

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
Mark Baylor
Diana Wise
Diana Wise

Pastor
Choir Director
Organist
Lector
Altar Guild

SUNDAY OF THE PASSION/PALM SUNDAY

March 24, 2013 – 10:30 a.m.

*Please Stand as **YOU** Are Able

PEOPLE TO REMEMBER IN PRAYER TODAY

Marian G., Reba S., Sue C., Flo B., Ethel B., Virginia F., Goldie K., Jean M., Cassie S., Helen K., Sis S., Jane M., Fay M., Dorothy P., Ruth C., Ray B., Anna Mary Z., Ryan K., Jesse K., Tammy W., Pat and Joe F., Wilma P., Lucy C., Martha S., Audrey L., Josh B., George and Lorraine H., Carl K., Morgan T., Karl and Margaret G., Alex D., Nancy N., Dorothy S., Joyce H., Clara S., Justin T., Carol D., and families of Hannah K and Ernestine C.

PREPARATION

CHIMES: CALL TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE

[A Time for Meditation and Prayer]

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTRODUCTION

The voice of the suffering savior, Jesus, can be heard in the prophet Isaiah's words and the pleading of the psalm. We are invited into the agony of our Lord in the extended reading of the story of Jesus' passion. In the second reading, we who have put on Christ in holy baptism are urged to let the mind of Christ be our own. Lent leads us to this holy moment. Embrace it.

Oscar Arnulfo Romero, Bishop of El Salvador, martyr, died 1980

Romero was deeply concerned with injustices evident toward the poor and powerless in El Salvador, and worked forthrightly against political repression. He was assassinated while presiding at the eucharist in a chapel near the cathedral in San Salvador.

* SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

P In Holy Baptism our gracious heavenly Father liberates us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; in the waters of Baptism we are reborn children of God and inheritors of eternal life. By water and the Holy Spirit we are made members of the Church which is the body of Christ. As we live with

him and with his people, we grow in faith, love, and obedience to the will of God.

P April Renee Coder, do you desire to be baptized?

Response: I do.

P Who brings this child to be baptized?

Parents: We present Silas Samuel Martin Smith to receive the Sacrament of Holy Baptism.

P Silas Samuel Martin Smith, do you desire to be baptized?

Parents: I do.

P Who brings these children to be baptized?

Parents: We present Anya Rhiannon Coder and Connor Riley Coder to receive the Sacrament of Holy Baptism.

P Anya Rhiannon Coder and Connor Riley Coder, do you desire to be baptized?

Parent: I do.

P In Christian love you have presented these children for Holy Baptism. You should, therefore, faithfully bring them to the services of God's house, and teach them the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments. As they grow in years, you should place in their hands the Holy Scriptures and provide for their instruction in the Christian faith, that, living in the covenant of his Baptism and in communion with the Church, they may lead a godly life until the day of Jesus Christ.

Do you promise to fulfill these obligations?

Parents: Yes, by the help of God.

P Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: We give you thanks, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and you created heaven and earth. By the gift of water you nourish and sustain us and all living things.

By the waters of the flood you condemned the wicked and saved those whom you had chosen, Noah and his family. You led Israel by the pillar of cloud and fire through the sea, out of slavery into the freedom of the promised land. In the waters of the Jordan your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Spirit. By the baptism of his own death and resurrection your beloved Son has set us free from the bondage to sin and death, and has opened the way to the joy and freedom of everlasting life. He made water a sign of the kingdom and of cleansing and rebirth. In obedience to his command, we make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, so that they who are here baptized may be given new life. Wash away the sin of they who are cleansed by this water and bring them forth as inheritors of your glorious kingdom.

To you be given praise and honor and worship through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C Amen

P I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church, the faith in which we baptize.

Do you renounce all the forces of evil, the devil, and all his empty promises?

Parents: Yes, by the help of God.

P Do you believe in God the Father?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

C 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.

P Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

C 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

P April Renee Coder, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son and and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

P Silas Samuel Martin Smith, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

P Anya Rhiannon Coder, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

P Connor Riley Coder, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

* PROCESSION WITH PALMS

P Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

C Hosanna in the highest.

P Let us pray,

We praise you, O God, for redeeming the world through our Savior Jesus Christ. Today he entered the holy city in triumph and was proclaimed messiah and king by those who spread garments and branches along his way. Bless these branches and those who carry them. Grant us grace to follow our Lord in the way of the cross, so that, joined to his death and resurrection, we enter into life with you; through the same Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen

* PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL: Luke 19:28-40

After he had said this, [Jesus] went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. ²⁹When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, ³⁰saying, "Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. ³¹If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it.'" ³²So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. ³³As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" ³⁴They said, "The Lord needs it." ³⁵Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. ³⁶As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. ³⁷As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, ³⁸saying,

"Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!" ³⁹Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, order your disciples to stop." ⁴⁰He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out."

