

THE MESSIAH HERALD



OCTOBER, 2011

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

3 SOUTH THIRD STREET
MIFFLINTOWN, PA 17059
(717)-436-6213
www.mlcmifflintown.org
mlcmifflintown@pa.net

THE REV. WILLIAM N. ESBORN, PASTOR

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

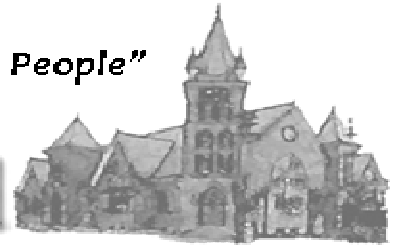
[MESSIAH CHURCH CALENDAR](#)

[USS-ARK NEWSLETTER](#)

[THE LUTHERAN MAGAZINE](#)

"Proclaiming God's love revealed in Jesus Christ and his People"

The Messiah Herald



October 2011

This month we turn to the importance of studying the Bible through or in relationship to the Lutheran Confessions.

The ELCA Book of Faith project describes this last approach to scripture this way. *"We consider the Lutheran principles that help ground our interpretation of the Bible text. We ask questions that bring those principles and unique Lutheran theological insights into conversation with the text. We discover how our Lutheran insights can ground and focus our understanding and shape our faithful response to the text."*

In Lutheran theology we speak of three "solas;" "Sola Gratia, Sola Fide, Sola Scriptura." "By grace alone, by faith alone, by scripture alone."

As we study scripture we are, also, listening to and for God's word both as Law and Gospel.

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

In the last four coverletters I have discussed the importance of Bible literacy in our lives as Christians and ways in which we can study scripture to strengthen our understanding and valuing God's Word. In the last three coverletters I have addressed studying scripture; Devotionally, then Literarily, and Historically. This month we turn to the importance of studying the Bible through or in relationship to the Lutheran Confessions.

The ELCA Book of Faith project describes this last approach to scripture this way. *"We consider the Lutheran principles that help ground our interpretation of the Bible text. We ask questions that bring those principles and unique Lutheran theological insights into conversation with the text. We discover how our Lutheran insights can ground and focus our understanding and shape our faithful response to the text."*

In Lutheran theology we speak of three "solas;" "Sola Gratia, Sola Fide, Sola Scriptura." "By grace alone, by faith alone, by scripture alone." Luther considered scripture the sole trustworthy witness to the Good News of Jesus Christ or what we call the gospel. Scripture alone was the final arbiter of what was true and good about God and God's relationship with people. Scripture was even the final arbiter about what scripture meant. Luther talked about allowing biblical passages to interpret and clarify each other and if there was only a single passage on something then doctrine should not be established on that basis. Where scripture was silent he argued that numerous paths or approaches could be used to bring guidance to life and worship.

Sola gratia was Luther's expression referring to our salvation by God's grace alone. As sinners we have deserved nothing but judgment but God has instead sent Jesus Christ to bear the burden of our sin that we could not bear. By no action or merit of our own do we deserve salvation but solely depend upon God in Jesus Christ who offered his life for us. Through faith and trust alone, Sola Fide, in the promises of Jesus Christ and the power of the Holy Spirit are we able to receive and trust in this glorious gift we call salvation.

As we study scripture we are, also, listening to and for God's word both as Law and Gospel. This does not mean finding the Ten Commandments or the old laws of Leviticus. Rather is allowing the whole word of God to address us revealing all the ways we fall short of God's vision for creation and us as creatures. Hearing the word of God as law we become aware of our sinfulness and how we fall short of the glory of God as Paul puts it. Plus we may, also, hear those same words as promise and hope for God's power in our living to reform us and to bring us to Jesus Christ and living humbly by grace and through faith.

When applying these principles we hear the Ten Commandments as Luther did not just as demand revealing our failures in what we have both done and left undone but to hear in the commandments a blessing from God for a way of life that strengthens relationships with God and neighbor. Hearing the commandments through the unique Lutheran ear of the Confessions we learn the Commandments are no longer "Got to" but are rather "Get to" ways of living.

