

# *“Growing God’s Kingdom”*



## *THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER*

April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2018

### **MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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

***EMAIL:***

[mlchurchoffice@gmail.com](mailto:mlchurchoffice@gmail.com)

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[www.mlcpifflintown.org](http://www.mlcpifflintown.org)

# Messiah Lutheran Church

3 South Third Street  
Mifflintown, PA 17059

Church Office: 717-436-6213 Email: [mlchurchoffice@gmail.com](mailto:mlchurchoffice@gmail.com)

The Rev. Chris Mathiason  
Stephen Rodgers  
Bob St. Clair  
Andrea Cameron  
Ron Yorks  
Diana Wise  
Julia Martin & Harrison Mumma  
Kim White

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

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 22, 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: “To God All Praise and Glory” R. C. Wilson  
[A Time for Meditation and Prayer]

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTRODUCTION

The image of the Good Shepherd shows us how the risen Christ brings us to life. It is the relationship between the shepherd and the sheep, one of mutual knowledge and love, that gives the shepherd authority. The shepherd's willingness to lay down his life for the sheep shows his love. First John illustrates what it means to lay down our lives for one another by the example of sharing our wealth with any sister or brother in need.

### GATHERING

\* ENTRANCE HYMN “We Give Thee but Thine Own” #410 Green Hymnal

\* GREETING

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**C Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C And also with you.**

\* **KYRIE (C - sung)**

L In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

L For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

L 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.**

L For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**C Lord, have mercy.**

L Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**C Amen.**

\* **HYMN OF PRAISE I & II Choir (C – Congregation)**

**C This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

I Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

**C This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

II Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are his.

**C This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

I Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

**C This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

II For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.

**C This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

\* **SALUTATION AND RESPONSE (sung)**

P The Lord be with you

**C And also with you.**

\* **PRAYER OF THE DAY (spoken in unison)**

P Let us pray...

**C O Lord Christ, good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be whole. Make us one with you, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**WORD**

Peter and John had been arrested the previous day because they were proclaiming the news of the resurrection to the people. In today's reading, Peter is filled with the Holy Spirit so that he is able to proclaim salvation in Jesus' name to the religious authorities.

FIRST READING: Acts 4:5-12

The First reading is from the 4<sup>th</sup> chapter of Acts.

THE LESSON READS:

<sup>5</sup>The next day [the] rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, <sup>6</sup>with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. <sup>7</sup>When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" <sup>8</sup>Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, <sup>9</sup>if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, <sup>10</sup>let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. <sup>11</sup>This Jesus is 'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.'

<sup>12</sup>There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

Lector: Here ends the reading.  
Congregation: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 23 (read responsively)

L – The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. (Ps. 23:1)

<sup>1</sup>The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

<sup>2</sup>**The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.**

<sup>3</sup>You restore my soul, O LORD, and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

<sup>4</sup>**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

<sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

<sup>6</sup>**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

**ALL – The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.**

Jesus' death on our behalf is the clearest demonstration of divine love. This is the very love we share with others, not just through our words but especially through our deeds. In sharing such love we fulfill God's commandments.

SECOND READING: 1 John 3:16-24

The Second reading is from the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter of 1 John.

THE LESSON READS:

<sup>16</sup>We know love by this, that [Jesus Christ] laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. <sup>17</sup>How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

<sup>18</sup>Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. <sup>19</sup>And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him <sup>20</sup>whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. <sup>21</sup>Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; <sup>22</sup>and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

<sup>23</sup>And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. <sup>24</sup>All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

Lector: Here ends the reading.

**Congregation: Thanks be to God.**

\* **THE VERSE (Congregation)**

**Now the green blade rises from the buried grain, Wheat that in dark earth many days has lain; Love lives again, that with the dead has been; Love is come again like wheat arising green.**

In language that recalls the twenty-third psalm, Jesus describes himself as the shepherd who cares for his sheep. He is willing to die for them, and he is able to overcome death for them.

