

# Messiah Lutheran Church

3 South Third Street  
Mifflintown, PA 17059  
Church Office / 436-6213 Dial-A-Prayer / 436-2100

The Reverend William N. Esborn  
Brent Snyder  
Andrea Cameron  
Linda Bahorik  
Barbara S. Geedey  
Clint and Jamie Miller

Pastor  
Organist  
Choir Director & Cantor  
Lector  
Altar Guild  
Cup Communion

## Christ The King November 24, 2013 – 10:30 a.m.

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

### PEOPLE TO REMEMBER IN PRAYER TODAY

**SHUT-INS:** Marian G., Reba S., Sue C., Flo B., Ethel B., Virginia F., Jean M., Cassie S., Helen K., Sis S., Jane M., Fay M., Dorothy P., Ruth C., Ray B., Florence B.

**OTHERS:** Tammy W., Audrey L., Josh B., George and Lorraine H., Karl and Margaret G., Darlene Y., Arielle D., Sarah S., Gwen S., Troy B., Riley C., Allen H., Esther L., Rick V., Michael S., Trent P., Charlene A., Wendy S., Gretchen W., Tryon B., Jack S., Todd E., Kim S., David L., Cindy V., Cade C., Gary C., Jo-Anne B., Esther H., Linda R., Connor L., Matt H.

### PREPARATION

CHIMES: CALL TO WORSHIP  
MEDITATION AND PRAYER  
PRELUDE

*[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.*

**Justus Falckner, died 1723; Jehu Jones, died 1852; William Passavant, died 1894; pastors in North America.** *Not only was Falckner the first Lutheran ordained in North America, but he published a catechism which was the first Lutheran book published on the continent. Jones was the Lutheran church's first African American pastor and carried out missionary work in Philadelphia which led to the formation there of the first African American Lutheran congregation (St. Paul's). William Passavant helped to establish hospitals and orphanages in a number of cities and was the first to introduce deaconesses to the work of hospitals in the United States.*

\* CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*P In the name of God the Father of glory; in the name of God the + Son, our Redeemer; in the name of God the holy and life-giving Spirit.*

**C Amen**

*P The Sun of righteousness shall rise with shining beams of healing. Let us gather under the wings of God's mercy.*

*Silence is kept for reflection*

*P Gracious God,*

**C we acknowledge that we are sinners and we confess our sins—those known to us that burden our hearts, and those unknown to us but seen by you. We know that before you nothing remains hidden, and in you everything is revealed. Free us from the slavery of sin; liberate us from the bondage of guilt; and work in us that which is pleasing in your sight; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

*P With a heart full of mercy and compassion, God saves us and + forgives us all our sins. Christ, the dawn from on high, shines upon us and by the light of the Holy Spirit guides our feet into the way of peace.*

**C Amen**

**GATHERING**

\* ENTRANCE HYMN "My Song Is Love Unknown"

\* GREETING

*P From the one who is and who was and who is to come, and from Jesus Christ, the first fruits of the resurrection, grace 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 (I & II – Choir **C – Congregation**)

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

I Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo-ple of God.

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

II Pow-er, rich-es, wis-dom, and strength, and hon-or, bless-ing, and glo-ry are his.

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

**C 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.

**C 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 23<sup>rd</sup> chapter of Jeremiah.

THE LESSON READS:

<sup>1</sup>Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD.

<sup>2</sup>Therefore 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. <sup>3</sup>Then 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. <sup>4</sup>I 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.

<sup>5</sup>The 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. <sup>6</sup>In 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!)**

<sup>1</sup>God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

**<sup>2</sup>Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;**

<sup>3</sup>though its waters rage and foam, and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

**<sup>4</sup>There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.**

<sup>5</sup>God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken; God shall help it at the break of day.

**<sup>6</sup>The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake; God speaks, and the earth melts away. R**

<sup>7</sup>The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

**<sup>8</sup>Come now, regard the works of the LORD, what desolations God has brought upon the earth;**

<sup>9</sup>behold 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.