So we have four ways of studying scripture and learning to become biblically literate. They are Devotionally, Literarily, Historically, and Confessionally. Each contributes important gifts to our knowledge and understanding of God's word and Word. Please become a regular participant in our opportunities for Bible study. The when someone says to you "What do you know about this Harold Camping/" you can lead them to real faith in Jesus Christ as revealed in scripture that we are saved by grace. Thanks be to God. Please join us.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Bill

DAILY HOME BIBLE READINGS

October	1: Philippians 3:4b-14
October	2: Matthew 21:33-46
October	3: Ezekiel 19:10-14
October	4: Isaiah 27:1-6
October	5: Song of Solomon 8:5-14
October	6: Isaiah 25:1-9
October	7: Psalm 23
October	8: Philippians 4:1-9
October	9: Matthew 22:1-14
October	10: Jude 17-25
October	11: Philippians 3:13—4:1
October	12: John 6:25-35
October	13: Isaiah 45:1-7
October	14: Psalm 96:1-9 [10-13]
October	15: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10
October	16: Matthew 22:15-22
October	17: Matthew 17:22-27
October	18: Luke 1:1-4; 24:44-53
October	19: Daniel 6:1-28
October	20: Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18
October	21: Psalm 1
October	22: 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8
October	23: Matthew 22:34-46
October	24: Deuteronomy 6:1-9, 20-25
October	25: James 2:14-26
October	26: Jeremiah 31:31-34
October	27: Psalm 46
October	28: John 14:21-27
October	29: Romans 3:19-28
October	30: John 8:31-36
October	31: Micah 3:5-12



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!

OCTOBER SCHEDULES

LECTORS

2: Bob St. Clair
9: Barbara S. Geedey
16: Linda Bahorik
23: Ron Yorks
30: Linda Leister

ALTAR GUILD

Sept. 26—Oct. 2	Linda Clark
Oct. 3—Oct. 9	Barbara S. Geedey
Oct. 10—Oct. 16	Sandy Pines
Oct. 17—Oct. 23	Christie Holderman
Oct. 24—Oct. 30	Linda Leister (Clint & Jamie Miller – cup communion)
Oct. 31—Nov. 6	Diana Wise (Clint & Jamie Miller – cup communion)

ALTAR FLOWERS

2: Reserved
9: Cindy Miller & Family
16: OPEN
23: Guy Dillman
30: Warren & Claire Mumma

REVERENDFUN.COM COPYRIGHT BIBLE GATEWAY



(See Matthew 17:20)

04-18-2007

THIS IS MY SISTER FAITH ... THE ONE WHO I TOLD YOU COULD MOVE MOUNTAINS



Messiah Women of the ELCA met Thursday, September 8, 2011 with Dottie Smith as devotional leader.

From a newspaper article, we were reminded that on Sunday, September 11 we should pause for silence at 1:00 PM in remembrance of the terrorist attack in New York City. Church bells and fire whistles will be sounded. We also listened to tips for children going back to school with references from the Bible and another reading "What We Need to Know" which also used references to the Bible."

Thank you Dottie.

The business meeting was in charge of Barbara S. Geedey, Leader.

Business discussed:

- We welcomed Cynthia Smith as the new treasurer of Messiah Women of The ELCA.
- Agreed to publish in the bulletin the page from Lutheran World Relief that explains the cost of shipping the quilts and kits to need-ed countries.
- Also agreed to use the blessing of the quilts and kits being sent to Lutheran World Relief during the worship service on October 2, 2011.
- We will meet Thursday, September 29, 2011 at 6:00 PM to pack the soap, quilts, school kits and health kits for shipment.
- Elizabeth Yencho, Director for Evangelical Mission/Assistant to the Bishop of the Upper Susquehanna Synod will be the speaker for the Thankoffering Service, November 13, 2011.

The next meeting will be Thursday, October 13, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the Youth Area with Cynthia Smith as devotional leader.

The meeting adjourned with the reading of "The Purpose" of the Women of the ELCA.

