

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



*THE THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER
PENTECOST*

September 3rd, 2017
MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

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WEBSITE:

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Messiah Lutheran Church

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

The Rev. Chris Mathiason
Jim Bahorik
Bob St. Clair
Andrea Cameron
Diana Wise
Tawny Mummah
Nate Swailes & Tyler Rosenberry

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

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST September 3, 2017 – 9:15 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:

“Song of the Redeemed”

L. Smith

[A Time for Meditation and Prayer]

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTRODUCTION

The prophet Jeremiah speaks of the incurable wound of his suffering, yet finds in God's words the delight of his heart. When Peter doesn't grasp Jesus' words about suffering, Jesus tells the disciples they will find their lives in losing them. Such sacrificial love is described by Paul when he urges us to associate with the lowly and not repay evil with evil. In worship we gather as a community that we might offer ourselves for the sake of our suffering world.

* BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that, attentive to your Word, we may confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

P Gracious God,

C have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

P Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

C Amen.

*** SHARING OF GOD’S PEACE**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

Congregational sharing: **“Peace be with you.”**

GATHERING

*** ENTRANCE HYMN**

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

#165 Green Book

*** GREETING**

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 (sung)**

P Kyrie, eleison: **C Lord, have mercy.**

P Christe, eleison: **C Christ, have mercy.**

P Kyrie, eleison: **C Lord, have mercy.**

*** HYMN OF PRAISE (sung)**

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;

glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God’s people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;

glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God’s people on earth.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;

you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;

glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God’s people on earth.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the

Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.

Amen.

**Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;
glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God's people on earth, and peace
to God's people on earth.**

*** SALUTATION AND RESPONSE (spoken)**

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, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

WORD

Jeremiah's delight in the word of the Lord is contradicted by the heaviness of God's hand upon him and God's seeming unfaithfulness. God's tough love to Jeremiah says that if he repents, he will be allowed to continue in his strenuous ministry. Jeremiah is strengthened by the simple words: "I am with you."

FIRST READING

A reading from Jeremiah 15:15-21

THE LESSON READS:

¹⁵O LORD, you know; remember me and visit me, and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors. In your forbearance do not take me away; know that on your account I suffer insult.

¹⁶Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart; for I am called by your name, O LORD, God of hosts. ¹⁷I did not sit in the company of merry-makers, nor did I rejoice; under the weight of your hand I sat alone, for you had filled me with indignation. ¹⁸Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed? Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail. ¹⁹Therefore thus says the LORD: If you turn back, I will take you back, and you shall stand before me. If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless, you shall serve as my mouth. It is they who will turn to you, not you who will turn to them. ²⁰And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you, for I am with you to save you and deliver you, says the LORD. ²¹I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked, and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

Lector: The word of the Lord.

Congregation: **Thanks be to God.** (spoken)

PSALM: Psalm 26:1-8 (**responsively**)

L – Your love is before my eyes; I have walked faithfully with you. (Ps. 26:3)

¹Give judgment for me, O LORD, for I have lived with integrity; I have trusted in the LORD and have not faltered.

²**Test me, O LORD, and try me; examine my heart and my mind.**

³For your steadfast love is before my eyes; I have walked faithfully with you.

⁴**I have not sat with the worthless, nor do I consort with the deceitful.**

⁵I have hated the company of evildoers; I will not sit down with the wicked.

⁶**I will wash my hands in innocence, O LORD, that I may go in procession round your altar,**

⁷singing aloud a song of thanksgiving and recounting all your wonderful deeds.

⁸**LORD, I love the house in which you dwell and the place where your glory abides.**

All – Your love is before my eyes; I have walked faithfully with you.

Paul presents benchmarks for faithful relationships with Christians and non-Christians. Love is the unflagging standard of our behavior. When we encounter evil, we do not resort to its tactics but seek to overcome it with good. While Christians cannot control the actions and attitudes of others, we seek to live at peace with all people.

SECOND READING

A reading from Romans 12:9-21

THE LESSON READS:

⁹Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹²Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. ¹³Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. ¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." ²¹Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Lector: The word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God. (spoken)

* GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (**sung**)

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? Alleluia. You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia. Alleluia.

After Peter confesses that Jesus is "the Messiah, the Son of the living God" (16:16), Jesus reveals the ultimate purpose of his ministry. These words prove hard to accept, even for a disciple whom Jesus has called a "rock."

