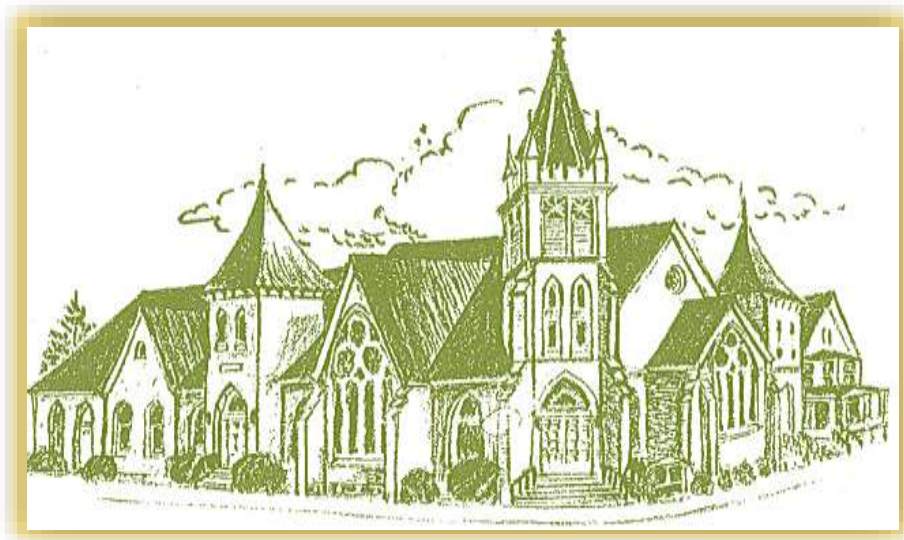


THE MESSIAH HERALD



May 2019

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

3 South Third Street, Mifflintown, PA 17059

717-436-6213

INTERIM PASTOR - Rev. CHRIS MATHIASON - cmathiason001@luthersem.edu

CHURCH WEBSITE: www.mlcmifflintown.org

OFFICE EMAIL: mlchurchoffice@gmail.com

CHURCH TREASURER: mlchurchtreasurer@gmail.com

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ALL AGES! - 9:15 AM

WORSHIP, JR. CHURCH, & COMMUNION - 10:30 AM

CHILDREN'S SERMONS OFFERED EVERY FIRST AND THIRD SUNDAYS!!

[USS-ARK NEWSLETTER](#)

[THE LUTHERAN MAGAZINE](#)

"Growing God's Love"

The Messiah Herald



GOD'S DELIGHT – The Ascension of our Lord

Look and see. Open your eyes and know: It is God's joy, God's delight to give life to the dead. This is God's only work under the sun. The Holy One gives life and raises it when it falls.

This theme is everywhere in scripture. It weaves through the law, the prophets, and the psalms. The people of Israel fall into slavery and are set free by the power of God, whose love refuses to let them perish. They are exiles in a foreign land, but the Holy One hears their cries and restores them to their land and life.

The prophet Ezekiel mourns over the house of Israel. They are a valley of dry bones, dead, with no future, until the Spirit of God blows over the bones. Joints are joined, sinews form, and breath returns, restoring the dead to life. Isaiah's suffering servant is crushed, but the Holy One lifts the servant to the fullness of divine favor.

Throughout the psalms, the suffering and oppressed cry for deliverance. But our faithful God in overflowing compassion lifts them from sorrow, again and again, that they might know the life and love of the divine heart.

Were God's joyful intention not clear enough, Jesus comes, blesses, and restores God's broken creation. In the end, his resurrection rips the veil from the mystery of what God has been doing through all of history.

We are witnesses of this as surely as were Jesus' first disciples. We taste and know the power of our death-killing, life-giving God each time our hearts are lifted by the love no death can kill and no tomb can hold.

Jesus raises his hands in blessing as he ascends into the full presence of God. Along with the disciples, we, as witnesses to God's creative and redeeming love, are called to joyfully carry this blessing into the world. Through worship, sharing the holy meal, service, and our many individual gifts, we, too, can help others see God's delightful work.

