

THE MESSIAH HERALD



OCTOBER, 2014

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 2014

The issue of Bible literacy or illiteracy is a significant issue today.

“Fewer than half of all adults can name the four gospels. Many Christians cannot identify more than two or three of the disciples.”

Together we are the ones who have made promises at baptism for the care and instruction of the baptized.

This means that as kids and adults we are responsible for being intimately aware of the Bible, its content, and how it works as witness to God’s work in and among God’s people.

I challenge all of you, grandparents, parents, and kids to get your noses in the Bible. Read it every day.

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The issue of Bible literacy or illiteracy is a significant issue today. Many people own a Bible, about 80% of Americans report having a Bible in their homes, but many, many people are ignorant of just what is in the Bible and how the Bible came to be the book that we have today. Many people can quote Bible fragments and yet in doing so they significantly alter the historical meanings of those passages by taking them out of context. Many idioms and sayings exist, such as, “God helps those who help themselves,” people attributing them to the Bible yet they are not scriptural in origin but are quoted with a vigor and belief that they are the very word of God.

Christianity.com recently noted, “Fewer than half of all adults can name the four gospels. Many Christians cannot identify more than two or three of the disciples. According to data from the Barna Research Group, 60 percent of Americans can’t name even five of the Ten Commandments. “No wonder people break the Ten Commandments all the time. They don’t know what they are,” said George Barna, president of the firm. The bottom line? “Increasingly, **America is biblically illiterate.**”

Ultimately, the responsibility for addressing this problem lies in the hands of parents and congregations. Together we are the ones who have made promises at baptism for the care and instruction of the baptized. Our public schools have not done this. Their responsibility is to educate our children in the broader studies of our world; math, science, language, history, etc. You and I are responsible for teaching the Bible and how to follow Jesus. This is our work. We made the promise.

This means that as kids and adults we are responsible for being intimately aware of the Bible, its content, and how it works as witness to God’s work in and among God’s people. That means we need to make a commitment to studying and learning the Bible. We cannot teach to our families unless we as parents and grandparents are committed to learning about the Bible ourselves.

I challenge all of you, grandparents, parents, and kids to get your noses in the Bible. Read it every day. Start with Mark’s Gospel and read ten verses together every day. Don’t worry about if the break doesn’t make sense tomorrow you will continue to read. Talk together about what you read. Do it at dinner or before bed, it doesn’t matter but do it consistently. Do it faithfully.

Get involved in a Sunday school class. In confirmation class this year, we focus on learning about the Bible. We will study how different parts and passages of the Bible functioned for their original audiences and we will talk about how it speaks to us today. Parents and members are always welcomed to sit in on a class. We all need to learn God’s Word, even pastors need to keep studying and growing in our understanding of the Bible.

God bless you as you immerse yourself in the Bible and fulfill our baptismal promises.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Bill

DAILY HOME BIBLE READINGS

October	1: Philippians 2:14-28; 3:1-4a
October	2: Isaiah 5:1-7
October	3: Psalm 80:7-15
October	4: Philippians 3:4b-14
October	5: Matthew 21:33-46
October	6: 1 Peter 5:1-5, 12-14
October	7: James 4:4-10
October	8: Mark 2:18-22
October	9: Isaiah 25:1-9
October	10: Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23
October	11: Philippians 4:1-9
October	12: Matthew 22:1-14
October	13: 3 John 9-12
October	14: Matthew 14:1-2
October	15: Isaiah 45:1-7
October	16: Psalm 96:1-9 (10-13)
October	17: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10
October	18: 2 Timothy 4:5-11
October	19: Matthew 22:15-22
October	20: Titus 2:7-8, 11-15
October	21: 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8
October	22: Matthew 22:34-46
October	23: Jeremiah 31:31-34
October	24: Psalm 46
October	25: Romans 3:19-28
October	26: John 8:31-36
October	27: Matthew 23:1-12
October	28: 1 John 4:1-6
October	29: Psalm 43
October	30: Revelation 7:9-17
October	31: Psalm 34:1-10, 22



PRAYER CHAIN

Any time you wish to add a name to our prayer list, please contact Stacie Kint at 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!

OCTOBER SCHEDULES

LECTORS

5: Sam Leister
12: Randy Clark
19: Ron Yorks
26: Linda Bahorik

GREETERS & USHERS

Oct. 5: Stan, Missy, Hannah & Carter Ehrisman

ALTAR GUILD

Sept. 29—Oct. 5 Linda Clark
Oct. 6—Oct. 12 Christie Holderman
Oct. 13—Oct. 26 Michelle Stoner
(cup communion – Clint & Jamie Miller)
Oct. 27—Nov. 2 Linda Clark
(cup communion – Clint & Jamie Miller)

ALTAR FLOWERS

5: OPEN
12: Cindy Miller & Family
19: Kevin & Kate Swailes & Family
26: OPEN



Messiah Women of ELCA met on Thursday, September 11, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. Barb Geedey provided the divotions for the evening from "15 Minutes Alone With God."

Cynthia Smith gave the treasurer's report.

Barb also led the business meeting.

The Advent Banner, that has been given to the church in memory of a church family, has been ordered. Watch future bulletins for the banner's dedication.

