

# *“Growing God’s Kingdom”*



## ***BAPTISM OF OUR LORD*** ***FIRST SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY***

January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018

### **MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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

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# Messiah Lutheran Church

3 South Third Street  
Mifflintown, PA 17059  
Church Office / 717-436-6213

The Rev. Chris Mathiason  
Stephen Rodgers  
June Bricker  
Andrea Cameron  
Linda Clark  
Cynthia Smith  
Kay Varner  
Hannah Ehrisman & Julia Martin  
Don & Barb Geedey

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

## BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

January 7, 2018 – 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: Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring” J. S. Bach

[A Time for Meditation and Prayer]

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTRODUCTION

Our re-creation in baptism is an image of the Genesis creation, where the Spirit/wind moved over the waters. Both Mark's gospel and the story in Acts make clear that it is the Spirit's movement that distinguishes Jesus' baptism from John's. The Spirit has come upon us as upon Jesus and the Ephesians, calling us God's beloved children and setting us on Jesus' mission to re-create the world in the image of God's vision of justice and peace.

CHILDREN’S SERMON

Stephen Rodgers

### \* CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who stretches out the heavens, who sends light to the nations, who gives breath to us all.

**C Amen.**

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

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P Loving God,

**C we confess that we have turned from your way to follow our own ways. Forgive us for the times we have spoken or acted too quickly; we have not spoken or acted at all; we have hurt those closest to us; we have hurt those we have yet to know; we have thought more about ourselves than others; we have thought less of ourselves than we ought. Turn us around, and give us a fresh start, so that we can live again as your children. Amen.**

P Even when we have done wrong, God makes us right. Even when we have messed up, God puts us together. God's love never runs out. God never tires of calling us beloved children. Hear God say to you now: Your sins are forgiven, for the sake of + Jesus Christ our Savior.

**C Amen**

## GATHERING

\* ENTRANCE HYMN “Hail to the Lord’s Anointed” #87 Green Hymnal

\* GREETING

P The boundless grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the wisdom of God, and the light of the Holy Spirit 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 (sung) (to the tune of “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”)

1 Glory be to God in heaven; peace, good will to all the earth.

Mighty God of all creation, Father of surpassing worth:

we exalt you, we adore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.

Saints and angels bow before you; here on earth our songs we raise.

2 Glory be to Christ forever, Lamb of God and Lord of love.

Son of God and gracious Savior, you have come from heav’n above;

on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God’s right hand.

Hear our prayer; restore, forgive us; in your promise firm we stand.

3 Holy One we now acclaim you; Lord alone, to you we call;  
Holy One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:  
Jesus Christ, with God the Spirit, in the Father's splendor bright.  
For the peace that we inherit, glory be to God on high!

\* 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 **Holy God, creator of light and giver of goodness, your voice moves over the waters. Immerse us in your grace, and transform us by your Spirit, that we may follow after your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen**

## WORD

Out of chaos, God brings order. Out of the primeval darkness, God brings light. This familiar story was good news for the Israelites, who experienced much chaos in their history. It remains good news for any person living in the chaos and darkness of despair. God created and continues to create new life.

FIRST READING: Genesis 1:1-5

The First Lesson is from the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter of Genesis.

### THE LESSON READS:

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, <sup>2</sup>the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. <sup>3</sup>Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. <sup>4</sup>And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup>God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

Lector: Here ends the reading.

Cong: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 29 (intoned by Choir)

<sup>1</sup>Ascribe to the | LORD, you gods, ascribe to the LORD glo | ry and strength.

<sup>2</sup>**Ascribe to the LORD the glory | due God's name; worship the LORD in the beau | ty of holiness.**

<sup>3</sup>The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of | glory thunders; the LORD is upon the | mighty waters.

<sup>4</sup>**The voice of the LORD is a pow | erful voice; the voice of the LORD is a | voice of splendor.**

<sup>5</sup>The voice of the LORD breaks the | cedar trees; the LORD breaks the ce | dars of Lebanon;

**<sup>6</sup>the LORD makes Lebanon skip | like a calf, and Mount Hermon like a | young wild ox.**

**<sup>7</sup>The voice | of the LORD bursts forth in | lightning flashes.**

**<sup>8</sup>The voice of the LORD | shakes the wilderness; the LORD shakes the wilder | ness of Kadesh.**

**<sup>9</sup>The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe and strips the | forests bare. And in the temple of the LORD all are | crying, "Glory!"**

**<sup>10</sup>The LORD sits enthroned a | bove the flood; the LORD sits enthroned as king for | evermore.**

**<sup>11</sup>O LORD, give strength | to your people; give them, O LORD, the bless | ings of peace.**

In Ephesus, Paul encounters people who had received John's baptism of repentance but had never heard of the Holy Spirit or of baptism in the name of Jesus. After Paul baptized them, the Holy Spirit came upon them and empowered them with gifts of the Spirit.

SECOND READING: Acts 19:1-7

The Second Lesson is from the 19<sup>th</sup> chapter of Acts.

