

THE MESSIAH HERALD



OCTOBER, 2012

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

3 SOUTH THIRD STREET
MIFFLINTOWN, PA 17059
(717)-436-6213
www.mlcmissflintown.org
mlcmiffflintown@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 2012

When Martin Luther began the Reformation by nailing the 95 Theses to the door at the Wittenberg Castle church he was beginning what he conceived of as a conservative movement.

The results were anything but conservative and sparked a period dynamic change resulting from war, turmoil and chaos.

Luther understood that order was necessary in life and he saw that as the role of civil authority; to maintain order and suppress chaos so that people could hear the promise of the Gospel unfettered from fear and threat of destruction.

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

When Martin Luther began the Reformation by nailing the 95 Theses to the door at the Wittenberg Castle church he was beginning what he conceived of as a conservative movement. It was a call to the church to return to its roots in the Gospel of Jesus Christ and salvation by grace. The results were anything but conservative and sparked a period of dynamic change resulting from war, turmoil and chaos. The word of God, however, is always radical and transforming.

Times of chaos often result in tremendous periods of dynamic transition and progress. It is written in the opening verses of the book of Genesis that the "ruach," the spirit of God, moved over the face of the waters. This word "waters" can, also, be translated as "the deep," "the void," or "the chaos." If we understand the word as "chaos" then the creative force of God's Spirit calls creation and order out of this "chaos." The word of God changes everything.

Luther sought in the years following the start of the Reformation and in the resulting chaos of war, theological and physical, to bring order and direction to the chaos. He organized the German language and helped to establish a fixed grammar for it. He established economic principles for the function of the market and the community. He taught and established regular education for youth, including the creation of the Small Catechism for teaching theology, God talk, in the home. He prepared students to become pastors and put the Bible into the hands of the people in their own vernacular. Needless to say Luther was a busy man. But he understood that order was necessary in life and he saw that as the role of civil authority; to maintain order and suppress chaos so that people could hear the promise of the Gospel unfettered from fear and threat of destruction.

We are presently living in a country where chaos has once again been on the rise. Ever since 9/11 chaos has been present in our public and private consciousness in a way not known since WWII. This chaos can be used by some to promote fear. This chaos can be used by some as an excuse to diminish rights long secured to us as citizens of this great country by those who first drafted the Constitution and public order by which we direct ourselves as a nation. At the same time people can refuse to be accountable to any group or anyone except self leaving in their wake decay, confusion and, yes, more chaos.

What is from God does not lead to chaos except to bring judgment but always there is God's grace and hope. The disorder of the Garden of Eden leads to judgment and expulsion but with the blessing of clothing. Cain receives the mark of God as protection after God's judgment for the chaotic act of killing Abel. The flood of Noah gave way to new order and life with the promise of breeding pairs and a rainbow as a covenant sign of God's promise. The chaos of the wandering in the wilderness gave way to the people of Israel ordering their lives under the law of God.

God's will leads to order, not necessarily by force but **by God's will and our faithfulness**. As a last resort it uses the force of law to restrain those who persist in destruction and the neglect and harm of neighbor. It treats all people equally before the law, all fall short of the glory of God. In the present confusion and chaos that now surrounds us, we have the opportunity to speak and act on God's word of truth and reformation to the world.

Faithfulness to God means taking the risk to reach out and love one's neighbor in a hope of creating a new order in life instead of accepting the belief that enmity can never be changed into friendship and enemies can never become friends and partners. Chaos always gives way to the kingdom of God in our life and death.

"And though this world, with devils filled,
Should threaten to undo us;
We will not fear, for God hath willed
His truth to triumph through us." M.Luther

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Bill

DAILY HOME BIBLE READINGS

October	1: 1 Peter 1:3-9
October	2: Zechariah 10:1-12
October	3: Galatians 3:23-29
October	4: Genesis 2:18-24
October	5: Psalm 8
October	6: Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12
October	7: Mark 10:2-16
October	8: Psalm 112
October	9: Deuteronomy 5:1-21
October	10: Deuteronomy 5:22-33
October	11: Amos 5:6-7, 10-15
October	12: Psalm 90:12-17
October	13: Hebrews 4:12-16
October	14: Mark 10:17-31
October	15: Revelation 7:9-17
October	16: Revelation 17:1-18
October	17: Isaiah 53:4-12
October	18: Luke 1:1-4; 24:44-53
October	19: Psalm 91:9-16
October	20: Hebrews 5:1-10
October	21: Mark 10:35-45
October	22: Jeremiah 29:24-32
October	23: Jeremiah 31:7-9
October	24: John 14:21-27
October	25: Jeremiah 31:31-34
October	26: Psalm 46
October	27: Romans 3:19-28
October	28: John 8:31-36
October	29: Deuteronomy 6:1-9
October	30: Psalm 119:1-8
October	31: Mark 10:46-52



