

# **THE MESSIAH HERALD**



**NOVEMBER, 2013**

## **MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH**

3 SOUTH THIRD STREET  
MIFFLINTOWN, PA 17059  
(717)-436-6213  
[www.mlcmifflintown.org](http://www.mlcmifflintown.org)  
[mlcmifflintown@pa.net](mailto:mlcmifflintown@pa.net)

## **THE REV. WILLIAM N. ESBORN, PASTOR**

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

**[MESSIAH CHURCH CALENDAR](#)**

**[USS-ARK NEWSLETTER](#)**

**[THE LUTHERAN MAGAZINE](#)**

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

# The Messiah Herald



Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

What is politics and what is not? As we pull into the fall and off, off year elections it is a good time to think for a moment about how do we interact as Christians with the world of the kingdom of the world.

Luther saw in the work of government and the state an important function in restraining those who would do harm to others. At the time he believed that when guided by the Holy Spirit of Christ believers naturally fulfilled God’s will for one’s neighbor proclaiming the Gospel and living God’s grace into one’s neighbor’s life.

For Luther these actions of protecting one’s neighbors’ lives and their possessions are the natural work of the faithful.

What is politics and what is not? When are we being political and when are we just doing what God expects of his people. As we pull into this fall and the off, off year elections it is a good time to think for a moment about how do we interact as Christians within the world of Luther’s “the kingdom of the world.” The ELCA page on these two kingdoms shares the following;

*“Luther here states that the children of Adam fall into two groups, those who belong to the kingdom of God and those who belong to the kingdom of the world. To the kingdom of God belong all who believe in Christ and live under Him, for Christ is King and Lord in the kingdom of God. Of them Luther says: **“Behold, these need neither sword nor law. And if all the world were made up of true Christians, there would be no need for ruler, king, lord, sword or law, for where would be the use of them?”***

And of the kingdom of the world, *“But beside His spiritual kingdom God has established another, the kingdom of temporal authority. This exists because evil exists. **God has set the evil world under the sword that it may be restrained, as men put bonds and shackles on a wild beast, and has instituted authorities to check violence and injustice, and to maintain peace and order. Thus sin is the reason for the setting-up of earthly government.”***

For you and me today we can as people of faith understand the intersection of these two kingdoms in the Biblical description that we are in the world but not of it. (John 17:6-16) We live in the world every day. We see the sinfulness within it. God has established the kingdom of the world that such sin and evil may be reined in. At the same time as Luther acknowledges we as Christians are called to lives that seek the ways of Christ so that sin does not reign in our lives and we should not need the state’s force to refrain from harming our neighbor, near and far.

Luther saw in the work of government and the state an important function in restraining those who would do harm to others. At the time he believed that when guided by the Holy Spirit of Christ believers naturally fulfilled God’s will for one’s neighbor proclaiming the Gospel and living God’s grace into one’s neighbor’s life.

It is in this way that Luther then understands the Ten Commandments and their teaching and guidance for our lives as followers of Christ. No longer do the central religious laws of the Israel define life by what we must avoid but rather how we are to live in care and harmony with our neighbor such that the laws and the power of the state are unnecessary. Ex. When Luther address the Fifth Commandment he writes, “Thou shalt not kill. He states the meaning as, *“We should fear and love God that we may not hurt nor harm our neighbor in his body, but help and befriend him in every bodily need [in every need and danger of life and body].”*

And when he speaks of the Seventh Commandment he writes as explanation, *“We should fear and love God that we may not take our neighbor’s money or property, nor get them by false ware or dealing, but help him to improve and protect his property and business [that his means are preserved and his condition is improved].”*

For Luther these actions of protecting one’s neighbor’s life and their possessions are the natural work of the faithful. It is simple how we are called to live and it comes with a cost. One should freely and willingly bear. At the same time, however, it is the work of the world and its authorities to restrain those who act against the security of one’s neighbor’s life and goods.

We are called as Christians in the world to do what is good for our neighbor. It is not political, it is simply our life in Christ.

