

# *“Growing God’s Kingdom”*



## ***THE TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST***

November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**REV. SAMUEL J. LEISTER, PASTOR**

3 SOUTH THIRD STREET

MIFFLINTOWN, PA 17059

(717)-436-6213

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### ***TODAY’S INTRODUCTION:***

*Today the prophet Amos calls for justice to roll down like waters. Paul urges us to encourage one another with the promised coming of the Lord. Jesus tells the parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids. Surrounded by the faithful of every time and place, we celebrate Christ's coming in our midst in the word of life and the feast of victory—the marriage feast of the lamb.*

# Messiah Lutheran Church

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

Rev. Samuel Leister

Bob St. Clair

Slone Smith

Andrea Cameron

Hannah Ehrisman

Gabby & Sofia Reed

Hannah Ehrisman, Stella Reed & Hope Miller

Sandy Pines & Michelle Stoner

Pastor

Organist/Pianist

Organist/Pianist

Choir Director & Worship Leader

Lector

Acolytes

Communion & Offering Presenters

Altar Guild

## THANKOFFERING SUNDAY

“WITH OUR WHOLE HEARTS WE GIVE YOU THANKS”

November 12, 2023 – 10:30 a.m.

\*Please Stand as **YOU** Are Able

### PREPARATION

CHIMES

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

[Please use the prelude as a quiet time to prepare yourself for worship.]

### VETERANS DAY RECOGNITION PRAYER

Lord of Justice, Lord of Mercy, we remember and give thanks today for all those who have served our nation keeping us safe from those who would threaten us with harm. Bless the men and women of each generation who have responded and served our nation on land, sea and in the air. Keep them safe in their duty and keep us all mindful of our obligation to them to provide for them, their families, and when injured for their care. Help us to provide for their needs as they have for us. Most of all, grant that we may be at peace with our neighbor and your kingdom prevails. Amen.

### GATHERING

#### \* CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

WL In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen.**

WL Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C Amen.**

WL If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

WL Most merciful God,

**C we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

WL Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen.**

\* THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

WL Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the foundation of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.

**C Amen.**

WL Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and mighty, you are the river of life, you are the everlasting wellspring, you are the fire of rebirth.

Glory to you for oceans and lakes, for rivers and streams. Honor to you for cloud and rain, for dew and snow. Your waters are below us, around us, above us: our life is born in you. You are the fountain of resurrection. Praise to you for your saving waters: Noah, his family, and the animals survive the flood, Hagar discovers your well. The Israelites escape through the sea, and they drink from your gushing rock. Naaman washes his leprosy away, and the Samaritan woman will never be thirsty again.

Praise to you for the water of baptism and for your Word that saves us in this sacrament. Breathe your Spirit into all who are gathered here and into all creation.

Illumine our days. Enliven our bones. Dry our tears. Wash away the sin within us, and drown the evil around us.

Satisfy all our thirst with your living water, Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

\* HEART SONG                      “O Master, Let Me Walk with You”                      #492 Green Hymnal

\* PRAYER OF THE DAY

WL O God, with our whole hearts,

**C we give you thanks.**

WL For your loving kindness and tender mercies,

**C we give you thanks.**

WL For the bounty of the harvest,

**C we give you thanks.**

WL Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,

**C we give you thanks.**

## WORD

FIRST READING: Ezra 3:8-13

The First Lesson is from the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter of Ezra

THE LESSON READS:

