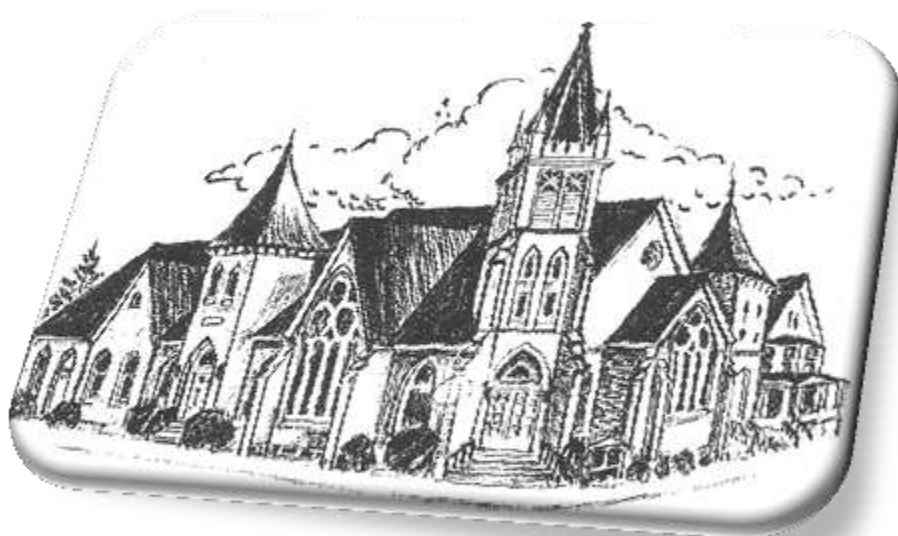


# **THE MESSIAH HERALD**



**JUNE, 2014**

## **MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH**

3 SOUTH THIRD STREET  
MIFFLINTOWN, PA 17059  
(717)-436-6213  
[www.mlcmifflintown.org](http://www.mlcmifflintown.org)  
[mlcmifflintown@pa.net](mailto:mlcmifflintown@pa.net)

## **THE REV. WILLIAM N. ESBORN, PASTOR**

35 SCENIC VIEW DRIVE  
MIFFLINTOWN, PA 17059  
(717)-436-9425  
[pastoresborn@pa.net](mailto:pastoresborn@pa.net)

**[MESSIAH CHURCH CALENDAR](#)**

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**[THE LUTHERAN MAGAZINE](#)**

**“Proclaiming God’s love revealed in Jesus Christ and his People”**

# The Messiah Herald



**June 2014**

One of the great challenges for any pastoral leader is how to open doors to important discussions within a congregation or denomination.

Pope Francis has been regularly calling the global body of the Roman Catholic Church to reflect on the nature and importance of what is and is not church doctrine; what is immutable and what is conditional and open to change.

This past week the Pennsylvania laws surrounding marriages were struck down as unconstitutional.

Denominationally, the ELCA has given congregations the right to determine for themselves how we will respond to such choices. This means we face important conversation.

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

One of the great challenges for any pastoral leader is how to open doors to important discussions within a congregation or denomination. We ELCA and most denominations have struggled to have difficult conversations about a variety of social challenges including how we relate to our Gay brothers and sisters and their calling a children of God into the life of the church.

Pope Francis has been regularly calling the global body of the Roman Catholic Church to reflect on the nature and importance of what is and is not church doctrine; what is immutable and what is conditional and open to transformation and change. This week while in flight with a group of reporters, Francis noted that while it is a gift to the church celibacy is not a dogma of the church. He was noting in saying this that celibacy is not necessary as a mark of the priesthood. In other words, he has opened a possibility of discussion involving this topic.

I cannot guess Francis’s personal reasons for opening this discussion but Martin Luther felt that the demand of celibacy on the priesthood did not necessarily cause but led to sexual perversion within the ordained of the church. Luther saw the natural call to family as a God ordained order of creation and something that should not be denied members of clergy without a clear Biblical command to do so.

