

# Messiah Lutheran Church

3 South Third Street  
Mifflintown, PA 17059

Church Office / 436-6213 Dial-A-Prayer / 436-2100

The Reverend William N. Esborn  
June Bricker  
Andrea Cameron  
Andrea Cameron  
Michelle Stoner  
Jared Hutchinson & Ty Kepler

Pastor  
Organist  
Choir Director  
Lector  
Altar Guild  
Acolytes

## TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST November 16, 2014 – 10:30 a.m.

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

### PEOPLE TO REMEMBER IN PRAYER TODAY

**SHUT-INS:** Marian G., Reba S., Kitty W., Flo B., Ethel B., Jean M., Helen K., Sis S., Jane M., Fay M., Dorothy P., Ruth C., Ray B.

**OTHERS:** Sarah S., Rick W., Avonel W., Jesse K., Jim W., Ed F., Jackie A., Sara Ann A., Sarah D., Heidi W., Layton J., Allison S., Miriam B., Dorothy M., Charlene A., Kelly Y., Dave P., Ralph G.

### PREPARATION

CHIMES: CALL TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE:

*[A Time for Meditation and Prayer]*

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTRODUCTION

*Our readings during November speak of the end times. Zephaniah proclaims that the coming day of the Lord will be filled with wrath and distress. Paul says it will come like a thief in the night and urges us to be awake and sober. Jesus tells the parable of the talents, calling us to use our gifts, while we still have time, for the greater and common good. In a world filled with violence and despair, we gather around signs of hope—word, water, bread and wine—eager to welcome the good news of Christ's coming among us.*

### \* BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit*

**C Amen**

*P God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that, attentive to your Word, we may confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.*

**C Amen**

*P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.*

*P Gracious God,*

**C have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

*P Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.*

**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 "Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ"

\* GREETING

*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 (sung)

*P Ky-ri-e, e-le-i-son: C Lord, have mer-cy.*

*P Chri-ste, e-le-i-son: C Christ, have mer-cy.*

*P Ky-ri-e, e-le-i-son: C Lord, have mer-cy.*

\* HYMN OF PRAISE (sung)

**Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the highest;  
glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.  
Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we wor-ship you, we  
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.  
Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the highest;  
glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.  
Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take  
a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;  
you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.  
Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the highest;  
glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.  
For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord, you a-lone are the  
Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it, in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther.**

**A-men.**  
**Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the highest;**  
**glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth, and peace**  
**to God's peo-ple on earth.**

\* SALUTATION AND RESPONSE (**spoken**)

*P The Lord be with you*

**C And also with you.**

\* PRAYER OF THE DAY (**spoken in unison**)

*P Let us pray...*

**C Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen**

**WORD**

*Zephaniah (like the prophet Amos in last week's first reading) presents the day of the Lord as one of judgment and wrath. Descriptions of the last day in the New Testament include details taken from Old Testament accounts of the day of the Lord.*

FIRST READING

A reading from Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

THE LESSON READS:

<sup>7</sup>Be silent before the Lord GOD! For the day of the LORD is at hand; the LORD has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests. <sup>12</sup>At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who rest complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts, "The LORD will not do good, nor will he do harm." <sup>13</sup>Their wealth shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them. <sup>14</sup>The great day of the LORD is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter, the warrior cries aloud there. <sup>15</sup>That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, <sup>16</sup>a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements. <sup>17</sup>I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind; because they have sinned against the LORD, their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung. <sup>18</sup>Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the LORD's wrath in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed; for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

Lector: The word of the Lord.

**Congregation: Thanks be to God.** (spoken)

PSALM: Psalm 90:1-8 [9-11] 12 (**Responsively**)

*L – So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts to wisdom. (Ps. 90:12)*

<sup>1</sup>Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to another.

**<sup>2</sup>Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were born, from age to age you are God.**

<sup>3</sup>You turn us back to the dust and say, "Turn back, O children of earth."

