

# 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  
Louis Lynch  
Sam Leister  
Andrea Cameron  
Sandy Pines

Pastor  
Choir Director  
Organist  
Lector  
Cantor  
Altar Guild

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 15, 2011 – 10:30 a.m.

\*Please Stand as **YOU** Are Able

### PEOPLE TO REMEMBER IN PRAYER TODAY

Helen C., Marian G., Reba S., Sue C., Flo B., Ethel B., Virginia F., Cathryn R., Arlene M., Goldie K., Jean M., Cassie S., Ruth C., Ray B., Anna Mary Z., Paul W., Bob C., Linda R., Jesse K., Audrey M., Conner L., George and Mary Lorraine H., Anne M., and Andrea C. and family.

### PREPARATION

CHIMES: CALL TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE

*[A Time for Meditation and Prayer]*

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTRODUCTION

*Today is sometimes called "Good Shepherd Sunday." Jesus is called the "gate" of the sheep in today's gospel. The risen Christ opens the way to abundant life. He anoints our heads with oil and guides us beside the still waters of our baptism. Each Sunday he spreads a feast before us in the midst of the world's violence and war. We go forth to be signs of the resurrection and extend God's tender care to all creation.*

### \* RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS (gathered near the font)

*P These persons desire to make public affirmation of their Baptism as a sign of their participation in the life and work of the church of Christ and among God's people here at Messiah.*

*Douglas Wagner, Brandon and Katherine Hoffman and family, and Glenn, Darla, Tyler and Ian Supplee.*

*Brothers and sisters in Christ: In Holy Baptism our Lord Jesus Christ received you and made you members of his Church. In the community of God's people, you have learned from his Word God's loving purpose for you and all creation. You have been [nourished at his holy table and] called to be witnesses to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.*

*(Let us now gather at the font to witness to the baptism of Douglas Wagner).*

**\* 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.*

*Douglas do you desire to be baptized?*

**I do.**

*In Christian love this person is presented for Holy Baptism. Together we should, therefore, faithfully care for him and help him in every way as God gives us opportunity, that he may bear witness to the faith we profess, and that, living in the covenant of his Baptism and in communion with the Church, he may lead a godly life until the day of Jesus Christ.*

*Does this congregation promise to fulfill these obligations?*

**I do.**

*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 those 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?*

**I do.**

*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 Douglas, is baptized in the name of the Father, and of the son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen*

*(Moving forward to the front of the sanctuary)*

*The Lord be with you.*

**C And also with you.**

*P God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we give you thanks for freeing your son from the power of sin and for raising him up to a new life through this holy sacrament. Pour your Holy Spirit upon Douglas: 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 Douglas, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.*

**Amen.**

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

\* *Through Baptism God has made this new brother a member 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 Douglas into the Lord's family. We receive him as a fellow member of the body of Christ, child of the same heavenly Father, and a worker with us in the kingdom of God.**

\* *P Let us pray for those who are affirming their Baptism, and for all the baptized everywhere:*

*That they may be redeemed from all evil and rescued from the way of sin and death: Lord, in your mercy,*

**C hear our prayer.**

*P That the Holy Spirit may open their hearts to your grace and truth: Lord, in your mercy,*

**C hear our prayer.**

*P That they may be kept in the faith and communion of your holy Church: Lord, in your mercy,*

**C hear our prayer.**

*P That they may be sent into the world in witness to your love: Lord, in your mercy,*

**C hear our prayer.**

*P That they may be brought to the fullness of your peace and glory: Lord, in your mercy,*

**C hear our prayer.**

*P Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.*

**C Amen**

*P You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in Holy Baptism:*

*to live among God's faithful people,*

*to hear his Word and share in his supper,*

*to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,*

*to serve all people, following the example of our Lord Jesus,*

*and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?*

**Response: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.**

*P Let us pray.*

*Gracious Lord, through water and the Spirit you have made these people your own. You forgave them all their sins and brought them to newness of life. Continue to strengthen them with the Holy Spirit, and daily increase in them your gifts of grace: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of council and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.*