\* **GOSPEL: John 10:11-18**

P The Holy Gospel according to John, the 10<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

**THE GOSPEL READS:**

[Jesus said:] <sup>11</sup>"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. <sup>12</sup>The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. <sup>13</sup>The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. <sup>14</sup>I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, <sup>15</sup>just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. <sup>16</sup>I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. <sup>17</sup>For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. <sup>18</sup>No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

**C Praise to you, O Christ. (sung)**

\* **THE VERSE (Congregation)**

**Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain, He that for three days in the grave had lain; Raised from the dead, my living Lord is seen; Love is come again like wheat arising green.**

SERMON

Stephen Rodgers

\* **HYMN OF DAY**

“Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us”

#481 Green Hymnal

\* **NICENE CREED (all)**

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.**

**Amen.**

\* **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

P Rejoicing in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, we pray for the witness of the church, the wholeness of creation, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

P Bless all who shepherd your sheep and guide them in their serving. We pray for church custodians, office managers, Sunday school teachers, confirmation leaders, baptismal sponsors, deacons, pastors, youth workers, and bishops. Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P Restore natural environments damaged by our hands. We pray for river valleys and grassy plains, coral reefs and arctic ice, mountains, deserts, and marshlands. Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P Protect and guide first responders. Bring mercy and justice with their presence. We pray for military personnel, firefighters, paramedics, and police officers, and for disaster relief and crisis intervention teams. Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P Heal and renew all who ache for a better tomorrow. We pray for the unemployed and underemployed, the forgotten, the nameless, and the outcasts; for our enemies; and for our loved ones. Today we pray especially for our shut-ins, the sick, and those who may be grieving who are in our hearts and minds listed here: Kitty Walters, Jane Marhefka, Ruth Cisney, Ray Bramm, Dottie Smith, Dorothy Cleck, Carol Simonton, Lura Aughey, Mona Lawson, Betty Karstetter, and Jim Yetter. And for Bob & Jeanette St. Clair, Avonel Waller, 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, Sieber Stoner, Mary Sanders, Jane Ann Baney, Lysha Maldonado, Donna Barton, Carolina Rubio and family, and Josh Hohol. Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P Give to all who are restless, reckless, or uncertain the peace you promise that is deeper and richer than anything we can imagine. We pray for all who live with chronic pain, who live with anxiety, and who are ill or hospitalized. 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.**

P Nourish us with the testimony of all the disciples who have gone before us. We give thanks for the faithful departed and their witness in every age. Lord, in your mercy,

**C hear our prayer.**

P We entrust all our prayers to you, gracious God. Receive them by the power of the Holy Spirit and the love of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C Amem.**

\* SHARING OF GOD'S PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C And also with you.**

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

OFFERING

OFFERTORY:

“Great Peace Is Mine”

R. C. Wilson

[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

\* SONG OFFERTORY ('vineyards')

**Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer now. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.**

\* OFFERING PRAYER

P Be known to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread, as you were made known to the disciples. Receive these gifts, and the offering of our lives, that we may be your risen body in the world.

**C Amen.**

MEAL

\* THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (sung responsively)

P The Lord be with you.

**C And al-so with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

**C We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

\* PREFACE

P It is indeed right and salutary ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**C Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might: Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

\* EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood. Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey. Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.



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.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's Passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

**C Come, Holy Spirit.**

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

**C Come, Holy Spirit.**

With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

**(Sung) Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. Amen.**

\* THE LORD'S PRAYER ['trespasses'] (all)

**C Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever.  
Amen.**

\* INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Now let us feast this Easter day on Christ, the bread of heaven. Hallelujah!

\* LAMB OF GOD (sung)

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

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

COMMUNION:  
DISTRIBUTION

“The Triumph of Our Kings”

L. Smith

[“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.**

\* POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE (sung)

**C Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev'ryone what he has done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name. He recalls his promises and leads his people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving.**

**Alleluia. Alleluia.**

\* PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of heaven to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to Jesus' resurrection that we may show your glory to all the world; through the same Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.

**C Amen.**

SENDING

\* BLESSING

P May God who has brought us from death to life fill you with great joy. Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

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

\* CLOSING HYMN

“Blest Be the Tie That Binds”

#370 Green Hymnal

\* DISMISSAL

P Alleluia! Christ is risen. **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!** You are the body of Christ raised up for the world. Go in peace. Share the good news.

