

THE MESSIAH HERALD



AUGUST 2020

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

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**SUMMER WORSHIP SERVICE -- 9:15 AM
WEEKLY SERVICE BROADCAST ON AM 1700**

[USS-ARK NEWSLETTER](#)

[THE LUTHERAN MAGAZINE](#)

"Growing God's Love"

The Messiah Herald



YOU SHALL HAVE NO OTHER GODS

Dear Messiah Family,

May the blessings of God the Father, Jesus Christ, and The Holy Spirit be with you all!

Let us all pray for an awesome August! As we adapt and toil to find new ways to serve God, may we remember that God is with us, Jesus had taught us, and the Holy Spirit guides us through to newness of life.

You might like to refer to Exodus 20 and Deuteronomy 5. In these chapters you shall find the Ten Commandments. I will be referring also to the book, *By Heart: Conversations with Martin Luther's Small Catechism* by R. Guy Erwin, et al, Augsburg Fortress 2017 as well as Luther's Small Catechism. Let us look at the First Commandment, "You shall have no other gods." Luther asks, "What is this?" or "What does this mean?" Luther tells us that we are to fear, love, and trust God above all things.

Thinking about the ways in which you actually live, ask yourself, "What do I most fear losing?" "What in life do I love the most?" In day to day life, losing the TV remote, or car keys, or your phone would be relatively minor in the grand scheme of things. But when that happens, the missing item becomes the most important item in your life, the immediate idol and god of your focus. We can easily follow this thought through reach greater idols and desires in our lives, bigger cars, larger TV's, houses, and all manner of material wealth and goods. It is easy to see the First Commandment in this context.

What other gods are in our world to lure our focus away from God? Take a look in the mirror. Luther realized that his biggest idol was that he clung to himself; he had become his own god. Instead of moving away from God, we put ourselves in God's place. When we try to establish our own rule and power in this world, we are putting ourselves in God's place. We must not place ourselves above or in place of God. We shall have NO other gods, not other things, other desires, other people, and not ourselves.

In Jeremiah 31:33, "I will be their God, and they shall be my people." God chooses to be our God. We normally think that we choose the god who seems to be most appropriate at the present time. We might wish the "rain god" will end a drought, or the "lottery god" will give us the winning numbers, or the "god of green lights" will be with us when we go to Harrisburg. What will bring to us the most desired outcome is the "god" of the moment. Luther tells us that our chosen god is that thing or being in which we place our ultimate trust. "You shall have no other gods." May we always place our ultimate trust in God the Father, Jesus Christ his Son, and in the Holy Spirit.

May the Lord be with you all!

Vicar Samuel Leister

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING

Carole Baker	Kevin Kint
Jane Ann Baney	Pam Lawson
Donna Barton	Carol Lyter
Lindsey Barton	Carlen McClure
Bob Bell	Charlie, Amanda, & Isabel Meinsler
Nick Beward	Messiah's TEEM
Joyce Bradley	Tammy Metz
Andrea Cameron	Elwood Miller
Pam Campbell	John Miller
Ruth Cisney	Larry Miller
Curtis Clark	Shirley Miller
Terry Coder	Rick Milliken
Leann Crimmel	Jim Minick
Will DeLancy	Landon Musser
Guy Dillman	Darve Nace
Fred & Dot Dowling	Madison Norman
Renee Dzikowski	Austin Parker
The Family of Eugenia Erhard	Noel Peachey
Neil Fisher	Dave Phelan
Janie Fogleman	Butch & Sandy Pines
Jerald (Jerry) Foltz	Steve Pontius
Ed Fraker	Betty Ranck
Bentley Fulkroad	Keith Ranck
Joan Fulkroad	Mary Sanders
Terri Gayer	Mackenzie Shearer
Edie Kay Gill	Ronald Shearer
Paul Goss	Tim Smith
Jeanette Gross	Mike Sparks
Beth Harris	Donald Speece
Harry Heikes	Bob & Jeanette St. Clair
Jennifer Heikes	Dorothy Towsey
Sue Henderson	Rich Walters
Jason Hockenberry & Family	Erma Williamson
Josh Hohol	Dottie Wilson
Curt & Judy Houtz	Jim Woltman
Jennifer Hutchinson	Mackenzie Wray
Matt Hutchinson	Barbara Yocum
Brenda Imes	Dorothy Zeiders
Peggy Inch and Family	Linda Zimmerman
Denny King	