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PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING

Jane Ann Baney	Jim Minick	Ed Fraker	Kay Stuck
Donna Barton	Messiah's Call Committee	Joan Fulkroad	Dorothy Towsey
Bob Bell	Minnie Minick	Edie Kay Gill	Jasmine Vazquez
Joyce Bradley	Edith Nipple	Josh Hohol	Rich Walters
Andrea & Bob Cameron	Austin Parker	Matt Hutchinson	Barbara Wengard
Don Clark	Noel Peachey	Curt & Judy Houtz	Dottie Wilson
Terry Coder	Butch & Sandy Pines	Carol Lyter	Jim Woltman
Will DeLancy	Elienai Ramirez	Mike Maugans	Jean Zimmerman
Fred Dowling	Carolina Rubio	Tami Metz	The Family of Avonell Waller
Jeff Dowling	Mary Sanders	John Miller	The Family of Ben Towsey
Mary Ernest	Megan Shoop	Larry Miller	
Deanna Fawver	Bob & Jeanette St. Clair	Shirley Miller	
Ronald Fogleman and Family	Sieber Stoner		

PRAY FOR OUR SHUT - INS

BROOKLINE RETIREMENT VILLAGE

(92 VILLAGE DRIVE, MIFFLINTOWN, PA 17059)

Jane Marhefka

BERRY'S PERSONAL CARE CENTER

(62 LEXI STREET, MIFFLINTOWN, PA 17059)

Carol Simonton

RICHFIELD HEALTHCARE AND REHAB CENTER

(ROOM 6, 631 MAIN ST, RICHFIELD, PA 17086)

Dorothy Cleck

HONNEMAN HOUSE

(58 HONNEMAN HOUSE DR., APT. 108, THOMPSONTOWN, PA 17094)

Ruth Cisney

Ray Bramm

AT HOME

Jim Yetter
128 Manbeck Drive
Mifflintown, PA 17059

Mona Lawson
2792 William Penn Hwy.
Mifflintown, PA 17059

Kitty Walters
P.O. Box 61
Port Royal, PA 17082

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

MAY 1 – Claire Grimm

MAY 18 – Mary Grimm

MAY 25 – Mona Lawson

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!!

MAY 12 – John and Kim White

MAY 23 – Jim and Brenda Bahorik

MAY 29 – Glenn and Jean Compton

If you want to add your name to the birthday/anniversary list, or know someone you would like to acknowledge, please let the church office know at mlchurchoffice@gmail.com.

MESSIAH PRAYER LIST

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.

CHRIST IN OUR HOME

A reminder to anyone who would like a daily devotional to jump start their day. There are plenty of devotionals in "Christ in our Home," which can be picked up and are FREE.....and are located at the back of the adult Sunday school room. Get yours today!

STORE GIFT CARDS

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.

UPCOMING WORSHIP

LEADERS

May 5..... Jim Bahorik
May 12 Sam Leister
May 19 Stephen Rodgers
May 26..... Andrea Cameron

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

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.

MAY SERVANTS

LECTORS

- 5 Haley Mummah
- 12 Andrea Cameron
- 19 Cynthia Smith
- 26 Linda Bahorik

ALTAR GUILD

- April 22 to May 5..... Kay Varner
- May 6 to 19..... Tawny Mummah
- May 20 to June 2Sandy Pines & Michelle Stoner

ACOLYTES

- 5 Nick Reed & Hope Miller
- 12 Gabby Reed & Braedon Walton
- 19 Julia Martin & Slone Smith
- 26 Hannah Ehrisman & Olivia Mummah

OFFERING USHERS

- 5 Slone Smith & Hannah Ehrisman
- 12 Olivia Mummah & Zeb Berry
- 19 Harrison Mummah & Haley Mummah
- 26 Nick Reed & Hope Miller

ALTAR FLOWERS

- 5 OPEN
- 12 OPEN
- 19 Warren & Claire Mummah
- 26 OPEN



The Women of the ELCA met on Thursday evening, April 11th at 7:00 P.M. in the Young Adults' Sunday School Classroom.

