

Messiah Lutheran Church

3 South Third Street
Mifflintown, PA 17059
Church Office / 436-6213 Dial-A-Prayer / 436-2100

The Reverend William N. Esborn
Andrea Cameron
Bob St. Clair
Randy Clark
Linda Clark
Acolytes

Pastor
Choir Director
Organist
Lector
Altar Guild
Malin Kint & Marina Holderman

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT April 6, 2014 – 10:30 a.m.

*Please Stand as **YOU** Are Able

PEOPLE TO REMEMBER IN PRAYER TODAY

SHUT-INS: Marian G., Reba S., Kitty W., Flo B., Ethel B., Virginia F., Jean M., Cassie S., Helen K., Sis S., Jane M., Fay M., Dorothy P., Ruth C., Ray B., Florence B.

OTHERS: Tammy W., Josh B., Sarah S., Jo-Anne B., Chris A., Rick W., Avonel W., Jesse K., Victoria R., Allison G., Angie G., Craig C., Carol S., Donnie B., Jim W., Allen H., Sara Ann A., Robert S., Tristan M., Shirley B., Bradson E., Dorothy A.

PREPARATION

CHIMES: CALL TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE

[A Time for Meditation and Prayer]

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTRODUCTION

In today's gospel Jesus reveals his power over death by raising Lazarus from the dead. The prophet Ezekiel prophesies God breathing new life into dry bones. To those in exile or living in the shadows of death, these stories proclaim God's promise of resurrection. In baptism we die with Christ that we might also be raised with him to new life. At the Easter Vigil we will welcome new sisters and brothers at the baptismal font, as we renew our baptismal promises.

* CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.

C Amen

P Come, let us acknowledge our sin and seek God's face, that we may live.

Silence is kept for reflection

P Holy God,

C we confess that we have turned away from you and from our neighbors, and in toward ourselves. We have sought security in possessions and the place of power in relationships. We have trusted ourselves most of all. Turn us back to you, O God. In your mercy, forgive our sinfulness and cleanse us from guilt and shame. Guide us on the path of freedom that is your gift to us in Christ our Lord. Amen

P Hear for yourselves: There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. In the waters of baptism grace abounds for you and for all. God turns to you in love and puts away every sin, every wrong turn, for the sake of + Jesus, the one God sent to save the world.

C Amen

* SHARING OF GOD'S PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

Congregational sharing: "Peace be with you."

GATHERING

* ENTRANCE HYMN "Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

* GREETING

P The grace of Jesus Christ our Savior, the reconciling love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

* KYRIE (**C - spoken**)

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C Amen

* PRAYER OF THE DAY (**spoken in unison**)

P Let us pray...

C Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ and serve you in righteousness all our days, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

WORD

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 37:1-14

The First Reading is from the 37th chapter of Ezekiel.

THE LESSON READS:

The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. ²He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. ³He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." ⁴Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. ⁵Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD." ⁷So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. ⁹Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophecy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." ¹⁰I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. ¹¹Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' ¹²Therefore prophecy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. ¹³And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD."

Lector: Here ends the reading.

Cong: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 130 (responsively)

L I wait for you, O LORD; in your word is my hope. (Ps. 130:5)

¹Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD;

²O LORD, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.

³If you were to keep watch over sins, O LORD, who could stand?

⁴Yet with you is forgiveness, in order that you may be feared.

⁵I wait for you, O LORD; my soul waits; in your word is my hope.

⁶My soul waits for the Lord more than those who keep watch for the morning, more than those who keep watch for the morning.

⁷O Israel, wait for the LORD, for with the LORD there is steadfast love; with the LORD there is plenteous redemption.

⁸For the LORD shall redeem Israel from all their sins.

ALL I wait for you, O LORD; in your word is my hope.

SECOND READING: Romans 8:6-11

The Second Reading is from the 8th chapter of Romans.

THE LESSON READS:

⁶To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, ⁸and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. ⁹But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Lector: Here ends the reading.

Cong: Thanks be to God.

