

# **THE MESSIAH HERALD**



**MARCH, 2015**

## **MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH**

3 SOUTH THIRD STREET  
MIFFLINTOWN, PA 17059  
(717)-436-6213  
[www.mlcmifflintown.org](http://www.mlcmifflintown.org)  
[mlcmifflintown@pa.net](mailto:mlcmifflintown@pa.net)

## **THE REV. WILLIAM N. ESBORN, PASTOR**

35 SCENIC VIEW DRIVE  
MIFFLINTOWN, PA 17059  
(717)-436-9425  
[pastoresborn@pa.net](mailto: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



**March 2015**

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we are in the midst of Lent it is good to remind ourselves of the spiritual opportunities and insights the season affords us.

The season of Lent is often thought of as a season of repentance, a season of letting go sinful behaviors and self improvement, a season of turning away from sin.

But instead of turning away from our sinful self desires with no clear orientation or idea of where we are turning to we should be turning ***to God*** and his wisdom and insight for our lives.

How does this happen?

This Lent join us and start now discovering ways to learn about and to receive this new life, every day and every way.

As we are now in the midst of Lent it is good to remind ourselves of the spiritual opportunities and insights the season affords us. Taking hold of these opportunities can help us to grow in our walk with Christ.

The season of Lent is often thought of as a season of repentance, a season of letting go sinful behaviors. This then becomes for many a kind of spiritual New Year celebration where we give up things or make sacrifices like a series of end of winter resolutions. Too often these ideas are more self serving rather than Christ serving.

The word metanoia is the Greek word translated in the New Testament as repent or repentance. Most often it is focused on as turning away from our sinfulness and sinful behaviors. In contrast the opposite is true. It is more of a turning to something, specifically, turning to God. Metanoia in its root meanings from the Greek means to receive or to have a higher mind or higher knowing. It is to be filled with the will and knowledge of God.

So instead of turning away from our sinful self desires with no clear place or idea of where we are turning to we instead are turning to God and his wisdom and insight for our lives. Beginning with his baptism by John in the Jordan and the temptations in the wilderness our Lenten lessons points us to God and as our source or life and knowledge of how to live in a hostile and dangerous world.

Consider this example. A person struggling with addiction may know their life is in complete chaos, broken and not working. They may again and again attempt to stop abusing drugs or whatever in their life holds them captive. Again and again they fail and return to their physical, emotional and spiritual captivity. In the insights above we can expect this failure because they are only attempting to turn away from something; they are not turning to anything.

Metanoia points us and the addict instead to the idea of turning towards God and trusting God’s love is sufficient to free us, keep us and hold us safe from our past and our failures. Metanoia means finding a higher knowledge and allowing that new way to become our way.

How does this happen? It can happen through reading scripture privately. It can be by participating in Bible Study and Sunday School. It can be through conversations with people like pastors. And it can be through rededicating ourselves to participating in worship and the means of grace like remembering or baptism in confession and receiving God’s forgiveness in the promises of the Lord’s Supper.

One thing I can promise you is that if you are truly repentant in the sense of metanoia it must be about receiving a new mind and a higher wisdom. Simply trying to walk away for our past and our sins is a recipe for failure because it receives nothing new. Only God who is the source and power of all creation makes things new. He promises us a new heaven and a new earth and that you are, also, made new in Christ.

This Lent start now discovering ways to learn about and to receive this new life, every day and every way. Grace and peace to you from the one who makes all things new.

Yours in Christ,

*Pastor Bill*

## DAILY HOME BIBLE READINGS

March	1: Mark 8:31-38
March	2: Genesis 21:1-7
March	3: Genesis 22:1-19
March	4: John 12:36-43
March	5: Exodus 20:1-17
March	6: Psalm 19
March	7: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25
March	8: John 2:13-22
March	9: 1 Kings 6:1-4, 21-22
March	10: 2 Chronicles 29:1-11, 16-19
March	11: Numbers 20:22-29
March	12: Numbers 21:4-9
March	13: Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22
March	14: Ephesians 2:1-10
March	15: John 3:14-21
March	16: Hebrews 3:1-6
March	17: 1 Corinthians 10:6-13
March	18: Jeremiah 31:31-34
March	19: Matthew 1:16, 18-21, 24a
March	20: Psalm 51:1-12
March	21: Hebrews 5:5-10
March	22: John 12:20-33
March	23: Isaiah 43:8-13
March	24: Isaiah 44:1-8
March	25: Luke 1:26-38
March	26: Isaiah 50:4-9a
March	27: Psalm 31:9-16
March	28: Philippians 2:5-11
March	29: Mark 14:1-15:47
March	30: John 12:1-11
March	31: Isaiah 49:1-7



