



Calendar of Events

Sunday, September 17

9:30 am Worship w/Communion
9:30 am Sunday School
5:00 pm Sit Happens (Advanced Class)

Monday, September 18

6:30 pm Sit Happens
6:30 pm Executive Committee

Tuesday, September 19

6:15 pm Life Long Faith Formation
7:00 pm WELCA

Wednesday, September 20

7:00 pm Bible Study

Thursday, September 21

1:00 pm Mountie Back Pack packing
7:30 pm NA

Friday, September 22

Saturday, September 23

First Day of Autumn

8:00 am Gist Birthday Party



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Goodness *Gracious*, Awesome God!!!



Thank you to those who came out to help pack the school kits last Saturday night and to those who helped to pack the kits into boxes on Sunday. By the grace of God, we were able to fill **374 school kits** to be sent worldwide to individuals in need of educational supplies.

Thank you to all who helped in any way. Whether you offered support by cutting fabric or sewing backpacks, making donations, helping at Bible School, preparing supplies, packing the kits, through prayer, or just cheering us on from the pews, ***God did His work through each of YOU.*** God's grace abounds.

This past Sunday was "God's Work. Our Hands." Sunday ... but every day is "God's Work, Our Hands" in the Christian's heart.

Again ... Thank you for the wonderful outpouring of love and support.

We truly are humbled by the response. ~ Sally and Kathy



September 17, 2023

Service Assistants	9:30
Ushers	Mike Larson, Brian Bair, Bill Reasner, Sally Congdon, Mike Gardner
Lay Assistant	Janet Stroble
Communion Assistant	Debbie Day
Acolyte	Ray Demarest
Altar Guild	Marie Welter, April Gardner
Greeters/Communion Presenters	Dave and Rita Strickler
Cantor	Janet Stroble
Flower Delivery	Paul Weaver

Sunday, September 10, 2023, Attendance: 90; Offering: \$6,812.; Capital Campaign: \$10

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of James D. Wither III (Jamie) by his daughter and son-in-law, Vanessa and Brett Hollfelder and grandchildren, Ali Rudinski and Gordie Emick III.

The Bud Vase is given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of James D. Wither III (Jamie) on the anniversary of his birth into heaven, September 20, 2014 by his wife, Kathy; son, Sean Wither and grandson Jackson James Summers.

Bible Readings

Sunday	September 17	<i>Genesis 50:15-21; Romans 14:1-12; Matthew 18:21-35</i>
Monday	September 18	<i>Psalm 133; Genesis 48:8-22; Hebrews 11:23-29</i>
Tuesday	September 19	<i>Psalm 133; Genesis 49:29-50:14; Romans 14:13-15:2</i>
Wednesday	September 20	<i>Psalm 133; Genesis 50:20-26; Mark 11:20-25</i>
Thursday	September 21	<i>Psalm 145:1-8; Nahum 1:1, 14-2:2; 2 Corinthians 13:5-10</i>
Friday	September 22	<i>Psalm 145:1-8; Nahum 2:3-13; 2 Corinthians 13:5-10</i>
Saturday	September 23	<i>Psalm 145:1-8; Zephaniah 2:13-15; Matthew 19:23-30</i>



Presiding over our worship this Sunday, September 17th, will be Pastor Ron Montgomery. Next Sunday, September 24th will be Pastor Bruce Amme.

Pastoral Care Number: 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.



Council Notes

We were recently deeded the property from Connie DeWald's estate. Per the special meeting on June 25th, we are presently moving items to the church for use. We will then sell any remaining items prior to selling the townhouse. Please advise anyone on the congregation council of any interest in buying the property.



The Library Corner – Highlighted Books



Children - **Song of Creation** - In beautiful poetry and with colorful illustrations. This book offers young readers and their parents a wonderful new rendering of the biblical creation account. For bedtime or any time, this book is as enchanting as it is educational in its retelling of the creation of the first seven days of the world. Book in the Children's section of the library.

Adult - **Billy Graham, Angels, God's Secret Agents** - Billy Graham lifts the veil between the visible and invisible to give us an eye-opening account of behind-the-scenes agents busily executing judgment, dispensing information, comfort, and inspiration, and even engaging in outright warfare. He defines and explains the specialized work and nature of Michael, Gabriel, Seraphim, Cherubim, and other ethereal beings which populate the spiritual realm. As our world crises deepen, Angels is a ringing reassurance of the real and powerful spiritual forces and resources available to every reader. The book is in the Adult Non-fiction section of our library.