Yours in Christ,

*Pastor Bill*

## DAILY HOME BIBLE READINGS

November	1: Psalm 149
November	2: Ephesians 1:11-23
November	3: Luke 6:20-31
November	4: Romans 1:18-25
November	5: Luke 17:20-37
November	6: Acts 22:22—23:11
November	7: Job 19:23-27a
November	8: Psalm 17:1-9
November	9: 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17
November	10: Luke 20:27-38
November	11: Job 20:1-11
November	12: 2 John 1:13
November	13: Psalm 123
November	14: Malachi 4:1-2a
November	15: Psalm 98
November	16: 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13
November	17: Luke 21:5-19
November	18: Hebrews 9:23-28
November	19: Zechariah 11:1-17
November	20: 1 Peter 1:3-9
November	21: Jeremiah 23:1-6
November	22: Psalm 141
November	23: Colossians 1:11-20
November	24: Luke 23:33-43
November	25: Revelation 22:8-21
November	26: Philippians 4:4-9
November	27: Isaiah 2:1-5
November	28: John 6:25-35
November	29: Romans 13:11-14
November	30: John 1:35-42



## 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!**

## NOVEMBER SCHEDULES

### LECTORS

3:	Diana Wise
10:	Barbara S. Geedey
17:	Andrea Cameron
24:	Linda Bahorik

### ALTAR GUILD

Oct. 28—Nov. 3	Linda Clark <i>(cup communion – Clint &amp; Jamie Miller)</i>
Nov. 4—Nov. 10	Barbara S. Geedey
Nov. 11—Nov. 17	Kay Varner
Nov. 18—Nov. 24	Linda Leister <i>(cup communion – Clint &amp; Jamie Miller)</i>
Nov. 25—Dec. 1	Linda Clark

### ALTAR FLOWERS

3:	OPEN
10:	Sis Stetler
17:	Vance Varner
24:	Jim Yetter



Messiah Women of the ELCA met Thursday, October 10, 2013.

The meeting opened with devotions. We then packed a total of 250 quilts, 84 school kits, 40 personal care kits, and 84 pounds of soap.

SEAFARERS PROJECT CONTINUES - collecting items for the Seafarers Christmas gift set.

--casual T-shirts, medium & large (no slogans, etc.)

--sweat shirts, large & extra-large

--3 pairs of socks

--1 heavy knit winter cap

Please place collected items on the table in the Adult Sunday School Room.

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.

The next WELCA meeting will be on Thursday, November 14, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in the Youth Area. Ann Beaver will be program leader.

## **NEW TREASURER NEEDED**

Messiah is in need of a new treasurer to replace Ken Eyer after his many years of service.

If you would like details, please contact Executive Director Guy Dillman or Pastor Esborn.

## **MEALS-ON-WHEELS**

Volunteer drivers and cooks are needed 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).

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

## **PRAYER CHAIN**

Any time you wish to add a name to our prayer list, please contact Stacie Kint at [diskint@nmax.net](mailto:diskint@nmax.net) or 436-6341.

If at any time you would like to receive emails with prayer requests, please also contact Stacie.

## **THRIVENT CHOICE**

Thank you to everyone at Messiah who has designated choice dollars to Messiah.

If you are a Thrivent member and have questions about Thrivent Choice, please contact Stacie Kint at [diskint@nmax.net](mailto:diskint@nmax.net) or 436-6341.

## **NEW MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY**

Sample copies of the new updated membership directory are on the table in the Adult Sunday School Room. Before final copies are made, members are asked to check their address, phone number and email address to be sure they are correct.

Please make any corrections or additions to be included in the directory on the correction sheet provided or call the church office at 436-6213.

## **VOTERS ASSEMBLY**

The next Voters Assembly meeting will be held on Sunday, November 17, 2013 following the morning worship service.

Business: Quarterly reports of the boards and voting on 2014 proposed budget.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO MESSIAH

The Stained Glass Repair and Cleaning Project has been paid in full! The project was unanimously voted for in November of 2009, begun in January of 2010, and completely paid for by September of 2013—less than four years.

The Gethsemane window is still in need of repair and the congregation will be informed when the cost estimate on the repair is delivered.

The Property Committee thanks everyone for their strong support for the stained glass project, the bat guano clean up, the furnace improvements and the many other repairs on the church building.

