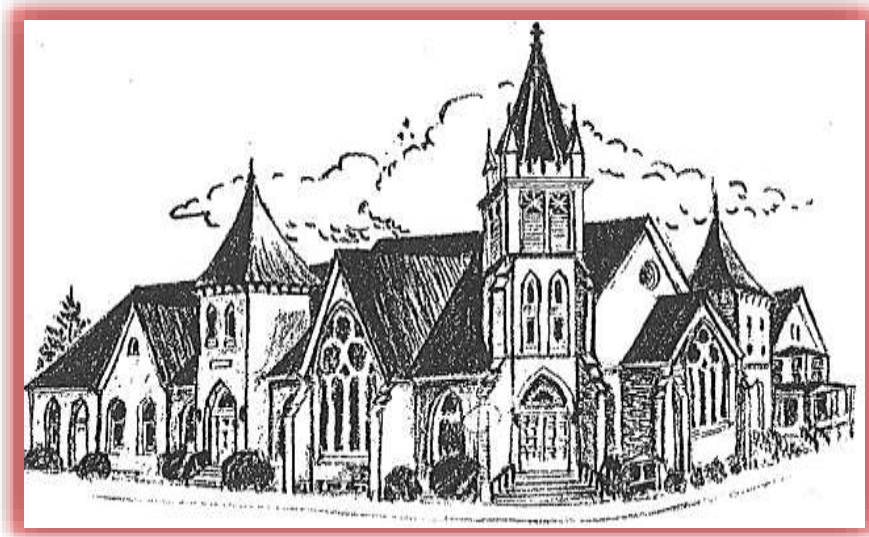


# THE MESSIAH HERALD



**MAY 2020**

**MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**3 SOUTH THIRD STREET**

**MIFFLINTOWN, PA 17059**

**717-436-6213**

**VICAR SAMUEL LEISTER: [sleister@gmail.com](mailto:sleister@gmail.com)**

**CHURCH WEBSITE: [www.mlc-mifflintown.org](http://www.mlc-mifflintown.org)**

**OFFICE EMAIL: [mlchurchoffice@gmail.com](mailto:mlchurchoffice@gmail.com)**

**CHURCH TREASURER: [mlchurchtreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:mlchurchtreasurer@gmail.com)**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ALL AGES! – 9:15 AM  
WORSHIP, JR. CHURCH, & COMMUNION – 10:30 AM**

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

**[USS-ARK NEWSLETTER](#)**

**[THE LUTHERAN MAGAZINE](#)**

# **"Growing God's Love"**

## The **Messiah Herald**



### **IN THIS TOGETHER & THE "NEW NORMAL"**

Dear Messiah Family,

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

We are now in the glorious season of Easter. In the absence of gathering in our Messiah building for worship, we hope you all found time to worship and share the Good News with those around you as family and close friends. Sharing the news of the resurrection over the phone, computer, and any means available is always a way to celebrate and praise our Lord, Jesus Christ. I noticed sidewalk chalk was also a technology used in this celebration. Continue to teach and share the Good News!

Speaking of sharing Good News, I now have available audio CD's of each of our "distance" worship services beginning with March 15, the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent. These are the same format as the ones we provide when we record our services at Messiah's gathered worship. If you would like a copy, please contact me or Judy through the church office. We can deliver the CD or mail it to you. The video of each service is available through the Internet. I am working on perfecting DVD recordings for those who have no Internet. When they are available, we will let you know.

We owe a big "thank you" to Bob St. Clair for preparing the hymns from our hymnal for the services. This has been a wonderful addition to the worship. Additionally, lectors have been recording the readings which are included in the service. This is a group effort as parents, Bob, the readers and others have helped to transmit the readings to me. Linda has been a wonderful helper and guide with the worship services especially with the palms, flowers, and arrangements at the next-door chapel and for the morning and evening readings and prayers. Through these methods, we are sharing the Good News to folks beyond our congregation.

