

Messiah Lutheran Church

3 South Third Street
Mifflintown, PA 17059

Church Office / 436-6213 Dial-A-Prayer / 436-2100

The Reverend William N. Esborn
June Bricker
Andrea Cameron
Kate Swailes
Christie Holderman & Stacie Kint
Clint & Jamie Miller
Marina Holderman
Emma Arentz & Emma Hazard

Pastor
Organist
Choir Director
Lector
Altar Guild
Cup Communion
Crucifer
Acolytes

REFORMATION SUNDAY

October 25, 2015 – 10:30 a.m.

*Please Stand as **YOU** Are Able

PEOPLE TO REMEMBER IN PRAYER TODAY

Those we want to remember in prayer today—please refer to pg. 5 under “Prayers of Intercession.”

PREPARATION

CHIMES: CALL TO WORSHIP

MEDITATION AND PRAYER

PRELUDE

[A Time for Meditation and Prayer]

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTRODUCTION

On this day we celebrate the heart of our faith: the gospel of Christ—the good news—that makes us free! Though we give thanks for the events of the sixteenth-century Reformation that brought renewal to the church of that time, we pray that the Holy Spirit would continue to unite the church today in its proclamation and witness to the world. In the waters of baptism we are made one body; we pray for the day that all Christians will also be one at the Lord's table

* CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
whose name is majestic in all the earth,
who rescues and heals in every time of trouble,
who does all things well.

C Amen.

P Let us come before God, seeking forgiveness and life.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Steadfast and saving God,

C have mercy on us. We confess to you all the ways we turn from you and harm one another.

In your compassion, forgive our sins and heal our hurts. Bring forth from us a harvest of righteousness, the fruits of gentleness and peacemaking, the sheaves of wisdom and justice; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

P In the name of + Jesus, the Son of God, receive mercy and find grace in your time of need. Your transgressions are forgiven; God's love is healing balm for your wounds. Rejoice, for God raises you up to new life in Christ.

C Amen.

GATHERING

* ENTRANCE HYMN "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

* GREETING

P Sisters and brothers in Christ, beloved children of God: grace, mercy, and peace be with you all.

C And also with you.

* KYRIE (**C - sung**)

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

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

C Lord, have mercy.

P 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.

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

C Lord, have mercy.

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

C Amen

* HYMN OF PRAISE (**sung**) 1 & II – Cantor **C – All**

C This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

I Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

C This is the feast of victory for our god. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

II Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are his.

C This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

I Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever.

Amen.

C This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

II For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.

C This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

* SALUTATION AND RESPONSE (**sung**)

P The Lord be with you.

C And al - so with you.

* PRAYER OF THE DAY (**spoken in unison**)

P Let us pray...

C Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

WORD

The renewed covenant will not be breakable, but like the old covenant it will expect the people to live upright lives. To know the Lord means that one will defend the cause of the poor and needy (Jer. 22:16). The renewed covenant is possible only because the Lord will forgive iniquity and not remember sin. Our hope lies in a God who forgets.

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:31-34

The First Lesson is from the 31st chapter of Jeremiah.

THE LESSON READS:

³¹The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD.

³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Lector: Here ends the reading.

Cong: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 46

Ps. – Intoned by Cantor

R – Sung by Congregation

A mighty fortress is our God, a sword and shield victorious;

¹God is our ref- | uge and strength, a very present | help in trouble.

²**Therefore we will not fear, though the | earth be moved, and though the mountains shake in the depths | of the sea;**

³though its waters | rage and foam, and though the mountains tremble | with its tumult.

⁴**There is a river whose streams make glad the cit- | y of God, the holy habitation of | the Most High.**

⁵God is in the midst of the city; it shall | not be shaken; God shall help it at the | break of day.

⁶**The nations rage, and the | kingdoms shake; God speaks, and the earth | melts away. R**

⁷The LORD of | hosts is with us; the God of Jacob | is our stronghold.

⁸**Come now, regard the works | of the LORD, what desolations God has brought up- | on the earth;**

⁹behold the one who makes war to cease in | all the world; who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the | shields with fire.