BROOKLINE MANOR
(2 MANOR BLVD., RM. 226, MIFFLINTOWN, PA 17059)
Gail Henderson

BERRY'S PERSONAL CARE CENTER
(3 ALEX CIRCLE, MIFFLINTOWN, PA 17059)
Carol Simonton

HONNEMAN HOUSE
(58 HONNEMAN HOUSE DR., APT. 108, THOMPSONTOWN, PA 17094) Ruth Cisney Ray Bramm

LOCUST GROVE RETIREMENT VILLAGE
(69 COTTAGE DRIVE, MIFFLIN, PA 17058)
Esther Rhine

AT HOME
Max Ernest Margaret Guss
1099 William Penn Hwy. 20 South Third Street
Mifflintown, PA 17059 Mifflintown, PA 17059

Mona Lawson Minnie Minick
2792 William Penn Hwy. 187 JAM House Road
Mifflintown, PA 17059 Mifflin, PA 17058

Edith Nipple Sieber & Ona Stoner
1482 William Penn Hwy. 23591 Route 35 North
Mifflintown, PA 17059 Mifflintown, PA 17059

Velma Suloff Ken & Kay Stuck
4460 Route 333 66 Eighth Street
Mifflintown, PA 17059 Mifflintown, PA 17059

Kitty Walters Jim Yetter
P.O. Box 61 128 Manbeck Drive
Port Royal, PA 17082 Mifflintown, PA 17059

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

JULY 25 – Clint Miller (*Belated!!*)

AUGUST 5 – Ray Miller

AUGUST 6 – Andrea Cameron

AUGUST 8 – Kim White

AUGUST 12 – Max Ernest

AUGUST 13 – Todd Grimm

AUGUST 15 – Dave Phelan

AUGUST 18 – Glenn Grimm

AUGUST 28 – Dennis Crissman

AUGUST 31 – George Hazard, Jr.

PRAY FOR OUR SHUT-INS

BROOKLINE RETIREMENT VILLAGE
(92 VILLAGE DRIVE, MIFFLINTOWN, PA 17059)
Jane Marhefka

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!!

AUGUST 12 – Larry and Shirley Covert

AUGUST 18 – Matt and Shelley Gross

PRAYERS & CONCERNS

If you wish to be included on the email recipient list for the Messiah Prayer Chain, please send an email to Vicar Leister at sleister@gmail.com. Also, if anyone has any needs or concerns, please contact Vicar Sam Leister. If you or someone you know is ill or hospitalized, please let Vicar Leister know as well. He can be reached at 717-436-8589 (home), or 717-348-1020 (cell), or email at sleister@gmail.com.

UPCOMING SERVANTS

ALTAR GUILD

July 27 to August 30.. Sandy Pines & Michelle Stoner
August 31 to Sept. 27..... Barb Geedey & Jessie Reed

LECTORS

August 2 Slone Smith
August 9 Andrea Cameron
August 16 Barb Geedey
August 23 Ron Yorks
August 30 Randy Clark



WELCA met on Thursday, July 9th at 7 P.M. in the Young Adult Sunday School Room. It was good to get back to a little normalcy. Everyone wore a mask and we all social distanced one another. We spent a little bit of time just enjoying each other's company and talking a bit about what may or may not happen in the next year.

Barb provided brief devotions.

There was no report about our previous meeting as there has been none since March. Cynthia reported that she has sent our

quarterly donation to the Synodical unit and we are in good shape financially. We will discuss at our next meeting what we can do with some of our money.

There was no old business. Barb reported under new business that she will put the chart on the bulletin board in the upstairs kitchenette that has the information as to where our quilts and kits may have gone during this past year. Barb also reported that our July convention and our Fall retreat have been cancelled at this time. Should the situation change it is possible the Retreat could occur at a later date. Blanket Sunday will occur on Sunday, October 4th with delivery to the Synod Office on Saturday, October 10th between 9 A.M. and 3 P.M.

