# **Messiah Lutheran Church**

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

The Reverend William N. Esborn Andrea Cameron June Bricker Malin Kint Ann Beaver Tyler Rosenberry Pastor Choir Director Organist Lector Altar Guild Acolyte

# FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT March 6, 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:

[A Time for Meditation and Prayer] GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS INTRODUCTION

#### \* CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

- P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who brings us safely through the sea, who gives us water from the rock, who leads us into the land of milk and honey.
- C Amen.
- P Let us come home to God, confessing our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

- P Merciful Father,
- C We have sinned against heaven and before you. We do not fully live as your sons and daughters. We use your gifts to our own ends. Forgive us and restore us, that we may resist all that draws us away from you, and be at peace with one another. Amen.

- P We are reconciled to God through Christ; for his sake, God does not count our trespasses against us. Once dead in sin, we are now alive to God. Once lost, we now are found. God clothes you in the finest robe of all, the righteousness of + Jesus Christ, forgiving you all your sins and making of you a new creation.
- 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."

# GATHERING

- \* ENTRANCE HYMN "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"
- \* GREETING
  - P The grace of Jesus Christ our Savior, the reconciling love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit 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.
- \* PRAYER OF THE DAY (spoken in unison)
  - P Let us pray...
  - C God of compassion, you welcome the wayward, and you embrace us all with your mercy. By our baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table of your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

# WORD

By celebrating the Passover and eating the produce of the promised land instead of the miraculous manna that had sustained them in the desert, the Israelites symbolically bring their forty years of wilderness wandering to an end at Gilgal.

FIRST READING: Joshua 5:9-12

The First Reading is from the 5<sup>th</sup> chapter of Joshua.

### THE LESSON READS:

<sup>9</sup>The LORD said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt." And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

<sup>10</sup>While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the Passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. <sup>11</sup>On the day after the Passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. <sup>12</sup>The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

Lector: Here ends the reading. Cong: Thanks be to God.

# PSALM: Psalm 32 (responsively)

L – Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD. (Ps. 32:11)

<sup>1</sup>Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!

<sup>2</sup>Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt, and in whose spirit there is no guile! <sup>3</sup>While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, because of my groaning all day long.

<sup>4</sup>For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.

<sup>5</sup>Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not conceal my guilt. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD." Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.

# <sup>6</sup>Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.

<sup>7</sup>You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

# <sup>8</sup>"I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; I will guide you with my eye.

<sup>9</sup>Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding; who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you."

# <sup>10</sup>Great are the tribulations of the wicked; but mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.

<sup>11</sup>Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD; shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

# ALL – Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD.

One way to describe the gospel is the promise that in Christ everything is transformed into newness. All mistakes, all deliberate sins, all old history is reconciled with Christ's resurrection. This is Paul's strong message to the congregation in the city of Corinth.

#### SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

The Second Reading is from the 5<sup>th</sup> chapter of 2 Corinthians.

#### THE LESSON READS:

<sup>16</sup>From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. <sup>17</sup>So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! <sup>18</sup>All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; <sup>19</sup>that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. <sup>20</sup>So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup>For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Lector: Here ends the reading.

- Cong: Thanks be to God.
- \* LENTEN VERSE (sung)

Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

Jesus tells a parable about a son who ponders his father's love only after he has spurned it. The grace he receives is beyond his hopes. That same grace is a crisis for an older brother who believed it was his obedience that earned his place in the father's home.

\* GOSPEL: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 15<sup>th</sup> chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord. (sung)

#### THE GOSPEL READS:

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] <sup>2</sup>And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

<sup>3</sup>So he told them this parable: <sup>11b</sup>"There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup>The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. <sup>13</sup>A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. <sup>14</sup>When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup>So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. <sup>16</sup>He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. <sup>17</sup>But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! <sup>18</sup>I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; <sup>19</sup>I am no longer worthy

to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands." ' <sup>20</sup>So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. <sup>21</sup>Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' <sup>22</sup>But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. <sup>23</sup>And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; <sup>24</sup>for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.

<sup>25</sup>Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup>He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. <sup>27</sup>He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' <sup>28</sup>Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. <sup>29</sup>But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. <sup>30</sup>But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' <sup>31</sup>Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. <sup>32</sup>But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'''

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ. (sung)

SERMON

Pastor Esborn

- \* HYMN OF THE DAY "Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound"
- \* APOSTLES' CREED (all)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

#### \* PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P Hearing the call to return to the Lord, let us join the whole people of God in prayer for all who cry out in pain and in hope.

A brief silence.

- P For campus ministries, we give you thanks, eternal Lord. Equip the students, staff, and ministers to share your steadfast love with their university community and all whom they meet. Hear us, O God.
- C Your mercy is great.

P For polluted oceans and rivers, we seek your healing, creative Lord. Restore the homes of manatees and sea turtles. Teach us to love the earth as you do. Hear us, O God.

