart, Properties, Business & Development, Intercessory Prayer**  
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**Lionel Williams, Communications & Publicity**  
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**Dawn Wirbel, Children & Youth, Connections, Worship**  
Email: d.wirbel@yahoo.com

## Vestry Door Duty for March

Opener at 7:30 a.m. ~ Mary Kay Predmore  
Closer after 1:00 p.m. ~ Lionel Williams  
Vestry Meeting Host ~ Mary Kay Predmore

# Who Ya Gonna Call?

<b>LOVING GOD</b>	<b>LEADER</b>	<b>PHONE</b>	<b>EMAIL</b>
Acolytes	Deacon Angela Lopez	407.413.4220	<a href="mailto:Angelalopez@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com">Angelalopez@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com</a>
Altar Guild	Karen Stewart Jennifer Roper	407.625.7615 407.760.2393	<a href="mailto:Kstewart1208@yahoo.com">Kstewart1208@yahoo.com</a> <a href="mailto:Jennifer.roper@yahoo.com">Jennifer.roper@yahoo.com</a>
Building Maintenance	Lamar Powers	407.913.7112	<a href="mailto:lamarpowers@cfl.rr.com">lamarpowers@cfl.rr.com</a>
Children's Ministry	Deacon Angela Lopez	321.287.9089	<a href="mailto:Angelalopez@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com">Angelalopez@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com</a>
Facilities Minister	Fr. Soner Alexandre	407.452.2952	<a href="mailto:SonerAlexandre@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com">SonerAlexandre@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com</a>
Lay Weeder's/Landscapers	John Peacock	407.758.2728	<a href="mailto:jpeacox@cfl.rr.com">jpeacox@cfl.rr.com</a>
Music/Choirs/Band	Sergei Kossenko	407.656.3218	<a href="mailto:SergeiKossenko@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com">SergeiKossenko@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com</a>
Prayer Chain	Amy Eiden & Wilna Brown	919.931.9423 407.222.8847	<a href="mailto:prayerchain@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com">prayerchain@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com</a>
Prayer Intercessors	Wally Stewart	407.468.2545	<a href="mailto:Stewart3rd@aol.com">Stewart3rd@aol.com</a>
Central Scheduling Ushers, Greeters, Lectors, LEMS, LEV's	Mary Kay Predmore	352.551.4293	<a href="mailto:predmoremarykay@gmail.com">predmoremarykay@gmail.com</a>
<b>LOVING OUR NEIGHBORS</b>	<b>LEADER</b>	<b>PHONE</b>	<b>EMAIL</b>
Communications/Publicity	Lionel Williams	407.467.1741	<a href="mailto:lionelfhw@gmail.com">lionelfhw@gmail.com</a>
Habitat for Humanity	Bob Tate	407.247.0219	<a href="mailto:Tater7134@gmail.com">Tater7134@gmail.com</a>
Outreach	Deacon Angela Lopez	407.413.4220	<a href="mailto:Angelalopez@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com">Angelalopez@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com</a>
Pre-School	Barbara Ellerbe	407.654.8415	<a href="mailto:barbaraellerbe@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com">barbaraellerbe@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com</a>
D.A.R.T.	Chris Brown	407.864.1708	<a href="mailto:CG_Brown@Live.com">CG_Brown@Live.com</a>
<b>LOVING EACH OTHER</b>	<b>LEADER</b>	<b>PHONE</b>	<b>EMAIL</b>
Casserole Patrol	Deacon Julie Altenbach	407.462.8001	<a href="mailto:juliealtenbach@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com">juliealtenbach@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com</a>
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History Ministry	Sandy Sparks	715.295.4482	<a href="mailto:ssproofing@gmail.com">ssproofing@gmail.com</a>
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Pastoral Care	Joyce Taylor	407.222.1290	<a href="mailto:shadesfan@aol.com">shadesfan@aol.com</a>
Tech Ministry	Vita Mazzaluna	407.748.7895	<a href="mailto:vitamazzaluna@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com">vitamazzaluna@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com</a>
Transportation Aid	Joyce Taylor	407.222.1290	<a href="mailto:shadesfan@aol.com">shadesfan@aol.com</a>
Women's Dining Club	Janice Hull	352.217.0967	<a href="mailto:Jhull1049@gmail.com">Jhull1049@gmail.com</a>
Youth	Fr. Tom Rutherford	407.656.3218	<a href="mailto:youth@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com">youth@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com</a>

# 2024 February Vestry Minutes

Sunday \* February 18, 2024 \* 2 p.m.