A "thank you" to the Juniata County Historical Society for allowing us to use the historic Baptist Church building during this time of separation. As a bit of trivia, documentation suggests that the first worship took place at this site in May 1830. That is 190 years ago this month. That is a testament to the lasting power of the God's Love and the sharing of the Good News. Through your support of Messiah, you are all a part of that boundless message.

In the meantime, please continue to worship and pray in your homes. Set a time each day to read scripture, sing hymns, and pray. This is a great time for families to worship together. Involve the kids with choosing and reading Bible verses and hymns. What are their favorite readings, hymns, and prayers? When you make phone calls, make readings and prayers a part of the phone worship. Set goals for your Bible time and prayers.

Linda and I plan on remaining at home until a go-ahead is given for an exodus. I will continue to provide an online worship service Sunday from the historic Tuscarora Baptist Church next door. Additionally, with Linda's assistance, daily readings and prayers will be brought to you via the internet.

May the Holy Spirit guide and be with us all!

*Vicar Samuel Leister*

## Please Pray For The Following

Carole Baker  
Jane Ann Baney  
Donna Barton  
Lindsey Barton  
Bob Bell  
Nick Beward Charlie, Amanda, & Isabel Meinsler  
Joyce Bradley  
Andrea & Bob Cameron  
Pam Campbell  
Ruth Cisney  
Linda Clark  
Terry Coder  
Leann Crimmel  
Will DeLancy  
Guy Dillman  
Fred & Dot Dowling  
Renee Dzikowski  
Bobbi Ellis  
Neil Fisher  
Jerald (Jerry) Foltz  
Ed Fraker  
Bentley Fulkroad  
Joan Fulkroad  
Terri Gayer  
Edie Kay Gill  
Paul Goss  
Jeanette Gross  
Sue Henderson  
Josh Hohol  
Curt & Judy Houtz  
Jennifer Hutchinson  
Matt Hutchinson  
Denny King  
Brenda Imes  
Curt Kint  
The Family of Esther Dunkelberger

Kevin Kint  
Malin Kint  
Pam Lawson  
Carol Lyter  
Carlen McClure  
Messiah's TEEM  
Tami Metz  
John Miller  
Larry Miller  
Shirley Miller  
Jim Minick  
Madison Norman  
Austin Parker  
Noel Peachey  
Dave Phelan  
Butch & Sandy Pines  
Steve Pontius  
Betty Ranck  
Keith Ranck  
Mary Sanders  
Mackenzie Shearer  
Ronald Shearer  
Tim Smith  
Mike Sparks  
Bob & Jeanette St. Clair  
Dorothy Towsey  
Rich Walters  
Tim Weston  
Erma Williamson  
Dottie Wilson  
Diana Wise  
Jim Woltman  
Mackenzie Wray  
Dorothy Zeiders  
Linda Zimmerman

### 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  
1099 William Penn Hwy.  
Mifflintown, PA 17059

Margaret Guss  
20 South Third Street  
Mifflintown, PA 17059

Mona Lawson  
2792 William Penn Hwy.  
Mifflintown, PA 17059

Minnie Minick  
187 JAM House Road  
Mifflin, PA 17058

Edith Nipple  
1482 William Penn Hwy.  
Mifflintown, PA 17059

Sieber & Ona Stoner  
23591 Route 35 North  
Mifflintown, PA 17059

Velma Suloff  
4460 Route 333  
Mifflintown, PA 17059

Ken & Kay Stuck  
66 Eighth Street  
Mifflintown, PA 17059

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

Jim Yetter  
128 Manbeck Drive  
Mifflintown, PA 17059

## Happy Birthday!!

**MAY 1** – Claire Grimm

**MAY 18** – Mary Grimm

**MAY 25** – Mona Lawson

## Happy Anniversary!!

**MAY 12** – John and Kim White

**MAY 23** – Jim and Brenda Bahorik

**MAY 29** – Glenn and Jean Compton

## Pray For Our Shut-Ins

### BROOKLINE RETIREMENT VILLAGE

(92 VILLAGE DRIVE, MIFFLINTOWN, PA 17059)

