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
Linda Dreibelbis
Linda Dreibelbis

Pastor Choir Director Organist Organist Lector Altar Guild

Christ The King November 21, 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., Ray Bramm, Mac M., Simon W., Paul W., Bob C., and Norman G.

PREPARATION

CHIMES: CALL TO WORSHIP MEDITATION AND PRAYER

PRELUDE "Chorus of Thanks"

Elvev

[A Time for Meditation and Prayer]
GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTRODUCTION

Jeremiah's promise of the execution of "justice and righteousness in the land" finds ironic fulfillment in the execution of Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews. It appears so utterly contradictory that the king should be crucified with the criminal. This victory appears for all the world as ignominious defeat. Yet through the gate of death our Lord opens the door to paradise.

DEDICATION OF RESTORED CHAIRS

- CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS
 - P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C Amen

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God, the whole company of heaven, and our sisters and brothers in this community.

Silence is kept for reflection

- P Holy and gracious God,
- C we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. We have lived only for the present, without regard for generations to come. We have sought the realms of this world, rather than your promised reign of justice and peace. Have mercy on us, forgive our sins, and bring us to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
- P How blessed are those whose sins are forgiven. In the mercy of almighty God, I announce to you the entire forgiveness of your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen

GATHERING

- * ENTRANCE HYMN "My Song Is Love Unknown"
- * GREETING
 - P Beloved of God, called to be saints: Grace, mercy, and peace be with you all.
 - C And also with you.
- * KYRIE (sung)
 - P In peace, let us pray to the Lord.
 - C Lord, have mer-cy.
 - P For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
 - C Lord, have mer-cy.
 - 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 mer-cy.
 - P For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.
 - C Lord, have mer-cy.
 - P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra-cious Lord.
 - C A men
- * HYMN OF PRAISE (sung)
 - I All Women
 - II All Men

Bold print - All Congregation

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

- Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo-ple of God. This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.
- Il Pow-er, rich-es, wis-dom, and strength, and hon-or, bless-ing, and glo-ry are his. This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. 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.
 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.

 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 al-so with you.
- * PRAYER OF THE DAY (spoken in unison)
 - P Let us pray...
 - C O God, our true life, to serve you is freedom, and to know you is unending joy. We worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you for your great glory. Abide with us, reign in us, and make this world into a fit habitation for your divine majesty, 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 builds on the common ancient Near Eastern metaphor of the king as shepherd. Judah's unjust rulers have caused their people, their "flock," to be scattered. Nevertheless, the Lord will raise up a new and righteous shepherd who will rule a restored Judah.

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 23:1-6

The First Lesson is from the 23rd chapter of Jeremiah.

THE LESSON READS:

Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD. ²Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD. ³Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. ⁴I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD.

⁵The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

Lector: Here ends the reading.

Cong: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 46

Ps. – Intoned by Cantor

R – Sung by congregation (Re - joice, the Lord is King! Re-joice, a – gain I say, re – joice!)

God is our ref- | uge and strength, a very present | help in trouble.

²Therefore we will not fear, though the | earth be moved, and though the mountains shake in the depths | of the sea;

3though its waters | rage and foam, and though the mountains tremble | with its tumult.

⁴There is a river whose streams make glad the cit- | y of God, the holy habitation of | the Most High.

⁵God is in the midst of the city; it shall | not be shaken; God shall help it at the | break of day.

⁶The nations rage, and the | kingdoms shake; God speaks, and the earth | melts away. R

⁷The LORD of | hosts is with us; the God of Jacob | is our stronghold.

⁸Come now, regard the works | of the LORD, what desolations God has brought up- | on the earth;

⁹behold the one who makes war to cease in | all the world; who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the | shields with fire.

¹⁰"Be still, then, and know that | I am God; I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted | in the earth."

11The LORD of 1 hosts is with us; the God of Jacob 1 is our stronghold. R

An early Christian hymn praises the mystery of the political, personal, and mystical Christ, the one who was present at creation and is eternally reigning with God.

