



Calendar of Events

Sunday, March 29
Palm Sunday

9:30 am Worship/Communion
10:30 am Pie Social

Monday, March 30

Tuesday, March 31

Wednesday, April 1

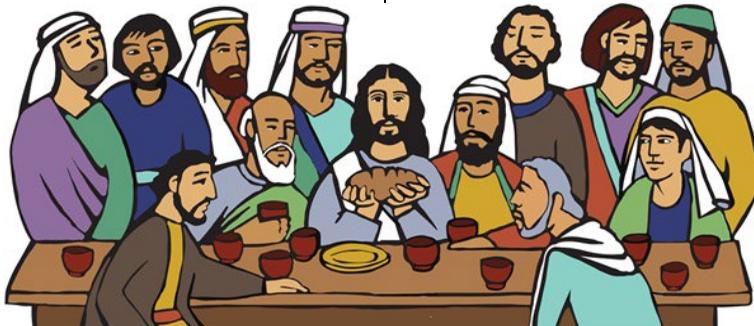
Thursday, April 2
Maundy Thursday

6:00 pm Choir Rehearsal
7:00 pm Worship/Communion
7:30 pm NA

Friday, April 3
Good Friday

7:00 pm Worship

Saturday, April 4



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

March 25, 2026

VOL. 83 – NO. 12



Palm Sunday, March 29, 9:30 a.m.

Worship Service with Holy Communion and The Passion According to St. Matthew

Maundy Thursday, April 2, 7:00 p.m.

Confession and Forgiveness, Holy Communion,
Stripping of the Altar

Good Friday, April 3, 7:00 p.m.

Worship Service of Christ's Seven Last Words

The Resurrection of Our Lord – Easter Day, April 5

9:30 a.m. - Festival Service of Holy Communion



Sunday, March 29, 2026

SERVICE ASSISTANTS

Ushers: Fred Harbaugh, Jean Nolan, Diana Rooker, Susan Christ, Greg Eckenrode
Lay Asst: Carola Storrs; **Comm. Asst.:** Georgette Copp; **Acolyte/Crucifer:** Doriann Morris; **Torchbearers:** Malory Klemick, Alivia Klemick; **Altar Guild;** Jody Fullmer, Jeannie Bower; **Greeters/Presenters:** Sherri Holtzman, Doris Butt
Flower Delivery: Chuck Luppert; **Readers:** Carola Storrs, Janet Stroble, Georgette Copp, Pam Eveleth, Ron Yeagle, Bob Schweppenheiser, Carol Waltz

Sunday, March 22: Attendance: *In Church: 86; Online: 8;* Offering: **\$2,116.38**

Thursday, April 2, 2026

SERVICE ASSISTANTS

Ushers: Rhonda Koch, Dave and Rita Strickler, Diana Rooker
Lay Asst: Susan Bryan; **Comm. Asst.:** Sherri Holtzman; **Altar Guild;** Alice Morrison

Friday, April 3, 2026

SERVICE ASSISTANTS

Ushers: Rhonda Koch, Larry Solomon; **Lay Asst:** Georgette Copp

IN BLESSED MEMORY

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in honor of Nathan Rundio's 18th birthday, March 31st, with love from Grammy and Pappy Bausinger.

The Palms are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Robert E. Hassler by his wife. Jane.



Presiding over our worship Sunday, March 29 will be Pastor Amme, **Thursday, April 2,** and **Friday, April 3** will be Janet Stroble, ALWL.

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.

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



If you would like to help get the Palms ready for Palm Sunday Worship, please join us Saturday morning, March 28th at 9:00 am.



We are looking for volunteers to deliver Easter flowers to our homebound members. If you are able please sign up on the sheet in the Narthex. Thank you.

REMINDERS FOR SUNDAY, March 29th:



Easter Flower orders are due. Please place them in the offering plate or bring to the church office.

Lenten self-denial banks are due this Sunday. Please place them in the plastic container in the Narthex or return to the church office. Thank you!

BIBLE READINGS

Sunday, March 29: *Matthew 21:1-11; Isaiah 50:4-9a; Philippians 2:5-11; Mathew 26:14-27:66*

Monday, March 30: *Isaiah 42:1-9; Psalm 36:5-11; Hebrews 9:11-15; John 12:1-11*

Tuesday, March 31: *Isaiah 49:1-7; Psalm 71:1-14; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31; John 12:20-36*

Wednesday, April 1: *Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 70; Hebrews 12:1-3; John 13:21-32*

Thursday, April 2: *Exodus 12:1-14; Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; John 13:1-17, 31b-35*

Friday, April 3: *Isaiah 52:13-53:12; Psalm 22; Hebrews 10:16-25; John 18:1-19:42*

Saturday, April 4: *Romans 6:3-11; John 20:1-18*



The Library Corner – Highlighted Books



Children - **Jesus Washes Peter's Feet** - This is the famous story of the Last Supper. This book is one of our many Lent/Holy Week/Easter themed Arch books. This entire series has a 3rd gr. reading level. Great to read together and there is always a page for parents at the end of each book. Book is on the Arch Book spinner in our library.