**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 "Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us" p. 14 in bulletin
- \* GREETING
  - P Alleluia! Christ is risen!*
  - C Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**
  - P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.*
  - C And also with you.**
- \* KYRIE (**C - sung**)
  - 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**
- \* HYMN OF PRAISE (I & II - Choir **C – Congregation**)
  - C This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.**
  - I Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo-ple of God.
  - C This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.**
  - II Pow-er, rich-es, wis-dom, and strength, and hon-or, bless-ing, and glo-ry are his.
  - C This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.**
  - I Sing with all the peo-ple of God, and join in the hymn of all cre-a-tion:  
Bless-ing, hon-or, glo-ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.
  - C This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.**
  - II For the Lamb who was slain has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia.
  - C This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.**
- \* SALUTATION AND RESPONSE (**sung**)
  - P The Lord be with you*
  - C And also with you.**
- \* PRAYER OF THE DAY (**spoken in unison**)
  - P Let us pray...*
  - C O God our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen**

## WORD

Today's reading is a description of life in the community following Peter's sermon on the day of Pentecost, when the Spirit was outpoured on God's people. This new community is founded on the teaching of the apostles and sustained in the breaking of the bread.

FIRST READING: Acts 2:42-47

The First reading is from the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter of Acts.

THE LESSON READS:

<sup>42</sup>[The baptized] devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

<sup>43</sup>Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. <sup>44</sup>All who believed were together and had all things in common; <sup>45</sup>they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. <sup>46</sup>Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, <sup>47</sup>praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Lector: Here ends the reading.

**Congregation: Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 23

*L – The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. (Ps. 23:1)*

<sup>1</sup>The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

**<sup>2</sup>The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.**

<sup>3</sup>You restore my soul, O LORD, and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

**<sup>4</sup>Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

<sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

**<sup>6</sup>Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

**ALL – The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.**

*Doing the right things does not guarantee that one will not experience difficulties, hardships, rejection, or even suffering. Here Christ is presented as the model for our path of endurance and loyalty to God, particularly in the midst of adversity.*

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 2:19-25

The Second reading is from the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter of 2 Peter.

THE LESSON READS:

<sup>19</sup>It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. <sup>20</sup>If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when

you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. <sup>21</sup>For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

<sup>22</sup>"He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth."

<sup>23</sup>When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. <sup>24</sup>He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed.

<sup>25</sup>For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Lector: Here ends the reading.

**Congregation: Thanks be to God.**

\* THE VERSE (**Congregation**)

**Now the green blade rises from the buried grain, Wheat that in dark earth many days has lain; Love lives again, that with the dead has been; Love is come again like wheat arising green.**

*Jesus uses an image familiar to the people of his day to make a point about spiritual leadership. Good shepherds bring people to life through Jesus, but those who avoid Jesus are dangerous to the flock.*

\* GOSPEL: John 10:1-10

*P The Holy Gospel according to John, the 10<sup>th</sup> chapter.*

**C Glory to you, O Lord. (sung)**

THE GOSPEL READS:

[Jesus said:] "Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. <sup>2</sup>The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. <sup>3</sup>The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. <sup>4</sup>When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. <sup>5</sup>They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." <sup>6</sup>Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

<sup>7</sup>So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. <sup>8</sup>All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. <sup>9</sup>I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. <sup>10</sup>The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."

*P The Gospel of the Lord.*

**C Praise to you, O Christ. (sung)**

\* THE VERSE (**Congregation**)

**Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain, He that for three days in the grave had lain; Raised from the dead, my living Lord is seen; Love is come again like wheat arising green.**

SERMON

Pastor Esborn

\* HYMN OF THE DAY

“Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia!”

p. 14 in bulletin

\* PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*P In this season of resurrection, we lift up to God all those in need in the church and throughout the world.*

*A brief silence.*

*P Shepherd us, O God. Gather your people around the table you have prepared for us. In your mercy,*

**C hear our prayer.**

*P Shepherd us, O God. Gather your people beside clean water and green pastures so that creation is a gift for all. In your mercy,*

**C hear our prayer.**

*P Shepherd us, O God. Gather your people into the ways of peace and into lives where no one lives in fear. In your mercy,*

**C hear our prayer.**

*P Shepherd us, O God. Gather your people with your goodness and mercy. Bring healing and wholeness to all those who suffer (especially all of our shut-ins [both at home and in nursing homes], Paul Woltman, Bob Cameron, Linda Rhine, Jesse Kint, Audrey Morral, Connor Lauver, George Sr. and Mary Lorraine Hazard and family, Anne McNaught, and Andrea Cameron and family). In your mercy,*

