



Calendar of Events

Sunday, July 31

9:30 am Worship w/communion

Monday, August 1

In 1962 Spiderman was introduced as a new Marvel Comics Superhero



Tuesday, August 2

Wednesday, August 3

Thursday, August 4

7:30 pm NA

Friday, August 5

5:00 pm Wedding rehearsal

Saturday, August 6

2:00 pm Eury-Bausinger Wedding



MESSIAH MESSENGER USPS 342-060

Published each week by Messiah Lutheran Church, 324 South Howard Street, South Williamsport, PA. Publication Office, 324 South Howard Street. Entered as a periodical October 15, 1940, at the Post Office at Williamsport, PA under the Act of March 3, 1879.

**POSTMASTER: Send address change to Messiah Lutheran Church,
324 South Howard Street, South Williamsport, PA 17702.**



July 27, 2022

VOL. 80 – NO. 29



**Excerpts from Commentary on *The Parable of the Rich Fool*
from Luke 12:13-21**

by Elizabeth Johnson, Prof., Lutheran Inst. of Theology, Cameroon

Many who hear this parable may wonder: Why is the rich farmer called a fool? Isn't the rich man actually a wise and responsible person? His land, a thriving farm, has produced so abundantly that he does not have enough storage space. So he plans to build bigger barns. Then he will have ample savings for the future for which to enjoy his golden years.

Isn't this what we are encouraged to strive for? To wisely save for the future? The rich farmer would probably be a good financial advisor because he has things figured out. He has worked hard and now he can enjoy the fruits of his labor, right?

Not exactly. There is one very important thing the rich man has not planned for — his reckoning with God. But God said to him, "You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?" (Luke 12:20)

The rich farmer is a fool not because he is wealthy or because he saves for the future, but because he appears to live only for himself, and because he believes that he can secure his life with his abundant possessions.

When the rich man talks in this parable, he talks only to himself, and he only refers to himself: "What should *I* do, for *I* have no place to store my crops?" "*I* will pull down my barns and build larger ones, "*I* will store all my grain. And *I* will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry'" (12:17-19).

The rich man expresses no sense of gratitude to God or to the workers who have helped him plant and harvest this bumper crop. He has no thought of sharing it and no thought of what God might require of him. He is blind to the fact that his life is not his own, that his life belongs to God, and that God can demand it back at any time.

The rich man learns the hard way what the writer of Ecclesiastes realized — quite simply, that you can't take it with you. All that we work so hard for in life will end up in someone else's hands, and as Ecclesiastes puts it, "Who knows whether they will be wise or foolish? Yet they will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity" (2:19).



July 31, 2022

Service Assistants	Sunday 9:30 am
Ushers	Fred Harbaugh, Diana Rooker
Lay Assistant	Janet Stroble
Communion Assistant	Sherri Holtzman
Altar Guild	Marie Welter, April Gardner
Acolyte	Jonathan Hess
Cantor	Carol Waltz
Flower Delivery	Charles Luppert

Sunday, July 24, 2022 at Messiah: Attendance: 60; Offering: \$1835.00;
Capital Campaign: \$300.00.

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in honor of Matthew Fioretti earning a 4.0 in college this year and Michael Fioretti becoming Private First Class in the Marines, by Gram.

The Bud Vase is given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Karen Hockman Thomas, who passed away 11 years ago, August 3rd by her sister Linda and nephews Matthew and Michael.

Bible Readings

Sunday July 31 *Eccles. 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23; Col. 3:1-11; Luke 12:13-21*
Monday Aug. 01 *Psalm 127; Ecclesiastes 2:1-17; Colossians 3:18-4:1*
Tuesday Aug. 02 *Psalm 127; Ecclesiastes 3:16-4:8; Colossians 4:2-6*
Wednesday Aug. 03 *Psalm 127; Ecclesiastes 12:1-8, 13-14; Luke 12:22-31*
Thursday Aug. 04 *Psalm 33:12-22; Job 21:1-16; Romans 9:1-9*
Friday Aug. 05 *Psalm 33:12-22; Ecclesiastes 6:1-6; Acts 7:1-8*
Saturday Aug. 06 *Psalm 33:12-22; Genesis 11:27-32; Matthew 6:19-24*

Presiding over our worship this Sunday, July 31st, will be Laura Phelps, ALWL and on Sunday, August 7, will be Ray Huff, ALWL.



Pastoral Care: Please call (570) 326-9171. (Available 24 hours a day) During work hours office staff will assist you. After hours, please press "3" for a Pastoral Emergency to be connected directly to the Pastor.



