

THE MESSIAH HERALD



MAY, 2011

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

3 SOUTH THIRD STREET
MIFFLINTOWN, PA 17059
(717)-436-6213
www.mlcmifflintown.org
mlcmifflintown@pa.net

THE REV. WILLIAM N. ESBORN, PASTOR

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

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

The Messiah Herald



As we draw to a close our study of a Purpose Driven Life we come to the last two purposes, Service and Mission.

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But most clear of all is the story in the Gospel of John chapter 13 during the Passover where Jesus takes it upon himself to act in the role of a humble servant washing the feet of the disciples

To be a servant of God is to be a servant of all and to bear the responsibility of serving as a central purpose in life.

All around us in life there are people who are hurting and struggling and who are in need of God’s love.

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we draw to a close our study of a Purpose Driven Life we come to the last two purposes, Service and Mission.

That service is at the heart of Christian life is seen throughout scripture. In the Old Testament and the new God’s people are pointed towards caring for others and the world as a core purpose in life. The law of God taught the people practices of gleaning in the fields to leave food for the poor and hungry. Judgment came on the people of God when they did not secure true justice in the city gates (Isaiah 29:16ff). Micah encourages God’s people to “act justly, love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.” (Micah 6:8) Jesus taught the parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10), told the rich young man to sell all his possessions and give everything to the poor (Luke 18), and that even a cup of cool water given to the thirsty brings a blessing for the giver (Matthew 25). But most clear of all is the story in the Gospel of John chapter 13 during the Passover where Jesus takes it upon himself to act in the role of a humble servant washing the feet of the disciples. Jesus turns us from words of judgment for failing to love justice and neighbor and turns us to a example of what serving means, humbleness. To be a servant of God is to be a servant of all and to bear the responsibility of serving as a central purpose in life. Truth is that these passages only scratch the surface of the examples we have in scripture about being servants of God and neighbor. We are empowered to serve in the name of God. God equipped Paul for his ministry to the Gentiles. So, too, God equips us for service.

Along with this purpose of serving or servanthood is the final purpose of Mission. The people of God are a people born with and sent on a mission. “Go you therefore into all the world making disciples of all nations, baptizing them and teaching them all that I have commanded you.” Yes, we are a people sent on a mission. We are not sent on this mission empty handed. We have been taught by the living Word of God in Jesus Christ. We have received his living example of a life of service and purpose. Central to this mission of service is to love others with the love we have received from God. The first principle of this mission is **concern**. Our mission is to love and serve others. It has been said that people do not care what you know until they know that you care. The second principle is having **faith** in Christ and faith that we can make a difference. This leads us not to sit on our hands and hope something different happens, instead it leads us into the principle of **action**. We act in the lives of others bringing Christ’s love to them. Our mission is to love the world and our neighbor near and far because God has loved the world and us. Finally, the last principle is to be **persistent**, to be steadfast in loving them as God has loved us. Our mission of service is marked by these things **Concern, Faith, Action, and Persistence**.

All around us in life there are people who are hurting and struggling and who are in need of God’s love. Are you the one God is sending to them? Pray about it; ask God what you are to do about the need you see. Listen to God’s voice and you will find everything you need to grow your service to God and your neighbor.

Worship, Fellowship, Discipleship, Service, and Mission these are the purposes God has given you in life. You are important because God has created you for these things.

Each week filled with God’s grace in our **worship** and through Word and sacrament and strengthened in our **fellowship** we are sent out as **disciples** on a **mission** as the closing words ring in our ears, “Go in peace and **serve** the Lord.”

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Bill

DAILY HOME BIBLE READINGS

May	1: John 20:19-31
May	2: 2 Corinthians 4:1-6
May	3: 1 Corinthians 15:12-20
May	4: 1 Corinthians 15:19-28
May	5: Acts 2:14a, 36-41
May	6: Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19
May	7: 1 Peter 1:17-23
May	8: Luke 24:13-35
May	9: Exodus 24:1-11
May	10: John 21:1-14
May	11: Acts 2:42-47
May	12: Psalm 100
May	13: 1 Peter 2:19-25
May	14: Acts 1:15-26
May	15: John 10:1-10
May	16: Ezekiel 34:17-23
May	17: 1 Peter 5:1-5
May	18: Hebrews 13:20-21
May	19: Acts 7:55-60
May	20: Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16
May	21: 1 Peter 2:2-10
May	22: John 14:1-14
May	23: Acts 7:17-40
May	24: Acts 7:44-56
May	25: Proverbs 3:5-12
May	26: Acts 17:22-31
May	27: Psalm 66:8-20
May	28: 1 Peter 3:13-22
May	29: John 14:15-21
May	30: Psalm 47
May	31: Luke 1:39-57



PRAYER REQUESTS

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.