* LENTEN VERSE **(sung)**

Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

* GOSPEL: John 11:1—45

P The Holy Gospel according to John, the 11th chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord. (sung)

THE GOSPEL READS:

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ²Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. ³So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." ⁴But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." ⁵Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, ⁶after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. ⁷Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." ⁸The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" ⁹Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. ¹⁰But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them." ¹¹After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." ¹²The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." ¹³Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. ¹⁴Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. ¹⁵For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." ¹⁶Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him." ¹⁷When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, ¹⁹and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. ²⁰When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met

him, while Mary stayed at home. ²¹Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²²But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." ²³Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." ²⁴Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." ²⁵Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, ²⁶and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" ²⁷She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world." ²⁸When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary, and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." ²⁹And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. ³⁰Now Jesus had not yet come to the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met him. ³¹The Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. ³²When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." ³³When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. ³⁴He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." ³⁵Jesus began to weep. ³⁶So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" ³⁷But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?" ³⁸Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. ³⁹Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." ⁴⁰Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" ⁴¹So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. ⁴²I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." ⁴³When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" ⁴⁴The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go." ⁴⁵Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ. (sung)

SERMON

Pastor Esborn

* HYMN OF THE DAY "What Wondrous Love Is This"

* APOSTLES' CREED (all)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

* PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P Returning to the Lord, our God, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

P Pour out your Spirit upon your church so that your people speak words of life to dry bones. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Bring newness of life to all of creation: to animals, plants, lands, and sea, that they be refreshed. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Unbind all nations, peoples, and tribes from violence and war. Breathe the breath of new life and reconciliation where there is conflict (especially). Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Stir up your healing power to redeem from illness all those who wait upon you (especially all of our shut-ins [both at home and in nursing homes], and for Tammy Walton, Dorothy Patterson, Josh Beitz, Sarah Shellenberger, Jo-Anne Brooks, Chris Albright, Rick Waller, Sr., Avonel Waller, Jesse Kint, Robert St. Clair, Sr., Victoria Ricedorf, Allison Garver, Angie Goss, Craig Cisney, Carol Spigelmyer, Sis Stetler, Donnie Beward, Jim Woltman, Allen Hall, Sara Ann Aurand, Tristan Myers, Shirley Beitz, Bradson Eby, and Dorothy Aughey), that they know your steadfast love. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Inspire this congregation to honor and lift up the gifts of all artists, musicians, needle workers, painters, potters, and sculptors, that your glory be revealed. Hear us, O God.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P We give you thanks for all the saints who have been lifted up to live with you in light eternal (especially the artists Albrecht Durer, Matthias Grunewald, and Lucas Cranach). Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Into your hands, O God, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in your abundant mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

[Please pass the Friendship Pad down your pew for all to sign and then back to the center aisle so everyone has the opportunity to read the names. We request that our guests also give us their home address. Thank you].

ANTHEM

* SUNG OFFERTORY (sung)

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.

* OFFERING PRAYER

P God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

MEAL

* THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P With his Body and Blood, Jesus Christ delivers us from the power of darkness.

C and leads us into the Kingdom of God.

P Christ has humbled himself and become obedient unto death,

C even to death on a cross.

P He was wounded for our transgressions and bruised for our iniquities,

C and on him was the chastisement that made us whole.

P Here at his holy table he feeds us now with his Body and Blood.

C Glory to you, our Lord and Savior; with your Body and Blood you redeem the World.

* EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God. The universe declares your praise: beyond the stars; beneath the sea; within each cell; with every breath.

C We praise you, O God.

P Generations bless your faithfulness: through the water; by night and day; across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future.

C We bless you, O God.

P We give you thanks for your dear Son: at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer; beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now.

C We thank you, O God.

P In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith.

C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P We pray for the gift of your Spirit: in our gathering; within this meal; among your people; throughout the world. Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end.

C Amen

* THE LORD'S PRAYER ['trespasses'] **(all)**

C Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

* INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Come to the table prepared for you. Taste the overflowing grace of God.

(In hospitality and attempting to meet the needs of individuals, Messiah now offers gluten free communion hosts. If you wish to receive gluten free hosts, please come to the side where Pastor Esborn is serving).