**<sup>4</sup>For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past and like a watch in the night;**

<sup>5</sup>you sweep them away like a dream, they fade away suddenly like the grass:

**<sup>6</sup>in the morning it is green and flourishes; in the evening it is dried up and withered.**

<sup>7</sup>For we are consumed by your anger; we are afraid because of your wrath.

**<sup>8</sup>Our iniquities you have set before you, and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.**

[<sup>9</sup>When you are angry, all our days are gone; we bring our years to an end like a sigh.

**<sup>10</sup>The span of our life is seventy years, perhaps in strength even eighty; yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow, for they pass away quickly and we are gone.**

<sup>11</sup>Who regards the power of your wrath? Who rightly fears your indignation?]

**<sup>12</sup>So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.**

**ALL – So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.**

*Though we do not know and cannot calculate the day of Christ's return, we live faithfully in the here and now as we anticipate the day when we will be given eternal salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

## SECOND READING

A reading from 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

### THE LESSON READS:

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. <sup>2</sup>For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. <sup>3</sup>When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! <sup>4</sup>But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; <sup>5</sup>for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. <sup>6</sup>So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; <sup>7</sup>for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. <sup>8</sup>But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. <sup>9</sup>For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>10</sup>who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. <sup>11</sup>Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Lector: The word of the Lord.

**Congregation: Thanks be to God.** (spoken)

\* 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.**

After Jesus begins teaching in the temple, religious leaders try to trap him with questions. First they ask if God's people should pay taxes to an earthly tyrant like Caesar.

\* GOSPEL: Matthew 25:14-30

*P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 25<sup>th</sup> chapter.*

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

THE GOSPEL READS:

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>14</sup>"For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; <sup>15</sup>to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. <sup>16</sup>The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. <sup>17</sup>In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. <sup>18</sup>But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. <sup>19</sup>After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. <sup>20</sup>Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' <sup>21</sup>His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' <sup>22</sup>And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' <sup>23</sup>His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' <sup>24</sup>Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; <sup>25</sup>so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' <sup>26</sup>But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? <sup>27</sup>Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. <sup>28</sup>So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. <sup>29</sup>For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. <sup>30</sup>As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

*P The Gospel of the Lord.*

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

SERMON

Pastor Esborn

\* HYMN OF THE DAY

"When Peace like a River"

\* APOSTLES' CREED ('new version') **(all)**

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

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

**come 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**

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-full, 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, Lord, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.**

\* OFFERING PRAYER

*P Let us pray. Merciful God,*

**C we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

\* PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

*P Remembering the saints who have gone before us and giving thanks for God's blessings, we pray for the church, all in need, and God's good creation.*

*A brief silence.*

*P We pray for the church, that it continues to sow seeds of mercy, love, forgiveness, and joy, even as it anticipates your coming again to bring restoration to the new heaven and earth. Lord, in your mercy,*

**C hear our prayer.**

*P We pray for all creation, for the wonder of climate and tide, of mountains, valleys, rivers, and oceans, that we become better stewards of this bounty. Lord, in your mercy,*

**C hear our prayer.**

*P We pray for all nations, their leaders and governments, that they replace power, pride, greed, and enmity with justice, mercy, reconciliation, and peacemaking. Lord, in your mercy,*

**C hear our prayer.**

*P We pray for the lonely, the disheartened, those who suffer from debilitating illness, those who cannot speak for themselves, and those in any need (especially all of our shut-ins [both at home and in nursing homes], and for Dorothy Patterson, Sarah Shellenberger, Rick Waller, Sr., Avonel Waller, Jesse Kint, Jim Woltman, Ed Forney, Jackie Abate, Jean McNaight, Sara Ann Aurand,*

*Sarah Dressler, Heidi Woltman, Layton Jury, Allison Saner, Miriam Sowers Bolton, Dorothy Milliken, Charlene Aughey, Kelly Yorks, Dave Phelan, and Ralph Goss.*  
Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

*P We pray for our congregation's leaders, that they continue to encourage us and send us out in peace and love to follow your call. Lord, in your mercy,*