<sup>8</sup>Now in the second year of their coming unto the house of God at Jerusalem, in the second month, began Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and Jeshua the son Jozadak, and the remnant of their brethren the priests and the Levites, and all they that were come out of the captivity unto Jerusalem; and appointed the Levites, from twenty years old and upward, to set forward the work of the house of the Lord. <sup>9</sup>Then stood Jeshua with his sons and his brethren, Kadmiel and his sons, the sons of Judah, together, to set forward the workmen in the house of God: the sons of Henadad with their sons and their brethren the Levites. <sup>10</sup>And when the builders laid the foundation of the temple of the Lord, they set the priests in their apparel with trumpets, and the Levites the sons of Asaph with cymbals, to praise the Lord, after the ordinance of David king of Israel. <sup>11</sup>And they sang together by course in praising and giving thanks unto the Lord; because he is good, for his mercy endureth for ever toward Israel. And all the people shouted with a great shout, when they praised the Lord, because the foundation of the house of the Lord was laid. <sup>12</sup>But many of the priests and Levites and chief of the fathers, who were ancient men, that had seen the first house, when the foundation of this house was laid before their eyes, wept with a loud voice; and many shouted aloud for joy: <sup>13</sup>So that the people could not discern the noise of the shout of joy from the noise of the weeping of the people: for the people shouted with a loud shout, and the noise was heard afar off.

WL The Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God. (spoken)**

PSALM: 111 (responsively)

<sup>1</sup>Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

**<sup>2</sup>Great are the deeds of the Lord! They are studied by all who delight in them.**

<sup>3</sup>His work is full of majesty and splendor, and his righteousness endures forever.

**<sup>4</sup>He makes his marvelous works to be remembered; the Lord is gracious and full of compassion.**

<sup>5</sup>He gives food to those who fear him; he is ever mindful of his covenant.

**<sup>6</sup>He has shown his people the power of his works in giving them the lands of the nations.**

<sup>7</sup>The works of his hands are faithfulness and justice; all his commandments are sure.

**<sup>8</sup>They stand fast forever and ever, because they are done in truth and equity.**

<sup>9</sup>He sent redemption to his people; he commanded his covenant forever; holy and awesome is his name.

**<sup>10</sup>The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; those who act accordingly have a good understanding. His praise endures forever.**

\* SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 5:12-24

The Second Lesson is from the 5<sup>th</sup> chapter of 1 Thessalonians

THE LESSON READS:

<sup>12</sup>And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you; <sup>13</sup>And to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. And be at peace among yourselves. <sup>14</sup>Now we exhort you, brethren, warn them that are unruly, comfort the feebleminded, support the weak, be patient toward all men. <sup>15</sup>See that none render evil for evil unto any man; but ever follow that which is good, both among yourselves, and to all men. <sup>16</sup>Rejoice evermore. <sup>17</sup>Pray without ceasing. <sup>18</sup>In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you. <sup>19</sup>Quench not the Spirit. <sup>20</sup>Despise not prophesyings. <sup>21</sup>Prove all things; hold fast that which is good. <sup>22</sup>Abstain from all appearance of evil. <sup>23</sup>And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>24</sup>Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it.

WL The Word of the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God. (spoken)**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (sung)

**Al-le-lu-ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e-ter-nal life.**

**Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.**

\* GOSPEL: Matthew 6:19-21

WL The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 6<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

<sup>19</sup>Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: <sup>20</sup>But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: <sup>21</sup>For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

WL The Gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON

Rev. Ann Zimmerman

\* HYMN OF THE DAY

*“Let All Things Now Living”*

#557 Green Hymnal

\* APOSTLES’ CREED

WL Beloved, let us affirm our faith by use of the Apostles’ Creed.

**C 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

WL Called together as the body of Christ, we pray for the church, those in need, and for all of God’s creation.

For the church universal, and the whole body of Christ, called, gathered, and sent in your holy name. We pray,

**ALL with thanksgiving in our hearts.**

WL For the beauty of creation, from the largest blue whale to the smallest bacteria and all that lives or breathes between. We pray,

**ALL with thanksgiving in our hearts.**

WL For peace in all the world, for leaders and activists who labor for justice, for the beloved community that pursues love at all costs. We pray,

**ALL with thanksgiving in our hearts.**

WL For the opportunity to follow the way of Jesus, as we compassionately hear the cries of our siblings who are poor or oppressed in any way, give us courage to share the abundance of your earth, with all. We pray,

**ALL with thanksgiving in our hearts.**

WL For the ELCA, our synod, and local congregation that we may be the hands, feet, and smile of Jesus in a world that so desperately needs him. We pray,

**ALL with thanksgiving in our hearts.**

(Here other intercessions may be offered)

WL For the faithful departed who now rest from their labors in eternal communion with you. We pray,

**ALL with thanksgiving in our hearts.**

WL Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**ALL Amen.**

\* PEACE

WL The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C And also with you.**

(The congregation may greet one another in the name of the Lord from their pews at whatever level of physical contact with which they are comfortable).

