

“Growing God’s Kingdom”



SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

February 25th, 2018

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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MIFFLINTOWN, PA 17059
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Messiah Lutheran Church

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

The Rev. Chris Mathiason
Deborah Hackenberger
Andrea Cameron
Bob St. Clair
Barb Geedey
Kay Varner
Zeb Berry & Braedon Walton
Carolyn Bryner

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

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

February 25, 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: “O Sacred Head, Now Wounded” B. Glyncannon

[A Time for Meditation and Prayer]

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTRODUCTION

The second covenant in this year's Lenten readings is the one made with Abraham and Sarah: God's promise to make them the ancestors of many, with whom God will remain in everlasting covenant. Paul says this promise comes to all who share Abraham's faith in the God who brings life into being where there was no life. We receive this baptismal promise of resurrection life in faith. Sarah and Abraham receive new names as a sign of the covenant, and we too get new identities in baptism, as we put on Christ.

* 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 “Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer” Green Hymnal #343

* 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 O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life. Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of 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

As with Noah, God makes an everlasting covenant with Abraham and Sarah. God promises this old couple that they will be the ancestors of nations, though they have no child together. God will miraculously bring forth new life from Sarah's old womb. The name changes emphasize the firmness of God's promise.

FIRST READING: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

The First Reading is from the 17th chapter of Genesis.

THE LESSON READS:

¹When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. ²And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." ³Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, ⁴"As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁵No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁶I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. ⁷I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you. ¹⁵God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. ¹⁶I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

Lector: Here ends the reading.

Cong: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 22:23-31 (**responsively**)

L – All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD. (Ps. 22:27)

²³You who fear the LORD, give praise! All you of Jacob's line, give glory. Stand in awe of the LORD, all you offspring of Israel.

²⁴For the LORD does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither is the LORD's face hidden from them; but when they cry out, the LORD hears them.

²⁵From you comes my praise in the great assembly; I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the LORD.

²⁶The poor shall eat and be satisfied, Let those who seek the LORD give praise! May your hearts live forever!

²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD; all the families of nations shall bow before God.

²⁸**For dominion belongs to the LORD, who rules over the nations.**

²⁹Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship; all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before the LORD.

³⁰**Their descendants shall serve the LORD, whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.**

³¹They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying to them, "The LORD has acted!"

ALL – All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD.

Paul presents Abraham as the example for how a person comes into a right relationship with God not through works of the law but through faith. Though Abraham and Sarah were far too old for bearing children, Abraham trusted that God would accomplish what God had promised to accomplish.

SECOND READING: Romans 4:13-25

The Second Reading is from the 4th chapter of Romans.

THE LESSON READS:

¹³For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

¹⁶For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, ¹⁷as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations")—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. ¹⁸Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." ¹⁹He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. ²⁰No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²²Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." ²³Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, ²⁴but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, ²⁵who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

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.

After Peter confesses his belief that Jesus is the Messiah, Jesus tells his disciples for the first time what is to come. Peter's response indicates that he does not yet understand the way of the cross that Jesus will travel.

* GOSPEL: Mark 8:31-38

P The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 8th chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord. (sung)

THE GOSPEL READS:

³¹[Jesus] began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³²He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

³⁴He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ. (sung)

SERMON

Deborah Hackenberger

* HYMN OF THE DAY

"Go to Dark Gethsemane"

Green Hymnal #109

* 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. Make us bold to proclaim your love. Give us courage to carry the cross that confronts us each day and follow Christ. Strengthen pastors, bishops, deacons, and all who minister in your name. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P We pray for the world. For flowing streams and still waters. For urban parks and wilderness reserves. For pastures and forests. Instill within us a reverence for the earth as your creation and our fragile home. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P We pray for the nations. Teach us to honor our common humanity within diversity. Turn enemies into friends. Lead us away from hatred, fear, and misunderstanding. Show our hearts the way to peace and fill us with compassion. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P We pray for those in need. For people whose struggles we fail to acknowledge. For those who leave their homes and families in search of safety or employment. For those who grieve, and for all who are ill (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, 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 those who prepare this space for worship. For ministries of fellowship and hospitality. For those preparing for baptism or confirmation, and for all who provide care and support to those who are homebound. 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 prayers 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 those who have gone before us in the faith. Bring them to the fullness of their inheritance in Christ and into the joy of eternal 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:

“Lord, Thy Word Abideth”

T. Birchwood

[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).

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION:

“Memorial”

F. B. Binckes

[“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

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NEXT WEEK'S LAY WORSHIP LEADER – Jim Bahorik

NEXT WEEK'S LECTOR – Ron Yorks

NEXT WEEK'S ALTAR GUILD – Kay Varner

NEXT WEEK'S ACOLYTES – Slone Smith & Haley Mummah

NEXT WEEK'S GREETER – Kim White

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 purple 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 Deborah Hackenberger, 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 – Charles Wesley, English Methodist Reformer and Hymn Writer (1707 – 1788): Finish then Thy new creation—let us see Thy great salvation—perfectly restored in Thee.

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.

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!

A VOTERS' ASSEMBLY MEETING will be held on today following the worship service. Business: approval of the 2017 audit and board reports.

