

Annual Congregation Meeting - July 13, 2020 6:30pm

As you are aware, our Annual Congregation Meeting usually takes place in the month of June. Due to our campus closure our meeting is being held on Monday, July 13 at 6:30pm. We know that everyone has a different comfort level attending gatherings and understand if you can't make it. No matter your plans, please read through this packet so you are informed on the business that will be conducted. If you are attending, you may wish to print off the information and bring it with you as handouts will not be provided. Here is a preview of the items that will be discussed.

Elections

Each year our congregation elects members of our Board of Lay Ministry and Board of Elders. There are two terms up for election this year. Brad Burkemper is running unopposed to continue his service on the BOLM for a three year term. Barb Wehmeyer is running unopposed for a three year term. You can read Brad and Barb's information in the attached documents.

None of our current Elders are term limited this year. All of our current Elders have consented to serve for another one year term if elected. The list of Elders is included in the attached documents.

Annual Plan

Our congregation affirms a proposed Annual Ministry plan at our annual meeting. You can read the annual plan that is attached. While our ministry does many things over the course of the year, this document gives our leadership clear priorities to guide them in the upcoming ministry year.

Budget

The proposed budget for the 2020-2021 ministry year is attached for your review. The bottom line of \$4,225,369 in income and expenses is basically a flat budget from the current year to the next. The budget projects a 2% decrease in budgeted church offerings. This decrease reflects actual offerings received during the current ministry year. We will be able to endure that decrease without significant cuts to staffing or programs due to savings realized from a change in health insurance vendors that occurred this past January. The school portion of our ministry budget reflects actual enrollment and also the savings realized from our change in health insurance providers.

PPP

As you are likely aware, the Board of Lay Ministry acted in April to participate in the federal Payment Protection Program. Messiah received a forgivable loan of \$532,600. At our meeting, the BOLM will provide a review of the terms and ask the congregation to ratify their action.

If you are attending the meeting and have questions, please let me know. You can reach me at bblackford@messiahnetwork.org

If you can't attend the meeting and have questions, please reach out to me and ask!

Here's to another great year of ministry!

In Him,

Bryan Blackford
Director of Ministry Programs

Elections

The following candidates are running unopposed for election to a three-year term on Messiah's Board of Lay Ministry (BOLM):

Brad Burkemper

Brad serves as COO at iSimplify, the firm he and his wife Lorie co-founded 11 years ago that provides IT consulting and professional services. Brad has 28 years of experience in sales, service, and engineering technical solutions. His experience spans 25 years focused in electronic components and distribution serving the telecommunications industry. His primary focus is setting strategies for long-term growth and assisting in market positioning and development.



Brad and Lorie have three children—Avery (18), Owen (16), and Bennett (5). They have been active members at Messiah since 2003.

Through the years, Brad and Lorie have volunteered at the OASIS Food pantry and served on committees at both the church and school. He has served on the BOLM for the past two years and would like to continue to serve and share his experience to help Messiah grow and fulfill its mission of "Connecting People to Jesus."

Brad is running for a three-year term as he completes his current two-year term on the BOLM.

Barb Wehmeyer

Barb Wehmeyer has been a member of Messiah since 2005.

She grew up in Concordia, MO, and was a member of St Paul's Lutheran Church in Concordia through Baptism and Confirmation. She attended St Paul's Lutheran School and graduated from Concordia public high school and then from St Paul's College in 1970. She received her Bachelors degree in elementary education from Concordia Teachers College, Seward Nebraska in 1972.

She married Don Wehmeyer on July 1, 1972 and was married for 44 years. Don was taken home to heaven on Dec 4, 2016. They were blessed with three children—Melanie, Andrew, and Chris. She has six grandchildren and loves spending time with her family.



She taught preschool and kindergarten in Phoenix, St Louis, and St Charles. Barb taught kindergarten at Messiah Lutheran School from 2000—when the school began—until her retirement in 2014.