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

MAY SCHEDULES

LECTORS

1: Ed Beaver
8: Ed Beaver
15: Sam Leister
22: Linda Bahorik
29: Linda Leister

ALTAR GUILD

Apr. 18—May 1	Michelle Stoner
May 2—May 8	Ann Beaver
May 9—May 22	Sandy Pines
May 23—May 29	Linda Leister
May 30—June 5	Ona Stoner

ALTAR FLOWERS

1: In honor of Children's Choir & Leader
8: Fairman Family
15: OPEN
22: OPEN
29: OPEN



Messiah Women of the ELCA met Thursday, April 14, 2011 with Cynthia Smith as devotional leader. Cynthia used the book "Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World" by Joanna Weaver choosing "Worry" as the topic based on Luke 10:41 "Martha, Martha" the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things."

We learned about anxiety, the ongoing burden of worry and fear; born worriers and worthless worry. The Bible tells us not to worry as a command. It is mentioned 25 times in the New Testament. The Bible also tells us more than 350 times to "fear not." Of all that we worry about, only 8% is real problems that can be solved.

Worry short-circuits our relationship with

God. Our eyes are fixed on our own situation. Worry is like a rocking chair—you have something to do, but you don't get anywhere.

Signs of a Big Worrier are:

1. More time is spent in useless nonconstructive worry.
2. People notice how much we worry.
3. Feel that not to worry is bad luck or tempting fate.
4. Worry interferes with work.
5. Worry interferes with relationships.
6. Cannot control unrealistic or exaggerated worry.
7. Overwhelmed physically by worry.
8. Feel a need for reassurance.
9. Feel anxiety about situations that others easily handle.
10. Parents or grandparents were worriers or had anxiety disorder.

Thank you Cynthia.

The business meeting was in charge of Barbara S. Geedey, Leader.

Business discussed:

- Agreed to send Tyson a gift card for his 17th birthday, June 7.
- Day of Learning April 30, 2011, Sharon Lutheran Church, Selinsgrove.
- Synodical Convention – Saturday, July 23, 2011 at Camp Mt. Luther. Theme, “Welcoming the Stranger.” Registration, \$40.00 due by June 18, 2011. See Barb S. Geedey for registration form.
- Annual Women's Retreat – Saturday, September 17, 2011, Evergreen Center at Mt. Luther – 9:45 AM to 2:30 PM. Theme, “Daily Spiritual Life: A Lutheran Women's Perspective.” Cost \$16.95 – registration deadline, September 9, 2011 at 3:00 PM. See Barb S. Geedey for registration form.
- A number of changes have been made by Lutheran World Relief for kits, etc. beginning 2012.

--It was agreed that we will continue with the health and school kits as directed to the end of 2011.

--Our goal for Health Kits is 70. We have 63 towels and washcloths, 44 nail files. May's ingathering will be combs with large teeth.

--Suggestion was made that when quilts are displayed, to attach an envelope to the quilts and ask sponsors for \$2.25 to support shipping costs.

The next meeting will be Thursday, May 12, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the Youth Area with Velma Suloff as devotional leader.

The meeting adjourned with the reading of “The Purpose” of the Women of the ELCA.

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.

REMINDER: 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.

REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS THIS EASTER SEASON

LOCUST GROVE

Jean McNaught (Cottage #5)

Ethel Bossinger Sue Collins
Sis Stetler

BROOKLINE

Flo Beale Virginia Feaster
Marian Gross
Anna Mary Zimmerman

BERRY'S PERSONAL CARE CENTER

Goldie Kauffman Carol Simonton

HONNEMAN HOUSE, THOMPSONTOWN

Ruth Cisney Ray Bramm

ELMCROFT OF REEDSVILLE

Helen Knox

LAKEVIEW SENIOR CARE CENTER, SMETHPORT, PA

Cathryn Renninger

NORTH STREET MANOR

Florence Beasom

AT HOME

Arlene McLain Cassie Smith
Helen Coder Reba Sigler

OTHERS OF CONCERN

--Martha Hicks, Locust Grove (Barb S.
Geedey's Aunt)
--Craig Walker
--Dorothy Patterson (Cindy Van
Gavree's Mother)
--Jane Marhefka, at home
--Fannie King, at home
--Bud Crawford, at Brookline

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

VBS "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.

MEALS-ON-WHEELS

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

SUMMER WORSHIP SERVICES

Summer Worship Services will begin on **June 19, 2011** and end on Sunday, September 4th.

Worship service will begin at 9:15 a.m. with Sunday School class time being determined by the individual classes.

ALTAR GUILD SCHEDULE

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.

LECTOR SCHEDULE

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.



WALK FOR SIGHT

The Pennsylvania Council of the Blind, Carl Shoemaker

Chapter, and Radio Reading Service (formally CARRS), will hold its annual Walk For Sight Walkathon on Saturday, May 7, 2011 beginning at 9:30 a.m. Walk will be a state-wide Walkathon again this year and will be a distance of approximately 6 miles.

Registration will be from 9:00 to 9:30 a.m. Walk will begin at Messiah Lutheran Church and end at Pennwood Development. Prizes will be awarded and refreshments will be provided. Children under the age of 10 must be accompanied by an adult. Your support for this annual event would be greatly appreciated.

To obtain a sign-up sheet or for more information, call Geraldine Zeigler at 436-2746.

A LITTLE HUMOR TO BRIGHTEN YOUR DAY!

Four brothers left home for college, and they became successful doctors and lawyers and they prospered.

Some years later, they chatted after having dinner together. They discussed the gifts they were able to give their elderly mother who lived far away in another city.

The first said, "I had a big house built for Mama." The second said, "I bought Mama a Mercedes so she can drive to the grocery store." The third said, "I had a hundred thousand dollar theater built in the house." The fourth said, "you know how Mama loved reading the Bible and you know she can't read anymore because she can't see very well.

I met this preacher who told me about a parrot that can recite the entire Bible. It took 20 preachers 12 years to teach him. I had to pledge to contribute \$100,00 a year for twenty years to the church, but it was worth it. Mama just has to name the chapter and verse and the parrot will recite it."

The older brothers were impressed.

After the holidays Mom sent out her Thank You notes. She wrote: "Milton, the house you built is so huge. I live in only one room, but I have to clean the whole house. Thanks anyway."

"Marvin, I am too old to travel. I stay home and I have my groceries delivered, so I never use the Mercedes. The thought was good. Thanks"

"Michael, you gave me an expensive theater with Dolby sound that could hold 50 people, but all my friends are dead, I've lost my hearing, and I'm nearly blind. I'll never use it. Thank you for the gesture just the same."

"Dearest Melvin, you were the only son to have the good sense to give a little thought to your gift. The chicken was delicious. Thank you."

A NUN GRADING PAPERS

Kids were asked questions about the Old and New Testaments. The following statements about the Bible were written by children. They have not been retouched or corrected. Incorrect spelling has been left in. This comes from a Catholic elementary school test.

1. In the first book of the Bible, guinnessis, God got tired of creating the world so he took the Sabbath off.
2. Adam and Eve were created from an apple tree. Noah's wife was Joan of Ark. Noah built an ark and the animals came on in pears.
3. Lots wife was a pillar of salt during the day, but a ball of fire during the night.
4. Sampson was a strongman who let himself be led astray by a jezebel like Delilah.
5. Moses led the Jews to the Red Sea where they made unleavened bread which is bread without any ingredients.
6. The Egyptians were all drowned in the dessert. Afterwards, Moses went up to Mount Cyanide to get the Ten Commandments.
7. Moses died before he ever reached Canada. Then Joshua led the Hebrews in the battle of Geritol.
8. David was a Hebrew King who was skilled at playing the Liar. He fought the Finkelsteins, a race of people who lived in Biblical times.
9. The people who followed the Lord were called the 12 Decibels.
10. The Epistles were the wives of the Apostles.