¹⁰**"Be still, then, and know that | I am God; I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted | in the earth."**

¹¹The LORD of | hosts is with us; the God of Jacob | is our stronghold. **R**

Paul's words stand at the heart of the preaching of Martin Luther and the other Reformation leaders. No human beings make themselves right with God through works of the law. We are brought into a right relationship with

God through the divine activity centered in Christ's death. This act is a gift of grace that liberates us from sin and empowers our faith in Jesus Christ.

SECOND READING: Romans 3:19-28

The Second Lesson is from the 3rd chapter of Romans.

THE LESSON READS:

¹⁹Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰For "no human being will be justified in his sight" by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

²¹But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

²⁷Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

Lector: Here ends the reading.

Cong: Thanks be to God.

* THE VERSE (sung)

**C Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.
Alleluia. Alleluia.**

Jesus speaks of truth and freedom as spiritual realities known through his word. He reveals the truth that sets people free from sin.

* GOSPEL: John 8:31-36

P The Holy Gospel according to John, the 8th chapter.

C Glo - ry to you, O Lord. (sung)

THE GOSPEL READS:

³¹Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." ³³They answered him, "We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, 'You will be made free'?"

³⁴Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ. (sung)

SERMON

Pastor Esborn

* HYMN OF THE DAY

"Lift High the Cross"

* NICENE CREED (all)

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.

Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, with the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.

Amen

* PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P Made alive with God in Christ, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.
A brief silence.

P Reforming God, renew the covenant you have made with your people. Write your law on our hearts so that all we say and do proclaims the grace you have shown us. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Reinvigorate those places that have become desolate and barren through human intervention or natural disaster. Breathe new life into plants, animals, and watersheds. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Reconcile the nations to one another. Where long-standing disputes remain, raise up new generations to foster understanding. Bring peace where there is deep-rooted conflict. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Revive those who live under the weight of anxiety, despair, or illness (especially for all of our shut-ins: Marian Gross, Reba Sigler, Kitty Walters, Flo Beale, Ethel Bossinger, Jean McNaight, Jane Marhefka, Fay McCormick, Dorothy Patterson, Ruth Cisney, Ray Bramm, Dottie Smith, Dorothy Cleck, Carol Simonton, Lura Aughey, Earl & Mona Lawson, Jim Yetter, and Craig Walker. And for Sarah Shellenberger, Rick Waller, Sr., Avonell Waller, Jesse Kint, Jim Woltman, Ed Forney, Allison Saner, Charlene Aughey, Bob & Jeanette St. Clair, Charlie Rush, Allison Garver, Clara Shepps, Andy & Wesley Kinzer, Gus Keiser, Kaiden Woods, Tina Hutchinson, Leiah Bridges, Michal Gayer, Judy Grimes, Sara Ann Aurand, Carol Jan & John Mahlin, Betsy Aumiller, Jodi Fitzgerald, Virginia Waller, Mindy Fryer, Mary Ann Bardell, Audrey Morral, Diane Layton, Gabby Baney, Josh Delancey, Kay Stuck, Minnie Minick, Sam Leister, Norm Gray, Dan Brown, Max & Mary Ernest, Marcy Primak, Tina Benner, Don Wert, Leon Kramer and family, and Larry Goss and family). Carry their burdens, and uplift them by your compassionate Spirit. Lord, in your mercy.

C hear our prayer.

P Redeem your church from self-serving sins. Turn our hearts to people outside our walls, and transform our communities into places where all may find redemption and hope. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P As we remember the witness of your saints, we pray you remember your promise of mercy for us. Reunite us with all your holy ones when you come in fullness. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer

P Gather these concerns and all who are in need into your abundant care, O God, remembering your promise of mercy, through Christ our Lord.

C Amen

* 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."**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

[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') (sung)

C Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer now. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

* OFFERING PRAYER

P Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever.

C Amen

MEAL

* THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (sung responsively)

P The Lord be with you.

C And also 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: (sung)

C Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

* EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

C Amen.

(sung) C Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. Amen

* 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 God gives food to those who hunger. Come, be fed, be healed.

* **LAMB OF GOD (sung)**

C Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away 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

[“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 and Savior 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 everyone what he has done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name. He recalls his promises and leads his people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia. Alleluia.