SECOND READING: Ephesians Colossians 1:11-20

The Second Lesson is from the 1st chapter of Colossians.

THE LESSON READS:

May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully ¹²giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

¹⁵He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; ¹⁶for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

Lector: Here ends the reading.

Cong: Thanks be to God.

* THE VERSE (intoned by Choir) Alleluia. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end. Alleluia. [Revelation 22:13]

In echoes of the prophet Isaiah and Mary's song of praise, Jesus reveals surprising things about who enjoys blessing and who endures woe. He invites his disciples to shower radical love, blessing, forgiveness, generosity, and trust, even to enemies and outsiders.

- * GOSPEL: Luke 23:33-43
 - P The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 23rd chapter.
 - C Glo ry to you, O Lord. (sung)

THE GOSPEL READS:

When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. ³⁴Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots to divide his clothing. ³⁵And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" ³⁶The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, ³⁷and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" ³⁸There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

³⁹One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" ⁴⁰But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? ⁴¹And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." ⁴²Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." ⁴³He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

- P The Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to you, O Christ. (sung)

SERMON Pastor Esborn

- ' HYMN OF THE DAY "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!"
- * NICENE CREED (all)
 - We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.
 - We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.
 - Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.
 - On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
 - He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.
 - We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen

* PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P In communion with the holy ones of every time and place, let us pray for the church on earth, the stewardship of creation, and all in need.

A brief silence.

P Gather your people, Good Shepherd, and unite your church, that with one voice we might proclaim that you alone are God. Give courage to the faithful who struggle against the power of darkness. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Restore your creation, Living One, and hold all things together in divine harmony, for you are the stronghold of every creature, and apart from your love the earth melts away. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Reconcile your world, blessed Peacemaker. Break the weapons of our hatred and make an end to war. We pray for the wounded in body and mind, for anxious and grieving families, and for our enemies. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Give refuge to the suffering, ever-present Helper, that they may endure in hope, trusting that you reign from the cross. Heal the sick, comfort the grieving, rescue those in danger, and calm the fearful (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, Ray Bramm, Sam Zeiders, Mac McLaughlin, Simon Williams, Paul Woltman, Bob Cameron and Norman Gloss, Jr.). Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Strengthen this assembly in mission, that with patience and perserverance we may work according to your will, praying with confidence that you will establish the fullness of your kingdom on earth. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P Remember us in your kingdom, crucified and risen Lord, so that with all who are born anew from death, we may, by the power of the Spirit, dwell forever in the paradise of God. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P You are the hope of all creation, merciful God, and we lift our prayers to you, trusting in the name that is above every name, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

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."

OFFERING

OFFERTORY "Amazing Grace" Early American Melody

[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 Choir

* 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 God of our salvation, your faithfulness extends from generation to generation. Reveive these gifts, signs of your gracious love, give us a foretaste of the feast to come, and lead us to the eternal banquet of Jesus Christ our 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 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 Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal: you we praise and glorify, you we worship and adore.

You formed the earth from chaos; you encircled the globe with air; you created fire for warmth and light; you nourish the lands with water. You molded us in your image, and with mercy higher than the mountains, with grace deeper than the seas, you blessed the Israelites and cherished them as your own.

That also we, estranged and dying, might be adopted to live in your Spirit, you called to us through the life and death of Jesus.

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.

Together as the body of Christ, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

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

- P With this bread and cup we remember your Son, the first-born of your new creation. We remember his life lived for others, and his death and resurrection, which renews the face of the earth. We await his coming, when, with the world made perfect through your wisdom, all our sins and sorrows will be no more.
- C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.
- P Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and compassionate, send upon us and this meal your Holy Spirit, whose breath revives us for life, whose fire rouses us to love. Enfold in your arms all who share this holy food. Nurture in us the fruits of the Spirit, that we may be a living tree, sharing your bounty with all the world.
- C Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.
- P Holy and benevolent God, receive our praise and petitions, as Jesus received the cry of the needy, and fill us with your blessing, until, needy no longer and bound to you in love, we feast forever in the triumph of the Lamb: through whom all glory and honor is yours, O God, O Living One, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, 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 Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.
- * 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 Remember us, and all the faithful, when you come into your kingdom, O Lord. As you have fed us with holy food and drink, send us into the world to live as your holy people, until we come to the full vision of your glory, for you are Lord, now and forever.
 - C Amen