**C hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

*P We give thanks for all the saints, for their faithfulness and perseverance in following you, whose examples will bring us closer to you. Lord, in your mercy,*

**C hear our prayer.**

*P Receive our prayers and hopes, Good Shepherd, and bring us safely into all joy and peace, through Christ our Lord.*

**C Amen**

\* THE LORD'S PRAYER ['new version'] **(all)**

*P Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave us:*

**C Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.**

**For the Kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen**

\* BLESSING

*P Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.*

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

\* CLOSING HYMN

"Soon and Very Soon"

**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 Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory.*

*In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.*

*In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.*

*Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.*

*Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.*

*Pour out your Holy Spirit, that by this Holy Communion we may know the unity we share with all your people in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.*

*Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.*

**C Amen.**

*(In hospitality and attempting to meet the needs of individuals, Messiah now offers gluten free communion hosts. If you wish to receive gluten free hosts, please come to the side where Pastor Esborn is serving).*

#### DISTRIBUTION

*["INTINCTION" – dip your wafer in the wine. Come forward by the center aisle and return by the side aisle. All who wish to stand at the chancel rail after partaking for a time of silent meditation are invited to do so].*

#### \* COMMUNION BLESSING

*P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.*

**C Amen**

#### \* PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*P Let us pray.*

*Almighty God, you provide the true bread from heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that we who have received the Sacrament of his body and blood may abide in him and he in us, that we may be filled with the power of his endless life, now and forever.*

**C Amen**

#### \* DISMISSAL

*P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.*

**C Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE:

NEXT WEEK'S LECTOR – Linda Bahorik

NEXT WEEK'S ALTAR GUILD – Barbara S. Geedey (cup communion – Clint & Jamie Miller)



## **WELCOME**

IF YOU WISH TO USE OR FOLLOW THE LITURGY MUSIC as we proceed through the service today, please use the green 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 honor of our Junior Choir.

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 – William S. Plummer – Bible Scholar: The bond of the Covenant is able to bear the weight of the believer's heaviest burden.

## **CONGREGATIONAL NEWS**

PRAYER CHAIN – Any time you wish to add a name to our prayer list, please contact Stacie Kint at [dskint@nmax.net](mailto:dskint@nmax.net). If at any time you would like to receive emails with prayer requests, please also contact Stacie.

CHURCH CLEANING – Because our faithful cleaner, Dave Phelan, is recovering from heart surgery and will not be returning to clean for at least two months, we ask that members please be attentive to straightening up any area they are using and putting their kitchen garbage into the outside garbage cans. This would be very helpful. Thank you.

Property Committee

GET WELL CARD – If you wish to send Dave Phelan a Get-Well Card, his address is 87 Howell Drive, Mifflintown, PA 17059.

CHILDREN' CHRISTMAS PROGRAM – Children will be practicing for the Christmas program at 9:15 a.m. every Sunday through November and December. We would like to have a few volunteers take an inventory of props, outfits, etc. as we prepare for the program. Speak with Christie Holderman and Stacie Kint regarding additional volunteer opportunities.

COOKIE AND CRAFT DAY FOR MESSIAH YOUTH! Go to St. Stephen's Lutheran Church today at 2:00 p.m. to participate in a cookie bake/exchange and make crafts to give as Christmas presents! Each child should bring a cookie recipe, a cookie sheet, and cookie ingredients. Please be sure that all ingredients and recipes do not contain nuts of any kind and have not been made in factories where nuts have been processed so that all kids may participate. Please sign up by Sunday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> on the bulletin board in the kitchen area so we have enough craft supplies for all participants. Please talk to Kate Swailes if you have any questions.

ORGANIST NEEDED – If you, or anyone you know might be interested—Messiah has an immediate opening for Church Organist weekly services. Also includes Wednesday evening choir rehearsal, except for summer months. Allen Digital Electric Organ and Kurzweil Electronic Keyboard. Candidates should call Diana Wise at 717-436-6629 evenings for more information, including salary. Possibilities include either Full Time or Half Time employment. Additional information about the church and congregation can be found at [www.mlcmifflintown.org](http://www.mlcmifflintown.org).