The program was presented by Barb beginning with a 20 question Candy Pass Game. The questions were silly and everyone had fun answering them and then enjoying the candy pieced they won. Barb then read from "40 Days of Reflection-24 Hours That

changed the World" written by Adam Hamilton. Adam was the same author of our Lenten Tea Bible Studies that we had this year. The particular chapter that was read was "The Humiliation of the King."

Our Treasurer, Cynthia, gave her report.

The report included in our April Newsletter was approved.

Old Business: Barb thanked Cynthia as well as everyone else who helped with the Lenten Tea. Linda Bahorik was our pianist.

New Business: Barb reported to the group that Camp Mt. Luther is looking for individuals or groups to give \$500.00 to pay for a new camper to come this summer. (Reach 25). Since our church pays for all its campers with the exception of \$50.00 Barb will check with Carolyn as to the status of funds for our campers before we ask for help from the congregation. Our group agreed to donate \$150.00 towards the \$500.00

The WELCA convention will be held at Camp Mt. Luther on July 20th. There are always 2 offerings collected at this time. The Ingathering will go to Lutheran Disaster Relief and the In-Kind Offering will be items for Camp Mt. Luther. We were given a list of 21 items. The group chose 5 and they are: playdoh, markers, duct tape of any color/design, clear scotch tape, and play ground balls of any type. We will have a container in the Adult Sunday School room marked for Camp Mt. Luther and any of the items donated may be put there. Barb will see that they get to the Convention in July.

If anyone is interested in going to the Convention, contact Barb or Linda Leister and we will see that you get a registration form. The cost is \$40.00 which covers lunch, speakers, etc.

Our next project will be the Fabric Kits, which include: 2 pieces of cotton or cotton-blend fabric (NO KNITS OR 100% POLYESTER) each piece of fabric is to be 2 1/4 yards of 58"-62" wide fabric or 3 yards of 42"-45" wide fabric, or 4 yards of 34"-37" wide fabric, 2 spools of matching or neutral-colored general purpose thread, 250-300 yards each.

Our next meeting will be held on Thursday, May 9th with Diana Wise as the program leader.

The meeting closed with our Purpose Statement.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS & PRAYER FOCUS

MAY 1 ----- 2 CORINTHIANS 4:1-6
THOSE DISCERNING A CALL TO MINISTRY

MAY 2 ----- ACTS 9:1-6 (7-20)
THOSE IN PHYSICAL REHABILITATION

MAY 3 ----- PSALM 30
THOSE RECOVERING FROM ILLNESS

MAY 4 ----- REVELATION 5:11-14
THOSE WHO WORK FOR JUSTICE

MAY 5 ----- JOHN 21:1-19
THOSE NEW TO THE FAITH

MAY 6 ----- EZEKIEL 11:1-25
THOSE WHO FEEL SCATTERED IN BODY, MIND, OR SPIRIT

MAY 7 ----- EZEKIEL 20:39-44
THOSE LIVING WITH REGRETS

MAY 8 ----- LUKE 12:29-32
THOSE WHO HAVE NO SAFE SHELTER

MAY 9 ----- ACTS 9:36-43
VOLUNTEERS IN OUR CHURCH AND COMMUNITY

MAY 10 ----- PSALM 23
CONGREGATIONS AND PASTORS IN TRANSITION

MAY 11 ----- REVELATION 7:9-17
THOSE IN NEED OF SPIRITUAL RENEWAL

MAY 12 ----- JOHN 10:22-30
VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

