



WELCOME, VISITORS!

We are delighted you came today! Looking for a church home? We warmly invite you to be part of our church family! To help us get to know you better, or if you have questions, please fill in this form, tear it off, and drop it in the offering plate or give it to an usher or pastor. You can also submit a Digital Connection Card at www.churchofthemessiah.org/contact. Please feel free to call us anytime at 757-436-2545 or visit our website, ChurchoftheMessiah.org. God bless you!

Date: _____

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Would you like to be contacted?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ By phone ☐ By email

Please check all that apply:

- ☐ I would like a pastor to contact me.
☐ First-time visitor ☐ Returning visitor
☐ I would like to know more about Church of the Messiah
☐ I would like to know more about the Christian faith.
☐ I have decided to renew my commitment to Christ.
☐ I would like prayer (see reverse).

My response to today's message:

_____ 12.03.2023

CELEBRATIONS

Happy Birthday

December 3: Viola McKinlay
December 5: David Nizankiewicz
December 6: Myra Greggs, Mandy Nixon

Happy Anniversary

December 5: Andy & Lucy Rankin

Please Pray

*Please join us in praying for these requests throughout the week
(Prayer requests will appear for one month unless requested otherwise.)*

OUR NATION AND WORLD:

- An end to hostilities in Israel and peace and healing for all people.
- Protection and healing for our nation, and an end to racism and violence
- Guidance for our leaders in government
- Help for all affected by war and violence, disease, and natural disasters
- A movement of revival at home and abroad

OUR CHURCH FAMILY:

Tim & Seiko Maurer, Carole Menzel & Family, The Family of Tony Blackburn, The Kamiru Family, Mary Lafferty, Viola McKinlay, Ruth Thomas, Sandra Brown, Tom Waldman, Misty Taylor, Josh Corona, Aaron Woodward (son of Ellen Belfi), our healthcare workers, all of our members of the military, and Sanctuary of Hope, our companion church

OUR OVERSEAS MISSIONARIES:

Aaron and Winnie Coleman-Horvat, Croatia
David & Betsy, Turkey
His Love in Action School for the Deaf in Honduras
Miriam Brinckley, Ireland
CMJ (Church's Ministry Among Jewish People)

WORLDWIDE ANGLICAN CHURCH:

Special Jurisdiction of the Armed Forces and Chaplaincy

AND THE DIOCESE OF THE MID-ATLANTIC:

Church of the Epiphany • Chantilly, VA
Church of the Good Shepherd • Charlottesville, VA

If you would like our prayer ministry to pray for a special need, please submit a confidential Prayer Request online at www.ChurchoftheMessiah.org/contact. Please indicate if you would like your prayer request included in the bulletin, sent only to the prayer team, or both.



Our mission is to make tangible the life-transforming power of God's love so that all may come to know Christ.



The First Sunday in Advent • December 3, 2023

816 Kempsville Road • Chesapeake, VA 23320

Phone: 757-436-2545 **Email:** Messiah@ChurchoftheMessiah.org

Web: ChurchoftheMessiah.org **Facebook:** [ChurchoftheMessiahChesapeake](https://www.facebook.com/ChurchoftheMessiahChesapeake)

RECTOR: The Rev. Dr. Martin K. O'Rourke

ASSOCIATE PASTOR: The Rev. Nile Gomez

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY DIRECTOR: Pastor Ken Shomo

DEACON: The Rev. Tom Sweeney

WEEKLY SERVICE INFORMATION

Sunday Service with Eucharist 10:00 a.m.

In-Person or Livestream at www.ChurchoftheMessiah.org/Livestream

Children's Church · Fellowship Hall (After Worship until Communion)

Today's Teachers: Pastor Ken Shomo, Vivian Hayes

Monday Prayer Meeting · Online at 7:00 p.m.

Via Zoom · Meeting ID 928 2372 1136

First Sunday in Advent · December 3, 2023

PRAYER: Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

First Reading: Isaiah 64:1-9a **Page 560**

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:1-9 **Page 848**

(Response after each lesson: *Thanks be to God.*)

Gospel: Mark 13:24-37 **Page 756**

(Responses: *Glory to You, Lord Christ. ... Praise to You, Lord Christ.*)

Sermon: **Son of Man Coming in Clouds with Great Power and Glory** Pastor Marty O'Rourke

Reader: Cherry Jenson

Eucharistic Ministers: Cherry Jenson, Ron Jenson

Prayer Team: Anne Crow, Marshall Crow



The flowers on the altar and in the foyer today are courtesy of the family of Tony Blackburn and the friends of Dr. Mara Crabtree. Tony's celebration of life took place yesterday, and Dr. Crabtree's life was celebrated on Wednesday.

