

BRIEF DESCRIPTIONS FOR SOME OF THE MINISTRIES AT MESSIAH:

If there is a ministry on the Discipleship Commitment Form that is not listed here, but you would like more information on, please contact Ellen Thorne, ellen@messiahlutheran.com. Thank you.

ADMINISTRATION/OFFICE

Library Team- Assist in cataloging and organizing our books and filing system; maintain the check out system and make sure materials are checked out and returned properly.

Media Center Organizer-Someone who can offer 1-3 hours per week to re-stock materials used by Sunday School classes, and find space for newly donated items.

Newsletter Assembly Team- Assist in folding, sealing, and preparing the bulk mailing of our monthly Messenger to the congregation; usually done on a Friday morning near the end of the month.

Office Help- Majority of help is for the 2nd Floor Church Staff; helping with mailings, sorting, packing up items, and other simple office tasks.

ARTS/AUDIO VISUAL

Actor- We usually have actors on Wednesday nights in Lent. We also have actresses from time to time at women's ministry events.

Costume/Seamstress- Many of our costumes need repair, and some need to be completely replaced for Lenten, Holy Week, Advent and Christmas events. Sizes are for children through adult.

Newspaper/Media Contact Team- Contact local papers and other media regarding community service projects, special events or celebrations at Messiah.

Video Production-Recording, editing, and producing video is needed for promoting ministries, children's musicals/special events, celebrations, etc.

HEALTH & WELLNESS

NEW this year: We want to know how many people are interested in participating or leading exercise groups of all kinds, as well as a wellness program. Once we compile these lists, we will contact you with the information.

HOSPITALITY

College Student Care Team/Baker- Group meets several times throughout the year to assemble care packages for our college students. They also send out birthday cards, and encouragement notes for high stress times like finals. **Bakers** prepare goodies to put in the care packages.

Lutheran World Relief Sewing Group-This group meets monthly to make quilts for overseas missions.

Reception Committee-Assist in setting up/tearing down, decorating, buying and preparing the food and drinks for special receptions at Messiah, be it weddings or other celebrations.

Sunshine Committee-Deliver altar flowers to designated homes of members who are going through a difficult time. You usually do this about once a quarter or less.

MESSIAH'S TOUCH

Adopt A Shut-In-Provide care and encouragement to our homebound and shut-ins. You are able to determine how much time you want to spend with your assigned person(s), but we love to have you visit them at least once a month, send them cards on birthdays, etc., and pray for them.

Adopt A Shut-In Card Ministry- Send cards to your assigned shut-ins.

Disaster Response-You will be notified if a disaster occurs in the lives of our members, such as tornados or fires, and asked how you can help at that time.

Meals that Heal Cook - Provide or deliver a meal (either homemade or store-bought) for those who are home from surgery.

Prayer Shawl Ministry-Knit or crochet shawls to be given out to members who are going through a difficult period in their life.

Tidings of Comfort & Joy Cook/Baker -Very similar to Meals that Heal, but these meals or baked goods are prepared for those who have had a death in the family, are experiencing a crisis, have extended recovery needs, or other difficult situations.

NURSERY

Baby-sitting for Special Events – Caregivers (youth from age 12 and adults) interested in paid babysitting opportunities. Applicants must have childcare training or experience to care for groups of children during church-sponsored activities.

Nursery Advisory Board – A group of parents or grandparents of children up to age 3 (regular users of the nursery program) who are responsible for assessing the childcare service offered for free to all Messiah families while worshiping, attending Bible study, or serving during a ministry event. This group collects feedback and proposes changes or offers ideas for improvement.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Songleader/Musician- Volunteer(s) to lead music time for pre-school through Kindergarten children on Sunday mornings; responsible for planning songs to sing and teaching them to the children.

Sunday School Substitute Teacher – volunteers who occasionally fill in for Sunday School teachers. Preferences for certain age groups are noted. Materials and teacher guides are provided.

Sunday School Superintendent – someone who makes sure each Sunday morning Bible Study hour runs smoothly by helping guide visitors and new members to their classrooms, assists teachers with office support or disciplinary support, and supervises the staff that handles attendance and offering.

Sunday School Teacher (school year) – September through May volunteer who prepares a lesson each week to guide children in developing their faith through Bible study, crafts, games, and sometimes snacks. Training and curriculum provided. Substitute roster available.

Sunday School Teacher (summer) - June through August volunteer who prepares a lesson each week to guide children in developing their faith through Bible study, crafts, games, and sometimes snacks. Training and curriculum provided. Substitute roster available.

Sunday School Office Helper – support staff to collect offerings and attendance from each classroom and enter weekly attendance information into the church database.

VBS (VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL)

VBS Audio/Visual Staff – individual with experience or interest in learning how to operate the sound board, microphones, and projector in the Sanctuary to support the opening and closing sessions of Vacation Bible School each day, 8:30-12:30, one week during the summer.

VBS Crafts – teacher/leader experienced in working with young children. Responsible for working with VBS director to help select age-appropriate craft projects, then demonstrate each one and tie it into the daily Bible point each day, 8:30 – 12:30, one week during the summer. Material and craft options provided.

VBS Crew Leader (with 5-6 children) – socially engaging personality to lead a group of children through all aspects of VBS each day, 8:30 – 12:30, one week during the summer.

VBS Decorations – artistic, creative talent to design several high-impact, low budget sets/scenes based on the VBS theme. Responsible for bringing the ideas to life during the week prior to VBS with a team of helpers.