MAY 13 ----- PSALM 100
THOSE WHO ARE MISSING A FAMILY MEMBER TODAY

MAY 14 ----- ACTS 1:15-26
THOSE WHO HESITATE TO WITNESS

MAY 15 ----- REVELATION 11:15-19
THOSE LIVING IN WAR-RAVAGED AREAS

MAY 16 ----- ACTS 11:1-18
INDIVIDUALS AND GROUPS PUSHED TO THE MARGINS OF SOCIETY

MAY 17 ----- PSALM 148
CONGREGATIONS WRESTLING WITH CONFLICT

MAY 18 ----- REVELATION 21:1-6
THE CARE OF CREATION

MAY 19 ----- JOHN 13:31-35
FOSTER CHILDREN AND PARENTS

MAY 20 ----- LEVITICUS 19:9-18
FARMERS, RANCHERS, AND THEIR FAMILIES

MAY 21 ----- PROVERBS 2:9-15
ELECTED LEADERS AND GOVERNMENT WORKERS

MAY 22 ----- ACTS 16:1-8
SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS AND STUDENTS

MAY 23 ----- ACTS 16:9-15
THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY AND THEIR FAMILIES

MAY 24 ----- PSALM 67
THOSE WHOM YOU HAVE MISJUDGED

MAY 25 ----- REVELATION 21:10, 22-22:5
THOSE WHO NEED A SECURE SOURCE OF CLEAN WATER

MAY 26 ----- JOHN 14:23-29
THOSE GRIEVING THE LOSS OF LOVED ONES

MAY 27 ----- PSALM 97
THOSE WHOSE LIVES HAVE BEEN UPENDED BY NATURAL DISASTERS

MAY 28 ----- LUKE 24:44-53
THOSE WAITING FOR ANSWERS TO PRAYER

MAY 29 ----- ACTS 16:16-34
CHRISTIANS PERSECUTED FOR THEIR FAITH

MAY 30 ----- ACTS 1:1-11
THOSE PARTICIPATING IN RECOVERY MINISTRIES

MAY 31 ----- LUKE 1:39-57
FAMILIES WITH SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDREN

MUSIC SUNDAY



Music Sunday will be held this year on Mother's Day, May 12th, 2019. We are celebrating this year by having our own youngsters give a history of our Lutheran Liturgy as well as a hymn sing history on Mom's special day. Also that day, our junior and senior choirs, our organist, as well as others from our congregation will be participating in the service! Come join us for a service celebrating Mom and celebrating the music of our church.....and a surprise from the Fellowship Committee following the service!

Messiah Attendance and Offerings – March/April 2019

DATE	Attendance	Total Offering	General Fund Offering	Other Funds Offering
MARCH 31	68 – Worship 21 – S.S.	\$2,901.00	\$1,990.00	Benevolence -- \$65.00 Sunday School -- \$27.00 Building Fund -- \$175.00 Summer Camp -- \$394.00 Memorial Fund -- \$250.00
APRIL 7	48 – Worship 27 – S.S.	\$2,965.00	\$2,242.00	Benevolence -- \$75.00 Sunday School -- \$37.00 Building Fund -- \$135.00 Memorial Fund -- \$425.00 Flowers -- \$51.00
APRIL 14	62 – Worship 21 – S.S.	\$2,613.00	\$1,816.00	Benevolence -- \$55.00 Sunday School -- \$33.00 Building Fund -- \$285.00 Memorial Fund -- \$240.00 Flowers -- \$34.00 Summer Camp -- \$150.00
APRIL 21	118 – Worship 20 – S.S.	\$4,068.00	\$3,387.00	Benevolence -- \$75.00 Sunday School -- \$36.00 Building Fund -- \$535.00 Sunday Soldiers -- \$10.00 Donation for Recording CDs -- \$25.00
APRIL 28	43 – Worship 18 – S.S.	\$3,078.50	\$2,508.00	Benevolence -- \$65.00 Sunday School -- \$77.00 Building Fund -- \$275.00 Flowers -- \$8.50 Memorial Fund -- \$40.00 Summer Camp -- \$105.00

CAMP MOUNT LUTHER

Kate Swailes is serving as our congregation's camp person with Camp Mount Luther again this year. She has information on programs for the summer, as well as other events throughout the year. If you have additional questions, you can contact her or the camp office at (570) 922-1587 or cml@camp-mountluther.org. Since our congregation has a camp person, each camper from our church will receive Camel Bucks from Kate for use at the camp store this summer! Summer brochures are now available for Camp Mount Luther. Church camping is an important faith developer of our young people.

