

# NOVEMBER 2026

## Calendar of Events

**Sunday, November 2**

**All Saints Sunday**

9:30 am Worship/Communion

5:45 pm SW Little League

**Monday, November 3**

5:30 pm Sit Happens

6:30 pm Fellowship Committee

**Tuesday, November 4**

7:00 pm Council

**Wednesday, November 5**

6:30 pm Bible Study and Fellowship

**Thursday, November 6**

1:00 pm Back Pack Packing

6:30 pm Handbell Choir

7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

7:30 pm NA

**Friday, November 7**

**Saturday, November 8**



**MESSIAH MESSENGER USPS 342-060**

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## MESSIAH MESSENGER

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**MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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**October 29, 2025**

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**The Festival of All Saints** will be observed this Sunday, November 2, 2025 at 9:30 am. This annual feast day is a celebration of the entire Christian community, living and dead. It recognizes that those who have gone before us in the faith have blazed a trail for us and reminds us that they, too, are in the care of Christ. All Saints

Sunday is the celebration of what our ancestors have meant to us, how their lives have enriched ours, and how our communion with one another in the body of Christ reaches even beyond the grave.

Join us this Sunday as we remember those who can never be separated from us, because they have been forever united to Christ. Since it is our custom to especially remember those who have died since last All Saints Sunday, the following persons will be remembered in our prayers by name:

**E. Stuart “Stu” Congdon**

**Carl J. Fila**

**Claire W. Keefer**

**Jeannie L. Laurrell**

**Mary Strunk**

**Eleanor Jones**

**Connie E. Vogel**

**Paul H. Vogel, Jr.**

**Marie A. Welter**

**Pastor Josh Knutson**



November 2, 2025

**SERVICE ASSISTANTS**

**Ushers:** Fred Harbaugh, Jean Nolan, Diana Rooker, Susan Christ; **Lay Assistant:** Anita Bair;  
**Communion Assistant:** Mandy Feinberg; **Acolyte/Crucifer:** Weston Sherman  
**Altar Guild:** Rita Strickler, Carol Winter; **Greeters/Presenters:** Jody Fullmer, Carl Gee  
**Cantor:** Candy Watkins; **Flower Delivery:** Charles Luppert

**Sunday, October 26, 2025:** Attendance: **87**; Online: **6**; Offering: **\$4,225.38**

**IN BLESSED MEMORY**

**The Altar Flowers** are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Cletus Gephart, born 7/30/1935 and died 11/4/2024, with love from Ed and Marlene Young.

**The Basket of Flowers** is given to the Glory of God and in loving honor of Brenda and Marlin Cromley's wedding anniversary on November 5<sup>th</sup>.

**The Basket of Flowers** is given to the Glory of God and in loving honor of David and Emily Bausinger's 47<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

**The white carnations** are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Claire Keefer, Jeannie Laurrell, Eleanor Jones, Mary Strunk, Connie Vogel, Paul Vogel, Jr., Marie Welter, Pastor Josh Knutson, Carl Fila and E. Stuart "Stu" Congdon.

**BIBLE READINGS**

**Sunday, November 2:** *Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18; Ephesians 1:11-23; Luke 6:20-31*

**Monday, November 3:** *Psalm 50; Nehemiah 13:1-3, 23-31; 1 Corinthians 5:9-13*

**Tuesday, November 4:** *Psalm 50; Zechariah 7:1-14; Jude 5-21*

**Wednesday, November 5:** *Psalm 50; Amos 5:12-24; Luke 19:11-27*

**Thursday, November 6:** *Psalm 17:1-9; Deuteronomy 25:5-10; Acts 22:22-23:11*

**Friday, November 7:** *Psalm 17:1-9; Genesis 38:1-26; Acts 24:10-23*

**Saturday, November 8:** *Psalm 17:1-9; Exodus 3:13-20; Luke 20:1-8*



**Presiding over worship this Sunday, November 2,** will be Pastor Amme.

**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.



**Food Pantry:** *Items most needed this week* are jello, mac and cheese, baked beans, fruit, popcorn, applesauce, cocoa and snacks.



**Bible Study and fellowship** continues on Wednesdays at 6:30 pm.

*All are welcome!*



## **The Library Corner – Highlighted Books**



Children - **Uri and the Busy Day** - Uri wants to spend the day with her friends, but all that fun gets to be too much! Can she find a way to calm down and start over? In our children's section of the library.

Youth - **3rd Edition - The Christian Babysitter's Handbook** -

Whether you've been babysitting for a while or if you just started, this book will give you a lot of pointers, ideas and suggestions for games, stories, activities and handy forms to help you get all the information to do the best job possible. In our Youth Themed section.



**Official Notice** is hereby given of the **Annual Congregation Meeting** to be held on **Sunday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>**. This meeting will be held immediately after worship. Please plan on attending.



Messiah's Women of the ELCA will pack "**Cookie Boxes**" in November for college students and military personnel. PLEASE GIVE NAMES AND ADDRESSES to the Church Office by November 11. We will also pack "**Cookie Tins**" for Messiah's home-bound members and ask that the congregation help to provide "sweet treats" (and some "non-sugar") to be brought to the Church Kitchen on or before November 14 and marked "for WELCA".