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

Today	10:00 am	Sunday Service (Sanctuary & Livestream)
Monday	7:00 pm	Parish Prayer Meeting (online via Zoom)
Wednesday	7:00 pm	Worship Night (Sanctuary)
Thursday	9:30 am	Community Bible Study Day Class
	7:00 pm	Community Bible Study Evening Class
Saturday	10:00 am	Ladies' Christmas Brunch (Fellowship Hall)



JOIN THE "CAST"! Messiah will host up to 50 homeless guests January 3-10. Help us reach 100% participation by volunteering or donating items (see insert; non-perishables should be received by December 10). Sign ups are in the foyer; learn more at www.churchofthemessiah.org/cast2023.

COAT DRIVE: Sanctuary of Hope is holding a coat and blanket drive. If you have new or gently-used coats or blankets, place your donations in the box in the foyer.

PRAISE & WORSHIP NIGHT THIS WEDNESDAY! Join Tim & Seiko Maurer the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm for a time of worship, prayer, and praise. The evening will feature worship music and activities as the Spirit leads.

MEN'S MINISTRY NEXT MEETS DECEMBER 30. The December Men's Ministry meeting has been moved down to Saturday, December 30, at 10:00 am. Please adjust your calendar so you don't miss this time of fellowship, teaching, and prayer.

CHANUKAH BEGINS THURSDAY! Cards are available in the foyer to send Chanukah greetings to your Jewish friends or family members.

CHRISTMAS 2023



STAFF & CLERGY CHRISTMAS GIFT: Please seek the Lord about contributing towards a gift to our superlative staff and clergy. If led, place your contribution in the offering box or mail it to the church. It should be received by December 10. Checks should be made payable to Church of the Messiah with "Staff & Clergy Gift" on the memo line.

ADVENT BEGINS TODAY! Sign up in the foyer for children to light Advent wreath candles and read special scriptures. Parents will need to accompany and help their children light the candles. Advent booklets are available so readers can practice.



LADIES' CHRISTMAS BRUNCH: Messiah ladies, join us at 10:00 am on Saturday, December 9, for a potluck brunch, Christmas carols, and a special message highlighting our theme, "Peace on Earth, Goodwill to All." If you can, please bring a dish to share and a present in a gift bag for needy children at Sanctuary of Hope. Guests are welcome!

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS SONG: Messiah kids will present a song on Sunday, December 17. Please have your kids wear a costume related to the nativity scene (angels, shepherds, wise men, etc.) and arrive 45 minutes early at 9:15 am to practice before the service. See Ken Shomo or Wendy O'Rourke for questions.

JOYFUL NOISE CHRISTMAS SERVICE will be next Tuesday, December 12, at 6:30 pm. We will serve pizza in the Fellowship Hall, then move to the Sanctuary for our annual Christmas candlelight program. Helpers are needed to set up, serve, and clean up.

OUR SYMPATHIES ARE WITH TIM AND SEIKO MAURER on the passing of Tim's mother, Victoria Marie Smith, who went to be with Jesus on November 25. Please keep Tim and Seiko in prayer. Cards may be sent to them at 416 Falling Lane, Virginia Beach, VA 23454-3971.



POINSETTIAS

If you would like to purchase and dedicate poinsettias to decorate the altar on Christmas Eve, please fill out this form, detach it, and place it in the offering box along with your payment. If you cannot pay today, please indicate this below and bring your payment by December 17. Poinsettias are \$12 each and may be taken home after the Christmas Eve service.

Given by: _____

Dedication: To the Glory of God and

☐ In honor of: _____

☐ In memory of: _____

☐ In thanksgiving for: _____

Number of plants ordered: _____

Amount paid: \$ _____
(\$12 per plant, non-deductible)

☐ Check* ☐ Cash

**Please write "Poinsettias" on your check.*

☐ Please order and I will pay later.