We then gathered at tables decorated with a patriotic theme of colors, flags, baskets, and figures. Enjoying the fellowship, we feasted on the refreshments of Chex Mix, fruit kabobs, coffee, cake, and punch prepared by Cynthia Smith and Linda Leister.

Thank you to the hostesses, Cynthia and Linda.

REMINDER: Women of the ELCA continuously collect new bath-size bars of soap (4 oz. to 5 oz., preferably Ivory or unscented Dove) as an on-going project for Lutheran World Relief. Please place soap in the basket on the blue table in the Sunday School Room.

LWR Quilt & Kit Shipping Fund

Each year LWR spends nearly \$1.7 million to operate its Quilt & Kit Ministry. Those funds, combined with the generosity of quilters and kit-makers throughout the United States, enable LWR to distribute more than \$12 million worth of Quilts and Kits annually.

With more than 60 years of experience in shipping humanitarian aid, and by working with qualified partner organizations poised to assist with distributing millions of Quilts and Kits each year, LWR can send a Quilt or Kit to a person in need for little more than the spare change you might have in your pocket.

LWR's Approximate Cost to Deliver Quilts, Kits and Soap Overseas

One Quilt	\$2.25
One School Kit	\$1.40
One Personal Care Kit	\$2.65*
One Baby Care Kit	\$1.30
One Fabric Kit	\$1.00
One 18-Pound Carton of Soap	\$11.60

**Includes the cost of toothpaste to go with the Personal Care Kit*

FYI (FOR YOUR INFORMATION)

A change has been made in Messiah Women of the ELCA, Claire Mummah, who has been treasurer for 22 years, decided that it was time for her to hand the job over to another. Cynthia Smith offered to take on the job and was elected by the group and began her duties at the September meeting. Cynthia will be the one to whom you will give any financial contributions to the Women of the ELCA.

To Claire, we have appreciated all that you have done to keep the finances of the Messiah Women of the ELCA in order and keeping us in good standing with the Women's Synodical Unit of the Upper Susquehanna Synod. You have always paid our bills on time and faithfully kept us up to date with the support and correspondence of our American Indian boy. Well done, thou good and faithful servant.

BLANKET SUNDAY

Blanket Sunday will be observed on Sunday, October 2, 2011.

Along with all ELCA congregations, you are invited to make a donation to Lutheran World Relief in the special Blanket Sunday envelopes that were attached to your September newsletter (envelopes are also available on the table in the Adult Sunday School Room).

Please make checks payable to Messiah Women of the ELCA and take this opportunity to serve as Christ's helping hands in our world today!

PASTORAL ACTS

Baptism: 9/18/11, Brea Lin Beward
Funeral: 8/28/11, Arlene McLain

2012 PROPOSED BUDGETS

PPC Board Directors are asked to submit their proposed 2012 budgets to Ken Eyler by the next PPC meeting (October 16, 2011). You may place them in Ken's mailbox in the church office or by email to keyler@nmax.net.

CROP WALK

The Juniata County CROP Walk will be held on Sunday, October 2, 2011 at the Walker Township Park—RAIN OR SHINE!

Registration begins at 12:30 p.m. and the Walk at 1:30 p.m. The Short Walk will be 3 laps and the Long Walk will be 15 laps. There will be drawings for prizes periodically during the walk time. Games and activities will be provided throughout the afternoon and possibly some entertainment (but nothing confirmed as of this time).

Tee Shirts will be available for persons with pledges totaling \$100 or more. Tee Shirts will also be sold for \$10 each after registration time is over. Please bring all pledge money to turn in on walk day!

If you have any questions, call Becky Zeigler at 463-2309 or Kathy Whitesel at 436-2401. Sign-up sheets and donation envelopes are available in the Adult Sunday School Room.

THANKOFFERING SERVICE & FALL FEST

The Thankoffering Service and Fall Fest will be held on November 13, 2011. Fall Fest will be immediately following the worship service in the Fellowship Hall. Ham, rolls, and beverage will be provided.

Everyone is asked to bring a covered dish if they are able. If you are unable to bring something, there is always plenty of food. Mints, chips, etc. are always needed and don't need to be prepared.

