

THE MESSIAH HERALD



December 2023

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

3 South Third Street, Mifflintown, PA 17059

(717)-436-6213

PASTOR – REV. SAMUEL J. LEISTER: mlcsleister@gmail.com

CHURCH WEBSITE: mlcmifflintown.org

OFFICE EMAIL: mlchurchoffice@gmail.com

TREASURER EMAIL: mlchurchtreasurer@gmail.com

SUNDAY SCHOOL – 9:15 AM

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

Facebook LIVE Each Week

Children's Sermons offered every Sunday!

USS-ARK NEWSLETTER

THE LUTHERAN MAGAZINE

"Growing God's Love"

The Messiah Herald



THE PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

Dear Messiah Family,

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

In this month of December, we celebrate Advent and prepare for the coming of the baby Jesus through his human birth in Bethlehem. We will light the first candle of the Advent Wreath on December 3 and decorate the church following the worship service. On Sunday December 10 we will light two candles on the wreath and celebrate the Hanging of the Greens service. On Sunday December 24 we will hold our Christmas Eve service as we celebrate the birth of Jesus on December 25th. We conclude December with the first Sunday of Christmas on December 31st.

At the Hanging of the Greens this year we share the descriptive passages of The Christmas Greens which decorate our sanctuary. The Christmas Greens include the meanings of the Advent Wreath, Garland, the Holy and Ivy, the Poinsettias, and of course the Christmas trees. Scripture readings and hymn verses related to each of the elements of our decorations.

A community Cantata service titled "*Bethlehem's Child*" will be presented at Messiah on Sunday, December 17 at 2:00pm. Many members of Messiah including Andrea Cameron and Slone Smith are participating in a big way with this ministry. The Messiah celebration on Christmas Eve will be a 7:00 pm service, including candlelight and Eucharist.

December 25, the day on which we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is truly a day of wonder and joy. In your homes, please use this day to rejoice in the fulfillment of God's promise of love and peace to all. The peace of Jesus does not always mean the absence of conflict or pain or suffering. Jesus brings a peace of strength to us in order to weather the storms of life in this world. Let us all share the peace of Jesus with our neighbors near and far, those like us and not like us, and people for whom we find hard to care as well as those who we easily support in times of need. Especially in these times of world strife, conflict, and struggles near and far, let us all open our eyes to the needs of those who we may find hard to see and that we can find ways to bring the Love of Jesus to them, now and throughout the years to come.

May the Lord be with you all!

Pastor Sam Leister

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING

The Family of Florence Williams
 The Family of Esther Henry
 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
 Kevin Fetterhoof
 Neil & Pat Fisher
 Bentley Fulkroad
 Terri Gayer
 Deb Geedey
 Bob & Eddi Kay Gill
 Sheree Goss

Sylva Grimm
 Fred Gross
 Hannah Hart
 Nox Hepburn
 Judy Hosler
 Nancy Howell
 Erin Husler
 Terry Imes
 Annie Ingle
 Guy Kerstetter
 Jesse Kint
 Carlen McClure
 Alice McClure
 Andi McDanel
 Cecilia Miller
 Curt Miller
 Ellwood Miller
 Jane Miller
 Larry Miller
 Shirley Miller
 Claire Mumamah
 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
 Ken Stuck & Family
 Vicki Suoja
 Tonya Tabb
 Dorothy Towsey
 Molly Ulsh
 Kay Varner & Family
 Doug Wagner
 Roscoe Warner
 Mary Jane Williamson
 Jim & Heidi Woltman
 Gary Zeiders
 Paul Zeiders
 George Zimmerman
 Linda Zimmerman

AND FOR OUR SHUT INS

BROOKLINE MANOR

(2 MANOR BOULEVARD, MIFFLINTOWN, PA 17059)
 Jane Marhefka

MAGNOLIA PERSONAL CARE CENTER

(68 LEXI STREET, MIFFLINTOWN, PA 17059)
 Rich Smith

HONNEMAN HOUSE

(58 HONNEMAN HOUSE DR, THOMPSONTOWN, PA 17094)
 Ruth Cisney Ray Bramm
 (Apt. #112) (Apt. #108)

