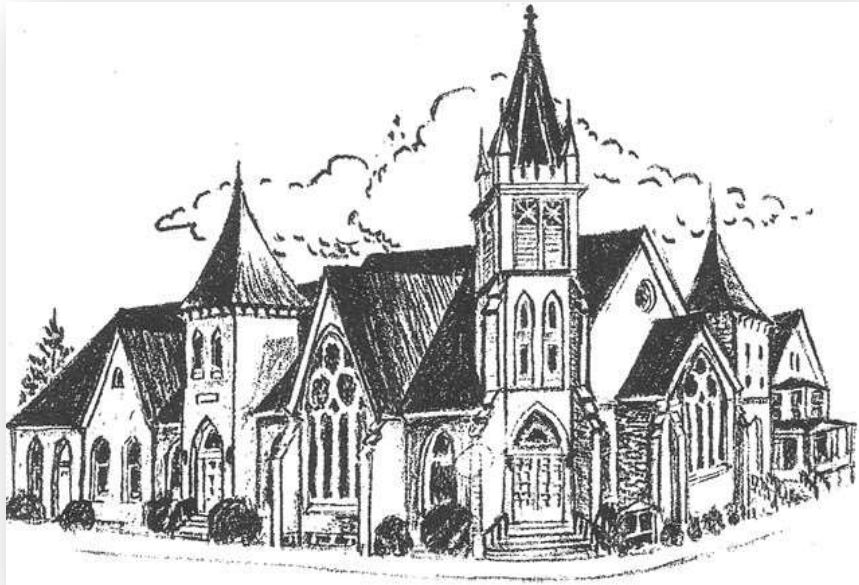


THE MESSIAH HERALD



AUGUST, 2014

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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MESSIAH CHURCH CALENDAR

USS-ARK NEWSLETTER

THE LUTHERAN MAGAZINE

“Proclaiming God’s love revealed in Jesus Christ and his People”

The Messiah Herald



August 2014

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

One of the greatest challenges that we as Christians face is to define how we interact with the process of governing our democratic republic.

When we take scripture seriously in our lives it leads to real consequences and actions. Very often being a Christian is to walk faithfully where others fear to tread.

Those who walked the paths of the Civil Rights movement were most often people of faith, Jews and Christians among them along with others.

Let us allow the Spirit to lead us courageously forward in faith as the people of God have always done. Loving God and loving neighbor.

One of the greatest challenges that we as Christians face is to define how we interact with the process of governing our democratic republic. Some people attend churches that actively engage the political process handing out voting cards or pamphlets with ratings for candidates indicating who leadership or some organization thinks people should be voting for if one is a “good” Christian. Others think churches should have absolutely no connection to the realm of politics and should never utter the word or speak of anything political.

In contrast to these two approaches that seem to be all or nothing with regard to politics there is a third way. It is a path that has, historically, been part of the vibrant life of the body of Christ and which has led to many bold actions, for better or worse. That path assumes that the community of faith looks to the Bible to understand how faith and the community of faith engage the world. It is a place we tread fearfully with God.

When approaching issues in this manner one must be careful not to make assumptions of what one will find in the Word of God. If you have a preconceived belief there is little doubt that you can find a basis in scripture to justify it. The problem is that whenever one does that one tends to ignore anything inconvenient that may cut against your belief. It is not an honest process. Faithful people stood on both sides of the Civil War and both used biblical arguments to justify their position.

When we take scripture sincerely in our lives it leads to real consequences and actions. It shapes what we believe about our lives and our responsibilities to our neighbors. When we truly believe in loving God above everything and loving our neighbor as ourselves that shapes what we believe we are compelled to do. If it doesn’t we must not fool ourselves into believing that God sees Christian living to be about maintaining our comfort levels. (Matthew 10:35ff) Very often being a Christian is to walk faithfully where others fear to tread. Those who walked the paths of the Civil Rights movement were most often people of faith, Jews and Christians among them along with others. Black and white, pastors and laity often walking arm in arm, defying law and being arrested, sometimes even dying for a belief all people should be equal under the law without regard to race and color.