**<sup>10</sup>"Be still, then, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth."**

<sup>11</sup>The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob 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: Colossians 1:11-20

The Second Lesson is from the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter of Colossians.

THE LESSON READS:

<sup>11</sup>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 <sup>12</sup>giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. <sup>13</sup>He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, <sup>14</sup>in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

<sup>15</sup>He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; <sup>16</sup>for 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. <sup>17</sup>He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. <sup>18</sup>He 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. <sup>19</sup>For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, <sup>20</sup>and 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 (sung by Choir)  
Alleluia. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end. Alleluia. [Revelation 22:13]

*Amid scoffing and slander from those who sarcastically call him Messiah and king, Jesus reveals that to be Messiah and king is to give one's life for others. Here he uses his power to welcome a despised sinner to paradise but puts his own death into God's hands.*

- \* GOSPEL: Luke 23:33-43

*P The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 23<sup>rd</sup> chapter.*

**C Glo - ry to you, O Lord. (sung)**

THE GOSPEL READS:

<sup>33</sup>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. <sup>34</sup>Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots to divide his clothing. <sup>35</sup>And 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!" <sup>36</sup>The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, <sup>37</sup>and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" <sup>38</sup>There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

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

- \* 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 With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.*

*A brief silence.*

*P For your faithful flock throughout the world, that in worship and service, we may glorify your name and proclaim your reign, let us pray.*

**C Have mercy, O God.**

*P For all things in heaven and earth, that the works of your hand always listen to your voice and testify to your greatness, let us pray.*

**C Have mercy, O God.**

*P For the leaders of the nations, that they deal wisely, and execute justice and righteousness so all people may live in safety, let us pray.*

**C Have mercy, O God.**

*P For patience and endurance in suffering, and your tender compassion to all who call upon you in time of need (especially all of our shut-ins [both at home and in nursing homes], and for Tammy Walton, Dorothy Patterson, Audrey Landis, Josh Beitz, George and Lorraine Hazard, Karl and Margaret Guss, Darlene Yutzy, Arielle Dougherty, Sarah Shellenberger, Gwen Swisher, Troy Burd, Riley Cooper, Allen Hall, Esther Long, Rick Varner, Michael Slagle, Trent Phillips, Charlene Aughey, Wendy Swartz, Gretchen Wray, Tryon Benner, Jack Stutts, Todd Eby, Kim Shearer, David Lightner, Cindy Van Gavree, Cade Clark, Gary Comp, Jo-Anne Brooks, Linda Rhine, Connor Lauver, Esther Henry, Helen Knox, and Matt Hutchinson), let us pray.*

**C Have mercy, O God.**

*P For gathering this assembly together again in your name and for our witness to your kingdom through loving care for one another, let us pray.*

**C Have mercy, O God.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

*P For welcoming sinners into your kingdom and in thanksgiving for all the saints who dwell with you in paradise (especially Justus Falckner, Jehu Jones, and William Passavant), let us pray.*

**C Have mercy, O God.**

*P Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through 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

*[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-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 Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever.*

**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: **(sung)***

**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. 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 Share in the inheritance of all the saints. Come to the table prepared for you.*



\* 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.**

*(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

*[“AT CHANCEL RAIL” – come forward by the aisle on your right; take a communion cup from the table by the front pew. Stand around the chancel rail to partake and return by the aisle to the left of your seat].*

\* 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 We give you thanks, shepherding God, that you have gathered your scattered flock again this day, feeding us richly with the food of Paradise. Accompany us as we serve you all the days of our lives, and gather us with the saints in the day of our death; through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer and Lord.*

**C Amen**

**SENDING**

\* BLESSING

*P May God who loves us, who gives us eternal consolation and good hope, comfort your hearts and strengthen them in every good work and word; and the blessing of almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you forever.*

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

\* CLOSING HYMN

“Lift High the Cross”

\* DISMISSAL

*P Go in peace. Christ is with you.*

**C Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

NEXT WEEK'S LECTOR – Randy Clark  
NEXT WEEK'S ALTAR GUILD – Linda Clark

## **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 worshipping 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) worshipping 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.