WILLIAM PENN HEALTHCARE AND REHAB CENTER

(163 SUMMIT DRIVE, LEWISTOWN, PA 17044)
 Ona Stoner

AT HOME

Edith Nipple
 1482 William Penn Hwy.
 Mifflintown, PA 17059

PRAYERS & CONCERNS

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. Also, 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 as well. He can be reached at 717-436-8589 (home), or 717-348-1020 (cell), or email at mlcsleister@gmail.com.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

DECEMBER 4 – Jean Berry
 DECEMBER 5 – Silas Smith
 DECEMBER 11 – Gene Crissman
 DECEMBER 15 -- Jane McNaught Shearer
 DECEMBER 25 – **OUR SAVIOR, JESUS**
 Barbara S. Geedey
 DECEMBER 26 – Emma Arentz

UPCOMING SERVANTS

ALTAR GUILD

November 13 to December 10

..... Diana Wise & Cynthia Smith

December 11 to January 7

..... Tawny Mummah & Tammy Smith

MANNA MAKERS

December 3..... Christie Yorks

December 17..... Diana Wise

December 24 (Evening Only) Jean Berry

December 31..... Barb Geedey

LECTORS

December 3..... Slone Smith

December 10..... Cynthia Smith

December 17..... Kate Swailes

December 24 Marina Holderman

December 31..... Andrea Cameron

ACOLYTES

December 3..... Zeb Berry & Slone Smith

December 10..... Olivia & Haley Mummah

December 17..... Sofia & Stella Reed

December 24 (AM)... Braedon Walton & Hope Miller

December 31..... Julia Martin & Thea Beward

COMMUNION/OFFERING PRESENTERS

December 3

... Julia Martin, Thea Beward, & Harrison Mummah

December 10

..... Hope, Grace, & Evan Miller

December 17

..... Nick & Gabby Reed & Hannah Ehrisman

December 24 (AM)

..... Thea Beward, Zeb Berry, & Harrison Mummah

December 31

..... Paige Martin, Brea Beward, & Braedon Walton

FLOWERS

December 3..... Debbie Meinsler

December 10..... Judy Armstrong

December 17..... POINSETTIAS

December 24..... POINSETTIAS

December 31..... POINSETTIAS

STORE GIFT CARDS

Weis and Giant gift cards are available to purchase from the Disciples Class. This is a particularly 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.

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!

KNITTERS "ON PAUSE" FOR HOLIDAY SEASON

The Knitters, which meets every Monday evening in the Junior Church Room, will be taking a "pause" in their schedule for the month of December so that everyone can enjoy the holiday season with loved ones and not have to venture out into the cold, dark nights! Merry Christmas!



JUNIATA COUNTY FOOD PANTRY DECEMBER UPDATE



Merry Christmas to you and your families!

With your help, by the time we will have distributed over 150 Thanksgiving meals to our Juniata County neighbors in need! In December we're attempting to do it all again-for Christmas!

BASIC NEEDS FOR JANUARY:

Canned beets, Canned mixed vegetables, Canned pineapples,
laundry detergent, and other Cleaning Supplies

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: jcfp122017@gmail.com

WEBSITE: www.jcfoodpantry.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!

2024 ELCA YOUTH GATHERING

The ELCA Youth Gathering will be held July 16 through July 20 of 2024 in New Orleans. Information may be reviewed by checking the following websites:

<https://www.elca.church/gathering>

and <https://www.elca.church/gathering/faqs>

Youth participants must be in eighth to 12th grade at the time of registration (fall 2023). Adult leaders accompanying youth to the Gathering must be at least 21 years old at the time of the Gathering. We have several of our young people who are definitely interested in attending with our nationwide youth. Additionally, we

would like to see some adult leaders accompany the youth to this faith formation event. Please consider joining the gathering

MISSION OF THE MONTH

December's "Mission of the Month" at Messiah will go towards Shelter Services of Mifflin and Juniata Counties. The monies will be sent from Messiah directly to Shelter Services so they may continue to serve those whose lives have been turned upside down 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.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS AND PRAYER FOCUS