Present: Rector Tom Rutherford, Senior Warden Mary Kay Predmore, Junior Warden Lamar Powers, Clerk Joyce Taylor, Chris Brown, Beth Ann Carr, Wally Stewart, Marie Tassy, Lionel Williams, and Treasurer Bob Tate and Apprentice Rector Andrew Lazo.

Absent: Mildred Dubic (work conflict), Jean Pinder (ill), Sandy Sparks, and Dawn Wirbel

## **I. FORMATION: Joyce Taylor led Noonday Prayer.**

- A. Based on Exodus 18:5, 7-9, 13-27, Tom Rutherford talked about Shared Leadership, so we don't repeat Moses' mistake. You are co-leaders alongside the Rector and not his "staff."
- B. To help us develop our shared leadership this year, we're going to read a book together – *Building a Killer Team Without Killing Yourself or Your Team* – and discuss it during this time each month. The Clergy Team and Staff are also reading it together.
- C. PREPARATION FOR OUR MARCH MEETING: Read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest the Introduction and chapters 1 & 2 of *Building a Killer Team Without Killing Yourself or Your Team*, by Shawn Lovejoy: "My Confessions (and Yours)" and "The Distinctions and Pillars of a Killer Team" (pp. 9-32)

## **II. INFORMATION:**

### **A. Vestry Ministry Team Reports:**

1. **Junior Warden Lamar Powers reports:** I have contacted the people from the Directory and let them know I will be praying for them this year. I also contacted the Treasurer and got the budget for Maintenance and the HVAC projects. I got the list of Messiah's Way volunteers from Office Minister Wendy King, and I will be calling on them along with Chris Brown and Wally Stewart for help.
2. **No other reports received.**

### **B. Staff Ministry Reports**

1. **Facilities Minister Soner Alexandre** would like to resign, but he'll stay on, until we find his successor.
2. **Finance Minister Jane Cartelli:** We had a GREAT month!
3. **Music Minister Sergei Kossenکو:**
  - a) We have had a festive and successful Christmas and Epiphany season in music. No major changes in the daily routine, business as usual. We have temporarily lost some vocalists due to bereavement leaves (unrelated to one another, but coinciding in time). We should have a full group again by Easter.
  - b) Dawn Wirbel, Sue Cardaci, and I got together and went through collections of the anthems that our choir performed in the past (when Linda Ellison was Music Minister). The anthems they chose were scanned into electronic format for us to sing during the Easter season.
  - c) Florida Lakes Symphony Orchestra continues to play on a monthly basis. My colleague Greg Pierce and I are now recording those concerts with multi-microphone arrays which they bring, as well as in video. Those recordings will be available to be featured on the parish website. Together with Tom Knapman, Greg, and I installed a hanging pair of microphones to be used for those recordings. These microphones are also suitable for recordings of church productions in which acoustic sounds on stage are combined with amplified audio (such as children's plays and VBS).
4. **Office Minister Wendy King:**
  - a) My first month I hit the ground running and haven't stopped. It has been a busy season.
  - b) My predecessor Julie Altenbach set me up for success with a 2-inch binder filled and organized with notes and how-to's for things around the church, and she has been a phone call away if I have an emergency or questions. I have used this lifeline more than a few times. I am so grateful.
  - c) Tech Minister Vita Mazzaluna has been a great help in creating new flyers for new events, and she is sharing her advertisements for the services. This has saved me time as I learn all the new programs. It has also given me peace to not feel like I have to know everything all at

once. Vita has also shown me tools and tricks in Canva and Publisher that have helped to save time when I'm creating the bulletins and the Monthly Messenger.