When we fear having open and honest discussions about difficult issues and when we fail to act upon our faith because we might be uncomfortable or might make someone angry we can lose touch with how it always has been for the disciples of Christ; in the world but not of it. When we face difficult social questions like refugee children fleeing death and suffering at our border, when we consider what are the right and good uses if any of medical cannabis in bringing relief or treatment for children and adults with seizures, chronic pain, or cancer, or when we consider how we can welcome Hispanic, Gay, Islamic, or “other” persons into our love and concern as Christians let us start with our hearts and noses in the Bible. Then let us allow the Spirit to lead us courageously forward in faith as the people of God have always done, loving God and loving neighbor.

Ever since Jesus died on the cross for us, ever since the Apostles died for passing on the faith, ever since Paul walked throughout the Roman Empire, ever since you and I were baptized we have been set on a dangerous road comforted only by a faith we walk with God. We begin with God’s Word and we move out into life remembering the cross before us.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Bill

DAILY HOME BIBLE READINGS

August	1: Psalm 145:8-9, 11-21
August	2: Romans 9:1-5
August	3: Matthew 14:13-21
August	4: Acts 17:10-15
August	5: Acts 18:24-28
August	6: 1 Kings 18:1-16
August	7: 1 Kings 19:9-18
August	8: Psalm 85:8-13
August	9: Romans 10:5-15
August	10: Matthew 14:22-33
August	11: Revelation 15:1-4
August	12: Acts 14:19-28
August	13: Isaiah 56:1, 6-8
August	14: Psalm 67
August	15: Isaiah 61:7-11
August	16: Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32
August	17: Matthew 15:(10-20) 21-28
August	18: 1 Corinthians 6:1-11
August	19: 2 Corinthians 10:12-18
August	20: Matthew 16:5-12
August	21: Isaiah 51:1-6
August	22: Psalm 138
August	23: Romans 12:1-8
August	24: Matthew 16:13-20
August	25: 1 Corinthians 12:27-31a
August	26: Ephesians 5:1-6
August	27: Jeremiah 15:1-14
August	28: Jeremiah 15:15-21
August	29: Psalm 26:1-8
August	30: Romans 12:9-21
August	31: Matthew 16:21-28



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!

AUGUST SCHEDULES

LECTORS

3: Andrea Cameron
10: Randy Clark
17: Sam Leister
24: Linda Leister
31: Ron Yorks

ALTAR GUILD

July 21—Aug. 3 Barbara S. Geedey
Aug. 4—Aug. 10 Michelle Stoner
Aug. 11—Aug. 24 Christie Holderman
Aug. 25—Aug. 31 Linda Leister

ALTAR FLOWERS

3: Carole Nace
10: Edith Nipple
17: OPEN
24: Clinton Miller & Family
31: Dorothy Zeiders



Messiah Women of ELCA met on Thursday, July 10, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. with 7 members present. The program and business meeting were led by Barbara Geedey. The program was centered around the Fourth of July and all of the good things about our country rather than the negatives we are constantly bombarded with in the media.

We are now collecting items for the School Kits during July, August and September and are asking for help from the congregation. Items needed are:

--300 notebooks (with 70 sheets of paper per notebook), wide-or-college-ruled, 8 x

10 1/2 inches (no loose-leaf paper) (4 notebooks go with each kit)

--75-30 centimeter rulers or rulers with centimeters on one side and inches on the other

--75 pencil sharpeners

--75 blunt scissors

--375 unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers

--375 ballpoint pens (no gel ink)

--75 boxes of 16-24 crayons

--75 (2½ inch) erasers

We already have the 75 bags that are needed to fill with the items listed above. Wal-Mart is presently selling notebooks for 25 cents a piece. Donated items may be placed on the round table in the Adult Sunday School Room.

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.

Our next meeting will be August 14, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the Youth Area and will consist of short devotions and putting together the Personal Care Kits.



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

WEDNESDAY SUMMER COMMUNIONS



Wednesday evening "Informal Communion" will be held during the summer months at 6:30 p.m. for those who cannot make it to services on Sunday mornings and still wish to partake of the Lord's Supper

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 or Cynthia Smith at 436-8512.