THE LESSON READS:

<sup>1</sup>While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. <sup>2</sup>He said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?" They replied, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." <sup>3</sup>Then he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They answered, "Into John's baptism." <sup>4</sup>Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus." <sup>5</sup>On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. <sup>6</sup>When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied—<sup>7</sup>altogether there were about twelve of them.

Lector: Here ends the reading.

**Cong: Thanks be to God.**

\* THE VERSE (sung)

**Alleluia! Lord and Savior: open now your saving word.**

**Let it burn like fire within us; speak until our hearts are stirred.**

**Alleluia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.**

Mark's gospel reports the story of Jesus' baptism with some irony: the one on whom the Spirit descends is himself the one who will baptize others with the Holy Spirit.

\* GOSPEL: Mark 1:4-11

P The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter.

**C Glory to you, O Lord. (sung)**

THE GOSPEL READS:

<sup>4</sup>John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup>And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. <sup>6</sup>Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt round his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup>He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. <sup>8</sup>I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." <sup>9</sup>In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. <sup>10</sup>And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. <sup>11</sup>And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ. (sung)

SERMON

Stephen Rodgers

\* HYMN OF THE DAY

"How Great Thou Art"

#532 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 Confident that God our light and our salvation hears us when we pray, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

A brief silence.

P For the church and the ministry of the baptized, that your Holy Spirit will teach all people to forgive sins, ending violence and ushering in peace throughout the world, let us pray.

**C Have mercy, O God.**

P For the earth and all living things, for favorable weather, for plants and animals, that you will cause all creation to thrive in the care of good stewards, let us pray.

**C Have mercy, O God.**

P For the leaders of national and local governments, agencies, and organizations, for areas of the world suffering from war, that you will bless all people with plenty, let us pray.

**C Have mercy, O God.**

P For the sick and suffering, the imprisoned and hungry, the lonely and grieving, (especially for all of our shut-ins: Reba Sigler, Kitty Walters, Jane Marhefka, Ruth Cisney, Ray Bramm, Dottie Smith, Dorothy Cleck, Carol Simonton, Lura Aughey, Mona Lawson, Sara Ann Aurand, Betty Karstetter, Jim Yetter, and Don Lewis). 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, Dr. Laurie Cox, Pat Forney, Bob Bell, Megan Hart, Austin Parker, Terry Coder, John Towsey, Barbara Wengerd, Audrey Peters, Rich Walters, Jim Gilson, Jane Cleck, Cynthia Taylor, Glenn Compton, Sieber Stoner, Mary Sanders, Ann Baney, and Leon Kramer), that Christ our great physician will soothe and console all in need, let us pray.

**C Have mercy, O God.**

P For our local community, (for those baptized this day), and for this congregation, that in our joys and sorrows we remember that we are God's beloved children, let us pray.

**C Have mercy, O God.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P In thanksgiving for our ancestors in the faith, both distant and near, who have taught us to believe the good news of Christ, let us pray.

**C Have mercy, O God.**

P Merciful God, you hear our prayers even before we speak them. Receive them for the sake of the one through whom you have revealed your goodness, Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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:

God Himself Is With Us

Rob Roy Peery



You entered our sorrows in Jesus our brother. He was born among the poor, he lived under oppression, he wept over the city. With infinite love, he granted the people your life.

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

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

Remembering his death, we cry out Amen. [**Amen.**] Celebrating his resurrection, we shout Amen. [**Amen.**] Trusting his presence in every time and place, we plead Amen. [**Amen.**]

O God, you are Breath: send your Spirit on this meal. O God, you are Bread: feed us with yourself. O God, you are Wine: warm our hearts and make us one. O God, you are Fire: transform us with hope.

O God most majestic, O God most motherly, O God our strength and our song, you show us a vision of a tree of life with fruits for all and leaves that heal the nations. Grant us such life, the life of the Father to the Son, the life of the Spirit of our risen Savior, life in you, 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 We who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread. Come. Be filled with light and life.**

\* **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**

[“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)**

**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** O Morning Star, fair and bright, you have refreshed us again with heavenly food. You are our dearest treasure. Go with us now—today, tomorrow, every day—that we tell the story of your never-ending love and sing your praise both now and forever.

**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 God of glory dwell in you richly, name you beloved, and shine brightly on your path; and the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.

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

\* CLOSING HYMN “Songs of Thankfulness and Praise” #90 Green Hymnal

\* DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Be the light of Christ. C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE:

Glory Be to God

J. S. Bach

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**Next Week’s Lector** – Kate Swailes

**Next Week’s Altar Guild** – Kay Varner

**Next Week’s Lay Worship Leader** – Sam Leister

**Next Week’s Acolytes** – Jade Britcher & Zeb Berry

**Next Week’s Greeter** – Cynthia Smith

### **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.

PLEASE KEEP Dorothy Smith and family in your prayers following the recent passing of her sister, Sara “Sally” Dickson of Elizabethtown.

THIS MORNING WE ARE LED IN WORSHIP by Stephen Rodgers 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 – Paul W. Harrison, Christian Thinker: Wherever God rules over the human heart as King, there is the Kingdom of God established.