Jane Marhefka

## Upcoming Servants

### ALTAR GUILD

April 27 to May 31.... Tawny Mummah & Tammy Smith

### 1<sup>st</sup> SUNDAY WE RETURN TO WORSHIP

CRUCIFER – Slone Smith

ACOLYTES – Grace Miller & Brennan Guido

USHERS – Thea Beward, Hope Miller, Braedon Walton, and Sienna Guido

### 2<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY WE RETURN TO WORSHIP

CRUCIFER – Haley Mummah

ACOLYTES – Paige Martin & Julia Martin

USHERS – Olivia Mummah, Nick Reed, Brea Beward, and Hannah Ehrisman

### 3<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY WE RETURN TO WORSHIP

CRUCIFER – Brennan Guido

ACOLYTES – Braedon Walton & Nick Reed

USHERS – Gabby Reed, Hope Miller, Slone Smith, and Haley Mummah

### 4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY WE RETURN TO WORSHIP

CRUCIFER – Hannah Ehrisman

ACOLYTES – Slone Smith & Thea Beward

USHERS – Zeb Berry, Paige Martin, Braedon Walton, and Brea Beward

### 5<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY WE RETURN TO WORSHIP

CRUCIFER – Harrison Mummah

ACOLYTES – Olivia Mummah & Hannah Ehrisman

USHERS – Julia Martin, Gabby Reed, Nick Reed, and Grace Miller



There was no meeting in April due to the ongoing Coronavirus pandemic.

Barb has received information on the collection and delivery of the quilts and kits for 2019. It is all displayed on a large map that will

be placed on the wall somewhere in the Adult Sunday School Room for the Congregation to see where their donations have gone.

All other Synod gatherings for 2020 – cluster meetings, retreats, and conventions – have been **cancelled** due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

## Christ In Our Home

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

## Organist/Musician Needed!

Messiah still has an opening for Church Organist for weekly services, which includes Wednesday evening choir rehearsals, except during the summer months. Allen Digital Electric Organ and upright piano. Candidates should contact Bob St. Clair at [stclairb@em-barqmail.com](mailto:stclairb@em-barqmail.com) for more information, including salary. This is currently a half-time position. Additional information about the church and congregation can be found at [www.mlcmif-flintown.org](http://www.mlcmif-flintown.org).

## Messiah Prayer List

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](mailto:sleister@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.

## Wearing of the Red

Just a reminder to everyone that **Sunday, May 31<sup>st</sup>** is Pentecost Sunday, which means everyone should **WEAR RED** wherever you are gathered for worship on this Lord's Day!

## Summer Service Schedule


Summer is right around the corner, which means our Sunday worship service time will change for the next three months. For June, July, and August, worship services begin at 9:15 AM each week and there will be no Sunday School classes. In addition, we are now using our new HVAC system, so we will be utilizing the air conditioning portion of the system when the weather heats up.....so join us at 9:15 AM each Sunday morning once we return to "green"!

## Upcoming Voters' Assembly

✦ **Sunday, June 21<sup>st</sup>** – After Worship – Voter's Assembly – PPC Election Approval

## Summer at Camp Mt. Luther

Kate Swailes is once again serving as our congregation's camp person with Camp Mount Luther again this year. She has information on programs for the summer. If you have additional questions, you can contact her or the camp office at 570-922-1587 or [cml@campmountluther.org](mailto:cml@campmountluther.org).

 **MOUNT LUTHER** Since our congregation has a camp person, each camper from our church will receive Camel Bucks from Kate for use at the camp store this summer! Campers who have attended camp at Mount Luther in the past, will soon be receiving the camp brochures in the mail.