SENDING

- * BLESSING
 - P The church is surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses. May you find strength and courage in their presence.
 - Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.
 - C A-men, A-men, A-men (sung)
- * CLOSING HYMN "Jesus, Remember Me"
- * DISMISSAL
 - P Go in peace. Christ is with you. C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE "O Sing Unto God" Moore

NEXT WEEK'S LECTOR – Diana Wise NEXT WEEK'S ALTAR GUILD – Diana Wise

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.

ALTAR FLOWERS are presented to the Glory of God and in memory of Edie Switzer by Nancy Peters.

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 <u>THURSDAY NOON</u>. DIAL-A-PRAYER (436-2100) IS AVAILABLE 24 HOURS DAILY!

JUST A THOUGHT – Dr. Jerry Settser, Contemporary Professor and Author: "History happened as it did because someone prayed. History will take a different course tomorrow because someone is praying now."

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.mlcmifflintown.org.

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 & $\frac{1}{2}$ " plant with 3 to 4 blooms. You may order by calling the church office at 436-6213. Please order no later than December 15th.

BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS: November 25, Marina Holderman, Malin Kint; November 28, Stephanie Duncan.

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 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:

<u>November 21</u>, 7 p.m., Community Thanksgiving Service at Westminster Presbyterian Church with Pastor Gay Irwin preaching.

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

<u>December 5</u>, Youth holiday activity day at 2 p.m.

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

<u>December 11</u>, 7 a.m., Men's Prayer Breakfast at Stop 35.

<u>December 12</u>, "Hanging of the Greens" Service at 10:30 a.m.

<u>December 19</u>, Children's Sunday School Christmas Program at 9:15 a.m.

<u>December 19</u>, Christmas Cantata at 2 p.m. at Juniata High School.

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

<u>January 8</u>, 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.

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.

A LIVE NATIVITY will be presented on Saturday, December 11, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. at Maple Grove Sunday School in Licking Creek Valley. Refreshments will be served following the presentation. All are welcome to attend.

THANK YOU: "I would like to thank the family of Messiah Lutheran Church for the cards and well wishes following my recent shoulder surgery. I also extend a big thank you to Pastor Esborn for his hospital and home visits."

Sam Leister

THANK YOU: "On behalf of the American Red Cross and the patients we serve, I would like to thank Messiah Lutheran Church for sponsoring the blood drive on October 22, 2010. Through your dedication, we were able to collect 20 productive pints of blood with 23 individuals who donated. Those blood donations have the potential to save 60 hospital patients who rely on our combined efforts for life-saving blood. It is only through the support of groups like yours that we are able to continue this life-saving endeavor. Again, thank you for your support of the Red Cross blood program and thanks to those who participated in the drive who are silent hometown heroes."

Steve Campbell, DRD Field Representative

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

Today: -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. Business: vote on proposed 2011 budget.

-3 p.m., Quiet Communion.

-7 p.m., Community Thanksgiving Service at Westminster Presbyterian

Church.

Monday: -6:30 p.m., Property Committee meeting.

-7 p.m., Community Chorus rehearsal at JHS.

-8 p.m., AA meeting.

Tuesday: -9 a.m., "The Needlers" in Fellowship Hall.

Thursday: -OFFICE CLOSED FOR THANKSGIVING.

Friday: -4 p.m., Fellowship Hall reserved.

Sunday: -First Sunday in Advent.

-Food Pantry Sunday.

-9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Catechetical Class. -10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Jr. Church.

-11:30 a.m. Light lunch in Fellowship Hall followed by church decorating.