

# THE MESSIAH HERALD



**NOVEMBER, 2014**

## **MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH**

3 SOUTH THIRD STREET  
MIFFLINTOWN, PA 17059  
(717)-436-6213

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

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

# The Messiah Herald



**November 2014**

There was on the ELCA clergy board an interesting discussion concerning “A Mighty Fortress” on Reformation Sunday afternoon.

When we sing, “A Mighty Fortress” we are singing a hymn that is almost 500 years old. How can it possibly relate to our world today?

And yet these are bold ideas and confessions and they lie at the very heart of our faith and who Jesus is and what is the result of his life, death on the cross, resurrection and ascension.

Each Sunday as we sing the hymns guiding and shaping our worship for the day, listen carefully to the words, reflecting on how they can connect to your life and the promise of God’s grace.

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

There was an interesting discussion on the ELCA clergy board concerning “A Mighty Fortress” on Reformation Sunday afternoon. The original poster wrote, “Am I the only Lutheran pastor who finds “A Mighty Fortress” increasingly less helpful? I remember one day thinking that it resonated with me and modern life. But most Reformation days it feels very disconnected to modern life and the modern church.”

That post produced an extensive discussion that I think is helpful for us in reflecting upon how we hear hymns and weave them into our lives as worshipping Christians. I mean when we sing “A Mighty Fortress” we are singing a hymn that is almost 500 years old. How can it possibly relate to our world today? It opens with symbolism of warfare in the first verse and our battle spiritual battle against whatever opposes the kingdom or people of God. It captures the tension between our struggles in this life in the midst of a world filled with injustice and evil and the power of God’s promises and God’s faithfulness. In the fourth verse we boldly confess that even losing everything we hold most dear in this life, house, goods, honor, child or spouse and even life God’s victory will not be denied and the Kingdom is ours forever.

These are bold ideas and confessions and they lie at the very heart of our faith and who Jesus is and what is the result of his life, death on the cross, resurrection and ascension. As Paul says in Romans 14, “We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord’s.”

Living in an era where so much of life seems so uncertain and insecure because of ordinary life threatening illnesses like cancer, rarer ones like ALS, or new ones like Ebola, a world where life is often treated as meaningless by beheadings or terms like “acceptable” collateral damage, where foreclosures put families out of homes but banks are protected from the consequences of their own actions with terms like “too big to fail,” our world is still filled with hordes that attack faith and justice. In that world singing “A Mighty Fortress” is still an act of bold confession that despite all appearances God is still and will still be ultimately victorious and our lives secure because, “we are the Lord’s.”

Hymns are the breath of the Spirit and they teach us the faith, strengthen our confession, and prepare us for daily living in the Kingdom of God. Each Sunday as we sing the hymns guiding and shaping our worship for the day, listen carefully to the words and reflect on how they can connect to your life. Do not just sing the words but hear them and let them feed your faith.

Yours in Christ,

*Pastor Bill*

## DAILY HOME BIBLE READINGS

|          |                              |
|----------|------------------------------|
| November | 1: 1 John 3:1-3              |
| November | 2: Matthew 5:1-12            |
| November | 3: Matthew 24:1-14           |
| November | 4: Amos 1:1—2:5              |
| November | 5: Amos 4:6-13               |
| November | 6: Amos 5:18-24              |
| November | 7: Psalm 70                  |
| November | 8: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18   |
| November | 9: Matthew 25:1-13           |
| November | 10: Revelation 16:1-7        |
| November | 11: Ezekiel 7:1-9            |
| November | 12: Ezekiel 7:10-27          |
| November | 13: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18     |
| November | 14: Psalm 90:1-8, (9-11), 12 |
| November | 15: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11   |
| November | 16: Matthew 25:14-30         |
| November | 17: Revelation 14:1-11       |
| November | 18: Revelation 22:1-9        |
| November | 19: 1 Kings 22:13-23         |
| November | 20: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24  |
| November | 21: Psalm 95:1-7a            |
| November | 22: Ephesians 1:15-23        |
| November | 23: Matthew 25:31-46         |
| November | 24: Deuteronomy 8:7-18       |
| November | 25: Psalm 65                 |
| November | 26: 2 Corinthians 9:6-15     |
| November | 27: Luke 17:11-19            |
| November | 28: Isaiah 64:1-9            |
| November | 29: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9      |
| November | 30: Mark 13:24-37            |