We will see what we can come up with for our school kits and Seafarers Bags between now and October. Also, neither Cynthia nor Barb have heard anything on the children we have been sponsoring from Liberia. Hopefully that information will come in the next month or two.

Our next meeting will occur on Thursday, October 13th at 7 P.M. We will be wearing masks and continue to social distance. Cynthia will present the program. If you have any questions, feel free to call me at 717-436-6433.

Respectfully submitted by Barb Geedey

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 in the church office or in the Adult Sunday School Room and are FREE! Get yours today!

FALL SUNDAY SCHOOL

Depending on the pandemic, Sunday School teachers and substitute teachers will be needed for the fall in the youth department. If you are interested, please contact Linda Clark at church or by calling 717-348-8262.

RE-STARTING COMMUNION

Holy Communion will be offered beginning on **Sunday, August 2, 2020** at Messiah Lutheran Church.

The sacrament will be offered following the sending hymn in order to minimize any contact during the meal.

We will be using Communion kits that are prepackaged and sealed with a wafer and with grape juice.

Each person desiring to share in the meal will take a packaged kit when you receive a bulletin.

A description and explanation will be provided at the announcement time prior to the service.

ORGANIST-PIANIST NEEDED!

Messiah still has an opening for Church Organist for weekly services, which includes Wednesday evening choir rehearsals, when we resume practices and except during the summer months. Allen Digital Electric Organ and upright piano. Candidates should contact Bob St. Clair at stclairb@embarqmail.com for more information, including salary. This is currently a half-time position. Additional information about the church and congregation can be found at mlcmifflintown.org.

FIRST COMMUNION CLASS

Please let the church office know if you would like your child to attend a First Communion Class and a date and time will be arranged with those who are interested.

BAPTISMAL &

NEW MEMBER CLASS

If you wish to have your child baptized or you wish to become a member of Messiah and attend the New Member Class, please let the church office know so a class can be scheduled.

CONFIRMATION CLASS

Confirmation class will begin this Fall for students entering grade 7 and above. Please notify the church office at 717-436-6213 (email) mlchurchoffice@gmail.com or Vicar Sam Leister at 717-436-8589 (email) sleister@gmail.com if you are planning to attend the class.

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.

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

FACEMASK CHALLENGE!

Lutheran World Relief has launched the **75,000 Face Mask Challenge**, a request for volunteers to sew cloth masks that will be sent overseas to slow the spread of COVID-19. If you are interested in participating in this challenge, you can make as few or as many masks as you would like. If you are interested in participating or want more details, please call Cynthia Smith at 717-994-4999 or email her at gramcynthia49@yahoo.com.

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.

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.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS AND PRAYER FOCUS