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

7: Randy Clark
14: Ron Yorks
21: Linda Bahorik
28: Diana Wise

ALTAR GUILD

Oct. 1—Oct. 14 Michelle Stoner
Oct. 15—Oct. 28 Diana Wise
(cup communion) Clint & Jamie Miller
Oct. 29—Nov. 4 Ann Beaver
(cup communion) Clint & Jamie Miller

ALTAR FLOWERS

7: Don & Barb Geedey
14: Dave & Cindy Miller & family
21: OPEN
28: Warren & Claire Mummah



Messiah Women of the ELCA met Thursday, September 13, 2012 with Dorothy Smith as devotional leader, beginning with a reading from the book, "Every Day with the Savior" entitled "Women as Citizens." The reading is based on Romans 13:1, "There is no authority except that which God has established." The Holy Spirit teaches about government and citizenship. Stressed are the duties to obey the powers that be, to pay taxes, and to accord respect and honor to whom this is due. "Give to Caesar what is Caesar's and to God what is God's." Matthew 2:21. The right to vote, since it involves public life, brings opportunities for greater service to

one's own country and to all inhabitants. Christian women follow the prompting of their faith as they render public service. They influence community life, government, education, and industry. The 19th Amendment describes the right to vote

We also listened to a reading from the book "The Quiet Heart," "The Last Harvest," and from "Christ in Our Home," the daily reading for September 13, 2012, "Thank God for Deliverance."

Thank you Dorothy.

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

Business discussed:

- Plans were made for the Cluster meeting which we are hosting on October 14, 2012.
- Thankoffering Service for November 11 was finalized. Cynthia Smith will lead the church service with Pastor Esborn delivering the message.

The next meeting will be Thursday, October 11, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the Youth Area. Claire Mummah will have short devotions and we will be packing fabric kits, school kits, and quilts to be sent to Lutheran World Relief.

The meeting closed with the reading of "The Purpose."

We adjourned to a refreshment table decorated for Fall, where we enjoyed fellowship and dined on fresh watermelon, cantaloupe and pineapple and an assortment of unusually flavored candy corn.

Thanks to our hostesses, Velma Suloff and Barbara S. Geedey.

SALES FOR SCHOOL SUPPLIES
BEGIN IN JULY!!!!

Education is important for any community, especially where poverty or disaster has limited the options for young people to

reach their potential. School Kits contain essential supplies to help children—and some adults—continue learning despite the hardships they face. And that learning leads to a better life for them, their families and their communities.

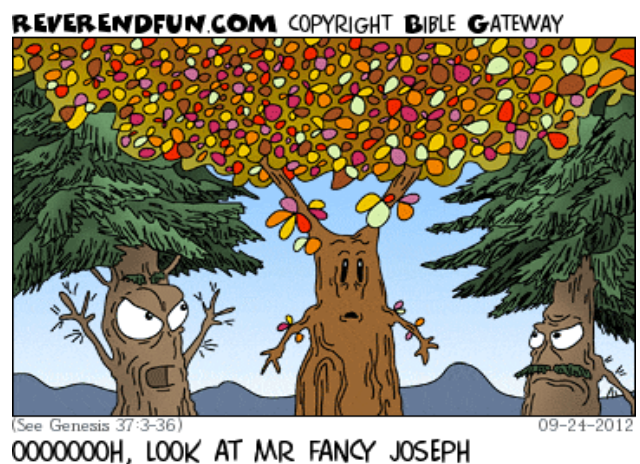
Matthew 25:40 "The King will reply 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brethren of mine, you did for me.' "

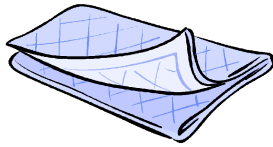
The last Messiah Women of the ELCA project for the year is collection of items to fill 60 back packs for Lutheran World Relief School Kits. We have some supplies but need the congregation to help to add needed items. Collection will continue until September 9, 2012.

- Ballpoint Pens (5 needed for each kit)
- Pencil Sharpener
- Blunt Scissors (safety scissors with embedded steel blades work well)
- Unsharpened #2** pencils with erasers (5 needed for each kit)
- A box of 24 crayons
- 2½ inch erasers

Please place the items on the blue table in the Sunday School Room.

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.





BLANKET SUNDAY

Blanket Sunday will be observed on Sunday, October 7, 2012.