VBS Drama – actors and actresses to learn scripts of Bible story characters and present them to children each day, 8:30 – 12:30, one week during the summer. Costume and prop inventory available.

VBS Games – teacher/leader experienced in working with children. Responsible for working with VBS director to help choose the best games from program options, then to explain them and participate as needed, each day, 8:30 – 12:30, one week during the summer. Game supply inventory available.

VBS Music – teacher/leader experienced in working with children. Responsible for learning the songs and motions prior to VBS, then teaching them each day, 8:30 – 12:30, one week during the summer. Music DVD and song sheets provided.

VBS Photographer – Self-driven volunteer experienced in working with children. Responsible for taking daily photos, with your own digital equipment, to capture the activity at VBS. Also will upload the photos to a central gallery each day, 8:30 – 12:30, one week during the summer.

VBS Planning Team – Volunteers who enjoy visioning, leading, and organizing the many aspect of Vacation Bible School. Time frame runs from initial meetings in March through wrap up in July.

VBS Science - teacher/leader experienced in working with children. Responsible for working with the VBS director to determine science based activities that tie to the daily Bible point, then to present and lead the experiments each day, 8:30 – 12:30, one week during the summer. Materials provided.

VBS Snacks – foodie experienced in working with children. Responsible for working with the VBS director to determine healthy snacks that also tie into the daily Bible point, then to present and serve the snacks each day, 8:30 – 12:30, one week during the summer. Ingredients and kitchen prep provided.

WELCOME/ASSIMILATION

Connections Data Entry Team –Training offered for entering the data from Time and Talent Sheets from members annually, and new members quarterly. Preferred time for volunteering is Monday through Thursday during the day.

Connections Phone Call Care Team –Call the latest new member group several times throughout the year to touch base with them, and make sure they are finding their fit at Messiah.

Visitation Team –On Sunday afternoons, about once every 6-8 weeks, you will be on call to visit any first time guests for that day, drop off a gift bag, and thank them for visiting.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Braille –Be on one of our many Braille teams who assemble Large Portals of Prayer Devotion Booklets in Braille. Training is given to you when you attend.

Boy/Girl Scouts – Adult volunteers who are interested in forming and/or leading a troop of boys/girls based at Messiah. Meeting space is available in classrooms during the week.

Denton State School Christmas Cards –Travel with a group to Denton State School to address Christmas Cards. This is done in the summer.

International Students and Friends –Messiah connects families to build friendships with International Students from UTD.

LWML – Women gather to promote within the congregation Christian growth, Christian fellowship, Christian service, and to support the aims and purpose of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League. These aims are education, inspiration, service, and mission work throughout the world. Six meetings and two special events are held during the year, plus Zone Rallies, Workshops and Special Meetings.

Meals on Wheels – Deliver meals to the elderly and handicapped as routed by the Meals on Wheels Program. Pick up previous igloos from Spring Valley Methodist Church; Drop them off at Northway Christian Church and pick up the meals for the day; Make deliveries to around 18 different homes in the North Dallas/Richardson area. 2-3 hours a month (9am-12noon); 1 day of the third week of each month.

Mentoring at Neighborhood School –Volunteer at Shepard Elementary in Plano to build relationships with children through tutoring and conversation.

Messiah's Military Outreach –We are currently looking for new ways to serve our military both at home and overseas, as well as sending care packages to our loved ones (members and non-members) who are currently serving. This ministry is in need of a planning team, so please note on your form if you would be willing to be on that team.

Network Delivery –You will be assigned one week a month or every other month to deliver the donations found in the grocery carts in the Education Building to Network Ministries in Richardson. You pull up to the warehouse, and help unload the donations.

Network Volunteer–Be on-site at the Richardson warehouse to help sort and distribute items to families in need.

MISSIONS

Children's Ministry Missions Helper – individual who likes to discover hands-on mission opportunities that can be offered quarterly for participation by all the Sunday School children. Responsible for coordinating results with the sponsoring organization.

Faith Like a Mustard Seed Family Missions – group of service-oriented volunteers who meet weekly to support local and worldwide mission opportunities. Many involve excursions to local organizations while others involved creating or collecting something to send away.

Packing Supplies for Overseas Missions-Organizing and preparing supply boxes to be shipped to overseas missions.

FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

Adult Fellowship Planning Team-This is a team that meets to plan out the year's fellowship events. It is ideal that smaller teams of 2 or more would then be in charge of one event; recruiting volunteers, publicizing, reserving the space on or off-campus, and facilitating the actual event. Past events: Progressive dinners, Barn Dinners, Sporting Events, Wine or Beer Tasting, Game Nights, Luaus, and Bunko/Bingo. New ideas are welcome.

GIRLFRIENDS AT MESSIAH

Girlfriends Night Out-Women of all ages gather one Friday night a month for various activities such as game nights, movie nights, devotions, spa services, crafts, mission projects, and more. Generally this is done at church, but at times we go off-campus for dinner and a movie. We welcome new ideas and new members to the planning team as well.

Pearl Girls Mentor (New Ministry to Messiah)-Youth and Adults are invited to be a mentor to Pearl Girl attendees. The girls are ages 5 and up. It is our goal to have a multi-generational ministry where youth are Christian role models to the little girls, young women to the youth, and older women to the young women. The group meets one Sunday afternoon a month, and includes a variety of activities such as singing, devotions, Bible Study, crafts, games and more. We want the younger generation to grow up confident in Christ's instead of looking to the world to find their worth and value.