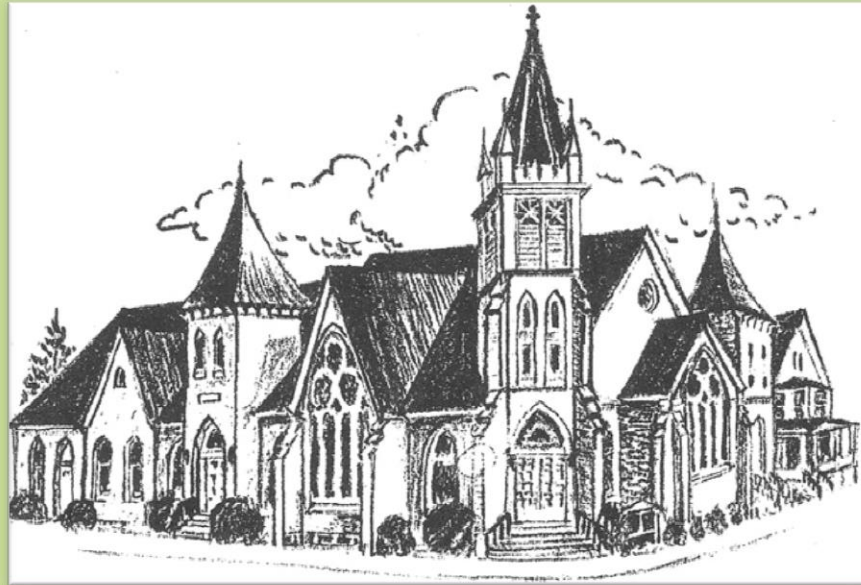


THE MESSIAH HERALD



MAY, 2015

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

**3 SOUTH THIRD STREET
MIFFLINTOWN, PA 17059
(717)-436-6213**

www.mlcmifflintown.org
mlcmifflintown@pa.net

THE REV. WILLIAM N. ESBORN, PASTOR

**35 SCENIC VIEW DRIVE
MIFFLINTOWN, PA 17059
(717)-436-9425**

pastoresborn@pa.net

MESSIAH CHURCH CALENDAR

USS-ARK NEWSLETTER

THE LUTHERAN MAGAZINE

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

The Messiah Herald



May 2015

The message of Easter is that the tomb is empty and “Christ is risen” but the message to the church is to get out and share the good news that the tomb is empty and Jesus lives. All four of the Gospels in some manner share the importance of passing the story of the empty tomb on in some manner.

If no one tells the story of Jesus Christ then how will any people know? If the early church had thought this way how would you or anyone know?

Only offering compassionate care, food or water or healing, however, is an unclear and incomplete message if people do not know why we do so. The story needs to be told, as well.

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The message of Easter is that the tomb is empty and “Christ is risen” but the message to the church is to get out and share the good news that the tomb is empty and Jesus lives. All four of the Gospels in some manner share the importance of passing the story of the empty tomb on in some manner. Mark and Matthew share a command to go out and make disciples. Luke speaks of the power of the Spirit God will send upon the disciples, the Spirit that arrives in Acts on the Pentecost celebration equipping the disciples to speak the story of Christ in a way that the people of the world can hear and understand beyond the barrier of language. John celebrates the faith of those who have heard the story of faith and believe without seeing. Whatever else is to happen following the death and the empty tomb the story of Jesus is to be passed on. It is in the word of an old movie title, “The Greatest Story Ever Told.”

How did you receive the story of Jesus? Most likely it was from parents and grandparents. You may have had a children’s Bible Story book. It may have been around the Christmas tree reading the story of the birth of Jesus, or in Sunday school with teachers who shared the stories of the Old and New Testaments with you and those stories of Jesus miracles, healings and more. Stop for a moment, however, and think for a moment if you hadn’t had that experience as a child. How would you know about Jesus Christ and God’s love for you in him?

If no one tells the story of Jesus Christ then how will any people know? If the early church had thought this way how would you or anyone know?

The work of sharing the good news, the gospel, about Jesus Christ his ministry, work and teachings is the most important thing that the church can do, that WE can do. This sharing happens in a multitude of ways including charitable giving, serving, visiting, healing, feeding and most important of all telling Christ’s story.