OFFERING PRESENTATION

The Women of the ELCA's Thankofferings show gratitude for God's blessings and support our partnership with God in making Christ known to all the world. We are called to offer with joy and thanksgiving what God has first given us.

(The loose offering will be given to the Messiah Women of the ELCA)

\* SUNG OFFERTORY (sung)

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. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

\* OFFERING PRAYER

WL O God, we give you thanks for your overwhelming generosity toward all your children. We thank you for the ministry of the Women of the ELCA. Help us to continually heed your call to go out of this building, and into the neighborhood, that we might be for our communities signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C Amen**

MEAL

\* THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

WL The Lord be with you.

**C And also with you.**

WL Lift up your hearts.

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

WL Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

\* EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

WL 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.

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

\* **THE LORD'S PRAYER (In Unison)**

**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.**

\* **LAMB OF GOD (SUNG)**

**C 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 the front of the chancel).

\* **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

WL Jesus invites you to this table. Come, eat and live.

**DISTRIBUTION**

**["At the Chancel Rail"** – come forward by the CENTER aisle; take a communion cup from the table by the front pew. Approach the altar to partake, then move to the chancel rail to pray. Then, return to your seat using the left or right SIDE aisle]. (Fellowship cups are available for those who wish to remain in your seat for communion).

\* **COMMUNION BLESSING**

WL The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**C Amen.**

\* **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

WL Gracious God, in this meal you have drawn us to your heart and nourished us at your table with food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Now send us forth to be your people in the world, and to proclaim your truth this day and evermore, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C Amen.**



## SENDING

\* WL We give thanks to God with our whole hearts.

**C Hallelujah!**

WL Great are the works of our God.

**C Hallelujah!**

WL Gracious and merciful is God.

**C Hallelujah!**

WL God sent redemption to the people; holy and awesome is God's name.

**C Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

\* BLESSING

WL And now, may Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**C Amen.**

\* SENDING SONG                      *"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"*                      #543 Green Hymnal

\* DISMISSAL

WL Go now to love and serve the Lord. Go in peace.    **C We go in the name of Christ.**

## POSTLUDE

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NEXT WEEK'S LECTOR – Barb Geedey

NEXT WEEK'S ALTAR GUILD – Diana Wise & Cynthia Smith (11/13/23 to 12/10/23)

NEXT WEEK'S ACOLYTES – Olivia Mummah & Braedon Walton

NEXT WEEK'S COMMUNION/OFFERING PRESENTERS – Nick Reed, Haley & Harrison Mummah

NEXT WEEK'S MANNA BREAD BAKER – Tammy Brackbill

## **WELCOME TO ALL!**

VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME to worship at Messiah. We invite you to register your visit in the guest book provided in the Narthex. If you are seeking a church home, please speak to the Pastor. Our fellowship in Jesus Christ is open and extended to all persons who confess His Lordship over all life. Thank you for worshipping with us.

VISITORS ARE INVITED TO COMMUNE with us if they are baptized, and if with us in our faith, they trust Jesus' promise of the presence of the Body and Blood of Christ.

TODAY IS OUR ANNUAL WELCA THANKOFFERING CELEBRATION – A special thanks to the Messiah Women of the ELCA for organizing our worship service and to all who participated. All loose offering received plus all the Thankoffering envelopes that are included with your bulletin today will go to the churchwide Women of the ELCA for their many projects. Extra envelopes are available on the table in the Adult Sunday School Room. Please make checks payable to "Messiah Women of the ELCA." Thank you for your generosity.

