

# THE MESSIAH HERALD



**AUGUST, 2017**

## **MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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

**INTERIM PASTOR -- REV. CHRIS MATHIASON --**

**[cmathiason001@luthersem.edu](mailto:cmathiason001@luthersem.edu)**

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

**OFFICE EMAIL: [messiahlutheran@pa.net](mailto:messiahlutheran@pa.net)**

**TREASURER EMAIL: [mlchurchtreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:mlchurchtreasurer@gmail.com)**

**SUMMER WORSHIP AND COMMUNION -- 9:15 AM**

**[USS-ARK NEWSLETTER](#)**

**[THE LUTHERAN MAGAZINE](#)**

**"Proclaiming God's love revealed in Jesus Christ and his People"**

# The Messiah Herald



## **PRAYING SPECIFICALLY -- BY BRYAN ELLIFF**

My dad tells a story about an old deacon who was asked to pray during a church meeting. The man stood up and after other typical worn out phrases said, "Lord, we pray for all those for whom it is our duty to pray. Amen."

I guess that about covers it.

That's what I would call a *generic* prayer. And while most people aren't that succinct, many of us tend toward generic praying. Generic praying is the kind of praying that doesn't really define a particular request. "Be with the Jones family, Lord." "Father, we just ask that you would work in this situation."

Now, not all generic praying is bad. Sometimes we just don't know what to ask for other than that the Lord would work in a situation or that he would be present with a family. This can be heartfelt and right. I certainly pray this way at times. I only want to suggest that when we pray, it's often right to ask *for something*—that is, something that we can articulate, something that we can remember.

Look at this prayer that Paul prayed for the Colossians: "*We have not ceased to pray for you and to ask that you be filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so that you will walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please Him in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God . . .*" (Col 1:9-10)

This prayer has content. Paul has thought about what to ask for these Colossians and he remembers what he is asking. I want to pray more like that.

What were your prayers like this morning? When you prayed for that person, did you make any particular request or was it more like, "I bring Mike before you, Lord, and pray that you would help him with his job situation"? Sometimes we bring a whole list of things before the Lord but don't really ask much about them.

What is specific prayer? There are a few kinds. For Larry, you might pray, "Father, please help him to recognize that he is prideful in this area and grow him in humility." This is thoughtful, specific request. It may not, however, be easy to see if or when God is

answering it. Other prayers may be even more specific. "God, give me an opportunity to talk with Jenny about Jesus this week at work." It will be easy to see if or when God answers that one. I recommend both kinds. One is more general than the other, but with both, you are looking for God to act in a particular way.

Reflect on these benefits of praying specifically.

**Praying specifically requires more faith.** Maybe that's why we don't do it as much. We are afraid to go out on a limb, uncertain whether God will answer as we've asked. So we hedge our bets and only pray vague prayers that He can't help but answer. Now, it's true that praying involves risk. God does not always do what we ask, maybe simply because what we asked for was not what He wanted to do. Even Jesus and Paul made requests that God did not grant (Luke 22:42; 2 Cor 12:8-9). However, if we never make requests with bold faith, we will never experience the joy of seeing God actually answer them. And the more we see God answer prayer, the more we will learn to pray according to His will.

**Praying specifically requires more thoughtfulness.** When you ask God for particular things and watch in faith for the answers, you think carefully about what you ask. You don't walk into the throne room guns blazing and leave the back wall riddled with requests you can't even remember the next day. Instead, you thoughtfully consider what God desires to do before asking Him to do it.

**Praying specifically encourages an attitude of expectancy.** When you pray like this, you look at the world with prayerful eyes. When talking with your neighbor, you remember that you have prayed for an opening to talk with her about Jesus. When visiting your friend in the hospital, you remember that you have prayed for his healing. When talking with your family, you remember that you have prayed for more grace and kindness in your speech.