* GOSPEL: Matthew 16:21-28

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 16th chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord. (spoken)

THE GOSPEL READS:

²¹From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. ²²And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." ²³But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." ²⁴Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life? ²⁷For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. ²⁸Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ. (spoken)

SERMON

Jim Baborik

* HYMN OF THE DAY "Holy Spirit, Truth Divine"

#257 Green Book

* APOSTLES' CREED ('new version') **(all)**

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

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

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

OFFERING

OFFERTORY:

"In This Holy Hour"

H. S. Livingston, Jr.

[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].

* **SUNG 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, Lord, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

* **OFFERING PRAYER**

P Let us pray. Merciful God,

C we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

* **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

P Open to the gifts of the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

P We pray for the church and its mission. Make your church ready to lose its life for your sake. Unite it in service, sustain it in suffering, and let its love for others be genuine. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P We pray for the earth and its well-being. Make us mindful of the gifts you have labored to give us, and inspire us to commit ourselves to their care. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P We pray for the nations and their leaders. Overcome evil with good. Show us how to live peaceably with all. Teach us how to love our enemies. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P We pray for those in any need. Provide for the hungry. Rescue the persecuted. Bless those who advocate for fair and safe working conditions and for just and livable wages. Bring comfort and healing to all who are ill (especially all of our shut-ins: Reba Sigler, Kitty Walters, Jean McNaught, 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, Michal Gayer, Letha Swab, Mary Ernest, John Miller, Randy Clark, Joyce Doyle, Joan Fulkroad, Don Clark, Seth Arentz, Tom Lyter, Charlie Stouffer, Margaret Lowery, Butch & Sandy Pines, Janet Fultz, Jeff Sanders, Tammy Metz, Joyce Bradley, Pat Fisher, Barbara P. Geedey, Audrey Peters, Jacob Jones, Minnie Minick, Chad Hershberger, Ken Stuck, Paul Goss, Dr. Laurie Cox, Pat Forney, and the Hurricane Harvey victims in Texas.

Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P We pray for this community and its ministry. Move us to persevere in prayer, to extend hospitality to strangers, to rejoice with those who rejoice, and to weep with those who weep. 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 Alpha and Omega, we give thanks for all the saints who now rest from their labors (especially Wayne Miller). Keep us in union with them until we are joined around your throne. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting the power of Christ and the gifts of the Spirit.

C Amen.

* THE LORD'S PRAYER ['new version'] (all)

P Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave us:

C Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the Kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

* BLESSING

P Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C Amen, Amen, Amen (sung)

* CLOSING HYMN

"Where Charity and Love Prevail"

#126 Green Book

MEAL

* COMMUNION DIALOGUE (from Isaiah 55)

P Let us give thanks to the Lord.

C for through these gifts he comes to feed us.

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

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

P Let us come to his table with joy,

C for we come as God's invited guests!

*** EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

P Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

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

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. Pour out your Holy Spirit, that by this Holy Communion we may know the unity we share with all your people in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

C Amen.

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

COMMUNION:

“Breathe On Me, Breath of God”

J. Boeringer

DISTRIBUTION

[“INTINCTION” – dip your wafer in the wine. Come forward by the center aisle and return by the side aisle. All who wish to stand at the chancel rail after partaking for a time of silent meditation are invited to do so].

*** COMMUNION BLESSING**

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen.

*** PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

P Let us pray,
Almighty God, you provide the true bread from heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that we who have received the Sacrament of his body and blood may abide in him and he in us, that we may be filled with the power of his endless life, now and forever.

C Amen.

*** DISMISSAL**

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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NEXT WEEK'S LECTOR – Barb S. Geedey

NEXT WEEK'S ALTAR GUILD – Barb S. Geedey

NEXT WEEK'S LAY WORSHIP LEADER – Deborah Hackenberger

NEXT WEEK'S ACOLYTES – Haley Mummah & Hannah Ehrisman

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 green 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.

ALTAR FLOWERS are presented to the Glory of God and in memory of Denise Hower by family.

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

JUST A THOUGHT – Johannes von Muller, Swiss Historian (1752 – 1809): Good has one enemy, the evil; but the evil has two enemies, the good and itself.

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

“A STUDY OF LUTHER’S SMALL CATECHISM FOR ADULTS” is being offered in a Bible study format with Sam Leister as the discussion leader. Anyone interested in participating in this study group, please contact the church office. Dates and times will be determined by the group.

ELCA YOUTH GATHERING – Any young people who might be interested in attending the ELCA youth gathering June 27 to July 1, 2018 in Houston Texas, please contact the church office. We will plan a meeting if there is any interest.

