

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
Robert St. Clair
Carole Nace
Ron Yorks
Linda Leister
Andrea Cameron

Pastor
Choir Director
Organist
Organist
Lector
Altar Guild
Lay Assistant

THANKOFFERING SERVICE November 14, 2010 – 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., Kevin R., Mary Martha G., Sara D., Avonel and Rick W., Dorothy S., Fred T., Sam Z., Mac M., Sam L., Simon W., and Norman G.

PREPARATION

CHIMES: CALL TO WORSHIP

MEDITATION AND PRAYER

PRELUDE

“God Will Take Care of You”

Martin

[A Time for Meditation and Prayer]

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SERVICE

* ENTRANCE HYMN

“Listen, God is Calling”

Tanzanian Traditional

* GREETING

WL: May the hope to which God has called you, the power of God at work in Christ, and the Spirit of wisdom and revelation be with you all.

C: And also with you.

* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

WL: Lord of all creation, you order the seasons, blessing us with soil and seed, sowing and harvest, sunshine and rain. You bless us with all good gifts, including your own breath of life. We rejoice and praise you for your grace in Jesus, who at this end of all the ages, sowed in us the promise of salvation that through your Holy Spirit we may be thankful in all things and a constant sign of your kingdom.

C: Amen

* SHARING OF THE PEACE

WL: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Congregational sharing **“Peace be with you.”**

(BE SEATED)

FIRST READING: Zechariah 8:14-17

The First Lesson is from the 8th chapter of Zechariah.

THE LESSON READS:

Just as I determined to punish you when your fathers provoked me to wrath, and I would not relent, says the Lord of hosts. So again in these days I am determined to do good to Jerusalem and to the house of Judah. Do not fear. These are the things you shall do; speak each man the truth to his *neighbor*; give judgement to your gates for truth, justice, and peace. Let none of you think evil in your heart against your *neighbor*, and do not love a false oath. For all these are things I hate, says the Lord of hosts.

Lector: Here ends the reading.

Congre: **“Thanks be to God.”**

PSALM: 100

L: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all you lands!

C: Serve the Lord with gladness;

L: come before His presence with singing,

C: know that the Lord, He is God,

L: it is He who had made us, and not we ourselves.

C: We are His people and the sheep of His pasture.

SECOND READING: Galatians 5:13-14

The Second Lesson is from the 5th chapter of Galatians

THE LESSON READS:

For you brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. For all the law is fulfilled in one word *even* in this ‘You shall love your *neighbor* as yourself.’

Lector: Here ends the reading.

Congre: **“Thanks be to God.”**

* GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (sung)

Al-le-lu-ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? Al-le-lu-ia. You have the words of e-ter-nal life. Al-le-lu—ia, al-le-lu—ia.

* GOSPEL: Luke 10:25-37

WL: The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 10th chapter

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.** (spoken)

THE GOSPEL READS:

And behold, a certain lawyer stood up and tested Him, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? What is your reading of it?" So he answered and said, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your *neighbor* as yourself." And He said to him "You have answered rightly; do this and you will live." But he, wanting to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my *neighbor*?"

Then Jesus answered and said: "A certain *man* went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves; who stripped him of his clothing; wounded *him* and departed, leaving *him* half dead. Now by chance, a certain priest came down the road. And when he saw him, he passed on the other side. Likewise a Levite, when he arrived at the place, came and looked, and passed by on the other side. But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was. And when he saw him, he had compassion. So he went to *him*, and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; and set him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. On the next day, when he departed, he took out two denarii, gave *them* to the innkeeper, and said to him, 'Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, when I come again, I will repay you.' So which of these three do you think was *neighbor* to him who fell among thieves?" And he said "He who showed mercy on him." Then Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

WL: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.** (spoken)

HOMILY

The St. Stephen's Tanzanian Travelers

* HYMN OF THE DAY "In Christ There Is No East Or West"
African-American Spiritual

* APOSTLES' CREED

WL: Let us confess our faith with the Apostles' Creed:

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

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

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,**

**the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen**

(BE SEATED)

OFFERING

The Women of the ELCA's Thankofferings show gratitude for God's blessings and support our partnership with God in making Christ known to all the world. We are called to offer with joy and thanksgiving what God has first given us.

(THE LOOSE OFFERING WILL BE GIVEN TO THE MESSIAH WOMEN OF THE ELCA AND ALONG WITH THE THANKOFFERING ENVELOPES, WILL BE SENT TO THE WOMEN OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA).

OFFERTORY "Let Us Break Bread Together" Spiritual
[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 "We Have Seen the Lord" Tanzanian Traditional
* SUNG OFFERTORY "DOXOLOGY"

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'n-ly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

* OFFERTORY PRAYER

WL: Let us pray:

C: Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love; in the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

* CALL TO PRAYER "Your Will Be Done" Choir
South African Traditional

* PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

WL: Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful Father, from whom comes every good and perfect gift: we give you praise and hearty thanks for all your mercies. For your goodness that has created us, your bounty that has sustained us, your fatherly discipline that has chastised and corrected us, your patience that has been with us, and your love that has redeemed us, we praise you, O God.