St. Francis is purported to have once said, “Preach the Gospel in all things, if necessary use words.” His point was that if you want to reach someone’s heart you learn to serve them and to care about them and their life circumstances. It is an empty promise to speak about a Jesus who cares for the brokenness of people’s lives but does nothing to heal it. And yet only offering compassionate care, food or water or healing, however, is an unclear and incomplete message if people do not know why we do so. The story needs to be told, as well.

James says faith without works is dead but works without faith and sharing the story of Jesus and God’s love is to fail at the central mission given to the early church. The Gospels are clear on this, what are you and I going to do about it?

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Bill

DAILY HOME BIBLE READINGS

May	1: John 14:8-14
May	2: 1 John 4:7-21
May	3: John 15:1-8
May	4: Galatians 5:16-26
May	5: Isaiah 65:17-25
May	6: Acts 10:34-43
May	7: Acts 10:44-48
May	8: Psalm 98
May	9: 1 John 5:1-6
May	10: John 15:9-17
May	11: Deuteronomy 7:1-11
May	12: Deuteronomy 11:1-17
May	13: Deuteronomy 11:18-21
May	14: Acts 1:1-11
May	15: Acts 1:15-26
May	16: 1 John 5:9-13
May	17: John 17:6-19
May	18: Exodus 28:29-38
May	19: Titus 1:1-9
May	20: Ezra 9:5-15
May	21: Acts 2:1-21
May	22: Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
May	23: Romans 8:22-27
May	24: John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15
May	25: Joel 2:18-29
May	26: 1 Corinthians 12:12-27
May	27: Ezekiel 37:1-14
May	28: Isaiah 6:1-8
May	29: Psalm 29
May	30: Romans 8:12-17
May	31: John 3:1-17



PRAYER CHAIN

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

MAY SCHEDULES

LECTORS

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

ALTAR GUILD

Apr. 27—May 3 Linda Clark
May 4—May 10 Barbara S. Geedey
May 11—May 24 Christie Holderman
(cup communion – Clint & Jamie Miller)
May 25—June 7 Linda Leister
(cup communion – Clint & Jamie Miller)

ALTAR FLOWERS

3: Barbara Fairman
10: OPEN
17: OPEN
24: Warren & Claire Mumma
31: OPEN



WELCA met on Thursday, April 9, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the Youth Area.

School Kits will be started in July. The Seafarers' Project will continue through the Fall.

The Upper Susquehanna Synodical Women's Organization annual Convention will be held on Saturday, July 25, 2015 at the Evergreen Center at Camp Mount Luther, Mifflinburg. Registration is from 7:30-8:30 a.m. The theme is "Love is an Open Door." Save the date now and bring your daughters to the Convention. See Barb

Geedey for registration forms if you are interested in attending.

The next regular meeting will be Thursday, May 14, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the Youth Area. Program leader will be Jean Compton.


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.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

This year Messiah will be hosting VBS and St. Jude's Catholic Church will be joining us.

We will be turning Messiah into a science lab for three evenings of VBS on Tuesday, June 23rd through Thursday, June 25th from 6:00 to 8:15 p.m. See you then!



May is National
Skin Cancer
Awareness Month



SUMMER WORSHIP SERVICES

Summer worship services will begin on June 7, 2015 at 9:15 a.m. and end on September 6.

Regular worship services will begin on September 13.



WEDNESDAY SUMMER

COMMUNION

Wednesday evening "informal communion" will be held during the summer months beginning June 10, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. in the Junior Church Room for those who cannot make it to the services on Sunday mornings and still wish to partake of the Lord's Supper.



GRADUATING SENIORS

Recognition Sunday for our graduating seniors will be held on May 17, 2015. Refreshments will be served following the service.

Those graduating this year are:

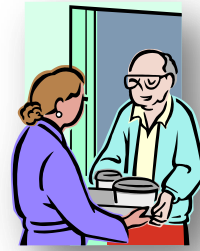
Victoria Varner
Allison Kint
Hannah Zeiders
Maddie Marrone
Solomon Baker
Brianna McGinnis



CONGREGATIONAL PICNIC

The Congregational Picnic will be held Sunday, July 12, 2015 beginning with the worship service at the Mifflintown Playground followed by the picnic lunch.