AUGUST 1-----MATTHEW 7:7-11

PEOPLE FIGHTING CANCER

AUGUST 2-----MATTHEW 14:13-21

PEOPLE HEALING FROM ACCIDENTS

AUGUST 3-----ROMANS 1:8-15

THOSE STRIVING TO RAISE KIDS IN THE CHURCH

AUGUST 4-----ACTS 2:37-47

THOSE EATING ALONE BY CHOICE OR NOT

AUGUST 5-----MATTHEW 15:32-39

PEOPLE WHO FEEL EXCLUDED

AUGUST 6-----ACTS 17:10-15

ELCA YOUNG ADULTS IN GLOBAL MISSION

AUGUST 7-----1 KINGS 18:17-19, 30-40

LAW ENFORCEMENT PROFESSIONALS

AUGUST 8-----PSALM 85:8-13

PATIENTS AND THEIR CAREGIVERS

AUGUST 9-----MATTHEW 14:22-33

VICTIMS OF THE RAVAGES OF WEATHER

AUGUST 10-----GENESIS 7:11 - 8:5

MEDICAL RADIOLOGISTS

AUGUST 11-----PSALM 18:1-19

FIRST RESPONDERS TO NATURAL DISASTERS

AUGUST 12-----MATTHEW 8:23-27

SEAFARERS AND FISHERMEN

AUGUST 13-----PSALM 67

NONPROFITS THAT PROVIDE SOCIAL SERVICES

AUGUST 14-----ACTS 14:19-28

HOSPITALITY MINISTRIES

AUGUST 15-----PSALM 34:1-9

SONG AND HYMN WRITERS

AUGUST 16-----MATTHEW 15:10-28

PARENTS AND TEENAGERS

AUGUST 17-----ACTS 15:1-21

PRISONERS AND PRISON WORKERS

AUGUST 18-----ISAIAH 43:8-13

PEOPLE IN NEED OF THE GOOD NEWS OF GOD'S LOVE

AUGUST 19-----MATTHEW 8:1-13

REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS

AUGUST 20-----1 CORINTHIANS 6:1-11

LAWYERS, JUDGES, AND CLERKS OF COURT

AUGUST 21-----2 CORINTHIANS 10:12-18

ATHLETES, COACHES, SPORTS STAFF, AND REFEREES

AUGUST 22-----PSALM 138

MUSICIANS

AUGUST 23-----MATTHEW 16:13-20

THERAPISTS, COUNSELORS, AND SOCIAL WORKERS

AUGUST 24-----JOHN 1:43-51

THOSE WHO HAVEN'T BEEN INTRODUCED TO JESUS

AUGUST 25-----ROMANS 11:33-36

PEACEMAKERS AND AMBASSADORS

AUGUST 26-----MATTHEW 26:6-13

THE ELCA GOOD GIFTS MINISTRY

AUGUST 27-----JEREMIAH 14:13-18

STUDENTS

AUGUST 28-----PSALM 26:1-8

GUIDANCE COUNSELORS AND TEACHERS

AUGUST 29-----MATTHEW 8:14-17

THOSE WHO LEAD YOUTH SERVICE TRIPS

AUGUST 30-----MATTHEW 16:21-28

CONSTRUCTION WORKERS & COMMERCIAL FISHER-PEOPLE

AUGUST 31-----PSALM 17

OPTICIANS AND THEIR STAFF

THE PREACHER & HIS HORSE

A circuit-riding preacher trained his horse to go when he said, "Praise the Lord," and to stop when he said, "Amen." The preacher mounted the horse, said "Praise the Lord," and went for a ride in the nearby mountains.

When he wanted to stop for lunch by a mountain stream, he said, "Amen."

He took off again, saying "Praise the Lord."

The horse started heading toward the edge of a cliff on a narrow mountain trail. The preacher got excited and said, "Whoa!" Then he remembered and said, "Amen," and the horse stopped just short of the edge.

The preacher was so relieved that he looked up to heaven and said, "Praise the Lord!"

MESSIAH ATTENDANCE AND OFFERINGS -- JULY 2020

DATE	ATTENDANCE	TOTAL OFFERING	GENERAL FUND OFFERING	OTHER FUNDS OFFERING
JULY 5	30	\$3,572.00	\$3,327.00	BENEVOLENCE -- \$130.00 BUILDING FUND -- \$75.00 MEMORIAL FUND -- \$40.00
JULY 12	27	\$4,537.00	\$2,142.00	BENEVOLENCE -- \$180.00 BUILDING FUND -- \$2,215.00
JULY 19	19	\$2,360.00	\$2,065.00	BENEVOLENCE -- \$100.00 BUILDING FUND -- \$195.00
JULY 26	39	\$3,244.00	\$2,759.00	BENEVOLENCE -- \$90.00 BUILDING FUND -- \$395.00

JUNIATA COUNTY FOOD PANTRY AUGUST UPDATE

While we were still providing food in prepacked boxes for June, we saw a decrease in families coming to the Food Pantry.

Thanks to all of you who are bringing in fresh produce from your gardens! What a blessing straight from the Lord is fresh produce to those who rarely taste any but the canned variety, and very little of that.