- d) Christin Lazo has been meeting with me for a few hours on Mondays to teach me how to proof the bulletins and *Messengers*, and we have been making some changes to help save space and to pretty things up a bit. I am so grateful for her wisdom, her knowledge, and her patience in sharing this wealth of knowledge and teaching me.
  - e) I have been the point person for the HVAC updates and the upgrades are almost complete. If you visited the church during the week in January and February you may have seen the Automated Mechanical Services team, Steve, Steven, and Marc climbing into the ceilings and working in the mechanical rooms. They are done updating the work on our campus minus a few repairs that they found during the installation. A few of the heaters are broken and need to be replaced, and the current model is obsolete. Marc is on the hunt to find a replacement. I am excited about the new system and the upgrades. Steven is building the software for our campus, and we might start training this week on how to use the new system. The AMS team has been very professional, and very prompt with emergency response and it has been a pleasure having them working on our campus.
  - f) During my second and third weeks on the job, we had printer jamming issues. It took three techs and five visits spread over three weeks before the problem was resolved. The printer has been behaving nicely for the last few weeks. I'm grateful to the DEX tech Kevin, who dug deep to find, and correct the multiple issues. He followed up the week after to check in and ensure everything was still working.
  - g) I am truly blessed to be your Office Minister. Thank you for the prayers. I am feeling them. Please keep praying.
5. **Preschool Director Barbara Ellerbe:** Registration for next fall is going well. Several rooms are full, with waiting lists, and the other rooms are filling. The financial report was emailed separately.
6. **Tech Minister Vita Mazzaluna:**
- a) I have some new volunteers to help with livestreaming and sound at 9:30am and with slides at 11am! Still looking for more and the Music Ministry still needs more sound people for 11am.
  - b) It has become obvious that we really could use someone that is well versed in Google Ads to help with managing and creating ads in the Google Nonprofit Ad Grant account. The platform is something that changes frequently so it is not really something that I can feasibly keep up with as a part-time employee with my other priorities. However, someone that uses it already would be able to quickly and easily make changes, create new ads and select all "the right things." My research into using the Ad Grants shows that this is one area that many churches choose to hire out because of the complexity and constant evolving nature of the platform and of internet searching in general. I know our budget doesn't really allow for much in the way of "hiring out" so that's why I am asking for help identifying someone within the church who may be versed in Google Ads that would be willing to work on this as their service to church.
  - c) I spent quite a few hours going through the new SEO (Search Engine Optimization) application that is in the backend of our website, that helps people find us on the internet. I still have a couple of pages to go through, but most have been optimized. Because we have a managed WordPress site, the SEO is a bit different than on an open WordPress site but I have added meta data and cleaned up page titles and descriptions. If anyone is interested in seeing how our Worship Times managed website handles SEO, let me know and we can set up an appointment, either in person or via Zoom screen share.
  - d) I have also done some more "mobile browser" cleanup for the website. There were a few pages and features that I did not realize were not displaying or working properly. Some had been and a software update likely knocked them out; others I just missed. I still have a few more pages to investigate.
  - e) Our potential switch from "Servant Keeper" to "Planning Center" church management software has also been utilizing a fair amount of my time, so that we can see if it is a platform that we want to fully invest in. Stay tuned!
  - f) I swapped out the Library computer with a newer computer. The one we were using had become beyond outdated and barely booted up. The current laptop is one of the laptops that had

been retired from livestreaming due to a burnt-out HDMI port, which we don't need for the library application.

**7. Interim Youth Minister Tom Rutherford:** SEE BELOW IN THE DISCUSSION SECTION.

**C. HVAC Controls:** Automated Mechanical Systems is almost finished.

1. They found a number of burnt out and non-functioning parts and are repairing and replacing them, so the cost will be somewhat higher. We won't know that number until they're done.
2. They will orient us to the new control system Thursday, February 22 at 3pm in the church library, and all Vestry, Clergy, and Staff are invited.

**D. Maintenance Minister:** Tuesday/Thursday Maintenance Minister Matthew Barrett has agreed to cover us on the weekends until the Lord brings us our weekend person. Please pray for him/her to show up soon. We discussed increasing the hourly rate and also the explore using a commercial cleaning company for the weekends.

**E. Classroom Building Air Conditioner:** Glen of R&R A/C is ordering the materials and is shooting to do the job March 18-22, during the Preschool Spring Break.

**F. Mission Trip to Israel:** Tom Rutherford had planned and booked a study tour to Israel for the Diocese for this August. The war between Israel and Gaza, however, prompted the Bishop to pull the plug on that trip. Tom is recruiting a mission team of 8-12 people to go to Israel this June to work for 6 days (harvesting crops, helping with social service ministries, serving displaced persons and victims of human trafficking – whatever the needs are when we get there) and tour for 3. He'll tell us more as details emerge, and if the Lord raises up a Team. He also has a parish trip booked for July 24 -August 5, 2025.

### **III. DISCUSSION (to help make a decision next month):**

**Youth & Facilities Minister:** Since Tom Rutherford has had no luck finding anyone willing to work ¼ or ½ time as Youth Minister, he's looking into bundling the Youth and Facility Ministry jobs into one, to make a fulltime position that might be more attractive. Tom will keep researching, and Vestry will revisit this next month.

### **IV. DECISIONS (usually based on the Discussion last month):**

**2024 Assessment to the Diocese of Central Florida** is \$84,038, which is 11% of our Plague & Pledge Income, as reported on our 2022 Parochial Report. Vestry agreed to the Assessment.

