

OCTOBER

Calendar of Events

Sunday, September 28

9:30 am Worship/Communion

9:30 am Sunday School

Monday, September 29

Tuesday, September 30

Wednesday, October 1

6:30 pm Bible Study and Fellowship

Thursday, October 2

1:00 pm Back Pack Packing

7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

7:30 pm NA

Friday, October 3

Saturday, October 4

10:00 am Decorating for Harvest

Home Sunday



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

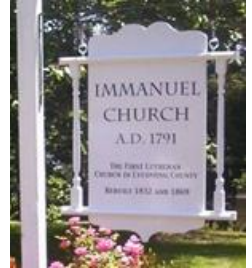
e-mail address: messiahoffice@comcast.net

September 24, 2025

VOL. 83 – NO. 38

Annual Fall Hymn Sing at Old Immanuel Lutheran Church

The Rev. Jeff LeCrone, pastor of St. Luke Lutheran Church in Williamsport, will be leading the upcoming Annual Fall Hymn Sing at Old Immanuel Lutheran Church, 2633 Lime Bluff Road, Muncy. The service will take place on Sunday, October 5, 2025, at 2:30pm. Pastor LeCrone, a former United Methodist pastor, will be exploring the musical connection between the Lutheran and Methodist traditions, with several hymns by the prolific Methodist hymn writer Charles Wesley and prominent Lutheran hymn writers, including Martin Luther himself. Each hymn on the program appears in both the Lutheran Book of Worship and the United Methodist Hymnal. Rebecca Ciabattari, organist and choir director at St. Luke, will provide musical accompaniment on the church's antique pump organ.



Old Immanuel is considered to be the mother church of Lutheranism in Lycoming County. Founded in 1791, it lived until its doors shut permanently in 1920. The first structure built on the property was of log; the second and third (the current) structures were of brick. The current building was dedicated in 1869, and contains two cornerstones, one in German dated 1832, and one in English dated 1869. At least 9 Revolutionary Soldiers and 5 Civil War Soldiers are buried in the historic cemetery. The church was built on land donated by Henry and Barbara Shoemaker, of "Shoemaker Mills" at the Route 442/405 intersection.

At one time, there was a school associated with Old Immanuel, and the church contained a gallery, a wine-glass pulpit, and enough straight-backed pews to seat 600 people.

Old Immanuel closed its doors for regular services in 1920, after giving rise to 19 other Lutheran congregations. Some of these have also closed their doors, such as Trinity (Huntersville), St. Paul's (Millville), Germany Church (at one time known as St. John's), Katy's Church (at one time known as Immanuel Lutheran), Christ Lutheran (Montgomery), Messiah (Alvira), the Stone Church in Elimsport, and Zion's, also in Elimsport. Others, such as Moreland Lutheran (at one time known as St. John's) and St. Mark's Lutheran (Lairdsville) have taken on new identities as they have become home to other congregations. Churches that have sprung up from Old Immanuel that continue with the Lutheran tradition include Trinity and Mount Zion, Hughesville; St. Andrew, Muncy; St. James, Muncy; Messiah, Clarkstown; St. John's, Gordner's Grove; St. John's (Brick), Montgomery; and Bethany, Montoursville.

Recently, the church's roof has received a new coat of paint. In addition, the church's belltower has been renovated and refurbished, and all the shutters have been repaired and repainted. Further projects include restoration of the windows, walls, and ceiling. A free-will offering will be taken to help offset the cost of these and other on-going expenses.



The public is invited to attend this service as well as to tour the historic church. Light refreshments will be served on the church lawn after the service. Please note that the church does not have running water or electricity, and is not fully handicap accessible. For more information, or to follow Old Immanuel more closely, "Like" "Old Immanuel Lutheran Church" on FaceBook!!!

September 28, 2025

SERVICE ASSISTANTS

Ushers: Mike Larson, Brian Bair. Al Cole, Sally Congdon, Kim Brofee; **Lay Assistant:** Georgette Copp; **Communion Assistant:** Rhonda Koch; **Acolyte:** Doriann Morris
Altar Guild: Rita Strickler, Carol Winter; **Greeter/Presenter:** Pam Eveleth
Cantor: Bob Schweppenheiser; **Flower Delivery:** Susan Bryan

Sunday, September 21, 2025: Attendance: *In Church: 87; Online: 6*; Offering: **\$3,414.26**

IN BLESSED MEMORY

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.

The Basket of Flowers is given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Dorothy and Gordan Ritter by their daughter Deborah Leonard and family

BIBLE READINGS

Sunday, September 28: Amos 6:1a, 4-7; 1 Timothy 6:6-19, Luke 16:19-31

Monday, September 29: Psalm 62; Amos 6:8-14; Revelation 3:14-22

Tuesday, September 30: Psalm 62; Hosea 10:9-15; James 5:1-6

Wednesday, October 1: Psalm 62; Hosea 12:2-14; Matthew 19:16-22

Thursday, October 2: Psalm 37:1-9; 2 Kings 18:1-8, 28-36; Revelation 2:8-11

Friday, October 3: Psalm 37:1-9; 2 Kings 19:8-20, 35-37; Revelation 2:12-29

Saturday, October 4: Psalm 37:1-9; Isaiah 7:1-9; Matthew 20:29-34



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

Reminder: Articles for the Messenger and Bulletin are due in the office by Monday at noon.



Mark your calendar for "**TRIVIA NIGHT**" on Saturday, **October 11th**. We will have some new faces. George Jansson will be our quiz master for the evening. Pizza and beverages will be supplied. Please bring a snack to share with everyone. The fees are ... \$8.00 per person; \$15.00 per couple. The beneficiary is Messiah's Backpack Project.



