

THE MESSIAH HERALD



APRIL, 2016

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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MESSIAH CHURCH CALENDAR

USS-ARK NEWSLETTER

THE LUTHERAN MAGAZINE

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

The Messiah Herald



CONFESSIONS OF AN APRIL FOOL

I don’t know about you, but if I had been alive in Rome in 1582, I would probably have been one of the original April fools.

In that year, Pope Gregory XIII decided that the calendar needed to be changed to align better with the solar year. The current Julian calendar was off about 11 minutes and 14 seconds a year, which by the year 1582 added up to about 10 days too many. In order to fix this error, Gregory proposed a radical solution. On October 4th, 1582 we assume everyone went to bed as usual. But when they woke up the next morning, it was October 15th. Ten days were lost forever. Holidays, birthdays and anniversaries were reset to ten days later. New Years was moved from April 1 to January 1 and the new Gregorian calendar was officially adopted in Rome.

As you can imagine, some people did not easily accept this change. A few thought it was a trick to get them to pay a full month’s rent for only 20 days occupancy. Others couldn’t see the need for the change and some people, especially those in rural areas, never even heard about it. Perhaps a handful resisted the change just because it *was* change, difficult and confusing.

Because of this widespread resistance, the new calendar was not fully accepted for many years. Those who clung to the old system and celebrated New Years on April 1 were scoffed at and called “fools” by the more progressive Romans.

My sympathies lie firmly with the traditionalists. Though some people thrive on change, many of us fear it. The more invasive the change, the more we avoid it. So how do we April-fool types learn to respond to change in a way that honors God?

Accept that change is inevitable. The Bible teaches us that life is “a vapor, which appears for a little time, and then disappears” (James 4:14). Is anything more changeable than a vapor? And yet there is a part of us that—sullenly and against common sense—expects our life to go on just as it is forever. Accepting the biblical truth that change is inevitable will free us from the feeling of surprise and even betrayal when circumstances do change (and they will).

Agree that change is commanded. All through the Bible, God commands his people to repent—to change their minds and actions to conform to His holiness in cooperation with the Holy Spirit. For you ought to put off the old man (according to your way of living before) who is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts and you should put on the new man, who according to God *was* created in righteousness and true holiness. Eph. 4:22-24

Understand that change is desirable. Most of us are familiar with Romans 8:28, “All things work together for good to those who love the Lord, who are called according to His purpose.” But when seemingly tragic changes come, it’s difficult to see them from God’s perspective. In “Don’t Waste Your Cancer”, an article written by Pastor John Piper after his own cancer diagnosis, he says: What God permits, He permits for a reason. And that reason is His design. If God foresees molecular developments becoming cancer, He can stop it or not. If He does not, He has a purpose. Since He is infinitely wise, it is right to call this purpose a design. Piper knows, as we all should, that every circumstance in our life comes from the hand of the Father and is specifically designed to work for our good and the glory of God.

Cling to the unchangeable. The uncertainty of this life does not need to leave us feeling anxious and uneasy. God told His people, “For I am Jehovah, I change not.” (Mal. 3:6). The author of Hebrews says that Jesus Christ is “the same yesterday, today, and forever” (Heb. 13:8). Ultimately, any change in circumstance in this life is endurable if we rest on an unchanging God.

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www.CCWtoday.org

DAILY HOME BIBLE READINGS

April	1: Psalm 118:14-29
April	2: Revelation 1:4-8
April	3: John 20:19-31
April	4: Esther 7:1-10
April	5: Esther 8:1-17
April	6: Esther 9:1-5, 18-23
April	7: Acts 9:1-6, 7-20
April	8: Psalm 30
April	9: Revelation 5:11-14
April	10: John 21:1-19
April	11: Ezekiel 1:1-25
April	12: Ezekiel 1:26 – 2:1
April	13: Luke 5:1-11
April	14: Acts 9:36-43
April	15: Psalm 23
April	16: Revelation 7:9-17
April	17: John 10:22-30
April	18: Revelation 15:1-4
April	19: Ezekiel 45:1-9
April	20: John 10:31-42
April	21: Acts 11:1-18
April	22: Psalm 148
April	23: Revelation 21:1-6
April	24: John 13:1-35
April	25: 2 Timothy 4:6-11, 18
April	26: Acts 11:27-30
April	27: Leviticus 19:9-18
April	28: Acts 16:9-18
April	29: Psalm 67
April	30: Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5



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.