Dresses and Britches for Africa



Please help the needy children of Africa by sewing dresses and/or britches. Shirts, pillowcases and trim are available in the church office & in the Narthex on and under the table displayed, also included are the instructions. For questions contact Ann Marie Hohman, 570-244-1226 and leave a message. *Thank you.*



Food Pantry is in need of **cereal**, canned fruit, **spaghetti sauce**, **peanut butter**, **jelly**, instant mashed potatoes, tuna fish, canned chicken and pudding.



Please join us for Bible Study and discussion on Wednesday evenings starting this Wednesday, September 20th at 7:00 pm. *All are welcome!*

This Sunday the choir will be singing an anthem based on a tune you are certain to recognize. We would love to have you join us. We will meet in the choir room at 8:45 to rehearse. You can add your voice in singing praise.



Mark your calendar for "**TRIVIA NIGHT**" on **Saturday, October 7 (6 p.m.)** in Shaheen Hall, with George Jansson as Quizmaster. Gather your six-member team and be prepared for wide-ranging topics. Please bring food to share. Pizza and beverages will be provided. **Benefit - Messiah's Backpack Project.**



Two Workshop Opportunities sponsored by United Churches and Thrivent

Wednesday, October 4, 10-11 am: This workshop is intended for Thrivent members, but anyone is invited. Learn about Thrivent benefits which are available which would greatly enhance the mission of United Churches, Messiah Church, or another community organization you are passionate about. This will be a brain storming session intended to arm you with easy but very profitable ways to use your member benefits to help others. No charge.

Thursday, October 5, 10-11am: "A Lifetime Gift", open to everyone, walking you through a living document that reflects a checklist, important documents, final wishes, and personal instructions. It's a gift for you and your loved ones in the event of major health changes or end of life situations. Each participant will walk away with tools and resources to help their family celebrate their life and understand what steps can be taken now, to avoid stress later. There is a \$10.00 registration fee which will be donated back to United Churches.

Refreshments will be served both days. Please RSVP by October 2 to brianna.randazzo@thrivent.com, or 813-443-5088, or United Churches at dlite4hymucl@gmail.com. Questions, contact Pam Hansen at pam.hanses@thrivent.com, or the 813 phone number.

Please Note: Both of these events are at United Churches of Lycoming County, 202 E 3rd St, Williamsport, PA 17701

Saturday, November 4, The Messiah Preschool will be hosting a Gift Card Bingo at the Duboistown Fire Hall to benefit the MLP Scholarship Fund. The Scholarship Fund helps provide tuition for families in need of assistance. To make this event a success we are asking the congregation for your support.



Tickets will be available before and after service in the Narthex on these dates:
Sunday, September 17th and 24th

Other ways you can help:

- Donate a gift card of your choice for our Gift Card Bingo
- Make a themed basket to donate for our Chinese Auction
- Make baked goods to sell during the event

We will have examples of items for you to see on display.



Deadline for gift cards and themed baskets is October 15th.

Baked good items are due Friday, November 3 by **NOON** in the church office.

PLEASE DROP OFF ALL DONATIONS TO THE CHURCH OFFICE



Shepherd of the Streets is in need of the following **adult hygiene items:** combs, shampoo, conditioner, large bars of soap, and deodorant. **Children's and infants' hygiene items** needed include: children's toothbrushes, combs, hair ties, baby shampoo, baby lotion, baby soap, and baby powder. Donated items may be placed in the gray bin in the elevator alcove or brought to the church office during normal business hours. Thank you for your support of this vital ministry to our community!

Clothing for Daniel's Closet is accepted year-round at Messiah.



As you clean out your drawers and closets to make room for new clothes, please consider donating gently used clothing to enrich the lives others. Clothing and accessories may be placed in the blue bin in the alcove near the Chapel (*inside the church*) whenever the church or the office is open.

Especially needed this time of year: winter coats and boots.

Please avoid over-stuffing bags so that our volunteers are able to handle them.

Daniel's Closet is a ministry of Redeemer Lutheran Church (Washington Blvd, Williamsport) which offers a free clothing giveaway on the fourth Saturday of each month. *All are invited to "shop" the closet, regardless of need. Please take only what you can use.*

This month's Closet will be held on Saturday, September 23, 8:30-11:00 a.m.

HARVEST HOME IS SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2023.



Worshippers will be invited to bring forward their gifts of canned goods, boxes of pasta, or monetary offerings for the hungry during the singing of the Hymn of Praise.

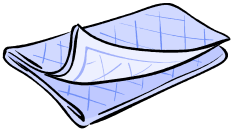
Donations of fresh produce (pumpkins, potatoes, apples, squash, etc.), may be brought to the church on **Saturday, September 30th from noon to 2:00 pm.** **Cornstalks and gourds to use in decorating are very much needed.** Decorating for Harvest Home will take place

on **Saturday, Sept 30 at 2:00pm.** Volunteers are always needed. Call the church office at 570-326-9171 if you can help.