So how are we to deal with uncomfortable conversations? Conversations sometimes grounded in long years of practice when circumstances and new insights call us to reconsider our history and our future. We must simply hold those conversations faithfully, leaning on attitudes of grace and forgiveness before God. Sometimes following new paths leading us to places we have never gone before. And as Lutherans we strive for faithfulness to God’s Word in Jesus Christ even as we see it expressed in new possibilities.

As we as ELCA Lutherans have wrestled with and debated numerous difficult issues surrounding human sexuality we have sometimes found ourselves frustrated, angered, fearful, and confused. At the same time in those same conversations some have found hope, grace and promise of resurrection life.

This past week the Pennsylvania laws surrounding marriages were struck down as unconstitutional making us the 19<sup>th</sup> state to find ourselves confronted by the possibility of Gay marriages in our communities. Denominationally, the ELCA has given congregations the right to determine for themselves how we will respond to such choices. That means that as a congregation we have the right to determine for ourselves how we proceed. To that end and because it is a decision for our congregational family please know that I have no intention of performing any such marriage rite at Messiah until we as a congregation decide together how we will move forward. While I find no compelling reason why we should not welcome and even bless our Gay brothers and sisters because I do believe in good order I will not presume to usurp the right of our congregation to make such a determination together. I state this for you because I want you to hear from me how I intend to conduct my role of leadership as your pastor. Knowing this you should not be tossed to and fro by rumors leading to distrust.

Yours in Christ,

*Pastor Bill*

## DAILY HOME BIBLE READINGS

June	1: John 17:1-11
June	2: Exodus 19:1-9a
June	3: Exodus 19:16-25
June	4: Exodus 20:1-21
June	5: Acts 2:1-21
June	6: Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
June	7: 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13
June	8: John 20:19-23
June	9: 2 Timothy 1:8-12a
June	10: 2 Timothy 1:12b-14
June	11: Matthew 10:7-16
June	12: Genesis 1:1—2:4a
June	13: Psalm 8
June	14: 2 Corinthians 13:11-13
June	15: Matthew 28:16-20
June	16: Acts 5:17-26
June	17: Jeremiah 18:18-23
June	18: Jeremiah 20:1-6
June	19: Jeremiah 20:7-13
June	20: Psalm 69:7-10 (11-15), 16-18
June	21: Romans 6:1b-11
June	22: Matthew 10:24-39
June	23: Galatians 5:2-6
June	24: Malachi 3:1-4
June	25: Galatians 5:7-12
June	26: Jeremiah 28:5-9
June	27: Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18
June	28: Romans 6:12-23
June	29: Matthew 10:40-42
June	30: Acts 12:1-11



## PRAYER CHAIN

Any time you wish to add a name to our prayer list, please contact Stacie Kint at [dskint@nmax.net](mailto:dskint@nmax.net) or 436-6341.

If at any time you would like to receive emails with prayer requests, please also contact Stacie.

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

## JUNE SCHEDULES

### LECTORS

- 1: Linda Leister
- 8: Bob St. Clair
- 15: Barbara S. Geedey
- 22: Ron Yorks
- 29: Cynthia Smith

### ACOLYTES

- 1: Nate Swailes & Gavin Kint
- 8: Zane Hazard & Emma Hazard
- 15: Malin Kint & Marina Holderman
- 22: Livia Arentz & Emma Arentz
- 29: Tyler Rosenberry & Lilly Powell

### ALTAR GUILD

- May 26—June 8 Linda Leister  
(cup communion – Clint & Jamie Miller)
- June 9—June 22 Michelle Stoner  
(cup communion – Clint & Jamie Miller)
- June 23—June 29 Sandy Pines
- June 30—July 6 Diana Wise

### ALTAR FLOWERS

- 1: Honor of WELCA
- 8: OPEN
- 15: Don & Barb Geedey
- 22: OPEN
- 29: Varner



Messiah Women of ELCA met on May 8, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. The program for the evening was presented by Ann Beaver. She gave a very informative presentation on the Ana Baptists. Everyone present left the meeting with new knowledge on these groups.