DECEMBER 1----- PSALM 80:1-7, 17-19
VICTIMS OF BRUTALITY AND THOSE WHO REMEMBER THEM

DECEMBER 2 ----- 1 CORINTHIANS 1:3-9
CONFIRMATION STUDENTS

DECEMBER 3 ----- MARK 13:24-37
SPIRITUAL DIRECTORS AND COUNSELORS

DECEMBER 4 ----- MICAH 4:1-5
HELPERS IN THE MIDST OF CRISIS

DECEMBER 5 ----- PSALM 79
COUNTRIES DEVASTATED BY WAR

DECEMBER 6 ----- LUKE 21:34-38
FIRST RESPONDERS

DECEMBER 7 ----- ISAIAH 40:1-11
PEOPLE GRIEVING TODAY

DECEMBER 8 ----- PSALM 85:1-2, 8-13
THOSE WHO FEEL FRANTIC AND DISTRESSED THIS SEASON

DECEMBER 9 ----- 2 PETER 3:8-15A
CAREGIVERS

DECEMBER 10 ----- MARK 1:1-8
PROCLAIMERS OF THE GOSPEL

DECEMBER 11 ----- PSALM 27
LUTHERAN IMMIGRATION AND REFUGEE SERVICE

DECEMBER 12 ----- ISAIAH 4:2-6
FOSTER CHILDREN AND SOCIAL WORKERS

DECEMBER 13 ----- LUKE 1:5-17
PEOPLE IN DANGER BECAUSE OF THEIR FAITH

DECEMBER 14 ----- ISAIAH 61:1-4, 8-11
SAFETY AND RESPECT FOR JEWISH PEOPLE EVERYWHERE

DECEMBER 15 ----- PSALM 126
HORTICULTURISTS, GARDENERS, FLOWER SHOP OWNERS

DECEMBER 16 ----- 1 THESSALONIANS 5:16-24
THOSE BURDENED BY "SHOULD'S"

DECEMBER 17 ----- JOHN 1:6-8, 19-28
THOSE WHO DO NOT YET KNOW JESUS OR DON'T KNOW HIM WELL

DECEMBER 18----- EPHESIANS 6:10-17
MILITARY PERSONNEL PROTECTING THE INNOCENT

DECEMBER 19----- 2 KINGS 2:9-22
OUR PASTOR AND OTHER CHURCH LEADERS

DECEMBER 20 ----- MALACHI 3:16 - 4:6
THOSE WHO FEEL HOPELESS

DECEMBER 21----- 2 SAMUEL 7:1-11, 16
OUR WORLD'S NEED FOR THE PRINCE OF PEACE

DECEMBER 22 ----- LUKE 1:46B-55
THANKSGIVING FOR SIGNS OF GOD AT WORK IN THE WORLD

DECEMBER 23 ----- ROMANS 16:25-27
WRITERS OF BOOKS FOR YOUNG READERS

DECEMBER 24 ----- LUKE 1:26-38
THOSE RAISING CHILDREN NOW

DECEMBER 25 ----- LUKE 2:1-20
CHRISTIANS AROUND THE WORLD CELEBRATING CHRISTMAS

DECEMBER 26 ----- ACTS 6:8 - 7:2A, 51-60
ELCA WORLD HUNGER MINISTRY; LOCAL FOOD SHELVES

DECEMBER 27 ----- JOHN 21:20-25
BIBLE COMMENTATORS

DECEMBER 28 ----- MATTHEW 2:13-18
REFUGEES AND ASYLUM SEEKERS

DECEMBER 29 ----- PSALM 148
CARE FOR GOD'S GOOD CREATION

DECEMBER 30 ----- GALATIANS 4:4-7
THAT WE MAY SEE OTHERS AS OUR SIBLINGS IN CHRIST

DECEMBER 31----- LUKE 2:22-40
GOD'S GUIDANCE FOR US ALL IN THE NEW YEAR

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.

CHURCH CALENDAR

As you will see on page 9 of this newsletter, our church calendar for the month of December is a full one, with many events revolving around the holidays. A reminder that some events do change due to weather or other circumstances! To keep updated on the latest events, go to our website, <https://mlcmifflintown.org>, and click on "About Us" then "Calendar" to see the up-to-date calendar!

MORNING PRAYER...

Light dawns on a weary world, and we are grateful for the gift of this new day. Free us from fear and revive our faith so that, like saints before us, our lives may reflect the wonders of your love. **Amen.**

...EVENING PRAYER...

