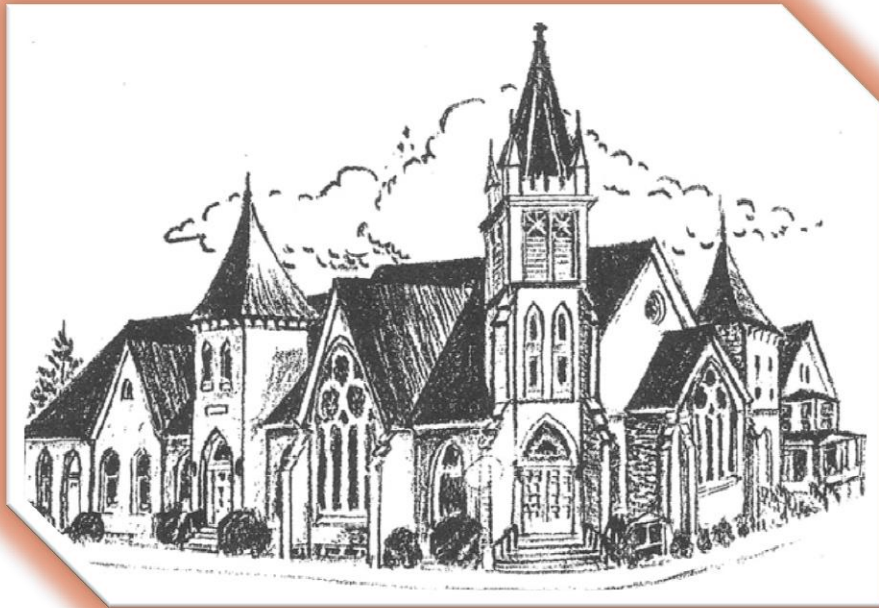


THE MESSIAH HERALD



OCTOBER, 2015

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

Website: www.mlcmifflintown.org

Email: messiahlutheran@pa.net

THE REV. WILLIAM N. ESBORN, PASTOR

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

Email: pastoresborn@pa.net

MESSIAH CHURCH CALENDAR

USS-ARK NEWSLETTER

THE LUTHERAN MAGAZINE

The Messiah Herald



October 2015

On September 13th we set a new pathway for Messiah. Starting October 1st we will be shifting pastoral ministry to a $\frac{3}{4}$ time structure with a $\frac{1}{2}$ time secretary and then for our new budget we will be working off of a recommendation to shift pastoral ministry all the way down to a $\frac{1}{4}$ time ministry with a half time secretary.

It is necessary therefore that we begin working immediately to create a plan for maintaining as complete and extensive a ministry as possible given the very limited hours that will be available.

Addressing the issues of worship leadership are in many ways the easiest to provide.

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

On September 13th we set a new pathway for Messiah. Starting October 1st we will be shifting pastoral ministry to a $\frac{3}{4}$ time structure and then for our new budget we will be working off of a recommendation to shift fulltime ministry all the way down to a $\frac{1}{4}$ time pastoral ministry. While these will address the present fiscal challenges at Messiah the impact on many areas of ministry will be profound.

It is necessary therefore that we begin working immediately to create a plan for maintaining as complete and extensive a ministry as possible given the very limited hours that will be available.

Addressing the issues of worship leadership are in many ways the easiest to provide. Besides myself there Andrea, Jim and Sam who are qualified Authorized Lay Worship Leaders to assist in worship leadership. They must function, however, under the mentorship of a pastor. Without a mentorship they are no longer able to provide those services. This means that maintaining an official mentorship status is critical.

In addition, the responsibilities of various forms of counseling pre-marital, baptismal, marital, and general counseling needs will need to be met. A plan needs to be put into place for this. There, also, needs to be plan for keeping us connected to the local community ministerium, Twin Borough and County, to insure that we can fulfill our responsibilities as partners in local ministry, such as the Lenten and Holy Week services, the Mifflintown Men's Prayer breakfast, the County Fair Vesper Service and other activities. There needs to be a plan put into place for providing sick care and hospital visits. A plan must be put in place for Confirmation training for our kids. A plan must be prepared for management of the Matthew 25 funds and assistance to those who are in need and coordination with of congregations and pastors in the community worked out.