Mark the dates on your calendar. Details will be in upcoming bulletins.



MEALS-ON-WHEELS

Volunteer cooks, drivers, and people to help assemble meals are needed. **Cooks are especially needed for the 5th Tuesday and 5th Friday of the month.**

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



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."

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.

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.

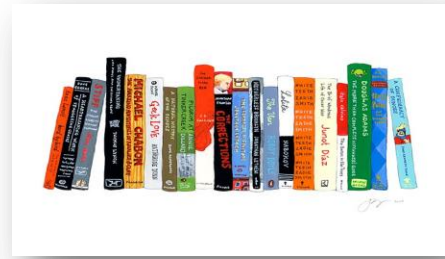


HOME COMMUNION

The Compassionate Services Committee is looking for people who would like to give Communion to our shut-ins.

One hour of training will be available for those not already trained. A rotating schedule of our shut-ins will be used on a quarterly basis.

If interested in this important ministry, contact Don Geedey (phone: 436-6433 or email: geedey@centurylink.net).



JUNIATA COUNTY LIBRARY

LIFELONG LEARNING PROGRAM

The Lifelong Learning Program at the Juniata County Library will be offering to the public a course on the Anabaptists, five Fridays in May from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. There will be a non-refundable donation to the library for the course.

Please call the library at **436-6378** or Ann Beaver at **436-9382** to sign-up or for details.

Coming in June: *Legendary Ladies in Pennsylvania*.

LAY SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

Gettysburg Seminary is again offering its Lay School of Theology this summer at Gettysburg Seminary, July 26 – August 1. This year's theme is *Traveling Grace: Land and Spiritual Geographies*.

Registrations for one day, several days or the whole week are available. Please see Ann Beaver if you are interested. Sign-up deadline is July 10, 2015.



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 1st.

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 1st.

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.

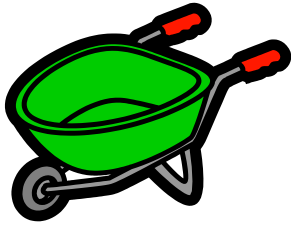
Thanks to all of you who volunteer for this role in our worship service.



MUSIC SUNDAY

Music Sunday will be held on Sunday, May 17, 2015. Special music will be Jeremy Goodling.





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 CLASSIC

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 Dam. 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.

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.

Congregations are also encouraged to become hole sponsors. Get involved and help our synod's outdoor ministry!



JUNIATA COUNTY FOOD PANTRY MAY UPDATE

In March 2015, the Food Pantry served 354 families in need – a total of 968 individuals.

Many thanks to our faithful churches who supported us with donations of food, supplies and money in March. A special thank you to Lower Tuscarora Presbyterian Church for providing volunteers for the month of March.

VOLUNTEERS ARE STILL NEEDED! We are urgently in need of regular volunteers to help customers on Tuesday and Saturday mornings. If you have some time, and would like to work in friendly surroundings and make a difference in someone's life every day, please give us a call!

NOTE: WE ARE NO LONGER ACCEPTING PLASTIC GROCERY BAGS OR EGG CARTONS! THANK YOU!

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS FOR MAY:

ANY NON-PERISHABLE FOODS
BABY SUPPLIES: DIAPERS (SIZES 4-6), PULL-UPS (ALL SIZES)
BABY SHAMPOO, BABY LOTION, DIAPER RASH OINTMENT, AND WIPES
WE ALSO GLADLY ACCEPT DONATIONS OF CASH AND
GIFT CARDS FOR GROCERY AND DISCOUNT STORES

Address: P.O. Box 44, 114 N. Main St., Mifflintown, PA 17059

Phone #: 717-436-9718

Hours: Tuesday 9-12 & 1-5, Saturday 9-12

***Remember, our vestibule is open to receive non-perishable donations any hour, any day! Cash or gift card donations may be deposited through the mail slot inside the vestibule.**

Visit our **Website:** www.jcfoodpantry.com

Like us on **Face Book!**

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