**SIXTH ANNUAL MEMORIAL BUTTERFLY RELEASE
AND SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE. . .**

A handed down Indian legend tells the story. . .of the butterfly. If anyone desires a wish to come true they must first capture a butterfly and whisper that wish to it. Since a butterfly can make no sound, the butterfly cannot reveal the wish to anyone but the Great Spirit who hears and sees all. In gratitude for giving the beautiful butterfly its freedom, the Great Spirit always grants a wish. So, according to legend, by making a wish and giving the butterfly its freedom, the wish will be taken to the heavens and granted.

Take home a butterfly bush to attract butterflies. . .with your sponsorship of a butterfly. These attractive and hardy perennials will attract the beautiful butterfly to your garden providing a lasting memory of loved ones and the importance of our Hospice program.

Lewistown Home Health & Hospice: The Bridge, a part of Centre Home-Care will be recognizing life and the memories of those who have gone before us. With the symbolic release of butterflies, we will remember those who have lost the battle with terminal illnesses and those who are still struggling. As the butterflies float skyward, so too will the good wishes and prayers of those who watch them fly.

Take this opportunity to cherish the memory of your loved one, while supporting the future of your local Hospice program. The purchase of a symbolic butterfly to release will financially support your local Hospice program.

The ceremony will be held at the **“Tree of Life” Lewistown Hospital, 4th Floor Surgical Center Entrance, Sunday, August 17, 2014 at 1:00 pm.**

Complete form, tear off and mail to: Lewistown Home Health & Hospice: The Bridge 305 4th St., Lewistown, PA 17044

The release of a Butterfly symbolizes a Life!

Yes, I would like to sponsor a butterfly at the ceremony:_____

The Tree of Life @ Lewistown Hospital, Sunday, August 17, 2014 – 1:00 pm

_____My \$25 donation/contribution is enclosed. Please reply by August 9th, making checks payable to Centre Home Care.

Name:_____ My butterfly sponsorship is in memory of:_____

Address:_____

Phone:_____

Juniata County Food Pantry August Update

Dear Friends,

As the summer heats up, we are reminded that Hunger does **NOT** take a vacation! Please don't forget your neighbors struggling to keep their families fed while everyone else enjoys summer vacation. Thanks to all of you who are bringing in fresh produce from your gardens! What a blessing straight from the Lord is fresh produce to those who rarely taste any but the canned variety, and very little of that.

In June 2014, the Food Pantry served 314 families in need – a total of 851 individuals. A special thank you to Messiah Lutheran Church for providing volunteers for the month.

HELP STILL NEEDED:

Backpack Program – Wed. and Sat. 1-5

Computer Expert – flexible hours. Especially need someone familiar with Access Program and updating to Windows 8.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS FOR AUGUST:

FRESH PRODUCE AND ANY NON-PERISHABLE FOODS;
BABY WASH/SHAMPOO, DIAPER RASH OINTMENT, WIPES,
LOTION AND OTHER BABY CARE ITEMS

*WE ALSO GLADLY ACCEPT DONATIONS OF CASH, AND
GIFT CARDS FOR LOCAL GROCERY AND DISCOUNT STORES

*WE ALWAYS NEED PLASTIC AND PAPER GROCERY BAGS

*For more information, visit our website at jcfoodpantry.com and
"Like" us on Facebook!*

*OUR VESTIBULE (LOCATED ON THE RAMP SIDE OF THE BUILDING)
IS OPEN TO RECEIVE DONATIONS 24 HOURS A DAY!
CASH OR GIFT CARD DONATIONS MAY BE DEPOSITED THROUGH THE MAIL SLOT.

HOURS: 9:00 AM to NOON AND 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM EACH TUESDAY, AND FROM 9:00 AM TO NOON ON SATURDAY. CLOSED ON MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY AND SUNDAY.

*PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO THE JUNIATACOUNTY FOOD PANTRY, P.O. BOX 44, 114 N. MAIN ST., MIFFLINTOWN, PA 17059. PHONE: 436-9718 (CONTACT PERSON: KATHY QUEITZSCH). Email: jcfoodpantry@embarqmail.com





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- Bookkeeping/Banking Assistance
- Insurance Billing/Benefits Research
- Pet Care
- Assistance with Holidays/Parties/Yard Sales
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- Alterations/Mending
- Medical Set-up & Monitoring by Nurse
- Transportation To All Appointments



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888-881-2046

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