## 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) or 436-6341.

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

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

## NOVEMBER SCHEDULES

### LECTORS

2: Diana Wise  
9: Barbara S. Geedey  
16: Andrea Cameron  
23: Linda Bahorik  
30: Randy Clark

### GREETERS & USHERS

Nov. 2: Kevin, Kate, Nate & Caden Swailes

### ALTAR GUILD

Oct. 27—Nov. 2 Linda Clark  
(cup communion – Clint & Jamie Miller)  
Nov. 3—Nov. 9 Diana Wise  
Nov. 10—Nov. 16 Michelle Stoner  
Nov. 17—Nov. 23 Barbara S. Geedey  
(cup communion – Clint & Jamie Miller)  
Nov. 24—Nov. 30 Linda Leister

### ALTAR FLOWERS

2: Nick & Bethanie Beward & family  
9: OPEN  
16: In honor of Jr. Choir  
23: OPEN  
30: Jim Yetter



Our next meeting will be Thursday, November 13, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the Youth Area with Cynthia Smith as Program Leader.

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.

## THANK YOU

Thank you to all who have contributed in any way this year to make our Lutheran World Relief Project so successful.

Totals for items that were sent were:

35 baby kits  
78 school kits  
42 pounds of soap  
27 lap quilts  
17 Pine Ridge  
10 Work Camp  
1 quilt donated locally

"The Needlers" & WELCA



## 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**.



## 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

## 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.mlcmmifflintown.org](http://www.mlcmmifflintown.org).

## VOTERS ASSEMBLY

The next Voters Assembly meeting will be held on Sunday, November 16, 2014 following the morning worship service.

Business: Quarterly reports of the boards and vote on proposed 2015 budget.

## **SYNOD ASSEMBLY DELEGATES**

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**

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.

## **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 beginning with September 7<sup>th</sup>. 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 Sunday School Room. Thank you!

## **CHURCH TREASURER NEEDED**

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).



## **SOUP AND BAKE SALE**

A Soup and Bake Sale will be held on Wednesday, November 5, 2014 at Messiah Lutheran Church to benefit the Central Juniata Park Pool. Soup choices are: Vegetable Beef, Ham Bean, Chicken Corn and Turkey Noodle. Cost is \$5.00 per quart.

Sign-up sheets are located in the Kitchenette and Adult Sunday School Room. Pre-orders will be filled first, with drop-in requests taken as long as the Soups are available. Pick-up time is 4:00—6:00 p.m.



## **PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

All the pancakes you can eat, Saturday, November 8, 2014 from 6:00 to 10:00 a.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, McAlisterville. Cost: donation of cash or non-perishable goods to benefit the Juniata County Food Pantry.

Folks with food sensitivities to Dairy, Wheat, Rye and Barley are WELCOME. Sponsored by Trinity Lutheran Stewardship and Outreach Committees, former Angel Food volunteers, Thrivent Financial.



## **CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM**

Children will start practicing for the Christmas program on November 9, 2014 at 9:15 a.m. and the practice will be held 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 on Sunday, November 16, 2014 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.



## **WELCOME ONE AND ALL TO MESSIAH'S CHRISTMAS DINNER**

When: Friday, December 12, 2014 at 6:00

p.m.

Where: Messiah Fellowship Hall

Details: Meat & beverage will be provided. You may bring a side dish or dessert if you wish.

Deadline: **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  
Church Office: 436-6213



## **COMMUNITY CHORUS REHEARSALS**

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).

Tuesday, November 4  
Tuesday, November 11  
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.