Consider keeping a journal. Write your requests and leave room to record God's answers. For

me, praying specifically has made prayer more of an exciting conversation. It's no longer a 10-minute morning monologue, but an ongoing exchange of prayers and answers.

What if we walked into every day with the expectation that God hears and answers *specific* prayer?

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## **PRAYER REQUEST REMINDER!!**

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 717-436-6213 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.

## **DAILY BIBLE READINGS & PRAYER FOCUS**

AUGUST 1----- PHILIPPIANS 4:10-15  
*THOSE WHO LACK A SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITY*

AUGUST 2-----MATTHEW 7:7-11  
*SEARCH AND RESCUE TEAMS*

AUGUST 3-----ISAIAH 55:1-5  
*GROCERY AND CONVENIENCE STORE WORKERS*

AUGUST 4----- PSALM 145:8-9, 14-21  
*THOSE LIVING IN REFUGEE CAMPS*

AUGUST 5----- ROMANS 9:1-5  
*THOSE LIVING IN THE HOLY LAND*

AUGUST 6----- MATTHEW 14:13-21  
*VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE*

AUGUST 7----- ACTS 17:10-15  
*CONGREGATIONS IN TRANSITION*

AUGUST 8----- ACTS 18:24-28  
*SEMINARY EDUCATORS AND STUDENTS*

AUGUST 9----- 1 KINGS 18:1-16  
*DROUGHT-AFFLICTED REGIONS*

AUGUST 10----- 1 KINGS 19:9-18  
*CHURCH FINANCE COMMITTEES*

AUGUST 11----- PSALM 85:8-13  
*CHURCHES FACING OPPRESSION*

AUGUST 12----- ROMANS 10:5-15  
*POSTAL WORKERS AND MESSENGERS*

AUGUST 13----- MATTHEW 14:22-33  
*MEDICS SERVING AMID ARMED CONFLICT*

AUGUST 14----- REVELATION 15:1-4  
*WILDERNESS RANGERS*

AUGUST 15----- LUKE 1:46-55  
*THOSE WHO ARE HOMEBOUND*

AUGUST 16----- ISAIAH 45:20-25  
*THOSE IN NEED OF FOOD AND CLEAN WATER*

AUGUST 17----- ISAIAH 56:1, 6-8  
*THOSE PREPARING FOR BAPTISM*

AUGUST 18----- PSALM 67  
*THOSE SUFFERING FROM DEPRESSION OR OTHER MENTAL ILLNESS*

AUGUST 19----- ROMANS 11:1-2A, 29-32  
*THOSE FEELING UNWORTHY OF GOD'S LOVE*

AUGUST 20----- MATTHEW 15:(10-20), 21-28  
*THOSE CARING FOR CHRONICALLY ILL LOVED ONES*

AUGUST 21----- 1 CORINTHIANS 6:1-11  
*MINISTRIES SERVING THOSE WHO ARE HOMELESS*

AUGUST 22----- 2 CORINTHIANS 10:12-18  
*MUSICIANS AND ARTISTS WHO SERVE THE CHURCH*

AUGUST 23-----ISAIAH 51:1-6  
*THOSE WORKING TO PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT*

AUGUST 24----- JOHN 1:43-51  
*FARMERS AND AGRICULTURAL WORKERS*

AUGUST 25----- PSALM 138  
*PEACEMAKERS*

AUGUST 26----- ROMANS 12:1-8  
*THOSE LONGING FOR FULL EMPLOYMENT*

AUGUST 27----- MATTHEW 16:13-20  
*THOSE BEGINNING TO LEARN ABOUT JESUS*

AUGUST 28----- 1 SAMUEL 7:3-13  
*COMPUTER PROGRAMMERS AND TECHNICIANS*

AUGUST 29----- ROMANS 2:1-11  
*THOSE WOUNDED BY PREJUDICE*

AUGUST 30----- 2 THESSALONIANS 2:7-12  
*FUNERAL HOME AND CEMETERY WORKERS*

AUGUST 31----- JEREMIAH 15:15-21  
*BIBLE TRANSLATORS AND SCHOLARS*

## **AUGUST SERVANTS**

### **LECTORS**

- 6 Barbara S. Geedey  
13 Andrea Cameron  
20 Cynthia Smith  
27 Ron Yorks

### **ALTAR GUILD**

- July 31 to August 13.....Barbara S. Geedey  
August 14 to 20.....Christie Holderman  
August 21 to September 3..... Tawny Mummah