The business meeting followed with the Secretary's and Treasurer's reports. The Synodical Convention was discussed and applications were given to several members present. The Convention will be held at Camp Mount Luther on Saturday, August 2. See Barb Geedey if you are interested. The cost is \$40.00 to cover speakers, the use of Camp Mount Luther, morning refreshments and lunch. **NOTE:** We will be collecting small nail clippers (with or without files) to take to the Synod Convention. Target and K-Mart are two places that have them for a good price.

The group was informed that the remainder of the funds needed to cover the cost of a new Advent Banner will be provided by funds generated from the purchase of the Weis Club Cards.

Everyone remained after the meeting to take stock in what has been collected for the Baby Care Kits. To date we have collected 31 towels, 25 T-shirts, 53 pairs of diaper pins, 13 hooded shirts, 20 pairs of socks, 214 diapers, 29 long-sleeved gowns/pants/shirts, and 66 blankets. We will continue to collect these items as they are not sent until October. We will begin collecting for the School Kits in July when the sales begin.

Thank you to everyone who has helped with the various projects our group has collected over the years. Without the help of the congregation we would not be able to do half of what we accomplish.

The next WELCA meeting will be held on June 12, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the Youth Area. Cynthia Smith will present the program with refreshments by Claire Mummah and Ona Stoner. We are always looking for new members. All women are welcome!

Collection continues for Lutheran World Relief 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. Items needed are:

Toddler pants, teen p-j bottoms, sleepware for all ages, sun dresses and shorts, 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, knited or crocheted crib and smaller size baby blankets or afghans, slippers, cute scarves for the teens, mittens for the little ones, baby hats, booties, bunting, etc. Any colors, fibers and fabrics will work for any of the items that are made. The only restriction is (nothing 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.

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.



## **SUMMER WORSHIP**

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.



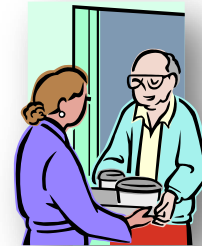
## **ELCA "BUCK-A-CHICK" PROGRAM**

During Lent, the Sunday School students and Jr. Church attendees collected money towards the ELCA Buck-A-Chick program. They collected \$150 that will be used by World Hunger to purchase 150 chicks! When these chicks are just months old, they begin laying eggs, which make nutritious, protein-rich meals for families who are hungry. The many extra eggs are often enough to allow a family to start a small business by selling them for additional income. Way to go, Messiah kids! You can see some of the paper chicks that were colored by the kids, on display in the Adult Sunday School Room.

During the 50 days of Easter, the Sunday School and Junior Church offering money will go towards purchasing items for

the Juniata County Food Pantry's Summer Backpack Program. We would like some help in collecting items for this program, too. Donations of the following are needed and can be placed in the bus box in the Adult Sunday School Room.

- Any single serving "meals" (Mac 'n Cheese, Spaghetti, Ravioli, Lasagna, soups, cans of chicken, Vienna sausages, etc.).
- Fruit cups of all varieties (Applesauce and peaches were the most popular last summer).
- Pudding Cups.
- Chips, pretzels, popcorn, trail mix (HUGE favorite last summer), granola bars, cookies, any other single serving snack item.
- Juice boxes (any and all flavors).



## **MEALS-ON-WHEELS**

Volunteer drivers and cooks are needed 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).

Individuals, church groups, or Sunday School classes who would like to make a contribution to the Meals-On-Wheels program, your continued support would be greatly appreciated. Contributions can be sent to:

Juniata Meals-On-Wheels  
P.O. Box 251  
Mifflintown, PA 17059

## THRIVENT CHOICE

Thrivent members, select our congregation the first time you direct Choice Dollars between April 1 and May 31, 2014, and our church will receive an extra \$20 grant from Thrivent Financial!

Through the "Direct Now ... and add \$20!" campaign, Thrivent will give an extra \$20 for each member who chooses to direct Choice Dollars to our congregation first.

For questions about this campaign or Choice Dollars, contact Stacie Kint at 436-6341.