DISTRIBUTION

["INTINCTION" – dip your wafer in the wine. Come forward by the center aisle and return by the side aisle. All who wish to stand at the chancel rail after partaking for a time of silent meditation are invited to do so].

* COMMUNION BLESSING

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen

* PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P God of mercy, we give you thanks for seating us at your table and serving us with the food of eternal life. We who once were dead are now living members of your Son, awakened by the breathing of your Spirit. Send us out to awaken others to the mystery of your love, which is revealed to all the world in the one who came to give himself away, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

* THE SENDING AND BLESSING OF COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

P As we go into the world serving the ministry of Christ, may those who will extend This meal to the homebound take from the Lord's Table what we have received Here today; the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ and his promise of forgiveness. In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

C Amen

SENDING

* BLESSING

P God the Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit watch over your going out and your coming in, from this time forth and forevermore.

C A-men, A-men, A-men (sung)

* DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Remember the poor.

C Thanks be to God!

CLOSING CHIMES

NEXT WEEK'S LECTOR – Sam Leister

NEXT WEEK'S ALTAR GUILD – Michelle Stoner

NEXT WEEK'S ACOLYTES – Livia Arentz & Emma Arentz

WELCOME

IF YOU WISH TO USE OR FOLLOW THE LITURGY MUSIC as we proceed through the service today, please use the purple portfolios placed on top of the sound control system. In addition, headsets are available in the narthex for our sound enhancement system for the hearing impaired.

VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME to worship at Messiah. We invite you to register your visit not only in the Friendship Pads, but also in the guest book provided in the narthex. If you are seeking a church home, please speak to the pastor. Our fellowship in Jesus Christ is open and extended to all persons who confess His Lordship over all life. Thank you for worshiping with us. We invite you to return. Visitors are invited to commune with us if they are baptized and, if with us in our faith, they trust Jesus' promise of the presence of the Body and Blood of Christ.

WE INVITE EVERYONE (members and visitors) worshiping with us today to sign the Friendship Pads during the Organ Offertory. If you are a visitor, please be sure to include your address when signing. Please also place a check mark in the box (beside your name) if you are communing today and have not as yet given us a record of your participation in the sacrament during this quarter. (A new quarter begins in January, April, July, and October). The pads are found on the aisle seat of each pew in the nave, and in each section of the Adult Sunday School Room.

PRAYER REQUESTS will be placed in the weekly bulletin for one month. If you wish to have someone included in the prayer list for more than one month, please call the church office. THE DEADLINE FOR ALL ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE SUNDAY BULLETIN IS THURSDAY NOON.

DIAL-A-PRAYER (436-2100) IS AVAILABLE 24 HOURS DAILY!

JUST A THOUGHT – Phillip Brooks, Bishop of Massachusetts in the Episcopal Church during the early 1890s: Prayer is not conquering God's reluctance, but taking hold of God's willingness.

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

PRAYER CHAIN – Any time you wish to add a name to our prayer list, please contact Stacie Kint at dskint@nmax.net. If at any time you would like to receive emails with prayer requests, please also contact Stacie.

THRIVENT CHOICE – Thank you to everyone at Messiah who has designated choice dollars to Messiah. If you are a Thrivent member and have questions about Thrivent Choice please contact Stacie Kint at diskint@nmax.net or 436-6341.

MESSIAH IS IN NEED of a new treasurer to replace Ken Eyler after his many years of service. If you would like details, please contact Executive Director Guy Dillman or Pastor Esborn.

EASTER LILIES to decorate the church on Easter Sunday, may be placed in memory or in honor of someone or to the Glory of God. Cost will be \$10.00 for a plant with 4 to 7 blooms. You may call the church office at 436-6213 to place your order.

SYNOD ASSEMBLY DELEGATES – One member of Messiah is needed to attend the annual Synod Assembly on June, 20-21 2014 at Susquehanna University, Selinsgrove. Guy Dillman will be attending and will be able to drive for both days. If you are interested in serving, please contact the pastor or the church office.