### PRAYER CHAIN

Any time you wish to add a name to our prayer list, please contact Stacie Kint at [dskint@nmax.net](mailto: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!***

## MARCH SCHEDULES

### LECTORS

1:	Andrea Cameron
8:	Bob St. Clair
15:	Barbara S. Geedey
22:	Diana Wise
29:	Cynthia Smith

### ALTAR GUILD

Mar. 1—Mar. 22	Ann Beaver
Mar. 23—Mar. 29	Linda Leister
Mar. 30—Apr. 5	Linda Clark (cup communion – Clint & Jamie Miller)

### ALTAR FLOWERS

1:	In honor of our organist
8:	OPEN
15:	NO FLOWERS - LENT
22:	NO FLOWERS - LENT
29:	NO FLOWERS - LENT

Women of the ELCA 

WELCA met on Thursday, February 8, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. Devotions and the business meeting were led by Barb Geedey.

We collected an offering for our Indian child, Ina King, and Cynthia Smith purchased a Wal-Mart gift card for her for Christmas from the group.

We received a thank you from Lucille Aldinger for our participation in the Christmas Angel Project.

Messiah will be hosting the first Wednesday morning Lenten Tea on February 18, 2015 at 9:30 a.m. Cynthia Smith will lead us in

devotions and we will provide a variety of refreshments.

Our first project this year will be a fund raiser for a Family Farm at the cost of \$715. Further information will follow. This project will be through Evangelical Lutheran Church in America – “God's Work, Our Hands.”

Our group has also decided to offer a Bible Study entitled “Stitches and Scripture” to anyone interested in learning to knit. The Bible Study will be offered on a Monday evening at 7:00 p.m. for 4 weeks. Barb will announce the program during church and there will be a sign-up sheet and information on the 2 beginners projects; a Seafarer’s Scarf and a dishcloth. There will be experienced knitters to help the beginners. A starting date will be announced following sign-ups.

The next regular meeting will be Thursday, March 12, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the Youth Area. Cynthia Smith will lead devotions and Jean Compton and Linda Leister will provide refreshments.

We continue to collect items for the Seafarers Project: sweatshirts (preferably hooded in sizes L-XL, thermal or white gym socks (no dress socks), casual pull-over T-shirts in sizes M-L, and heavy knit winter caps.

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.



## **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



## **GET EXCITED FOR CAMP THIS SUMMER**

Campers of all ages are invited to come to Camp Mount Luther this summer and take advantage of all the programs they have to offer! There are traditional, specialty and trip camps for school-aged kids and Family Camp for kids and adults. Mount Luther is located five miles west of Mifflinburg, in Union County.

Don't forget that if you register

before April 1, 2015, you receive a discount on your camp fee. Or, if you bring a friend to camp who's never been there, you and the friend (or sibling or church buddy) can both get \$25 off your registration! Just check that option on the registration form and send the forms together.

Kate Swailes is serving this year as our camperson, a liaison between Mount Luther and our congregation. Because we have a camperson, you can see her to get an additional discount! For more information on summer camp programs, you can contact your camperson or visit the camp website at [www.campmountluther.org](http://www.campmountluther.org). Camping brochures and registration forms are available on the table in the Adult Sunday School Room.



## **YOUTH ARCHERY WORKSHOP**

Youth members of Messiah are invited to attend an archery workshop hosted by Larry Wise. It will be held at the Juniata County Sportsmen's Club in Port Royal from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. on March 1, 2015.

Please contact Kate Swailes if your child will be attending.

