

THE MESSIAH HERALD



FEBRUARY 2025

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

WORSHIP AND COMMUNION - 10:00 AM
CHILDREN'S SERMONS OFFERED EVERY SUNDAY!
FACEBOOK LIVE BROADCAST EACH WEEK

USS-ARK NEWSLETTER

THE LUTHERAN MAGAZINE

"Growing God's Love"

The Messiah Herald



THE PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

Dear Messiah Family,

In John 10:10 Jesus said, "I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."

"Has the Church a message for the modern world?"

There are those who hold that this calls for a negative answer, that the church is obsolete, that the church is outgrown and that the world seeks and needs a ministry that the church does not supply. That way of answering the question must rest on one of two assumptions: either the church has forgotten her original message or that the ancient message is not adaptable to modern life and is therefore impactable, that modern life has developed situations and demands for which the church has no message.

Over our two thousand years of Christian discipleship, the message has shown definite adaptability throughout societies, cultures, and peoples. On the dark side, the message has been misused, abused, convoluted, and construed for selfish human gain, even by those who sincerely attempt bring the Gospel to others. This directs us to the first assumption, that the message has been forgotten, ignored, and passed over.

What then is the Christian message? In 2 Timothy 3:16-17 Paul writes "All scripture is ... useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work." Not culture, but fitness for good work, this is our measure of the largeness of our lives; not what we get out of life, but what we put into life. The spirit of Christ dominant among us which has changed the position of women, the care and education of children, the treatment of prisoners, and the care of those most difficult to care for. To ruin modern life, you have only to take out of it what Christ has contributed to it.

These paragraphs are only a few thoughts and ideas from Chapter 14, *Has the Church a Message For the Modern World*, from the book *University of Chicago Sermons*, published in 1915. This volume is from the library of the late Rev. Dr. Paul W. DeLauter and is available upon request from yours truly.

During our current modern times of uncertainty, natural and man-made disasters, personal loss and struggles with health, and the constant fight to invent and develop new ways to bring God's Love and care to our neighbors, let us always refocus on the message of Christ to the worldly body of Christ – us, the children of God.

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

Pastor Samuel Leister

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING

California Fire Victims
The Family of Rodney Aughey
The Family of Gary Zeiders
Joedy Arnold
Linda Bahorik
Melissa Bargo
Jeremy Barnes
Ryan Barr
Donna Barton
Tony Beward
Bill Book
Linda Brouse
Jim Burdge
Andrea Cameron
Evitt Campbell
Terry Coder
Kenton Cohenour
Heather Compton
Fred & Dot Dowling
Seth Dowling
Kim Dumais
Freda Durio

Cathy Dysinger
Renee Dzikowski
Kim & Steph Eby
Rev. Jodi Ellis
Kevin Fetterhoof
Neil & Pat Fisher
Bentley Fulkroad
Terri Gayer
Deb Geedey
Sheree Goss
Amanda Gregg
Fred Gross
Hannah Hart
Mark Harvey
Bill Heck
John (Pat) Henry
Sawyer Henry
Nox Hepburn
Nancy Howell
Terry Imes
Annie Ingle
Guy Kerstetter

Jesse Kint
Carlen McClure
Andi McDanel
Cecilia Miller
Curt Miller
Larry Miller
Shirley Miller
Marlin Milliken
Claire Mummah
Linda (Kerchner) Parks
Kari Ann (Reagen)
Petrine
Cheryl Pinkerton
Betty Ranck
Keith Ranck
Dave Reed
Jan Reisinger
Diane Rowles
Greysley Rowles
Kelley Rusenko
Arlene Shearer
Lowell Shearer

Gail Sherman
Althea Smith
Jennifer Smith
Judy Smith
Joyce & Todd Spangler
Donna Stoner
Barry Strawser
Vicki Suoja
Molly Ulsh
George Varner
Kristi Wagner & Family
Heather Walton
Roscoe Warner
Kathy Whitesel
Mary Jane Williamson
Jim & Heidi Woltman
Tirzah Yeshulas
Paul Zeiders
George Zimmerman
Jean Zimmerman
Linda Zimmerman

AND FOR OUR SHUT INS

BROOKLINE MANOR

(2 MANOR BLVD., ROOM 221, MIFFLINTOWN, PA 17059)

Jane Marhefka

HONNEMAN HOUSE

(58 HONNEMAN HOUSE DR, THOMPSONTOWN, PA 17094)

Ruth Cisney
(Apt. #112)

Ray Bramm
(Apt. #108)

WILLIAM PENN HEALTHCARE AND REHAB CENTER

(163 SUMMIT DRIVE, LEWISTOWN, PA 17044)

Ona Stoner

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!

