

Messiah Lutheran Church

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

The Rev. Chris Mathiason

The Rev. James Rill

June Bricker

Andrea Cameron

Linda Clark

Marina Holderman

Linda Clark

Clint & Jamie Miller

Julia Martin & Harrison Mummah

Kevin & Kate Swailes

Interim Pastor

Worship Leader

Organist

Choir Director

Jr. Choir Director

Lector

Altar Guild

Cup Communion

Acolytes

Greeter

All Saints Day

November 5, 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

All Saints celebrates the baptized people of God, living and dead, who are the body of Christ. As November heralds the dying of the landscape in many northern regions, the readings and liturgy call us to remember all who have died in Christ and whose baptism is complete. At the Lord's table we gather with the faithful of every time and place, trusting that the promises of God will be fulfilled and that all tears will be wiped away in the new Jerusalem.

RECOGNITION OF ALL SAINTS

P O God, we remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served you on earth, who now rest from their labors, especially Layton Jury, Fay McCormick, Flo Beale, Eugene Rhine and Wayne Miller. Keep us in union with all your saints, and bring us with them to the joyous feast of heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

* CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who calls us into an everlasting hope, who guides us to springs of the water of life, who enlightens us with the spirit of wisdom.

C Amen.

P One with the communion of saints in all times and places, let us confess our sin against God and one another.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P O God, our merciful redeemer,

C we confess the ways we live only for ourselves. We fail to see you in our neighbor's face. We turn our ears from voices that cry out. We pass by the hungry and the oppressed. In your great mercy, forgive our sin and strengthen us for service to all in need; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die you you, and for + his sake, God forgives you all your sin. Blessed are you! Rejoice and be glad, beloved people of God.

C Amen.

GATHERING

* ENTRANCE HYMN "For All the Saints" (vss. 1-4) #174 Green Hymnal

* GREETING

P From the one who is and who was and who is to come, and from Jesus Christ, the first fruits of the resurrection, grace and peace be with you all.

C And also with you.

* KYRIE (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.

* 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 Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

The book of Revelation is written to seven churches in western Asia Minor during a time of great oppression. Today's reading is a response to the question asked in 6:17: "Who is able to stand?" The writer gives the faithful the assurance of God's protection and a vision of victory.

FIRST READING: Revelation 7:9-17

The First Lesson is from the 7th chapter of Revelation.

THE LESSON READS:

⁹After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!" ¹¹And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹²singing, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen." ¹³Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" ¹⁴I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood

of the Lamb. ¹⁵For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. ¹⁶They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; ¹⁷for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Lector: Here ends the reading.

Cong: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 34:1-10, 22

Ps. – Intoned by Choir

R – Sung by congregation (Rise, O children of salvation, All who cleave to Christ the head!)

I will bless the LORD ¹ at all times; the praise of God shall ever be ¹ in my mouth.

²**I will glory ¹ in the LORD; let the lowly hear ¹ and rejoice. R**

³Proclaim with me the greatness ¹ of the LORD; let us exalt God's ¹ name together.

⁴**I sought the LORD, who ¹ answered me and delivered me from ¹ all my terrors.**

⁵Look upon the LORD ¹ and be radiant, and let not your faces ¹ be ashamed.

⁶**I called in my affliction, and ¹ the LORD heard me and saved me from ¹ all my troubles. R**

⁷The angel of the LORD encamps around those who ¹ fear the LORD and de- ¹ livers them.

⁸**Taste and see that the ¹ LORD is good; happy are they who take ref- ¹ uge in God!**

⁹Fear the LORD, you saints ¹ of the LORD, for those who fear the ¹ LORD lack nothing.

¹⁰**The lions are in want and ¹ suffer hunger, but those who seek the LORD lack nothing ¹ that is good.**

²²O LORD, you redeem the life ¹ of your servants, and those who put their trust in you will ¹ not be punished. R

A saint is one who has been set apart by God for God's purposes. God, out of divine love, set us apart to be the children of God. Our holy hope is that we shall see God as God really is.

SECOND READING: 1 John 3:1-3

The Second Lesson is from the 3rd chapter of 1 John.

THE LESSON READS:

¹See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. ³And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

Lector: Here ends the reading.