The Fall Cluster meeting will be held on October 5, 2014 at St. Stephen's in Licking Creek. Registration begins at 1:30 p.m. with the program to follow at 2:00 p.m. Registration deadline is September 30th to Joan Fulkroad at 436-6055.

October 5th is also Blanket Sunday and we are hoping to have the envelopes in the Sunday bulletin this week.

The Needlers are in need of larger boxes to pack their quilts to deliver to St. John's Lewistown on October 12 or 13. We have some but we are going to have a record number of quilts this year so more boxes are needed.

The Thankoffering Service will be held on Sunday, November 9, 2014. Cynthia Smith, Jean Compton and Ann Beaver have agreed to serve as ushers. Andrea Cameron will be our service leader for the morning and Karla Bohmbach, from Susquehanna, will be our speaker. There will be a meal following the service. Again the Parish Fellowship Committee will provide the meat, rolls and beverage. Those who attend will be asked to bring a covered dish if possible.

Ann Beaver reported that 8 boxes of clothing and back packs were sent to Pine Ridge. We also have 10 smaller quilts to send there as well. Our hope is to have another project with Pine Ridge in the future.

We worked on the Baby Kits but were unable to complete them as we are still in need of undershirts, and jackets/sweatshirts with hoods or sweaters and hats. Ann is ordering the undershirts so if anyone would like to help with that expense they may give money to Ann. Jean Compton has been locating jackets/sweatshirts, sweaters and hats so if anyone would like to help her, you may do that also.

Our next meeting will be Thursday, October

9, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the Youth Area. Ann Beaver will have the program and refreshments will be provided by Linda Leister and Cynthia Smith.

Anyone who is interested in what our group does, please come to our next meeting as we would love to have you. Any woman is welcome.

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.

PINE RIDGE RESERVATION PROJECT

The WELCA Pine Ridge Reservation clothing project has been completed. Eight boxes of clothing and back packs were sent to the reservation for the start of school. WELCA will continue to support this reservation in South Dakota, but will move on to a different style project.

The new phase of the Pine Reservation project will be announced in a few weeks, so stay tuned to see how you can help.

Thank you so much for your continued support of WELCA's many humanitarian projects.

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

**UPPER SUSQUEHANNA
SYNOCDICAL WOMEN'S
ORGANIZATION
2014 JUNIATA VALLEY FALL
CLUSTER MEETING**

Women of the ELCA Fall Cluster Meeting will be held on October 5, 2014 at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church, Licking Creek.

Registration will be 1:30 p.m. and the program at 2:00 p.m. Registration cost will be \$3.00 and donations to Cluster will be \$5.00 (or more).

The speaker will be Kathy Whitesel who will speak about the work done by 400 youth at 75 work sites in Juniata County during one week this past summer.

To register, call Joan Fulkroad at 436-6055 by September 30th.

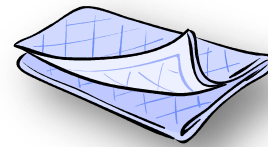


YOUTH EVENT

The St. Stephen's Youth Group will be climbing the 1,000 steps hiking trail in Huntingdon on October 19, 2014. Messiah youth who are in 7th grade and up can join them.

Please contact Kathy Whitesel at 717-436-2401 if you are interested in going

on the trip. They will be leaving St. Stephen's at 1:00 p.m.



BLANKET SUNDAY

Blanket Sunday will be observed on Sunday, October 5, 2014.

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

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.



CROP WALK

The Juniata County CROP Walk will be held (rain or shine) on Sunday, October 5, 2014 at Walker Township Park (route 322,

Port Royal exit). Registration begins at 12:30 p.m. and the Walk begins at 1:30 p.m. Please bring all pledge money on Walk day.

On CROP Walk day, CROP Walkers can deliver needed items to the Juniata County Food Pantry. Needs include:

- Personal Hygiene Supplies such as tooth-brushes, toothpaste, soap, shampoo, deodorant, shaving cream, razors, etc.
- Cleaning Supplies like all-purpose cleansers, bleach, trash bags, laundry detergent, dish detergent, etc.
- Paper Products such as paper towels, toilet tissue, tissues
- Infant Needs like diapers, baby wipes, baby shampoo, baby lotions
- Non-Perishable Food items

Twenty-five percent of pledge money will go to the Food Pantry and Meals-On-Wheels. Sign-up sheet and Walk donation envelopes are available in the Adult Sunday School Room. Thank you for all donations!

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 7th. 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!

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. Serving Centre, Mifflin and Juniata Counties (LOCALLY OWNED). Check out our website:

InHomeServicesofCentralPA.com.



GETHSEMANE WINDOW PROJECT COMPLETED

The Gethsemane Window is now back in its proper place in our sanctuary. The project to clean and repair the glass and the leading began June 30, 2014, when the window was removed and taken to Saltzer's Harrisburg workshop for the cleaning and repairs.

The finished window and the new storm window were installed on August 19 and 20. Mike Saltzer reports that the window was extremely dirty, even in between the double glass section, and the result is a much brighter more colorful window. The cost of the repairs and

cleaning are \$13,824.00.

Please consider adding a gift to the stained glass fund to offset this cost whenever you are able.



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

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 October 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

Like us on **Face Book!**

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