EMPTY YOUR CUP – Please make sure you empty all liquids from your cup BEFORE putting it into the trash. Thank you.

“THE NEEDLERS” NEED FABRIC – If you have extra fabric or sheets that you will not be using, “The Needlers” would appreciate your donation. If you do not have any material, but would still like to help “The Needlers,” \$5.00 will sponsor one sheet to back a quilt. If you have fabric or wish to sponsor a sheet, please contact one of our “Needlers,” or, come join us Tuesday mornings in the Fellowship Hall at 9:00 a.m. No sewing skills are required.

HELP AVAILABLE – If you or someone you know needs help with home repairs or yard work, there are volunteers in our community who may be able to help. For more information, contact Michael “Doc” Johnston at 436-9209, or Cynthia Smith at 436-8512.

CARD SHOWER – Marian Gross will be celebrating her 90th birthday on April 21, 2014. For those who would like to send Marian a birthday greeting, her address is:

2 Manor Blvd.
Mifflintown, PA 17059

ALTAR GUILD – If anyone is interested in serving on Altar Guild for five or six Sundays a year between July 1, 2014 and June 30, 2015, please contact Bob St. Clair by **APRIL 15, 2014**. By the same token, those who are currently serving, and wish to have their names removed from the list, please also contact Bob by the same date. All Altar Guild members will be sent a copy of the annual schedule in June. Thanks to all for your willingness to serve.

THE NEW LECTOR SCHEDULE for July, 2014 through June, 2015 will be completed by June 1st. If you are not already serving as a lector and you would like to read the weekly scripture readings, please notify the church office. Any young people who would like to read on the first Sunday of the month are also asked to notify the church office. If you would like to be deleted from the list, again let the office know. All lectors will be sent a copy of the annual schedule in June. Thanks to all of you who volunteer for this role in our worship service.

SUMMER WORSHIP SERVICES will begin on June 22, 2014 at 9:15 a.m. and end on August 31, 2014. Regular worship services will begin on September 7, 2014.

A SOUP SALE will be held on Wednesday, April 23, 2014 from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. at Messiah to benefit the Central Juniata Park Pool. Soup will be \$5.00 per quart and will include Ham Bean, Chicken Corn, and Beef Vegetable. If you would like to donate ingredients for the soup, supply pies or whoopie pies to sell, or help in any way, please contact Linda Leister at 436-8589. Walk-in orders will be filled as long as the soup lasts.

WOMEN OF THE ELCA

MESSIAH WOMEN OF THE ELCA continuously collect new bath-size bars of soap (4oz. to 5oz., preferably Ivory or unscented Dove) as an on-going project for Lutheran World Relief. Please place soap in the basket on the blue table in the Adult Sunday School Room.

THE FIRST PROJECT THIS YEAR for Messiah Women of The ELCA for Lutheran World Relief is baby care kits. Items needed are:

- 2 (6-24 months) lightweight cotton T-shirts
- 2 long or short-sleeved gowns or sleepers (without feet)
- 2 receiving blankets—medium weight cotton or flannel, crocheted or knitted with lightweight yarn (up to 52" square)
- 4 cloth diapers (flat fold preferred)
- 1 jacket, sweater (with buttons or ties down front), or sweatshirt with a hood, or (include a baby cap)
- 2 pairs of socks
- 1 hand towel (dark color recommended)
- 2 bath-size bars (4-5 oz.) of gentle soap in original wrapping
- 2 diaper pins

Place items on the round table in the Adult Sunday School Room.

