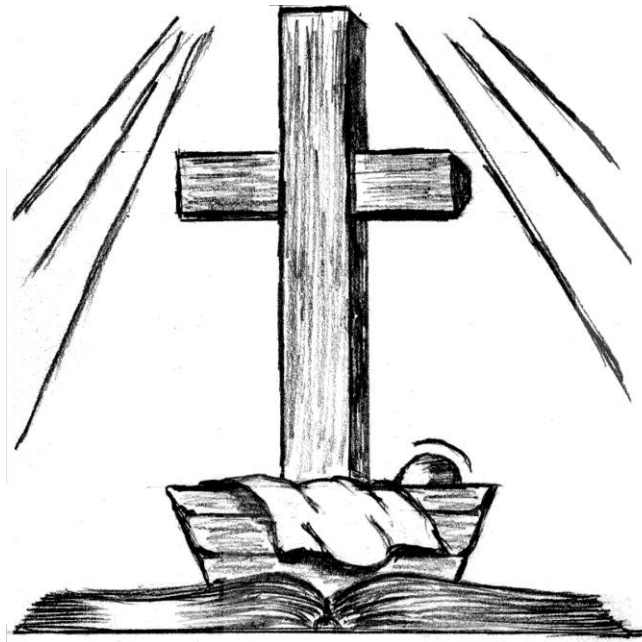


*“Proclaiming God’s Love  
in Christ and His people”*



***THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD  
CHRISTMAS DAY***

December 25<sup>th</sup>, 2016

**MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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

**EMAIL:**

[messiahlutheran@pa.net](mailto:messiahlutheran@pa.net)

**WEBSITE:**

[www.mlcmifflintown.org](http://www.mlcmifflintown.org)

The artwork is by Sharon Geiser. Permission to use this copyrighted graphic is limited to congregational use.  
This bulletin cover provided by [www.scholia.net](http://www.scholia.net) and is made available without cost.

# Messiah Lutheran Church

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

The Rev. Chris Mathiason  
Sam Leister  
Andrea Cameron  
Bob St. Clair  
Jean Compton  
Christie Holderman  
Harrison & Haley Mummah  
Ken & Tawny Mummah

Interim Pastor  
Lay Worship Leader  
Choir Director  
Organist  
Lector  
Altar Guild  
Acolytes  
Greeters

## NATIVITY OF OUR LORD, CHRISTMAS DAY

December 25, 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

“O Come All Ye Faithful”

L. Smith

[A Time for Meditation and Prayer]

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTRODUCTION

On this Christmas morning the people of God gather to celebrate the birth of the Word made flesh, Christ our Lord. Luke recounts the familiar story of shepherds and angels; John's gospel tells of the Word that dwells among us, full of grace and truth. The meaning of Christmas is made clear: the light shines in the darkness. It is in the liturgy that we encounter the Word made flesh—in the people of God gathered together as the body of Christ, and in the meal around the holy table. We go forth to be bearers of light as we proclaim this good news to all the ends of the earth.

#### \* CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the Holy One of Israel, the Word made flesh, the Power of the Most High,  
+ one God, now and forever.

**C Amen**

P Gathered in the name of Jesus, let us confess our sin against God and our neighbor.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P Gracious God,

**C in Christ Jesus you come among us as light shining in darkness. We confess our failure to welcome this light. Forgive us and renew our hope, so that we may live in the light of your grace, and welcome the truth of Christ the Lord. Amen.**

P I bring you good news of great joy for all the people: To you is born a Savior, Christ the Lord. Your sins are forgiven in + Jesus' name.

**C Amen**

## GATHERING

\* ENTRANCE HYMN “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” #60 LBW

\* GREETING

P Today Christ is born: Alleluia, alleluia! 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

P Lord, have mercy upon us. **C Lord, have mercy upon us.**

P Christ, have mercy upon us. **C Christ, have mercy upon us.**

P Lord, have mercy upon us. **C Lord, have mercy upon us.**

“Silent Night” (vs. 3)

Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love’s pure light  
radiant beams from your holy face, with the dawn of re-deeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at your birth, Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

P Lord, have mercy upon us. **C Lord, have mercy upon us.**

P Christ, have mercy upon us. **C Christ, have mercy upon us.**

P Lord, have mercy upon us. **C Lord, have mercy upon us.**

\* HYMN OF PRAISE (to the tune of “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”)

1 Glory be to God in heaven; peace, good will to all the earth.  
Mighty God of all creation, Father of surpassing worth:  
we exalt you, we adore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.  
Saints and angels bow before you; here on earth our songs we raise.