## **SYNOD ASSEMBLY DELEGATES**

Two members of Messiah are needed to attend the annual Synod Assembly on June 18-19, 2015 at Susquehanna University, Selinsgrove.

If you are interested in serving, please contact Pastor Esborn or the church office.



## **SEWING MACHINES NEEDED**

"The Needlers" are in need of additional sewing machines. If you or someone you know has a working sewing machine at home that is no longer being used, please consider donating it to "The Needlers."



## **ORGANIST NEEDED**

If you, or anyone you know might be interested—Messiah has an immediate opening for Church Organist for weekly services. Also included Wednesday evening choir rehearsal, except for summer months.

Allen Digital Electric Organ and Kurzweil Electronic Keyboard.

Candidates should call Diana Wise at 717-436-6629 evenings for more information, including salary. Possibilities include either full-time or half-time employment.

Additional information about the church and congregation can be found at [www.mlcsmifflintown.org](http://www.mlcsmifflintown.org).



## **MOTHER/CHILD BANQUET**

ATTENTION! – A Mother and Child Banquet will be held on Saturday, April 18, 2015 at Messiah.

Please mark your calendars for that date. More information will follow in upcoming bulletins.

## **CHURCH TREASURER NEEDED**

Messiah has a position opening for church treasurer. Requirements are: the position of church treasurer must be held by an adult member of the congregation. A knowledge in proper accounting procedures is preferred. The following are some but not all of the position duties of the church treasurer:

1. Recording the congregational receipts and disbursements.
2. Suggest improved methods and systems for financial record keeping.
3. Present a written financial report for Voters' Assembly meetings and PPC meetings.
4. Submit permanent financial records for an annual audit.
5. Pay salaries and bills as authorized by the congregation or Directors of Boards.
6. Coordinate the flow of monies from the treasury in a balanced manor.
7. Oversee the signing of all checks for payment of bills, salaries or other commitments of the congregation.

Any person interested in more information about this position may contact the church office in order to obtain a complete written job description. Further questions may be directed to PPC Executive Director, Kenneth Mummah or Pastor Esborn. Church office phone number is 436-6213, email address is [messiahlutheran@pa.net](mailto:messiahlutheran@pa.net).

## **JUNIATA COUNTY THRIVENT BOARD**

As of the February meeting of the Juniata County Thrivent Board, changes have been made to the allocation process for **Care Abounds in Community Funding**.

Each application received will be allotted a maximum amount of \$125 with a \$50 "bonus" **IF** someone from the group/organization applies for **Action Team Funds**. Every Thrivent member is eligible to receive \$250 twice a year as "seed money" for a project.

You can apply online at [www.thrivent.com/actionteams](http://www.thrivent.com/actionteams) or by contacting Sam Leister at 436-8589.



## **2015 WOMEN'S LENTEN TEAS**

The Women's Community Lenten Teas will be held each Wednesday during Lent with fellowship time at 9:30 a.m. followed by the Bible Study at 10:00 a.m.

This year's study will be from the book "GIVE IT UP!" The lessons encourage us to give up different things each week. Locations are listed below:

- March 4: Aldersgate United Methodist Church
- March 11: Trinity United Methodist Church
- March 18: Westminster United Presbyterian Church
- March 25: St. Stephen's Lutheran Church



## **2015 PORT ROYAL MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST SPEAKERS**

7:00 a.m. – Port Royal Community Building

- March 7: Warren Wagner, Free Spring Church of the Brethren
- March 14: Rodney Pry, Pine Grove Methodist Church
- March 21: Gary Krabill, Chaplain at Locust Grove
- March 28: Rev. Jim Beck, Evandale Bible Church
- April 4: Al Ream, Cedar Grove Brethren in Christ Church



## **2015 MIFFLINTOWN MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST SPEAKERS**

7:00 a.m. – JP Pancake House (cost \$5.75)

- March 7: Speaker – Bill Esborn  
Music – Brent Stoner  
Prayer Leader – Keith Whistler
- March 14: Speaker – Jim Bahorik  
Music – Eddie Carlson  
Prayer Leader – Brent Stoner
- March 21: Speaker – Chris Mathiason  
Music – Brent Stoner  
Prayer Leader – John Shirk
- March 28: Speaker – Brent Stoner  
Music – Eddie Carlson  
Prayer Leader – Bill Rohm
- April 4: Speaker – Bill Rohm  
Music – Brent Stoner  
Prayer Leader – Bill Esborn



