

# Messiah Lutheran Church

3 South Third Street

Mifflintown, PA 17059

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

The Reverend William N. Esborn  
Andrea Cameron  
Brent Snyder  
Linda Bahorik  
Christie Holderman

Pastor  
Choir Director  
Organist  
Lector  
Altar Guild

## FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 2, 2012 – 9:15 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., Goldie K., Jean M., Cassie S., Helen K., Sis S., Fannie K., Jane M., Fay M., Dorothy P., Ruth C., Ray B., Anna Mary Z., Ryan K., George, Jamie and Luke D., Ed and Ann B., Don C., Sarah D., Haylee Y., Erin H., Elda Mae R., George H. Jr., Julie B., Gene R., Ken A., Jr., Jason B., and family of Joyce K.

### PREPARATION

CHIMES: CALL TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE

*[A Time for Meditation and Prayer]*

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTRODUCTION

*Jesus protests against human customs being given the weight of divine law, while the essence of God's law is ignored. True uncleanness comes not from external things, but from the intentions of the human heart. Last week Jesus told us "the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life." Now James says God has given us birth by the word of truth. We, having been washed in the word when we were born in the font, return to it every Sunday to ask God to create in us clean hearts.*

*Today is the commemoration of Nikolai Frederik Severin Grundtvig, bishop and renewer of the church, who died in 1872.*

### \* 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.**

**\* 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."**

**GATHERING**

**\* ENTRANCE HYMN** "We Plow the Fields and Scatter"

**\* 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** **O God our strength, without you we are weak and wayward creatures. Protect us from all dangers that attack us from the outside, and cleanse us from all evil that arises from within ourselves, that we may be preserved through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**WORD**

*The Israelites believed the law was a divine gift that provided guidelines for living out the covenant. Moses commands the people to obey the law and neither to add to nor subtract from it. The Israelites are also to teach the law to their children and their children's children.*

**FIRST READING**

A reading from Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

**THE LESSON READS:**

So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the LORD, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. <sup>2</sup>You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the LORD your God with which I am charging you. <sup>6</sup>You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!" <sup>7</sup>For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the LORD our God is whenever we call to him? <sup>8</sup>And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today?

<sup>9</sup>But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children.

Lector: The word of the Lord.

**Congregation: Thanks be to God. (spoken)**

PSALM: Psalm 15 (**Responsively**)

*L – LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle? (Ps. 15:1)*

<sup>1</sup>LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle? Who may abide upon your holy hill?

**<sup>2</sup>Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right, who speak the truth from their heart;**

<sup>3</sup>they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil to their friends; they do not cast discredit upon a neighbor.

**<sup>4</sup>In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who fear the LORD. They have sworn upon their health and do not take back their word.**

<sup>5</sup>They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes against the innocent. Those who do these things shall never be overthrown.

**ALL – LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle?**

*The letter of James was intended to provide first-century Christians with instruction in godly behavior. Here, Christians are encouraged to listen carefully and to act on what they hear, especially by caring for those least able to care for themselves.*

SECOND READING

A reading from James 1:17-27

THE LESSON READS:

<sup>17</sup>Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. <sup>18</sup>In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

<sup>19</sup>You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; <sup>20</sup>for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. <sup>21</sup>Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

<sup>22</sup>But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. <sup>23</sup>For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; <sup>24</sup>for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. <sup>25</sup>But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act — they will be blessed in their doing.

<sup>26</sup>If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. <sup>27</sup>Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

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.**

Mark's gospel depicts Jesus as challenging traditional ways in which religious people determine what is pure or impure. For Jesus, the observance of religious practices cannot become a substitute for godly words or deeds that spring from a faithful heart.

\* GOSPEL: Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

*P The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 7<sup>th</sup> chapter.*

**C Glory to you, O Lord. (spoken)**

THE GOSPEL READS:

Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, <sup>2</sup>they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. <sup>3</sup>(For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; <sup>4</sup>and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) <sup>5</sup>So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" <sup>6</sup>He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written, 'This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; <sup>7</sup>in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.' <sup>8</sup>You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition."