## **IN HOME SERVICES OF CENTRAL PA**

In Home Services of Central PA – Helping Senior Citizens in **providing a MULTITUDE of services** such as:

- Housekeeping
- Meal Preparation/Catering
- Laundry Services
- Running of Errands
- Grocery/Personal Shopping
- Companionship
- Personal Assistance
- Home Maintenance/Painting
- Technology/Computer Assistance
- Gardening
- Bookkeeping/Banking Assistance
- Insurance Billing/Benefits Research
- Pet Care
- Assistance with Holidays/Parties/Yard Sales
- Assistance with Making a Move/Downsizing
- Beautician/Barber Services
- Alterations/Mending
- Medical Set-up & Monitoring by Nurse
- Transportation To All Appointments

Let us be **YOUR PERSONAL ASSISTANT!** For

more details, please call [888-881-2046](tel:888-881-2046).  
Serving Centre, Mifflin and Juniata  
Counties (LOCALLY OWNED). Check out  
our website:  
[InHomeServicesofCentralPA.com](http://InHomeServicesofCentralPA.com).



### **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.







**Mini Mountain Laurel  
Concert Series  
2014 – 2015**

Presented by  
**Orthey Instruments**

In **cooperation** with the PERRY COUNTY COUNCIL OF THE ARTS and host sites.

**November 14/15, 2014 – Lindsay Haisley with Cheryl DeHut**

**January 9/10, 2015 – Walt Michael & Company**

**February 20/21, 2015 – Hello Stranger featuring Dale Carter Jett**

**March 20/21, 2015 – Little Roy Lewis and Lizzy Long**

**April 10/11, 2015 – Doofus**

Friday night concerts are held at St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Lewistown, PA, 120 North Main Street, 7:30 p.m.

Autoharp workshops are held on the days of the Saturday concert at George Orthey's workshop, 18 Burd Road, Newport. They cost \$20 a person and require reservations. Workshop offered on Saturdays, 1-4 p.m. at Orthey Instruments, 18 Burd Road, Newport, PA

Saturday night concerts are held at Highland United Presbyterian Church, 11 Church Road, Newport, PA, 7:30 p.m.

Call George Orthey at (717) 567-6406 (Workshop) or (717) 567-9469 (Home).

Email: [gorthey@gmail.com](mailto:gorthey@gmail.com)

All concerts are free and open to the public.

A free will offering (\$10-\$20 per person suggested) is accepted at the door.

This Pennsylvania Partners in the arts Program is made possible through a regional partnership between Community Partnerships Resource Conservation and Development and the Pennsylvania Council of the Arts.

## **Juniata County Food Pantry November Update**

Autumn has arrived! Soon to be followed by Thanksgiving and Christmas. Again this year the Food Pantry will join forces with the Boy Scouts, Kiwanis, Salvation Army and **YOU** to bring Thanksgiving and Christmas meals to as many Juniata County families living in poverty as possible. Working as a team and pooling our resources, we can reach more families in need and avoid duplicating services. But we can't do it without **your** help. When the Boy Scouts come to your door in November for their annual food drive—please give generously. And if you can help us to start stockpiling the following foods for the holidays, we would really appreciate it. Our goal is to provide 800 meals: 400 for Thanksgiving and 400 for Christmas.

### **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.**

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

Like us on **Face Book!**

**\*PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO THE JUNIATACOUNTY FOOD PANTRY. (CONTACT PERSON: KATHY QUEITZSCH). Email: [jcfoodpantry@embarqmail.com](mailto:jcfoodpantry@embarqmail.com)**



**MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**Thankoffering Service & Fall Fest**  
**November 9, 2014**

Women of the ELCA Thankoffering Service & Fall Fest will be held on Sunday, November 9, 2014. Karla Bohmbach, from Susquehanna will be the speaker for the service. The congregation is asked to bring items for the Food Pantry so they can be displayed in the altar area on Thankoffering Sunday.

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.

A meal will be served in the Fellowship Hall following the service. The Parish Fellowship Committee will provide the meat, rolls and beverage. 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 2<sup>nd</sup>** or calling the church office at 436-6213.



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**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**

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