PRAYERS AND 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.

THANK YOU!

Thank you to the members at Messiah for the Christmas gift. It was very much appreciated.
--JENNIFER HUTCHINSON

Thank you to members and friends of Messiah for the Christmas gift. It was very much appreciated. Best wishes to all for a healthy and happy New Year! --JUDY ARMSTRONG



WELCA met on Thursday, January 9 at 1 P.M. Barb provided devotions included two poems entitled “God’s Promises” and “Belief” from the January 1978 Ideals magazine. She also read a short humorous devotion from 90 Light Hearted Devotions to Brighten your Day by Ken Davis entitled “Worrying about the what ifs”.

The treasurer’s report was given by Cynthia with a balance of \$241.33. The Thankoffering of \$120.00 is yet to be sent.

Barbara read the thank you email she received regarding the Christmas Angel project. The email has been forwarded to Judy for the February newsletter.

We began planning the Lenton Tea programs. Ash Wednesday is March the 5th and our WELCA will have devotions for the first meeting. Cynthia and Barb will go to the bookstore in Richfield on Monday, January 13th to pick out our lessons for this year. We will pick up 4 books.

The group was asked to think about our projects for 2025. We will also look into what we can do to help regarding the fires in California.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, February 13th at 1:00 PM. The meeting closed with our Purpose statement.

CHRISTMAS ANGELS THANK YOU!

Our program provided families from all over Juniata County clothing and gifts for 115 children this year. Once again, you have helped with clothing, toys, books, laundry detergent, whole turkeys and more for 43 families!

In 2020, we helped provide needed gifts to 83 children from 31 families. In 2022, 150 children from 48 families participated in the outreach. The need in our county is real and continues to grow. 125 children from 42 families were recipients of the outpouring of care in 2023.

Together with the Salvation Army of Juniata County and Aldersgate Church as sign-up

partners, The Lions Club, Thrivent, Schlegel’s Grocery, hometownfoundation.org, and over 35 sponsor programs and churches from all across Juniata County, we continue to meet the needs of our neighbors. This year the maximum age was decreased to accept children up to the age of 14. Each year is different, and your support may look different from year to year. Thank you for your flexibility and commitment.

Since the 1980’s, this program would not be possible if it weren’t for the sponsors! Thank you to the churches and individuals and group sponsors from every part of the county and denomination who so generously give each year....this could not happen without each of you!

It is amazing the good we can do TOGETHER!

Sincerely

–SONYA NACE AND DOT SPANCAKE

2025 CHURCH ENVELOPES

The 2025 church offering envelopes are now available to pick up in the church library. Please pick these up before or after Sunday morning services or stop by the church office during business hours to pick yours up!

Also, anyone who would like a statement of their contributions for 2024 for tax purposes should contact the church office and your statement will be mailed to you.

2025 FLOWER CHART

The new flower chart for 2025 is now available in the Adult Sunday School Room. If you wish to place flowers on a specific date, please sign-up on the chart.

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.

