

Messiah Lutheran Church

3 South Third Street
Mifflintown, PA 17059

Church Office / 436-6213 Dial-A-Prayer / 436-2100

The Reverend William N. Esborn
Robert St. Clair
Andrea Cameron
Diana Wise
Diana Wise

Pastor
Organist
Choir Director
Lector
Altar Guild

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST SEPTEMBER 18, 2011 – 10:30 a.m.

*Please Stand as **YOU** Are Able

PEOPLE TO REMEMBER IN PRAYER TODAY

Marian G., Reba S., Sue C., Flo B., Ethel B., Virginia F., Cathryn R., Goldie K., Jean M., Cassie S., Ruth C., Ray B., Anna Mary Z., Paul W., Bob C., Linda R., Audrey M., Conner L., George and Mary Lorraine H., Laurie F., Christy H., Mary W., Mason B., Beth S., Harold S., and Denny K.

PREPARATION

CHIMES: CALL TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE

[A Time for Meditation and Prayer]

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTRODUCTION

Matthew narrates one of Jesus' controversial parables, in which Jesus says the reign of God is like workers who get paid the same no matter when they start. When God changes his mind about punishing Nineveh for their evil ways, Jonah is angry. Yet God is gracious and merciful, abounding in steadfast love. In baptism we receive the grace of God that is freely given to all. As Luther wrote, in the presence of God's mercy we are all beggars.

Today is the commemoration of Dag Hammarskjold, renewer of society, who died in 1961.

* SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

P In Holy Baptism our gracious heavenly Father liberates us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; in the waters of Baptism we are reborn children of God and inheritors of eternal life. By water and the Holy Spirit we are made members of the Church which is the body of Christ. As we live with him and with his people, we grow in faith, love, and obedience to the will of God.

Parents: We present Brea Lin Beward to receive the Sacrament of Holy Baptism.

P Brea Lin Beward do you desire to be baptized?

Parents: I do.

P In Christian love you have presented this child for Holy Baptism. You should, therefore, faithfully bring her to the services of God's house, and teach her the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments. As she grows in years, you should place in her hands the Holy Scriptures and provide for her instruction in the Christian faith, that, living in the covenant of her Baptism and in communion with the Church, she may lead a godly life until the day of Jesus Christ.

Do you promise to fulfill these obligations?

Parents: Yes, by the help of God.

P Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: We give you thanks, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and you created heaven and earth. By the gift of water you nourish and sustain us and all living things.

By the waters of the flood you condemned the wicked and saved those whom you had chosen, Noah and his family. You led Israel by the pillar of cloud and fire through the sea, out of slavery into the freedom of the promised land. In the waters of the Jordan your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Spirit. By the baptism of his own death and resurrection your beloved Son has set us free from the bondage to sin and death, and has opened the way to the joy and freedom of everlasting life. He made water a sign of the kingdom and of cleansing and rebirth. In obedience to his command, we make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, so that she who is here baptized may be given new life. Wash away the sin of she who is cleansed by this water and bring her forth as an inheritor of your glorious kingdom.

To you be given praise and honor and worship through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C Amen

P I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church, the faith in which we baptize.

Do you renounce all the forces of evil, the devil, and all his empty promises?

Parents: Yes, by the help of God.

P Do you believe in God the Father?

C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

C I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

P Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

C I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

P Brea Lin Beward, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we give you thanks for freeing your Sons and daughters from the power of sin and for raising them up to a new life through this holy sacrament. Pour your Holy Spirit upon Brea: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence.

C Amen

P Brea Lin Beward child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

Parents: Amen

P Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

P O God, the giver of all life, look with kindness upon the father and mother of this child. Let them ever rejoice in the gift you have given them. Make them teachers and examples of righteousness for their child. Strengthen them in their own Baptism so they may share eternally with their child the salvation you have given them, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

P Through Baptism God has made this new sister a member of the priesthood we all share in Christ Jesus, that we may proclaim the praise of God and bear his creative and redeeming Word to all the world.

C We welcome Brea Lin Beward into the Lord's family. We receive her as a fellow member of the body of Christ, child of the same heavenly Father, and a worker with us in the kingdom of God.