### **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](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.

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](mailto:messiahlutheran@pa.net) for any changes or requests.

**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 worshippers (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!**

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

THE JANUARY 2018 “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](mailto:messiahlutheran@pa.net)) and Bob St. Clair ([stclairb@embarqmail.com](mailto:stclairb@embarqmail.com)) prior to the newsletter deadline, which is listed on the calendar in the newsletter, or online at [www.mlcimiffintown.org](http://www.mlcimiffintown.org). Also, if anyone would like to add or remove names from our email list, please let Bob know as well.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED to help undecorate the church on Saturday, January 13, 2018 at 9:30 a.m. Anyone who could help, it would be very much appreciated.

HOME COMMUNION NEEDS HELP – The Compassionate Services Committee is again looking for at least two people who would like to give communion to our shut-ins. A rotating schedule of our shut-ins will be used on a quarterly basis. Training is available. Complete Home Communion kits are also available, including all liturgy needed. If interested in this important ministry, contact Don Geedey at 717-436-6433 or [geedey@centurylink.net](mailto:geedey@centurylink.net).

A FIRST COMMUNION CLASS will be held for any youth who are interested. Parents may contact the church office at 717-436-6213 or Sam Leister at 717-436-8589. A date and time will be set based on those who wish to attend.

A BAPTISMAL/NEW MEMBER CLASS will be held for those who are interested. If you wish to have your child baptized, or be baptized yourself, or you wish to attend the New Member Class, please contact the church office or Sam Leister.

SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY – Our youth will be holding soup pots at the rear of the church on Super Bowl Sunday, February 4, 2018. They will join young people in churches across the nation, sharing God’s love with those who need our compassion and care. Please support the youth of our church in this effort to “help our neighbors” by dropping a dollar in the soup pot and also by donating a can of soup on February 4<sup>th</sup>. Proceeds will go to the Juniata County Food Pantry.

THE 2018 CHURCH OFFERING ENVELOPES are now available to pick up in the Library. Anyone who would like a statement of their contributions for 2017 for tax purposes may call the church office and your statement will be mailed to you.

THE NEW FLOWER CHART for 2018 is now in the Adult Sunday School Room. If you wish to place flowers on a specific date, please sign-up on the chart.

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

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 FOR DECEMBER 31, 2017

<u>Attendance</u>		<u>Other Funds</u>	
Worship Service –	58	Benevolence –	\$ 675.00
Sunday School –	12	Building Fund –	\$ 205.00
		Sunday School –	\$ 10.00
Total Offering	\$4,396.00	Flowers -	\$ 8.00
Other Funds	<u>\$1,588.00</u>	Memorial Fund -	\$ 140.00
General Fund	\$2,808.00	World Hunger -	\$ 50.00
		Matthew 25 Fund	<u>\$ 500.00</u>
		Total	\$ 1,588.00

COPIES OF OCTOBER 22, 2017 PPC MINUTES are available in the Adult Sunday School Room.

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.

CAN TREE – Donations of gallon-size canned food is again being collected this year to benefit Bethesda Mission. Everyone is encouraged to donate as many cans as you are able.

SYNOD ASSEMBLY DELEGATES NEEDED – Two members of Messiah are needed to attend the annual Synod Assembly in June 2018 at Susquehanna University, Selinsgrove. Synod delegates should also plan on attending the Juniata Valley Conference Assembly the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of May. If you are interested in serving, please contact Sam Leister or the church office.

HELP AVAILABLE – If you or someone you know needs help with home repairs or yard work, there are volunteers in our community who may be able to help. For more information, contact Michael “Doc” Johnston at 436-9209.

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.

MESSIAH WOMEN OF THE ELCA will meet on Thursday, January 11, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the Youth Area. Ann Beaver will present the program. All women are invited to attend.

### **COMMUNITY**

#### **JUNIATA COUNTY FOOD PANTRY BASIC NEEDS FOR JANUARY:**

ALL NON-PERISHABLE FOODS; TISSUES; TOILET PAPER; OTC PAIN; COLD AND FLU MEDICINES, COUGH DROPS, VICKS. WE ALSO GLADLY ACCEPT DONATIONS OF CASH AND GIFT CARDS TO PURCHASE THESE SUPPLIES

\* \* \* \* \*

### **THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH**

- Today:** - BAPTISM OF OUR LORD.  
-9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Catechetical Class.  
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Jr. Church (Lay Worship Leader: Stephen Rodgers).
- Monday:** -6:30 p.m., Knitting Class in Jr. Church Room.  
-8:00 p.m., AA meeting in Fellowship Hall.
- Tuesday:** -9:00 a.m., “The Needlers” in Fellowship Hall.
- Wednesday:** -7:00 p.m., Choir Rehearsal in Rearick Room.  
-6:30 p.m., Juniata County 4-H Beef & Breeders Club in Youth Area.
- Thursday:** -7:00 p.m., WELCA Meeting in Fellowship Hall.
- Saturday:** -9:30 a.m., Undecorating the church (volunteers needed).
- Sunday:** -9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Catechetical Class.  
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion (Lay Worship Leader: Sam Leister).