

# Messiah Lutheran Church

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

The Rev. Chris Mathiason	Interim Pastor
Jim Bahorik	Lay Worship Leader
Andrea Cameron	Choir Director
Linda Clark	Junior Choir Director
June Bricker	Organist
Kay Varner	Altar Guild
Slone Smith & Haley Mummah	Acolytes
Harrison Mummah	Crucifer
Zeb Berry, Caden Swailes, Paige Martin & Gabby Reed	Greeters
Harrison Mummah, & Slone Smith	Readers
Julia Martin, Hannah Ehrisman & Haley Mummah	Communion Assistants
Braedon Walton, Silas Smith, Olivia Mummah & Carter Ehrisman	Offering
Nate Swailes, Jace White, Samuel Gutierrez Felix, Garrett Berry	Mt. Luther Collection Coordinators

## THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

### Youth Sunday

March 4, 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

CALL TO WORSHIP LITANY

Leader: O God, you are an awesome God!

**Congregation: Awesome God, we love you!**

Leader: Because you first loved us!

**Congregation: Awesome God, we praise you!**

Leader: Because you sent your Son, Jesus Christ.

**Congregation: Awesome God, we serve you!**

Leader: Because you showed us how to serve.

**Congregation: Awesome God, we thank you!**

Leader: That whoever believes in you may not perish, but have eternal life!

**Congregation: Awesome God, awesome!**

Leader: Awesome indeed!

All: **Amen!**

TEMPLE TALK & CHILDREN'S SERMON

Chad Hershberger

\* 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

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 Holy God, through your Son you have called us to live faithfully and act courageously. Keep us steadfast in your covenant of grace, and teach us the wisdom that comes only through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## WORD

FIRST READING: Daniel 6:16-26

The First Reading is from the 6<sup>th</sup> chapter of Daniel.

### THE LESSON READS:

<sup>16</sup>Then the king gave the command, and Daniel was brought and thrown into the den of lions. The king said to Daniel, “May your God, whom you faithfully serve, deliver you!” <sup>17</sup>A stone was brought and laid on the mouth of the den, and the king sealed it with his own signet and with the signet of his lords, so that nothing might be changed concerning Daniel. <sup>18</sup>Then the king went to his palace and spent the night fasting; no food was brought to him, and sleep fled from him.

<sup>19</sup>Then, at break of day, the king got up and hurried to the den of lions. <sup>20</sup>When he came near the den where Daniel was, he cried out anxiously to Daniel, “O Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God whom you faithfully serve been able to deliver you from the lions?” <sup>21</sup>Daniel then said to the king, “O king, live forever! <sup>22</sup>My God sent his angel and shut the lions’ mouths so that they would not hurt me, because I was found blameless before him; and also before you, O king, I have done no wrong.” <sup>23</sup>Then the king was exceedingly glad and commanded that Daniel be taken up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no kind of harm was found on him, because he had trusted in his God. <sup>24</sup>The king gave a command, and those who had accused Daniel were brought and thrown into the den of lions—they, their children, and their wives. Before they reached the bottom of the den the lions overpowered them and broke all their bones in pieces.

<sup>25</sup>Then King Darius wrote to all peoples and nations of every language throughout the whole world: “May you have abundant prosperity! <sup>26</sup>I make a decree, that in all my royal dominion people should tremble and fear before the God of Daniel: For he is the living God, enduring forever. His

kingdom shall never be destroyed, and his dominion has no end.”

Lector: Here ends the reading.

**Cong: Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 138 (responsively)

<sup>1</sup>I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart; before the gods I sing your praise;

**<sup>2</sup>I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness; for you have exalted your name and your word above everything.**

<sup>3</sup>On the day I called, you answered me, you increased my strength of soul.

**<sup>4</sup>All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O Lord, for they have heard the words of your mouth.**

<sup>5</sup>They shall sing of the ways of the Lord, for great is the glory of the Lord.

**<sup>6</sup>For though the Lord is high, he regards the lowly; but the haughty he perceives from far away.**

<sup>7</sup>Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve me against the wrath of my enemies; you stretch out your hand, and your right hand delivers me.

**<sup>8</sup>The Lord will fulfill his purpose for me; your steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever. Do not forsake the work of your hands.**

SECOND READING: Acts 9:1-20

The Second Reading is from the 9<sup>th</sup> chapter of Acts.

THE LESSON READS:

<sup>9</sup>Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest <sup>2</sup>and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. <sup>3</sup>Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. <sup>4</sup>He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, “Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?” <sup>5</sup>He asked, “Who are you, Lord?” The reply came, “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. <sup>6</sup>But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.” <sup>7</sup>The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. <sup>8</sup>Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. <sup>9</sup>For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

<sup>10</sup>Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, “Ananias.” He answered, “Here I am, Lord.” <sup>11</sup>The Lord said to him, “Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, <sup>12</sup>and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.” <sup>13</sup>But Ananias answered, “Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; <sup>14</sup>and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name.” <sup>15</sup>But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people

of Israel; <sup>16</sup>I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.” <sup>17</sup>So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” <sup>18</sup>And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, <sup>19</sup>and after taking some food, he regained his strength. For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, <sup>20</sup>and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, “He is the Son of God.”

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.

\* **GOSPEL: John 3:12-17**

P The Holy Gospel according to John, the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter.

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

**THE GOSPEL READS:**

<sup>3</sup>Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.” <sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” <sup>4</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. <sup>6</sup>What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ <sup>8</sup>The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” <sup>9</sup>Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?”