For more information on Camp Mount Luther or to print the camp registration form, visit [www.campmountluther.org](http://www.campmountluther.org). Submit your camp registration form to Kate along with a \$50 payment payable to Messiah Lutheran Church which will go toward the non-refundable deposit. The remaining portion of the cost of camp will be covered by various fundraising events, donations, etc. Kate will submit the registration forms to Mount Luther.

## SPECIAL NOTE!

The camp board met via Zoom on Saturday, March 21, 2020, to discuss camp's response to the COVID-19 outbreak. They wanted to let



you know that they don't have all the answers, but they are thinking

of you. Chad and the board are closely monitoring the situation and are making decisions as the need dictates.

Two decisions were made on March 21<sup>st</sup>. First, the board committed to having camp this summer. What that looks like remains to be seen. But we will be providing some kind of programming this summer whether it is as previously scheduled, a condensed schedule, or maybe even camp on-line! We will keep you posted as we get closer to summer as to what we will be doing but know we will do something! Also, the board decided that we are going to extend the early registration deadline and discount until the end of the summer. So, everyone can take advantage of the early registration discount of \$25 no matter when you register. There will also not be any late fees added this summer.

## Greetings from your Lutheran Camps in Pennsylvania and New Jersey!



As camps affiliated with Lutheran Outdoor Ministries and the ELCA, we want you to know that your camps are here for you. We continue to walk beside you during this time, providing faith formation and outdoor experiences. How we deliver it has been new the past two months, but

we are here, right beside you, to help you during these difficult days.

As we all stay at home, we are reminded of the benefits of getting out in God's creation. We know that when this pandemic is over, your camps will need to be ready to provide experiences in the outdoors and adventures in faith. At camp, most often we hear that participants feel closest to God while in nature. It's good in these days to remind ourselves that God is with us now and is bigger than our worries during our current reality.

Last year, we celebrated 100 years of Lutheran camping. For the past century, we have become places that make "rainy day plans" as situations warrant. As we make decisions for our camps, we will be guided by the CDC and local government recommendations, American Camp Association guidelines and other safety precautions. We will share specifics about our plans as soon as we can.

When camp does open up, rest assured that we will do everything we can to make it as safe as possible. We are developing plans for changes to how we operate so that we can still have the safe experience you expect from us.

Know that we are praying for you. We are praying for pastors, congregations, parents, campers, and friends. You are the heart of our camps. We are working hard to stay connected to you in new ways. We pray that you feel God's grace and love as you have to stay apart from us and others.

We hope to be able to welcome you to our sites soon. Until then, may God be with you as we navigate these times. And when you are feeling anxious or scared, we hope you'll stop and pray, or think about a camp memory, or sing a camp song. Pretty soon, we'll be able to do all three of those things together again. Until then, God's peace be with you!



**BEAR CREEK CAMP**

Central Pennsylvania Lutheran Camp Cooperation



**CAMP MOUNT LUTHER**



The Lutheran Camping Corporation  
of Central Pennsylvania  
Kirchenwald, Novato, & The Witzel Farm