Cong: Thanks be to God.

* THE VERSE (Sung by Choir)

Alleluia. They are before the throne of God, and he who sits upon the throne will shelter them with his presence. Alleluia. [Revelation 7:15]

In the Beatitudes, Jesus provides a unique description of those who are blessed with God's favor. His teaching is surprising and shocking to those who seek wealth, fame, and control over others.

(read by the Pastor from the center aisle)

* GOSPEL: Matthew 5:1-12

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 5th chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord. (sung)

THE GOSPEL READS:

¹When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ²Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying: ³"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ⁴Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. ⁵Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. ⁶Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. ⁷Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. ⁸Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. ⁹Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. ¹⁰Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ¹¹Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account ¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ. (sung)

SERMON

Pastor James Rill

* HYMN OF THE DAY "Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound" #328 Green Hymnal

* 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 Welcoming God's reign of righteousness and mercy, let us pray with people of every time and place.

A brief silence.

P Gather your church from every nation, tribe, people, and language to proclaim your salvation. Defend and preserve those who are persecuted because of their faith. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Reveal your will for your creation, mighty God. Renew waters, lands, and skies that are threatened by our carelessness. Teach us to honor and care for the works of your hands. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Move the hearts of all who participate in upcoming elections. Give courage, generosity, and vision to candidates and voters alike. Guide elected officials to answer the call of those who cry out for fair and just policies. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Soothe the pain of those who suffer (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, Avonel & Rick Waller, Sr., Jim Woltman, Bob & Andrea Cameron, Mary Ernest, John Miller, Randy Clark, Joan Fulkroad, Don Clark, Tom Lyter, Butch & Sandy Pines, Joyce Bradley, Minnie Minick, Ken Stuck, Paul Goss, Dr. Laurie Cox, Pat Forney, Bob Bell, Megan Hart, Austin Parker, Kay Varner, and Terry Coder. Comfort those who mourn through the ministry of nurses, those who provide hospice care, visitation ministers, chaplains, and caregivers. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Seek the lost, those who hunger and thirst with questions of faith, and those absent from our worship today. Make us ready to receive newcomers you send to our congregation. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P Lord of the Church, we give thanks to you for your death and resurrection, and that you are the Good Shepherd. Hear our prayer for our Call Committee and its work of

discernment, and hear our prayer for your sending to us a pastor who will be a strong partner with us in the joy and service of your Gospel for those within your Church and those beyond our walls in this community. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P We remember with thanksgiving the blessed saints whom you have received into your glory, especially (Layton Jury, Fay McCormick, Flo Beale, Eugene Rhine and Wayne Miller). Guide us with them to the springs of the water of life. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Receive these prayers and the hopes and concerns of our hearts, O God, as we entrust into your loving care all for whom we pray, through Jesus Christ our 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:

[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: "Love, Love, Love" "Whirl Theme Song" Junior Choir

* SUNG OFFERTORY ('vineyards') (sung) (all)

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 Creator God, you made everything, and you provide for every need. The bread we break and the wine we pour come from you. As we eat and drink with thanksgiving, fill us with your love; let that love flow through us to others; and join us to the saints before us in a holy and boundless communion; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

MEAL

* THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (sung responsively)

P The Lord be with you.

C And also 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:

(sung) 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 Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal: you we praise and glorify, you we worship and adore.

You formed the earth from chaos; you encircled the globe with air; you created fire for warmth and light; you nourish the lands with water. You molded us in your image, and with mercy higher than the mountains, with grace deeper than the seas, you blessed the Israelites and cherished them as your own.

That also we, estranged and dying, might be adopted to live in your Spirit, you called to us through the life and death of Jesus.

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.

Together as the body of Christ, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

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

P With this bread and cup we remember your Son, the first-born of your new creation. We remember his life lived for others, and his death and resurrection, which renews the face of the earth. We await his coming, when, with the world made perfect through your wisdom, all our sins and sorrows will be no more.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and compassionate, send upon us and this meal your Holy Spirit, whose breath revives us for life, whose fire rouses us to love. Enfold in your arms all who share this holy food. Nurture in us the fruits of the Spirit, that we may be a living tree, sharing your bounty with all the world.

C Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

P Holy and benevolent God, receive our praise and petitions, as Jesus received the cry of the needy, and fill us with your blessing, until, needy no longer and bound to you in love, we feast forever in the triumph of the Lamb: through whom all glory

and honor is yours, O God, O Living One, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, 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 Hunger no more. Thirst no more. Come to the banquet of life.

* **LAMB OF GOD (sung) (all)**

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

["AT CHANCEL RAIL" – come forward by the aisle on your right; take a communion cup from the table by the front pew. Stand around the chancel rail to partake and return by the aisle to the left of your seat].

* **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 everyone 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 Sovereign God, in this meal you give us a foretaste of the great feast to come. Keep us faithful to you, that we, with all your saints, may at length celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

* THE SENDING AND BLESSING OF COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

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

C Amen.

SENDING

* BLESSING

P The love of God surround you; the grace of + Christ release you; and the Holy Spirit be your guide and strength, now and forevermore.

C Amen, Amen, Amen. (sung)

* CLOSING HYMN "For All the Saints" (vss. 5-8) #174 Green Hymnal

* DISMISSAL

P Led on by the saints before us, go in peace to serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE:

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Next Week's Lector – Kate Swailes

Next Week's Altar Guild – Tawny Mummah

Next Week's Lay Worship Leader – The Rev. Craig Miller

Next Week's Acolytes – Haley Mummah & Maia 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 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. James Rill. We welcome him and pray God's blessing on him as he ministers to us this morning.

ALTAR FLOWERS are presented to the Glory of God and in honor of Braedon Walton's birthday by the Walton, Pines and Stoner families.

TODAY IS ALL SAINTS DAY and on this day we remember, with thanksgiving, all of the people of God, living and dead, who form the mystical body of Christ. All believers in Christ who have been made holy, (sanctified) by the blood of Christ, are saints. We especially honor those of the congregation who have gone on to the other side of eternal life since last All Saints Sunday. They are: Layton Jury, Fay McCormick, Flo Beale, Eugene Rhine and Wayne Miller. A white carnation has been placed on the cross in the front of the church in memory of each of these people. Family members may come forward after the service and take a carnation placed in memory of their loved one. "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord, yea, says the Spirit that they may rest from their labors."

JUST A THOUGHT – Thomas Watson, English Theologian (1515 – 1584): He called them that they might be holy, and holiness is the beauty produced by his workmanship in them.

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

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.

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.

THE NOVEMBER 2017 "MESSIAH HERALD" is now available online. Hard copies are available in the church office, Adult Sunday School Room, Kitchenette, and Fellowship Hall. If you want something placed in the Messiah Herald, please contact BOTH the church office (messiahlutheran@pa.net) and Bob St. Clair (stclairb@embarqmail.com) prior to the newsletter deadline, which is listed on the calendar in the newsletter, or online at www.mlcimiffintown.org. Also, if anyone would like to add or remove names from our email list, please let Bob know as well.

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

REQUEST from the Board of Worship & Music: In light of our congregation's recent acceptance of Messiah's Mission Statement (including "...making disciples of Christ through Fellowship..."), we invite more of the congregation to sit in the main sanctuary during the worship service. Unifying everyone into one space will help make us more welcoming to all members and visitors as well as creating a sense of community, sharing and togetherness. Worship Leaders will be able to better "connect" and "communicate" to all worshipers (and you to them) during the service. Other benefits include better sound while singing hymns, listening to the sermons/anthems/special music and an easier time of "Sharing the Peace." Also, give us your feedback regarding the removal of several rows of pews in the sanctuary and replacing them with soft chairs. Thanks for making this positive transition to your worship experience!

WEEKLY FINANCIAL REPORT:

October 29, 2017

Worship Service

Attendance – 50

Sunday School – 32

Total Offering \$2,490.00

Other Funds \$ 160.00

General Fund \$2,330.00

Other Funds

Benevolence – \$ 200.00

Building Fund – \$ 165.00

Sunday School – \$ 50.00

Other Building Use - \$ 61.00

Total \$ 160.00

NITTANY ENERGY (formerly Hilltop Oil) CHURCH PROGRAM – for every gallon of heating oil purchased by participating church members from September 1, 2017 – April 30, 2018, Nittany Energy will donate FOUR CENTS per gallon back to the church's heating oil account at the end of each month. One parishioner purchasing 800 gallons of oil during the heating season will save the church \$32.00 per year on their heating oil. **From November to May of last heating season Messiah's Nittany Energy church program saved the church \$207.53.** If you participated last year then you are already enrolled. Questions – ask any Property member.