### **ALTAR FLOWERS**

- 6 Edith Nipple  
13 Eleanor Ernest  
20 OPEN  
27 OPEN

### **ACOLYTES**

- 6 Nate Swailes & Tyler Rosenberry  
13 Haley Mummah & Hannah Ehrisman  
20 Garrett Berry & Caden Swailes  
27 Jace White & Braedon Walton

## **UPCOMING WORSHIP LEADERS**

- August 6 ..... Sam Leister  
August 13 ..... Stephen Rodgers  
August 20 ..... Deborah Hackenberger  
August 27 ..... Rev. Paul Kampa



WELCA did not meet in July. Cynthia will be in charge of our August meeting.

WELCA will be gathering items for School Kits for the next several months. Items needed for each school kit are: 4-70 sheet notebooks, wide or college-ruled 8 x 10 ½ inches, 1 - 30 centimeter/inches ruler, 1 pencil sharpener, 1 pair of blunt scissors, 5 unsharpened #2 pencils, 5 black or blue ballpoint pens, 1 box of 16-24 crayons, and 1 - 2½ inch eraser. Items may be placed on the round table in the adult Sunday School room!

## **STORE GIFT CARDS**

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.

## **MEALS-ON-WHEELS**

Individuals, church groups, or Sunday School classes who would like to contribute to the Meals-On-Wheels program, your continued support would be greatly appreciated. Contributions can be sent to **Juniata Meals-On-Wheels, P.O. Box 251, Mifflintown, PA 17059.**

## **PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING...**

- |                           |                   |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
| Bob & Jeanette St. Clair  | Jim Woltman       |
| Avonel & Rick Waller, Sr. | Michal Gayer      |
| Andrea & Bob Cameron      | Seth Arentz       |
| Letha Swab                | Joyce Doyle       |
| John Miller               | Randy Clark       |
| Mary Ernest               | Joan Fulkroad     |
| Don Clark                 | Jeff Sanders      |
| Teresa Kauffman           | Margaret Lowrey   |
| Butch & Sandy Pines       | Tammy Metz        |
| Tom Lyter                 | Charlie Stouffer  |
| Tom Ernest                | Janet Fultz       |
| Pat Fisher                | Esther Rhine      |
| Joyce Bradley             | Barbara P. Geedey |
| Jacob Jones               | Minnie Minick     |
| Messiah's Call Committee  | Chad Hershberger  |

## **...AND ALSO FOR OUR SHUT-INS**

### **LOCUST GROVE**

(190 JAM HOUSE RD., COTTAGE #5, MIFFLIN, PA 17058)  
Jean McNaight

### **BROOKLINE MANOR & REHAB SERVICES**

(2 MANOR BLVD., MIFFLINTOWN, PA 17059)  
Sara Ann Aurand, Reba Sigler

### **BROOKLINE RETIREMENT VILLAGE**

(92 VILLAGE DRIVE, MIFFLINTOWN, PA 17059)  
Jane Marhefka

BERRY'S PERSONAL CARE CENTER

(62 LEXI STREET, MIFFLINTOWN, PA 17059)

Carol Simonton

NORTHRIDGE CENTER FOR ASSISTED LIVING

(99 NORTHRIDGE DR., MCALISTERVILLE, PA 17049)