# Daily Bible Readings and Prayer Focus

MAY 1 ----- 2 CORINTHIANS 4:1-6

*THOSE DEALING WITH HEART TROUBLE*

MAY 2 ----- LUKE 15:1-7

*GANG MEMBERS AND POLICE OFFICERS*

MAY 3 ----- JOHN 10:1-10

*THOSE WHO SPEAK GOD'S PROMISES*

MAY 4 ----- EZEKIEL 34:17-23

*THAT JUDGES WOULD RULE WITH JUSTICE*

MAY 5 ----- EZEKIEL 34:23-31

*CONSERVATIONISTS AND ZOOLOGISTS*

MAY 6 ----- MATTHEW 20:17-28

*ESTATE AND GIFT-PLANNERS*

MAY 7 ----- GENESIS 12:1-3

*THOSE WHO HAVE BETRAYED OUR TRUST*

MAY 8 ----- PSALM 31:1-5

*THERAPISTS AND COUNSELORS*

MAY 9 ----- JOHN 8:48-59

*PHYSICISTS AND OTHER SCIENTISTS*

MAY 10 ----- JOHN 14:1-14

*STUDENTS PREPARING FOR FINAL EXAMS*

MAY 11 ----- EXODUS 13:17-22

*CANCER PATIENTS AND THEIR DOCTORS*

MAY 12 ----- PROVERBS 3:5-12

*SEMINARY STUDENTS*

MAY 13 ----- PSALM 102:1-17

*CHURCH ARCHITECTS AND BUILDERS*

MAY 14 ----- ACTS 1:15-26

*EVANGELISM MINISTRIES*

MAY 15 ----- ACTS 27:13-38

*RESTAURANT STAFF*

MAY 16 ----- JOHN 14:27-29

*PEOPLE FACING MENTAL HEALTH CHALLENGES*

MAY 17 ----- JOHN 14:15-21

*ADVOCACY MINISTRIES*

MAY 18 ----- GENESIS 9:8-17

*ENDANGERED ANIMAL SPECIES*

MAY 19 ----- DEUTERONOMY 5:22-33

*THOSE STUDYING THE CATECHISM*

MAY 20 ----- JOHN 16:16-24

*WOMEN IN LABOR*

MAY 21 ----- LUKE 24:44-53

*PEOPLE AWAITING GOOD NEWS*

MAY 22 ----- 2 KINGS 2:1-12

*MENTORS AND THOSE THEY GUIDE*

MAY 23 ----- PSALM 93

*THOSE WHO WORK IN NATIONAL PARKS*

MAY 24 ----- JOHN 17:1-11

*MULTI-DENOMINATIONAL MINISTRIES*

MAY 25 ----- PSALM 99

*GRANDPARENTS*

MAY 26 ----- 1 PETER 4:7-11

*THOSE STRUGGLING TO FORGIVE*

MAY 27 ----- JOHN 3:31-36

*COOKS AND BAKERS*

MAY 28 ----- EXODUS 19:1-9A

*THE WELL-BEING OF VARIOUS BIRD SPECIES*

MAY 29 ----- ROMANS 8:14-17

*FAMILIES GROWING BY ADOPTION*

MAY 30 ----- PSALM 33:12-22

*THOSE IN NEED OF PROTECTION TODAY*

MAY 31 ----- ACTS 2:1-21

*WORSHIP LEADERS*

## Contact for Needs or Concerns

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](mailto:sleister@gmail.com).

## Praying for our Sexton!

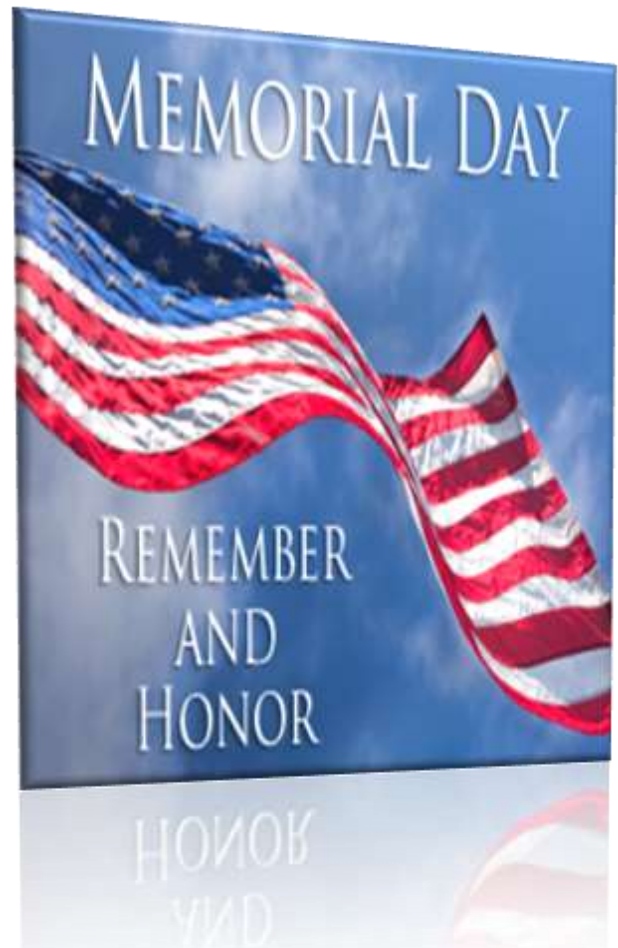
Our dedicated church custodian, Dave Phelan is having some health issues and if anyone would like to send him a card, his address is **PO Box 186, Mifflin, PA 17058**.