She has been privileged to serve Jesus here at Messiah in many ways! She attends the Women's Tuesday AM Bible study class, teaches the monthly Baptism class, 2nd grade Kings Kids, and the 11 AM Messiah KIDS session. She is a member of a Messiah Community Group and hopes to lead one in the fall.

Other activities she enjoys are singing with the Missouri Choral Society, serving as secretary of her HOA, gardening with the Jardin Du Lac Garden Club, and sewing/alterations for family and friends.

She loves the Messiah family and serving others with them and would consider it a blessing, honor, and privilege to serve on the Board of Lay Ministry.

The following slate of Elders is running for re-election of a one-year term:

Dave Grau

Mike Holtmeier

Joe Kuhl

Rick Leitz

Chip Lott

Doug Mudd

Christian Samter

Nathan Smith

Dave Thieman

Gregg Wilhelm

Scott Williams

FOCUS # 1 Shift Ministry to adapt to a New Reality.

The COVID-19 pandemic has greatly affected life as we know it. This presents both a challenge and an opportunity. We will need to continually adapt our ministry to a landscape that changes rapidly. What works one Sunday may not work the next. With upheaval comes opportunity, and Messiah has witnessed an uptick in people seeking to engage (or reengage) with their faith during this time. Like all ministries, Messiah will need to stay abreast of current trends in reaching people where they are. Worship, Community Groups, Messiah Lutheran School, Messiah Kids, our student ministry, and our service ministry will constantly need to adjust our processes and evaluate our results in order to find what works to make disciples in 2020 and beyond.

FOCUS #2 Launch a Service Ministry

Messiah suffers from a persistent shortage of the volunteers necessary to support a growing and vibrant ministry. This reality poses a significant barrier to growth. Messiah does not have a system to ask, train, grow and celebrate volunteers. In 2020-2021 Messiah will launch a large service ministry focused on enabling our people to serve at Messiah, in St. Charles, and on a mission trip. Our initial focus will be an area of great need: Sunday Morning Hospitality. Some foundational work was accomplished during the 19-20 year including hiring a Service Ministry Intern and casting vision to staff and lay leadership.

FOCUS # 3 Challenge Members to Live a Life of Radical Generosity

Living a life of limited generosity is a barrier for individuals to develop a closer relationship with Jesus. A lack of adequate funding has been a growth-limiting factor to the ministry of Messiah in the past. Through prayer and practical teaching, we will challenge our people to live lives of radical generosity during their life on earth and consider leaving a planned legacy gift to future generations through regular tithing and giving. Churches are often reluctant to talk about money, but we have made a conscious decision to be intentional about starting the conversation and keeping it going. We launched a planned giving initiative in 2019 and devoted a month-long message series to the topic that culminated in 63 families pledging to tithe in the 90 Day Tithing Challenge. We will build on this foundation in 20-21.

Proposed 2020-2021 Budget

Church

	19-20 Budgeted	20-21 Proposed
Income	2,174,661	2,068,488
Offerings	2,008,661	1,968,488
Other <small>(Summer Camp, Interest/Fees)</small>	166,000	100,000
Expenses	2,174,661	2,068,488
Programs	376,000	321,000
Operations	613,741	595,375
Personnel	1,184,920	1,152,113

Decreased offering giving of 2.0% over 19-20 budgeted.
 Other income decrease due to summer camp projection and interest rates being lower.
 The decrease in Programs is Summer Camp related.
 The decrease in Personnel is mostly due to changes in health insurance benefits.

School

	19-20 Budgeted	20-21 Proposed
Income	2,049,926	2,156,881
Expenses	2,049,926	2,156,881
Instructional	157,500	152,624
Operations	158,793	260,650
Personnel	1,735,633	1,743,607

Income based on enrollment of 219 K-8 students and 91 Preschool students.
 Operations increase due to 100k debt retirement payment.
 Personnel includes savings from changes in health insurance benefits.

Unified Balanced Budget = **\$ 4,224,587** **\$4,225,369**