Holy God, uphold those whose burdens are heavy this day. Hear our prayers for those who are living with physical, mental, emotional, or spiritual ills, especially (all of our shut-ins [both at home and in nursing homes], Kevin Reynolds, Mary Martha Gilbert, Sara Dressler, Avonel and Rick Waller, Dorothy Swab, Fred Towsey, Sam Zeiders, Ray Bramm, Mac McLaughlin, Sam Leister, Simon Williams, and Norman Gloss, Jr.). We pray that they may know your unfailing love.

Grant unto us, with all your gifts, a heart to love and praise you; and enable us to show our thankfulness for all your benefits by giving ourselves to your service, and cheerfully conforming in all things to your blessed will.

C: Amen

* BLESSING

WL: Almighty God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

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

- * CLOSING HYMN “Jesu, Jesu Fill Us With Your Love”
South African Traditional

MEAL

* COMMUNION DIALOGUE (From Isaiah 55)

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord.

C: for through these gifts he comes to feed us.

P: All you who are thirsty, come to the waters. You who have no money, come, receive bread and eat.

C: Come, without paying and without cost, drink wine and eat.

P: Let us come to his table with joy,

C: for we come as God’s invited guests!

* EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth. In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, that all those who believe in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ.

Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his holy supper.

C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

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 and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. 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.

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 and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you to use your life as a witness to God's grace.

C: Amen

* PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Let us pray.

C: O God, we give you thanks that you have set before us this feast, the body and blood of your Son. By your Spirit strengthen us to serve all in need and to give ourselves as bread for the hungry, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

* DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Christ is with you.

C: Thanks be to God!

CHIMES

POSTLUDE

"Joy and Praise"

Rand

NEXT WEEK'S LECTOR – Linda Dreibelbis

NEXT WEEK'S ALTAR GUILD – Linda Dreibelbis

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

TODAY IS OUR ANNUAL THANKOFFERING CELEBRATION – A special thanks to the Messiah Women of the ELCA and to Margaret Guss for organizing our worship service and to all who participated. All loose offering received plus all the Thankoffering envelopes (that were included in your November newsletter) will go to the Churchwide Women of the ELCA for their many projects. None of the money is kept locally. Additional envelopes are available on the table in the Adult Sunday School Room. Please make checks payable to “Messiah Women of the ELCA.” Thank you for your generosity.

WE WELCOME OUR GUEST SPEAKERS from St. Stephen’s Lutheran Church who will be speaking on their trip to Tanzania.

THIS MORNING WE ARE LED IN WORSHIP by Andrea Cameron, an Authorized Lay Worship Leader of the Upper Susquehanna Synod. Authorized Lay Worship Leader persons have received extensive training so as to provide worship leadership and preaching, and also have been authorized by the Bishop of the Synod to preside at the Lord’s Table in specific situations. This is a ministry of the ELCA recognizing the mission need of the church for today and the future. We welcome Andrea as our worship leader today and pray God’s blessing on her as she ministers to us today.

ALTAR FLOWERS are presented to the Glory of God and in loving memory of husband and father, Richard Stetler, Sr., by wife and children.

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 – C.S. Lewis, Oxford Professor, Christian Writer and self-made Theologian: “...every man can be quite sure that every kind of (good) act he does will be accepted by Christ.”

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

CHURCH ORGANIST is needed for weekly services, beginning January 1, 2011, at Messiah Lutheran Church. Wednesday evening choir rehearsal, except during summer months. Allen Digital Electric Organ and Kurzweil Electronic Keyboard. Candidates should contact Bob St. Clair at stclairb@embarqmail.com or at 436-0279 between 5 p.m. and 9 p.m. for information, including salary. Position is for fulltime employment. Additional information about the church and congregation can be found at www.mlcniplintown.org.

PASTOR ESBORN WILL BE AWAY from Thursday, November 11 through Thursday, November 18. If you need a pastor during that time, please contact Pastor Chris Mathiason at 463-2490.

RECEIVED IN STAINED GLASS FUND on Sunday, November 7, 2010: \$1,170.00. Total received in fund to date: \$49,075.00.

CAN TREE – Donations of gallon-size canned food is again being collected this year, now through December, for the “can tree” in the Adult Sunday School Room to benefit Bethesda Mission. Everyone is encouraged to donate as many cans as you are able. Cans will be delivered to Bethesda Mission later in December.

POINSETTIAS to decorate the church for Christmas may be placed in honor or in memory of someone, or to the Glory of God. The cost is \$7.50 for a 6 & ½” plant with 3 to 4 blooms. You may order by calling the church office at 436-6213. Please order no later than December 15th.