APRIL SCHEDULES

LECTORS

3: Briley Holderman
10: Linda Bahorik
17: Randy Clark
24: Ron Yorks

ALTAR GUILD

March 28 – April 3.....Ann Beaver
April 4 - 24.....Tawny Mummah & Diana Wise
April 25 - May 1 Linda Clark

ALTAR FLOWERS

3: To the Glory of God
10: OPEN
17: OPEN
24: OPEN

CRUCIFER

3: Harrison Mummah
10: Haley Mummah
17: Emma Arentz
24: Drew Lauver

ACOLYTES

3: Drew Lauver & Wesley Lauver
10: Caden Swailes & Nate Swailes
17: Harrison Mummah & Haley Mummah
24: Emma Arentz & Livia Arentz

PRAYER REQUEST REMINDER!!

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 or after one month, please call the church office!



The WELCA met on Thursday, March 10 at 7 P.M. Barb presented a program on Easter with readings from a variety of resources. Treasurer Cynthia Smith received a note from Carol Nace which Cynthia read to the group. She also gave the treasurer's report for the month. Barb thanked everyone who helped with

Messiah's Lenten Tea.

Our next month's meeting will consist of a short program by Jean Compton and then we are moving to the kitchen to do a little clean-up of some drawers and anything else that might need some attention.

Barb has not received anything recently regarding upcoming synodical events.

We continue to collect items for the Personal Care Kits which are listed in the church bulletin every week.

Delicious refreshments were served by Cynthia Smith and Jean Compton. Thank you, ladies.

HOSPITAL/HOME VISITS



Need a visit while in the hospital or at home from Messiah? With the Pastor's part-time status, this may not happen unless volunteers handle this very important ministry.

The Compassionate Services Committee is seeking to establish such a group of people so that no request for a visit goes unanswered. No training will be necessary. Those interested could do visits on a rotating basis as an individual or in pairs.

If you would like to help with this vital part of Messiah, see Don Geedey. (Phone 436-6433 or e-mail to geedey@centurylink.net).

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

STORE GIFT CARDS



Giant Store Gift Cards are also now available as well as the Weis Cards to purchase from members of the Disciples Class.

REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS

LOCUST GROVE

(69 COTTAGE DRIVE, MIFFLIN, PA 17058)

Ethel Bossinger

Jean McNaight
190 JAM House Rd., Cottage #5
Mifflin, PA 17058

BROOKLINE

(2 MANOR BLVD., MIFFLINTOWN, PA 17059)

Flo Beale, Sara Ann Aurand

Jane Marhefka
351 Village Blvd.
Mifflintown, PA 17059

BERRY'S PERSONAL CARE CENTER

(3 ALEX CIRCLE, MIFFLINTOWN, PA 17059)

Carol Simonton

NORTHRIDGE CENTER FOR ASSISTED LIVING

(99 NORTHRIDGE DR., MCALISTERVILLE, PA 17049)

Dorothy Cleck Dottie Smith

HONNEMAN HOUSE

(58 HONNEMAN HOUSE DR., APT. 108,
THOMPSONTOWN, PA 17094)

Ruth Cisney Ray Bamm

LEHIGH CENTER

(1718 SPRING CREEK ROAD, ROOM 205B,
MACUNGIE, PA 18062)

Lura Aughey

AT HOME

Fay McCormick
38 Wagon Wheel Lane
Mifflintown, PA 17059

Reba Sigler
23390 Rt. 35 North
Mifflintown, PA 17059

Kitty Walters
P.O. Box 61
Port Royal, PA 17082

Earl & Mona Lawson
2792 William Penn Hwy.
Mifflintown, PA 17059

Jim Yetter
128 Manbeck Drive
Mifflintown, PA 17059

Craig Walker
7016 Rt. 333
Mifflintown, PA 17059

ALTAR GUILD

The new Altar Guild schedule for July, 2016 through June, 2017 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, 2016 through June, 2017 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.

SECRETARY'S OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday – 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Thursday – 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Friday – 12:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

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.

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.
Serving Centre, Mifflin and Juniata Counties
(LOCALLY OWNED). Check out our website:
InHomeServicesofCentralPA.com.

2016 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



Vacation Bible School preparations are underway already as Messiah prepares for summer. This year's Bible School will be held from **Monday, June 20th** to **Thursday, June 23rd** with a pool party being scheduled for Friday, June 24th. This year's closing program will be held on Sunday, June 26th during the morning worship service.

GET EXCITED FOR CAMP THIS SUMMER!!

We are planning on having a group of Messiah youth attend Camp Mt. Luther from Sunday, June 12th through Thursday, June 16th. During that week, there are camps for kids who have completed Kindergarten through 8th grade, including the Morning Glories camp, Fishing camp, and Hammock Haven. Kids will arrive at 2:45 p.m. Sunday afternoon and they have a closing event at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday. We will have a Messiah parent attend the entire camp, so that the day campers can stay overnight from Sunday through Thursday.