## WEDNESDAY SUMMER COMMUNIONS

Wednesday evening "Informal Communion" will be held during the summer months beginning June 11, 2014 for those who cannot make it to services on Sunday mornings and still wish to partake of the Lord's Supper



## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Vacation Bible School will be held from Sunday, July 6 through Thursday, July 10, 2014 from 6:00 to 8:15 p.m. each evening.

Escape to our tropical island for VBS

and then the children and their families can join us for a pool party on Friday, July 11<sup>th</sup> at the Mifflin Pool.

VBS will be held at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church this year as we continue to join our efforts and activities. Children age 5 (entering Kindergarten) through age 12 (entering 6<sup>th</sup> grade) are invited to attend and any assistance from our older youth and adults would be greatly appreciated.

A volunteer list is posted in the kitchen area. Contact Kate Swailes with any questions.



## FABULOUS FUNDRAISER TUESDAY

Eat at Harshbarger's Sub 'N Malt Shop any time during the day on **Tuesday, June 3, 2014** and they will donate 25% of their monies to the Central Juniata Park Pool.

You must turn in a ticket for the pool to receive those monies (tickets are available in the Adult Sunday School Room). Their food is great! Thanks for supporting the Central Juniata Park Pool!!

## IN HOME SERVICES OF CENTRAL PA

In Home Services of Central PA – Helping Senior Citizens in **providing a MULTITUDE of services** such as:

- Housekeeping
- Meal Preparation/Catering
- Laundry Services
- Running of Errands
- Grocery/Personal Shopping
- Companionship
- Personal Assistance
- Home Maintenance/Painting



- Technology/Computer Assistance
- Gardening
- Bookkeeping/Banking Assistance
- Insurance Billing/Benefits Research
- Pet Care
- Assistance with Holidays/Parties/Yard Sales
- Assistance with Making a Move/Downsizing
- Beautician/Barber Services
- Alterations/Mending
- Medical Set-up & Monitoring by Nurse
- Transportation To All Appointments

Let us be **YOUR PERSONAL ASSISTANT!** For more details, please call 888-881-2046. Serving Centre, Mifflin and Juniata Counties (LOCALLY OWNED). Check out our website: [www.InHomeServicesofCentralPA.com](http://www.InHomeServicesofCentralPA.com) .

### **VOTERS ASSEMBLY**

The next Voters Assembly will be held on Sunday, June 22, 2014 following the worship service.

Business: approval of previous minutes, quarterly Board Reports, vote on nominations of new PPC members for 2014—2016, and Property Committee proposals for (1) furnace repair and (2) Gethsemane window repair. Both proposals will be by ballot vote.

### **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.



# Summer Vacation

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## Juniata County Food Pantry June Update

**FOOD PANTRY NEEDS FOR JUNE:**  
**ALL NON-PERISHABLE FOODS; TOILET PAPER, TISSUES, PAPER  
TOWELS, STORAGE BAGS & WRAPS, TRASH BAGS**

For more information, visit our website at [www.jcfoodpantry.com](http://www.jcfoodpantry.com)

OUR VESTIBULE (LOCATED ON THE RAMP SIDE OF THE BUILDING )  
IS OPEN TO RECEIVE DONATIONS 24 HOURS A DAY!  
CASH OR GIFT CARD DONATIONS MAY BE DEPOSITED THROUGH THE MAIL SLOT.

**NEW HOURS:** 9:00 AM to NOON AND 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM EACH TUESDAY, AND FROM 9:00  
AM TO NOON ON SATURDAY. CLOSED ON MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY  
AND SUNDAY.

*\*PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO THE JUNIATACOUNTY FOOD PANTRY, P.O. BOX 44, 114  
N. MAIN ST., MIFFLINTOWN, PA 17059. FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL: 436-9718 (CONTACT  
PERSON: KATHY QUEITZSCH). Email: [jcfoodpantry@embarqmail.com](mailto:jcfoodpantry@embarqmail.com)*







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kenostuck@aol.com • [www.gsarealty.com](http://www.gsarealty.com)



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