<sup>14</sup>Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: <sup>15</sup>there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile."

<sup>21</sup>For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, <sup>22</sup>adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. <sup>23</sup>All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

*P The Gospel of the Lord.*

**C Praise to you, O Christ. (spoken)**

SERMON

Pastor Esborn

\* HYMN OF THE DAY "For the Beauty of the Earth"

\* APOSTLES' CREED ('new version') **(all)**

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,**

**born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**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**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

[Please pass the Friendship Pad down your pew for all to sign and then back to the center aisle so everyone has the opportunity to read the names. We request that our guests also give us their home address. Thank you].

## SPECIAL MUSIC

### \* 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 As disciples of Christ Jesus called to love and serve all people, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.*

*A brief silence.*

*P God our truth, by your word you created us to continue your mission. Bless all who hear the word, that we will be doers also. Lord, in your mercy,*

**C hear our prayer.**

*P God our treasure, you have given us great wealth and generous resources. Help us use these sensibly, that all creatures may live, Lord, in your mercy,*

**C hear our prayer.**

*P God our justice, you dignify our labor by sharing our toil. Grant workers fair employment, adequate income, and safe conditions. Bring an end to the exploitation of children, women, and those most vulnerable. Lord, in your mercy,*

**C hear our prayer.**

*P God our compassion, you call us to care for all in need. Hear our prayers for the unemployed, orphans, widows, and all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit (especially all of our shut-ins [both at home and in nursing homes], and for Ryan Keresey, Don Clark, Sarah Dressler, Luke Davis, Haylee Yocum, Erin Harris, Elda Mae Rickenbaugh, George Hazard, Jr., Julie Berryman, Gene Rhine, Ken Arbogast, Jr., Jason Beward, and family of Joyce Kilmer). Lord, in your mercy,*

**C hear our prayer.**

*P God our life, you gather us together in your name to send us forth to be your hands and feet in the world. Make us generous in our giving and service to others. Lord, in your mercy,*

**C hear our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

*P God our hope, we give you thanks for those who have made your word known (especially Nikolai Frederik Severin Grundtvig) and now rest from their labors. Give us strength to follow your commandments until we abide with you forever. Lord, in your mercy,*

**C hear our prayer.**

*P Here our prayers, faithful God, and renew us by your Spirit, that we may joyfully love and serve you and one another, 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

"This Is My Father's World"

**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.**

***(In hospitality and attempting to meet the needs of individuals, Messiah now offers gluten free communion hosts. If you wish to receive gluten free hosts, please come to the side where Pastor Esborn is serving).***

#### DISTRIBUTION

*["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**

#### \* THE SENDING AND BLESSING OF COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

*P As we go into the world serving the ministry of Christ, may those who will extend this meal to the homebound take from the Lord's Table what we have received here today; the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ and his promise of forgiveness. In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.*

**C Amen**

#### \* DISMISSAL

*P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.*

**C Thanks be to God.**

#### POSTLUDE

NEXT WEEK'S LECTOR – Andrea Cameron

NEXT WEEK'S ALTAR GUILD – Sandy Pines



## **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.

ALTAR FLOWERS are presented to the Glory of God and in memory of Denise Hower by family.

PRAYER REQUESTS will be placed in the weekly bulletin for one month. If you wish to have someone included in the prayer list for more than one month, please call the church office.

THE DEADLINE FOR ALL ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE SUNDAY BULLETIN IS THURSDAY NOON.

DIAL-A-PRAYER (436-2100) IS AVAILABLE 24 HOURS DAILY!

JUST A THOUGHT – Joseph Addison, English Essayist and Poet (1672 – 1719): There is no virtue so great as justice.

## **CONGREGATIONAL NEWS**

EARLY SUMMER SERVICES will continue through September 2, 2012 at 9:15 a.m. Regular 10:30 a.m. worship services will resume on September 9, 2012 with Sunday School at 9:15 a.m.