Along with all ELCA congregations, you are invited to make a donation to Lutheran World Relief in the special Blanket Sunday envelopes that are 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!

VOTERS ASSEMBLY/PPC MEETING

The next Voters Assembly meeting will be held on Sunday, November 18, 2012 following the morning worship service.

Business: Quarterly reports of the boards and voting on 2013 proposed budget. **NOTE:** PPC Board Directors are asked to submit their proposed 2013 budgets to Ken Eyler by October 14, 2012. You may place them in Ken's mailbox in the church office or by email to keyler@nmax.net.

The next PPC meeting will be held on Sunday, October 21, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the Youth Area.

ATTENTION MESSIAH MEMBERS

Anyone who has scrap metals including aluminum, copper and appliances, please call Randy at 543-3230 or 247-1184 and they will be removed FREE of charge.

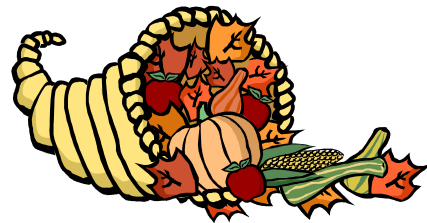


CROP WALK

The Juniata County Crop Walk will be held on Sunday, October 7, 2012 at Walker Township Park (RAIN OR SHINE!). Short Walk will be 3 laps and Long Walk will be 15 laps. Registration begins at 12:30 p.m. and the Walk begins at 1:30 p.m. Please bring all pledge money on Walk Day.

Donated items for the Food Pantry will be collected at the Walk. Twenty-five percent of pledge money will go to the Food Pantry and the Meals-On-Wheels program. Prizes will be given to persons with pledges totaling \$100 or more.

If you have questions, please contact Becky Zeigler at 463-2309 or Kathy Whitesel at 436-2401. (Sign-up sheet 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 11, 2012. Fall Fest will be immediately following the worship service in the Fellowship Hall. Home-made vegetable soup 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 October bulletins for sign-up sheets.

HEATING OIL PROGRAM

For every gallon of heating oil purchased by a member of Messiah Lutheran Church from Nittany Oil Company or Hilltop Oil, they will donate five cents per gallon back to the church's heating oil account.

If not already participating in this program, contact the Hilltop office at 436-2647 if you wish to participate.

THANK YOU TO OUR FRIENDS AT MESSIAH LUTHERAN

Thank you so much for your regular and generous donations to the Juniata County Food Pantry.

Your gifts are very much appreciated and will greatly bless the lives of your neighbors in need by providing them with well-balanced meals, and the means to promote personal health and cleanliness.

Your Friends at the Juniata
County Food Pantry

MEALS-ON-WHEELS

Meals-On-Wheels needs a head cook and team for the fourth Tuesday of the month (beginning in November). Also needed, at least two people to help assemble the meals for delivery on the

second Friday of the month (needed immediately). Drivers are also needed for several routes.

If you 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

BLOOD DRIVES

The American Red Cross will be holding blood drives at the following locations:

Saturday, October 20th
St. Jude's Catholic Church
9:00 am – 2:00 pm
William Penn Hwy., Mifflintown

Tuesday, November 6th
Juniata Mennonite School
1:00 pm – 7:00 pm
289 Leonard Hill Rd., McAlisterville

Friday, November 30th
Walker Grange Hall
1:00 pm – 7:00 pm
William Penn Hwy., Mexico

Individuals who are in general good health, are age 17 or older and weigh at least 110 pounds are eligible to donate blood safely every 56 days. Donors should bring their Red Cross donor cards, photo ID, or two other forms of identification to the donor site. The need for blood never diminishes because blood is a perishable medicine.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, visit redcrossblood.org or call 1-800 Red Cross.

(W)HOLY, (W)HOLY, (W)HOLY
Health, Healing and Wholeness
October 2012

"For the Lord will not reject forever. Although he causes grief, he will have compassion according to the abundance of his steadfast love; for he does not willingly afflict or grieve anyone." (Lamentations 3:31-33, NRSV)

In August, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) released a recommendation that all adults born between 1945 through 1965 (a.k.a. baby boomers) be tested for Hepatitis C. They termed it "a silent killer" and an "unrecognized health crisis," because this particular hepatitis virus can be present in the body, increasing the risk for transmission and causing serious liver damage, liver failure, cirrhosis, and liver cancer – all without one's knowledge. *"It is the leading cause of liver transplants and liver cancer – the fastest-rising cause of all cancer-related deaths – in the US."*

*"Many baby boomers were infected with Hepatitis C during their teens and twenties. Some may have become infected via blood transfusions or other health care exposure before universal precautions and widespread blood testing were implemented in 1992. Others may have become infected from experimentation with drug use, even if only once decades ago. Because these exposures were often long ago, many baby boomers may not recall – or may be unwilling to discuss – the events that have placed them at risk. As a result, many have never been tested for hepatitis C." (... CDC Fact Sheet (August 2012). *Hepatitis C: Expansion of Testing Recommendations, 2012.**

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: Atlanta, GA)

Health care exposures include: those on long-term dialysis treatment, accidental needle-sticks involving blood from a patient with hepatitis C, recipients of blood, blood products, or transplanted tissue/organs from a donor who was an unknowing carrier. Less commonly, the virus can be spread via sexual contact, through sharing personal items such as razors and toothbrushes [containing blood contaminants], tattooing and/or piercings performed in unregulated settings, and from mother to baby during birth.

In its report, the CDC states it is making these testing recommendations for the following reasons:

- The vast majority (more than 75%) of American adults with hepatitis C are baby boomers. Testing people in this age group will help identify many undiagnosed cases.
- Deaths from hepatitis C are on the rise. As hepatitis C infected baby boomers age, the likelihood that they will develop serious, life-threatening complications from the disease increases – unless those infections are appropriately diagnosed and treated.
- New therapies can cure up to 75% of persons treated for hepatitis C. Identifying silent cases of hepatitis infection has the potential to save more lives than ever before.

It is also important to re-iterate how the virus **is not spread**. **It is not spread** by sharing eating utensils, via breast feeding, hugging, kissing, holding hands, coughing, sneezing. It is also not spread through food or water, and has not been shown to be transmitted by mosquitoes or other insects.

Finally, because contracting this disease can be life-style related, there may be a temptation to 'blame the victim' for his/her choices leading to the disease. For those who do, I say, "Remember Job." Jobs friends sat with him, in silence, for days, but eventually, they gave in to the human habit of blaming the sufferer for his predicament. Their speeches were based on wrong assumptions. We all need to be careful what we assume to be true in the lives of others. Like Jobs friends, we cannot assume that suffering [with hepatitis C] is one's own fault, or is a result of youthful indiscretion and sins.

Speak to your doctor, and get tested. The process is simple and should be covered by most health insurance.

October blessings!

Debbie Best, RN, BSW, MHA



Juniata County Food Pantry October Update

Autumn has arrived! Soon to be followed by Thanksgiving and Christmas. This year, while times are extra tough for so many families, the Food Pantry plans to 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 up to 350 families in poverty a meal, at Thanksgiving, and then again at Christmas. In the past, we were only able to provide your neighbors in need one holiday meal—they had to choose between the two holidays.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS FOR OCTOBER:

TURKEYS, CRANBERRY SAUCE, STUFFING, CANNED FRUITS AND VEGETABLES, INSTANT MASHED POTATOES, CANNED SWEET POTATOES, GRAVY MIX, CAKE MIX AND READY MADE ICING.

***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**

Dear Friends,

The Juniata County Food Pantry thanks you for your faithful support of our mission to feed the hungry, and we cordially invite you to our 2012 Annual Meeting on Thursday, October 25, 2012 at 7:00 PM. The meeting will take place in the Food Pantry building at 114 N. Main Street, Mifflintown. An overview of the last 12 months at the Pantry will be provided by our board president, Rev. Chris Mathiason, and we will elect new members to the board. Light refreshments will be provided. If you haven't had the chance to visit our new facility, this is a great chance for a tour.

We would also be grateful for your input if you know of anyone in your church or community with a heart for the hungry who may be willing to serve on the Juniata County Food Pantry Board of Directors. We have three vacant positions to fill on the board and do not have enough nominees at this time. If you would like to nominate someone or have questions about the director positions, please e-mail Rev. Chris Mathiason at cmathiason001@luthersem.edu.

16TH 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 16, 2012 at 2:00 PM in the Juniata High School Auditorium. 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 SEASON OF WONDERS.

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 16th 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. 16th (7:00-8:30 PM). Mark your calendars for the following rehearsal dates: Oct. 16, 23, 29 / Nov. 5, 13, 20 / Dec. 3, 11. 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. 8th. 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. 8th to . . .
KEVIN CUNNINGHAM, 644 CUNNINGHAM RD, MIFFLINTOWN PA 17059**

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

Name(s):_____ **Phone#:**_____

Address:_____

e-mail address_____

Cantata: SEASON OF WONDERS

_____I already have the cantata book.

_____I will need a music booklet.

Voice Part(s)

_____Soprano

_____Alto

_____Tenor

_____Bass

_____No Idea!