WELCA PROJECT FOR FRIENDS OF PINE RIDGE RESERVATION FOR ANYONE WHO WOULD LIKE TO HELP – The biggest need right now is for the reservation's foster care agency, LOWO. They typically have about 450 kids in their system and unfortunately LOWO has no budget to provide clothing, bedding or other supplies for the children, most of whom arrive with only what they are wearing. They serve children from infant to teens so pretty much anything a child can wear, they can use (except preemie sizes for the baby items which are not needed). Toddler pants, teen p-j bottoms, sleepwear for all ages, sun dresses and shorts during the summer, shirts and blouses, diaper bags, crib quilts, stuffed toys, bibs, cute colorful pillowcases, twin size bed sheets, crib sheets, Pack 'n Play size sheets, etc. Sewn tote bags are also always needed so the kids don't have to use plastic trash bags to carry around their few belongings. For those who knit or crochet, crib and smaller size baby blankets or afghans, slippers, cute scarves for the teens, mittens for the little ones, baby hats, booties, bunting, etc. would be welcome. Any colors and fibers and fabrics will work for any of the items that are made. The only restriction is not to send anything with an owl print as owls are a symbol of death in the Lakota culture. Place items on the round table in the Adult Sunday School Room. Any questions, contact Barb S. Geedey, Linda Leister, Cynthia Smith, or

Marilyn MaCoy.

MESSIAH WOMEN OF THE ELCA will meet on Thursday, April 10, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the Youth Area with Jean Compton presenting the program. All women are invited to attend.

COMMUNITY

MEALS-ON-WHEELS needs volunteer drivers, cooks and people to help assemble meals. If you have some spare time and can help, please call Dottie Heck at 436-6002 or 717-348-1950 (cell).

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS FOR MARCH: FUNDS

FRIDAY LENTEN FISH DINNERS, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus will be held from 4-7 p.m. in the church social hall at St. Jude's Catholic Church. All-you-can-eat meals will include fried and baked fish, popcorn shrimp, fried clams, French fries, macaroni and cheese, stewed tomatoes, corn, green beans, coleslaw, applesauce, rolls, puddings, and a selection of homemade desserts. Cost will be \$10.00 for adults, \$6.00 for children 6-12, and children under 6 are FREE (pay at the door).

THE FINAL WOMEN'S COMMUNITY LENTEN TEA will be Wednesday, April 9, 2014 at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church. Lesson will be "The Crucifixion." This year's study is from the book "Journey to the Cross" by Adam Hamilton, reflecting on 24 hours that changed the world. Fellowship time is 9:30 a.m. followed by the program at 10:00 a.m.

COMMUNITY LENTEN SERVICE, sponsored by the Twin-Boro Ministerium, will be held on Wednesday, April 2, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at Aldersgate United Methodist Church with Pastor Gay Irwin preaching.

2014 PORT ROYAL MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST SPEAKERS 7:00 a.m. – PORT ROYAL COMMUNITY BUILDING

April 12, Rev. John Gehman, Lauvers Mennonite Church
April 19, Rev. Casey Hostler, Heaven Bound Church

2014 MIFFLINTOWN MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST SPEAKERS 7:00 a.m. – JP PANCAKE HOUSE

April 12, Charlie Stump
April 19, (to be announced)

A MEETING WILL BE HELD **this evening at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church in Licking Creek at 7:00 p.m.** for ANYONE interested in helping with the Juniata County Workcamp. Whether it's preparing worksites several weeks before camp, helping with set-up the week before camp, or being part of the finishing crew that will complete sites not finished by the campers the week after camp is over, any and all help will be valued.

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

- Today:** -9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Bible Study
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion.
- Monday:** -9-10 a.m., Strong Women Class in Youth Area.
-7 p.m., Bible Study in Library.
-8 p.m., AA meeting in Fellowship Hall.
- Tuesday:** -9 a.m., "The Needlers" in Fellowship Hall.
- Wednesday:** -9-10 a.m., Strong Women Class in Youth Area.
-9:30 a.m., Women's Community Lenten Tea at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church.
-7 p.m., Community Lenten Service at Aldersgate United Methodist Church. Pastor Gay Irwin preaching.
-8 p.m., Choir rehearsal.
- Thursday:** -7 p.m., WELCA meeting in Youth Area.
- Friday:** -6—9 p.m., Sq. and Line Dancing in Fellowship Hall (caller: Leslie Herb).
Everyone welcome!
- Saturday:** -7 a.m., Men's Prayer Breakfast at JP Pancake House.
-11 a.m., to 5 p.m., Fellowship Hall reserved.
- Sunday:** -9:15 a.m., Sunday School.
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Jr. Church.