### **V. MEETING MINUTES & FINANCIAL REPORT:**

**A. Minutes from last month's meeting:** APPROVED.

**B. Financial Report from Treasurer Bob Tate:** APPROVED.

1. **Operating Income** last month was MORE than expenses, giving us a SURPLUS of \$31,869.63. THANK YOU, JESUS! PLEASE KEEP PRAYING.
2. **Building Fund Income** was LESS than needed to pay the \$11,996.00 mortgage and other expenses, leaving us with a DEFICIT of \$236.11. PLEASE PRAY.
3. **Pre-Paying Principal on our Mortgage:** In 2022, we pre-paid \$10,000/month for most of the year, but stopped doing that when inflation heated up. Several vestry members would like us to do that again. We'll revisit this issue in April, when we get a better sense of how giving is going this year.

Meeting closed with prayer and adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Taylor, Vestry Clerk



# Reflection from the Vestry Clerk

Friends of the Troops is a non-profit organization whose mission is to provide aid, comfort and encouragement to active and retired veterans of the military.

We do this in one of many ways:

- Sending cards/letters of love and support to active members or veterans celebrating milestone birthdays, get well cards, notes of congratulations for new babies or sympathy for the loss of a loved one. The commitment is to send 2 cards a month. A mailing list is provided each month, and you can pick from that list!
- Adopting a soldier for the duration of their overseas deployment. We commit to sending our adopted service member a minimum of 2 cards/letters and one package per month. (A package could be snacks, wet wipes, toiletries, etc. Soldiers provide a wish list for you to pick from!)
- Sending one time gifts to military members or families at Christmas or during a time of hardship. We were recently able to purchase basic household items (from an Amazon registry) for the family of a deployed soldier who lost everything in a house fire.



I've been adopting soldiers for years and have found it to be one of the most meaningful volunteer activities that I do. I am always amazed at how impactful a simple note or card can be to someone on the other side of the world who is serving in the military. Many of them get little to no support from their families and they are often overwhelmed that a total stranger would take the time to send them a birthday card.

If you would like to join our team of sponsors or encouragers, we would love to have you!

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

Joyce Taylor



## Messiah's Missionaries

*We are representing our Church of the Messiah family  
and sharing the love of Jesus wherever we go!*

Fr. Tom, Fr. Andrew, and Christin attended the ordination of Fr. Brian Stankich at Grace Episcopal Church in Ocala, Florida on February 10th.

Debbie Rutherford attended the Ash Wednesday service at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

*If you visit another church, please pick up a copy of the bulletin and drop it in Wendy's mailbox. Don't forget to add a note letting us know who you are and the location of the church. If you can, please send pictures to: [Office@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com](mailto:Office@ChurchOfTheMessiah.com)*



February was such a fun month at the Preschool. We kicked the month off with a field trip to *Giraffes Can't Dance* at the Orlando Family Stage. It was a wonderful production of this story. The children enjoyed this performance in the round with lots of singing and dancing.

We celebrated Christ's love for us on Valentine's Day by exchanging Valentine's and classroom parties. Our wonderful parents contributed lots of treats to make these parties special. The children were adorable in their Valentine outfits and loved passing out their Valentines to each other.

In February, we also registered new students for next year. At this time, the preschool only has 3 openings in our toddler room for next school year. If you know of anyone looking to enroll a child ages 12 – 18 mos. in preschool, please have them call the preschool office at 407-654-8415.

February ended with western themed Father Field and Fun days. It was a rip-roaring good time! Special thanks to Wendy King for donating props and games for this event. The children shared a special day with their fathers that created many special memories.

### Upcoming Events

March 1 – Field trip to the Orlando Science Center

March 13 – School Advisory Council Meeting 9:15 in the library

March 18-22 – Spring break

March 29 – Good Friday – No School

April 1 and 2 – Picture Days



Nathan's first day of school- Phoenix was holding his hand to make him feel welcome.





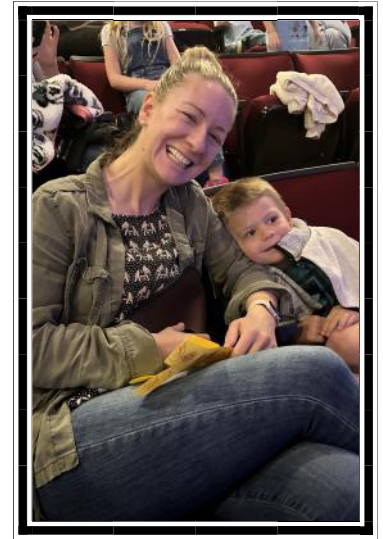
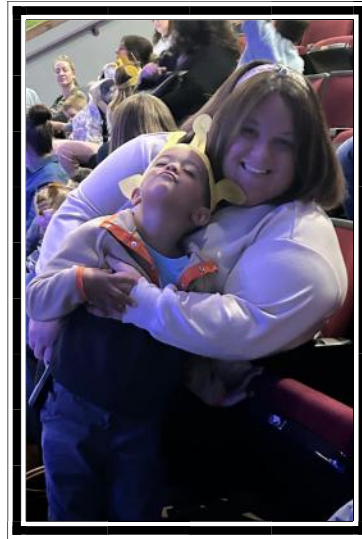
# Church of the Messiah Preschool visited the Orlando Family Stage to see *Giraffes Can't Dance, The Musical*