<sup>11</sup>“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. <sup>12</sup>If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup>No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. <sup>14</sup>And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.”

<sup>17</sup>“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

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

SERMON

Jim Bahorik

\* HYMN OF THE DAY

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. Lead us faithfully in the way of the cross. Unite us as one body in Christ. Empower us with courage to speak out against injustice and greed, demonstrating with our words and bodies the love of Jesus. Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P We pray for the world. For sheep, cattle, and all domesticated livestock. For wild creatures, service animals, and pets. Provide shelter, food, and safe drinking water for every living creature. Protect the earth from disaster and harm. Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P We pray for the nations. Teach us to honor one another as you command. Protect refugees and immigrants fleeing from their homes in search of safety and freedom. Guide lawmakers, peacekeepers, and all who work toward reconciliation and justice. Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P We pray for those in need. For those who lack what they need for daily life. For people whose lives are consumed by their possessions. 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, Paul Goss, and family of Sara Ann Aurand. Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

We pray for this assembly. For those preparing for baptism or confirmation, and for their families, sponsors, and faith mentors. For Bible study leaders and participants. For our elders in thanksgiving for the depth of wisdom and experience they offer. Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P Gracious giving God, give us your help again, just as you have always done. Remind us of your care. Let there be gratitude in our congregation, for all that is needful has been sent and ordained for us already. As our Call Committee works to call a new pastor to our congregation, may we be strengthened for this task with the thought that your providing reaches to every need of your church. Our Call Committee and community of believers are your church, too. Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

**C hear our prayer.**

P We remember with gratitude those who have gone before us. Inspire us by their witness and example. Bring us with them 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:

[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].

CHILDREN'S ANTHEM:

“Whirl Welcome Song”

Junior Choir

\* 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 LAY WORSHIP LEADER – Andrea Cameron  
NEXT WEEK'S LECTOR – Kate Swailes  
NEXT WEEK'S ALTAR GUILD – Kay Varner  
NEXT WEEK'S ACOLYTES – Hannah Ehrisman & Julia Martin  
NEXT WEEK'S GREETER – Linda Bahorik

### **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 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) 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.

WE EXTEND OUR SYMPATHY to the family of Sara Ann Aurand, who died on February 24, 2018 at Brookline Manor. Please keep the family in your prayers.

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.

WE WELCOME Chad Hershberger, Director of Camp Mount Luther, to our worship service this morning. We thank him for bringing us information on the church camps that Mount Luther has to offer and for the children's sermon today. Chad will be available to answer questions regarding the programs this year at Camp Mount Luther.

JUST A THOUGHT – Francis Quarles, English Poet (1592 – 1644): True obedience neither procrastinates nor questions.

### **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.” 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 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 15<sup>th</sup> 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](http://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 – The youth of Messiah will hold a bake sale following the church service today 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](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.

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 25, 2018

Attendance

Worship Service – 70

Sunday School – 28

Total Offering \$4,521.00

Other Funds \$ 720.00

General Fund \$3,801.00

Other Funds

Benevolence – \$ 90.00

Building Fund – \$ 350.00

Sunday School – \$ 63.00

Flowers - \$ 17.00

Summer Camp - \$ 200.00

Total \$ 720.00

SYNOD ASSEMBLY DELEGATES NEEDED – Two members of Messiah are needed to attend the annual Synod Assembly in June 2018 at Susquehanna University, Selingsgrove. 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.**

DEAR FRIENDS OF MESSIAH.....We want to thank you for all the love, prayers and support you have given to us over the past year. And, we thank you for all the cards you have sent to Randy. He really, really appreciates them! He tells us that he has “grown-up” over the past months. Well, we surely hope so, because on March 27 he will be 58 years old! So if you feel in your heart to send Randy a card, we know he really would appreciate it.

Randal S. Clark NB-5960  
SCI Chester  
500 E. Fourth St.  
Chester, PA 19013

The rules: No glitter, stickers, etc. Write your return address on the envelope and use white envelopes.

Thank you again for everything.

In Christian Love,  
Jerry, Linda, and Cade

**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 29<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m. at Westminster Presbyterian Church  
Worship leader, Rev. Nancy McClure

Good Friday Service.....March 30<sup>th</sup>, 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, 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 20<sup>th</sup> 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 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 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

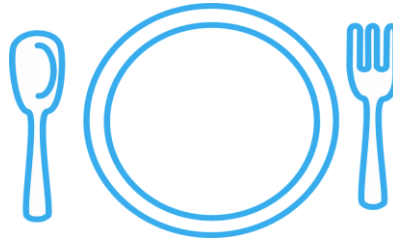
### JUNIATA COUNTY FOOD PANTRY BASIC NEEDS FOR FEBRUARY:

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:** -Youth 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.
- 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 St. Stephen's Lutheran Church.  
-7:00 p.m., Choir rehearsal.  
-7:00 p.m., Lenten Service at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church.
- Thursday:** -7:00 p.m., WELCA meeting in Youth Area.
- Saturday:** -7:00 a.m., Men's Lenten Prayer Breakfast at JP's Restaurant. Speaker: Rebecca Myers.  
-Daylight Savings Time Begins (**Spring ahead one hour**).
- Sunday:** -9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Catechetical Class.  
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Jr. Church. (Lay Worship Leader: Andrea Cameron).

**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.

---

**MESSIAH CONGREGATIONAL DINNER  
March 18, 2018**

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Number Attending \_\_\_\_\_

Donation you will be bringing \_\_\_\_\_