MESSIAH ATTENDANCE AND OFFERINGS – DECEMBER AND JANUARY

DATE	ATTENDANCE	TOTAL OFFERING	GENERAL FUND OFFERING	OTHER FUNDS OFFERING
December 1	Worship – 44	\$2,623.00	\$2,438.00	Benevolence -- \$70.00 Building Fund -- \$40.00 Flowers -- \$25.00 Shelter Services -- \$50.00
December 8	Worship – 67	\$3,570.00	\$3,025.00	Benevolence -- \$150.00 Building Fund -- \$220.00 Lutheran Disaster Relief -- \$10.00 Flowers -- \$165.00
December 15	Worship – 44	\$2,673.00	\$2,424.00	Benevolence -- \$20.00 Building Fund -- \$60.00 Lutheran Disaster Relief -- \$50.00 Shelter Services -- \$10.00 Flowers -- \$109.00
December 22	Worship – 78	\$3,223.00	\$2,678.00	Benevolence -- \$20.00 Building Fund -- \$90.00 Shelter Services -- \$10.00 Matthew 25 -- \$40.00 Flowers -- \$25.00 Camp Mt. Luther -- \$360.00
December 24	Worship – 138	\$1,843.00	\$1,719.00	Food Pantry -- \$100.00 Flowers -- \$24.00
December 29	Worship – 45	\$3,974.00	\$2,844.00	Building Fund -- \$70.00 Shelter Services -- \$10.00 Music Fund -- \$1,000.00 Matthew 25 -- \$70.00
January 5	Worship – 47	\$4,931.00	\$3,818.00	Benevolence -- \$80.00 Building Fund -- \$260.00 World Hunger -- \$200.00 Local Missions (JC Library) -- \$10.00 Flowers -- \$63.00 Needlers -- \$500.00
January 12	Worship – 45	\$3,371.00	\$2,761.00	Benevolence -- \$20.00 Building Fund -- \$260.00 Local Missions (JC Library) -- \$60.00 World Hunger -- \$200.00 Flowers -- \$20.00 WELCA -- \$50.00
January 19	Worship – 18	\$1,280.00	\$1,080.00	Building Use -- \$200.00
January 26	Worship – 46	\$2,563.00	\$2,324.00	Benevolence -- \$60.00 Building Fund -- \$120.00 Local Missions (JC Library) -- \$10.00 Flowers -- \$49.00

DECEMBER EXPENSES – \$13,375.89

JANUARY EXPENSES -- \$10,462.09

JUNIATA COUNTY FOOD PANTRY FEBRUARY UPDATE

BASIC NEEDS FOR FEBRUARY:

Canned beets and Mixed Vegetables, Toilet Paper, over the counter cold and flu medicines, paper towels, dish detergent, laundry detergent, any cleaning items.

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

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!

UPCOMING SERVANTS

ALTAR GUILD

January 20 to February 16

..... Christie Yorks & Sabrina Shipp

February 17 to March 9

..... Michelle Stoner & Sandy Pines

MANNA MAKERS

February 2 Christie Yorks

February 16 Jean Berry

LECTORS

February 2 Paige Martin

February 9 Tawny Mummah

February 16 Cynthia Smith

February 23 Cynthia Smith

ACOLYTES

February 2 Sofia & Stella Reed

February 9 Brea Beward & Paige Martin

February 16 Hope Miller & Ella Harris

February 23 Julia Martin & Zeb Berry

OFFERING & COMMUNION PRESENTERS

February 2 Nick & Gabby Reed and Paige Martin

February 9 ...Thea Beward, Julia Martin and Zeb Berry

February 16

.. Silas Smith, Hannah Ehrisman and Julia Martin

February 23 Hope, Grace, and Evan Miller

FLOWERS

February 2

...Sandy Pines, Braedon Walton, Dan & Michelle Stoner

February 9 Miller Family

February 16 Bob St. Clair

February 23 Tammy Brackbill

OFFERING COUNTERS

February 2 Marylou Hazard & Jean Berry

February 9 Tammy Brackbill & Mary Grimm

February 16 Don & Barb Geedey

February 23 Cynthia Smith & Larry Goss

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.

THANK YOU!

A big THANK YOU to my church family at Messiah and to the choir for the very generous gifts this past Christmas. They were greatly appreciated. Wishing you all a very Blessed and Happy New Year! --ANDREA CAMERON

MISSION OF THE MONTH

February's "Mission of the Month" at Messiah will be for the Central Juniata Park Pool. The monies will be sent from Messiah directly to the Central Juniata Park and Pool. In addition to your generosity, the PPC allocated funds to match congregational donations up to \$1,000.00. This continues to be yet another way in which we can continue to extend our mission in Christ's love beyond the walls of our church building.

SYNOD DELEGATES NEEDED

Two members of Messiah are needed to attend the annual Synod Assembly in June of 2025 at Susquehanna University, Selinsgrove. Synod delegates should also plan to attend the Juniata Valley Conference Assembly (*date to be announced*). If you are interested in serving, please contact Pastor Leister or the church office.