We will be sending the registration forms together to Mt. Luther. Each camper must pay \$50 toward the non-refundable registration fee and Messiah will pay the additional \$75 registration fee as well as the remaining cost of camp. If your child does not attend camp, then the family responsible for reimbursing Messiah



for the \$75 non-refundable registration fee. Messiah has funds set aside to assist families with costs for such programs, if you are not able to pay the \$50 per camper. We don't want to see any child miss this opportunity, so please let Kate Swailes know if you would like assistance with the cost. If your child is interested in going to camp, complete the camp registration / health form which is in the 2016 Mt. Luther catalog and drop it off at the church office with a \$50 check for the registration fee (check should be made out to **Messiah Lutheran Church**). We will then mail the forms together to Mt. Luther with the total registration fee for each child. Judy has books in the office if needed. You can turn in the form right now without having the form signed by a physician. As soon as you are able to get your physician to complete the form, it should be forwarded to Mt. Luther. Do not complete the payment section of the form. We will complete this section so that they bill Messiah for the camp fees.

Please submit the form and payment by **April 3rd, 2016** so that Messiah can receive the \$25 early registration discount for each camper (they are giving us an extension of a few days past April 1st since we just recently had Chad visit the church). The 'Bring a Friend' and 'Sibling' discount would also be a discount toward the fees paid by Messiah, since the cost of camp ranges from \$300 to \$720. Only one discount per camper.

If your child is planning on going to Mt. Luther for a camp week other than June 12-16th, please complete your forms and drop them off with payment prior to April 3rd. We would like to send those from Messiah with the total registration fee.

DIAL-A-PRAYER SERVICE

DISCONTINUED!!

Due to the inconsistent reliability and the cost of almost \$700.00 a year, the Dial-A-Prayer number (436-2100) has been discontinued.

CAMP MOUNT LUTHER

Camp Mount Luther, as a place set apart by God, is located on 400 acres in Union County, PA. The camp proclaims the gospel of Jesus Christ, in the beauty of creation, serving the Upper Susquehanna Synod (ELCA) and the Episcopal Diocese of Central Pennsylvania (ECUSA). We are committed to serving and being in partnership with the interdenominational, interfaith, and broader community.

God's Mission for Us: Sharing Christ, Planting Seeds.

Our Purpose Statement: A year-round ministry providing resources and experiences in faith formation, worship, recreation, and intentional Christian community for all ages.

Our Vision: Cultivate and integrate strong partnerships between Camp Mount Luther and all expressions of God's church.

During our summer program, we provide a staff trained in providing a safe emotional, physical, and spiritual experience for participants to grow in their faith. We teach our campers creation stewardship and encourage them to effectively use their outdoor leisure time, promoting good sportsmanship.

Created as children of God, we strive to improve participants' sense of self-worth, helping them discover their identity and vocation. Through that discovery, we promote service to others and Christian hospitality. We encourage participants to live a life of discipleship and Christian leadership.

Learn more at www.campmountluther.org



CAMP MOUNT LUTHER

355 Mt. Luther Lane, Mifflinburg, PA 17844

Phone: (570) 922-1587 Fax: (570) 922-1118

E-Mail: cmf@campmountluther.org

2016 MESSIAH ATTENDANCE AND OFFERINGS 2/28 THRU 3/27/16

<u>DATE</u>	<u>ATTENDANCE</u>	<u>TOTAL OFFERING</u>	<u>GENERAL FUND OFFERING</u>	<u>OTHER FUNDS OFFERING</u>
February 28	80 – Worship 35 – S.S.	\$2,638.00	\$1,945.00	Benevolence -- \$190.00 World Hunger -- \$60.00 Sunday School -- \$53.00 Building Fund -- \$125.00 Bibles for S.S. -- \$265.00
March 6	73 – Worship 46 – S.S.	\$4,990.00	\$3,655.00	Benevolence -- \$235.00 Sunday School -- \$50.00 Building Fund -- \$490.00 Bibles for S.S. -- \$510.00 Flowers – \$50.00
March 13	86 – Worship 56 – S.S.	\$4,196.00	\$2,462.00	Benevolence -- \$170.00 Sunday School -- \$101.00 Building Fund -- \$765.00 World Hunger -- \$65.00 Bibles for S.S. -- \$350.00 Camp Mt. Luther – \$283.00
March 20	90 – Worship 43 – S.S.	\$3,416.00	\$2,771.00	Benevolence -- \$295.00 Sunday School -- \$70.00 Building Fund -- \$230.00 World Hunger -- \$25.00 Flowers – \$25.00
March 27	141 – Worship 51 – S.S.	\$4,073.00	\$3,198.00	Benevolence -- \$200.00 Sunday School -- \$80.00 Building Fund -- \$545.00 Memorial Fund – \$50.00