With the secretary only available $\frac{1}{2}$ time many office functions will need to change, too. Entry of all giving must continue smoothly, preparation of bulletins and newsletter may be impacted because of the available time. There is, also, preparation of the annual Christmas and Easter flower sheets and ordering the plants.

For both the pastor and the secretary there are literally dozens if not hundreds of other small daily, monthly and annual tasks that cannot be allowed to fall through the cracks.

Plus we cannot allow our continual ministry of the Gospel within or outside of our Messiah community to wain or falter. Serving Christ is the very reason for our existence.

In all of this the only way for us to stay the tide of these realities is to work very, very hard, as well as, to dig down into our pockets and with a generous spirit accept the present situation not as a fait accompli but rather as a challenge to rise to in service of Christ, his people at Messiah and our community. Nothing is a given, with God's grace all things are possible. God who raised Jesus from the dead continues still to breathe new life into us and our ministry in Christ's name. Our congregational moto is "Proclaiming God's love in Christ and his people." If we passionately and fervently believe this we can accomplish amazing things with God.

You know that my personal giving to the church The largest chunk of it is visible right there in the annual budget. It is more than 12% of my income from Messiah. My salary and housing is \$52,600 and the first \$6000 of that I take as a reduction. I did not start there. Giving a Biblical tithe, 10% of your annual income, changes many things but if you believe in our ministry at Messiah as much as I have you can do it. All things are possible with God. If you do this we will have the funds to sustain a much healthier and abundant ministry than we are facing right now.

Please pray over these things because our ability to serve God begins with listening as we are called by the spirit to do amazing things.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Bill

DAILY HOME BIBLE READINGS

October	1: Genesis 2:18-24
October	2: Psalm 8
October	3: Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12
October	4: Mark 10:2-16
October	5: Revelation 7:9-17
October	6: Revelation 8:1-5
October	7: Luke 16:19-31
October	8: Amos 5:6-7, 10-15
October	9: Psalm 90:12-17
October	10: Hebrews 4:12-16
October	11: Mark 10:17-31
October	12: Deuteronomy 5:1-21
October	13: 1 Samuel 8:1-18
October	14: 1 Samuel 12:1-25
October	15: Isaiah 53:4-12
October	16: Psalm 91:9-16
October	17: Hebrews 5:1-10
October	18: Mark 10:35-45
October	19: Luke 1:1-4; 24:44-53
October	20: Mark 10:46-52
October	21: Mark 12:28-34
October	22: Jeremiah 31:31-34
October	23: Psalm 46
October	24: Romans 3:19-28
October	25: John 8:31-36
October	26: 1 John 4:1-6
October	27: Psalm 119:17-24
October	28: John 14:21-27
October	29: Isaiah 25:6-9
October	30: Psalm 24
October	31: Revelation 21:1-6



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!**

OCTOBER SCHEDULES

LECTORS

4: Briley Holderman
11: Ron Yorks
18: Diana Wise
25: Kate Swailes

ALTAR GUILD

Sept. 28—Oct. 4 Linda Clark
Oct. 5—Oct. 18 Diana Wise & Tawny Mummah
Oct. 19—Oct. 25 Christie Holderman & Stacie Kint
(cup communion – Clint & Jamie Miller)
Oct. 26—Nov. 1 Linda Clark
(cup communion – Clint & Jamie Miller)

ALTAR FLOWERS

4: OPEN
11: Cindy Miller & Family
18: OPEN
25: Warren & Claire Mummah



We are still collecting items for our School Kits that will be sent along with the blankets in October. Items needed are 4—70 sheet notebooks of wide or college-ruled paper 8" X 10½", one 30-centimeter ruler or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other, one pencil sharpener, one pair of blunt scissors, 5 unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers, 5 ballpoint pens, one box of 16 or 24 crayons, and one 2½" eraser. The items should 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 held on October 8, 2015 at 7:00 in the Youth Area.