WELCOME ONE AND ALL to Messiah's Christmas Dinner on Friday, December 12, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Meat and beverage will be provided. You may bring a side dish or dessert if you wish. **Please call** one of the following by **December 8<sup>th</sup>** so we have an approximate number. Cynthia Smith: 436-8512, Jean Compton: 436-6079 or the church office: 436-6213.

BOARD OF CHURCH PROPERTY will meet on Monday, November 24, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. in the choir room.

DECORATING OF THE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS will be held on Sunday, November 30, 2014. A light lunch will be provided following the worship service prepared by the Fellowship Committee. Those attending are asked to bring 1-2 dozen cookies. Decorating will follow lunch.

"THE NEEDLERS" CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON will be held on Tuesday, December 9, 2014 at 12:00 noon in the Fellowship Hall. This will be the last day of sewing until Tuesday, January 6, 2015.

HANGING OF THE GREENS SERVICE will be held on Sunday, December 7, 2014 during the worship service.

CAR ACCIDENT – Early Sunday morning, November 2, Messiah was struck by a car. Tom Metz, a structural engineer, was called by George Hazard and he declared the building to be structurally safe. Red Rock Construction repaired all the damage at no cost to the church.

CHURCH TREASURER NEED – Messiah has a position opening for church treasurer. Requirements are: the position of church treasurer must be held by an adult member of the congregation. A knowledge in proper accounting procedures is preferred. The following are some but not all of the position duties of the church treasurer:

1. Recording the congregational receipts and disbursements.
2. Suggest improved methods and systems for financial record keeping.
3. Present a written financial report for Voters' Assembly meetings and PPC meetings.
4. Submit permanent financial records for an annual audit.
5. Pay salaries and bills as authorized by the congregation or Directors of Boards.
6. Coordinate the flow of monies from the treasury in a balanced manor.
7. Oversee the signing of all checks for payment of bills, salaries or other commitments of the congregation.

Any person interested in more information about this position may contact the church office in order to obtain a complete written job description. Further questions may be directed to PPC Executive Director, Kenneth Mummah or Pastor Esborn. Church office phone number is 436-6213, email address is [messiahlutheran@pa.net](mailto:messiahlutheran@pa.net).

GREETERS/USHERS NEEDED FOR FAMILY SUNDAY – Family Sunday is the first Sunday of each month, and the Youth and Children Committee is looking for children and their families to be Greeters prior to the church service on Family Sundays. The Greeters' responsibilities include welcoming parishioners, handing out bulletins, providing pins to visitors, and inviting visitors to sign the guest book and Friendship Pads. For those who sign-up, please be at the main entrance off Washington Avenue between 10:00 and 10:15 a.m. to start welcoming parishioners. In addition, we would ask the family acting as Greeters to also be Ushers for the service that Sunday. The Ushers' responsibilities include collecting the offering and returning the offering to the Pastor during the Sung Offertory. If your family is willing to act as Greeters and Ushers on any of the Family Sundays, please add your names to the sign-up sheet hanging next to the Altar Flower chart in the Adult Sunday School Room Thank you!

SYNOD ASSEMBLY DELEGATES NEEDED – Two members of Messiah are needed to attend the annual Synod Assembly in June 2015 at Susquehanna University, Selinsgrove. If you are interested in serving, please contact Pastor Esborn or the church office.

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 \$8.00 for a 6½" plant with 3 to 4 blooms. You may order by calling the church office at 436-6213.

HELP AVAILABLE – If you or someone you know needs help with home repairs or yard work, there are volunteers in our community who may be able to help. For more information, contact Michael "Doc" Johnston at 436-9209.

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.

### **WOMEN OF THE ELCA**

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

CHRISTMAS ANGEL PROJECT – Women of the ELCA will be sponsoring 7 children this year for the Christmas Angel Project. A poster with the information is on the bulletin board in the kitchenette. Gifts are to be wrapped, labeled with the child's name and family number, and returned to the Adult Sunday School Room by **December 7, 2014**.