#### C Your mercy is great.

P For conflicts between political parties, we ask for your discernment and wisdom, merciful Lord. Enable citizens and elected officials to listen to one another and to work together for your justice. Hear us, O God.

# C Your mercy is great.

P For the unemployed, the working poor, and all who struggle to make ends meet, we pray for your provision, gracious Lord. Break down systems that shame, and hold all in the truth that they are your children. Be with all who suffer (especially for all of our shut-ins: Marian Gross, 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 & Wesley Kinzer, Jodi Fitzgerald, Virginia Waller, Audrey Morral, Diane Layton, Gabby Baney, 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, and Lois Crissman. Hear us, O God.

### C Your mercy is great.

P For all who engage in the disciplines of Lent, we seek your strength and grace, loving Lord. Even as we rest in your mercy, create a new heart within us. Hear us, O God.

# C Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P For all the saints, sinners of your own redeeming, we praise your name, faithful Lord. Grant that we continue to grow as your people by their teaching and example. Hear us, O God.

#### C Your mercy is great.

P To you, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your boundless mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

# C Amen.

# 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 (sung)

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me

not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.

- \* OFFERING PRAYER
  - P God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
  - C Amen.

#### MEAL

- \* THE GREAT THANKSGIVING
  - P With his Body and Blood, Jesus Christ delivers us from the power of darkness.
  - C and leads us into the Kingdom of God.
  - P Christ has humbled himself and become obedient unto death,
  - C even to death on a cross.
  - P He was wounded for our transgressions and bruised for our iniquities,
  - C and on him was the chastisement that made us whole.
  - P Here at his holy table he feeds us now with his Body and Blood.
  - C Glory to you, our Lord and Savior; with your Body and Blood you redeem the World.

#### \* EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

- P Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God. The universe declares your praise: beyond the stars; beneath the sea; within each cell; with every breath.
- C We praise you, O God.
- P Generations bless your faithfulness: through the water; by night and day; across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future.
- C We bless you, O God.
- P We give you thanks for your dear Son: at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer; beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now.
- C We thank you, O God.
- P 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.
  Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith.
- C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.
- P We pray for the gift of your Spirit: in our gathering; within this meal; among your people; throughout the world. Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end.
- 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 All who thirst, all who hunger, come and be filled with the goodness of God.

(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.
- \* PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION
  - P O God, we thank you for gathering and feeding us as a mother hen embraces her young. Release us now to go on our way in these forty days, ready to see our work as prayer, ready to fast from complacency, and ready to share with those in need; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
  - C Amen.

#### SENDING

- \* BLESSING
  - P The blessing of God Almighty, the wisdom and power of + Christ Jesus, and the light of the Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always.
  - C A-men, A-men, A-men. (sung)
- \* DISMISSAL
  - P Go in peace. Remember the poor.
- C Thanks be to God.

CLOSING CHIMES

#### NEXT WEEK'S LECTOR – Cynthia Smith NEXT WEEK'S ALTAR GUILD – Ann Beaver

#### VISITORS INFORMATION

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 worshiping 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) 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.

THE DEADLINE FOR ALL ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE SUNDAY BULLETIN IS <u>THURSDAY</u> <u>NOON</u>.

JUST A THOUGHT – St. Augustine of Hippo, Bishop of Hippo (354 – 430): The confession of evil works is the first step of good works.

#### **CONGREGATIONAL NEWS**

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

#### WEEKLY FINANCIAL REPORT:

February 28, 2016 Worship Service	<u>Sunday School</u>	Other funds
Attendance – 75	Attendance – 36	Benevolence - \$160.00
Total Offering - \$2,587.00		World Hunger - \$ 25.00
<u>\$ 406,00</u>		Sunday School - \$ 66.00
General Fund - \$2,181.00		Building Fund - <u>\$155.00</u>
		\$406.00

JANUARY FINANCIAL REPORT: The Messiah financial report for January 2016 is available for members on the piano in the Adult Sunday School Room. Please take one and contact Ann Beaver with questions. PRAYER CHAIN – Any time you wish to add a name to our prayer list, please contact Stacie Kint at <u>dskint@nmax.net</u>. If at any time you would like to receive emails with prayer requests, please also contact Stacie.

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.

MESSIAH'S CHILDREN'S SERVICE will be held on Sunday, March 13<sup>th</sup> during the 10:30 a.m. church service. Chad Hershberger, Executive Director of Camp Mt. Luther will be providing the children's sermon and temple talk (sermon) as well. The children will be serving as greeters, ushers, and lector, and the Junior Choir will be providing the anthem. If your children have visited Mt. Luther and they would like to talk about their camp experience on March 13<sup>th</sup>, please let Kate Swailes know. Chad will be available to answer any questions that you have regarding Camp Mt. Luther following the service. Please also let Kate know if your child would be interested in serving as a greeter, usher, or lector for the service so it can be included in the bulletin. We will also ask the children to take up a collection from the congregation at the end of the church service which will be donated to Mt. Luther.

