

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
Bob St. Clair
Linda Leister
Linda Leister (Cup Communion – Clint & Jamie Miller)
Jared Hutchinson
Tyler Rosenberry & Harrison Mummah

Pastor
Choir Director & Cantor
Organist
Lector
Altar Guild
Crucifer
Acolytes

THE HOLY TRINITY May 31, 2015 – 9:15 a.m.

*Please Stand as **YOU** Are Able

PEOPLE TO REMEMBER IN PRAYER TODAY

SHUT-INS: Marian G., Reba S., Kitty W., Flo B., Ethel B., Jean M., Helen K., Sis S., Jane M., Fay M., Dorothy P., Ruth C., Ray B., Dottie S., Dorothy C.

OTHERS: Sarah S., Rick W., Avonel W., Jesse K., Jim W., Heidi W., Ed F., Allison S., Charlene A., Bob & Jeanette S., Charlie R., Allison G., Clara S., Anna S., Andy K., Seamus C., Gus K., Kaiden W., Tina H., John M., Connie P., Leah B.

PREPARATION

CHIMES: CALL TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE: *Holy, Holy, Holy*

R. J. Hughes

[A Time for Meditation and Prayer]

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTRODUCTION

When we say God is the triune God, we are saying something about who God is beyond, and after the universe: that there is community within God. Our experience of this is reflected in Paul's words today. When we pray to God as Jesus prayed to his Abba (an everyday, intimate parental address), the Spirit prays within us, creating between us and God the same relationship Jesus has with the one who sent him.

Visit of Mary to Elizabeth – *This festival marks the occasion when Mary, pregnant with Jesus, visited her cousin Elizabeth who was herself pregnant with John. Elizabeth pronounced Mary "blessed among women," and Mary responded with the song called the Magnificat.*

* 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 Natalie Christine Guido, Maia Laina Kepler and Tai Jacen Kepler to receive the Sacrament of Holy Baptism.

P Natalie Christine Guido, Maia Laina Kepler and Tai Jacen Kepler, do you desire to be baptized?

Parents: I do.

P In Christian love you have presented these children for Holy Baptism. You should, therefore, faithfully bring them to the services of God's house, and teach them the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments. As they grow in years, you should place in their hands the Holy Scriptures and provide for their instruction in the Christian faith, that, living in the covenant of their Baptism and in communion with the Church, they 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 those who are here baptized may be given new life. Wash away the sin of all those who are cleansed by this water and bring them forth as inheritors 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 Natalie Christine Guido, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

Maia Laina Kepler, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

Tai Jacen Kepler, 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 Natalie, Maia and Tai: 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 Natalie Christine Guido, Maia Laina Kepler and Tai Jacen Kepler, children 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.

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

C Amen

* *P Through Baptism God has made these new sisters and brother members 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 Natalie Christine Guido, Maia Laina Kepler and Tai Jacen Kepler into the Lord's family. We receive them as fellow members of the body of Christ, children of the same heavenly Father, and workers 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."**

* CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the creator of wind and rain, field and ocean, the bread of life coming down from above, the power at work within us and this world.

C Amen

P Before God and in the company of our sisters and brothers, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God and Father of all,

C we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed. We have thought better of ourselves than others. We have told lies, said hurtful things, acted in ways we wish we could take back, and looked the other way when action was needed. In your mercy, O God, forgive us, cleanse us, and heal us, for the sake of Jesus, our Savior. Amen

P If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; everything has become new! In Christ, + you are a new creation: your sins are taken away and you are made new. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you.

C Amen.

GATHERING

* ENTRANCE HYMN

"Borning Cry"

* GREETING

P From God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, grace and peace be with you all.

C And also with you.

* KYRIE (C - sung)

L In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

L For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

L For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

L For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

L Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C Amen

* HYMN OF PRAISE (In Unison)

C This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

I Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo-ple of God.

C This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

II Pow-er, rich-es, wis-dom, and strength, and hon-or, bless-ing, and glo-ry are his.

C This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

I Sing with all the peo-ple of God, and join in the hymn of all cre-a-tion:

Bless-ing, hon-or, glo-ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.

C This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

II For the Lamb who was slain has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia.

C This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

* SALUTATION AND RESPONSE (sung)

P The Lord be with you

C And also with you.

* PRAYER OF THE DAY (spoken in unison)

P Let us pray...

C Almighty Creator and ever-living God: we worship your glory, eternal Three-in-One, and we praise your power, majestic One-in-Three. Keep us steadfast in this faith, defend us in all adversity, and bring us at last into your presence, where you live in endless joy and love, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

WORD

This reading narrates Isaiah's vision of the Lord surrounded by angels. They sing "Holy, holy, holy," a song the church sings at the beginning of the great thanksgiving. This liturgical text invites the church and all creation to sing in praise of God's glory. That glory is God's mercy toward sinners.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 6:1-8

The First reading is from the 6th chapter of Isaiah.

THE LESSON READS:

¹In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the LORD sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. ²Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. ³And one called to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory."

⁴The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. ⁵And I said: "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!"