**C Thanks be to God. Alleluia.**

POSTLUDE

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NEXT WEEK'S LECTOR – Bob St. Clair  
NEXT WEEK'S ALTAR GUILD – Sandy Pines & Michelle Stoner  
NEXT WEEK'S ACOLYTES – Zeb Berry & Braedon Walton  
NEXT WEEK'S GREETER – Jean Berry  
NEXT WEEK'S LAY WORSHIP LEADER – Richard Beck

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

ALTAR FLOWERS are presented to the Glory of God and in honor of the birthdays of Butch Pines and Michelle Stoner by Sandy Pines and Braedon Walton.

JUST A THOUGHT – Walter Elwell, et. Al, Contemporary Author: The fact that a remnant survives emphasizes both the grace of God and the dawning of a new age and a new community.

## **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

[mlchurchoffice@gmail.com](mailto:mlchurchoffice@gmail.com). 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.

PRAYER CHAIN – If you wish to be included on the email recipient list for the Messiah Prayer Chain, please send an email to Sam Leister at [sleister@gmail.com](mailto:sleister@gmail.com).

THE DEADLINE FOR ALL ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE SUNDAY BULLETIN IS THURSDAY NOON.

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 [mlchurchoffice@gmail.com](mailto:mlchurchoffice@gmail.com) 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. Kate Swailes 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.

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).

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 JANUARY 28, 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.

SUMMER SERVICES WILL BEGIN on Sunday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> at 9:15 a.m. Regular 10:30 a.m. worship services will resume on Sunday, September 9<sup>th</sup>.

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.

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

WEEKLY FINANCIAL REPORT FOR APRIL 15, 2018

Attendance

Worship Service – 65  
 Sunday School – 33

Total Offering     \$2,802.00  
 Other Funds         \$ 907.00  
 General Fund        \$1,895.00

Other Funds

Benevolence -             \$     125.00  
 Building Fund -           \$     365.00  
 Sunday School -           \$      62.00  
 Summer Camp -           \$     305.00  
 Memorial Fund -          \$      50.00  
 Total                         \$     907.00

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**

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED – The Activity Department at Locust Grove is looking for individuals or groups who would like to enrich the lives of others. There are various ways in which you can volunteer: assist with activities, read, religious activities, bingo caller, music, pet visits, crafts, nail painting, games, birthday party, or visits with residents. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please contact us at 436-8921.

JUNIATA COUNTY FOOD PANTRY MAY UPDATE – Stuff the Buss benefits the Food Pantry’s 6<sup>th</sup> annual Summer Backpack Program. This program provides lunches throughout summer vacation to school students who normally receive free and reduced price lunches at school. Stuff the buss will take place at the Weis Market in Mifflintown on Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. till 2 p.m. and at Schlegel’s Store in Thompsettown on Saturday, May 12<sup>th</sup> from 9 a.m. till 2 p.m., or you may drop off donations for the Backpack Program at the Food Pantry anytime. Volunteers are needed to help with the Backpack Program! Call the Food Pantry at 436-9718 to sign-up.

**BACKPACK PROGRAM NEEDS:**

Single-serve, non-perishable lunch and snack items such as  
Juice boxes or pouches, 15 oz. cans of pasta meals or ready-to-heat soup,  
Microwaveable meals, fruit cups, pudding cups, and snack crackers/cookies.  
Monetary donations are also appreciated.

Address: P.O. Box 44, 114 N. Main St. Mifflintown, PA 17059

Hours: Tuesday 9-12 & 1-5, Saturday 9-12

**THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH**

- Today:** -9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Catechetical Class.  
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Jr. Church (Lay Worship Leader: Stephen Rodgers).
- Monday:** -6:30 p.m., Knitting Class in Jr. Church Room.  
-8:00 p.m., AA meeting in Fellowship Hall.
- Tuesday:** -9:00 a.m., "The Needlers" in Fellowship Hall.
- Wednesday:** -7:00 p.m., Choir rehearsal.
- Friday:** -NEWSLETTER DEADLINE.
- Sunday:** -9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Catechetical Class.  
-10:30 a.m., Service of Healing/Communion/Jr. Church (Lay Worship Leader: Richard Beck).