UPCOMING LENTEN SERVICES

Ash Wednesday, March 5 – **7:00 PM**Ash Wednesday Service at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church
TOPIC: *Ash Wednesday* **SPEAKER:** DM Leigy

Wednesday, March 12 – **7:00 PM**Lenten Service at Aldersgate United Methodist Church
HYMN SOURCE: "Lamb of God" **SPEAKER:** Pastor Rick Adams

Wednesday, March 19 – **7:00 PM** Lenten Service at Messiah Lutheran Church
HYMN SOURCE: "What Wondrous Love Is This" **SPEAKER:** *Pastor Mindy Petrovcic*

Wednesday, March 26 – **7:00 PM** Lenten Service at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church
HYMN SOURCE: "In the Cross of Christ I Glory" **SPEAKER:** Pastor Sam Leister

Wednesday, April 2 – **7:00 PM** Lenten Service at Westminster Presbyterian Church
HYMN SOURCE: TBA **SPEAKER:** Pastor Crystal Baumgardner

Wednesday, April 9 – **7:00 PM** Lenten Service at Messiah Lutheran Church
HYMN SOURCE: TBA **SPEAKER:** Pastor Nancy McClure

Wednesday, April 16 – **7:00 PM** Lenten Service at Grace United Methodist (Mexico)
HYMN SOURCE: "In the Hour of Trial" **SPEAKER:** Pastor Sam Leister

Thursday, April 17 - **7:00 AM**..... Maundy Thursday Breakfast Church at Messiah
SPEAKER: Pastor Sam Leister

Thursday, April 17 – **7:00 PM** Maundy Thursday PM Service at Trinity United Methodist (Mifflin)
SPEAKER: Bishop Craig Miller

Friday, April 18 – **7:00 PM** Good Friday Tenebrae Service at Messiah Lutheran Church
HYMN SOURCE: "Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed" **SPEAKER:** Pastor Rick Adams

DAILY BIBLE READINGS AND PRAYER CONCERNS

FEBRUARY 1 ----- HEBREWS 2:14-18
THERAPISTS, COUNSELORS, AND PSYCHOLOGISTS

FEBRUARY 2 ----- LUKE 2:22-40
THOSE WHO LONG TO SEE JESUS

FEBRUARY 3 ----- 1 KINGS 17:8-16
THOSE WHO RUN FOOD PANTRIES AND MEAL PROGRAMS

FEBRUARY 4 ----- 2 KINGS 5:1-14
THE LEADERS OF THE NATIONS

FEBRUARY 5 ----- PSALM 56
ALL WHO FEEL TRAMPLED AND OPPRESSED

FEBRUARY 6 ----- ISAIAH 6:1-8 [9-13]
THOSE WHO WORK AND MINISTER WITH YOUTH

FEBRUARY 7 ----- PSALM 138
THOSE WHO STRUGGLE TO GIVE THANKS

FEBRUARY 8 ----- 1 CORINTHIANS 15:1-11
SEMINARY FACULTY AND STAFF

FEBRUARY 9 ----- LUKE 5:1-11
SAILORS, MARINERS, AND FISHERS

FEBRUARY 10 ----- PSALM 115
COMPOSERS OF SACRED MUSIC

FEBRUARY 11 ----- 1 TIMOTHY 3:1-9
THOSE FEELING BURNED OUT BY VOLUNTEER WORK

FEBRUARY 12 ----- LUKE 5:27-32
VOLUNTEERS WHO FEED THE UNHOUSED

FEBRUARY 13 ----- JEREMIAH 17:5-10
THOSE WHO STRUGGLE WITH ANXIETY

FEBRUARY 14 ----- PSALM 1
TREES IN DANGER OF EXTINCTION

FEBRUARY 15 ----- 1 CORINTHIANS 15:12-20
ASSOCIATION OF LUTHERAN CHURCH MUSICIANS

FEBRUARY 16 ----- LUKE 6:17-26
THOSE WHO FEEL THEY DON'T MEASURE UP

FEBRUARY 17 ----- 1 CORINTHIANS 15:20-34
THAT WORLD LEADERS SEEK TO SERVE

FEBRUARY 18 ----- PSALM 120
AN END TO WAR IN THE MIDDLE EAST

FEBRUARY 19 ----- LUKE 11:37-52
THE TEMPTATION TO LORD IT OVER OTHERS

FEBRUARY 20 ----- GENESIS 45:3-11, 15
FAMILIES WITH UNRESOLVED CONFLICT

FEBRUARY 21 ----- PSALM 37:1-11, 39-40
THOSE WHO LIVE WITH ANGER

FEBRUARY 22 ----- 1 CORINTHIANS 15:35-38, 42-50
ASTRONOMERS AND OTHER SCIENTISTS

FEBRUARY 23 ----- LUKE 6:27-38
THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN WRONGED