Gerald the Giraffe has a problem. All the other animals seem to know how to dance. The warthogs can waltz, the rhinos can rock 'n' roll, even the chimps can cha-cha! Gerald, with his long neck and skinny legs, thinks he cannot dance. That is, until he discovers that "sometimes when you're different, you just need a different song." Based on the bestselling picture book by Giles Andreae and Guy Parker-Rees. Book and lyrics by Gloria Bond Cunie with music by Elton Bradman and Leela Oleszkiewicz.



Ms. Kristin's class made giraffe hats.





Little Way  
**Lent  
Guide**

During Lent, we will be using resources from Little Way Chapel to guide the children through a Holy Lent. During SHINE (Sunday's from 4:30-6) we will explore the 3 pillars of Lent. If your child/grandchild has not tried out SHINE kids club, Lent is the perfect time to add on an activity that will help them grow closer to God! If you would like to volunteer this is the perfect opportunity for that as well!







VBS 2024 is June 17-21

Join us as take a jungle cruise through the 7 C's of history! Each summer it takes 40 or so amazing volunteers to make VBS special, would you consider joining the volunteer crew this year? See Ms. Angela for more information—or the children's table in the narthex! Registration for children opens on Easter.



## SUMMER CAMP

**AGES  
8-18**

### @ WINGMANN

DO YOU WANT TO SEND YOUR CHILD TO A QUALITY CHRISTIAN CAMP BUT THE PRICE IS TOO HIGH? LET US HLEP!

The COTM outreach committee has scholarship funds available for up to half of the cost!

#### DATES:

- June 2-7 9th-12th grade
- June 9-14 6th-8th grade
- June 16-21 3rd-5th grade\*
- June 24-July 5 All ages

\*June 17-21 is our VBS\*



For more details, visit:  
[www.campwingmann.org](http://www.campwingmann.org)  
For Scholarship info see Deacon Angela



# Daughters of the King



## Pre-Lenten Quiet Night



TRUST was our theme for the evening. We had 7 activity stations as well as the labyrinth that offered different ways to pray while engaging your various senses. There was soft music playing, aroma therapy, kinetic sand, different tactile art projects and even a little something sweet to eat. Space was given for quiet journaling, Bible study, individual and group prayer. The Daughters of the King here at Messiah are always willing to pray, listen or talk with you. You can identify us by our signature cross.





## A Note from Seminarian Jeremy Adams

Send Us  
Mail

Jeremy Adams  
Virginia Theological Seminary, PM 102  
3737 Seminary Road  
Alexandria, VA 22304



Hello Messiah Family!

The snow has melted and it's slightly warmer up here, but it's still pretty cold. This has been a busy month for me between traveling home for the Diocesan Convention, starting the new semester, and flying back to Florida to play a show with my old band. Even with the hectic schedule, I'm realizing how rewarding it was to make time for old friendships and to connect with people in our Diocese. Unfortunately, I don't have too much to report beyond that as things are settling into a routine with school. One interesting tidbit is I volunteered to give a presentation at the student theological symposium here at VTS to discuss a paper I wrote about how our understanding of God shapes our prayer life. I'll let y'all know how it went next month.

The kids are doing great. Yester lost her third tooth this week and has decided to keep it instead of giving it to the tooth fairy (she says she doesn't want Garine or me to throw it away, even if it means getting money in exchange). Garine and Yester have been becoming interested in gardening, they started a window sill herb garden together and Yester bought herself an aloe plant and a succulent. There's a community garden on campus so once the weather warms up I believe they'll be planting in there. JD has recently become a big fan of Mario and requests to watch the Mario movie or Mario Kart daily.

In addition to working, G was invited by one of the faculty to audit a class on the Spirituality of Children and Families. From what I gather it's a small class and she is loving the material so far. Spouses of students are able to audit one class per semester, which is a great perk to living on campus.