Watch the bulletins in **October** for sign-up sheets.

CHURCH ORGANIST NEEDED

Church Organist for weekly services, beginning immediately, at Messiah Lutheran Church, 3 South Third Street, Mifflintown, PA. Allen Digital Electric Organ and Kurzweil Electronic Keyboard.

Candidates should contact Ed Beaver at ebeaver41@yahoo.com or at 436-9382 for information, including salary. Additional information about the church and congregation can be found at www.mlcmifflintown.org.

FEEL REWARDED, BE REWARDED

As a financial representative with Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, you'll develop strong relationships with our members, offer solutions and strategies, and help protect family legacies. You'll also feel the personal rewards of helping others.

We offer:

- Unlimited income potential and competitive benefits.
- Freedom to follow your own career path.
- Professional development opportunities.
- Corporate and regional support to help launch your career.

We're a not-for-profit Fortune 500 financial services organization committed to helping members achieve financial security and give back to their communities.

It's more than a career—it's *Work with Purpose*.

For more information, to apply or to make a referral, visit Thrivent.com/careers or contact Todd D. Beasley, Recruiting Manager at 717-813-7184 or todd.beasley@thrivent.com.

MEALS-ON-WHEELS

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

RELAY FOR LIFE FUND RAISER

Relay For Life (George's Gee Bees) fund raising event will be held on Saturday, November 5, 2011 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. in Messiah's Fellowship Hall.

Various vendors will be offering items for sale.

SANDWICH SALE

The Pennsylvania Council of the Blind/Radio Reading Service is sponsoring a sandwich sale. Sandwiches are \$3.50 each and include your choice of Ham and Cheese or Turkey and Cheese. All orders and money are due by Wednesday, October 5, 2011 and sandwiches will be delivered on Friday, October 7th.

You may order by calling 436-5907 or 436-2749, or use the sign-up sheet in the Adult Sunday School Room. Sandwiches will be made by Walnut Cheese Nook.

AREA HOSPITAL LIST

Below is a list of area hospitals with addresses and phone numbers for those who may know of someone who has been hospitalized and would like to send a card.

Harrisburg Hospital Pinnaclehealth
111 South Front St.
Harrisburg, PA 17101 (717-782-3131)

(W)HOLY, (W)HOLY, (W)HOLY
Health Healing & Wholeness Article
October 2011

Holy Spirit Hospital
503 North 21st St.
Camp Hill, PA 17011 (717-763-2100)

Community General Osteopathic Hospital
4300 Londonderry Road
Harrisburg, PA 17105 (717-652-3000)

Healthsouth Rehabilitation Hospital
175 Lancaster Boulevard
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055 (717-691-3700)

Select Specialty Hospital
503 North 21st St.
Camp Hill, PA 17011 (717-972-4575)

Penn State Hershey Medical Center
500 University Drive
Hershey, PA 17033 (717-531-8521)

Geisinger Medical Center
100 North Academy Ave.
Danville, PA 17822 (570-271-6211)

Evangelical Community Hospital
One Hospital Drive
Lewisburg, PA 17837 (570-522-2000)

Sunbury Community Hospital
350 North 11th St.
Sunbury, PA 17801 (570-286-3333)

Lewistown Hospital
400 Highland Ave.
Lewistown, PA 17044 (717-248-5411)

Healthsouth Nittany Valley Rehabilitation
Hospital
550 West College Ave.
Pleasant Gap, PA 16823 (814-359-3421)

Mount Nittany Medical Center
1800 East Park Ave.
State College, PA 16803 (814-231-7000)

J. C. Blair Memorial Hospital
1225 Warm Springs Ave.
Huntingdon, PA 16652 (814-643-2290)

*"Answer me when I call, O God of my right!
You gave me room when I was in distress.
Be gracious to me, and hear my prayer.
When you are disturbed, do not sin; ponder
it on your beds, and be silent. Offer right
sacrifices, and put your trust in the Lord."
(Psalm 4:1, 4-5)*

Some would say that bullying is behind all forms of violence, conflict, persecution, abuse, harassment, discrimination and prejudice. The philosopher Seneca, once said, "All cruelty springs from weakness." He's probably correct. We are seeing increasing examples of bullying instigated by teens and adults. They're everywhere – at work, at home, in schools, in medicine, in governments, on the internet, in social cliques, and yes, even in churches – as a co-worker recently said, "People seem to be nastier and nastier."