Wedding Banns: Rebecca Bausinger and David Eury have announced their intention to be married on August 6, 2022. Your prayers are encouraged.



The Library Corner – Highlighted Books



Family - **Can I Have the Keys to the Car?** - Whether it's the keys to the car or the keys to life, parents and teens need to find ways to talk to each other about tough issues, such as: safe driving, alcohol and drugs, sex, study habits and grades. Honesty, schedules and curfews, family chores, self-discipline. These issues often tear families apart. But talking about them doesn't have to be destructive or boring. This book is reassuring and practical

that helps teens and parents talk together about life's tough issues. Book found in our Youth themed section.

Adults - **Angels Among Us** - You never know when or where you might come across an angel. For all you know, the next person you meet may be an angel in disguise. This book is a special Guideposts collection of stories in which ordinary human beings like us have dealings with angels. Many wonderful short stories are in this book. Found in the Topical Issues section.

God's work, Our hands! *Dresses and Britches for Africa*



If you like to sew, please consider making a dress, britches or both. You will not only be clothing these children, you'll also give them hope. It's easy, fun and quick to make.

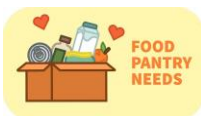
Shirts, pillowcases and trim are available in the church office & in the Narthex on and under the table displayed, also included are the instructions.

Together, "Our Hands" . . . our eyes and our hearts . . . can do "God's Work" in helping to educate and clothe the children who receive these supplies.



Camp Mount Luther News: *The last camping week of the summer has arrived! July 31-August 5 will mark the end of the 2022 season.* You can see the summer adventures on the camp's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/mountluther>. Thank you for keeping the staff and all of the campers in your prayers throughout the summer!





Not only do we help our families with food, we also give them a gift card to Save-A-Lot for the perishable foods. Unfortunately, the funds for this are depleted and we can't provide them with the cards at this time. *We have an anonymous donor willing to match up to \$500 of donated funds. Please contribute so that we can continue to help our many families.*

Food Pantry Needs: Canned Vegetables, Canned Fruit, Canned Tomatoes, Cans of soup (all varieties), Mushroom Soup, Pudding Cups, Boxed Potatoes (Scalloped etc.), Baked Beans, Canned Chili, Beef Stew, Wide Egg Noodles, Pancake Mix, and Pancake Syrup.



Church Picnic:

Sunday, August 7, 2022

South Williamsport Area Community Park

Worship at Messiah Lutheran at 9:30 A.M.

Picnic Lunch Served at 11:30 A.M.

**Hot dogs, Drinks, and Table Service Provided
Meet at Lion's Pavilion.**

Bring your favorite covered dish/dessert to share!

Dress casually – bring a lawn chair!

Please use the Sign-up sheet in the Narthex with how many will attend and what dish you will be bringing. Thank you!



✪ BINGO! (Please bring a White Elephant)

In case of rain, the picnic will be held in Shaheen Hall.



SCHOOL SUPPLY KITS for Lutheran World Relief. Goal: 250 School Kits.



NEEDED NEW ITEMS

Watch for summer sales of school supplies! Please no items decorated with religious symbols, our congregations name or U.S. patriotic, or military symbols.

- (4) 70 Sheet spiral notebooks of wide or college-ruled paper (8"x 10.5" paper)
- (1) 30-centimeter ruler (rulers w/ both inches & centimeters accepted)
- (1) Blunt scissors (safety scissors)
- (5) Unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers secured together w/ rubber band
- (5) Black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink) secured together w/ rubber band
- (1) Box of 16 or 24 crayons
- (1) 2 ½" eraser

Please put donated items in the little schoolhouse in Narthex by Sunday, August 28. Monetary donations also accepted. Make checks payable to *Messiah Lutheran Church*, (memo LWR School Kits)

Questions? **Contact Sally Congdon (570) 547-6193**
or Kathy Wither (570)651-2802



Anticipated position for Preschool Aide

for the 2022-2023 school year at Messiah Lutheran Preschool.
Monday - Friday 8:15 to 11:45 am. Send your letter of interest to
preschoolmessiah@comcast.net

UPMC Volunteer Chaplaincy Training - Volunteer Chaplain Assistant Training

Topics include:

- UPMC North Central PA's mission
- Providing pastoral care
- How to engage in reflective listening
- When and how to pray with a patient
- The structure of a pastoral care visit
- Safety and infection control
- Becoming a UPMC volunteer.

Wednesday, September 28th, 9:00am – 3:30pm

UPMC Williamsport

Maple and Oak Conference Rooms

Tower Main Entrance Elevators, 3rd floor by the Gift Shop.