## **2015 TWIN BORO MINISTERIUM LENTEN/EASTER SCHEDULE**

Lent 3, March 4<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m. – Trinity United Methodist Church, Pastor Martha Carlson.  
Theme: Hold wisdom as the Tree of Life.  
Proverbs 3:13-18, Ps 1:2

Lent 4, March 11<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m. – St. Stephen's Lutheran Church, Father Michael Opoki,  
Theme: Mustard bush as the Tree of Life.  
Mark 4:30-32, Ps 1:3

Lent 5, March 18<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m. – Westminster United Presbyterian Church, Pastor Stephanie Rupert.  
Theme: Fruits of the Tree of Life.  
Galatians 5:16-26, Ps 1:3b

Lent 6, March 25<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m. – Aldersgate United Methodist Church, Pastor Chris Mathiason.  
Theme: Tree of Life in the paradise of God.  
Revelations 2:7, Ps 1

Maundy Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 7:00 p.m. – St. Stephen's Lutheran Church, Pastor Bill Esborn.  
Theme: One Tree of Life both sides of the river.  
Revelations 21:22-22:5, Ps 92:12

Good Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 12:00 noon—3:00 p.m. – Messiah Lutheran Church

Easter Sunrise, April 5<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 a.m. – Trinity United Methodist Church, Pastor Stephanie Rupert.



## **2015 TWIN BORO MINISTERIUM GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE – SEVEN LAST WORDS**

Welcome and Opening, 12:00 p.m. – Pastor Bill Esborn.

Father Forgive them, 12:05-12:30 p.m. – Pastor Bill Esborn.

My God, My God, 12:30-12:55 p.m. – Pastor Gay Irwin.

Today you will be with me, 12:55-1:20 p.m. – Samuel Leister.

Mother, Behold thy Son, 1:20-1:45 p.m. – Pastor Stephanie Rupert.

I thirst, 1:45-2:10 p.m. – (to be announced).

It is finished, 2:10-2:35 p.m. – Pastor Chris Mathiason.

Into thy hands, 2:35-3:00 p.m. – Father Michael Opoki.

Closing and Sending, 3:00 p.m. – Pastor Bill Esborn.

## **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](tel:888-881-2046). Serving Centre, Mifflin and Juniata Counties (LOCALLY OWNED). Check out our website: [InHomeServicesofCentralPA.com](http://InHomeServicesofCentralPA.com).



## **ALTAR GUILD**

The new Altar Guild schedule for July, 2015 through June, 2016 will be completed by June 1<sup>st</sup>.

We are currently in need of more people to serve on Altar Guild, as a few of our long-serving members are no longer able to help. If you would like to serve, please either call the church office or contact Bob St. Clair.

All Altar Guild members will be sent a copy of the annual schedule in June. Thanks to all for your willingness to serve

## **LECTOR SCHEDULE**

The new lector schedule for July, 2015 through June, 2016 will be completed by June 1<sup>st</sup>.

If you are not already serving as a lector and you would like to read the weekly scripture readings, please notify the church office. Any young people who would like to read on the first Sunday of the month are also asked to notify the church office. If you would like to be deleted from the list, again let the office know. All lectors will be sent a copy of the annual schedule in June.

Thanks to all of you who volunteer for this role in our worship service.



## **LENTEN FISH DINNERS**

Lenten Fish Dinners (all-you-can-eat) will be held every Friday during Lent from 4-7 p.m. in the church social hall at St. Jude's Catholic Church.

Meals will include fried and baked fish, popcorn shrimp, fried clams, French fries, macaroni and cheese, stewed tomatoes, corn, green beans, coleslaw, applesauce, rolls, puddings, and a selection of homemade desserts.