FEBRUARY 24 ----- PSALM 38
ALL WHO FEEL ALONE

FEBRUARY 25 ----- 1 CORINTHIANS 11:17-22, 27-33
OUR FULL COMMUNION PARTNERS

FEBRUARY 26 ----- LUKE 17:1-4
FAITH COMMUNITIES

FEBRUARY 27 ----- EXODUS 34:29-35
MUSIC TEACHERS

FEBRUARY 28 ----- PSALM 99
ALL WHO CRY OUT TO GOD

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

FEBRUARY 6 – Ray Bramm

FEBRUARY 14 – Christie Holderman

FEBRUARY 20 – Warren “Red” Mummah

FEBRUARY 21 – Jeanette St. Clair

FEBRUARY 23 – Tammy Brackbill



SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY

Our youth will be holding soup pots at the rear of the church on Super Bowl Sunday, February 9, 2025. They will join young people in churches across the nation, sharing God's love with those who need our compassion and care. Please support the youth of our church in this effort to "help our neighbors" by dropping a dollar in the soup pot and also by donating a can of soup on February 9th. Proceeds will go to the Juniata County Food Pantry.

ASH WEDNESDAY COMMUNITY CHOIR

THIS (EDITED) MESSAGE WAS ORIGINALLY SENT OUT ON MONDAY, JANUARY 26th

Joint services are being held throughout the Season of Lent. The main reason for this particular message is to share that an Ash Wednesday Service (*including a number of Mifflintown area churches . . . with Port Royal Lutheran Parish and other churches' members certainly welcome to attend the Community Lenten Services*) will be held at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church and Kevin Cunningham has offered to direct a joint choir for the scheduled **Wednesday, March 5th (7:00 PM) Ash Wednesday Service**.

While Kevin already has three special choral selections in mind, he thought it wise to first determine the choir's roster numbers and part voicing before finalizing any plans. If you would like to share your vocal talents as a member of this volunteer Ash Wednesday Choir, please send a quick email message to Kevin at kcunningham@embarqmail.com . . . and should any of your family members or friends wish to join us, please include their names & vocal parts. Also, should any of you who are members of your own church's choir have a recommended choral selection that has worked well for your own church (*and would be appropriate for Ash Wednesday*), please feel free to share the song title and composer info with me.

At this point, Kevin believes that the choir could be well-prepared with just three rehearsals (all Monday evenings): February 10th, February 17th, & March 3rd. In that Kevin's own calendar includes two Bucknell basketball 'pep band' game performances per week, JHS Pit Orchestra rehearsals for THE MUSIC MAN (*leading into the Feb. 28, March 1, & March 2 performances*), as well as other performing group rehearsals, he will need to stick with Monday evenings for this year's Ash Wednesday choir rehearsal dates.

Please email Kevin at kcunningham@embarqmail.com by **MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3rd if you or any family member would be interested in the 2025 Ash Wednesday Choir. At that point, he will then send out a follow-up message to confirm the location of choir rehearsals.**

SUNDAY

BY SUNDAY

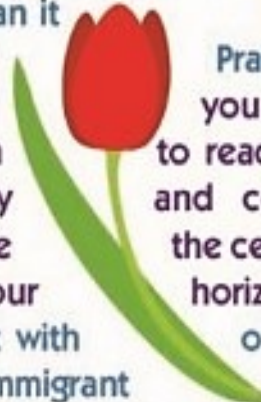
Lent calls us to spring growth. The cross suggests Lenten practices. Choose one action a day and cross it off. Or, choose one action that will help you change a habit and live it each day.

LENT 2025

Refuse to judge or label others
Refuse to gossip Refuse to whine
Try to understand another's point of view
Speak up for children Volunteer at a soup kitchen
Visit a neighbor. Praise someone honestly
Say, "I'm sorry" Mean it

Respond the first time someone calls you
Work for affordable housing where breath and pulse
Help someone learn any food for a day, a week
Thank family Drive patiently today
Resist trying to be a regret as signal to change
Expand your read a book, see a play
Be patient with anyone who hurts you
Meet a new immigrant the center of attention
If you love someone, say so
Join in justice work Give up grudges
Pray for a friend Pray for an enemy
Fast from driving Visit a shut-in
Give away your "extras" Eat with family often
Examine your conscience

Praise God for creation you live
Thank God for to read Try not to waste
and coworkers frequently the center of attention
Take horizons—go to a lecture, others
Readily forgive Make someone else



Prayer, fasting, and almsgiving are traditional Lenten practices. Praying includes prayers we recite, daily Mass, and also cultivating a grateful attitude toward creation and people in our lives.