What every bully has in common is their use of power to satisfy their own shortcomings. For an instant, he or she, feels better, but that feeling doesn't last, so they have to do it again and again. Yes – people make mistakes – lash out in hurtful ways, be rude, or be thoughtless, but bullying means that someone (or more than one person) is repeatedly and deliberately trying to hurt another person with less power. That power over another may be physical, economical, emotional, or social.

Feeling helpless and persecuted and wishing that the bullying would stop are normal reactions, however, feeling helpless and/or victimized, waste your time and energy. They will most likely cause you a lot of pain, and will not make the situation better. Figuring out how to use the power you already have to protect yourself can change your life. Most of the time, you can choose how you are going to respond to bullying behavior. Make a conscious decision instead of feeling like the helpless

victim of someone else's behavior can be very empowering.

Leaving or Staying – You can choose to disengage for a moment, or end the relationship completely. You can set boundaries regarding what needs to change in order for you to stay. If you decide to stay, you need to figure out how to stop the other's behavior from upsetting you – you cannot force another person to change his/her behavior, however you can change how you handle it. When we allow others to treat us poorly, we send an unspoken message that we agree with their low opinion of us – in other words, we enable the behavior to continue by not putting limits on the bully's behavior.

Confront the bully privately – Bullies tend to play to an audience, so if you try to talk to them in front of someone else, you might not get the results you want. **However, there is one important exception – if you are concerned that the situation could escalate to physical violence, always make sure you have a witness present.**

Recognize what is happening and remember it is the bully who has the problem, not you. Unless they are physically threatening you, stand up to them calmly and confront their behavior rationally. If you call them out on their behavior, they usually have no place to go – especially if others witness these actions. Don't attack. Simply and calmly stand up for yourself. It may take some practice. If you can't stand up to the bully immediately, don't buy-into their

behavior by trying to appease them. Quietly walk away. Think about what you want to say and either talk to them later, or wait until the next time, then call them out. Once exposed, they will gradually lose interest. The following example model can help you organize your thoughts:

"I feel ... (state your feeling in terms that are yours rather than attacking the other person) ... when you ... (state the specific behavior that is a problem to you; try not to use words like 'you never' ... 'you always'). Please ... (say what you specifically want the person to do." Example: "I feel uncomfortable when you make jokes about others. Please stop doing this in my presence."

Get help – Document the bullying in as objective terms as you can. Join forces with others if someone in a position of power is misusing his/her authority. Be willing to go up the chain of command. If at work, talk with your human resources staff. Talk problems over with people you trust, but remember that endlessly agonizing about someone else's behavior won't lead to change. If you are feeling stuck, get professional help to support you in making healthy changes and in taking care of yourself emotionally – speak to your pastor, parish nurse, or a therapist.

Autumn blessings!

Debbie Best, RN, BSW, MHA



Juniata County Food Pantry
October Update

In August 2011, the Food Pantry served 280 families in need – a total of 810 individuals. Another record! Many thanks to our faithful churches who supported us with donations of food, supplies and money throughout the difficult summer months. A special thank you to Betty Wirt from Locust Run United Methodist Church, our top volunteer in August with 30 hours.

Fundraisers and Food Drives: In October, The Bread of Life Restaurant in McAlisterville will “Help Feed the Hungry.” Enjoy an excellent meal there on Saturday, October 22, 2011, present the attached coupon, and a portion of your bill will be donated to the Food Pantry.