* 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."**

* BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit

C Amen

P God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that, attentive to your Word, we may confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

P Gracious God,

C have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

P Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

C Amen.

GATHERING

* ENTRANCE HYMN "Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling" p. 13 in bulletin

* GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

* KYRIE (sung)

P Ky-ri-e, e-le-i-son: C Lord, have mer-cy.

P Chri-ste, e-le-i-son: C Christ, have mer-cy.

P Ky-ri-e, e-le-i-son: C Lord, have mer-cy.

* HYMN OF PRAISE (sung)

Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the highest;

glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.

**Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the highest;
glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.
Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take
a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;
you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.
Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the highest;
glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.
For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord, you a-lone are the
Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it, in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther.
A-men.
Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the highest;
glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth, and peace
to God's peo-ple on earth.**

*** SALUTATION AND RESPONSE (spoken)**

P The Lord be with you

C And also with you.

*** PRAYER OF THE DAY (spoken in unison)**

P Let us pray...

C Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

WORD

After Jonah's short sermon in 3:4, the Ninevites all repented and God decided to spare the city. Jonah objected to this and became even more angry when God ordered a worm to destroy a plant that was providing shade. The book ends with a question that challenges any who are not ready to forgive: You, Jonah, are all worked up about a bush, but should not I be concerned about a hundred and twenty thousand Ninevites who do not know the difference between their right and left hands?

FIRST READING: A reading from Jonah 3:10—4:11

THE LESSON READS:

Chapter 3

¹⁰When God saw what [the people of Ninevah] did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

^{4:1}But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. ²He prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. ³And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." ⁴And the LORD said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" ⁵Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

⁶The Lord GOD appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. ⁷But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. ⁸When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live."

⁹But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." ¹⁰Then the LORD said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. ¹¹And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?"

Lector: The word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God. (spoken)

PSALM: Psalm 145:1-8 (**Responsively**)

L – The LORD is slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. (Ps. 145:8)

¹I will exalt you, my God and king, and bless your name forever and ever.

²Every day will I bless you and praise your name forever and ever.

³Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised! There is no end to your greatness.

⁴One generation shall praise your works to another and shall declare your power.

⁵I will speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty and all your marvelous works.

⁶They shall tell of the might of your wondrous acts, and I will recount your greatness.

⁷They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness; they shall sing joyfully of your righteousness.

⁸The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

ALL – The LORD is slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

Paul writes to the Philippians from prison. Though he is uncertain about the outcome of his imprisonment, he is committed to the ministry of the gospel and calls on the Philippians to live lives that reflect and enhance the gospel mission.

SECOND READING: A reading from Philippians 1:21-30

THE LESSON READS:

²¹For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. ²²If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. ²³I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; ²⁴but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. ²⁵Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, ²⁶so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

²⁷Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, ²⁸and are in no way

intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. ²⁹For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well — ³⁰since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Lector: The word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God. (spoken)

* GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (sung)

Al-le-lu-ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? Al-le-lu-ia. You have the words of e-ter-nal life. Al-le-lu—ia. Al-le-lu—ia.

Jesus tells a parable about God's generosity, challenging the common assumption that God rewards people according to what they have earned or deserve.

* GOSPEL: Matthew 20:1-16

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 20th chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord. (spoken)

THE GOSPEL READS:

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹"The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ²After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. ³When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; ⁴and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. ⁵When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. ⁶And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' ⁷They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' ⁸When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' ⁹When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. ¹⁰Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. ¹¹And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹²saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' ¹³But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? ¹⁴Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' ¹⁶So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ. (spoken)

SERMON

* HYMN OF THE DAY

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

Pastor Esborn

p. 13 in bulletin

[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].