Fasting helps us change habits and routines that

Welcome others' insights Visit a neighbor
Talk more, or talk less Spend some silent time alone
Be a peacemaker at work or school
Recognize the truth about yourself—no matter how good it is
Participate actively in Holy Week worship
Act like Jesus Go to a concert
Expand your thanks at meal prayers
Stop hate talk

numb and dull us. We can fast from TV, computer games, and overwork as well as beer and chocolate.

Almsgiving means supporting and participating in works of charity and advocacy locally and globally, for example, Catholic Relief Services.

UPCOMING YOUTH FUNDRAISER

The next fundraiser which will benefit the Messiah/St. Stephens Youth Mission Trips will be on Wednesday, February 26th at Tyson Hill OIP. To help our groups, either cut out the ticket below and take it with you to OIP or take a picture of it with your phone and present it with your bill.



SUMMER CAMP 2025

Kate Swailes will be serving as our congregation's camperson with Camp Mount Luther again this year. This year's summer camp season at Camp Mount Luther will begin on June 15 and will run until August 4. There are programs for all ages from elementary to senior high, and for adults and families. If you're looking for a place where your child can grow in faith and have fun doing it, Camp Mount Luther is that place. If you have any questions about camp, you can contact Kate or the camp office at 570-922-1587 or cml@campmountluther.org. The camp brochures are available on the Camp Mount Luther site <https://www.campmountluther.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/2025-Camp-Brochure.pdf> and the camp brochures will be mailed to campers who attended camp in the past. Submit your camp registration online at [Camp Mount Luther Summer Camp Registration](#) and provide the \$50 payment to Kate Swailes or church treasurer Jen Hutchinson. The remaining portion of the cost of camp will be covered by various fundraising events, donations, etc.

SUMMER CAMP INFORMATION ON WEB: The Camp Mount Luther website now has information on this year's summer camp programs, along with a schedule. Check out the summer camp brochure at <https://www.campmountluther.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/2025-Camp-Brochure.pdf> to start planning. Brochures have also been mailed to campers and will soon be on their way to churches. Online registration for this summer is available too at [Camp Mount Luther Summer Camp Registration](#).

A TASTE OF CAMP: Hungry for camp but can't wait until the summer? Always wanted to try camp but not sure you'll like it? Camp Mount Luther has an event for you! On February 23, 2025, from 2:00-4:00 p.m., you can get a Taste of Camp! Enjoy songs, food, games, a campfire program, information on the 2025 program, and more! Those who attend will get Camel Bucks to spend in the camp store this summer. Campers from synod congregations who attend this event will get Camel Bucks for all their congregation's Summer 2025 campers.

This year's summer camp season will begin on June 15 and run until August 4. There are programs for all ages from preschool to senior high, and for adults and families. Camp Mount Luther is a special place where kids and families come together to grow with God and serve with smiles! Camp provides a safe place for people of all ages to relax and unwind in nature, discover God's love, sing around the campfire, learn more about themselves, and make new friends while at the same time being renewed in mind and spirit.

CAMP MOUNT LUTHER SUNDAY & TEMPLE TALK: The Upper Susquehanna Synod Council has designated Transfiguration Sunday each year as "Mount Luther Sunday" to help promote outdoor ministries in the synod. Members of USS congregations are encouraged to celebrate outdoor ministries on March 2, 2025. However, at Messiah we are celebrating ours on **Sunday, March 9th** as Chad Hershberger, Executive Director of Camp Mount Luther and Director of Communications for the Upper Susquehanna Synod, will be visiting us. Chad will be speaking during the morning worship service about summer plans for Camp Mount Luther as well as progress on the new bathhouse and projected completion. Mount Luther is an extension of our ministry together and we hope all congregations will join in celebrating outdoor ministries by offering financial support, keeping the camp staff in prayer, and by participating in the numerous events and activities this ministry offers.



WHAT IS LENT?



Lent is a solemn period in the Christian calendar lasting 40 days (excluding Sundays) that begins on Ash Wednesday and concludes on Holy Saturday.

It is a time for believers to reflect on their own mortality, repentance, and the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. Through acts of self-discipline and spiritual contemplation, individuals seek to purify their hearts and draw closer to God.

By participating in the Lenten journey, Christians aim to deepen their faith, seek forgiveness, and experience personal transformation as they prepare to celebrate the joyous resurrection of Christ on Easter Sunday.