* THANKSGIVING (raise your palms)

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P We praise and thank you, O God, for the great acts of love by which you have redeemed us through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. On this day he entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph, and was acclaimed Son of David and King of kings by those who scattered their garments and branches of palm in His path. We ask that you bless these branches and those who bear them, and grant that we may ever hail him as our Lord and King and follow him with perfect confidence; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen

* PROCESSIONAL

P Let us go forth in peace,

C in the name of Christ. Amen.

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN

"Ride On, Ride On in Majesty!"

P Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

C Hosanna in the highest.

(return to the Sacrament of Holy Baptism)

P God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we give you thanks for freeing your sons and daughters from the power of sin and for raising them up to a new life through this holy sacrament. Pour your Holy Spirit upon April, Silas, Anya, and Connor: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence.

C Amen

P April Renee Coder, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

Response: Amen

P Silas Samuel Martin Smith, Anya Rhiannon Coder, Connor Riley Coder, children of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

Parents: Amen

P Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

P O God, the giver of all life, look with kindness upon the parents of these children. Let them ever rejoice in the gift you have given them. Make them teachers and examples of righteousness for their children. Strengthen them in their own Baptism so they may share eternally with their children the salvation you have given them, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

P Through Baptism God has made these new sisters and brothers members of the priesthood we all share in Christ Jesus, that we may proclaim the praise of God and bear his creative and redeeming Word to all the world.

C We welcome April Renee Coder, Silas Samuel Martin Smith, Anya Rhianon Coder, and Connor Riley Coder into the Lord's family. We receive them as fellow members of the body of Christ, children of the same heavenly Father, and workers with us in the kingdom of God.

* 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."**

* PRAYER OF THE DAY (spoken in unison)

P Let us pray...

C Everlasting God, in your endless love for the human race you sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take on our nature and to suffer death on the cross. In your mercy enable us to share in his obedience to your will and in the glorious victory of his resurrection, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

WORD

This text, the third of the four Servant Songs in Isaiah, speaks of the servant's obedience in the midst of persecution. Though the servant has been variously understood as the prophet himself or a remnant of faithful Israel, Christians have often recognized the figure of Christ in these poems.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 50:4-9a

The First Reading is from the 50th chapter of Isaiah.

THE LESSON READS:

The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens—wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. ⁵The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. ⁶I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. ⁷The Lord GOD helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; ⁸he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. ⁹It is the Lord GOD who helps me; who will declare me guilty"

Lector: Here ends the reading.

Cong: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 31:9-16 (responsively)

L *Into your hands, O LORD, I commend my spirit. (Ps. 31:5)*

Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I am in trouble; my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat and my belly.

¹⁰For my life is wasted with grief, and my years with sighing; my strength fails me because of affliction, and my bones are consumed.

¹¹I am the scorn of my enemies, a disgrace to my neighbors, a dismay to my acquaintances; when they see me in the street they avoid me.

¹²Like the dead I am forgotten, out of mind; I am as useless as a broken pot.

¹³For I have heard the whispering of the crowd; fear is all around; they put their heads together against me; they plot to take my life.

¹⁴But as for me, I have trusted in you, O LORD. I have said, "You are my God.

¹⁵My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.

¹⁶Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love."

ALL Into your hands, O LORD, I commend my spirit.

Paul quotes from an early Christian hymn that describes Jesus' humble obedience in his incarnation as a human being, even to death, and his exaltation and glory as Lord of all.

SECOND READING: Philippians 2:5-11

The Second Reading is from the 2nd chapter of Philippians.

THE LESSON READS:

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, ⁷but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, ⁸he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. ⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Lector: Here ends the reading.

Cong: Thanks be to God.

LENTEN VERSE (remain seated)

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

THE PASSION ACCORDING TO LUKE

* PASSION HYMN "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"

* PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P Returning to the Lord with all our heart, let us pray for the whole people of God, the earth, and all who cry out for healing.

A brief silence.