2 Glory be to Christ forever, Lamb of God and Lord of love.  
Son of God and gracious Savior, you have come from heav’n above;  
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God’s right hand.  
Hear our prayer; restore, forgive us; in your promise firm we stand.



<sup>1</sup>The LORD reigns; let the | earth rejoice; let the multitude of the | isles be glad

<sup>2</sup>**Clouds and darkness sur- | round the LORD, righteousness and justice are the foundations  
| of God's throne.**

<sup>3</sup>Fire goes be- | fore the LORD, burning up enemies on | every side.

<sup>4</sup>**Lightnings light | up the world; the earth | sees and trembles.**

<sup>5</sup>The mountains | melt like wax before the Lord of | all the earth.

<sup>6</sup>**The heavens declare your righteous- | ness, O LORD, and all the peoples | see your glory.  
R**

<sup>7</sup>Confounded be all who worship carved images and delight | in false gods! Bow down before the  
LORD, | all you Gods.

<sup>8</sup>**Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Ju- | dah rejoice, because of your judg- | ments, O  
LORD.**

<sup>9</sup>For you are the LORD, most high over | all the earth; you are exalted far a- | bove all gods.

<sup>10</sup>**You who love the | LORD, hate evil! God guards the lives of the saints and rescues them  
from the hand | of the wicked. R**

<sup>11</sup>Light dawns | for the righteous, and joy for the hon- | est of heart.

<sup>12</sup>**Rejoice in the | LORD, you righteous, and give thanks to God's | holy name. R**

God saves us not because of what we do. Rather, God is a God of mercy and salvation who graciously cleanses us in baptism and renews our lives through the Holy Spirit.

## SECOND READING

A reading from Titus 3:4-7

### THE LESSON READS:

<sup>4</sup>When the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, <sup>5</sup>he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. <sup>6</sup>This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, <sup>7</sup>so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Lector: Here ends the reading.

**Cong: Thanks be to God.**

\* THE VERSE                      “Joy to the World” (vs. 1)

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her king;  
let ev'ry heart prepare him room  
and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and nature sing,  
and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

The world's deep night is shattered by the light of God's new day. The glory of God is revealed to poor shepherds, who share the good news with others.

\* GOSPEL: Luke 2:[1-7] 8-20

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter.

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

THE GOSPEL READS:

<sup>1</sup>[In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>All went to their own towns to be registered. <sup>4</sup>Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. <sup>5</sup>He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup>While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. <sup>7</sup>And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.]

<sup>8</sup>In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup>But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all people: <sup>11</sup>to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup>This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, <sup>14</sup>"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

<sup>15</sup>When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." <sup>16</sup>So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. <sup>17</sup>When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; <sup>18</sup>and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup>But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart.

<sup>20</sup>The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON

Sam Leister

\* HYMN OF THE DAY

"What Child Is This"

#40 LBW

\* NICENE CREED

**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 Rejoicing in the good news of Christ's birth and dwelling in hope, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

P Holy God, you raise up leaders throughout the church to proclaim your word of hope. Unite the church through the good news of salvation, so that all will know and experience your glory. Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P Holy God, you created mountains and hills, seas and rivers, and all creatures. Reveal to us the goodness of all you have made so that we live wisely with these your gifts. Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P Holy God, you desire that all people live in peace. Guide all in positions of authority to lead with equity, and give courage to advocates who speak for the voiceless. Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P Holy God, you sent your Son to be our physician and remedy. Strengthen medical professionals and counselors to care for the sick and grieving (especially all of our shut-ins: Reba Sigler, Kitty Walters, Flo Beale, Jean McNaught, Jane Marhefka, Fay McCormick, Ruth Cisney, Ray Bramm, Dottie Smith, Dorothy Cleck, Carol Simonton, Lura Aughey, Mona Lawson, Sara Ann Aurand, and Jim Yetter). And for Bob & Jeanette St. Clair, Rick Waller, Sr., Avonel Waller, Jim Woltman, Bob Cameron, Michal Gayer, Josh Delancey, Letha Swab, Brady Mingle, Belva Fulton, Joan Foltz, Janie Shearer, Mary Ernest, and John Miller, so that all people experience healing and consolation. Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P Holy God, you gather us together in community, blessing us with friends and family. Make yourself known to all who participate in worship today, and send us forth to serve our neighbors. Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P Holy God, you show your love and faithfulness in every generation. Through the witness of our ancestors in the faith, you have shown us how to testify to your grace and truth. Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P Hear the prayers of your people, glorious God, for the sake of the one who took on our nature and form to redeem the whole world, Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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

"Beside The Cradle"

H. Kihlken

[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

"The First Noel" (verse 1)

The first Noel the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;  
in fields where they lay, keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep.  
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel! Born is the King of Israel.