CAMP MOUNT LUTHER

2025 CAMPING SCHEDULE

WEEK	DAY CAMP Weekdays 9am-3pm Pick your days	MINI CAMP (Sun-Tues) Drop-off: First day 4pm Pickup: Last day at 4pm	WEEK-LONG CAMP Drop off: Sunday 4pm Pick up: Friday 4pm
WEEK 1 June 15-20		Ages 9-11	Ages 9-11 (Night Owl)
			Ages 12-14 (Night Owl)
			Ages 15-17 (X-Teen)
WEEK 2 June 22-27			Ages 9-11 (Tracks)
			Ages 12-14 (Tracks)
			Ages 15-17 (Outdoor Quest)
WEEK 3 June 29-July 2	Ages 6-8+ (Mon-Wed)	Family* (ends Wed at noon)	
	Ages 9-11+ (Mon-Wed)		Ages 12-14 (Buffalo Gap Adventure)
	Ages 12-14+ (Mon-Wed)		Ages 15-17 (Buffalo Gap Adventure)
WEEK 4 July 6-11		Ages 9-11	Ages 9-11 (Water Adventure)
			Ages 12-14 (Water Adventure)
			Ages 15-17 (SALT)
WEEK 5 July 13-18			
WEEK 6 July 20-25			
WEEK 7 July 27-August 1	Ages 6-8+	Ages 6-8	Ages 6-8 (Classic Camp)
	Ages 9-11+		Ages 9-11 (Classic Camp)
			Ages 12-14 (Classic Camp)
		Ages 9-11	Ages 15-17 (SALT)

* Pick your length of stay if you cannot attend the whole program

+ Option for one overnight on Tuesday (week 3) or Thursday (week 7)