**C hear our prayer.**

*P Shepherd us, O God. Gather your people in this place. Lead us beyond our wants into works of mission and ministry. In your mercy,*

**C hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

*P We pray for all those involved in the budget process for the state of PA, and for all of those who are affected. In your mercy,*

**C hear our prayer.**

*P Shepherd us, O God. Gather your people of every generation. Anoint us with grace and fill our cups to overflowing with the salvation you have promised to all your saints. In your mercy,*

**C hear our prayer.**

*P Into your care, O God, we place ourselves and all our prayers, trusting your promise of new life in Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.*

**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 ('vineyards')

**Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer now. Grace our ta-ble with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.**

### \* OFFERING PRAYER

*P Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.*

**C Amen**

## MEAL

### \* THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (sung responsively)

*P The Lord be with you.*

**C And al-so with you.**

*P Lift up your hearts.*

**C We lift them to the Lord.**

*P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

**C It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

### \* PREFACE

*P It is indeed right and salutary ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:*

**C Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, God of pow'r and might: Heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na. Ho-san-na. Ho-san-na in the high-est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.**

### \* EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

*P Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faith-fulness endures from age to age.*

*Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood. Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey. Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.*

*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.*

*With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's Passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:*

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

*P O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.*

**C Come, Holy Spirit.**

*P Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.*

**C Come, Holy Spirit.**

*P With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.*

**C Amen.**

**(Sung) Through him, with him, in him, in the u-ni-ty of the Ho-ly Spir-it, all hon-or and glo-ry is yours, al-might-y Fa-ther, now and for-ev-er. A-men.**

\* 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 The disciples knew the Lord Jesus in the breaking of the bread. Come to the table of the risen Christ.*

\* LAMB OF GOD **(sung)**

**Lamb of God, you take a – way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a – way the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

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**

\* POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE (sung)

**C Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done. Let all who seek the Lord re – joice and proud-ly bear his name. He re-calls his prom-is – es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le – lu – ia. Al-le-lu – ia.**

\* PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*P Mighty and compassionate God, you have brought us over from death to life through your Son, our risen Savior, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the sacrament of his body and blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

**C Amen**

**SENDING**

\* BLESSING

*P The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, make you complete in everything good so that you may do God's will, working in you that which is pleasing in God's sight; through + Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever.*

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

\* CLOSING HYMN                      "God Be with You Till We Meet Again"                      p. 15 in bulletin

\* DISMISSAL

*P Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia.*

**C Thanks be to God. Alleluia.**

POSTLUDE

NEXT WEEK'S LECTOR – Linda Bahorik

NEXT WEEK'S ALTAR GUILD – Sandy Pines

**WELCOME**

IF YOU WISH TO USE OR FOLLOW THE LITURGY MUSIC as we proceed through the service today, please use the yellow 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) 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.

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.

WE EXTEND OUR SYMPATHY to Andrea Cameron on the death of her mother, Ruth Crist, who died this past week. Please keep Andrea and her family in your prayers.

GOD CREATES A NEW SAINT TODAY through his Sacrament of Holy Baptism. We welcome Douglas Wagner to the family of Messiah.

WE WELCOME into the fellowship of our congregation today Douglas Wagner, Brandon and Katie Hoffman and family, and Glenn, Darla, Tyler and Ian Supplee. We are pleased to have them become a part of the Messiah family.

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 – Mark Buchanan, Science Writer: “But behind all important social changes there ultimately lies one simple driving force: the ability of one human being to influence another.”

### **CONGREGATIONAL NEWS**

SAVE THE DATE – Vacation Bible School “Acts of Kindness Camp” will be held the week of June 20—24 from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. at Messiah. More information to follow.

EARLY SUMMER SERVICES FOR 2011 will begin on **Sunday, June 19<sup>th</sup>** and end on Sunday, September 4<sup>th</sup>. Worship service will begin at 9:15 a.m. with Sunday School class time being determined by the individual classes.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE MEETING – The next Property Committee meeting will be Monday, May 16, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. in the choir room. Note that this is a week early.