WORK CAMP – Any young people who might be interested in attending a work camp July 22 to July 28, 2018 in Elizabeth City, North Carolina, please contact the church office. We will plan a meeting if there is any interest.

SUMMER WORSHIP SERVICES – A reminder that the summer worship services will continue through Sunday, September 3rd, with worship beginning at 9:15 a.m. Regular worship service, with service time at 10:30 a.m. will return on September 10th.

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

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

WEEKLY FINANCIAL REPORT:

August 27, 2017 Worship Service

Attendance – 52
Total Offering - \$2790.50
Other Funds 575.00
General Fund \$2215.50

Sunday School

Attendance N/A

Other Funds

Benevolence - \$185.00
Building Fund - 305.00
Flower Fund - 50.00
Memorial Fund - 35.00
Total \$575.00

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.

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 for the bouquet of flowers that I received from church members. They were very lovely and very much appreciated. Thank you for thinking of me.

Dorothy Towsey

THANK YOU: “Dear Funeral Lunch Committee.....thank you for providing and serving the lunch after Wayne’s funeral. The church was a very big part of his life and we appreciate being able to gather here and share a meal and memories. It is a comforting ministry that you offer.”

Sincerely,
The Wayne Miller Family

THANK YOU to members and friends of Messiah for all of your thoughts, prayers, cards and kindness extended to us in the loss of our loved one, Wayne Miller. Everything was very much appreciated.

Family of Wayne Miller

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.

MESSIAH WOMEN OF THE ELCA will meet on Thursday, September 14th at 7:00 p.m. in the Youth Area. We will be putting together the school kits as well as the Seafarers bags. Anyone who would like to help is welcome to attend.

BLANKET SUNDAY – In October, the blankets/quilts and kits will be taken to Buffalo Valley Commons parking lot across from the Synod office. Blanket Sunday will be October 1 with the drop off date of October 14.

RETREAT AT CAMP MT. LUTHER – On Saturday, October 7th WELCA is sponsoring a Retreat at Camp Mt. Luther. Copies of the Retreat information as well as the registration form are located on the round table next to the piano in the Adult Sunday School Room. The Retreat begins at 9:45 a.m. and ends at 3:00 p.m. Cost is \$22.00 which includes coffee/tea, snacks, lunch, and the program. We would love to have a good group from our church attend this event. The Retreat is replacing the cluster meetings which are always held in September. Churches are asked to bring items to the Retreat that are needed by the camp for next year. Our group picked out several items to collect and take to the Retreat. These items are: sidewalk chalk, construction paper, markers/dry erase markers, white/colored copy paper, and embroidery floss. All women in the congregation are welcome to attend the Retreat. Deadline for registration is September 26. Anyone who would like to donate any of the needed items for camp may put them in the box that is labeled Camp Mt. Luther on one of the tables in the Adult Sunday School Room.

ITEMS FOR THE SEAFARERS BAGS will be collected through September. 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

WELCA IS GATHERING ITEMS for School Kits. Items needed for each kit are: four 70 sheet notebooks (wide or college-ruled 8 x 10½ inches), one 30 centimeter/inches ruler, one pencil sharpener, one pair of blunt scissors, five unsharpened #2 pencils, five black or blue ballpoint pens, one box of 16-24 crayons, and one 2½ inch eraser. Items may be placed on the round table in the Adult Sunday School Room.

COMMUNITY

THE 2017 FAIR VESPER SERVICE will be held this evening at 4:30 p.m. (rain or shine). The event will be held under a large tent located on the upper Juniata County Fairgrounds (in the general area of the George Settlemyer Livestock Building and along the Fairground roadway that is adjacent to 8th Street and leads toward the free stage area). Pastor Nancy McClure will provide the message and the theme will be *GREATER THINGS ARE YET TO COME*. Special music will be provided by THE BOYZ. Please bring your own lawn chair and arrive at 4:00 p.m. to secure a parking space and seating position. A free-will offering will be collected to help local charities. **After initially paying the admission fee to enter the Fairgrounds, those attending the worship service will simply exchange their Fairground admission ticket for cash reimbursement.**

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

- Today:** -9:15 a.m., Worship/Communion (Lay Worship Leader: Jim Bahorik).
-4:30 p.m., Juniata County Fair Vesper Service.
- Monday:** -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.
- Thursday:** -1 p.m., Dulcimer rehearsal.
- Sunday:** -9:15 a.m., Sunday School.
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Junior Church (Lay Worship Leader: Deborah Hackenberger).