P Form in the church the mind of Christ, that we may empty ourselves for the sake of the world you love. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Open the ears of civil authorities, that they may hear the voices of those facing insult and degradation, and those who cry out for bread and shelter. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Rescue the earth from abuse and pollution, and bring an end to famine, disease, terror, and bloodshed. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Bless the Jewish people as they celebrate Passover, and grant that the religions of the world may grow in mutual understanding and respect. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Draw near to all who feel abandoned, or who face alienation, death, or illness this holy week (especially all of our shut-ins [both at home and in nursing homes], and for Ryan Keresev, Jesse Kint, Tammy Walton, Wilma Pyles, Jo and Pat Forney, Marian Gross, Lucy Cargill, Martha Stouffer, Dorothy Patterson, Audrey Landis, Josh Beitz, George and Lorraine Hazard, Carl Krow, Morgan Treaster, Karl and Margaret Guss, Alex Demar, Nancy Normen, Dorothy Smith, Joyce Huntsberger, Clara Schlegel, Justin Tabb, Carol Dasen, and families of Hannah Kelly and Ernestine Challenger). Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Teach us to walk the way of the cross, that we may be a community of forgiveness and mercy. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P We remember all the martyrs and saints who at death were commended into your merciful hands (especially Oscar Romero). Bring us, with them, to the joy of the resurrection. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Hear us according to your steadfast love, O God, and in your great compassion bring us to resurrection and rebirth in Jesus Christ our 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

“Ride On, King Jesus”

by Gilbert Martin

* 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 All who thirst, all who hunger, come and be filled with the goodness 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 O God, in this holy meal you have embraced us and gathered us into your arms of compassion and protection. Release us now to go on our way in these

forty days, ready to see our work as prayer, ready to fast from complacency, and ready to share with those in need; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen

SENDING

* BLESSING

P God our Father bless you and shield you. Christ our Mother shelter you and carry you. God the Holy Spirit guide your journey + both now and forever.

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

* CLOSING HYMN

“Ah, Holy Jesus”

* DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Remember the poor. **C Thanks be to God!**

* POSTLUDE

NEXT WEEK'S LECTOR – Cynthia Smith

NEXT WEEK'S ALTAR GUILD – Diana Wise (Cup Communion – Clint & Jamie Miller)

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 worshipping 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) worshipping 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.

ALTAR FLOWERS are presented to the Glory of God and in memory of Angie Stayer and Chris Nanna.

WE EXTEND OUR SYMPATHY to Cassie Smith and family on the death of her sister, Ernestine Challenger, who died on March 18, 2013 at Lewistown Hospital. Sympathy is also extended to the family of Hannah Kelly, who died on March 14, 2013 in Bomet, Kenya. Please keep the families in your prayers.

TODAY OUR CHANCEL is decorated with palms as we observe Palm Sunday. We are also reliving the events of Holy Week that culminate with Christ's crucifixion. Therefore, our altar vases hold not only palms but also 5 red flowers reminding us of the five wounds of Christ (the nails in his hands and feet and the spear in his side) as he hung on the cross.

THE INDIVIDUAL PALMS are given to the Glory of God and in memory of Mrs. Ira (Floss) Smith, who for many years donated the palm fronds on Palm Sunday.

THE PALM BRANCH ON THE WOODEN CROSS is given to the Glory of God by Pastor Esborn.

GOD CREATES FOUR NEW SAINTS TODAY through His Sacrament of Holy Baptism. We welcome April Renee Coder, Silas Samuel Martin Smith, son of Zach and Tammy Smith, Anya Rhiannon Coder and Connor Riley Coder, daughter and son of Terry and April Coder.

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 – St. Theresa of Alvila, Spanish Nun and Mystic (1515 – 1582): My soul is like a mirror in which the glory of God is reflected, but sin, however insignificant, covers the mirror with smoke.

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

SYNOD ASSEMBLY DELEGATES NEEDED – Two members of Messiah are needed to attend the annual Synod Assembly on June 14 and 15, 2013 at Susquehanna University, Selinsgrove. If you are interested in serving, please contact the pastor or the church office.

LUTHERAN STUDY BIBLES by Augsburg Fortress are available in the church office for anyone who would like one. Cost is \$24.00 each.

MESSIAH'S EASTER EGG HUNT will be held on Sunday, March 31, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. We will meet in the back parking lot. If inclement weather, we will meet in the basement. Filled egg donations would be appreciated.

RECEIVED IN STAINED GLASS FUND on Sunday, March 17, 2013: \$_____ This brings the total received to \$_____ of the total \$85,890 needed for the project. Balance needed to complete funding is \$_____

THE 2013 CAMPING BROCHURES and registration forms for Camp Mt. Luther are available in the church office or online at www.campmountluther.org (please note that if you register online, you still need to get a health form signed by a doctor). Any young people planning to attend one of the church camps this summer are asked to get their registrations in before April 1st for the early discount.

THE NEW ALTAR GUILD SCHEDULE for July, 2013 through June, 2014 will be completed by June 1st. We are currently in need of more people to serve on Altar Guild, as a few of our long-serving members have asked to have their names removed from the list. If you would like to serve, please either call the church office or contact Bob St. Clair. 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, 2013 through June, 2014 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.