As night falls, we confess our weariness and our need for rest. Stay close to us, Faithful One, and bring us safely into the days ahead, for they are full of promise, wonder, and hope. In your name we pray. **Amen.**

...AND AT MEALTIME...

O God, our refuge and strength, as we share in this meal, we remember our siblings who have nothing to eat. Teach us how to disrupt the cycles of poverty as we announce the good news of Christ in our homes and in our world. **Amen.**



IN HOME SERVICES HOME CARE AGENCY *Of Central PA*

A Locally Owned, State Licensed

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Is Pleased To Be Recognized By The PA Business Central As One Of Their TOP 100 Organizations

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"We Hire The BEST to Provide The BEST IN HOME CARE SERVICES."

Current Client Satisfaction Score - 99%
Ken (Kenton) Stuck, NHA - Founder and CEO,
is very proud of the compassionate TEAM of Heroes that makes up In Home Services of Central PA

SERVING JUNIATA, MIFFLIN & CENTRE COUNTIES
www.InHomeServicesOfCentralPA.com
Corporate Office 717.363.4913 • 814.321.2145

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

Sunday, November 5th was All Saints Sunday and, on that day, we remembered, with thanksgiving, all of the people of God, living and dead, who form the mystical body of Christ. All believers in Christ who have been made holy, (sanctified) by the blood of Christ, are saints. We especially honored those of the congregation who have gone on to the other side of eternal life since last All Saints Sunday. They are: Sieber Stoner, Carol Simonton, Randy Clark, Rick Stuter, Ken Mummah, Alice Swartz, Gail Henderson, and Daniel Brackbill. A white carnation was placed on the cross in the front of the church in memory of each of these people. Family members could come forward after the service and take a carnation placed in memory of their loved one. *“Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord, yea, says the Spirit that they may rest from their labors.”*

OUR SYMPATHIES

We extend our sympathy to Debbie Meinsler and family on the passing of her mother, Florence Williams, on November 1, 2023, in Western Pennsylvania. Please keep the family and friends in your prayers. Debbie and her family would like to thank the folks at Messiah for their prayers during this difficult time.

We also extend our sympathy to Ken Stuck and family on the passing of his sister, Patricia Brode, on October 26, 2023, in Virginia Beach. Please keep Ken and family in your prayers.

Finally, we extend our sympathy to Kay Varner and family on the passing of her sister-in-law, Pam Sieber. on November 19, 2023, in Maine. Please keep Kay and her brother John and family in your prayers.

Messiah's December Advent Season and Christmas Events

PLEASE INVITE OTHERS TO JOIN US AS WE PREPARE OURSELVES IN ANTICIPATION OF THE COMING OF THE CHRIST CHILD!

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3RD: 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 10TH: 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 ***The Christmas Greens***.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17TH: Third Sunday of Advent. Community Christmas Cantata, “Bethlehem’s Child” at 2:00 PM at Messiah.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24TH: Fourth Sunday of Advent and Christmas Eve. At 7:00 PM – Christmas Eve Music Prelude Service, followed by the 7:30 PM Christmas Eve Candlelight/Communion Service

CANDLELIGHT AND COMMUNION CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE will begin with a **Prelude Service at 7:00 PM**, featuring our in-house musicians, Bob St. Clair, and Slone Smith. **The Candlelight/ Communion service will begin at 7:30 PM** and will include the singing of Carols and special anthems by both the junior and senior choirs. This year’s theme is “The Birth of Jesus” as told in Luke 2:1-20.

DECEMBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3:** **FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**
-9:15 AM – SUNDAY SCHOOL & CATECHETICAL CLASS
-10:30 AM – WORSHIP, COMMUNION, JR. CHURCH
-AFTER WORSHIP – LUNCHEON AND DECORATING OF THE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS
- MONDAY, DECEMBER 4:**
-5:00 PM – LION’S CLUB IN FELLOWSHIP HALL
-7:00 PM -- AA IN DISCIPLE’S CLASS AREA
-7:00 PM – COMMUNITY CHOIR REHEARSAL IN SANCTUARY
- TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5:**
-10:30 AM – BIBLE STUDY IN JR. CHURCH ROOM
- WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6:**
-9:00 AM – “THE NEEDLERS” IN FELLOWSHIP HALL
-7:00 PM – CHOIR REHEARSAL IN THE SANCTUARY
- THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7:**
-9 AM TO 12 NOON -- JCPASR IN FELLOWSHIP HALL
- SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10:** **SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**
-9:15 AM – SUNDAY SCHOOL & CATECHETICAL CLASS
-10:30 AM – WORSHIP/HANGING OF THE GREENS, COMMUNION, JR. CHURCH
- MONDAY, DECEMBER 11:**
-7:00 PM -- AA IN DISCIPLE’S CLASS AREA
-7:00 PM – COMMUNITY CHOIR REHEARSAL IN SANCTUARY
- TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12:**
-10:30 AM – BIBLE STUDY IN JR. CHURCH ROOM
- WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13:**
-9:00 AM – “THE NEEDLERS” IN FELLOWSHIP HALL (*LUNCHEON FOLLOWING*)
-7:00 PM – CHOIR REHEARSAL IN THE SANCTUARY
- THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14:**
-7:30 PM – WELCA IN YOUTH AREA
- SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17:** **THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**
-9:15 AM – SUNDAY SCHOOL & CATECHETICAL CLASS
-10:30 AM – WORSHIP, COMMUNION, JR. CHURCH
-2:00 PM – CHRISTMAS CANTATA AT MESSIAH
-6:00 PM – PPC MEETING IN DISCIPLE’S CLASS AREA
- MONDAY, DECEMBER 18:**
-7:00 PM -- AA IN DISCIPLE’S CLASS AREA
- WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20:**
-ALL DAY – YOUTH FUNDRAISER AT TYSON HILL OIP
-9:00 AM – “THE NEEDLERS” IN FELLOWSHIP HALL
-7:00 PM – CHOIR REHEARSAL IN THE SANCTUARY
- FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22:** **NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**
- SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24:** **FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT & CHRISTMAS EVE**
-9:15 AM – SUNDAY SCHOOL & CATECHETICAL CLASS
-10:30 AM – WORSHIP, COMMUNION, JR. CHURCH
-7:00 PM – PRELUDE CONCERT
-7:30 PM – CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE OF CAROLS, COMMUNION, AND CANDLELIGHT
- MONDAY, DECEMBER 25:** **MERRY CHRISTMAS!!**
- SATURDAY, DECEMBER 30:**
-9 AM TO 5 PM – FELLOWSHIP HALL RESERVED
- SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31:**
-9:15 AM – SUNDAY SCHOOL & CATECHETICAL CLASS
-10:30 AM – WORSHIP, COMMUNION, JR. CHURCH/SERVICE OF HEALING
- MONDAY, JANUARY 1, 2024:** **HAPPY NEW YEAR!!**



Messiah's WELCA met on Thursday, November 9 at 1:30 in the Young Adult Sunday School classroom.

Cynthia Smith presented the program on grief and the group talked about things to say and not say to someone who is grieving. We have all been in that position of not knowing what to say and we agreed that we don't always have to say anything.

The information in the newsletter from the previous meeting was approved by everyone present.

Cynthia reported that she received additional money for Blanket Sunday, so the final total is \$645.00. That money was sent to the Upper Susquehanna Synodical Women's Organization to purchase blankets to go with the quilts.

Under Old Business Barb reported that the Christmas Angel project is well under way and there are only a few items left to sign up for.

Under New Business our Christmas Program on December 14th will be held in the evening at 7:30 P.M. Everyone is to bring their favorite reading and a snack. Beverage will be provided.

We decided that our group is returning to evening meetings beginning in December at 7:30 and will continue into 2024.

Our meeting was closed with the WELCA on Purpose Statement.

CHRISTMAS ANGEL PROJECT

The Women of the ELCA will once again be sponsoring six children for the Christmas Angel Project. The sign-up chart for the gifts that are needed is on the bulletin board in the Kitchenette. Gifts are due at the church by **noon on December 4th**, wrapped or bagged with a name tag that includes the child's name and number on the tag.