\* OFFERING PRAYER

P God with us: You came as a baby to a manger. You slept on straw and greeted shepherds. You come again in bread and wine. Remind us how good you are at blessing ordinary things. And then, through these gifts, help us to bless the lives of others in the strength of your holy name.

**C Amen**

MEAL

\* COMMUNION DIALOG (from Isaiah 55)

P Let us give thanks to the Lord.

**C for through these gifts he comes to feed us.**

P All you who are thirsty, come to the waters. You who have no money, come, receive bread, and eat.

**C Come, without paying and without cost, drink wine and eat.**

P Let us come to his table with joy,

**C for we come as God's invited guests!**



\* EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P We give you thanks, Father, through Jesus Christ, your beloved Son, whom you sent in this end of the ages to save and redeem us and to proclaim to us your will.

He is your Word, inseparable from you, through whom you created all things, and in whom you take delight. He is your Word, sent from heaven to a virgin's womb. He there took on our nature and our lot and was shown forth as your Son, born of the Holy Spirit and of the virgin Mary. He, our Lord Jesus, fulfilled all your will and won for you a holy people; he stretched out his hands in suffering in order to free from suffering those who trust you.

He is the one who, handed over to a death he freely accepted, in order to destroy death, to break the bonds of the evil one, to crush hell underfoot, to give light to the righteous, to establish his covenant, and to show forth the resurrection, taking bread and giving thanks to you, said: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

In the same way he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, then, his death and resurrection, we take this bread and cup, giving you thanks that you have made us worthy to stand before you and to serve you as your priestly people.

Send your Spirit upon these gifts of your church; gather into one all who share this bread and wine; fill us with your Holy Spirit to establish our faith in truth, that we may praise and glorify you through your Son Jesus Christ; through whom all glory and honor are yours, almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, both now and forever.

**C 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 Joy to the world! The Lord is come. Let every heart receive your Savior.

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

## DISTRIBUTION

“Berceuse De Noel”

S. Douglas

[“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**

### \* PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P On this day, O God, you gave us Christ the Son to save us. As you sent the one foretold, send us now with good news for all people. Let the gladness of this feast have no end as we share with others the joy that fills us; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C Amen**

## SENDING

### \* BLESSING

P May Christ, who by his incarnation has filled us with grace and truth, give you peace this Christmas and always. Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

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

### \* CLOSING HYMN

“Angels, from the Realms of Glory”

#50 LBW

### \* DISMISSAL

P Glory to God in the highest!

**C Peace to God’s people on earth!**

P Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus.

**C Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

*Reprinted from Words for Worship, copyright 2016 Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission. Scripture quotations (except psalms) from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989 Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA. All rights reserved. Used by permission.*

NEXT WEEK’S LECTOR – Ron Yorks

NEXT WEEK’S ALTAR GUILD – Kay Varner

NEXT WEEK’S ACOLYTES – Jace White & Tai Kepler

## **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 blue 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.

THIS MORNING WE ARE LED IN WORSHIP by Sam Leister, an Authorized Lay Worship Leader of the Upper Susquehanna Synod. Authorized Lay Worship Leaders have received extensive training so as to provide worship leadership and preaching, and also have been authorized by the bishop of the synod to preside at the Eucharist in specific situations. The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) is committed to ordained ministry as the primary means for filling the needs of this church for Word and Sacrament, but at this place in the church's pilgrimage, the church's inability to provide all congregations with full-time ordained pastoral ministry presents a challenge. On any given Sunday, congregations have needs that cannot be met by available ordained ministers. Therefore, because it is the bishop's responsibility to meet the Word and Sacrament needs of the congregations in this synod, synodically authorized lay worship leaders are trained to meet this need. On behalf of the whole church, Bishop Collins is deeply gratified by the ministry of these servants of the Gospel.

JUST A THOUGHT – Walter Elwell, et. al, Contemporary Authors: The fact that a remnant survives emphasizes both the grace of God and the dawning of a new age and a new community.

## **CONGREGATIONAL NEWS**

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

THE DEADLINE for all items to be included in the Sunday bulletin is **Thursday noon**.

PRAYER REQUESTS will be placed in the Sunday bulletin for **one month**. If you wish to have someone included in the prayer list for an additional month, please contact Judy directly at the church office at 436-6213 or at [messiahlutheran@pa.net](mailto:messiahlutheran@pa.net). If you have anyone who is a “last minute” addition after the bulletin has been printed on Fridays, please fill out an orange prayer card in the pew and lay it on the stand where the gluten free wafers are placed PRIOR to the morning worship service.