### **COMMUNITY**

MEALS-ON-WHEELS needs volunteer drivers, cooks and people to help assemble meals. If you have some spare time and can help, please call Dottie Heck at 436-6002 or 717-348-1950 (cell).

COMMUNITY CHORUS REHEARSALS will be held on the following dates listed below from 7:00 to 8:15 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 17  
Tuesday, November 25  
Tuesday, December 9  
Monday, December 15

This year's 18<sup>th</sup> annual Christmas Cantata performance “A LIGHT STILL SHINES” will be held Sunday, December 21, 2014 at 2:00 p.m. in the Juniata High School auditorium with live tableaux as an enhancement to the overall presentation. Should weather conditions present a need to postpone the December 21<sup>st</sup> event (December 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 p.m. are available snow dates). A special presentation will also be performed for area senior citizens on Friday, December 19<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. in the JHS auditorium.

THE INTERNATIONAL GIFTS AND BAKE SALE will be held at Cedar Grove Brethren In Christ Church at 287 Deerville Road, Mifflintown, PA on Friday, November 21 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturday, November 22 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. This year's sale offers baskets, jewelry, toys, pottery, and Christmas ornaments by organizations like Ten Thousand Villages, SERRV, Women at Risk International, and BreadForLife. There are two new vendors that offer coffees, chocolate, and Haitian arts and crafts. By shopping fair trade you will help artisans in developing countries receive a fair price for their handcrafted wares, support employment ventures and provide better opportunities for their futures. Baked goods will be offered on a donation basis to help offset the costs of promotion and shipping. For more information, visit our website at [www.juniatainternationalgiftsale.com](http://www.juniatainternationalgiftsale.com).

## **FOOD PANTRY HOLIDAY MEAL DONATIONS**

TURKEYS OR TURKEY BREASTS; CRANBERRY SAUCE; STUFFING;  
CANNED FRUITS AND VEGETABLES; INSTANT MASHED POTATOES;  
CANNED SWEET POTATOES; GRAVY MIX OR CANNED GRAVY;  
CAKE MIX AND READY MADE ICING OR OTHER DESSERT MIX;  
**OR A \$20 DONATION WILL PURCHASE ONE COMPLETE MEAL!**

**Address: P.O. Box 44, 114 N. Main St., Mifflintown, PA 17059**

**Phone #: 717-436-9718**

**Hours: Tuesday 9-12 & 1-5, Saturday 9-12**

**\*Remember, our vestibule is open to receive non-perishable donations any hour, any day! Cash or gift card donations may be deposited through the mail slot inside the vestibule.**

Contact person: Kathy Queitzsch

Email: [jcfoodpantry@embarqmail.com](mailto:jcfoodpantry@embarqmail.com)

Visit our **Website**: [www.jcfoodpantry.com](http://www.jcfoodpantry.com)

Like us on **Face Book!**

### **THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH**

- Today:**
- 9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Catechetical Class.
  - 10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Jr. Church.
  - Voters Assembly following worship service. Business: quarterly reports of the boards and voting on the proposed 2015 budget.
  - Worship & Music Committee meeting following Voters Assembly.
  - 2 p.m., Cookie/Craft Day at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church.
  - 2—7 p.m., Fellowship Hall reserved.
- Monday:**
- NEWSLETTER DEADLINE.
  - 8 p.m., AA meeting in Fellowship Hall.
- Tuesday:**
- 9 a.m., "The Needlers" in Fellowship Hall.
- Wednesday:**
- 7 p.m., Choir rehearsal.
- Thursday:**
- 1 p.m., Dulcimer rehearsal.
- Saturday:**
- 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Juniata Valley Quilters in Fellowship Hall.
- Sunday:**
- Christ the King.
  - FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY.
  - 9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Catechetical Class.
  - 10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Jr. Church.