* 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, Lord, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

* OFFERING PRAYER

P Let us pray. Merciful God,

C we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

* PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P Seeking the renewal of the Holy Spirit in our communities and in our world, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

P Generous and merciful God, pour out your grace upon your people, especially when we are suffering. Support us to persist joyfully in our lives, so that others may see your goodness. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Send your Spirit to move across lands and waters in this change of seasons. Grant the promise of life to all living things that prepare to be dormant in winter and to reawaken in spring. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Be present in the ongoing work of peacemakers (like Dag Hammarskjold, renewer of society, whom we commemorate today). Use them to establish your peace among nations and your hope among peoples. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Guide those who are confused, are losing memory, or are failing in health (especially all of our shut-ins [both at home and in nursing homes], Paul Woltman, Bob Cameron, Linda Rhine, Audrey Morral, Connor Lauver, George Sr. and Mary Lorraine Hazard and family, Laurie Funk, Christy Hall, Mary Weiland, Mason Beward, Beth Smith, Jean McNaight, Ruth Cisney, Cassie Smith, Harold B. Shearer, and Denny King). Give them security in your abundant goodness and hope in your promises. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Transform our communities into places of welcome for those who have been shunned or marginalized. Send us forth with greetings of grace and peace on our lips. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P Gather us into the communion of saints, where we may always dwell in the love of Christ. Strengthen our mission of faithful living, as we bring others with us to this gathering. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Into your hands, holy God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abundant mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C Amen.

* THE LORD'S PRAYER ['new version'] **(all)**

P Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave us:

C Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the Kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen

* BLESSING

P Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

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

* CLOSING HYMN

"Lord, Speak to Us, That We May Speak"

p. 14 in bulletin

MEAL

* COMMUNION DIALOGUE (from Isaiah 55)

P Let us give thanks to the Lord.

C for through these gifts he comes to feed us.

P All you who are thirsty, come to the waters. You who have no money, come, receive bread, and eat.

C Come, without paying and without cost, drink wine and eat.

P Let us come to his table with joy,

C for we come as God's invited guests!

* EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, that by this Holy Communion we may know the unity we share with all your people in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

C Amen

DISTRIBUTION

["INTINCTION" – dip your wafer in the wine. Come forward by the center aisle and return by the side aisle. All who wish to stand at the chancel rail after partaking for a time of silent meditation are invited to do so].

* COMMUNION BLESSING

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen

* PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, you provide the true bread from heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that we who have received the Sacrament of his body and blood may abide in him and he in us, that we may be filled with the power of his endless life, now and forever.

C Amen

* DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

NEXT WEEK'S LECTOR – Cynthia Smith
NEXT WEEK'S ALTAR GUILD – Diana Wise

WELCOME

IF YOU WISH TO USE OR FOLLOW THE LITURGY MUSIC as we proceed through the service today, please use the green 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 worshiping 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) worshiping 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.

ALTAR FLOWERS are presented to the Glory of God and in memory of John and Anna B. Anstine by Rachael Diamond and family.

GOD CREATES A NEW SAINT TODAY through His Sacrament of Holy Baptism. We welcome Brea Lin Beward, daughter of Nick and Bethanie (Leister) Beward.

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!

JUST A THOUGHT – Horace (1st century B.C.E) – Roman Poet: “Seize the day.”

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

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.

THE PROPERTY COMMITTEE will meet September 26, 2011 (fourth Monday), in the choir room at 6:30 p.m. Please let the chairperson know if you cannot attend.

RELAY FOR LIFE SPAGHETTI DINNER – An all-you-can-eat Spaghetti Dinner, sponsored by Joe's OIP of Lewistown, will be held on Sunday, September 25, 2011 from 11:30 a.m. till 1:30 p.m. in Messiah's Fellowship Hall. Cost is \$6 for adults, \$3 for children (4-12), and children 3 and under FREE (take-out orders available). Dinner includes spaghetti (with plain or meat sauce), salad, bread, beverage, and dessert. Monetary donations would be gratefully accepted. Tickets are available at the door.

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.

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 are attached to the September newsletters throughout the church (envelopes will also be 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!

RECEIVED IN STAINED GLASS FUND on Sunday, September 11, 2011: \$_____. This brings the total received to \$_____ of the total \$85,890.00 needed for the project.

WOMEN OF THE ELCA

AT THE JULY MEETING OF THE MESSIAH WOMEN OF THE ELCA, we joyfully packed 70 Health Kits for Lutheran World Relief. Our goal was 70 kits and with the help of the congregation, we have been able to meet this goal. We are grateful for all the support that you, as a congregation, give to assist our projects to come to fruition. This enables us to help meet the needs of the suffering women, men and children of the world. Matthew 25:40 "And the King will say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these, my brethren, you did it to me.' "

MESSIAH 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.

