

Messiah Lutheran Church

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

The Rev. Chris Mathiason
The Rev. Dr. Thomas W. Martin
June Bricker
Andrea Cameron
Ron Yorks
Kay Varner
Haley Mummah & Hannah Ehrisman

Interim Pastor
Worship Leader
Organist
Choir Director
Lector
Altar Guild
Acolytes

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 30, 2017 – 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

Today's gospel begins with two disciples walking to Emmaus, overcome with sadness, loss, and disappointment. They had hoped Jesus, who was crucified, would be the one to redeem Israel! Yet the risen Christ walks with them, and then opens their eyes in the breaking of the bread. Each Sunday our hearts burn within us as the scriptures are proclaimed and Christ appears to us as bread is broken and wine is poured. The story of Emmaus becomes the pattern of our worship each Lord's day.

GATHERING

* ENTRANCE HYMN “I Know that My Redeemer Lives!” #543 Green Book

* 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, your Son makes himself known to all his disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

Today's reading is the conclusion of Peter's sermon preached following the giving of the Holy Spirit to the apostles on the day of Pentecost. The center of his preaching is the bold declaration that God has made the crucified Jesus both Lord and Christ.

FIRST READING: Acts 2:14a, 36-41

The First reading is from the 2nd chapter of Acts.

THE LESSON READS:

^{14a}Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd]: ³⁶"Let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified." ³⁷Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?" ³⁸Peter said to them, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him." ⁴⁰And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." ⁴¹So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

Lector: Here ends the reading.

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19 (read responsively)

L – I will call on the name of the LORD. (Ps. 116:13)

¹I love the LORD, who has heard my voice, and listened to my supplication,

²**for the LORD has given ear to me whenever I called.**

³The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave came upon me; I came to grief and sorrow.

⁴**Then I called upon the name of the LORD: "O LORD, I pray you, save my life."**

¹²How shall I repay the LORD for all the good things God has done for me?

¹³**I will lift the cup of salvation and call on the name of the LORD.**

¹⁴I will fulfill my vows to the LORD in the presence of all God's people.

¹⁵**Precious in your sight, O LORD, is the death of your servants.**

¹⁶O LORD, truly I am your servant; I am your servant, the child of your handmaid; you have freed me from my bonds.

¹⁷**I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call upon the name of the LORD.**

¹⁸I will fulfill my vows to the LORD in the presence of all God's people,

¹⁹**in the courts of the LORD's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Hallelujah!**

ALL – I will call on the name of the LORD.

The imagery of exile is used to help the readers of this letter understand that they are strangers in a strange land. Christians no longer belong to this age. Through the death of Christ we belong to God, so that our focus, faith, and hope are no longer on such things as silver or gold.

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 1:17-23

The Second reading is from the 1st chapter of 1 Peter.

THE LESSON READS:

¹⁷If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile. ¹⁸You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold, ¹⁹but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. ²⁰He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. ²¹Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God. ²²Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart. ²³You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

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 colorful story of Jesus' appearance to two disciples on the road to Emmaus answers the question of how Jesus is to be recognized among us. Here, he is revealed through the scriptures and in the breaking of bread.

* GOSPEL: Luke 24:13-35

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 24th chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord. (sung)

THE GOSPEL READS:

¹³Now on that same day two [disciples] were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" ¹⁹He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. ²¹But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. ²²Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, ²³and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. ²⁴Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him." ²⁵Then

he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! ²⁶Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" ²⁷Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures. ²⁸As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. ²⁹But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. ³²They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" ³³That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. ³⁴They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" ³⁵Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

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

The Rev. Dr. Thomas W. Martin

* HYMN OF DAY

"Now the Green Blade Rises"

#145 Green Book

* 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 Rejoicing in the risen life of Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