UPCOMING YOUTH FUNDRAISERS

The youth of both Messiah and St. Stephen's Lutheran Churches will be holding fundraisers in the coming months to support both work trips and the 2024 Youth Gathering in late July in New Orleans. Please see Christina Martin for cards to signify that you want to participate in the fundraisers at the Tyson Hill OIP and/or Harshbarger's Subs and Malts. Here are the dates and locations of the upcoming fundraisers:

- ❖ **DECEMBER 20TH** -- Tyson Hill OIP
- ❖ **JANUARY 2ND** – Harshbarger's Subs & Malts
- ❖ **FEBRUARY 7TH** – Tyson Hill OIP
- ❖ **MARCH 12TH** – Harshbarger's Subs & Malts

Thank you for supporting the youth of our churches!!



REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR

**EACH DAY ADD AN ITEM TO A BOX.
ON CHRISTMAS EVE DONATE THE CONTENTS TO A
FOOD BANK.**

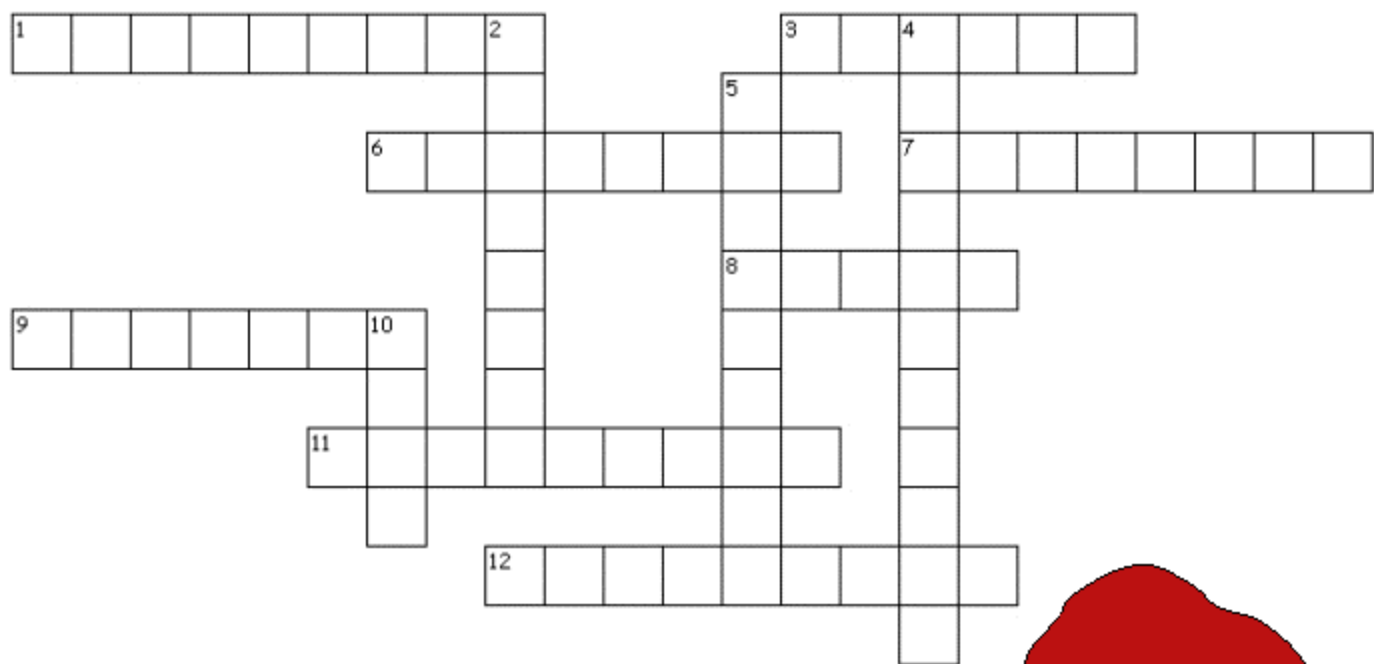
- December 1 - box of cereal
- December 2 - peanut butter
- December 3 - stuffing mix
- December 4 - boxed potatoes
- December 5 - macaroni and cheese
- December 6 - canned fruit
- December 7 - canned tomatoes
- December 8 - canned tuna
- December 9 - dessert mix
- December 10 - jar of applesauce
- December 11 - canned sweet potatoes
- December 12 - cranberry sauce
- December 13 - canned beans
- December 14 - box of crackers
- December 15 - package of rice
- December 16 - package of oatmeal
- December 17 - package pasta
- December 18 - spaghetti sauce
- December 19 - chicken noodle soup
- December 20 - tomato soup
- December 21 - can corn
- December 22 - can mixed vegetables
- December 23 - can carrots
- December 24 - can green beans

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Just for Laughs....