"THE NEEDLERS" will begin their sewing project on Tuesday, September 11, 2012 at 9:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Anyone interested in helping to make patch quilts for local and World Relief, please come and join us!

NEW MEMBER CLASSES will be held this Fall for anyone who wishes to attend. Please contact Pastor Esborn or the church office at 436-6213 if you are interested.

FALL BIBLE STUDY – Anyone who would like to attend a Fall Bible Study should notify the church office at 436-6213 or Pastor Esborn so materials can be ordered.

AVERAGE WEEKLY OFFERING NEEDED to fund 2012 expenses is \$3,250. Offering received on 8/19/12 was \$2,054.

RECEIVED IN STAINED GLASS FUND on Sunday, August 19, 2012: \$50. This brings the total received to \$72,258 of the total \$85,890 needed for the project. Balance needed to complete funding is \$13,632.00.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE MEMBERS – There will be a Property Committee meeting on Monday evening, September 24, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. in the Choir Room. We have not had a meeting since May, so there are items to be discussed. Please plan to attend. If you are unable to attend, please let Kay know.

THE NEXT VOTERS' ASSEMBLY MEETING will be held on Sunday, September 16, 2012 following the morning worship service. Business: Quarterly reports of the boards. **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](mailto:keyler@nmax.net).

### **WOMEN OF THE ELCA**

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.

MESSIAH WOMEN OF THE ELCA will meet on Thursday, September 13, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the Youth Area with Dorothy Smith as devotional leader and Barbara S. Geedey and Velma Suloff as hostesses.

SALES FOR SCHOOL SUPPLIES BEGIN IN JULY!!!! 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.

## **COMMUNITY**

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).

### FOOD PANTRY NEEDS FOR SEPTEMBER:

- FRESH GARDEN PRODUCE AND ALL NON-PERISHABLE FOODS.
- PERSONAL CARE SUPPLIES (SUCH AS TOOTHBRUSHES, 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 PAPER AND TISSUES).
- BABY CARE ITEMS (LIKE DIAPERS, BABY WIPES, BABY SHAMPOO AND BABY LOTIONS).
- FIRST-AID SUPPLIES, AND OVER-THE-COUNTER PAIN AND COLD MEDICINES.

WE ALSO GLADLY ACCEPT DONATIONS OF CASH AND LOCAL  
GROCERY AND DISCOUNT STORE GIFT CARDS.

THE JUNIATA COUNTY FAIR COMMUNITY WORSHIP SERVICE will be held this evening at 5:30 p.m. at Frankhouse Field (Port Royal Little League Field), adjacent to Tuscarora Valley Elementary School. Bring a lawn chair and (bug spray). Important suggestion – arrive at 5:00 p.m. to secure a parking space and your lawn chair seating positions. In the event of wet weather conditions, the worship service will be held in the Port Royal Lutheran Church at 4<sup>th</sup> and Market Streets. A free-will offering will be collected.

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.

NURSE'S NOTES – Feline resistance – when a cat refuses to go into her carrier – is cited as a top reason owners don't take their cats to the vet, according to a recent survey from Bayer Animal Health. To help, try making the carrier inviting. "Weeks before the appointment, leave the carrier open and 'decorate' it with treats, a bit of catnip, and a special toy," says Dr. Alice Moon-Fanelli, of Animal Behavior Consultations in Connecticut. "Your cat is likely to explore it, which will make it a destination spot rather than a place to avoid." (*Prevention*, August 2012, pg. 126)

### **THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH**

- Today:** -9:15 a.m., Early Summer Worship/Communion.
- Monday:** -OFFICE CLOSED.  
-8 p.m., AA meeting.
- Wednesday:** -7 p.m., Choir rehearsal.
- Thursday:** -1 p.m., Dulcimer rehearsal.  
-6 p.m., Thrivent meeting in Library.
- Friday:** -7 p.m., Square Dancing in Fellowship Hall.
- Sunday:** -9:15 a.m., Sunday School.  
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion.