

# Messiah Lutheran Church

3 South Third Street  
Mifflintown, PA 17059  
Church Office / 436-6213

The Reverend William N. Esborn  
June Bricker  
Andrea Cameron  
Briley Holderman  
Ann Beaver  
Harrison Mummah  
Drew Lauver & Wesley Lauver

Pastor  
Organist  
Choir Director & Cantor  
Lector  
Altar Guild  
Crucifer  
Acolytes

## FIRST SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 3, 2016 – 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 “Prayers of Intercession”

### PREPARATION

CHIMES: CALL TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE: Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain David Paxton  
[A Time for Meditation and Prayer]

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTRODUCTION

In spite of all we have heard and all that we have seen, it is often hard to believe. Because it is hard to believe, we will invest ourselves in the Easter mystery for fifty days (a week of weeks). Because it is hard to believe, John the evangelist will provide sign after sign celebrating Jesus' victory over death. Because it is hard to believe, the Lord Jesus will return to us again and again in the mystery of the Holy Communion, inviting us to touch and taste his presence, and offering us his peace.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Pastor Esborn

### GATHERING

\* ENTRANCE HYMN “Now the Green Blade Rises”

\* GREETING

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**C Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit 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 I & II Choir (C – Congregation)**

**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 also with you.**

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

P Let us pray...

**C** O God of life, you reach out to us amid our fears with the wounded hands of your risen Son. By your Spirit's breath revive our faith in your mercy, and strengthen us to be the body of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**WORD**

Peter has been arrested for proclaiming the good news of Jesus' death and resurrection. His response to the charges of the high priest summarizes the early church's proclamation of forgiveness of sin through repentance.

FIRST READING: Acts 5:27-32

The First reading is from the 5<sup>th</sup> chapter of Acts.

THE LESSON READS:

<sup>27</sup>When they had brought [the apostles], they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, <sup>28</sup>saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." <sup>29</sup>But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. <sup>30</sup>The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. <sup>31</sup>God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. <sup>32</sup>And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

Lector: Here ends the reading.

Congregation: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 118:14-29 (read responsively)

L – You are my God, and I will exult you. (Ps. 118:28)

<sup>14</sup>The LORD is my strength <sup>1</sup> and my song, and has become <sup>1</sup> my salvation.

<sup>15</sup>**Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents <sup>1</sup> of the righteous: "The right hand of the <sup>1</sup> LORD acts valiantly!**

<sup>16</sup>The right hand of the LORD <sup>1</sup> is exalted! The right hand of the <sup>1</sup> LORD acts valiantly!"

<sup>17</sup>**I shall not <sup>1</sup> die, but live, and declare the works <sup>1</sup> of the LORD. R**

<sup>18</sup>The LORD indeed punished me sorely, but did not hand me o- <sup>1</sup> ver to death.

<sup>19</sup>**Open for me the <sup>1</sup> gates of righteousness; I will enter them and give thanks <sup>1</sup> to the LORD.**

<sup>20</sup>"This is the gate <sup>1</sup> of the LORD; here the righ- <sup>1</sup> teous may enter."

<sup>21</sup>**I give thanks to you, for you have <sup>1</sup> answered me and you have become <sup>1</sup> my salvation. R**

<sup>22</sup>The stone that the build- <sup>1</sup> ers rejected has become the chief <sup>1</sup> cornerstone.

<sup>23</sup>**By the LORD has <sup>1</sup> this been done; it is marvelous <sup>1</sup> in our eyes.**

<sup>24</sup>This is the day that the <sup>1</sup> LORD has made; let us rejoice and be <sup>1</sup> glad in it.

<sup>25</sup>**Hosanna! <sup>1</sup> O LORD, save us! We pray to you, LORD, pros- <sup>1</sup> per our days! R**

<sup>26</sup>Blessed is the one who comes in the name <sup>1</sup> of the LORD; we bless you from the house <sup>1</sup> of the LORD.

<sup>27</sup>**The LORD is God and has giv- <sup>1</sup> en us light. Form a procession with branches up to the corners <sup>1</sup> of the altar.**

<sup>28</sup>You are my God, and <sup>1</sup> I will thank you; you are my God, and I <sup>1</sup> will exalt you.

<sup>29</sup>**Give thanks to the LORD, for the <sup>1</sup> LORD is good; God's mercy en- <sup>1</sup> dures forever. R**

**ALL – You are my God, and I will exult you.**

The book of Revelation recounts a mystical vision of the risen Christ, experienced by a Christian prophet named John. Here he describes Christ as a timeless redeemer, the beginning, present, and end of all time.

SECOND READING: Revelation 1:4-8

The Second reading is from the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter of Revelation.

THE LESSON READS:

<sup>4</sup>John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, <sup>5</sup>and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, <sup>6</sup>and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

<sup>7</sup>Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen.

<sup>8</sup>I am the Alpha and the Omega, says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

Lector: Here ends the reading.

**Congregation: Thanks be to God.**

\* THE VERSE (Congregation)

**Now the green blade rises from the buried grain, Wheat that in dark earth many days has lain; Love lives again, that with the dead has been; Love is come again like wheat arising green.**

The unprecedented events of the day of resurrection continue as the risen Jesus appears to his fearful disciples. A week later, after Thomas worships Jesus, Jesus pronounces that the blessings of the resurrection are also for those who "have not seen and yet believe."

\* GOSPEL: John 20:19-31

P The Holy Gospel according to John, the 20<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**C Glory to you, O Lord. (sung)**

THE GOSPEL READS:

<sup>19</sup>When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>20</sup>After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." <sup>22</sup>When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

<sup>24</sup>But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

<sup>26</sup>A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>27</sup>Then he

said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." <sup>28</sup>Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" <sup>29</sup>Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

<sup>30</sup>Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. <sup>31</sup>But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ. (sung)**

\* **THE VERSE (Congregation)**

**Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain, He that for three days in the grave had lain; Raised from the dead, my living Lord is seen; Love is come again like wheat arising green.**

SERMON

Pastor Esborn

\* **HYMN OF DAY**

"You Servants of God"

\* **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 Rooted in the abundant life and love of Christ Jesus, we pray for the life of the church, the lives of people in need, and the life of all creation.

A brief silence.

P Holy God of resurrection, fill us with your Holy Spirit to announce the new life you give through Christ Jesus. Lead us to people who need to hear good news. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

P Breathe new life into all of creation. Send sun to warm and water to saturate yards, fields, and mountains. Set all things in order, that abundance may come forth. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

P Open paths for cooperation between nations to care for refugees, survivors of natural disaster, and people living through war. Bless the efforts of peacemaking troops, diplomats, and relief organizations to foster peace in the world. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

P Pour out your enduring mercy to strengthen those who persevere in difficult times (especially we pray for all of our shut-ins: Reba Sigler, Kitty Walters, Flo Beale, Ethel Bossinger, Jean McNaight, Jane Marhefka, Fay McCormick, Ruth Cisney, Ray Bramm, Dottie Smith, Dorothy Cleck, Carol Simonton, Lura Aughey, Earl & Mona Lawson, Sara Ann Aurand, and Jim Yetter). And for Bob & Jeanette St. Clair, Andy Kinzer, Jodi Fitzgerald, Rick Waller, Sr., Avonel Waller, Jim Woltman, Audrey Morral, Diane Layton, Josh Delancey, Kay Stuck, Don Wert, Shirley Zeiders, Sue Crouse, Sandy Pines, Carol Jan Mahlin and sons, John Miller, Nancy Hannon, Tanner Johnson, Ed Forney, Clay Ianson, Emme Freed, Marylou Hazard, Michal Gayer, Lois Crissman, Sarah Shellenberger, Julia Gross, Amy Stuter Reed, Todd Bolger, John Price, and family of Gabby Baney. Guide them to places where they may find shelter in your presence. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

P Gather together the various gifts of this community and unite us in praise. Harmonize the sound and movement of instruments, voices, hands, feet, and, bodies. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P You have united yourself with the saints at rest through Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead. Join us all together in his resurrection on the last day. Hear us, O God.

**C Your mercy is great.**

P We deliver all this into your care, O God, trusting in the work of your Holy Spirit to bring all things into the risen life of Christ our Lord.

**C Amem.**

\* 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

[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:

“Good Morning, Lord” “Do Lord”

Junior Choir

## \* SONG OFFERTORY (‘vineyards’)

**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 Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior 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 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 Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood. Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey. Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

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.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's Passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

**C Come, Holy Spirit.**

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

**C Come, Holy Spirit.**

With [name/s and] your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

**(Sung) 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 The table of life is spread before you. Feast on the goodness and mercy of God.**

\* LAMB OF GOD (sung)

**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.**



(If you desire, you may take a gluten free wafer located on the oak pedestal on the step in front of the chancel).

## DISTRIBUTION

[“INTINCTION” – dip your wafer in the wine. Come forward by the center aisle and return by the side aisle. All who wish to stand at the chancel rail after partaking for a time of silent meditation are invited to do so].

### \* 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'ryone 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 make your home with us, bringing heaven to earth in this holy meal. Fill us with your Spirit as we go from here, that we may wipe away tears, tend to those in morning and pain, seek the healing of the nations, and bring to earth the presence of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C Amen**

### \* SENDING AND BLESSING OF COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

P As we go into the world serving the ministry of Christ, may those who will extend this meal to the homebound take from the Lord's Table what we have received here today; the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ and his promise of forgiveness. in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen.**

## SENDING

### \* BLESSING

P The blessing of the Lord God Almighty, the blessing of + Christ, the Lamb who was slain, and the blessing of the Holy Spirit of truth be among you and remain with you always.

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

### \* CLOSING HYMN “Crown Him with Many Crowns”

\* DISMISSAL

P Alleluia. Go in peace. Share the good news.