P We pray for the church. Remove all that hinders us from sharing your love. Raise up faithful preachers and teachers to lead your people. Heal our divisions. Unite us at your table. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P For the earth. Protect animals whose environments are endangered. Bring bountiful sunshine and sufficient rainfall for fields, pastures, and orchards. Bless those whose labors bring food to our tables. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P For the nations. Give all leaders wisdom and courage to work for the common good. Strengthen disaster relief workers, peacemakers, and all whose contributions to society go unnoticed. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P For those in need. Draw near to those who have lost hope. Provide food for the hungry and shelter for those who need safe housing. Comfort the grieving and heal the sick (especially all of our shut-ins: Reba Sigler, Kitty Walters, Jean McNaight, Jane Marhefka, Ruth Cisney, Ray Bramm, Dottie Smith, Dorothy Cleck, Carol Simonton, Lura Aughey, Mona Lawson, Sara Ann Aurand, Betty Karstetter, and Jim Yetter). And for Bob & Jeanette St. Clair, Rick Waller, Sr., Avonel Waller, Jim Woltman, Bob Cameron, Michal Gayer, Letha Swab, Mary Ernest, John Miller, Orville Graybill, Harold 'Butch' Oberholtzer, Randy Clark, Joyce Doyle, Pete Swab (Letha & Clark Swab's daughter), Joan Fulkroad, Bill Holderman, Don Clark, Seth Arentz, Tom Lyter, Charlie Stouffer, Andrea Cameron, Tom Ernest, Teresa Kauffman, Margaret Lowery, Sandy Pines, Janet Fultz, Butch Pines, and Jeff Sanders. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P For this assembly. Empower our ministries of outreach and hospitality. Strengthen the newly baptized and those who mentor them. Bless those who set the table for the holy meal. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P With thanksgiving, we remember those who have died in faith (*especially*). Bring us with them to the fullness of your glory with all your saints. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Joining our voices with your faithful ones in every time and place, we offer our prayers in the name of the Risen One, Jesus 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

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

* SING 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 Be known to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread, as you were made known to the disciples. Receive these gifts, and the offering of our lives, that we may be your risen body in the world.

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 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 Now let us feast this Easter day on Christ, the bread of heaven. Hallelujah!

* 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 Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of heaven to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to Jesus' resurrection that we may show your glory to all the world; through the same Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

C **Amen**

SENDING

* BLESSING

P May God who has brought us from death to life fill you with great joy. Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

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

* CLOSING HYMN "Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing" #135 Green Book

* DISMISSAL

P Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!** You are the body of Christ raised up for the world. Go in peace. Share the good news.

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

POSTLUDE

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NEXT WEEK'S LECTOR – Briley Holderman
NEXT WEEK'S ALTAR GUILD – Sandy Pines & Michelle Stoner
NEXT WEEK'S ACOLYTES – Garrett Berry & Caden Swailes
NEXT WEEK'S LAY WORSHIP LEADER – Andrea Cameron

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 yellow 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 The Rev. Dr. Thomas W. Martin. We welcome him and pray God's blessing on him as he ministers to us this morning.

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

JUST A THOUGHT – Richard Halverson, Former Chaplain of U.S. Senate: If a person is filled with the Holy Spirit, his witness will not be optional or mandatory – it will be inevitable.

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

PRAYER CHAIN – Any time you wish to add a name to our prayer list, please contact Stacie Kint at 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 the church office at 436-6213 or 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.

MUSIC SUNDAY is May 7th! Special music will be provided in place of the sermon by the Junior and Senior choirs, Organists Bob St. Clair and June Bricker (organ and piano duet), and everyone joining to sing a few favorite hymns. Please join us May 7th as we worship with music!

PLEASE NOTIFY THE CHURCH OFFICE for any change in addresses, phone numbers, email addresses, or for any requests for building usage. 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 for any changes or requests.

SUMMER SERVICE UPDATE – Since Pentecost and Holy Trinity are so late this calendar year, the Board of Worship and Music has decided that summer services will begin on Sunday, June 4th and conclude on Sunday, September 3rd. Worship services during the summer will begin at 9:15 a.m. (The format/liturgy for Pentecost and Holy Trinity will remain the same with the summer service format/liturgy beginning on June 18th). Regular (10:30 a.m.) worship services will resume on Sunday, September 10th.

A VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL PLANNING MEETING will be held on Sunday, April 30th at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We will be taking a wild ride through God’s Word at the Avalanche Ranch this year for VBS. If you can’t attend the meeting and you are interested in assisting with VBS, please call Linda Clark at 717-348-8262 or send an email to lnclark13@embarqmail.com.

2017 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL will be held from Monday, June 19th to Thursday, June 22nd from 6:00 to 8:15 p.m. with a pool party being scheduled for Friday, June 23rd. This year’s closing program will be held on Sunday, June 25th during the morning worship service.

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) your email address.

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

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

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.”