MEETINGS AND EVENTS

SAVE THE DATE: On Sunday, December 5, 2010 at 2:00 p.m. ALL the youth of the church are invited to attend a holiday activity full of fun and the spirit of giving. We will be baking cookies and packing “trail mix” in gift bags. Pizza will be served followed by caroling and delivering cookies. Please mark your calendars now and plan to join us here at Messiah.

THE NEXT VOTERS’ ASSEMBLY MEETING will be held on Sunday, November 21, 2010 following the morning worship service. Business: vote on 2011 budget. NOTE: Copies of the proposed 2011 budget are available in the Adult Sunday School Room.

THE PROPERTY COMMITTEE will meet November 22, 2010 (fourth Monday) in the Choir Room at 6:30 p.m. This meeting is extremely important; please attend if you can. We will not meet in December.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Today, Messiah Fall Fest in Fellowship Hall following Thankoffering Service.

November 20, Men’s Prayer Breakfast at Stop 35.

November 21, Community Thanksgiving Service at Westminster Presbyterian Church with Pastor Gay Irwin preaching.

November 28, Light lunch after worship service, prepared by the Fellowship Committee. Decorating of the church following lunch.

December 5, Youth holiday activity day at 2 p.m.

December 9, WELCA Christmas Festival at 7 p.m. in the Youth Area.

December 11, Men’s Prayer Breakfast at Stop 35.

December 12, “Hanging of the Greens” Service at 10:30 a.m.

December 19, Children’s Sunday School Christmas Program at 9:15 a.m.

December 19, Christmas Cantata at 2 p.m. at Juniata High School.

December 24, 7 p.m., Family/Youth Service; 9:30 p.m., Prelude Concert with Louis Lynch; 10 p.m., Candlelight/Communion Service.

January 8, Undecorating the church.

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.

CHRISTMAS ANGEL PROJECT – A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the kitchenette with names and sizes of the children for the Women of the ELCA Christmas Angel Project for those who wish to participate. Please have gifts wrapped and delivered to the church by early December. Include the child's name and family number on the outside of the box.

COMMUNITY

FOOD PANTRY needs for November: All Non-Perishable Foods. Paper products: toilet paper, facial tissues, and paper towels. We also need plastic and paper grocery bags. Since the Food Pantry is in great need of non-food items for needy families, your unused coupons would be appreciated.

COMMUNITY CHORUS REHEARSALS will be held on the following dates from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. in the Juniata High School music room. *(Even if you cannot attend all of the rehearsals, please don't hesitate to join the group.*

Tuesday, November 16

Monday, November 22

Tuesday, December 7

Monday, December 13

This year's 14th annual Christmas Cantata performance "*A Light Still Shines*" will be held Sunday, December 19, 2010 at 2:00 p.m. in the auditorium of Juniata High School.

BELL RINGERS ARE NEEDED for the Juniata County Salvation Army at Mexico Market and Schlegel's Store during weekdays and evenings, Monday through Friday. Individuals, Sunday School classes, or youth groups who are willing to help may call Sylvia Kepner at 527-2386 or Dena Wagner at 436-9699.

THE TEN THOUSAND VILLAGES' International Gifts Festival will be held at Cedar Grove Brethren In Christ Church on Friday, November 19 from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday, November 20 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Invest in the world. Shop fair trade. Discover unique home décor, musical instruments and jewelry at the festival. Your participation in this sale will help skilled artisans in 32 countries receive a fair price for their products. Featured items include hand loomed textiles, pottery, jewelry, baskets, toys and a variety of nativities and Christmas decorations. Ten Thousand Villages is a non-profit fair trade organization based in Akron, PA. For more information contact Deb Richmond at 717-348-6364 or debrichmond@nmax.net.

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

- Today:** -Thankoffering Service
-9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Catechetical Class.
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Jr. Church.
-11:30 a.m., Fall Fest in Fellowship Hall following worship service.
- Monday:** -NEWSLETTER DEADLINE.
-7 p.m., Bible Study.
-8 p.m., AA meeting.
- Tuesday:** -9 a.m., “The Needlers” in Fellowship Hall.
-7 p.m., Community Chorus rehearsal at JHS.
- Wednesday:** -7 p.m., Choir rehearsal.
-4-h Puppy Club in Fellowship Hall.
- Thursday:** -1 p.m., Dulcimer rehearsal in Fellowship Hall.
- Friday:** -7 p.m., Square Dancing in Fellowship Hall.
- Saturday:** -7 a.m., Men’s Prayer Breakfast at Stop 35.
- Sunday:** -Christ the King.
-9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Catechetical Class.
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Jr. Church.
-11:30 a.m., Voters’ Assembly.
-3 p.m., Quiet Communion.
-7 p.m., Community Thanksgiving Service at Westminster Presbyterian Church.