**Spring has sprung.
Will your faith blossom?**



APRIL 2016 CALENDAR

- Sunday, April 3: -9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Catechetical Class.
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion.
-Worship & Music Committee meeting following worship service.
-1-4, Fellowship Hall reserved.
- Monday, April 4: -6:30 p.m., Knitting/Crocheting Class in Jr. Church Room.
-8 p.m., AA in Fellowship Hall.
- Tuesday, April 5: -9 a.m., "The Needlers" in Fellowship Hall.
- Wednesday, April 6: -7 p.m., Choir rehearsal.
- Thursday, April 7: -1 p.m., Dulcimer rehearsal.
-6 p.m., Thrivent meeting in Library.
- Friday, April 8: -Fellowship Hall reserved (Cub Scouts).
- Saturday, April 9: -Fellowship Hall reserved (Cub Scouts).
- Sunday, April 10: -9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Catechetical Class.
-10:30 a.m. Worship/Communion/Jr. Church.
-1-4 p.m., Fellowship Hall reserved.
- Monday, April 11: -6:30 p.m., Knitting/Crocheting Class in Jr. Church Room.
-8 p.m., AA in Fellowship Hall.
- Tuesday, April 12: -9 a.m., "The Needlers" in Fellowship Hall.
-7 p.m., 4-H Beef Club in Youth Area.
- Wednesday, April 13: -7 p.m., Choir rehearsal.
- Thursday, April 14: -7 p.m., WELCA meeting in Youth Area.
- Sunday, April 17: -9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Catechetical Class.
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Jr. Church.
- Monday, April 18: -6:30 p.m., Knitting/Crocheting Class in Jr. Church Room.
-8 p.m., AA mtg. in Fellowship Hall.
- Tuesday, April 19: -9 a.m., "The Needlers" in Fellowship Hall.
- Wednesday, April 20: -7 p.m., Choir rehearsal.
- Sunday, April 24: -FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY.
-9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Catechetical Class.
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Jr. Church.
- Monday, April 25: -6:30 p.m., Knitting/Crocheting Class in Jr. Church Room.
-AA meeting in Fellowship Hall.
- Tuesday, April 26: -9 a.m., "The Needlers" in Fellowship Hall.
- Wednesday, April 27: -7 p.m., Choir rehearsal.
- Thursday, April 28: -NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

JUNIATA COUNTY FOOD PANTRY APRIL UPDATE

In February 2016, the Food Pantry served 293 families - 778 of your neighbors! We thank Lower Tuscarora Presbyterian Church for sending volunteers for the month of February.

STUFF THE BUS - benefits the Food Pantry's 4th annual Summer Backpack Program. This program provides lunches throughout summer vacation to school students who normally receive free and reduced price lunches at school. These students often face hunger in the summer months as their families struggle to provide the extra meals. Stuff the bus will take place at Weis in Mifflintown and at Schlegel's in Thompstonstown – watch the newspapers and Facebook for dates and times. See below for the kind of donations we need for the Backpack Program. **Volunteers are also needed to help with Backpack Program!** Call Pat Brown, 436-2592, to sign up.

2ND ANNUAL CHARLIE STUMP'S OLDIES DANCE – Grab your dearie and your dancing shoes and celebrate spring by dancing to your favorite oldies with local favorite Charlie Stump as DJ! Friday, April 22, 7:30-10:30, at the CJEMS Building in Mifflintown. Cost is \$10.00 per person. Full Kitchen opens at 7:00. Benefits the Juniata County Library and the Food Pantry!

BACKPACK PROGRAM NEEDS: Single-serve, non-perishable lunch and snack items such as juice boxes or pouches, 15 oz. cans of pasta meals or ready-to-heat soup, microwaveable meals, fruit cups, pudding cups, and snack crackers/cookies. Monetary donations are also appreciated.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS FOR APRIL:

ALL NON-PERISHABLE FOODS; DISH SOAP, ALL-PURPOSE HOUSEHOLD CLEANERS. PAPER TOWELS & TISSUES.

ALSO, CASH/CHECK DONATIONS AND LOCAL STORE GIFT CARDS ARE ALWAYS APPRECIATED! No More Plastic Bags, Please! Although we will gladly accept clean cloth bags



Our vestibule is open 24 hours a day to receive donations.

**PO Box 44, 114 N. Main St, Mifflintown, 17059
717-436-9718**

Hours: Tue 9-12 and 1-5, and Sat 9-12

Once again our vestibule is open 24 hours a day to receive donations. Cash, checks or gift cards may be deposited in the vestibule's mail slot.

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