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



CHANGE OF ENVELOPES

Please note that your church envelope will look different in 2016. Resource Management Director, Bob Hazard approved Bob St. Clair's research to make a change of envelope for a savings of \$200.

More information will be forthcoming when the envelopes arrive.



CHAIRS AVAILABLE

Ten old green and gray folding chairs were found when changing the storage area into a Sunday School classroom.

Anyone who wants or could use any of these chairs, please contact the church office at 436-6213



CROP WALK

The Juniata County CROP WALK will be held on Sunday, October 4, 2015 at Walker Township Park RAIN OR SHINE!

Registration begins at 12:30 p.m. – Walk begins at 1:00 p.m. Please bring all pledge money to be returned on Walk day! Donated items for the Food Pantry will

be collected at the Walk. Twenty-five percent of pledge money goes to our local Food Pantry and Meals-On-Wheels program. The Short Walk is 3 laps and the Long Walk is 15 laps (directions to the Park will be provided with recruiter packets).

Any questions, please call Graham Fowler at 463-3138 or Chris Mathiason at 463-2490. Donation envelopes and information are available in the Adult Sunday School Room. Needed items for the Food Pantry include:

- Personal Hygiene 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 tissue, tissues.
- Infant Needs** like diapers, baby wipes, baby shampoo, baby lotions.
- Non-Perishable Food Items**



FALL REMINDERS FOR JUNIATA COUNTY THRIVENT MEMBERS

The election dinner will be held on October 25, 2015 at 12:30 p.m. at St. Stephen's, Licking Creek. Bring a guest and they will receive a Weis Gift Card. RSVP by calling Don at 436-8856 or Kathy at 436-2401 by October 18th. There will be an explanation of your NEW Thrivent programs. If you are an Advocate, please try to attend.

Also, there will be a Highway clean-

up on October 28 at 9:30 a.m. (meet at Deb Cramer's, Stetler Rd.). Lunch at Walnut Cheese Nook when done!

Remember to direct your Choice Dollars. NOTE: Thriven Action Team—if you need help with your Thrivent Action Team Project, call Don at 436-8856. Remember benefit members can request two action teams and associate members one action team per year. Seed money of \$250 is available for each event.

SYNOD GROW TEAM (Save the Dates)

October 31, 2015: Building Youth Groups at Camp Mount Luther

November 21, 2015: Family Advent Night at Messiah in Williamsport

February 19-20 or 26-27, 2016: GROW in the SNOW Retreat at Camp Mount Luther



BLANKET SUNDAY

Blanket Sunday will be observed on October 4, 2015.

Along with all ELCA congregations, you are invited to make a donation to Lutheran World Relief in the special Blanket Sunday envelopes that will be provided.

Please make checks payable to Messiah Women of the ELCA and take this opportunity to serve as Christ's helping hands in our world today!

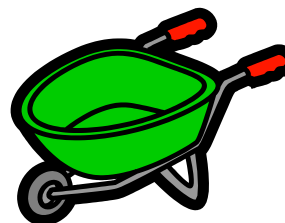
IN HOME SERVICES OF CENTRAL PA

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.



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.



*October is
Breast
Cancer
Awareness
Month*

JUNIATA COUNTY FOOD PANTRY OCTOBER UPDATE

Dear Friends,

The Lord has truly blessed us with the most generous community and giving churches! We are so grateful for the overwhelming response to our cry for help in August. Your loving kindness has lifted not only our finances but also our spirits out of the "dumps," and kept hunger from the door of a thousand neighbors. Please continue to pray for us as we head into Fall and try to make hundreds of Thanksgiving and Christmas meals available for families in need. And we are forever thankful for any support you can give.

In August 2015, the Food Pantry served 328 families in need – a total of 900 individuals. A special thank you to Lost Creek Mennonite Church for providing volunteers for August.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS FOR OCTOBER:
CASH, CHECK OR GIFT CARD DONATIONS
NON-PERISHABLE FOODS
VEGETABLES & FRUITS FROM YOUR GARDENS
PERSONAL CARE & BABY CARE PRODUCTS
PAPER PRODUCTS

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 drop off donations!

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*