CHOIR GOWN/CRUCIFER/ACOLYTE DONATIONS UPDATE: Of the \$1368 that was needed, we have received \$785 leaving a total of \$583 still needed. If you would like to contribute to this project, please mark your check on the note line “choir gowns,” or if giving cash, put in an envelope also marked “choir gowns.” We greatly appreciate those who have already given and thank any others in advance for any amount you feel you can contribute to this project.

PLEASE NOTIFY THE CHURCH OFFICE for any change in addresses, phone numbers, email addresses, or for any requests for building usage. At this time of the year, in particular, there are a lot of activities and some coordination is needed so events are not “overbooked” in any specific areas of the church (this also applies to church groups who meet in the church). Please contact the office at 436-6213 or email [messiahlutheran@pa.net](mailto:messiahlutheran@pa.net) for any changes or requests.

WEEKLY FINANCIAL REPORT:

December 18, 2016 Worship Service

Attendance – 76

Total Offering - \$3,541.00

725.00

General Fund - \$2,816.00

Sunday School

Attendance – 28

Other Funds

Sunday School - \$ 30.00

Benevolence - 195.00

Building Fund - 315.00

Matthew 25 - 50.00

World Hunger - 20.00

Choir Gowns - 115.00

\$ 725.00

OFFERING OF DECEMBER 11 RECORDING ERROR: Total offering for December 11 - \$3790.00; general fund for December 11 - \$2909.00. All other figures were correct.

THE 2017 CHURCH OFFERING ENVELOPES are now available in numerical order for you to pick-up in the Library. Anyone who would like a statement of their contributions for 2016 for tax purposes may call the church office and your statement will be mailed to you.

MATTHEW 25 FUND – All loose offering at the Christmas Eve Service will go to the Matthew 25 Fund to help those in need throughout the year. You can also donate to the fund by writing Matthew 25 Fund on your regular offering envelope and the amount you wish to contribute.

MESSIAH’S DOORS will be unlocked at 8:30 a.m. on Sunday mornings for Sunday School and Worship.

FINANCIAL DOCUMENTS – Any Messiah member who wishes to receive the monthly financial reports and the weekly tallies by email, please send Ann Beaver ([annbeaver@embarqmail.com](mailto:annbeaver@embarqmail.com)) your email address.

COPIES OF DECEMBER PPC MINUTES are available in the Adult Sunday School Room.

CAN TREE – Donations of gallon-size canned food is again being collected this year through the end of December to benefit Bethesda Mission. Everyone is encouraged to donate as many cans as you are able.

A FIRST COMMUNION CLASS will be held for any youth who are interested. Parents may contact the church office at 436-6213 or Sam Leister at 436-8589. A date and time will be set based on those who wish to attend.

BAPTISMAL/NEW MEMBER CLASS will be held for those who are interested. If you wish to have your child baptized or you wish to attend the New Member Class, please call the church office at 436-6213.

NOVEMBER FINANCIAL REPORT PACKETS (with blue covers) are available in the back of the sanctuary. If you have any questions, call Ann Beaver at 436-9382.

HOME COMMUNION – The Compassionate Services Committee is again looking for people who would like to give Communion to our shut-ins. A rotating schedule of our shut-ins is used on a quarterly basis. If interested in this important ministry, contact Don Geedey. Phone: 436-6433 or Email: [geedey@centurylink.net](mailto:geedey@centurylink.net).

BIRTHDAY CARDS FOR SHUT-INS – The Compassionate Services Committee needs someone to do the birthday card ministry for our shut-ins beginning January 1, 2017. Addresses, birth dates, cards, and stamps are provided. All that is necessary to do is sign and mail the cards each month. If interested in this ministry, see Don Geedey--phone, 436-6433 or email [geedey@centurylink.net](mailto:geedey@centurylink.net).

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.”

WEIS AND GIANT GIFT CARDS are available to purchase from the Disciples Class. This is a very important outreach ministry that helps neighbors in need in our own community. We thank each and every one for continued support of this very worthwhile project.

SYNOD ASSEMBLY DELEGATES NEEDED – Two members of Messiah are needed to attend the annual Synod Assembly in June 2017 at Susquehanna University, Selinsgrove. Synod delegates should also plan on attending the Juniata Valley Conference Assembly the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of May. If you are interested in serving, please contact the church office.

WEEKLY CHURCH 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.

THANK YOU – “Dear Messiah Lutheran.....With your help we were able to make Christmas a little brighter for over 150 children in Juniata County. Thank you for your generosity. Merry Christmas and God bless!”