Dorothy Cleck      Dottie Smith

HONNEMAN HOUSE

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

Ruth Cisney      Ray Bramm

LEHIGH CENTER

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

Lura Aughey

AT HOME

Jim Yetter

128 Manbeck Drive

Mifflintown, PA 17059

Betty Karstetter

918 William Penn Hwy.

Mifflintown, PA 17059

Kitty Walters

P.O. Box 61

Port Royal, PA 17082

Mona Lawson

2792 William Penn Hwy.

Mifflintown, PA 17059



**IMPORTANT REMINDER FOR CHURCH-GOERS!!** Access to Cross Street in Mifflintown Borough has been restricted since Monday, June 5<sup>th</sup>. The road will remain closed to all vehicle and foot traffic until the borough of Mifflintown has the funds to fix the bridge that is underneath the roadway. Anyone who uses Cross Street on a regular basis to come to or leave church will need to now travel to and utilize Route 35 to access or leave the church.

**CHRIST IN OUR HOME**

A reminder to anyone who would like a daily devotional to jump start their day. There are plenty of devotionals in "Christ in our Home," which can be picked up and are FREE....and are located at the back of the adult Sunday school room. Get yours today!

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY & ANNIVERSARY!**

**FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST, 2017  
....BIRTHDAYS!**

**AUGUST 5** – Ray Miller

**AUGUST 6** – Andrea Cameron

**AUGUST 8** – Kim White

**AUGUST 13** – Todd Grimm

**AUGUST 18** – Glenn Grimm

**AUGUST 26** – Bob Cameron

**AUGUST 28** -- Dennis Crissman

**AUGUST 31** – George Hazard, Jr.

**....AND ANNIVERSARIES!**

**AUGUST 4** – Bob & Andrea Cameron

**AUGUST 12** – Larry & Shirley Covert

**AUGUST 18** – Matt & Shelly Gross

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS**

Tuesday – 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Thursday – 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

**Friday – 12:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.**



**THANK YOU!**

“Dear members of Messiah....thank you for giving me the altar flowers to honor my retirement. It has been a blessing teaching so many children in Juniata County and a very special blessing to see some of them grow up right here at Messiah. Thank you for being my church home.” Sincerely -- CINDY VAN GAVREE

## MESSIAH ATTENDANCE AND OFFERINGS -- JULY 2 TO 30, 2017

DATE	ATTENDANCE	TOTAL OFFERING	GENERAL FUND OFFERING	OTHER FUNDS OFFERING
JULY 2	47 - Worship	\$3,356.00	\$2,496.00	Benevolence -- \$225.00 Summer Camp -- \$105.00 Building Fund -- \$505.00 Flowers -- \$25.00
JULY 9	51 - Worship	\$3,259.00	\$2,869.00	Benevolence -- \$155.00 Summer Camp -- \$100.00 Building Fund -- \$135.00
JULY 16	46 - Worship	\$1,891.00	\$1,491.00	Benevolence -- \$110.00 Summer Camp -- \$100.00 Building Fund -- \$190.00
JULY 23	60 - Worship	\$2,392.00	\$2,003.00	Benevolence -- \$115.00 Summer Camp -- \$105.00 Building Fund -- \$125.00 Flowers -- \$44.00
JULY 30	59 - Worship	\$3,307.00	\$2,657.00	Benevolence -- \$95.00 Summer Camp -- \$105.00 Building Fund -- \$410.00 WELCA -- \$10.00 Mt. Luther Water Plant -- \$30.00

### Juniata County Fair.

"Country Scenes - Blue Ribbon Dreams"

### 2017 FAIR VESPER SERVICE INFORMATION

**Theme: GREATER THINGS ARE YET TO COME**

**Sunday, September 3rd (4:30 PM) - To be held 'Rain or Shine'**

- **This event will be held under a large tent located on the upper Juniata County Fairgrounds** (located in the general area of the George Settlemyer Livestock Building . . . and along the Juniata County Fairgrounds roadway that is adjacent to 8th Street and leads toward the free stage area).
- Juniata County Ministerium members/pastors will lead the community worship service w/ Pastor Nancy McClure providing the main message.
- Special music will be provided by THE BOYZ.
- **Please bring your own lawn chair.**
- **Important Suggestion:** Arrive at 4:00 PM to secure a parking space and your lawn chair seating position.
- A free-will offering will be collected to help local charities.