In June 2020, the Food Pantry served 237 families in need – a total of 592 individuals! In addition, our Summer Backpack Program provided 2,060 lunches for 103 school age children who otherwise would be facing a hungry summer vacation.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS FOR AUGUST:

Dish soap, any cleaning supplies and laundry detergent.

Any School Supplies, especially spiral notebooks and scissors.

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!

AUGUST 2020 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- SUNDAY, AUGUST 2: -9:15 AM -- WEEKLY WORSHIP SERVICE (AM 1700 RADIO STATION)
- SUNDAY, AUGUST 9: -9:15 AM -- WEEKLY WORSHIP SERVICE (AM 1700 RADIO STATION)
- THURSDAY, AUGUST 13: -7:00 PM -- W.E.L.C.A. MEETING IN FELLOWSHIP HALL
- SUNDAY, AUGUST 16: -9:15 AM -- WEEKLY WORSHIP SERVICE (AM 1700 RADIO STATION)
- SUNDAY, AUGUST 23: -9:15 AM -- WEEKLY WORSHIP SERVICE (AM 1700 RADIO STATION)
- FRIDAY, AUGUST 28: -NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
- SUNDAY, AUGUST 30: -9:15 AM -- WEEKLY WORSHIP SERVICE (AM 1700 RADIO STATION)
(*FINAL EARLY SERVICE FOR 2020*)
- SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 6: -10:30 AM -- WEEKLY WORSHIP SERVICE (AM 1700 RADIO STATION)

ALL OTHER NON-CHURCH EVENTS AT MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH ARE CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE DUE TO THE ONGOING CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC. PLEASE CHECK THE CALENDAR ON OUR WEBSITE, MLCMIFFLINTOWN.ORG FOR ANY UPDATES!





For the next several weeks, there will be a road closure entering into Mifflintown on Route 35 North (from TJHS and Weis Market). The closure will involve the replacement of a “bridge” between Cedar Spring Road and Washington Avenue (traffic light). This part of PennDOT’s bridge replacement program in Pennsylvania and Juniata County. If you regularly travel to Messiah (or Mifflintown in general) on Route 35 North, you will need to access Cedar Springs Road to Industrial Park Road to Route 35 South. At the traffic signal at Sheetz turn left and travel into Mifflintown (Messiah). You will need to follow the opposite directions when leaving Messiah. Please allow a little extra time when leaving for worship services on Sunday morning beginning with our August 2, 2020 service.



UPDATE REGARDING THE 2021 ELCA YOUTH GATHERING

After much prayer and consideration, we have decided to postpone next summer’s ELCA Youth Gathering to 2022 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The 2022 ELCA Youth Gathering will be held **July 24-28, 2022**, in Minneapolis, with the two pre-events, the Multicultural Youth Leadership Event (MYLE) and the tAble, scheduled for July 21-24, 2022.

We give thanks for your prayers and patience as we have worked through the details with our partners in Minneapolis and across the country. We hope that by postponing the Gathering for a year, individuals and congregations will feel more comfortable and prepared to attend the Gathering in 2022.

We will be updating our website and social media as more details become available.

We look forward to seeing you and experiencing the boundlessness of God in Minneapolis in 2022!

#ELCAYG2022



WHAT WENT INTO MAKING THIS DECISION?

Gathering leadership has looked heavily at research and advice from the CDC, public health officials, meeting planner organizations as well as our host city within the past few months about hosting large events. With current trends still showing an upward spike of COVID-19 cases across the country, we feel it would not be safe to gather in large groups next summer with the risk of spreading the virus.

WHY WAS THIS DECISION MADE NOW?

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) names events like the Gathering (large, national participation) as ones that pose the “**highest risk**.” Additionally, making the decision to postpone now allows congregations more time to fundraise and prepare.

WHO IS ABLE TO ATTEND THE 2022 GATHERING?

Youth who are in 8th to 12th grade at the time of registration (Fall 2021) are eligible to attend. Adult leaders must be at least 21 at the time of the Gathering. The recommended ratio is one adult for every seven youth.

We encourage our youth that are not eligible to attend the 2022 Gathering as a participant to look into our unique **volunteer opportunities** for young adults.