AS WE MAKE OUR THANKOFFERINGS TODAY, we share in a tradition that goes back to the 1800s or even earlier. Then, when it seemed that there was not enough money to carry out the work of the church, the women would act together as “cent” or “mite” societies. Each woman would set aside offerings at home throughout the year in thanksgiving for blessings received. And on occasion, the women would come together as we do today, joining their offerings together to support ministry of many kinds. When Women of the ELCA was formed in 1987, we committed to continue this tradition of giving in gratitude for blessings. Each year, in thousands of congregations, Thankofferings are given to support the life-changing ministries of Women of the ELCA. Together, we do more than we could ever do apart. In gratitude for all God has given to us, and with the hope for all that is to come, let us now give our Thankoffering.

WE WELCOME REV. ANN ZIMMERMAN to our service and thank her for bringing the message to us today. Rev. Zimmerman is a former elementary teacher at Shikellamy School District in Sunbury, her home town. Ann was active in the Upper Susquehanna Synodical Women’s Organization for many years. After 22 years of teaching, she retired to begin seminary studies at Gettysburg Seminary (now United Lutheran Seminary). Her first call was to Upstate New York at Trinity Lutheran in Herkimer. Living next to the Susquehanna River all her life, Ann felt right at home along the Mohawk River/Erie Canal. As a local history buff in PA, she learned much about the American Revolution as Herkimer is named after their famed resident, General Herkimer. Currently, Ann is retired and serves as interim pastor at St. Luke’s Lutheran Church in Sunbury.

ALTAR FLOWERS are presented to the Glory of God and in honor of my grandson Connor, by Sabrina Shipp.

JUST A THOUGHT – Harry Lathrop Reed, Christian Thinker: Rightness is not easy of definition, but everybody knows what it is.

### **CONGREGATIONAL NEWS**

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

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

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.

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.

IF ANYONE HAS ANY NEEDS OR CONCERNS, please contact Pastor Sam Leister. If you or someone you know is ill or hospitalized, please let Pastor Leister know. He can be reached at 717-436-8589 (home), or 717-348-1020 (cell), or email at [mlcsleister@gmail.com](mailto:mlcsleister@gmail.com).

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.

NOVEMBER'S "MISSION OF THE MONTH" at Messiah will go towards Lutheran Disaster Relief, to help those affected in several states by natural disasters. The monies will be sent from Messiah directly to L.D.R. so they may continue to serve those whose lives have been turned upside down by these disasters. In addition to your generosity, the PPC allocated funds to match congregational donations up to \$1,000.00. This is just one way in which we can continue to extend our mission in Christ's love beyond the walls of our church building.

A VOTER'S ASSEMBLY will be held today following the worship service for the purpose of electing Jenn Hutchinson as the church treasurer. A Voter's Assembly will again be held on November 26<sup>th</sup> for ratification of the constitution and by-laws (a two-thirds majority of voting members is required to accept the documents in order for them to pass), approval of the proposed 2024 budget, and reports of the boards.

BIBLE STUDY WILL CONTINUE on Tuesdays, at 10:30 a.m. in the Library. We will be studying the book of Revelation from Augsburg publishers. Anyone is welcome to attend.

BAPTISMAL/NEW MEMBER CLASSES – 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 Pastor Sam or the church office know so a class can be scheduled.

FIRST COMMUNION – Please let Pastor Sam or 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.

MESSIAH'S PPC has purchased two AED'S (Automatic Electronic Defibrillators) along with upgraded first aid products for the Fellowship Hall and the main worship area. The estimated cost is approximately \$3,000. We are all given the opportunity to contribute to the purchase of these life-saving devices. There is a chart showing envelopes with numbers on them in the Adult Sunday School Room. The number is the amount of a contribution you can make to help with this purchase. Please take an envelope and return it when you come to church.

IF YOU HAVE ANY NEWS OR UPCOMING EVENTS, please contact Sheree Goss at 717-436-9613 or email her at [msgoss@gmail.com](mailto:msgoss@gmail.com).