We thank you sincerely for whatever help you are able to give.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS FOR OCTOBER

ALL NON-PERISHABLE FOODS, PERSONAL CARE ITEMS, CLEANING SUPPLIES, & BABY SUPPLIES: DIAPERS IN SIZES 4-6, PULL-UPS IN ALL SIZES, BABY SHAMPOO, BABY LOTION, DIAPER RASH OINTMENT, AND WIPES. PLASTIC GROCERY BAGS ARE ALSO NEEDED.

**WE GLADLY ACCEPT DONATIONS OF CASH
AND WEIS OR SCHLEGEL'S GIFT CARDS**

PHONE #: 717-436-9718 CONTACT PERSON: Kathy Queitzsch
ADDRESS: PO Box 44, 114 N. Main St, Mifflintown, PA 17059
HOURS: Mon. 1--4 PM, Tues./Thurs. 3--6 PM Sat. 10:00 AM– 1:00 PM

<p style="text-align: center;">BREAD OF LIFE RESTAURANT 463-2838, Rte 35 N., McAlisterville Is Helping Feed the Hungry SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2011 6:00 AM—9:00 PM Present this coupon and 20% of your payment will be donated to the JUNIATA COUNTY FOOD PANTRY</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">BREAD OF LIFE RESTAURANT 463-2838, Rte 35 N., McAlisterville Is Helping Feed the Hungry SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2011 6:00 AM—9:00 PM Present this coupon and 20% of your payment will be donated to the JUNIATA COUNTY FOOD PANTRY</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">BREAD OF LIFE RESTAURANT 463-2838, Rte 35 N., McAlisterville Is Helping Feed the Hungry SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2011 6:00 AM—9:00 PM Present this coupon and 20% of your payment will be donated to the JUNIATA COUNTY FOOD PANTRY</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">BREAD OF LIFE RESTAURANT 463-2838, Rte 35 N., McAlisterville Is Helping Feed the Hungry SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2011 6:00 AM—9:00 PM Present this coupon and 20% of your payment will be donated to the JUNIATA COUNTY FOOD PANTRY</p>

15th Annual Community Chorus

I am again attempting to organize a LARGE community chorus of varied age groups to combine with the Juniata High School Chorus for the annual Christmas cantata performance to be held Sunday afternoon, December 18th at 2:00 PM. I will conduct weekly rehearsals in the JHS music room from mid-October through December. I am delighted to announce that this year's cantata is DAWN OF REDEEMING GRACE.

I anticipate interest from all age groups. Past singing groups consisted of young people, middle-aged adults, and senior citizens. This combination of age groups worked very well and I am confident that the varied ages will once again create a rewarding experience for not only the participating vocalists, but also the audience members who choose to attend the December 18th performance. As in the past, we'll have live tableaux as an enhancement to the overall presentation.

Make note that the rehearsal nights include an assortment of Monday and Tuesday evenings. The first rehearsal will be held Tuesday evening, Oct. 18th (7:00-8:30 PM). Mark your calendars for the following rehearsal dates: Oct. 18, 25, 31 / Nov. 7, 15, 22 / Dec. 5, 13. Even if you cannot attend all of the rehearsals, please don't hesitate to get involved with this singing group!!! We're doing this to enjoy a positive singing experience . . . so just mail the form indicating your interest to sing, include a note regarding the rehearsals that may present a problem for you, and come to whatever rehearsals are possible.

Please cut off and return the bottom section of this letter by Monday, Oct. 10th. I'm once again looking forward to directing this group for it promises to be a unique experience and will hopefully provide an enjoyable time for all involved persons (regardless of age). **Please join us!!!!**

Respectfully,

Kevin Cunningham

Please neatly detach the bottom portion and return by Monday, Oct. 10th to . . .
KEVIN CUNNINGHAM, 644 CUNNINGHAM RD, MIFFLINTOWN PA 17059

!/we want to sing with the Community Chorus!!! (Family members are welcome)

Name(s): _____

Phone #: _____

Address: _____

e-mail address: _____

Voice Part(s)

_____ **Soprano**

_____ **Alto**

_____ **Tenor**

_____ **Bass**

_____ **No Idea!**

Cantata: DAWN OF REDEEMING GRACE

_____ I already have the cantata book.

_____ I will need a music booklet.