# "Growing God's Kingdom"



FIRST SUNDAY

OF LENT

## February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2018 **MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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

## **EMAIL:**

messiahlutheran@pa.net

## **WEBSITE:**

www.mlcmifflintown.org

## Messiah Lutheran Church

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

The Rev. Chris Mathiason Andrea Cameron Andrea Cameron Bob St. Clair Diana Wise Diana Wise Julia Martin & Harrison Mummah Interim Pastor
Worship Leader
Choir Director
Organist
Lector
Altar Guild
Acolytes
Greeters

## FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

February 18, 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:

[A Time for Meditation and Prayer]

**GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** 

INTRODUCTION

On Ash Wednesday the church began its journey toward baptismal immersion in the death and resurrection of Christ. This year, the Sundays in Lent lead us to focus on five covenants God makes in the Hebrew Scriptures and to use them as lenses through which to view baptism. First Peter connects the way God saved Noah's family in the flood with the way God saves us through the water of baptism. The baptismal covenant is made with us individually, but the new life we are given in baptism is for the sake of the whole world.

#### \* CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

- P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- P God of heaven and earth, you come in close and make us yours. Equip us by your Spirit to confess our sin, embrace your forgiveness, and seek the way you set before us in your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C Amen.

P During the season of Lent we are called to return to the Lord with all our heart. Let us confess our sin and seek reconciliation with God and neighbor.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

- P Merciful God,
- C you sent Jesus Christ to save the lost. We confess that we have strayed from you and turned aside from your way. We fail in love, neglect justice, and ignore your truth. Have mercy on us and wash away our sin. Create in us clean hearts for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.
- P Behold, now is the acceptable time; now is the day of salvation. Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins, and bring us to everlasting 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 "Savior, When in Dust to You" Green Hymnal #91
- \* GREETING
  - P The grace of Jesus Christ our Savior, the reconciling love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
  - C And also with you.
- \* KYRIE (C 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.
- \* PRAYER OF THE DAY (spoken in unison)
  - P Let us pray...
  - C Holy God, heavenly Father, in the waters of the flood you saved the chosen, and in the wilderness of temptation you protected your Son from sin. Renew us in

the gift of baptism. May your holy angels be with us, that the wicked foe may have no power over us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

#### WORD

Today's reading is the conclusion to the flood story. Because of human sin, the Lord destroys the earth by flood, saving only Noah, his family, and the animals on the ark. Yet divine destruction gives way to divine commitment. As in the first creation, God blesses humanity and establishes a covenant with all creatures.

FIRST READING: Genesis 9:8-17

The First Reading is from the 9<sup>th</sup> chapter of Genesis.

#### THE LESSON READS:

<sup>8</sup>Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, "<sup>9</sup>As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, <sup>10</sup>and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. <sup>11</sup>I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth." <sup>12</sup>God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: <sup>13</sup>I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. <sup>14</sup>When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, <sup>15</sup>I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. <sup>16</sup>When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth." <sup>17</sup>God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth."

Lector: Here ends the reading. Cong: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 25:1-10 (responsively)

L – Your paths, O LORD, are steadfast love and faithfulness. (Ps. 25:10)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph over me.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>Let none who look to you be put to shame; rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>Show me your ways, O LORD, and teach me your paths.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup>Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions; remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.

<sup>8</sup>You are gracious and upright, O LORD; therefore you teach sinners in your way.

## ALL - Your paths, O LORD, are steadfast love and faithfulness.

As God acted through Christ's suffering and death to bring us to God, so God acts through baptism to save us from a sinful existence. This spiritual cleansing marks our new life in Christ.

#### SECOND READING: 1 Peter 3:18-22

The Second Reading is from the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter of 1<sup>st</sup> Peter.

#### THE LESSON READS:

<sup>18</sup>For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, <sup>19</sup>in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, <sup>20</sup>who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. <sup>21</sup>And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, <sup>22</sup>who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Lector: Here ends the reading. Cong: Thanks be to God.

## \* LENTEN VERSE (sung)

Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

The Spirit that comes upon Jesus at his baptism sustains him when he is tested by Satan so that he might proclaim the good news of God's reign.

\* GOSPEL: Mark 1:9-15

P The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 1st chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord. (sung)

#### THE GOSPEL READS:

<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."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup>You lead the lowly in justice and teach the lowly your way.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup>All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast love and faithfulness to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies.

<sup>12</sup>And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. <sup>13</sup>He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

<sup>14</sup>Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, <sup>15</sup>and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near, repent, and believe in the good news."

- P The Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to you, O Christ. (sung)

SERMON Andrea Cameron

- \* HYMN OF THE DAY "O Lord, throughout these Forty Days" Green Hymnal #99
- \* APOSTLES' CREED (all)

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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.