Ted, Nicole & Marley Wilson  
Christmas Angels Project

### **WOMEN OF THE ELCA**

NEW BATH-SIZE BARS OF SOAP (4oz. to 5oz., preferably Ivory or unscented Dove) is continuously collected 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.

THE NEXT MESSIAH WELCA MEETING will be held on Thursday, January 12, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in the Youth Area. Cynthia Smith will be presenting the program.

ITEMS FOR THE SEAFARERS BAGS will be collected through next summer, that way everyone will get to take advantage of any holiday saving and after Christmas sales for the winter items. Items needed are:

- 1 sweatshirt, preferably hooded (sizes L-XL)
- 3 pairs of socks (thermal or white gym socks)
- 1 pull-over T-shirt (sizes M-L)
- 1 knit heavy winter cap

## COMMUNITY

### FOOD PANTRY BASIC NEEDS FOR DECEMBER ALL NON-PERISHABLE FOODS, OVER THE COUNTER COLD AND FLU MEDICINES, TISSUES AND PAPER TOWELS

#### THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

- Today:** -Christmas Day.  
-Sunday School & Jr. Church cancelled.  
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion. Lay Worship Leader – Sam Leister.
- Monday:** -8 p.m., AA meeting in Fellowship Hall.
- Wednesday:** -7 p.m., Choir rehearsal.
- Sunday:** -9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Catechetical Class.  
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion. Lay Worship Leader – Andrea Cameron.

**THANK YOU TO ALL WHO GAVE POINSETTIAS to decorate the church in honor of Christ's birth.  
You may pick up your poinsettia(s) after the Worship Service on January 1.**

TO THE GLORY OF GOD:

In memory of Sue Collins by family.

In loving memory of Floyd and Lois Covert by Larry and Shirley Covert.

In loving memory of Garry Covert by Larry and Shirley Covert.

In memory of loved ones by Larry and Shirley Covert.

In memory of John and Helen Sieber by George and Kay Varner and family.

In memory of loved ones by Sieber and Ona Stoner.

In memory of loved ones by Don and Barb Geedey and Velma Suloff.

In memory of my grandparents, John and Hulda St. Clair, by Bob St. Clair.

In memory of my grandparents, Lester and Grace Parsons, by Bob St. Clair.

In memory of Wilma Pyles by Bob St. Clair.

In honor of my parents, Robert and Jeanette St. Clair, by Bob St. Clair.

In loving memory of Karen Goss by Jean McNaight.

In loving memory of Ansel B. McNaight and Leo and Susie McNaight by Anne B. McNaight and Janie Shearer.

In memory of family and friends whom we miss by Paul Goss and family.

In memory of George and Evelyn Shirk and Gerald and Evelyn (Nootie) Davis by family.

In memory of my grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Stuck, by Kenton Stuck.

In memory of my grandfather, Mr. Melvin Bortell, by Kenton Stuck.

In memory of my grandmother, Mrs. Margaret Rodriguez, by Kenton Stuck.

In memory of Jean, George and Bill Flint and Mary Lorraine Hazard by the George Hazard, Jr. family.

In honor of family and friends by George and Marylou Hazard.

In memory of Barry Lauver by Donna Lauver.

In memory of Sam Zeiders by the family.

In memory of parents, Harry and Martha Mummah, by Ken and Ruth Mummah

In memory of parents, Dale H. and Charlotte Henry, by Ken and Ruth Mummah.

In memory of Warren 'Dutch' Walters by Kitty, Deb, Cyndi and Bob.

In memory of Denise and Diane Hower and George and Anna Ruth Dullea by Herman and Judy Armstrong.

In memory of husband and loved ones by Midge Rowell.

In loving memory of Daniel and Thelma Dreibelbis and Abram and Ruth Shoener by the Stephen Dreibelbis family.

In memory of Tammy Pines Walton by the Walton, Pines and Stoner families.

In memory of Carolyn J. Wieseman and Paul F. Wiesman and Mr. and Mrs. Cloyd A. Pines, Sr. by the Pines and Stoner families.

In loving memory of Barry T. Stratford by Betty and family.

In honor and in memory of loved ones by Larry and Diana and Todd and Debbie Wise.

In memory of loved ones by Leon and Madeline Kramer.

In memory of our parents, Paul and Dorothy Patterson and Richard and Daisy Van Gavree, by Rich and Cindy Van Gavree.

The large Poinsettia on the piano in the front of the sanctuary was placed in memory of Joyce Yetter by Vernon Gunnion and family.