WEEKLY FINANCIAL REPORT:

<u>April 23, 2017 Worship Service</u>	<u>Sunday School</u>	<u>Other Funds</u>	
Attendance – 61	Attendance – 31	Sunday School -	\$ 63.00
Total Offering - \$2386.00		Benevolence -	135.00
		Building Fund -	50.00
		Flowers -	22.00
		Summer Camp -	<u>170.00</u>
			\$ 440.00

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 “The Water of Life” giving campers a new awareness of how water and life are gifts from God. Don’t forget, 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.

KATE SWAILES is serving this year as our camp person, a liaison between Mount Luther and our congregation. Because we have a camp person, you can see her to get an additional discount in the camp store! For more information on summer camp programs, you can contact Kate or visit the camp website at www.campmountluther.org. Submit your registration form to Kate along with a \$50 payment payable to Messiah Lutheran Church which will go toward the non-refundable deposit. Kate will submit the forms to Mount Luther.

CAMP MT. LUTHER FUND RAISER – Ed Beaver has donated wood crafts as a fundraiser for Mt. Luther Camp costs. Please check out the birdhouses, three-legged stools, and tool boxes that are displayed at the rear of the Adult Sunday School Room. For a donation toward camp, you can select your favorite craft. Place your donation in the basket on the table. Thanks for supporting our youth! Thank you also to Ed for donating the items.

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.

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.

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.

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 WELCA MEETING will be Thursday, May 11, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in the Youth Area. All women of Messiah are invited to attend.

SEND A GIRL TO SCHOOL is the new project for the Women of the ELCA. We are setting a goal of \$1000.00 for this project. If you would like to contribute toward sending a girl to school you may do so by noting a donation on your church envelope marking it **WELCA project** or by placing your donation in the school box located on the piano by our chart which will track all of our donations. WELCA is beginning the donation with \$120.00. To send one girl to school the cost is \$40.00 but we will take any and all donations. If we go over our goal that would be wonderful. All money will be sent to the ELCA good gifts project. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask Barb Geedey.

UPPER SUSQUEHANNA SYNOD WOMEN OF THE ELCA Day of Learning will be held at St. Michael's Lutheran Church, Cogan Station, PA on April 29, 2017 from 9 a.m. till 2 p.m. Theme will be Katie Luther – A Woman for Today presented by Sandy Grier and Peggy Bohart. Registration is 9:30 to 10:00 a.m. A light lunch will be provided. A \$5.00 fee will be collected at the door (make checks payable to USSWO). Call Barb Geedey at 436-6433 if you are interested in attending.

ITEMS FOR THE SEAFARERS BAGS will be collected through the summer. 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

THE ACTIVITY DEPARTMENT AT LOCUST GROVE is looking for volunteers (individuals or groups) to spend time with our residents. Some of the ways you can volunteer are: assist with activities, read, bingo caller, religious activities, music, pet visits, crafts, nail painting, games, birthday parties, and visits with residents. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please call Kathy Breon, Activity Director at 436-8921.

FOOD PANTRY VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED:

Food Box Packer – Organized person who works well without supervision to pack supplemental food boxes for our elderly and children's programs.

Summer Backpack Program – Help register eligible families and fill food boxes with lunch items for children throughout the summer months (June-August). Times available: Monday 9-12, Tuesday 9-12 and 1-5, and Saturday 9-12.

Cleaning Angel – Person with a God-given talent for cleaning and organizing. Approximately 4-6 hours per week.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS FOR APRIL

ALL NON-PERISHABLE FOODS,
CLEANING SUPPLIES: LAUNDRY DETERGENT, DISH SOAP,
ALL PURPOSE HOUSEHOLD CLEANERS, &
DONATIONS OF CASH/GIFT CARDS ARE ALSO APPRECIATED!

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

- Today:** -9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Confirmation Class.
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Jr. Church. (Worship Leader: The Rev. Dr. Thomas W. Martin).
-7 p.m., VBS Planning meeting in the Fellowship Hall.
- Monday:** -8 p.m., AA meeting in Fellowship Hall.
- Tuesday:** -9 a.m., "The Needlers" in Fellowship Hall.
- Wednesday:** -7 p.m., Choir rehearsal in Rearick Room.
- Thursday:** -1 p.m., Dulcimer rehearsal.
- Sunday:** -MUSIC SUNDAY.
-9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Confirmation Class.
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion. (Lay Worship Leader: Andrea Cameron).