The Dentist's Hymn.....Crown Him with Many Crowns
The Weatherman's Hymn..There Shall Be Showers of Blessings
The Contractor's Hymn.....How Firm a Foundation
The Tailor's Hymn.....Holy, Holy, Holy
The Politician's Hymn.....Standing on the Promises
The IRS Agent's Hymn.....I Surrender All
The Gossip's Hymn.....It Is No Secret
The Electrician's Hymn.....Send The Light
The Shopper's Hymn.....In the Sweet By and By
The Realtor's Hymn.....I've Got a Mansion Just Over the Hilltop
The Massage Therapist's Hymn.....He Touched Me
The Pilot's Hymn.....I'll Fly Away
The Paramedic's Hymn.....Revive Us Again
The Judge's Hymn.....Almost Persuaded
The Psychiatrist's Hymn.....Just A Little Talk With Jesus
The Waiter's Hymn.....Fill My Cup, Lord
The Baker's Hymn.....When the Roll Is Called Up Yonder
The Shoe Repairer's Hymn.....It Is Well With My Soul
The Geologist's Hymn.....Rock of Ages
The Librarian's Hymn.....Whispering Hope
The Mail Carrier's Hymn.....Deliverance Will Come
The Nurse's Hymn.....Rescue the Perishing
The Telephone Operator's Hymn.....Jesus on the Mainline
The Fisherman's Hymn.....Shall We Gather at the River?

Christmas Crossword



Word List: angels, candycane, Christmas, comet, cookies, gingerbread, Nicholas, ornaments, presents, shepherd, star, stockings

Across

1. Pretty baubles to hang on the Christmas tree.
3. Guardians who announce the good news.
6. Wrapped with love.
7. Jolly old Saint _____.
8. Dasher, dancer, prancer, vixen, _____, cupid, donner, blitzen
9. Warm snacks for Santa.
11. Sweet and red and white.
12. We wish you a merry _____.

Down

2. Keeper of the flocks.
4. House made of sweet treats.
5. The _____ were hung by the chimney with care.
10. Bright light marks the way.





In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them. Luke 2:1-20

Merry Christmas, dear church.

Elysiun L. Eaton

Messiah Lutheran Church Poinsettia and/or Lutheran Disaster Response Order Form



In keeping with Messiah Lutheran Church tradition, poinsettias may now be purchased for our services this holiday season in honor or memory of loved ones. They will be used to beautify our altar area to help us celebrate the holiday season. We are again including this year another way to honor or to remember loved ones by making a donation in their name to the Lutheran Disaster Response effort. In the wake of this year's many natural disasters and because of those still suffering, we are again adding this worthwhile opportunity for those who may not usually consider purchasing a poinsettia.

Please complete the order form below and attach **a check for either type (payment or donation)**, made payable to **"Messiah Lutheran Church"** and print **Poinsettias or Lutheran Disaster Response** in the memo line. Attach the check to the order form and place it in the offering plate or return it to the church office by **December 12, 2023. PAYMENT OR DONATION MUST ACCOMPANY YOUR ORDER!!**

Thank you for helping to beautify our space, and/or supporting Lutheran Disaster Response!

Please note, that if you are making a donation for the disaster response effort, our Treasurer will keep track of all money received for that cause and write one check at the end of the Christmas season from our church to the Lutheran Disaster Response and also enclose a listing of those who were honored or remembered. As in the past, a full listing of either a Poinsettia or a Donation (will not include the amount of the donation) with those persons honored or remembered will be listed in the bulletin for Sunday, December 17th and on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

Flowers may be picked up anytime following our Christmas Eve Service.

Poinsettia/Lutheran Disaster Response Order Form

Name: _____ Phone: _____

LIST THE DEDICATION AS FOLLOWS:

Please check one: In Honor Of () or In Memory Of ()

I would like to order and/or donate as follows:

6" Poinsettia (4 to 5 blooms) \$9.00 each: # of plants _____ x \$9.00 = \$ _____
Donation to Lutheran Disaster Response in the amount of _____ = \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____