C **Thanks be to God. Alleluia.**

POSTLUDE:

Praise to the Living Lord

Gerald Peterson

NEXT WEEK'S LECTOR – Linda Bahorik

NEXT WEEK'S ALTAR GUILD – Tawny Mummah & Diana Wise

**WELCOME**

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 or indicate such in the Friendship Pads being sure to include your contact information. Our fellowship in Jesus Christ is open and extended to all persons who confess His Lordship over all life. Thank you for worshipping with us.

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.

GLUTEN FREE WAFERS ARE ALSO PROVIDED FOR COMMUNION. Wine and wheat wafers are used and if you so desire, you may take a gluten free wafer located on the oak pedestal on the step in front of the chancel.

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

WE INVITE EVERYONE (members and visitors) worshipping 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.

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 DEADLINE FOR ALL ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE SUNDAY BULLETIN IS **THURSDAY NOON**.

JUST A THOUGHT – J. I. Packer, Canadian Christian Theologian (b. 1926): There is nothing irrational about believing that God who made the world can still intrude creatively into it.

**CONGREGATIONAL NEWS**

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

WEEKLY FINANCIAL REPORT:

March 27, 2016 Worship Service

Attendance – 141

Sunday School

Attendance – 51

Other funds

Benevolence - \$ 200.00

Building Fund - \$ 545.00

Sunday School - \$ 80.00

Memorial Fund - \$ 50.00

Total Offering - \$4073.00

\$ 875.00

General Fund - \$3198.00

\$ 875.00

DIAL-A-PRAYER: Due to the inconsistent reliability and the cost of almost \$700.00 a year, the Dial-A-Prayer number (436-2100) will no longer be in service.

2016 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL will be held from Monday, June 20<sup>th</sup> to Thursday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> with a pool party being scheduled for Friday, June 24<sup>th</sup>. This year's closing program will be held on Sunday, June 26<sup>th</sup> during the morning worship service.

THE NEW ALTAR GUILD SCHEDULE for July, 2016 through June, 2017 will be completed by June 1<sup>st</sup>. 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.

THE NEW LECTOR SCHEDULE for July, 2016 through June, 2017 will be completed by June 1<sup>st</sup>. 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.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED to press quilt tops for "The Needlers." Tops can be taken home and pressed and brought back to the church. Anyone who is interested, please contact one of "The Needlers."

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

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](mailto:geedey@centurylink.net)).

THE SECRETARY'S WEEKLY OFFICE HOURS are as follows:

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.

## **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 are now collecting items for Personal Care Kits for the next several months. Items needed are: 1 light-weight bath-size towel (52 x 27) (dark color recommended); 2 bath-size bars of soap (4 to 5 oz.) of any brand in original wrapping; 1 adult-size toothbrush; 1 sturdy comb; 1 pair of metal nail clippers with or without attached file. Items purchased may be placed on one of the tables in the Adult Sunday School Room.

THE NEXT MESSIAH WOMEN OF THE ELCA meeting will be Thursday, April 10, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the Youth Area. A short program will be presented by Jean Compton followed by some kitchen clean-up of drawers and anything else that might need some attention.

## **COMMUNITY**

MEALS-ON-WHEELS needs volunteer cooks, drivers and people to help assemble meals. **Cooks are especially needed for the 5<sup>th</sup> Tuesday and 5<sup>th</sup> 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).

2<sup>nd</sup> 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 on Friday, April 22, 7:30-10:30 p.m. at the CJEMS Building in Mifflintown. Cost is \$10.00 per person. Full kitchen opens at 7:00 p.m. Benefits the Juniata County Library and the Food Pantry.

STUFF THE BUS – benefits the Food Pantry's 4<sup>th</sup> annual Summer Backpack Program. This program provides lunches throughout summer vacation to school students who normally receive free and reduced price lunches at school. Stuff the Bus will take place at the Weis Market in Mifflintown and at Schlegel's Store in Thompsontown (watch the newspapers and Facebook for dates and times). Needed donations are: single-serve, non-perishable lunch and snack items such as juice boxes, 15 oz. cans of pasta meals or ready-to-heat soup, microwaveable meals, fruit and pudding cups, and snack crackers/cookies. Monetary donations are also appreciated. Volunteers are needed to help with the Backpack Program. Call Pat Brown at 436-2592 to sign-up.

### **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.

## THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

- Today:** -9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Catechetical Class.  
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion.  
-Worship & Music Committee meeting following worship service.  
-1-4 p.m., Fellowship Hall reserved.
- Monday:** -6:30 p.m., Knitting/Crocheting Class in Jr. Church Room.  
-8 p.m., AA meeting in Fellowship Hall.
- Tuesday:** -9 a.m., “The Needlers” in Fellowship Hall.
- Wednesday:** -7 p.m., Choir rehearsal.
- Thursday:** -7 p.m., WELCA meeting in Youth Area.
- Sunday:** -9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Catechetical Class.  
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Jr. Church.