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!

ALTAR FLOWERS are presented to the Glory of God and in memory of Joyce and Mickey Yetter by Jim Yetter and family.

JUST A THOUGHT – Carlo Carretto, Cardinal (1454 – 1514): Optimism means faith in men, in their human potential; hope means faith in God and his omnipotence.

## **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.

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.

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 [dkint@nmax.net](mailto:dkint@nmax.net) or 436-6341.

MESSIAH IS IN NEED of a new treasurer to replace Ken Eyler after his many years of service. If you would like details, please contact Executive Director Guy Dillman or Pastor Esborn.

BOARD OF CHURCH PROPERTY will meet on Monday, November 25, 2013 at 6:30 p.m. in the choir room.

THE NEEDLERS' CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON will be held on Tuesday, December 3, 2013 at 12:00 noon in Messiah Church Social Room. This will be the last day of sewing until Tuesday, January 7, 2014.

DECORATING OF THE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS will be held on Sunday, December 1, 2013. 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.

HANGING OF THE GREENS SERVICE will be held on Sunday, December 8, 2013 during the worship service.

ATTENTION ALL KIDS! – We will begin reading through the Christmas program in preparation for the Sunday School performance on 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.

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 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. Please order no later than **December 12<sup>th</sup>**.

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.

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.

## **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 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**

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).

THE FINAL TWO COMMUNITY CHORUS REHEARSALS will be held on Tuesday, November 26 and Monday, December 9 from **7:00 to 8:15 p.m.** in the Juniata High School music room. 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.

THE FOOD PANTRY will be working with the Mifflintown Kiwanis Club, local churches and the Boy Scouts to help provide Thanksgiving and Christmas meals for every person in Juniata County who needs one. We are asking for help to provide over 700 holiday meals this year. 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 Thanksgiving grocery giveaway will be held on Saturday, November 23, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. at the Mifflintown EMS Building for anyone in need. If you are unable to make it on that day, please give us a call at 436-9718. If you will be alone for the holidays, please talk to your local pastor and they will be glad to match you up with a family to enjoy a Thanksgiving or Christmas meal. Our vestibule (located on ramp side of building) is open any hour any day to received donations. Cash or gift card donations may be deposited through the mail slot. Hours are Monday and Wednesday, 2—6 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m.—1 p.m. Please make checks payable to the "Juniata County Food Pantry," P.O. Box 44, Mifflintown, PA 17059.

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 22, 2013 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturday, November 23 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. This year's sale offers baskets, jewelry, toys, pottery, Christmas ornaments, and international foods by organizations like Ten Thousand Villages, SERRV, Women at Risk International, and BeadForLife. By shopping fair trade you will help skilled artisans in third world countries receive a fair price for their handcrafted wares, create employment opportunities and assist them in being able to pay for uniforms and books in order to send their children to school and provide better opportunities for their future. We'll also be offering baked goods 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).

### **THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH**

- Today:** -Christ the King.  
-FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY.  
-9:15 a.m., Sunday School.  
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Jr. Church.  
-Worship & Music Committee meeting following worship service.  
**-Voters Assembly meeting postponed till next week (\*to allow time to review the budget).**
- Monday:** -6:30 p.m., Property Committee meeting in choir room.  
-8 p.m., AA meeting.
- Tuesday:** -9 a.m., "The Needlers" in Fellowship Hall.
- Wednesday:** -7 p.m., Choir rehearsal.
- Thursday:** -THANKSGIVING.
- Friday:** -OFFICE CLOSED.
- Sunday:** -First Sunday in Advent.  
-9:15 a.m., Sunday School.  
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion.  
-Voters Assembly meeting. Business: quarterly reports of the boards and vote on the proposed 2014 budget.  
-Lunch in Fellowship Hall (bring 1-2 doz. cookies to share).  
-1 p.m., Church decorating.