For more information on Camp Mount Luther or to print the camp registration form, visit www.campmountluther.org. Submit your camp registration form to Kate along with a \$50 payment payable to Messiah Lutheran Church which will go toward the non-refundable deposit. Kate will submit the registration forms to Mount Luther. There is also a posting on the Youth bulletin board listing upcoming events at Camp Mount Luther.

JUNIATA COUNTY FOOD PANTRY MAY UPDATE

In March 2019 the Food Pantry served 309 families - 782 of your neighbors! We thank Lower Tuscarora Presbyterian Church for sending volunteers for the month of March.

Stuff the Bus- benefits the Food Pantry's 7th annual Summer Backpack Program. This program provides lunches throughout summer vacation to school students who normally receive free and reduced-price lunches at school. These students often face hunger in the summer months as their families struggle to provide the extra meals. Stuff the Bus will take place at Weis in Mifflintown on Saturday, May 18th from 9-2 and Schlegel's Grocery Store in Thompsontown on Saturday, May 11th from 9-2, or drop off donations for the Backpack Program at the Food Pantry anytime. See below for the kind of donations we need for the Backpack Program. **Volunteers are also needed to help with the Backpack Program!** Call the Food Pantry, 436-9718, to sign up.

BACKPACK PROGRAM NEEDS:

Single-serve, non-perishable lunch items such as 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.

DONATIONS OF CASH AND GIFT CARDS ARE ALSO APPRECIATED!

PO Box 44, 114 N. Main St, Mifflintown, PA 17059

Phone: 717-436-9718

Hours: Tue 9-12 and 1-5, and Sat 9-12



*PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO THE **JUNIATA COUNTY FOOD PANTRY**. (CONTACT PERSON: GLENDA FULTZ). Email: jcfoodpantry@embarqmail.com

Our vestibule is open 24 hours a day to receive donations. Cash, checks, or gift cards may be deposited in the vestibule's mail slot. *Non-perishable foods and non-food items may be dropped off at any time in our vestibule. Please deliver perishable foods only when someone is here to receive them. Thank you!



SUNDAY SOLDIERS

Messiah's youth group, *Sunday's Soldiers*, continues to meet the first Sunday of each month. Sunday, June 2nd will be our next meeting where we will enjoy food and fellowship together as well as work on some activities to benefit our church and community.

MUSICAL DISCOVERY!



The Whitmyer name on the plaque on the back of the piano in the Fellowship Hall lived in a house, which is now the vacant lot across from the American Legion. They owned a bot-

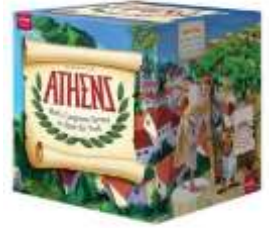
tled gas business and also had no children, but were members of Messiah for many years "back in the day." Thanks to our local sleuths Alice Swartz and Kitty Walters for providing another bit of musical history of our congregation!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Vacation Bible School is coming to Messiah August 5 through August 8. A splash party will be held Friday August 9, and the children's

ending VBS program will be held in Messiah's Fellowship Hall on Sunday morning, August 11 during the church service.

This year the boys and girls will be traveling with Paul on his dangerous journey to share the truth in Athens, Greece.



Mark your calendars now for the week of August 5th. You will not want to miss this journey to Athens!

THANK YOU!