Monetary gifts in lieu of in-kind gifts may be placed in plain envelopes marked "Harvest Home." Checks should be made payable to "Messiah Lutheran Church" and be sure to include your envelope number if you would like your offering recorded.



Valerie Fessler, Director of Development and Community Engagement for the American Rescue Workers, will be our guest speaker on September 19th at 7:00 pm. The ARW will celebrate its 100th birthday in 2024. Devotions: Ruth Doran; Hostesses Brenda Cromley and Meg Harbaugh.



Blanket Sunday, October 1st: Donated blankets and quilts will be distributed by Lutheran World Relief. Please place clean blankets or quilts in the *blue* bin located in the Narthex.

Monetary gifts may be placed in an envelope on which you mark “Blankets.” Checks should be made payable to “Messiah Lutheran Church.” These monetary gifts also will be received during the singing of the Hymn of Praise.

“BLANKETS”, what is their purpose, their use?

- To cover a bed
- To be a carrier
- To serve as clothing
- To be a home
- To keep a child from stunted growth

All of these are uses for quilts and blankets, but thankfully we are familiar with only one use. We put them on a bed, and change them with the seasons, or when we redecorate.

Many people of the world are sadly acquainted with all the possible uses.

Please check your closets and shelves for blankets that you do not use, or consider purchasing one for those that LWR seek to help.

ONE NOTE, LWR does not want fleece blankets, BECAUSE people wash them in streams, and the lint pollutes the streams. Thank you for your help, *Carol Winter*

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MISSIONAL OUTREACH COMMITTEE

There shall be a COMMITTEE ON MISSIONAL OUTREACH. This committee shall stimulate and lead all members of the congregation in continuous and, from time to time, concerted endeavors to reawaken the spiritually indifferent and to reach those unchurched with the Gospel, and bring them to Christ's church. To this end, the committee shall be involved in the **annual review of the membership roster**, devoting itself to deepening spiritual life and periodically study the congregation in the context of its surrounding community. The committee shall also **extend Christian compassion and helpfulness to the ill, the aged, the orphaned, the underprivileged, the imprisoned, and in general, to all persons, of all ages, in need of aid for body or soul**. It shall strive to enlist, in these efforts, as many individual members and organizations, of the congregation, as possible. This committee shall further have the duty to study social conditions, primarily in the local community, in order to bring the cleansing and healing light of Christian truth upon critical problems, through thoughtful Christian discussions of facts and issues.

To fulfill this mission, we have a food pantry, sew dresses and britches for children in Africa, fill school kits and collect quilts and blanket for LWR, fill satchels for Seafarers, who work on carrier ships, give white gifts and food baskets at Christmas, and provide assistance to those who need help. All members of Messiah are called to join in these efforts.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE

The Property Committee is responsible for the maintenance and care of all property of the congregation. The committee is responsible for keeping our facilities in good, general repair and ensures that fire safety codes are followed.

FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

There shall be a COMMITTEE ON FELLOWSHIP to plan and administer events and programs to further a sense of unity in the congregation. This committee shall be responsible for the organization of the kitchen and provisions and supplies for the kitchen and related areas. The Fellowship Committee seeks to build our congregation's family atmosphere. The committee provides opportunities for all who are a part of our church family to experience social gatherings alongside the Worship Experience. Our goal is allowing everyone to share a meal or snack while enjoying one another's company. We arrange for volunteers for our coffee hours and picnic as well as provide the supplies needed.

WORSHIP AND MUSIC

There shall be a COMMITTEE ON WORSHIP AND MUSIC, of which the organist/choir director shall be a member(s). It shall assist the congregation council in seeing that the services of God's house are conducted regularly and in accordance with the liturgy of the ELCA, that competent ushers, acolytes, greeters, banner bearers, lay assistants and crucifers are recruited and trained, and that hymnals and other devotional materials are provided and properly cared for. This committee shall supervise, and strive to advance the welfare and effective service of, the choirs and musicians of the congregation, the altar guild and making sure elements for Holy Communion are ordered/available. It shall arrange for the care of the altar, paraments, vestments, musical instruments and, in consultation with the pastor(s) and the organist/choir director, it shall furnish music supplies appropriate for use in the worship of a congregation of the ELCA.

This wraps up our Committee descriptions. I hope this will entice you to consider joining one of these committees. As you can see these committees help PEOPLE outside the community, but our PEOPLE inside the church also. All you have to do is be present and commit to one evening a month, that's it.

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men.
Colossians 3:23