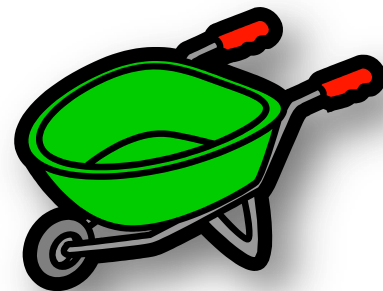
Pay at the door: Adults - \$12.00, Ages 6-12 - \$6.00, under 6 - free. Sponsored by St. Jude's Knights of Columbus.



## **EASTER LILIES**

Easter Lilies to decorate the church on Easter Sunday, may be placed in memory or in honor of someone or to the Glory of God.

Cost will be \$10.00 for a plant with 4 to 6 blooms. You may call the church office at 436-6213 to place your order.



## **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.



## **BISHOP'S OPEN GOLF CLASSIS**

The annual Bishop's Open Golf Classic is set for May 11, 2015, beginning at 11:00 a.m. at the Susquehanna Valley Country Club in Shamokin Damm. The tournament benefits Camp Mount Luther and the camp's annual fund. A flyer/bulletin insert containing information

and registration form is available on the camp's website at [www.campmountluther.org](http://www.campmountluther.org).

The camp's golf tournament committee is currently looking for hole sponsors, door prize sponsors, silent auction items, and golfers. If you can help, please contact the camp office at 570-922-1587 or [cml@campmountluther.org](mailto:cml@campmountluther.org). Congregations are also encouraged to become hole sponsors. Get involved and help our synod's outdoor ministry!



## **Mini Mountain Laurel Concert Series 2014 – 2015**

Presented by **Orthey Instruments**

In **cooperation** with the PERRY COUNTY COUNCIL OF THE ARTS and host sites.

**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](mailto: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 MARCH UPDATE

In January 2015, the Food Pantry served 314 families – 888 of your neighbors! We thank Matamoras United Methodist Church for sending volunteers for the month of January. If you could help by donating the items below, we would be very grateful.

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Cleaning Angel – Person with a God-given talent for cleaning and organizing. Approximately 4-6 hours per week. Possible days: Monday AM or PM; Thursday AM; Saturday PM.

Computer Program Specialist – Person knowledgeable about set-up and use of the following programs: Access, Excel and Power Point - Flexible hours.

Summer Backpack Program – People who like working with children and can give 3-4 hours a week or more throughout the summer helping children in need fill their backpacks with lunches for the week. Will also include registering eligible families, food sorting and inventory.

Grant Writer – Person with experience researching and writing grants. Flexible hours.

Spanish Translator 1 – People fluent in Spanish who can regularly work any of the following hours: Tuesday 9-12, Tuesday 1-5 and Saturday 9-12. Duties would be translating for Spanish speaking customers and helping them with their groceries.

Spanish Translator 2 – Person fluent in the Spanish and English written word: translating forms and handouts into Spanish-flexible hours.

Recipe Tester – Person who loves to cook and who would like to make a nutritious recipe out of Food Pantry foods at least once a week for customers to try. Food tasting would be offered at one of the following times each week: Tuesday 9-12, Tuesday 1-5 and Saturday 9-12.

Event Cook – Person who likes to cook for a crowd (and has friends who would like to help her/him!) Needed 3-4 times a year for fund-raising events. Will have the use of a commercial kitchen. Should have completed "Cooking for Crowds" or other Food Safety training.

Outreach Helpers – This is great for youth and/or adult service groups looking for a mission, but anyone can volunteer! Reliable volunteers for one Saturday morning 9-12, each month-either at the Richfield or East Waterford end of the county. Duties include setting up tables and chairs, unloading food from storage and a truck, organizing food on tables for distribution, helping customers, then putting everything away again.



## **FOOD PANTRY NEEDS FOR MARCH**

**ALL NON-PERISHABLE FOODS AND PAPER SUPPLIES  
CASH AND GIFT CARDS TO LOCAL GROCERY AND  
DISCOUNT STORES ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!**

**NO MORE SHOPPING BAGS PLEASE! WE ARE GOING GREEN!  
CUSTOMERS ARE NOW BRINGING THEIR OWN BAGS OR BOXES.  
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT IN THE PAST!**

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](http://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](mailto:jcfoodpantry@embarqmail.com)*



**WELCOME  
SPRING!!!!!!**