We're keeping all of you in our prayers!  
The Adams Family





# MARCH

2— Chase Farwell  
Gardy Peres Hyppolite  
Nichole Babcock

3— Jack Cottle

5— Don Stanton  
Reese Smith

6— Mak Richards

7— Pat Crawford

9— Marvin Haughton

10— Harry Hull

11— Cheri Mayfield  
Don Grimes  
Taylor Smith

13— Patricia Tate  
Raul Robertson

15— Barbara Warren  
Sandy Sparks

16— Kayrah Elliot

17— Merrily Peacock

20— John Ficquette  
Mary Kay Predmore  
Rose Marie Hubert

21— Rita Cho-Sam

25— Delilah Brueggeman  
Linda White

26— Aiden Brandenburg  
Cynthia West

27— Amy Farwell  
Lauren Gossett

28— Karen Stewart

29— Anastasia Switzer  
Cathy Penn  
Jacob Borst  
Yolwenn Alexandre

30— Ayden Cho-Sam  
Isabella Easton



5— Raul And Angela Lopez

12— Matt and Katherine Reusch

15— Bob and Lynn Neill

21— Bobby and Lisa Field

22— Lamar and Darlene Powers

24— Steve and Lisa Borst















Please pray for our expectant mom, Jennifer Excaliber, who is pregnant with twins.

*We want to celebrate you! Please share birthdays, anniversaries, and new arrivals with us.  
Call the Office at 407.656.3218 or drop a note in Wendy's Office mailbox.*



# MARCH



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Tuesday– Fr. Tom’s Day Off Friday– Fr. Andrew’s Day Off Office Hours: Mon - Fri 9:00 am-5:00 pm					1  5:00 pm The Great Litany in French	2
3  	4	5    6:30 pm Ladies’ Dinner Parish Hall Men’s Supper Youth Hall	6	7	8  5:00 pm The Great Litany in French	9
10	11    5:00 pm Parish Hall	12	13	14	15  5:00 pm The Great Litany in French	16  <b>Hope Starts Here!</b> 1 pm—4 pm 
17 <b>Hope Starts Here!</b>   2:00 pm Vestry Meeting 	18	19  10:00 a.m. Feast of St. Joseph  Morning Prayer with Holy Eucharist.	20    5:15 pm Bring dinner, watch & discuss in the Parish Hall	21	22  5:00 pm The Way of the Cross & the Great Litany in French  Noon & 7 pm The Way of the Cross	23
24 Palm Sunday    31 Easter	25	26	27  Noon & 7 pm The Way of the Cross	28 Maundy Thursday   6:30 pm Simple Supper 7:00 pm Service	29    Noon & 7:00 pm Good Friday	30

## Sunday’s Schedule

**8:00 a.m. Rite I**  
**9:30 a.m. Rite II**  
*Nursery and Children’s Church*  
**11:00 a.m. Rite III**  
*Nursery and Children’s Church*  
**4:00 p.m. French Service**  
**4:30 p.m. Shine Kid’s Club**  
*in the Youth Hall*

**5:00 p.m. Activate Youth Group**  
*in the Youth Hall*  
**5:00 p.m. Diving Deeper**  
*with Fr. Andrew in the Parish Hall*  
**6:00 p.m. Simple Supper**  
*in the Parish Hall*  
**7:00 p.m. Rite III**

**Monday:** 5:15 p.m. Men’s Bible Study  
 5:30 p.m. Women’s Bible Study

**Tuesday:** 10 a.m. Morning Prayer in the Sanctuary

**Wednesday:** 10:00 a.m. Holy Communion  
 11:00 a.m. Bible Study in the Library  
 6:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal  
 7:15 p.m. Praise Band Rehearsal

**For questions or to volunteer to serve, please contact Mary Kay Predmore at [predmoremarykay@gmail.com](mailto:predmoremarykay@gmail.com).**

**If you see an opening that you can fill, please email Mary Kay or call the office at 407-656-3218.**

### Sunday Servants 8:00 am

8:00 Service	March 3	March 10	March 17	March 24	March 31
<b>Lector</b>	Aliena Gaye	Sandy Sparks	Joyce Taylor	Alex Hujik	Alex Hujik
<b>1st LEM</b>	Maureen Farrar	Wayne Sparks	Mary Kay Predmore	Joyce Taylor	Mary Kay Predmore
<b>2nd LEM</b>	Frank Chase	Gretchen Tope	Deborah Alleyne	Mary Kay Predmore	Joyce Taylor
<b>Altar Server</b>	Wayne Sparks	Mary Kay Predmore	Wayne Sparks	Mary Kay Predmore	Sandy Sparks
<b>Ushers/Greeters</b>	Bill Crawford Tom Johnston	Joyce Taylor Jay Predmore	Bill Crawford Jay Predmore	Wayne Sparks Alex Hujik	Tom Johnston Jay Predmore
<b>Prayer Intercessor</b>	Gretchen Tope	Sandy Sparks	Joyce Taylor	Gretchen Tope	Wayne Sparks