Bible Study and fellowship continues on Wednesday's at 6:30 pm. *All are welcome!*



The Library Corner – Highlighted Books



Children – **Moses' Dry Feet** – This book about Moses tells the story of Moses leading the Israelites across the Red Sea. Great for parents to read to their children but also great for children to read on their own. This Arch Book is in the spinner in the library.

Adult – **The Five People You Meet in Heaven** – Eddie is a grizzled war veteran who feels trapped in a meaningless life of fixing rides at a seaside amusement park. Then, on his 83rd birthday, Eddie dies in a tragic accident, trying to save a little girl from a falling cart. With his final breath, he feels two small hands in his—then nothing. Find out what happens next. Read this book in our Adult Fiction section.



MLP Gift Card Bingo is Saturday, October 25 at 12:30 pm. The doors will open at 11:30. Presale tickets are \$20 and at the door \$25. Tickets will be available before and after the service in the Narthex this **Sunday, September 28th** or anytime in the church office. **To make this event a success we are asking the congregation for your support. 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; or make baked goods to sell during the event. Deadline for gift cards and themed baskets is **October 17th**. Baked good items are due **Friday, October 24th by NOON** in the church office. **PLEASE DROP OFF ALL DONATIONS TO THE CHURCH OFFICE.**



Mountie
Backpack Program

The Mountie Backpack Program, centered here at Messiah, is getting ready for the new school year. These food bags close the gap in meals for children over the weekends and longer holidays. Volunteers are needed to help pack the food bags on Thursday afternoons and deliver the bags on Friday mornings before 11 am to Central Elementary School. **Mark your calendars for Thursday, September 25, at 1 PM, in Shaheen Hall, to come help this program get a great start.** Many hands make the load light. All are welcome on Thursday afternoons to pack the food bags. Two volunteers are needed to deliver the food bags on Fridays. Please contact Dianne Larson, 570-220-3702, or Connie McLaughlin, 570-356-3618 to schedule a Friday. Success of this program depends on your help to relieve children's hunger in our area.



The 47th Annual Crop Walk is Sunday October 12th, at 1:00 pm. The walk will start at St Mark's Lutheran Church. For more information, contact Tammy Edkin at 570-322-1110 or online at: **Crophungerwalk.org/williamsportpa**





Harvest Home and Blanket Sunday is **Sunday, October 5, 2025**. 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.), cornstalks and gourds to use in decorating are very much needed. All perishable items may be dropped off at the church office any time Thursday-Friday, October 2-3, or you may bring the day of the set-up on Saturday, October 4. ***Where does the food go?*** All perishable gifts of food received will be shared with the United Churches Food Pantry and the canned goods will stock our own food pantry and help to supply the Christmas baskets. ***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. *Please note the Change in time* for decorating for Harvest Home, it will take place on Saturday, October 4 at 10:00 am.***



Blanket Sunday: Donated blankets and quilts will be distributed by Lutheran World Relief. Please place clean blankets or quilts in the **gray bin** located in the elevator entrance ***no later than October 5.***

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.

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.

MISSION TO SEAFARERS



Did you realize that **90% of everything we wear, use, and consume**, come to us by merchant ships, operated by 1.5 million seafarers? On ships for 9 to 10 months at a time, the seafarers face many hardships: storms, piracy, abandonment, and loss of contact with their families. Often the only contact they have beyond the ship, the Chaplains provide emotional and spiritual support.

Join in the Chaplains' mission of showing Christ's love.

Remember Matthew 25: 35, "I was a stranger and you welcomed me."

Help fill gift satchels that the Chaplains deliver to the seafarers, in the weeks before Christmas. Each satchel should contain the following:

- 1 sweatshirt, unhooded or hooded (the preferred) – size M, L or XL**
- 3 pair of socks, thermal or white gym**
- 1 casual pullover T shirt – size M, L or XL**
- 1 heavy knit winter cap**
- 1 can of nuts or large bar of chocolate**
- Christmas card**

NO ADDITIONS AND NO SUBSTITUTIONS

Items need to be at the church by **October 26th**. *Thank you.*



Pack-a-Sack! ~ Saturday, September 27, 5:00 p.m.

God's Work. Our Hands. We'll start with some fellowship over pizza and then get to work packing the school kits with the supplies that you brought in over the summer.



If you cannot stay for the whole time, that's okay – we are so glad to have you join us for whatever time you can give!

Questions or to sign up at the last minute ~ call or text Kathy at 570-651-2802.



Do you have a special occasion or a special someone that you would like to remember or honor with Altar flowers? The cost runs around \$37 to \$40 for both bouquets. **We are also looking for volunteers** to help deliver the flowers. It is a great opportunity to put a smile on someone's face that needs it. Please contact Cindy Bennett if interested at 570-326-7944.



You are cordially invited to sing a special anthem with Saints in Song on October 12 during our worship service. There will be short rehearsals following worship Sunday, October 5, another at the beginning of choir rehearsal at 7 PM on October 9, and again at 8:45 AM on October 12. Please plan on attending at least one. The anthem we will sing is easy to learn. If you like to sing, we would love to have you sing with us.



A Concert in SOUND and SIGHT- The Seipp/Fickley Trumpet/Organ Duo with videos illustrating the music. Enjoy all styles of specialized arrangements from classical to Gershwin synchronized to captivating videos. Saturday, October 4, 3 pm, Covenant Central Presbyterian Church 807 West Fourth Street. No tickets, but donations welcome.