***This annual community worship service occurs thanks to the generous support of the Juniata County Agricultural Society. After initially paying the admission fee to enter the Fairgrounds, people attending the worship service will receive reimbursement for their paid admission fee following the completion of the annual event. Attending worship service members will simply exchange their fairgrounds admission ticket for cash reimbursement.***

## JUNIATA COUNTY FOOD PANTRY AUGUST UPDATE

Dear Friends,

As the summer heats up, we are reminded that hunger does NOT take a vacation! Please don't forget your neighbors struggling to keep their families fed while everyone else enjoys summer vacation. Thanks to all of you who are bringing in fresh produce from your gardens! What a blessing straight from the Lord is fresh produce to those who rarely taste any but the canned variety, and very little of that.

In June 2017, the Food Pantry served 338 families in need – a total of 980 individuals! In addition, our Summer Backpack Program provided 3,300 lunches for 165 school age children who otherwise would be facing a hungry summer vacation.

### **FOOD PANTRY NEEDS FOR AUGUST:**

FRESH GARDEN produce and any NON-PERISHABLE foods; paper towels, dish soap and laundry detergent. We also gladly accept donations of cash and gift cards for grocery & discount stores!

PO Box 44, 114 N. Main St, Mifflintown, PA 17059

Phone: 717-436-9718

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

Our vestibule is open 24 hours a day to receive donations. Cash, checks or gift cards may be deposited in the vestibule's mail slot. \*Non-perishable foods and non-food items may be dropped off at any time in our vestibule. Please deliver perishable foods only when someone is here to receive them. Thank you!

\*PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO THE  
**JUNIATA COUNTY FOOD PANTRY.**  
(CONTACT PERSON: KATHY QUEITZSCH).  
Email: [jcfoodpantry@embarqmail.com](mailto:jcfoodpantry@embarqmail.com)



## FOOD PANTRY VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED

Volunteers are needed at our local Juniata County Food Pantry. The following positions need such volunteers:

- ✚ **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.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT LOCUST GROVE

Locust Grove Retirement Home outside of Mifflin, along Route 35 North, 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 Director at 717-436-8921.

## NEW PHONE DIALING RULE REMINDER!!

**REMINDER: STARTING AUGUST 26<sup>TH</sup>, THE 10-DIGIT DIALING BEGINS!**

The change is part of the groundwork for the introduction of an overlay area code — 223.

Beginning with the late August change, all numbers dialed will have to include an area code — even the house next door. So, for example, Messiah's number will no longer be 436-6213 for local callers, it will be (717) 436-6213.



This largely applies only to land line users; cellular phones have always required 10-digit dialing.

Starting on August 26, if callers only dial a seven-digit number, they will reach a recorded announcement instructing them to hang up and redial the number using the area code plus the seven-digit number.