FEBRUARY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

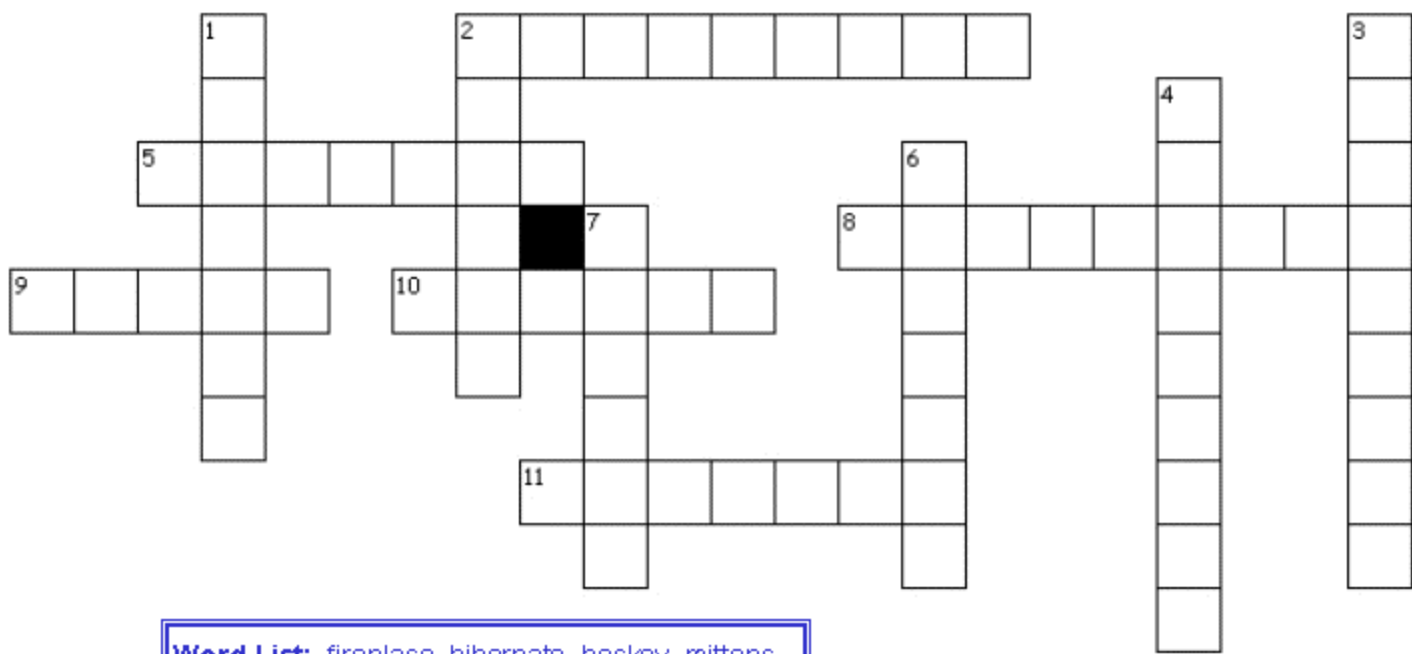
- SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2:** -10:00 AM – WORSHIP/COMMUNION
- MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3:** -5:00 TO 8:00 PM – LION’S CLUB IN FELLOWSHIP HALL
-6:30 PM – KNITTERS IN JUNIOR CHURCH ROOM
-7:00 PM -- AA IN DISCIPLES CLASS AREA
- WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5:** -9:00 AM – “THE NEEDLERS” IN FELLOWSHIP HALL
-7:00 PM – CHOIR REHEARSAL IN SANCTUARY
- SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9:** **SOUPER-SUPER BOWL SUNDAY**
-10:00 AM – WORSHIP/COMMUNION
- MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10:** -6:30 PM – KNITTERS IN JUNIOR CHURCH ROOM
-7:00 PM -- AA IN DISCIPLES CLASS AREA
-7:00 PM – ASH WEDNESDAY COMMUNITY CHOIR REHEARSAL AT **TBA**
- WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12:** -9:00 AM – “THE NEEDLERS” IN FELLOWSHIP HALL
-7:00 PM – CHOIR REHEARSAL IN THE SANCTUARY
- THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13:** -1:00 PM – W.E.L.C.A. in Youth Area
- SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16:** -10:00 AM – WORSHIP/COMMUNION
-AFTER WORSHIP – BOARD OF WORSHIP & MUSIC IN LIBRARY
- MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17:** **PRESIDENTS’ DAY HOLIDAY**
-5:00 TO 8:00 PM – LION’S CLUB IN FELLOWSHIP HALL
-6:30 PM – KNITTERS IN JUNIOR CHURCH ROOM
-7:00 PM -- AA IN DISCIPLES CLASS AREA
-7:00 PM – ASH WEDNESDAY COMMUNITY CHOIR REHEARSAL AT **TBA**
- WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19:** -9:00 AM – “THE NEEDLERS” IN FELLOWSHIP HALL
-7:00 PM – CHOIR REHEARSAL IN THE SANCTUARY
- SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23:** -10:00 AM – WORSHIP/COMMUNION/JUNIOR CHURCH
-AFTER WORSHIP – VOTER’S ASSEMBLY (*AUDIT APPROVAL*)
-2:00 PM TO 4:00 PM – “TASTE OF CAMP” AT CAMP MOUNT LUTHER
- MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24:** -6:30 PM – KNITTERS IN JUNIOR CHURCH ROOM
-7:00 PM -- AA IN DISCIPLES CLASS AREA
- TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25:** **NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**
- WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26:** -9:00 AM – “THE NEEDLERS” IN FELLOWSHIP HALL
-7:00 PM – CHOIR REHEARSAL IN THE SANCTUARY

2025 PORT ROYAL MEN’S LENTEN PRAYER BREAKFASTS

(HELD AT 7:30 AM AT THE PORT ROYAL COMMUNITY BUILDING)

- Saturday, March 8 Rev. Charles McKee, Mexico Full Gospel Church
- Saturday, March 15..... Rev. William McNeal, Brown’s Global Methodist Church
- Saturday, March 22..... Rev. Chad Weaver, Lost Creek Mennonite Church
- Saturday, March 29..... Rev. Caleb Burd, South Baptist Church
- Saturday, April 5 Rev. Nathaniel Mowery, Oakland Mills Methodist Church
- Saturday, April 12 Rev. Frank Swartz, New Beginning Community Church
- Saturday, April 19 Rev. Ron Shupe, River Church

Winter Crossword



Word List: fireplace, hibernate, hockey, mittens, penguin, polarbear, skidoo, skiing, snowflake, snowman, sweater, white

Across

- no two are alike
- tuxedo with feathers
- light a fire here to keep warm on chilly days
- winter's favorite color
- twelve sticks and one puck
- frosty fellow with a carrot nose

Down

- grandma will knit you one to keep you warm
- winter vehicle for off road travel
- some animals do this all winter
- white teddy
- covers for cozy hands
- strap two sticks on your feet and swoosh down a hill