# Messiah Attendance and Offerings – March/April 2020

## NO SERVICES TO DUE THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

DATE	ATTENDANCE	TOTAL OFFERING	GENERAL FUND OFFERING	OTHER FUNDS OFFERING
March 15 & March 22	N/A	\$2,365.00	\$2,045.00	Benevolence -- \$60.00 Building Fund -- \$170.00 Summer Camp -- \$40.00 World Hunger -- \$50.00
March 29 & April 5	N/A	\$4,895.00	\$4,295.00	Benevolence -- \$220.00 Building Fund -- \$280.00 Summer Camp -- \$100.00
April 12	N/A	\$3,160.00	\$3,060.00	Building Fund -- \$100.00
April 19	N/A	\$2,785.00	\$2,525.00	Sunday School -- \$50.00 Benevolence -- \$90.00 Building Fund -- \$120.00
April 26	N/A	\$2,030.00	\$1,700.00	Benevolence -- \$65.00 Building Fund -- \$265.00

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](mailto:mlchurchoffice@gmail.com).





# Juniata County Food Pantry May Update

No information was delivered to local churches for this month. However, the need is continuing to be great at our local Food Pantry due to the continuing Coronavirus Pandemic. If you can, please consider making a monetary donation so those in need in our county may be provided food in these hard times. Information for donating is below.

**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](mailto: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!**

## Recycling Needed!

The person who has done the recycling for Messiah for many years has asked if someone else would like to take over this project. If no one volunteers, each person who brings something to the church that needs to be recycled will be asked to take the item(s) back home to recycle it (such as cans, plastic, and cardboard). If you are interested in doing this project, please contact the church office at 717-436-6213.

## Music Sunday

**Due to the ongoing Coronavirus pandemic and related uncertainties of when we return to Messiah to worship, the quartet "Brothers in Grace" and Music Sunday has been postponed until a later date, and possibly cancelled until 2021.**

## Fall Sunday School

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.

## New Lector Schedule

The new lector schedule for July 2020 through June 2021 will be completed soon. If you are not already serving as a lector and you would like to read the weekly scripture readings, please notify the church office. Any young people who would like to read on the first Sunday of the month are also asked to notify the church office. If you would like to be deleted from the list, again let the office know. All lectors will be sent a copy of the annual schedule in June. Thanks to all of you who volunteer for this role in our worship service.

**MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH  
BOARD OF WITNESS AND OUTREACH  
MARCH 24, 2020**

**GREETINGS TO ALL MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF MESSIAH,**

Peace and blessings to all during this season of LENT. As we move through this solemn season leading us to GOOD FRIDAY and EASTER, we give thanks to God for all that we enjoy: our time, our family, our friends and our community. This Lenten season is very different as many of us are self-isolating in our homes hoping and praying that this Coronavirus soon diminishes, and our friends and family remain safe from its effects. Our special prayers are needed for all of those who are still working to provide the essentials of life – especially our health-care givers and grocery store workers and truck drivers.

The Boards of Witness & Outreach and Compassionate Care remind us of our MLC Faith and Vision Statements as these are our guides for times like these and for the recovery we face this coming year.