PRAYER CHAIN WILL BE UPDATED – The current Prayer Chain will be deactivated and a new one started. If you would like to receive emails for persons needing prayers, please contact Stacie Kint at diskint@nmax.net. A new phone chain will also be established. If you wish to receive phone calls for persons needing prayers, please contact Stacie at 436-6341.

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.

THE BOARD OF CHURCH PROPERTY will meet on Monday, March 25, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. in the choir room.

THE NEXT PPC MEETING will be held on Sunday, April 7, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in the Youth Area. (Rescheduled from March 17th meeting).

THE NEXT SERVICE OF HEALING will be held on Sunday, April 7, 2013 due to Easter (which will be on March 31st).

WOMEN OF THE ELCA

MESSIAH WOMEN OF THE ELCA continuously collect new bath-size bars of soap (4 oz. to 5 oz., 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 Sunday School Room.

PERSONAL CARE KITS are the project for the Women of the ELCA for the beginning of 2013. Needed for the project are the following items:

- dark colored bath towels approximately (52 x 27),
- adult toothbrushes (can be large packages of more than 1)

- sturdy combs with wide teeth
- nail clippers (with or without attached nail file)
- bath size bar of soap (4—5 oz.) in its original wrapping

Please donate as many items as you are able. You can share God's grace and love by providing simple comfort, starting with a bath! Soap is always needed too! (any brand in original wrapping).

MESSIAH WOMEN OF THE ELCA will meet on Thursday, April 11, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in the Youth Area. Program leader will be Ann Beaver.

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).

HELP NEEDED AT THE FOOD PANTRY – Permanent volunteers are needed for 3 Saturday mornings each month from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Duties will include answering the phone, setting up appointments, interviewing clients and completing paperwork, some computer entry, and helping with other office work as needed. Please contact Kathy Queitzsch at 436-9718 for more information.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS FOR APRIL

ALL NON-PERISHABLE FOODS
 FACIAL TISSUES, TOILET PAPER, PAPER TOWELS
 BABY DIAPERS (SIZES 3-6) AND ALL SIZES OF PULL-UPS
 DONATIONS OF CASH AND LOCAL STORE GIFT CARDS

MIFFLINTOWN MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST will be held on Saturday, March 30, 2013, 7:00 a.m. at JP Pancake House with Charlie Stump as the speaker.

COMMUNITY MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE, sponsored by the Twin-Boro Ministerium, will be held on Thursday, March 28, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church. Pastor Martha Carlson will be preaching on the theme "Maundy Thursday."

THE COMMUNITY GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE will be held on Friday, March 29, 2013 from 12:00 noon till 3:00 p.m. at Westminster United Presbyterian Church. Theme will be the Seven Last Words:

Welcome and Opening, 12:00 p.m. – Pastor Martha Carlson.
Father Forgive them, 12:05 – 12:30 p.m. – Pastor Gay Irwin.
My God, My God, 12:30 – 12:55 p.m. – Pastor Chris Mathiason.
Today you will be, 12:55 – 1:20 p.m. – Pastor James Wooster.
Mother, Behold thy Son, 1:20 – 1:45 p.m. – Pastor Anna Ritter.
I Thirst, 1:45 – 2:10 p.m. – Pastor William Esborn
It is finished, 2:10 – 2:35 p.m. – Pastor Edd Carlson
Into thy hands, 2:35 – 3:00 p.m. – Pastor Martha Carlson
Closing and Sending, 3:00 p.m. – Pastor Martha Carlson

THE COMMUNITY EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE will be held on Sunday, March 31, 2013 at 6:30 a.m. at Messiah Lutheran Church. Pastor Gay Irwin will be the preacher.

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

- Today:** -Palm Sunday.
-9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Cate. Class.
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Jr. Church.
- Monday:** -6:30 p.m. Property Committee meeting in choir room.
-8 p.m., AA meeting in Fellowship Hall.
- Tuesday:** -9 a.m., "The Needlers" in Fellowship Hall.
- Wednesday:** -7 p.m., Choir rehearsal.
- Thursday:** -7 p.m., Maundy Thursday Service at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church.
- Friday:** -OFFICE CLOSED.
-12 noon—3 p.m., Good Friday Service at Westminster Presbyterian Church.
- Saturday:** -7 a.m., Men's Prayer Breakfast at JP Pancake House.
- Sunday:** -Easter Sunday.
-Food Pantry Sunday.
-6:30 a.m., Easter Sunrise Service at Messiah.
-9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Catechetical Class.
-Easter Egg Hunt.
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Jr. Church.
- Monday:** -OFFICE CLOSED.