#### \* PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P Renewed in the promises of baptism, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

P We pray for the church. For all who preach, teach, and inspire your people to lives of service. Renew your church in ministry, mission, and compassion. Unite us in faith, and uphold us in the promises of baptism. Lord, in your mercy,

## C hear our prayer.

P We pray for the world. For the well-being of both our own surroundings and of distant places. For favorable weather and sustaining rains. For creatures awakening from hibernation or beginning seasonal migrations. Provide safe habitats and abundant food for all. Lord, in your mercy,

## C hear our prayer.

P We pray for the nations. For all who govern or hold positions of authority. For those who work to make their communities safe from violence. Protect all who place themselves in danger to save others from harm. Lord, in your mercy,

## C hear our prayer.

P We pray for those in need. For those moving to new communities. For individuals who are incarcerated or recently released from prison. For those who are abused or neglected, for the lonely, and for those who are ill. (We pray especially for all of our

shut-ins: 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, Bob Bell, Megan Hart, Austin Parker, Terry Coder, John Towsey, Barbara Wengerd, Audrey Peters, Rich Walters, Jim Gilson, Jane Cleck, Glenn Compton, Sieber Stoner, Mary Sanders, Jane Ann Baney, Leon Kramer, Eddi Kay Gill, and Paul Goss. Lord, in your mercy,

## C hear our prayer.

We pray for this assembly. For musicians, artists, and poets who help us envision your love through word, image, and song. For those who have faced exclusion or felt forgotten. For all who reach out in love and welcome. Lord, in your mercy,

## C hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P With thanksgiving, we remember those who have died (*especially Martin Luther*). As they receive the fulfillment of your promises made to them in baptism, sustain us in the hope of resurrection life with you. Lord, in your mercy,

## C hear our prayer.

P Trusting in your covenant of mercy, O God, we lift our prayers to you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

#### C Amen.

#### **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:

## \* SUNG OFFERTORY (sung)

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.

#### \* OFFERING PRAYER

- P Merciful God, receive the sacrifice of our praise and thanksgiving and the offering of our lives, that following in the way of the cross, we may know the joy of the resurrection; through Christ our Lord.
- C Amen.

#### **MEAL**

- \* THE GREAT THANKSGIVING
  - P With his Body and Blood, Jesus Christ delivers us from the power of darkness.
  - C and leads us into the Kingdom of God.
  - P Christ has humbled himself and become obedient unto death,
  - C even to death on a cross.
  - P He was wounded for our transgressions and bruised for our iniquities,
  - C and on him was the chastisement that made us whole.
  - P Here at his holy table he feeds us now with his Body and Blood.
  - C Glory to you, our Lord and Savior; with your Body and Blood you redeem the World.

#### \* EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

- P Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God. The universe declares your praise: beyond the stars; beneath the sea; within each cell; with every breath.
- C We praise you, O God.
- P Generations bless your faithfulness: through the water; by night and day; across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future.
- C We bless you, O God.
- P We give you thanks for your dear Son: at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer; beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now.
- C We thank you, O God.
- P 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 love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith.
- C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.
- P We pray for the gift of your Spirit: in our gathering; within this meal; among your people; throughout the world. Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end.
- C 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 Return to God with all your heart. Receive bread for the journey, drink for the desert.

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

#### DISTRIBUTION

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

#### \* COMMUNION BLESSING

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

#### \* PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- P Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice, our alms, a making of peace, and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts; through Christ our Lord.
- C Amen.

#### **SENDING**

- \* BLESSING
  - P May God who has called us forth from the dust of the earth, and claimed us as children of the light, strengthen you on your journey into life renewed. The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you + peace.
  - C A-men, A-men, A-men. (sung)
- \* DISMISSAL
  - P Marked with the cross of Christ, go forth to love and serve the Lord.
  - C Thanks be to God.

#### CLOSING CHIMES

Reprinted from Words for Worship, copyright 2017 Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission. Scripture quotations (except psalms) from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989 Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

NEXT WEEK'S WORSHIP LEADER – Deborah Hackenberger NEXT WEEK'S LECTOR – Barbara S. Geedey NEXT WEEK'S ALTAR GUILD – Kay Varner NEXT WEEK'S GREETERS –

#### **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 worshiping 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) worshiping 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 Andrea Cameron, 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 – Henry Law, Christian Thinker: In Christ Jesus heaven meets earth and earth ascends to heaven.

#### **CONGREGATIONAL NEWS**

PRAYER REQUESTS will be placed in the Sunday bulletin for <u>one month</u>. If you wish to have someone included in the prayer list for an additional month, please contact the church office at 436-6213 or <u>messiahlutheran@pa.net</u>. 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 <a href="mailto:messiahlutheran@pa.net">messiahlutheran@pa.net</a> 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 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." Thanks for making this positive transition to your worship experience!