We welcome advisement on any problems, and are interested in learning of any suggestions or requests you might have. We meet the fourth Monday of every other month and any member is welcome to attend.

## HELP MESSIAH LUTHERAN SEE DOUBLE

Participate in the Thrivent Choice Double Direction Church Campaign and help our congregation in a big way! During the campaign, Thrivent Financial for Lutherans is giving up to \$15 million to churches across the country through the Thrivent Choice program. Here's how you can help:

- Direct available Choice Dollars to Messiah Lutheran between October 1 and November 30, 2013.
- Thrivent Financial will **double** all Choice Dollars directions made to churches during this time or until up to \$15 million has been awarded, whichever comes first.

**Thrivent Choice helps strengthen congregations.** The Thrivent Choice

program allows eligible members of Thrivent Financial to recommend where some of its charitable grant funds go.

To direct Choice Dollars, simply go to [Thrivent.com/thriventchoice](http://Thrivent.com/thriventchoice), or call 800-THRIVENT (800-847-4836) and say, "Thrivent Choice." It takes just minutes to do, so make your direction today and help Messiah Lutheran continue to grow and thrive!

(Directing Choice Dollars is subject to the terms and conditions of the Thrivent Choice program. Visit [Thrivent.com/thriventchoice](http://Thrivent.com/thriventchoice) for complete terms and conditions. All grants are made at the sole discretion of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans).



## CHRISTMAS ANGEL PROJECT

Women of the ELCA will be sponsoring 6 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 children's name and family number, and returned to the Adult Sunday School Room by **December 1, 2013.**



## COMMUNITY CHORUS REHEARSALS

Community Chorus rehearsals will be held on the following dates 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).

Tuesday, November 5  
Tuesday, November 12  
Monday, November 18  
Tuesday, November 26  
Monday, December 9

This year's 17<sup>th</sup> annual Christmas Cantata performance "JOY TO THE WORLD" will be held Sunday, December 15, 2013 at 2:00 p.m. in the Juniata High School auditorium with live tableaux as an enhancement to the overall presentation.

A special presentation will also be performed for area senior citizens on Friday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. in the JHS auditorium.



### **GAME NIGHT**

Join us for game night at Messiah on Saturday, November 16, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. Bring your favorite board games and playing cards. We would like to see members of all ages, and we encourage you to bring a friend.

Pizza and drinks will be provided, and you are welcome to bring a snack to share with the group. A movie will be shown for young children. Hope to see you there!



### **ATTENTION ALL KIDS!**

We will begin reading through the Christmas program in preparation for the

Sunday School performance December 22, 2013 at 9:15 a.m.

Please join us each Sunday in November and December during Sunday School at 9:15 a.m. in the church basement to read parts, sing songs and celebrate the Birth of Jesus.

We have many speaking and non-speaking parts to fill as well as special musical performances! See Christie or Stacie with any questions.

### **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 or Cynthia Smith at 436-8512.

### **SYNOD ASSEMBLY DELEGATES**

Two members of Messiah are needed to attend the annual Synod Assembly in June, 2014 at Susquehanna University, Selinsgrove.

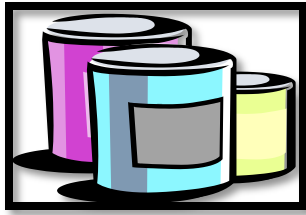
If you are interested in serving, please contact the pastor or the church office.



### **POINSETTIAS**

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.



## **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.



Ride

## **Juniata County Food Pantry 2013 Holiday Benefit Turkey Ride**

November 2, 2013  
Registration – 11:30 till Noon  
begins at Noon

**Reason to Ride:** Again this year, the Juniata County Food Pantry is attempting to provide 350 meals during Thanksgiving and another 350 meals during Christmas. As members of the motorcycling community, we can help them reach their goal while enjoying a crisp Autumn ride together.

**Register:** Call **(717)463-3467**. Please leave your name, telephone number, and number of riders attending.

**Donation:** **\$25 per participant** to be made at registration. Each donation will help provide 3 holiday meals. All funds will be presented to the Juniata County Food Pantry at the end of the ride. Additional donations will be accepted. Checks should be made out to **“Juniata County Food Pantry.”**

**Ride:** A 22 mile scenic ride along Shade Mountain starting at the Bread of Life Restaurant in McAlisterville and ending at the Juniata County Food Pantry in Mifflintown.