**OUR FAITH: *WE CONFESS JESUS CHRIST AS LORD AND SAVIOR AND THE GOSPEL AS THE POWER OF GOD FOR THE SALVATION OF ALL WHO BELIEVE.***

**OUR VISION: *TO GROW GOD'S KINGDOM BY ENRICHING OUR FAITH AND EXPANDING OUR WITNESS WITHIN OUR CONGREGATION, OUR COMMUNITY AND THE WORLD.***

To help guide us, the PPC has written our Mission Statement:

**OUR MLC MISSION: *TEACH GOD'S GRACE THROUGH FELLOWSHIP WITH OTHERS, THROUGH STUDY OF GOD'S WORD, THROUGH SERVICE TO OTHERS AND WITNESS TO ALL.***

Although our ability to join in close fellowship is being challenged, we can still observe the other three. We can study God's word at home and through discussions by phone or email. Many of our friends need our help so we must serve them as we can. By doing those two things we are witnessing our faith to others. Our mission never ends although our life undergoes significant changes.

**CHALLENGE FOR THE DAY:**

- #1 - Call one person who may need your help and offer that help.
- #2 – Check on your neighbors to learn if they have any needs or just to chat.

**CHURCH BUILDING CLOSED:** Our building is closed to all group gatherings until further notice but our church secretary, Judy, is still going to the office as the work of the church moves onward. Call the office, 717-436-6213, if you have questions or needs.

**YOUR CHURCH OFFERING:** Our MLC mission work continues as do our church building expenses. Therefore, if you are able, please send your financial offering to the church office by mail or drop it through the mail slot in the front office door. Please use the regular offering envelope if you have them. Otherwise, use a plain envelop being sure to label the amounts and funds for your gift. If your offering is not labeled it will be placed in the general fund account and used for whatever is needed.

MLC WEBSITE: Please utilize our church website, [www.mlcimiffintown.org](http://www.mlcimiffintown.org), as it contains:

**Weekly Bulletins ..... archived back to 2010**  
**Monthly Newsletters .... archived back to 2011**  
**Contact information for Church "leaders" and secretary**  
**Recordings of services**  
**YouTube videos of Vicar reading prayers, sermons, bible readings**  
**Bible School Photos/Videos**  
**Weekly Attendance/Offerings**  
**Church Calendar**  
**ELCA News and Links**  
**Camp Mount Luther Information and Pictures**  
**Altar Guild Information**  
**Baptismal and Confirmation Information and Forms**  
**Important Information posted when needed/necessary**

**NEEDS:** If you find that you cannot get the assistance you need please contact Larry Wise, 717-994-2289 for help. He will find someone to assist you. Please don't hesitate to ask for help.