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. Any young people planning to attend one of the church camps this summer are asked to get their registrations in before April 15th to avoid a late fee. Kate Swales is serving as our camp person, a liaison between Mount Luther and our congregation. For more information on summer programs, you can contact Kate or visit the camp website at www.campmountluther.org. Submit your registration form to Kate along with a \$50 payment payable to Messiah Lutheran Church which will go toward the non-refundable deposit. The remaining portion of the cost of camp will be covered through various fund raising events, donations, etc. Kate will submit the forms to Mount Luther.

BAKE SALE – On March 4th, Chad Hershberger, Mount Luther’s Director, will be at our church to share information about this year’s programs. The youth of Messiah will hold a bake sale following the church service on March 4th in order to raise funds for the cost of Camp Mount Luther this summer. The congregation is welcome to donate funds over the next few months to supplement the cost of camp for our youth. Please include a note with your donation so that we can keep track of donations specifically for camp.

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 11, 2018

Attendance

Worship Service – 38
Sunday School – 21

Total Offering \$2,468.00
Other Funds \$ 641.00
General Fund \$1,827.00

Other Funds

Benevolence –	\$	125.00
Building Fund –	\$	335.00
Sunday School –	\$	31.00
World Hunger -	\$	50.00
Summer Camp -	\$	100.00
Total	\$	641.00

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.

MESSIAH WOMEN OF THE ELCA will meet on Thursday, March 8, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the Youth Area. Cynthia Smith will provide the program and Barb Geedey will provide refreshments. All women are welcome to attend.

COMMUNITY

2018 COMMUNITY LENTEN SERVICE SCHEDULE

Maundy Thursday Service.....March 29th, 7:00 p.m. at Westminster Presbyterian Church
Worship leader, Rev. Nancy McClure

Good Friday Service.....March 30th, 7:00 p.m. 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.

MIFFLINTOWN WOMEN’S COMMUNITY LENTEN TEAS

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

- Wednesday, February 28.....Trinity Methodist Church
- Wednesday, March 7.....St. Stephen’s Lutheran Church
- Wednesday, March 14.....Aldersgate Methodist Church
- Wednesday, March 21.....St. Jude’s Catholic Church

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 20th during Lent. This year’s theme is “The Psalms Were Made For Lent.” Please join us for inspiration and fellowship.

MIFFLINTOWN MEN'S COMMUNITY LENTEN PRAYER BREAKFASTS

All Prayer Breakfasts will begin at 7:00 a.m. at JP's Restaurant. Cost is \$6.00 per breakfast.

Saturday, March 3.....Stephanie Rupert
Saturday, March 10.....Rebecca Myers
Saturday, March 17.....TBA
Saturday, March 24.....Dan Kerlin
Saturday, March 31.....Brent Stoner

PORT ROYAL MEN'S COMMUNITY LENTEN PRAYER BREAKFASTS

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

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

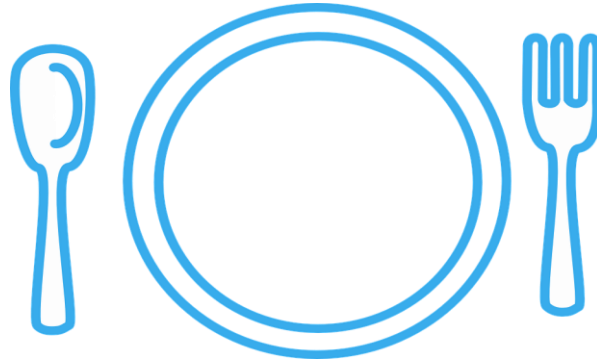
JUNIATA COUNTY FOOD PANTRY BASIC NEEDS FOR FEBRUARY:

ALL NON-PERISHABLE FOODS, OVER-THE-COUNTER COLD AND FLU MEDICINES,
PAPER TOWELS, COUGH DROPS, DISH DETERGENT, LAUNDRY DETERGENT,
AND DIAPERS (SIZE 4, 5 & 6) DONATIONS OF CASH/CHECKS
AND LOCAL STORE GIFT CARDS ARE ALSO APPRECIATED!

THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

- Today:** -FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY.
-9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Catechetical Class.
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Jr. Church. (Lay Worship Leader: Deborah Hackenberger).
-Voters' Assembly following worship service.
- 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:** -9:30 a.m. Women's Lenten Tea at Trinity Methodist Church.
-7:00 p.m., Choir rehearsal.
-7:00 p.m., Lenten Service at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church.
- Saturday:** -7:00 a.m., Men's Lenten Prayer Breakfast at JP's Restaurant. Speaker: Stephanie Rupert.
- Sunday:** -9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Catechetical Class.
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion. (Lay Worship Leader: Jim Bahorik).
-Guest speaker, Chad Hershberger.
-Bake Sale following worship service.

**MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH
CONGREGATIONAL DINNER
MARCH 18, 2018**



You are invited to attend a Congregational Dinner at Messiah on Sunday, March 18, 2018 in the Fellowship Hall following the worship service. The menu will consist of Chicken and Waffles with mashed potatoes provided by the Board of Parish Fellowship. We are asking for donations of desserts, applesauce, or vegetables for a veggie tray. **(A donation is not necessary to attend the meal).**

Reservations can be made by detaching the bottom portion of this sheet and placing it in the offering plate, or by calling the church office at 717-436-6213.

Name(s) _____

Number Attending _____

Donation you will be bringing _____