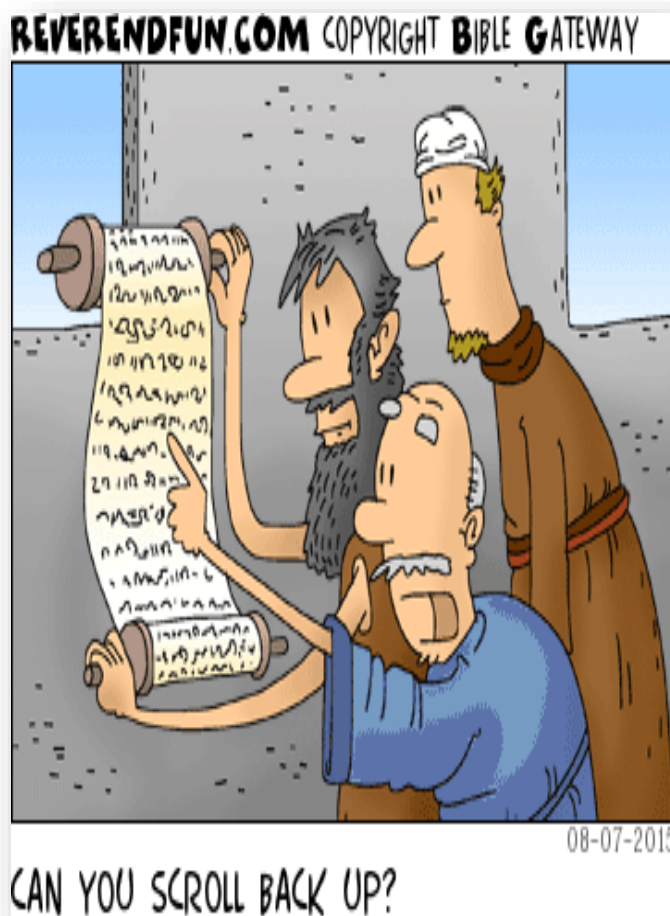
The need for phone numbers is tied to the increased use of mobile phones and other devices that use phone numbers.



## SEND A GIRL TO SCHOOL



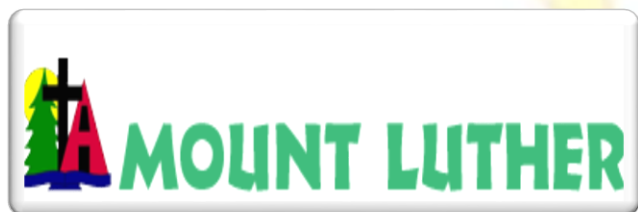
*Send A Girl To School* is the new project for the Women of the ELCA. We are setting a goal of \$1000.00 for this project. If you would like to contribute toward sending a girl to school you may do so by noting a donation on your church envelope marking it **WELCA project** or by placing your donation 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.





## AUGUST 2017 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Tuesday, August 1:	-9:00 a.m., "The Needlers" in Fellowship Hall
Thursday, August 3:	-1:00 p.m., Dulcimer Rehearsal
Sunday, August 6:	-9:15 a.m., Worship/Communion (Worship Leader: Sam Leister)
Monday, August 7:	-8:00 p.m., AA meeting in Fellowship Hall
Tuesday, August 8:	-9:00 a.m., "The Needlers" in Fellowship Hall
Thursday, August 10:	-7:00 p.m., WELCA Meeting
Sunday, August 13:	-9:15 a.m., Worship/Communion (Worship Leader: Stephen Rodgers)
Monday, August 14:	-8:00 p.m., AA meeting in Fellowship Hall
Tuesday, August 15:	-9:00 a.m., "The Needlers" in Fellowship Hall
Thursday, August 17:	-1:00 p.m., Dulcimer Rehearsal
Sunday, August 20:	-9:15 a.m., Worship/Communion (Worship Leader: Deborah Hackenberger)
Monday, August 21:	-8:00 p.m., AA meeting in Fellowship Hall
Tuesday, August 22:	-9:00 a.m., "The Needlers" in Fellowship Hall
Thursday, August 24:	NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
Sunday, August 27:	-9:15 a.m., Worship/Communion (Worship Leader: Rev. Paul Kampa)
Monday, August 28:	-8:00 p.m., AA meeting in Fellowship Hall
Tuesday, August 29:	-9:00 a.m., "The Needlers" in Fellowship Hall



Mount Luther has had to rebuild their waste water treatment system thanks to a bear as well as outdated systems that needed to be replaced as they were not functioning properly after 20 years. The costs have exceeded \$100,000.00. Please if you can, add an amount in your giving and note that this is for the Mt Luther waste water treatment system. This is totally separate from the monies received for campers. Any and all amount will be forwarded to Camp Mount Luther. You may also send donations directly to **Camp Mount Luther, 355 Mount Luther Lane, Mifflinburg, PA 17844**. Thank you!