(W)HOLY, (W)HOLY, (W)HOLY

Health Healing & Wholeness Article

May 2011

Too much of a good thing can actually be bad for you. Just ask the Hebrews about that trip out of Egypt (Read Exodus 16 & Numbers 11)!

On March 25, 2011, CBS affiliates began running a story regarding the emergence of yet another "superbug," known as CRKP. CRKP bacteria have been identified in 356 cases in LA County, California. As with several superbugs it began hitting nursing homes and hospitals, appearing in those patients on respirators and ventilators and in some patients with surgical wounds. It has been estimated that death can occur in approximately 40% of all cases.

CRKP now joins the ranks of other superbugs, such as: MRSA, Streptococcus pneumoniae, C.diff, VRE, Mycobacterium tuberculosis and Neisseria gonorrhoea, which have mutated/changed to such a degree that traditional antibiotics are no longer effective in treating these infections. How has this happened? Some antibiotics have been used so frequently and widely, that these organisms have 'adapted' to them, making the antibiotic much less or in some cases, totally in-effective. When antibiotics no longer work, the consequences include longer lasting illness, more office visits, extended hospital stays, and a need for increasingly expensive and sometimes toxic medications.

How do we combat the problem? As in any situation in which there is a potential for infection, prevention is key.

1. Do not visit friends and loved ones in the hospital or extended care facility if you are ill.
2. Watch for signs posted on the patient's door regarding the use of gowns and gloves. Gowning and gloving are meant to provide self-

protection as well as prevent the patient from acquiring infection.

3. Wash your hands before and after your visit, or use the alcohol-based hand cleaner (Note: if using alcohol-based products, be sure the gel has dried before putting on gloves – alcohol can cause breakdown of the gloves).
4. Avoid overuse – do not demand antibiotics from your physician (Upper respiratory infections account for 75% of all antibiotics prescribed by office-based physicians).
5. Do not hoard antibiotics that have been discontinued. The medication can break down, and lose effectiveness, allowing the bacteria to build a resistance.
6. Do not share antibiotics – the problem is compounded when the incorrect antibiotic is used to self-treat.
7. Follow all medication directions. Typically a physician will write a prescription that requires you to take all of the medication unless informed otherwise. Ending treatment too early, may allow some of the bacteria to survive and re-infect.

Two controversial areas of concern which require further study, include:

1. The widespread use of antibacterial soaps and lotions, and
2. The agricultural use of antibiotics in livestock and fowl.

When Alexander Fleming discovered Penicillin in 1928 he ushered in a revolution, which saved the lives of countless people, and changed medicine forever. It is now up to us to be responsible stewards of the life-saving antibiotics that have been developed in the interim.

Spring Blessings,
Debbie Best, RN, FCN, BSW, MAH

Juniata County Food Pantry May Update

In March 2011, the Food Pantry served 246 families in need – a total of 682 individuals.

Many thanks to our faithful churches who supported us with donations of food, supplies and money in March. A special thank you to Lower Tuscarora Presbyterian for providing volunteers for the month of March.

Mifflin Agway will again support the Food Pantry on May 20-21 by donating 5% of all sales (excluding delivery sales) to the Food Pantry if the customer mentions the Food Pantry.

Wish list: 2 office/desk chairs and 4-6 waiting room chairs in good condition; 14 ft box truck in good running condition; propane-powered forklift w/2000 lb lift capacity.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS FOR MAY

:

ANY NON-PERISHABLE FOODS

**BABY SUPPLIES: DIAPERS (SIZES 4-6), PULL-UPS IN ALL SIZES,
BABY SHAMPOO, BABY LOTION, DIAPER RASH
OINTMENT, AND WIPES**

**WE ALSO GLADLY ACCEPT DONATIONS OF CASH
AND WEIS OR SCHLEGELS'S GIFT CARDS**

PHONE # 717-436-9718

CONTACT PERSON: Kathy Queitzsch

ADDRESS: PO Box 44, 114 N. Main St, Mifflintown, PA 17059

HOURS: Monday 1:00-4:00 PM,

Tuesday and Thursday 3:00 – 6:00 PM

Saturday 10:00 AM– 1:00 PM