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

COPIES OF JULY 5th AND JULY 29th 2017 PPC MINUTES are available in the Adult Sunday School Room.

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.

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.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS and save the dates for the following upcoming Christmas events:

December 3: First Sunday of Advent. A light lunch (prepared by the Fellowship Committee) will be held after the worship service. Decoration of the church will follow the lunch.

December 10: "Hanging of the Greens" program during the morning worship service.

December 17: The morning worship service will include the annual Children's Program.

December 24: 9:30 a.m., Sunday School
10:30 a.m., Worship Service
7:00 p.m., Music Prelude Service
7:30 p.m., Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

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.

THANK YOU to the youth of Messiah for bringing me the lovely fruit basket. Thanks also for the altar flowers that I receive from the church throughout the year. Everything is greatly appreciated.

Sara Ann Aurand

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.

CHRISTMAS ANGEL PROJECT – The sign-up chart for needed gifts is on the bulletin board in the Kitchenette. Gifts are due back at the church by Sunday, December 10th wrapped or bagged with a name tag with the child's first name and family number on the tag.

MESSIAH WOMEN OF THE ELCA will meet on Thursday, November 9th at 7:00 p.m. in the Youth Area with Ann Beaver providing the program.

COMMUNITY

A HYMN SING will be held at the Upper Tuscarora Presbyterian Church, 589 Brick Church Road, East Waterford, PA on Sunday, November 19, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. The "Strung-Out" Dulcimer Band of Juniata County will perform. There will be a FREE-WILL offering with proceeds given to the Juniata County Food Pantry. (See poster on bulletin board in Kitchenette).

A PORT ROYAL COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING TEA will be held in the Social Room of the Port Royal Lutheran Church at 10:00 a.m. on November 9, 2017. We will reflect on our many blessings and give thanks for them as well as enjoying a social time to start the Holiday Season. A Christmas Tea will also be held at the same place and time on December 14, 2017. This event will feature a Christmas Carol Sing-along with The Boyz, the popular men's local singing group. Please join us as we celebrate this special time of year—all are welcome!

JUNIATA COUNTY FOOD PANTRY NOVEMBER UPDATE

Our stockpile of Thanksgiving and Christmas foods is growing steadily, but we are far behind where we need to be to pack 350 or more Thanksgiving boxes for local families by our distribution date of November 18. We would be so grateful for your help. And speaking of November 18th, don't miss the 10th annual "Save Thanksgiving Benefit Concert" on that same day at 6:00 p.m. at the CJEMS building. Many local bands will be performing and admission is a donation of cash or food to benefit the Food Pantry!

HOLIDAY MEAL DONATIONS STILL NEEDED:

Turkeys (around 12 lbs.) or Turkey Beasts; Hams (3-5 lbs.); Stuffing; Canned Fruits; Instant Mashed Potatoes; Canned Sweet Potatoes; Cake Mix and Icing; or other Dessert Mix; **or a \$20 donation will purchase one complete meal!**

THE INTERNATIONAL GIFTS & BAKE SALE will be held at Cedar Grove Brethren In Christ Church at 287 Deerville Road, Mifflintown on Friday, November 17th from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturday, November 18th from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information, visit us on Facebook or at www.juniatainternationalgiftssale.com.

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

- Today:** -All Saints Sunday/Daylight Savings Time Ends.
-9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Catechetical Class.
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion. (Worship Leader: The Rev. James Rill).
- Monday:** -6:30 p.m., Knitting Class in the Jr. Church Room.
-8:00 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.
-7 p.m., Juniata County 4-H Beef & Breeders Club meeting in Youth Area.
- Thursday:** -7 p.m., WELCA meeting in Youth Area.
- Sunday:** -Thankoffering Sunday.
-9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Catechetical Class.
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Jr. Church (Worship Leader: The Rev. Craig Miller).