THANK YOU to Larry and Diana Wise for bringing me the beautiful Easter altar flowers and to everyone at Messiah for sending me cards throughout the year. I appreciate being remembered! --MINNIE MINICK

THANK YOU to our friends at Messiah for your loving support of the Food Pantry's ministry to our neighbors in need. Your generous donation will help provide new hope and a new beginning to the more than 350 families, including over 400 children, who come to us for help every month. -YOUR FRIENDS AT THE JUNIATA COUNTY FOOD PANTRY



MAY 2019 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- WEDNESDAY, MAY 1:** -7:00 P.M., CHOIR REHEARSAL IN REARICK ROOM
- THURSDAY, MAY 2:** -1:00 P.M., DULCIMER REHEARSAL
-5:00 P.M., GIRL SCOUT TROOP #40440 MEETING IN FELLOWSHIP HALL
- SUNDAY, MAY 5:** -9:15 A.M., SUNDAY SCHOOL/CATECHETICAL CLASS
-10:30 A.M., WORSHIP/COMMUNION/JR. CHURCH/CHILDREN'S SERMON -- WORSHIP LEADER: JIM BAHORIK
- MONDAY, MAY 6:** -6:30 P.M., KNITTING CLASS IN JUNIOR CHURCH ROOM
-8:00 P.M., AA MEETING IN FELLOWSHIP HALL
- TUESDAY, MAY 7:** -9:00 A.M., "THE NEEDLERS" IN FELLOWSHIP HALL
- WEDNESDAY, MAY 8:** -6:30 P.M., 4-H BEEF & BREEDERS CLUB IN YOUTH AREA
-7:00 P.M., CHOIR REHEARSAL IN REARICK ROOM
- THURSDAY, MAY 9:** -7:00 P.M., WELCA MEETING IN FELLOWSHIP HALL
- SUNDAY, MAY 12:** -**MUSIC SUNDAY/MOTHER'S DAY**
-9:15 A.M., SUNDAY SCHOOL/CATECHETICAL CLASS
-10:30 A.M., WORSHIP/COMMUNION/JR. CHURCH -- WORSHIP LEADER: SAM LEISTER
- MONDAY, MAY 13:** -6:30 P.M., KNITTING CLASS IN JUNIOR CHURCH ROOM
-8:00 P.M., AA MEETING IN FELLOWSHIP HALL
- TUESDAY, MAY 14:** -9:00 A.M., "THE NEEDLERS" IN FELLOWSHIP HALL
- WEDNESDAY, MAY 15:** -7:00 P.M., CHOIR REHEARSAL IN REARICK ROOM
- THURSDAY, MAY 16:** -1:00 P.M., DULCIMER REHEARSAL
-5:00 P.M., GIRL SCOUT TROOP #40440 MEETING IN FELLOWSHIP HALL
- SUNDAY, MAY 19:** -9:15 A.M., SUNDAY SCHOOL/CATECHETICAL CLASS
-10:30 A.M., WORSHIP/COMMUNION/JR. CHURCH/CHILDREN'S SERMON -- WORSHIP LEADER: STEPHEN RODGERS
- MONDAY, MAY 20:** -6:30 P.M., KNITTING CLASS IN JUNIOR CHURCH ROOM
-6:30 P.M., PROPERTY COMMITTEE MEETING IN CHOIR ROOM
-8:00 P.M., AA MEETING IN FELLOWSHIP HALL
- TUESDAY, MAY 21:** -9:00 A.M., "THE NEEDLERS" IN FELLOWSHIP HALL
-6:30 P.M., JUNIATA VALLEY QUILTERS IN FELLOWSHIP HALL
- WEDNESDAY, MAY 22:** -7:00 P.M., CHOIR REHEARSAL IN REARICK ROOM
- FRIDAY, MAY 24:** -**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**
- SUNDAY, MAY 26:** -**FOOD PANTRY SUNDAY**
-9:15 A.M., SUNDAY SCHOOL/CATECHETICAL CLASS
-10:30 A.M., WORSHIP/COMMUNION/JR. CHURCH -- WORSHIP LEADER: ANDREA CAMERON
- MONDAY, MAY 27:** -**MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY**
-8:00 P.M., AA MEETING IN FELLOWSHIP HALL
- TUESDAY, MAY 28:** -9:00 A.M., "THE NEEDLERS" IN FELLOWSHIP HALL
- WEDNESDAY, MAY 29:** -7:00 P.M., CHOIR REHEARSAL IN REARICK ROOM

Thank You To All Who Gave Lilies To Help Us Celebrate Our Lord's Resurrection On Easter Sunday!