## DECEMBER ADVENT SEASON & CHRISTMAS EVENTS

**Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>:** First Sunday of Advent, followed by a light luncheon (prepared by the Fellowship Committee). Decoration of the church will be held after the service and luncheon. ALL HANDS ON DECK ARE NEEDED!

**Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup>:** Second Sunday of Advent. *Hanging of the Greens* program will be held during the morning worship service. The topic of this year's program will be "*Christmas Greens.*"

**Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>:** Third Sunday of Advent. Community Christmas Cantata "*Bethlehem's Child*" at 2:00 p.m. at Messiah.

**Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup>:** Fourth Sunday of Advent and Christmas Eve. The *Christmas Eve Music Prelude Service* begins at 7:00 p.m. featuring our in-house musicians, Bob St. Clair and Slone Smith. *The Candlelight/Communion Service* will begin at 7:30 p.m. and will include the singing of Carols and special anthems by both the junior and senior choirs.

## Official Announcement to the Messiah Lutheran Church Congregation:

- Sunday, September 10, 2023, marks the first official notice that the Parish Planning Council has approved and recommends for adoption the proposed amendments to the Church's Constitution and Bylaws as prepared by Tawny Mummah and Larry Wise. The amended version is based on the Upper Susquehanna Synod's model constitution with some alterations made to accommodate our Messiah Lutheran PPC operating structure. This proposed version has been developed over the past three years in full cooperation with and approval by Bishop Miller of the U.S.S. Copies are available both online and in the Adult Sunday School room. Please direct all questions to either Larry or Tawny.
- A congregational meeting was held on October 15, 2023 with the purpose to adopt the amendments by a majority of those members voting.
- On Sunday, November 26, 2023, at the annual congregational meeting, ratification vote will be conducted. A two-thirds majority of those members voting is required for this final ratification.

Should the new constitution and bylaws be ratified then on Monday, November 27, 2023, it will be submitted to the Synod and a 120-day waiting period will begin. If the Synod raises no concerns with the ratified constitution and bylaws then it will become effective on March 26, 2024.

### 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

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS are being collected for Shelter Service, Inc. in Lewistown:

- |                     |                 |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| --Laundry Detergent | --Shaving Cream |
| --Clorox            | --Shampoo       |
| --Dryer Sheets      | --Deodorant     |
| --Dish Soap         | --Body Wash     |

Please place items in the Adult Sunday School Room in the container provided.

CHRISTMAS ANGEL PROJECT – Messiah Women of the ELCA are sponsoring 6 children for the Christmas Angel Project again this year. The sign-up chart for the clothing and non-clothing items that are needed is on the bulletin board in the kitchenette. Gifts are due at the church by December 3<sup>rd</sup>, wrapped or bagged with a name tag that includes the child's name and number on the tag.

THE NEXT MESSIAH WELCA MEETING will be held on Thursday, November 9<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 p.m. in the Youth Area. The December meeting will be held on Thursday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. and will be our Christmas program.

### *WOMEN OF THE ELCA PURPOSE STATEMENT*

*As a community of women created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, the society, and the world.*

## **COMMUNITY**

Again this year the Food Pantry will join forces with the Boy Scouts, Kiwanis, and **YOU** to bring Thanksgiving and Christmas meals to as many Juniata County families living in poverty as possible. Working as a team and pooling our resources, we can reach more families in need and avoid duplicating services. But we can't do it without **your** help. When the Boy Scouts come to your door in November for their annual food drive, please give generously. And if you can help us to start stockpiling the following foods for the holidays, we would really appreciate it. Our goal is to provide 800 meals: 400 for Thanksgiving and 400 for Christmas.

### **HOLIDAY MEAL DONATIONS THAT ARE STILL NEEDED**

TURKEYS (AROUND 12 LBS.), TURKEY BREASTS, WHOLE CHICKENS, HAMS (3-5 LBS.),  
INSTANT POTATOES, BOXED STUFFING, TURKEY GRAVY,  
BOXED BROWNIE OR COOKIE MIX,  
OR A \$20 DONATION WILL PURCHASE ONE COMPLETE MEAL!