### Sunday Servants 9:30 am

9:30 Service	March 3	March 10	March 17	March 24	March 31
<b>Lector</b>	Lynn Redmond	Dawn Wirbel	Don Grimes	Bill Bradford	Jay Williams
<b>LEM 1</b>	Tom Buckner	Rodger Watson	Chris Brown	Vince Truglia	Vince Truglia
<b>LEM 2</b>	Mary Lynn Levine	Stacey Beck	Tom Buckner	Mary Lynn Levine	Mary Lynn Levine
<b>LEM 3</b>	---	---	---	---	Rodger Watson
<b>Altar Server</b>	Addison Lynn	Kendall Gilmore	Taylor Smith	Isabella	Melanie Field
<b>Crucifer</b>	Kendall Gilmore	Addison Lynn	Melanie Field	Melanie Field	Isabella
<b>Torch Bearer 1</b>	Ainsley Gilmore	Ainsley Gilmore	Scarlett Excaliber	Reese Smith	Reese Smith
<b>Torch Bearer 2</b>	Landon Gray	Scarlett Excaliber	Landon Gray	Taylor Smith	Taylor Smith
<b>Ushers/Greeters</b>	John Puchein Ken Miller	Tom & Laura Buckner	Don Grimes Beth Ann Carr	Alex & Nichole Babcock	Jay & Patti Williams
<b>Prayer Intercessor</b>	Linda Gold	Susan Kiehm	Doreen Stachowski	Elise Bradford	Linda Gold
<b>Tech Slides</b>	Laura Buckner	Sam Lynn	Wilna Brown	Maureen Farrar	Laura Buckner
<b>Tech Sound</b>				Jim Farrar	Could Be You!



### Sunday Servants 11:00 am

11:00 am	March 3	March 10	March 17	March 24	March 31
Lector	Ginger Sirola	Steve Coole	Jennifer Groenedaal	Paul Buzzoneti	Bob Somers
LEM 1	Lionel Williams	Vita Mazzaluna	Mary Kay Predmore	Marc Boese	Marc Boese
LEM 2	Karen Williams	Marc Boese	Halen Farnsworth	Vita Mazzaluna	Lionel Williams
Altar Server	Giada Mazzaluna	Jakson Groenendaal	Giada Mazzaluna	Jakson Groenendaal	Giada Mazzaluna
Ushers & Greeters	Marc & Karen Boese	Mary Katulic	Borst Family	Lionel & Karen Williams	Borst Family
Tech Slides	Steve Borst	Lionel Williams	Mark Boese	Aaron Abney	Christopher Borst
Tech Sound					

### Sunday Servants 7:00 pm

7:00 pm	March 3	March 10	March 17	March 24	March 31
Lector	Jason Easton	Larry Cartelli	Nancy Gordon	Cherie Greene	Steve Raetz
LEM 1	Steve Raetz	Wendy King	Chris Brown	Susie Marshall	Wendy King
Altar Server					
Ushers & Greeters	Raul Lopez	Cindi Shaffer	Steve Raetz	Bob Greene	Raul Lopez
Prayer Intercessor	Wendy King	Jill Brown	Susie Marshall	Cherie Greene	Susie Marshall
Tech Slides	Jill Brown	David Peterson	Cherie Greene	David Peterson	

### Readings

Readings	March 3	March 10	March 17	March 24	March 31
1 <sup>st</sup> Lesson	Exodus 20:1-17	Numbers 21:4-9	Jer 31:31-34	Isaiah 50:4-9a	Isaiah 25:6-9
Psalm	Psalm 19	Psalm 107:1-22	Psalm 119:9-16	Psalm 31:5-16	Ps 118:14-29
2 <sup>nd</sup> Lesson	1 Cor 1:18-25	Ephesians 2:1-10	Hebrews 5:5-10	Phil 2:5-11	1 Cor 15:1-11
Gospel	John 2:13-22	John 3:14-21	John 12:20-33	Mark 14:1-15:47	John 20:1-18