⁶Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. ⁷The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out." ⁸Then I heard the voice of the LORD saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!"

Lector: Here ends the reading.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 29 (Intoned by Cantor – Response sung by Choir)

L – Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness. (Ps. 29:2)

¹Ascribe to the | LORD, you gods, ascribe to the LORD glo- | ry and strength.

²Ascribe to the LORD the glory | due God's name; worship the LORD in the beau- | ty of holiness.

³The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of | glory thunders; the LORD is upon the | mighty waters.

⁴The voice of the LORD is a pow- | erful voice; the voice of the LORD is a | voice of splendor. R

⁵The voice of the LORD breaks the | cedar trees; the LORD breaks the ce- | dars of Lebanon;

⁶the LORD makes Lebanon skip | like a calf, and Mount Hermon like a | young wild ox.

⁷The voice | of the LORD bursts forth in | lightning flashes.

⁸The voice of the LORD | shakes the wilderness; the LORD shakes the wilder- | ness of Kadesh.

R

⁹The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe and strips the | forests bare. And in the temple of the LORD all are | crying, "Glory!"

¹⁰The LORD sits enthroned a- | bove the flood; the LORD sits enthroned as king for- | evermore.

¹¹O LORD, give strength | to your people; give them, O LORD, the bless- | ings of peace. **R**

ALL – Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.

In describing the new life of faith, Paul refers to all three persons of the Trinity: the Spirit leads us to recognize that we are children of God the Father and sisters and brothers with Christ the Son.

SECOND READING: Romans 8:12-17

The Second reading is from the 8th chapter of Romans.

THE LESSON READS:

¹²Brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—¹³for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" ¹⁶it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

Lector: Here ends the reading.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

* THE VERSE (**Congregation**)

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

Al-le-lu—ia. Al-le-lu—ia.

Jesus' miracles prompt Nicodemus to visit him in secrecy. Jesus tells him about being born of the Spirit and about the Son who has been sent by God to save.

* GOSPEL: John 3:1-17

P The Holy Gospel according to John, the 3rd chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord. (sung)

THE GOSPEL READS:

¹Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ²He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." ³Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." ⁴Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" ⁵Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' ⁸The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." ⁹Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" ¹⁰Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? ¹¹Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹²If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. ¹⁷Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ. (sung)

SERMON

Pastor Esborn

* HYMN OF THE DAY "Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!"

* PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P Trusting the Spirit's power, we pray for the church, the world, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

P Holy God, you dwell in the church by your life-giving Spirit. Inspire the newly baptized, empower church leaders, and renew all of us for service in Christ's name. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Creating God, you fill the universe with your splendor. Restore right relationships among all living things, both seen and unseen. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Saving One, you so love this world. Bring justice to the oppressed, mercy to those who are angry, nourishment to the hungry, and peace to the violent and their victims. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Merciful God, you visit the hurting, giving healing and strength. We pray for your children in any need: the orphaned, the neglected, the grieving, the injured, and those we name this day (especially all of our shut-ins, both at home and in nursing homes, and for Dorothy Patterson, Sarah Shellenberger, Rick Waller, Sr., Avonel Waller, Jesse Kint, Jim Woltman, Heidi Woltman, Ed Forney, Allison Saner, Charlene Aughey, Bob & Jeanette St. Clair, Charlie Rush, Allison Garver, Clara Shepps, Anna (Pontius) Sparks, Andy Kinzer, Seamus Cantwell, Gus Keiser, Kaiden Woods, Tina Hutchinson, John Miller, Connie Peer, and Leiah Bridges). Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Loving Spirit, in you we live and move and have our being. As Mary visited Elizabeth in her waiting, visit those awaiting birth or preparing for adoption, all who struggle to conceive or cannot have children, and those mourning pregnancy loss. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P God of life, we remember your saints (especially Mary, the mother of our Lord, and Elizabeth, the mother of John the Baptist). With them, may we bear the life of Christ to those around us. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

P Receive these prayers, gracious God, and those prayers known only to you. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY:

Trusting the Lord

D. Callender

[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].

ANTHEM

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

* OFFERING PRAYER

P God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord.

C Amen

MEAL

* THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (sung responsively)

P The Lord be with you.

C And al-so with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give him thanks and praise.

* PREFACE

P It is indeed right and salutary ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

C Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, God of pow'r and might: Heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na. Ho-san-na. Ho-san-na in the high-est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

* 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 upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all glory and honor, now and forever.

C Amen.

(Sung) Through him, with him, in him, in the u-ni-ty of the Ho-ly Spir-it, all hon-or and glo-ry is yours, al-might-y Fa-ther, now and for-ev-er. A-men.

* THE LORD'S PRAYER ['trespasses'] **(all)**

C Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

* INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Jesus said, "Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

* LAMB OF GOD **(sung)**

Lamb of God, you take a – way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a – way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

(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:

Blessed Quietness

S. Douglas

["AT THE CHANCEL RAIL" – come forward by the aisle on your right; take a communion cup from the table by the front pew. Stand around the chancel rail to partake and return by the aisle to the left of your seat].