**At the conclusion of the ride,  
Refreshments will be provided by the 4 Given Riders,  
Forming Chapter, Christian Motorists Association.**

## Juniata County Food Pantry November Update

In lieu of my regular update, I'm responding to a special letter received recently by the Food Pantry:

Dear "Old Folks,"

We were very concerned to receive your letter here at the Food Pantry and learn that you would be sitting down to a Thanksgiving meal of "cold cereal, juice, and canned vegetables and fruit." We are determined that there is a turkey and trimmings in the home of every person in Juniata County who needs one, which is why we are working with the Mifflintown Kiwanis Club, local churches and the Boy Scouts to make it happen.

There will be a Thanksgiving grocery give-away on Saturday, November 23, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. at the Mifflintown EMS Building for anyone in need. Please come. If you are unable to make it to that give-away, please give us a call. Over 130 senior citizens come to the Food Pantry every month for groceries and also additional boxes of food especially for seniors. We are here to help you – just call the number below. If you will be alone for the holidays, please talk to your local pastor. They will be glad to match you up with a family to enjoy a Thanksgiving or Christmas meal with.

Thank you for writing and reminding us to share our blessings with all God's children.

God Bless you, too! Please call!

Dear Church Friends,

As always, we can't undertake this mission without you! We are asking for help providing over 700 holiday meals this year to share with "the least of these my brothers and sisters." (Matt. 25:40). For every \$7.00 donated we can provide a complete holiday meal for a family of four. Or we will gladly accept donations of turkeys, hams, stuffing, sweet potatoes, fresh potatoes, fresh fruit (apples & oranges), rolls, and cake and icing mixes.

A special thank you to Bunkertown Church of the Brethren for providing volunteers at the Food Pantry in September. Also in September we provided 1 week's groceries to 318 families in need – a total of 942 individuals.

**\*REMEMBER, OUR VESTIBULE (LOCATED ON THE RAMP SIDE OF THE BUILDING )  
IS OPEN TO RECEIVE DONATIONS ANY HOUR, ANY DAY!  
CASH OR GIFT CARD DONATIONS MAY BE DEPOSITED THROUGH THE MAIL SLOT.**

**HOURS: MONDAY AND WEDNESDAY, 2:00 – 6:00 PM AND SATURDAY, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM.  
CLOSED ON TUESDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY AND SUNDAY.**

**\*PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO THE JUNIATACOUNTY FOOD PANTRY, P.O. BOX 44, 114 N. MAIN ST.,  
MIFFLINTOWN, PA 17059. FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL: 436-9718 (CONTACT PERSON: KATHY QUEITZSCH).  
Email: [jcfoodpantry@embarqmail.com](mailto:jcfoodpantry@embarqmail.com)**





# MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH THANKOFFERING SERVICE & FALL FEST

## NOVEMBER 10, 2013

Women of the ELCA Thankoffering Service & Fall Fest will be held on Sunday, November 10, 2013. Pastor Anna Ritter will be the speaker for the service. Special Thankoffering envelopes are available in the Adult Sunday School Room for your offerings to help Women of the ELCA with their various projects and services to those in need. Please make checks payable to "Messiah Women of the ELCA" and place in the offering plates or give to Cynthia Smith.

The congregation is asked to bring items for the Food Pantry so they can be displayed in the altar area on Thankoffering Sunday.

A meal will be served in the Fellowship Hall following the service. Ham, rolls and beverage will be provided. Those attending are asked to provide a covered dish (hot or cold) of their choice. Anyone unable to bring a covered dish is still more than welcome to attend as there is always plenty of food for everyone. Mints, chips, etc. are always needed and don't need to be prepared.

Reservations can be made by detaching the bottom portion of this sheet and placing it in the offering plate by **November 3<sup>rd</sup>** or by calling the church office at 436-6213.



---

### MESSIAH'S FALL FEST

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Number attending -----

Bringing covered dish? ( ) YES ( ) NO \_\_\_\_\_

**Please specify below whether you will be bringing a covered dish for the meal or a desert**

---