**Attention Bell Ringers**, Rehearsals for Christmas Eve have begun on Thursday evenings at 6:30 pm in the choir room. Please join us.



**Unfortunately, we will not be holding Sunday School until further notice.** We look forward to seeing the kids at our Saturday morning events.



**Our Advent Kid's Event** will be held on Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup> from 9 until noon. As usual we will need your assistance with volunteering. Please contact Kathryn Pratt at 570-244-6964 if you are able to help. Please prayerfully consider this opportunity to share God's presence with the children in our community. Thank you, Kathryn.



**World Community Day Celebration – “Be Kind at All Times”** Saturday, November 1<sup>st</sup>, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm. This event is sponsored by Church Women United in Lycoming County. The event will be held at St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 142 Market Street, Williamsport, Pa.



**White Gifts Tags** preparation for the Angel Tree will begin in a few days.

**Tag Requests:** We often receive requests from individuals who wish to take all of the tags for one child, or sometimes for two or more children in the same family. If you would like to “adopt” a child by taking all of his/her tags, ***please contact one of our coordinators no later than Wednesday, November 12.*** This will make it easier for us to set the tags aside before they are put on the tree. To reserve tags ahead of time, **contact Kathy Wither (570) 651-2802 or Jeanette Green (570) 916-7500 talk or text.**

**Gift Requests:** Families in our congregation who are experiencing a need and can benefit from a little help are encouraged to call the church office ***no later than October 31*** to obtain the gift requests forms and return the completed forms as soon as possible so that we have time to prepare the tags in order for the Angel Tree to be set up by November 16.



**Christmas Basket Food Donations:** We are beginning our food collection early this year to fill the baskets we give to families in need at Christmas time.

***Donations of the following items are needed:***

- Canned corn
- Canned green beans
- Canned yams
- Cranberry sauce
- Canned fruit (applesauce, peaches, pears, fruit cocktail)
- Pie crust mix
- Canned pumpkin
- Evaporated milk
- Canned gravy or gravy packets
- Stove Top stuffing
- Dessert mixes (cake, brownies, JELLO, pudding, etc.)
- Cash donations

**Food donations** may be placed in the bin in the narthex on Sunday mornings or in the specially marked bin in the elevator alcove during the week. **Monetary donations** are also needed for the purchase of perishable items. Please secure your gifts in an envelope marked “Christmas Baskets” and place it in the offering plate during worship or mail to the church office. Checks are to be made out to Messiah Lutheran Church with “Christmas Baskets” written in the memo line. **All donations are due no later than Sunday, December 14.**

*Thank you for opening your hearts to help those in need!*



**“Everything Christmas” Sale at Redeemer Lutheran Church**

**Friday, November 7, 4-7 p.m. & Saturday, November 8, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.**

NGA (The National Giving Alliance) will be holding an “Everything Christmas” Sale in the Social Hall at Redeemer Lutheran Church, 1101 Washington Blvd., Williamsport (across from Papa John’s). Proceeds from the sale to buy new clothing to give to children in Head Start and local schools. NGA also assists us in getting some of the jackets we need for children in our White Gifts Program here at Messiah at Christmastime. Please consider supporting NGA by shopping the sale or donating items to be sold.

*Donations for the sale may be dropped off at the church on Friday, November 7, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Contact Pastor Carol Johnson at (570) 772-6674 if you have any questions.*





With deep sorrow and sadness, but always in sure and certain hope of the resurrection, we announce the death of **The Rev. Joshua Robert Knutson, Pastor of the Two Rivers Parish, Columbia, South Carolina.** Pastor Knutson had served us at Messiah Church as Vicar from August, 2018 through August, 2019. We extend our prayers to his wife, Roseann, and daughter, Lexi.

**A special offering will be taken this All Saints Sunday, November 2, 2025, that we will direct to Roseann and Lexi for their immediate needs.** Please place in an envelope marked Knutson family and place in the offering place.

**The Messiah Lutheran Preschool Bingo Committee sends out a huge THANK YOU** to all who contributed in making the bingo a huge success. Your generosity, time and talents went beyond our expectations. We also send out a huge thank you to the community who donated to and attended this event. This kind of invaluable support only comes from church family and community. A net profit of **\$7,522.75** is a remarkable accomplishment, and will go directly to support the preschool's needs.



## Volunteers are needed....

What is a Volunteer?



The classic definition of a volunteer is **a person who gives their time and service freely for a purpose.** Volunteering is typically driven by a desire to help others

As most of you are aware, the volunteers in the church are what keeps the church running. Every person who volunteers has a purpose and is appreciated for their service day in and day out. Next month you will be receiving your ***"Time and Talent"*** survey. Please prayerfully consider filling out the survey and choose the work in the ministry that fits you best.

**We are especially in need of: *committee members, altar guild, Ushers, and flower delivery.***

### Volunteering Fun Facts

The verb **"VOLUNTEER"** first originating in **1755.**

**Volunteerism** in the United States date back to the Revolutionary War when civilians contributed to the war effort.

**The American Red Cross**, one of the most influential humanitarian organizations in the world, was founded by **Clara Barton in 1881.**

About **63 million** adults volunteer **annually.**