COMMUNITY

WE'RE LOOKING FOR TALENTED PEOPLE! It takes a special person to be a Thrivent Financial representative. It takes confidence, commitment, honesty—qualities that make us proud of the professionals who serve our members. Who do you know with these qualities?

- High Level of Integrity
- Self Motivation
- Seek to Excel
- Desire to Help Others
- Demonstrate Confidence
- Highly Determined
- Focus on Results
- Assume Accountability
- Personable and Empathetic

As a Thrivent Financial representative, you'll help secure financial futures and make a difference in people's lives. Join our team and you'll find we offer more than work, we offer *Work with Purpose*. For more information, to apply, or make a referral, visit www.thrivent.com/careers or Todd Beasley, Recruiting Manager at 717-813-7184 or at todd.beasley@thrivent.com.

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.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS FOR SEPTEMBER - FRESH GARDEN PRODUCE, ALL NON-PERISHABLE FOODS, SHAMPOO, TOOTHBRUSHES, TOOTHPASTE, AND DEODORANT. We also gladly accept donations of cash and Weis or Schlegels's gift cards. Remember to eat at the Red Zone on Saturday, September 24, 2011 and present one of the coupons that are available in the Adult Sunday School Room, and a portion of your bill will be donated to the Food Pantry. Watch for two other local restaurants, Bread of Life and Tyson Hill OIP who will also be hosting a "Help Feed the Hungry" fund-raiser in October and November. The Weis Market is also holding a "Fight Hunger" Food Drive for the month of September with donations benefiting the Food Pantry, and don't forget Agway's 5% of sales fundraiser on September 16-17.

THE AMERICAN RED CROSS is holding blood drives in the Mifflintown area at the following locations:

Saturday, October 1st

9:00 am – 2:00 pm

Heaven Bound Church

5246 West River Road, Mifflintown

Friday, October 7th

1:00 – 7:00 pm

Juniata Mennonite Church

289 Leonard Hill Road, McAlisterville

Friday, October 21st

12:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Messiah Lutheran Church

3 South Third Street, Mifflintown

Individuals who are in general good health, are age 17 or older (16 in PA with parental consent) and weigh at least 110 pounds are eligible to donate blood every 56 days. The need for blood never diminishes because blood is a perishable medicine. Individuals should bring their Red Cross donor cards, photo ID, or two other forms of ID to the donor site. All presenting donors will be entered into a drawing for the Red Cross "Bleed Blue" donor game package for the 2011 Alabama, Iowa, Purdue and Nebraska games! For information or to schedule an appointment, call 1-800 Red Cross.

NURSE'S NOTES – **Take a load off.** You know the shooting pain that comes from schlepping a heavy purse? Here's why it happens: "Straps compress the auxiliary vein, causing high blood pressure, numbness, tingling, pain, and weakness in the arm," says Tim Neuschwander, M.D. In a study he conducted, adults who wore a 28-pound backpack for 10 minutes experienced an almost 50 percent decrease in blood flow through the blood vessels in their arms. "And carrying a 13-pound purse for 10 minutes may have a similar effect, since it's resting only on one shoulder," he says. Try lightening your load a little, or distribute weight more evenly with an ergonomic purse. (Redbookmag.com)

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

- Today:** -9:15 a.m., Sunday School/New Member Class?
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Jr. Church.
-Sacrament of Holy Baptism.
-Voters Assembly following worship service. Business: quarterly reports of the boards.
-Noon—5 p.m., Fellowship Hall reserved.
- Monday:** -NEWSLETTER DEADLINE.
-7 p.m., Bible Study.
-8 p.m., AA meeting.
- Tuesday:** -9 a.m., "The Needlers" in Fellowship Hall.
- Wednesday:** -7 p.m., Choir rehearsal.
- Thursday:** -1 p.m., Dulcimer rehearsal in Fellowship Hall.
-7 p.m., WELCA meeting in Youth Area.
- Friday:** -7 p.m., Square Dancing in Fellowship Hall.
- Sunday:** -9:15 a.m., Sunday School/New Member Class?
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Jr. Church.
-11:30 a.m., - 1:30 p.m., Relay For Life Spaghetti Dinner in Fellowship Hall.