* **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

P We give you thanks, O God, that you welcome us to your table and satisfy our deepest hunger and thirst. By your gifts of word and holy meal, strengthen us to take up the cross as we go about our callings in this world, following after Jesus Christ, our servant Lord.
C Amen

SENDING

* **BLESSING**

P Like children in the arms of Jesus, receive blessing: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.
C Amen, Amen, Amen (sung)

* **CLOSING HYMN**

“Built on a Rock”

* **DISMISSAL**

P Go in peace. Remember the poor.
C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

NEXT WEEK'S LECTOR – Diana Wise

NEXT WEEK'S ALTAR GUILD – Linda Clark (Clint & Jamie Miller – Cup Communion)

NEXT WEEK'S GREETERS & USHERS – Stan, Missy, Hannah & Carter Ehrisman

WELCOME

IF YOU WISH TO USE OR FOLLOW THE LITURGY MUSIC as we proceed through the service today, please use the red 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.

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.

ALTAR FLOWERS are presented to the Glory of God and in honor of our children by Warren and Claire Mummah.

WE EXTEND OUR SYMPATHY to Larry Goss, son Matt and daughter Abby on the death of their wife and mother, Karen Goss, who died on October 17, 2015 at her home. Please keep the family in your prayers. Please also keep Leon Kramer and family in your prayers on the loss of his sister-in-law, Evaleen Kramer, who died on Sunday, October 18, 2015 at her home.

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 – Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Lutheran Pastor, Theologian & Martyr (1906 – 1945): The responsible person seeks to make his or her whole life a response to the question and call of God.

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

OCTOBER 10, 2015 ATTENDANCE 64. TOTAL OFFERING \$3,604.41—GENERAL FUND \$2,963.00—SUNDAY SCHOOL \$91.44.

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

CHANGE OF ENVELOPE – 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.

THE SECRETARY'S WEEKLY OFFICE HOURS beginning on October 6, 2015 will be as follows:

Tuesday – 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Thursday – 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Friday – 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

COPIES OF PPC MINUTES from July and August meetings are available on the piano in the Adult Sunday School Room for anyone who would like one.

GIANT STORE GIFT CARDS are also now available as well as the Weis Cards to purchase from members of the Disciples Class.

BLANKET SUNDAY ENVELOPES may still be returned. You may put them in the offering plates or give them to Cynthia Smith (additional envelopes are available on the table in the Adult Sunday School Room). Please make checks payable to Messiah Women of the ELCA.

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.

FALL REMINDERS FOR JUNIATA COUNTY THRIVENT MEMBERS – The election dinner will be held today at 12:30 p.m. at St. Stephen’s, Licking Creek. 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: Thrivent 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.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE SCHEDULE CHANGE

The Board of Worship and Music recently conducted an online survey, to which 50 persons from our congregation replied. In our survey, we asked questions pertaining to the possible combining of services for Christmas Eve, beginning with this Christmas Eve, Thursday, December 24th. 84% of those responding said they would appreciate one service being held instead of two, combining features from the Family Service and the later Communion/Candlelight service. With that in mind, the Board of Worship and Music has elected to go with the following information for Christmas Eve 2015:

The 2015 Thursday, December 24th Christmas Eve Service will be one service, beginning at 7:30 PM, preceded by 15 to 25 minutes of special Christmas music. This service will be a combined service of family, communion, and candle lighting. The junior and senior choirs will both provide anthems throughout the service and scripture and carols will be part of the service as well. More details about this service will be forthcoming in November.

If you are willing to help be a part of this service – lectoring, candle lighting, church lights (during candle lighting), communion attendants, ushers for offering, greeters, etc., please let Diana Wise, Bob St. Clair, or Pastor Esborn know. We look forward to this being a VERY special service this year and are anticipating the arrival of the Advent and Christmas seasons at Messiah!

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.

MESSIAH WOMEN OF THE ELCA met on Wednesday, October 7, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the Youth Area. Brief devotions were held and members finished packing the following items:

33 School Kits 300 Quilts
81.5 Pounds of Soap

Thanks to all who contributed items. A special thanks to all who contributed their time and effort in making the Quilts—a Wonderful Blessing for those in Need. A reminder that Thankoffering Sunday is November 8th.

