



Calendar of Events

Sunday, October 1

9:30 am Worship w/Communion
9:30 am Sunday School
11:00 am Haefner Baptism Party
5:00 pm Sit Happens (Advanced Class)

Monday, October 2

6:30 pm Sit Happens
6:30 pm Fellowship Committee

Tuesday, October 3

7:00 pm Congregation Council

Wednesday, October 4

7:00 pm Bible Study

Thursday, October 5

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

Friday, October 6

Saturday, October 7



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.



MESSIAH MESSENGER

Published weekly by

MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH

www.messiahsouth.org Phone: 570-326-9171

e-mail address: messiahoffice@comcast.net

September 27, 2023

VOL. 81 – NO. 38

Autumn Reflections



Harvest season is one of my favorite times of year. That old, stale summer air turns fresh and crisp, a cue that we are entering newness. Schools are now in session, the kids have gone back to college, and Messiah's calendar is full of events, meetings, Sunday school, bible study, weddings, baptisms and much more. Every year, this season reminds me that life is not stale. We may follow new opportunities to grow, to help

others, and to see God differently in the world.

In October, the dynamic colors of this world are in drastic change. The autumn season reminds me that we too, such as our faith and understanding of God, undergo constant development. But this change isn't always easy or as obvious as we would like.

Sometimes we may feel stuck or as stale as the late summer air. Autumn, despite its appeal for some, may be saddening and challenging for others. Luckily, such as the cold fall air, we have each other to freshen our perspective on God's presence in our lives. We have each other to learn from, to walk with and support as we go through the joys and challenges that change may bring.

The ambivalence of change, whether joyful or sad, may be stabilized by our faith of God in our midst. Although we may not know what lies ahead, God is active in our lives through the people around us. We are guided and supported by Christ so that we may see each other more clearly, and love one another more fully. Paul's verse in 2 Corinthians 5:17 says just this, "So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!". I enjoy autumn because I am reminded of the changes we undergo in life with Christ in our midst.

In May, Vicar Alex traveled to Nebraska with a seminary class to learn about rural Lutheran communities. During that short week, he learned the importance of a supportive community throughout uncertain times. One particular farmer told us a story about a man who passed away at the beginning of harvest season. Without his ability and knowledge

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to harvest the crop, his family was left helpless as the corn ripened in the field. Within three days, the family's neighbors used their combines, large harvesting machines, to clear the field of grain. Amidst this loss and despair, both at the loss of the man's life and the value of family's crop, God's presence and love became known.

Like the combines that harvested the neighbor's field, God shows us that we are supported and loved through uncertain changes. Amidst a shifting season, we are reminded of God's never-ceasing presence in this world. Thanks be to God.

This reflection is from Vicar Alex, St. Paul Lutheran Church, 929 Concord Turnpike, Arlington MA 02476. Copyright 2020

October 1, 2023

Service Assistants	9:30
Ushers	Carl Gee, Dave and Rita Strickler, Jody Fullmer, Arch Watkins, Jimmy Gardner
Lay Assistant	Carol Waltz
Communion Assistant	Georgette Copp
Acolyte	Jordon Morris
Altar Guild	Sue Shoemaker, Yvonne Kaiser
Greeters/Communion Presenters	Barb Waltz, Alyx Taylor
Cantor	Virginia Amme
Flower Delivery	Susan Bryan

Sunday, September 24, 2023, Attendance: 71; Offering: \$3867.00

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Gladys Reigel Batey by her daughters, Evelyn, Merry and Penny.

Bible Readings

Sunday	October 1	<i>Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32, Philippians 2:1-13; Matthew 21:23-32</i>
Monday	October 2	<i>Psalms 28; Judges 14:1-20; Philippians 1:3-14</i>
Tuesday	October 3	<i>Psalms 28; Judges 16:1-22; Philippians 1:15-21</i>
Wednesday	October 4	<i>Psalms 28; Judges 16:23-31; Matthew 9:2-8</i>
Thursday	October 5	<i>Psalms 80:7-15; Jeremiah 2:23-37; Colossians 2:16-23</i>
Friday	October 6	<i>Psalms 80:7-15; Jeremiah 2:23-37; Philippians 2:14-18, 3:1-4a</i>
Saturday	October 7	<i>Psalms 80:7-15; Jeremiah 6:1-10; John 7:40-52</i>



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.

The Library Corner – Highlighted Books



Children - **Hush, Little One - a Lullaby for God's children** - This rhyming book can be read or sung to the melody for "Hush, Little Baby". Book is in the children's section of our library.

Adult - **Lutheranism 101 The Course and Student Book** - Wondering what the Lutheran Church is all about? This course examines our Lutheran beliefs and heritage in a fresh way. If you are a lifelong Lutheran searching for more information or new to Lutheranism looking to understand what we believe, this course will be your guide. This is a great course to lead in an adult class or just read the student book on its own. The student book can stand alone for great reading. Both leader guide and student book are found in the Teaching Curriculum section of our library



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 are available to purchase in the church office.

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

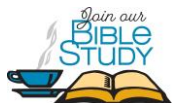




To anyone who would like to sing in the choir, rehearsals continue on Thursday's at 7 PM in the music room. Please come and join us. Don't worry about missing a Thursday night. You can still come at 8:45 on Sunday morning and join us in songs of praise and thanksgiving.



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.**



Please join us on Wednesday evenings for Bible Study and Fellowship at 7:00 pm. *All are welcome!*

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.*

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!



Food Pantry is in need of egg noodles, boxed potatoes, baked beans, dry milk, spaghetti sauce, peanut butter, jelly, canned chicken, tuna fish, crackers, jello, beef stew and chili.



Please support Messiah Pre-School Thursday, October 12th, 3pm -9:30pm. Dine in or take-out at Texas Roadhouse and they will donate 10% of your total food purchased food.

*Please clip the coupon below,
you must have the coupon with you to get the 10% discount.*



(272) 236-3060
1940 East 3rd Street | Williamsport

FUNDRAISING

DINE-IN OR TO-GO

»» **Support** ««

Messiah Lutheran Pre-School
Thursday, October 12th, 2023
3pm – 9:30pm



10%

DONATION NIGHT

Support our school by presenting this flyer to the Williamsport Location on 10/12/23 and Texas Roadhouse will donate **10%** of your total food purchases back to us!