THE BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION is buying Sunday School students personal Bibles suitable for youth. Graduating catechism students will receive a Bible more suitable for adults on the Sunday they are confirmed. Partial funding for this project is dependent on an appeal to the congregation for special support. To this end we solicit your support now. Those of the congregation willing to contribute to this initiative can place their special donation in their regular church envelope and designate that amount to "Sunday School."

2016 WOMEN'S COMMUNITY LENTEN TEAS will be held each Wednesday during Lent with fellowship time at 9:30 a.m. followed by the Lenten study at 10:00 a.m. This year's study will be from the book "The Gift of New Creation" by Thomas L. Ehrich. Locations are listed below:

March 9: Westminster Presbyterian Church March 16: Aldersgate Methodist Church

2016 COMMUNITY LENTEN SERVICES will be held each Wednesday during Lent, sponsored by the Twin Boro Ministerium. Date, time, location, pastor and topic are listed below:

-March 9:	7 p.m. Westminster Presbyterian Church	(Chip Baumgardner)	"About Vengeance"
-March 16:	7 p.m. St. Stephen's Lutheran Church	Pastor William Esborn	"About Repentance"
-Maundy Thursda	У		
March 24:	7 p.m. Trinity Methodist Church	Pastor Stephanie Rupert	"About Grace"
-Good Friday			
March 25:	12:00 p.m. Aldersgate Methodist Church	All	"Seven Last Words"
-Easter Sunrise			
March 27	6:30 a.m. Messiah Lutheran Church	Pastor Dan Kerlin	"About Hope"

THE 2016 MIFFLINTOWN MEN'S LENTEN PRAYER BREAKFASTS will be held on Saturday monrings at 7:00 a.m. at JP Pancake House. They will begin February 13 through March 26. Speakers will be announced.

EASTER LILIES to decorate the church on Easter Sunday may be placed in memory or in honor of someone or to the Glory of God. Cost will be \$10.00 for a plant with 4 to 6 blooms. You may call the church office at 436-6213 to place your order. <u>Please order by March 21<sup>st</sup></u>.

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.

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GET EXCITED FOR CAMP THIS SUMMER! Campers of all ages are invited to come to Mount Luther this summer and take advantage of all the programs they have to offer! There are traditional, specialty and trip camps for school-aged kids and Family Camp for kids and adults. Mount Luther is located five miles west of Mifflinburg, in Union County. This year's theme is "La Frontera," looking at how Jesus meets us wherever we are, including "in-between" places.

On Sunday, March 13, 2016, Chad Hershberger, Mount Luther's Director, will be at our church to share information about this year's programs. Don't forget that if you register before <u>April 1, 2016</u>, you receive a discount on your camp fee. Or, if you bring a friend to camp who's never been there, you and the friend (or sibling or church buddy) can both get \$25 off your registration! Just check that option on the registration form and send the forms together. Each child must pay a \$50 registration fee when sending in the application, and the remaining costs are covered by Messiah/youth fundraising events.

Kate Swailes is serving this year as our camperson, a liaison between Mount Luther and our congregation. Because we have a camperson, you can see her to get an additional discount in the camp store! For more information on summer camp programs, you can contact your camperson or visit the camp website at <u>www.campmountluther.org</u>.

THE 2016 CAMPING BROCHURES and registration forms for Camp Mt. Luther are available in the church office or you may register online at <u>www.campmountluther.org</u>. Please note that if you register online, you still need to get a health form signed by a doctor.

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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 –** <u>12:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m</u>.

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

SYNOD ASSEMBLY DELEGATES NEEDED – Two members of Messiah are needed to attend the annual Synod Assembly on June 17 and 18, 2016 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 Pastor Esborn or the church office.

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.

MESSIAH WOMEN OF THE ELCA will meet on Thursday, March 10, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the Young Adult Sunday School Classroom in the basement. All women are invited to attend. Program leader is yet to be determined. Refreshments will be provided by Jean Compton and Cynthia Smith.

#### **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).

#### FOOD PANTRY NEEDS FOR MARCH ALL NON-PERISHABLE FOODS, DISH SOAP, AND ALL PURPOSE HOUSEHOLD CLEANERS. ALSO, CASH/CHECK DONATIONS AND LOCAL STORE GIFT CARDS ARE ALWAYS APPRECIATED!

#### THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

Today:	-9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Catechetical Class. -10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion. -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. -4-H Beef Club in Youth Area.
Wednesday:	-9:30 a.m., Women's Lenten Tea at Westminster Presbyterian Church. -7 p.m., Community Lenten Service at Westminster Presbyterian Church.
Thursday:	-7 p.m., WELCA meeting in Youth Area.
Saturday:	-7 a.m., Men's Lenten Prayer Breakfast at JP Pancake House. -DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS (Spring ahead one hour!)
Sunday:	-9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Catechetical Class. -10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion (guest speaker, Chad Hershberger).