* COMMUNION BLESSING

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

C Amen

* POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE (**sung**)

C Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done. Let all who seek the Lord re – joice and proud-ly bear his name. He re-calls his prom-is – es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le – lu – ia. Al-le-lu – ia.

* PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Wise and generous God, we thank you that at this holy table you have fed us again with the food of everlasting life. Send us with your blessing to seek the good of our neighbor and call others to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen

SENDING

* BLESSING

P Almighty and merciful God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless, preserve, and keep you this day and forevermore.

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

* CLOSING HYMN *Come, Thou Almighty King*

* DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Live in love, as Christ loved us.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

NEXT WEEK'S LECTOR – Bob St. Clair

NEXT WEEK'S ALTAR GUILD – Linda Leister

WELCOME

IF YOU WISH TO USE OR FOLLOW THE LITURGY MUSIC as we proceed through the service today, please use the yellow 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 honor of the 69th Wedding Anniversary of Max and Mary Ernest by their family.

GOD CREATES THREE NEW SAINTS TODAY through His Sacrament of Holy Baptism. We welcome Natalie Christine Guido, daughter of Eric Guido and Chelsea Haubert, Maia Laina Kepler, daughter of Marc and Nasreen Kepler, and Tai Jacen Kepler, son of Marc and Nasreen Kepler.

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 – Cecil Myers, Christian Thinker: Successful marriage is always a triangle, a man, a woman, and God.

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

PRAYER CHAIN – Any time you wish to add a name to our prayer list, please contact Stacie Kint at diskint@nmax.net. If at any time you would like to receive emails with prayer requests, please also contact Stacie.

RECEIVED IN STAINED GLASS FUND June 1, 2014 through April 30, 2015: \$6,175.99 of the \$13,824.99 for the Gethsemane window project completed in 2014.

OPERATION "JUMP-START:" The Board of Christian Education is now staffed with the necessary minimum number of persons needed to conduct business. The new Director is Steve Bahorik. The Board recently met to address the demise of Youth Sunday School at Messiah. The Board discussed probable causes for the decline and stoppage, and it outlined the steps needed to be taken to enliven the Sunday School and allow it to prosper. We will keep the congregation apprised of progress, and we will aggressively seek your support in Operation "Jump-Start." There **WILL** be a Youth Sunday School in operation come next Fall.

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.

THE CONGREGATIONAL PICNIC will be held on Sunday, July 12, 2015 beginning with the worship service at the Mifflintown Playground followed by the picnic lunch. Mark the date on your calendar. Details will be in upcoming bulletins.

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 on Tuesday, June 23 through Thursday, June 25, 2015 from 6:00 to 8:15 p.m. for children of preschool age to children entering 6th grade in the Fall. There will be a pool party on Friday, June 26th at the Mifflin Pool and the closing program will be held at Messiah at 9:15 a.m. on June 28th. Children should preregister by June 15th. See Kate Swailes about volunteer opportunities that are still available or sign up at the VBS table at the back of the sanctuary by the baptismal font.

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.

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).

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.

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.

THE NEXT VOTERS' ASSEMBLY will be held on Sunday, June 21, 2015 following the worship service. Business: approval of previous minutes and quarterly board reports.

WOMEN OF THE ELCA

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.

SEAFARERS PROJECT – Women of the ELCA are collecting items for the Seafarers Project. Items needed are: sweatshirts (preferably hooded sizes L-XL), thermal or white gym socks (no dress socks), casual pull-over T-shirts sizes M-L, and heavy knit winter caps. Please place items on the table in the Adult Sunday School Room.

MESSIAH WOMEN OF THE ELCA will meet on June 11, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the Youth Area. Jean Compton will lead the devotions on the next session of the knitting project and Barb Geedey and Velma Suloff will provide refreshments.

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.

COMMUNITY

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.

MEALS-ON-WHEELS needs volunteer cooks, drivers and people to help assemble meals. **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).

JUNIATA COUNTY FOOD PANTRY NEEDS FOR JUNE

ALL NON-PERISHABLE FOODS, FRESH GARDEN PRODUCE
PAPER SUPPLIES: TISSUES, TOILET PAPER, PAPER TOWELS,
OVER-THE-COUNTER ALLERGY MEDICATIONS
WE ALSO GLADLY ACCEPT DONATIONS OF CASH AND
GIFT CARDS FOR GROCERY AND DISCOUNT STORES

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

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

Phone #: 717-436-9718

Hours: Tuesday 9-12 & 2-6, Saturday 9-12

Our vestibule is open 24 hours a day to accept donations

Contact person: Kathy Queitzsch

Email: jcfoodpantry@embarqmail.com

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

Like us on **Face Book!**

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

- Today:** -Holy Trinity.
-Food Pantry Sunday.
-9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Catechetical Class.
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Jr. Church.
- Monday:** -8 p.m., AA meeting in Fellowship Hall.
- Wednesday:** -7 p.m., Choir rehearsal.
- Thursday:** -1 p.m., Dulcimer rehearsal.
-6 p.m., Thrivent meeting in Library.
- Sunday:** -9:15 a.m., Summer worship begins.