FAMILY NIGHT WITH THE HERSHEY BEARS – The Hershey Bears are hosting Faith and Family Night on March 25th at 5:00 p.m. against the Hartford Wolf Pack. We will be purchasing a group of 200 level seats. The cost is as follows: Adults - \$15.00, Youth - \$5.00, Snack Voucher - \$5.25 (choice of soft pretzel or box of popcorn with a drink), Meal Voucher - \$10.00 (choice of hamburger, hot dog, sausage, pizza, sub, salad, and a 32 oz. Souvenir Cup of soda). Popcorn or soft pretzel is included with some options. We will need your payment prior to sending in the ticket order for our group, and we will most likely send in the order by mid-February. Please specify the number of adults and youth attending as well as any snack or meal vouchers which you would like to purchase.

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

THE 2018 CAMPING BROCHURES and registration forms for Camp Mt. Luther are available on the table in the Adult Sunday School Room. You may register online at <a href="https://www.campmountluther.org">www.campmountluther.org</a>. Please note that if you register online, you still need to get a health form signed by a doctor. Any young people planning to attend one of the church camps this summer are asked to get their registrations in before April 1st to avoid a late fee.

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.

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.

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."

COPIES OF DECEMBER 2, 2018 PPC MINUTES are available in the Adult Sunday School Room.

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

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.

#### WEEKLY FINANCIAL REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 4, 2018

<u>Attendance</u>		Other Funds	
Worship Service – 50		Benevolence –	\$ 95.00
Sunday School – 27		Building Fund –	\$ 250.00
		Sunday School –	\$ 59.00
Total Offering	\$2,928.00	Memorial Fund -	\$ 50.00
Other Funds	<u>\$ 532.00</u>	World Hunger -	\$ 50.00
General Fund	\$2,396.00	Flowers -	\$ 21.00
		Junior Church -	\$ 7.00
		Total	\$ 532.00

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 1st 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.

WELCA WILL BE COLLECTING items for Baby Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief. Items needed are: 2 light-weight cotton T-shirts (NO ONESIES), 2 long or short sleeved gowns or sleepers (WITHOUT FEET), 2 receiving blankets (medium-weight cotton or flannel, crocheted, or knitted with light-weight yarn up to 52 inches square), 1 jacket, sweater or sweatshirt with a hood, or include a baby cap, 2 pairs of socks, 1 hand towel (dark color), 2 diaper pins or large safety pins. Sizes are to be from 6 months to 24 months.

WELCA will be starting a fund to raise \$1000.00 toward a pair of oxen and a plow through ELCA Good Gifts. Watch bulletins for more details.

#### COMMUNITY

#### 2018 COMMUNITY LENTEN SERVICE SCHEDULE

Maundy Thursday Service	
	Worship leader, Rev. Nancy McClure
Good Friday Service	March 30th, <b>7:00 p.m.</b> at Aldersgate Methodist Church
	Worship leader, Rev. Dan Kerlin

The community is also invited to worship each Wednesday of Lent (February 21—March 21) at 7:00 p.m. at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church.

#### 2018 COMMUNITY WOMEN'S LENTEN TEAS

All teas will begin with <u>Fellowship at 9:30 a.m.</u> and <u>Bible Study at 10:00 a.m.</u> The study is on the book "Embracing the Uncertain" by Magrey R. DeVega

**PORT ROYAL COMMUNITY LENTEN TEAS** will be held at 10:00 a.m. in the Social Room of the Port Royal Lutheran Church each Tuesday beginning February 20<sup>th</sup> during Lent. This year's theme is "The Psalms Were Made For Lent." Please join us for inspiration and fellowship.

#### 2018 PORT ROYAL MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFASTS

All Prayer Breakfasts will begin at 7:00 a.m. at the Port Royal Community Building.

Saturday, February 24......Rev. Gary Krabill, Chaplin at Locust Grove Saturday, March 3......Rodney Pry, Pine Grove Methodist Church

Saturday, March 10......Dr. John Gehman, MD

Saturday, March 17......Zachary Bashore, Christian Retreat Center

Saturday, March 24......Rev. Terry Smith, Free Spring Church of the Brethren

JUNIATA COUNTY FOOD PANTRY BASIC NEEDS FOR FEBRUARY:
ALL NON-PERISHABLE FOODS, OVER-THE-COUNTER COLD AND FLU
MEDICINES, PAPER TOWELS, COUGH DROPS, DISH DETERGENT,
LAUNDRY DETERGENT, AND DIAPERS (SIZE 5 & 6)
DONATIONS OF CASH/CHECKS ARE ALSO APPRECIATED!

#### THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

**Today:** -First Sunday of Lent.

-9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Catechetical Class.

-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Jr. Church. (Lay Worship Leader: Andrea Cameron).

**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.

Friday: -NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

**Sunday:** -FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY

-Second Sunday of Lent.

-9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Catechetical Class.

-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Jr. Church. (Lay Worship Leader: Deborah Hackenberger).