COMMUNITY

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).

COMMUNITY CHORUS REHEARSALS will be held on the following dates listed below from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. in the Juniata High School Music Room. (Even if you cannot attend all of the rehearsals, please don’t hesitate to join the group).

	Tuesday, November 17
Monday, October 26	Monday, November 23
Tuesday, November 3	Monday, December 7
Monday, November 9	Tuesday, December 15

This year’s 19th annual Christmas Cantata performance “The Winter Rose” will be held Sunday, December 20, 2015 at 2:00 p.m. in the Juniata High School Auditorium with live tableaux as an enhancement to the overall presentation. Should weather

conditions present a need to postpone the December 20th event (December 21st and 22nd at 7:00 p.m. are available snow dates). A special presentation will also be performed for area senior citizens on Friday, December 18th at 2:00 p.m. in the JHS Auditorium.

**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**

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

WATCH FOR DETAILS IN UPCOMING BULLETINS CLOSER TO THE DATES!!

HEROIN IN OUR TOWN? A TOWN HALL MEETING will be held on Thursday, November 5, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. at Juniata High School Auditorium, Mifflintown, PA. Please join us for an informational time to address awareness, prevention and treatment of heroin usage in our community. The evening will conclude with a question and answer session. A panel of community members will present and special guest Gary Tennis, Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Drug and Alcohol, will also speak. Sponsored by Juniata County Probation, Tri-County Drug and Alcohol Commission and Clear Concepts. PASTop.org The Commonwealth Prevention Alliance Campaign to Stop Opiate Abuse.

SECOND ANNUAL SENIOR CITIZINS' HOLIDAY LUNCHEON, hosted by the Juniata County School District and Metz Culinary Management will be held on Thursday, November 19, 2015 at 12:20 p.m. at Juniata High School, 3931 William Penn Highway, Mifflintown. You are cordially invited to enjoy.....

- *A free holiday ham meal served by Juniata High School students
- *Entertainment by Juniata High School musicians
- *Student artwork
- *Student-led tours of the school
- *The opportunity to meet school district faculty, staff and administrators, as well as board members

If planning to attend this free event, please RSVP to Polly at 717-436-2111, x5002 or pdigon@jcsdk12.org, by October 30.

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

- Today:** -9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Cate. Class.
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Jr. Church.
-12:30 p.m., Thrivent Dinner at St. Stephen's.
-2—4 p.m., Fellowship Hall reserved.
- Monday:** -6 p.m., Knitting Class in Jr. Church Room.
-7 p.m., Bible Study in Library area.
-8 p.m., AA meeting in Fellowship Hall.
- Tuesday:** -9 a.m., "The Needlers" in Fellowship Hall.
-7 p.m., 4-H Beef Club meeting in Youth Area.
- Wednesday:** -7 p.m., Choir rehearsal.
- Sunday:** -All Saints Sunday.
-9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Catechetical Class.
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Jr. Church.

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH
Thankoffering Service & Fall Fest
November 8, 2015

Women of the ELCA Thankoffering Service & Fall Fest will be held on Sunday, November 8, 2014. The congregation is asked to bring items for the Food Pantry so they can be displayed in the altar area on Thankoffering Sunday.

Special Thankoffering envelopes will be included in your bulletin on November 8 for offerings to help Women of the ELCA with their various projects and services to those in need. Please make checks payable to "Messiah Women of the ELCA" and place in the offering plates or give to Cynthia Smith (additional envelopes are available in the Adult Sunday School Room).

A meal will be served in the Fellowship Hall following the service. The Parish Fellowship Committee will provide ham, hash brown casserole, rolls and beverage. Those attending are asked to provide a fall covered dish (hot or cold) of their choice. Anyone unable to bring a covered dish is still more than welcome to attend as there is always plenty of food for everyone. Mints, chips, etc. are always needed and don't need to be prepared.

Reservations can be made by detaching the bottom portion of this sheet and placing it in the offering plate by **November 1st** or by calling the church office at 436-6213.



Messiah's Fall Fest

Name(s) _____ Number attending _____

Bringing covered dish? () YES () NO _____

Please specify below whether you will be bringing a covered dish for the meal or a desert