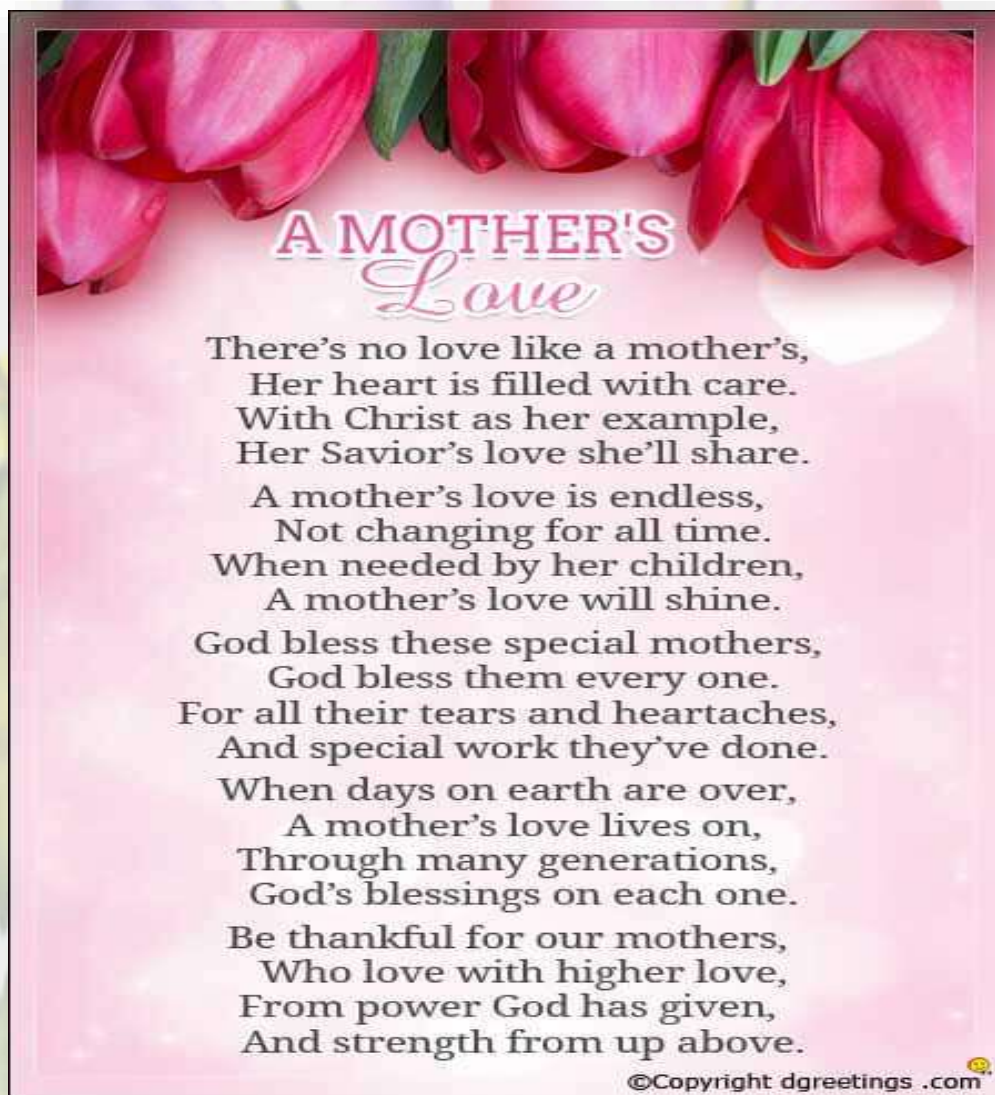
**BLESSINGS TO ALL OF GOD'S CHILDREN.**

Yours in Christ,  
The Boards of Witness & Outreach and Compassionate Care:  
Cynthia Smith, Larry Wise



## May 2020 Calendar of Events

**ALL SERVICES AND EVENTS AT MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH ARE CANCELLED DUE TO THE ONGOING CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC AND WILL CONTINUE AS SUCH UNTIL THE STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA DEEMS JUNIATA COUNTY AS A “GREEN” COUNTY.**



## A Prayer for Times of Public Health Concern

God, our peace and our strength, we pray for our nation and the world as we face new uncertainties around coronavirus. Protect the most vulnerable among us, especially all who are currently sick or in isolation. Grant wisdom, patience, and clarity to health care workers, especially as their work caring for others puts them at great risk. Guide us as we consider how best to prepare and respond in our families, congregations, workplaces, and communities. Give us courage to face these days not with fear but with compassion, concern, and acts of service, trusting that you abide with us always. And Gracious God, it is good for us to gather as your beloved in community. We treasure your presence with us in word and meal, song and prayer. Be with us in these days when gathering together as often as we would like is not possible. When we must be apart for reasons of safety, we trust that you surround us with your sheltering wings. Encourage us in connecting as we are able, reaching out to our neighbors in need and being persistent in prayer. We ask this in the name of Jesus, our constant companion. AMEN.