### Holy Week

Servants	Maundy Thursday 3/28	Good Friday 3/29	Noon	7:00 p.m.
Lector	Christin Lazo		Vince Truglia	Dawn Wirbel
LEM 1	Stacey Beck		Chris Brown	Rodger Watson
LEM 2	Lionel Williams		Mary Kay Predmore	Wendy King
Ushers & Greeters	Jay Predmore Don Grimes		Wayne Sparks Bob Greene	Cindi Shaffer Terry Kraft
		Tech Slides	Wilna Brown	---
		Tech Sound	Vita Mazzaluna	---

Holy Week Readings	Maundy Thursday 3/28	Good Friday 3/29
1 <sup>st</sup> Lesson	Exodus 12:1-14	Jeremiah 31:31-34
Psalm	Psalm 116	Psalm 119:9-16
2 <sup>nd</sup> Lesson	1Corinthians 1:18-25	Hebrews 5:5-10
Gospel	John 2:13-22	John 12:20-33

**Thank you to the Men's Bible Study  
for hosting the Shrove Tuesday  
Pancake Supper**





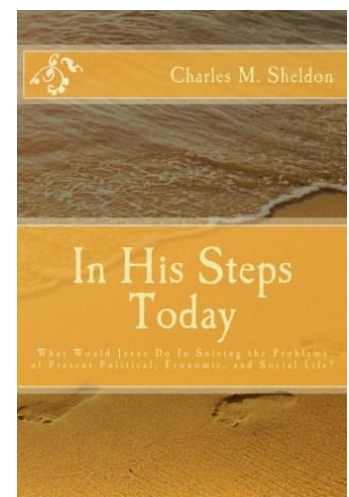
## Book Review

by Helen Farnsworth

I've been reading two books this month—*In His Steps Today: What Would Jesus Do In Solving Problems of Present Political, Economic and Social Life* by Charles M. Sheldon, and *Great Lion of God* by Taylor Caldwell.

The first one, *In His Steps Today*, published in 1921, is the book club selection; I love it! It sounds a lot more contemporary than 1921. It is written in dialogue form between the different interests involved (e.g., the miners, the operators, the public, and Jesus). There are ten chapters, dealing with the coal fields, the farms, politics, the Church, the press, the drama, education, the railroad, the home, and international affairs. In most cases, the suggestions of Jesus are greeted with, "You've got to be kidding! Your ideas are impractical!" But are they? Idealistic in the extreme, of course, and not likely to be listened to in our current culture, for sure! But what if we did do things Jesus' way? It gives one a lot to think about.

The other book, *Great Lion of God*, is a novel about the life of St. Paul. I read two other Taylor Caldwell books—*Pillar of Iron*, about the life of Cicero, and *Dear and Glorious Physician* about St. Luke—and loved them both. So I decided to read the book about the life of St. Paul, and I haven't been disappointed! I'll review it in more detail next month.







**SAVE THE DATE!**  
The Church of the Messiah  
will be hosting its annual  
Rummage Sale.

April 13th, 2024 7:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

We need your help! Please start putting your treasures aside for the sale. Items can be dropped off on April 7th after 3 p.m. We will also need volunteers for pick-up of larger items, staging, and day of sale.

Please contact Bill or Marsha to volunteer.  
Contact: Bill Crawford 407-614-4873 or  
Marsha Dymond 407-491-4048



**COTM will host Compassion  
"Hope Starts Here" March 16-17!**

Call the Church Office or Joyce Taylor if  
you would like to volunteer for the event.  
There is a sign-up link through the Church  
website.

### Messiah Building Fund Jars



**Keep them coming!**

The coin jar  
donations  
for 2023 brought in  
\$1,184.05!!!

**THANK YOU!!!!!!**

### Keep them coming!

Grab a jar from the  
Narthex,  
fill it with your loose  
change, and bring it to the  
Office!

All funds go towards the  
Building Fund and will be  
credited to your giving  
account.

(Be sure to label your jar to  
receive credit).

## Being A Messiah's Man B.A.M.M.

### Men's Fire Pit!

*Wednesdays during Lent*

*February 21<sup>st</sup> - March 20<sup>th</sup>*

*6:30 pm – 8 pm*

*375 Floral Dr., Winter Garden, FL*

*(Bring a chair)*

*Questions?*

*Contact Chris Brown 407-864-1708*



## BUNCO



That's right !!!

**Church of the Messiah**  
Last Tuesday of the month  
*In the Church Library*

Tuesday, March 26  
7 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Bring your own beverage.

**Have some fun and  
lots of laughs !!!**

Contact Janice Hull  
(352) 217-0967



**Book Club will  
not meet in March.**

Please start reading

*Bitter and Sweet: A Journey  
into Easter.*

We will meet again on  
Thursday, April 25th to  
discuss this book.