TO THE GLORY OF GOD:

- ✦ In memory of loved ones by Michael and Deborah Maugans.
- ✦ In memory of George and Evelyn Shirk and Gerald and Evelyn 'Nootie' Davis by family.
- ✦ In honor of my mom, Florence Williams, by Debrann Meinsler.
- ✦ In memory of my dad, James W. Harvey, by Debrann Meinsler.
- ✦ In honor of Ken and Ruth Mummah by Ken and Tawny Mummah and family.
- ✦ In honor of Pamela Campbell by Ken and Tawny Mummah and family.
- ✦ In memory of my grandparents, John and Hulda St. Clair, by Bob St. Clair.
- ✦ In memory of my grandparents, Lester and Grace Parsons, by Bob St. Clair.
- ✦ In honor of my parents, Robert and Jeanette St. Clair, by Bob St. Clair.
- ✦ In honor and memory of loved ones by Larry and Diana Wise and family.
- ✦ In memory of Dutch Walters by Kitty, Deb, Cyndi and Bob.
- ✦ In loving memory of Daniel and Thelma Dreibelbis and Abram and Ruth Shoener by the Stephen Dreibelbis family.
- ✦ In memory of husband and loved ones by Midge Rowell.
- ✦ In memory loved ones by Herman and Judy Armstrong.
- ✦ In loving memory of John and Helen Sieber by George and Kay Varner and family.
- ✦ In memory of our parents, Richard and Daisy Van Gavree and Paul and Dorothy Patterson, by Rich and Cindy Van Gavree.
- ✦ In honor of Cynthia Smith, with love Slone and Silas Smith.
- ✦ In memory of Mel Martin, with love Tammy, Zac, Slone and Silas Smith.
- ✦ In memory of our parents, Charles and Mary Knisely, by Warren and Claire Mummah.
- ✦ In memory of our parents, Harry and Martha Mummah, by Warren and Claire Mummah.
- ✦ In memory of loved ones by Madeline Kramer and family.
- ✦ In memory of my grandparents by Kenton Stuck.
- ✦ In memory of loved ones by Matthew, Erin and Ella Harris.
- ✦ In memory of Nora Ella Singer by the Reed family.
- ✦ In memory of Ed Singer by the Reed family.
- ✦ In memory of parents, Harry and Martha Mummah, by Ken and Ruth Mummah.
- ✦ In memory of parents, Dale H. and Charlotte Henry, by Ken and Ruth Mummah.
- ✦ In honor of our children, Susan, Carol and Kenneth, by Ken and Ruth Mummah.
- ✦ In honor of our grandchildren, Harrison, Haley and Olivia, by Ken and Ruth Mummah.

An Easter message from Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton



Getting a phone call in the middle of the night is never a good thing. I remember the second time my father had open-heart surgery. It was a long procedure and a difficult one, and after it was done the doctor called us to his office and said, "There's been some bleeding. We'll let you know, but you should go home now and rest." And so going home that night, I listened for a phone call in the middle of the night and was awakened only to find out it was morning and it was birds singing, not the phone ringing. My father had made it through the night, and in fact he did recover from the surgery.

This is the joy we feel at Easter, but magnified. All of the hope that had been dashed on Good Friday, the terrible pressure of grief, the terrible pressure of knowing there was no future in the world, only on Sunday to be greeted not by the ringing of a telephone announcing death but the loud clear singing of alleluias. This is the joy we have, and it's a promise so strong that even when we do die, even when we do confront death, we have the hope and the assurance of eternal life.

Easter makes it possible for us, even at the grave, to sing alleluia.
Christ is risen. Alleluia.
Happy Easter, dear church.

Elizabeth A. Eaton

The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton
Presiding Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America