### NEW TREASURER & EMAIL!

Carolyn Bryner has stepped forward to accept the financial responsibilities of Messiah as our new treasurer, replacing Ann Beaver who has resigned that position. In order to continue streamlining our communications, a new email account was established for our church treasurer and should be used beginning on August 1, 2017. The new email address is [mlchurchtreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:mlchurchtreasurer@gmail.com). Please send any information, questions, inquiries, etc., to Carolyn at that new email address.

Special thanks are extended to the donor of a new laptop for our new treasurer to utilize, to Bob St. Clair for his technical expertise, and to Carolyn for accepting the reins of finance in this ministry which as we all know is an important part of our congregation's ministry

Also, a **HUGE THANK YOU** to Ann Beaver who has spent countless hours and dollars organizing the treasurers' system which we now use.

Please continue to pray for our church leaders and workers as we all move forward on Christ's grace and love.

## **PAINTED SERMON – AUGUST 6TH SERVICE!**

A LIVE PAINTED SERMON presentation is scheduled for SUNDAY, AUGUST 6TH WORSHIP SERVICE. Local artist, Judy Mummau will be our guest speaker/painter during our sermon time. Judy resides in East Waterford, and is an experienced speaker at churches and ladies' ministry events and performs live paintings. Please mark your calendar and join us!

## **LIBERIAN HAND IN HAND TRIP - 2018**

The Liberian Committee of the USS Synod is now planning another "Hand in Hand" trip for January or February of 2018. This is a basic overview trip, taking a tour of principal sites and meeting leaders of the Lutheran Church in Liberia. This trip will aim to last 10-14 days on the ground and will cost approximately \$2500-\$3,000. There are two other kinds of trips that could also be planned. One is a Work Trip working on reconstruction of buildings. The other is Shadowing for people who have been to Liberia before and who would like to shadow someone in a similar profession during their stay in Liberia. Anyone with any interest in going on one of these trips is invited to an orientation meeting on August 26 from 10AM to 12 noon at the Synod office. Please let **Esther Bratton (717) 436-8856** or **Sandy Nelson (570) 995-9327** know of your interest especially if you are unable to make this meeting.

## **THE UNFAIR TRADE**

A preacher was making his rounds to his parishioners on a bicycle, when he came upon a little boy trying to sell a lawn mower. "How much do you want for the mower?" asked the preacher.

"I just want enough money to go out and buy me a bicycle", said the little boy. After a moment of consideration, the preacher asked, "Will you take my bike in trade for it?"



The little boy asked if he could try it out first, and after riding the bike around a little while said, "Mister, you've got yourself a deal."

The preacher took the mower and began to try to crank it. He pulled on the cord a few times with no response from the mower. The preacher called the little boy over and said, "I can't get this mower to start."

The little boy said, "That's because you have to cuss at it to get it started." The preacher said, "I am a minister, and I cannot cuss. It has been so long since I have been saved that I do not even remember how to cuss."

The little boy looked at him happily and said, "Just keep pulling on that cord. It'll come back to ya!"