\*WE ALSO GLADLY ACCEPT DONATIONS OF CASH/CHECKS AND GIFT CARDS.

THE 2023 COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CANTATA, "Bethlehem's Child" by Victor C. Johnson and Lloyd Larson, will be held on Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup> at Messiah at 2:00 p.m. Rehearsals are every Monday evening beginning at 7:00 p.m. through December 11<sup>th</sup>. If you are still interested in joining the cantata, please contact coordinator Bill Angenent at [k6nd@k6nd.com](mailto:k6nd@k6nd.com) or director Andrea Cameron at [messiahchoir88@yahoo.com](mailto:messiahchoir88@yahoo.com)

### **THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH**

- Today:** -Thankoffering Service.  
-9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Catechetical Class.  
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Jr. Church.  
-Voter's Assembly following worship service.  
-Light lunch following the worship service.
- Monday:** -6:30 p.m., The Knitters in Junior Church Room.  
-7:00 p.m., AA in Disciple's Class. Area.  
-7:00 p.m., Cantata Rehearsal in sanctuary.
- Tuesday:** -10:30 a.m. Bible Study.
- Wednesday:** -9:00 a.m., "The Needlers" in Fellowship Hall.  
-7:00 p.m., Choir rehearsal in sanctuary.
- Sunday:** -9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Catechetical Class.  
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Jr. Church.

## **PRAYER LIST**

Steve & Linda Bahorik  
Jeremy Barnes  
Ryan Barr  
Donna Barton  
Gary Bechtold  
Linda Brouse  
Andrea Cameron  
Terry Coder  
Rob Davis  
Fred & Dot Dowling  
Seth Dowling  
Kim Dumais  
Freda Durio  
Cathy Dysinger  
Renee Dzikowski  
Neil & Pat Fisher  
Kevin Fetterhoof  
Bentley Fulkroad  
Terri Gayer  
Deb Geedey  
Bob & Eddi Kay Gill  
Sheree Goss  
Sylva Grimm

Fred Gross  
Hannah Hart  
Family of Esther Henry  
Nox Hepburn  
Judy Hosler  
Erin Husler  
Terry Imes  
Annie Ingle  
Guy Kerstetter  
Jesse Kint  
Carlen McClure  
Alice McClure  
Andi McDanel  
Cecilia Miller  
Curt Miller  
Ellwood Miller  
Larry Miller  
Shirley Miller  
Claire Mummah  
Carole Nace  
Donna Parks  
Ron & Linda (Kerchner)Parks  
Kari Ann (Reagen) Petrine

Betty Ranck  
Keith Ranck  
Dave Reed  
Diane Rowles  
Kelley Rusenko  
Ron & Arlene Shearer  
Joyce & Todd Spangler  
Barry Strawser  
Vicki Suoja  
Tonya Tabb  
Dorothy Towsey  
Molly Ulsh  
Doug Wagner  
Roscoe Warner  
Family of Florence Williams  
Mary Jane Williamson  
Heidi Woltman  
Jim Woltman  
Gary Zeiders  
Paul Zeiders  
George Zimmerman  
Linda Zimmerman

## **PRAY FOR OUR SHUT-INS**

- Jane Marhefka – Brookline Manor, 2 Manor Blvd., Mifflintown, PA 17059
- Rich Smith – Magnolia Personal Care Center, 68 Lexi St., Mifflintown, PA 17059
- Ray Bramm – Honaman House, 58 Honaman House Dr., Apt. 108, Thompsontown, PA 17094
- Ruth Cisney – Honaman House, 58 Honaman House Dr., Apt. 112, Thompsontown, PA 17094
- Edith Nipple – 1482 William Penn Hwy., Mifflintown, PA 17059
- Ona Stoner – William Penn Nursing Home, 163 Summit Dr., Lewistown, PA 17044