THE NEW ALTAR GUILD SCHEDULE from June, 2011 through June, 2012 will be completed soon. If you are not already on the Altar Guild and you would like to serve, please notify the church office. If you no longer wish to serve, again let the office know. All Altar Guild members will be sent a copy of the annual schedule in May. Thanks to all for your willingness to serve.

FURNACE OFF – In order to save oil the furnace has been turned off until next fall. Please dress accordingly.

LIGHTS ON – The office lights have been left on several Wednesday evenings recently. If you use the office area please make sure all the lights are off in the Parish House.

RECEIVED IN STAINED GLASS FUND on Sunday, May 8, 2011: \$200.00. This brings the total received to \$57,677.00 of the total \$85,890.00 needed for the project.

REMINDER: PLEASE REMEMBER TO WEAR RED FOR PENTECOST SUNDAY, JUNE 12, 2011.

A CONGREGATIONAL MEAL will be held following the worship service on Pentecost, June 12, 2011 honoring confirmands and graduating seniors. Please mark this date on your calendar.

THE NEW LECTOR SCHEDULE from June 2011 through June 2012 will be completed soon. If you are not already serving as a lector (the lay person who reads the scripture lessons at the worship service) and you would like to do so, 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 May. Thanks to all of you who volunteer for this role in our worship services.

THANK YOU to members of Messiah for the cards, flowers, prayers and expressions of sympathy after the death of my wife, Rita. Special thanks also to Pastor Bill.

Rich Smith

THANK YOU – On behalf of the Pennsylvania Council of the Blind, Carl Shoemaker Chapter, I would like to thank Messiah Lutheran Church for allowing us to use the parking lot and kitchen facilities for our annual “Walk for Sight.” Thanks also to all who walked that day and to those who helped in any way. It was greatly appreciated.

Geraldine Zeigler

### **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.

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**LOVE PROJECTS FOR FAR AND NEAR** – We are taught in Matthew 25:31-46 that we are to show our love by caring for those who are in need.

**The “Far” project** is Health Kits for Lutheran World Relief. The in-gathering item is:

--**sturdy** combs with **large teeth**

**The “Near” project** is items for the Ronald McDonald House at Geisinger Medical Center, Danville. The list of needs are:

--anti-bacterial hand soap

- laundry detergent
- socks of all sizes

Please place your love gifts on the blue table in the Sunday School Room.

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**COMMUNITY**

FOOD PANTRY needs for May: Any non-perishable foods. Baby supplies: Diapers (sizes 4-6), pull-ups (all sizes), baby shampoo, baby lotion, diaper rash ointment, and wipes. Donations of cash and Weis or Schlegels's gift cards will also be gladly accepted.

THE AMERICAN RED CROSS will be holding the following blood drives in the Mifflintown area:

- Wednesday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at Central Juniata EMS from 1—7 p.m.
- Monday, May 30<sup>th</sup> at Messiah Lutheran Church from 9 a.m.—1 p.m.
- Tuesday, May 31<sup>st</sup> at the Bridges at Brookline from 11 a.m.—4 p.m.

Individuals who are in general good health, are age 17 or older, and weigh at least 110 pounds are eligible to donate blood. The need for blood never diminishes because it is a perishable medicine. To schedule an appointment call 1-800 Red Cross. Individuals should bring their Red Cross donor cards, photo ID, or two other forms of identification to the donor site.

NURSE'S NOTES – Allergic rhinitis [runny nose] include the 'allergic salute,' a common habit of children which consists of rubbing their nose upward. This is usually because the nose is itchy and this practice can lead to a small crease in the skin of the lower part of the nose. Children with allergic rhinitis also commonly have 'allergic shiners,' which are dark circles under the eyes caused by nasal congestion. ([www.pediatrics.about.com/spring/a/springallergy.htm](http://www.pediatrics.about.com/spring/a/springallergy.htm).)

**THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH**

- Today:** -9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Catechetical Class.  
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Jr. Church.  
-7 p.m., PPC meeting.
- Monday:** -NEWSLETTER DEADLINE.  
-6:30 p.m., Property Committee meeting in choir room.  
-8 p.m., AA meeting.
- Wednesday:** -7 p.m., Choir rehearsal.
- Friday:** -7 p.m., Square Dancing in Fellowship Hall.
- Sunday:** -9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Catechetical Class.  
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Jr. Church.