*School's Out But Life  
Lessons Will Continue*

**CORRECTED LECTOR SCHEDULE**  
**JULY 2017 – JUNE 2018**

<u>2017</u>			<u>2018</u>		
July	2	Marina Holderman	January	7	Cynthia Smith
	9	Kate Swailes		14	Kate Swailes
	16	Jean Compton		21	Jean Compton
	23	Linda Bahorik		28	Barb Geedey
	30	Bob St. Clair			
August	6	Barb Geedey	February	4	Marina Holderman
	13	Andrea Cameron		11	Bob St. Clair
	20	Cynthia Smith		18	Diana Wise
	27	Ron Yorks		25	Barb Geedey
September	3	Diana Wise	March	4	Ron Yorks
	10	Barb Geedey		11	Kate Swailes
	17	Kate Swailes		18	Jean Compton
	24	Jean Compton		25	Diana Wise
October	1	Linda Bahorik	April	1	Marina Holderman
	8	Diana Wise		8	Andrea Cameron
	15	Bob St. Clair		15	Cynthia Smith
	22	Andrea Cameron		22	Bob St. Clair
	29	Ron Yorks		29	Ron Yorks
November	5	Marina Holderman	May	6	Barb Geedey
	12	Kate Swailes		13	Andrea Cameron
	19	Linda Bahorik		20	Cynthia Smith
	26	Diana Wise		27	Linda Bahorik
December	3	Cynthia Smith	June	3	Marina Holderman
	10	Andrea Cameron		10	Barb Geedey
	17	Bob St. Clair		17	Ron Yorks
	24	Jean Compton		24	Linda Bahorik
	31	Diana Wise			

If you have a conflict on the Sunday that you are assigned, please make arrangements for someone to take your place. Also, please notify the church office by **Thursday** before the Sunday you are scheduled to read so it can be corrected in the bulletin. Thank you for your willingness to serve.

**WHAT IS A CALL COMMITTEE?**

*(from the Upper Susquehanna Synod Manual for Call Committees)*

**C13.05.** *When a pastoral vacancy occurs, a **Call Committee** of no more than six voting members shall be elected by the Congregation Council. Term of office will terminate upon installation of the newly called pastor.*

The call committee, seeking God's will for the congregation through prayer, interviews, consulting of references, and conversation with one another, unanimously and wholeheartedly recommends a candidate to the Congregation Council for their consideration. Members of this committee may be invited to serve as a transition team for the newly called pastor's early ministry.

# MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH 2017

UPDATED PLANNING COMMITTEE PROPOSALS

## STATEMENT OF FAITH:

WE CONFESS JESUS CHRIST AS LORD AND SAVIOR AND THE GOSPEL AS THE POWER OF GOD FOR THE SALVATION OF ALL WHO BELIEVE.

## STATEMENT OF VISION:

TO GROW GOD'S KINGDOM BY ENRICHING OUR FAITH AND EXPANDING OUR WITNESS WITHIN OUR CONGREGATION, OUR COMMUNITY AND THE WORLD.

## STATEMENT OF MISSION:

TO MAKE DISCIPLES FOR CHRIST OF ALL PEOPLE BY TEACHING GOD'S GRACE THROUGH FELLOWSHIP, THROUGH THE STUDY OF GOD'S WORD, THROUGH SERVICE TO OTHERS AND WITNESS TO ALL.

## OUR MLC 2017 SHORT-TERM GOALS:

- 1) CALL A PASTOR
- 2) INCREASE ATTENDANCE TO 75 PERSONS per SUNDAY
  - i. INCREASE CONGREGATIONAL and YOUTH ACTIVITIES
  - ii. INCREASE MEMBER CONTACTS
  - iii. INCREASE SERVICE PROJECTS
  - iv. EXTEND BUILDING USE
  - v. IMPROVE SOCIAL MEDIA USE
- 3) RECRUIT MORE VOLUNTEERS FOR GOAL IMPLEMENTATION
- 4) INCREASE FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

## OUR MLC LONG TERM GOALS:

- 1) EMPLOY A FULL-TIME PASTOR
- 2) INCREASE MEMBERSHIP
- 3) FOSTER A "GROWTH MENTALITY" WITHIN MLC
- 4) FOCUS ON YOUNG FAMILIES
- 5) EXPAND WORLD MISSION EFFORTS
- 6) FOCUS ON INDIVIDUAL SPIRITUAL GROWTH
- 7) IMPROVE STEWARDSHIP HABITS
- 8) IMPLEMENT YEARLY GOALS REVIEW