Adult - **The Day Christ Died by Jim Bishop** - This is a book about the most dramatic day in the history of the world, the day on which Jesus of Nazareth died. It opens at 6 p.m. - the beginning of the Hebrew day -- with Jesus and ten of the apostles coming through the pass between the Mt. of Olives and the Mt. of Offense en route to Jerusalem and the Last Supper. It closes at 4 p.m. of the following afternoon, when Jesus was taken down from the cross. This book is in the Easter Holiday Section of the library.



Trivia Night is Saturday, April 18 (6:00 p.m.) Registration fees are \$8.00 per person or \$15.00 per couple and all monies go to the beneficiary- Messiah Pre-School's Scholarship Fund. Please bring food to share; pizza and beverages will be provided. George Jansson is our Quiz-master.

West Branch history is exciting! See the displays at the THOMAS T. TABER MUSEUM on SUNDAY, APRIL 26 (12:15-2:15 p.m.) But, first, we'll have a sandwich/salad lunch—provided by members of WELCA—and then car-pool to the Museum where Wilma Reeder—an employee of the Museum—will give us an “Introduction” and then we tour on our own. Tickets will be available in the narthex on April 12 and 19.

Spring is here, so it is time to think of the “Mother’s Day Dinner” (now renamed “Women’s Banquet”). Pen the date of **Tuesday, May 5**, in your calendar ... roasted turkey breast ... same ticket prices as last year ... a unique program by Candy Watkins and her nephew, Brian Gresh. Tickets will be available on April 12-19-26 in the narthex.



A very special thank you to all of our Saints in Song for adding their voices to our anthem on Sunday, March 22. The sound was glorious! We'll let you know when our next Saints Sunday is scheduled. Anyone who likes to sing is invited to join us.



The Lifelong Faith Formation Committee will host an ***Easter Egg Hunt*** directly after the Easter Sunday service, *Sunday, April 5th* in Shaheen Hall. Bring your Easter Baskets, bags will be provided for those who forget their baskets.

Reminder – KIM Lenten Event will be held this Saturday, March 28th, 9 A.M. – 12 P.M. No

We are thrilled to announce that Pastor Gerald Kliner has officially accepted the call to serve as our Senior Pastor. His ministry with us is set to begin on May 1st.

It was a joy to see many faces at the meet-and-greet on Saturday March 14 and during Sunday's worship service on March 15. We invite you to view the photos below capturing these first moments of fellowship.

A transition of this importance is only possible through the dedication of many. The Call Committee and Congregational Council for their tireless work throughout the search process and most of all the prayers offered by so many.

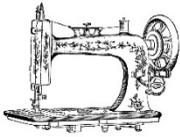
Our interim leaders, who have stepped into the pulpit; we are deeply grateful to Pastor LeCrone, Pastor Amme, Janet Stroble and others for their invaluable time, guidance, and spiritual leadership during our years of searching.

Messiah Lutheran Church is Blessed



7 "Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you."
Matthew 7:7





Lutheran World Relief School Kits Update on Sewing

Our first Sew-A-Sack for this year had a great turnout and an energetic crew! Everyone worked well together and had a good time. About half of the backpacks that we hope to complete were made.

If you had hoped to come but missed out on the fun, fear not! Plans for a second Sew-A-Sack sew-a-thon are in the works, hopefully some time in April. Watch for further details!

Those who enjoy sewing backpacks at home may pick up pre-surged fabric pieces and instructions in the narthex on Sunday mornings or from the church office during the week. Because these pieces have been prepared in advance with this special stitching around the edges, it greatly simplifies the process and makes sewing the backpacks a breeze!

Questions?? Call Sally Congdon at 570-547-6193 or Kathy Wither at 570-651-2802.

Messiah Lutheran Preschool is now accepting registrations for the 2026-2027 school year. The program is Monday – Friday. We have a morning class 8:30 am – 11:30 am for 3 and 4 year olds (the child needs to be 3-years old by Sept. 1st) and the afternoon class is 11:30 am -2:30 pm. This is the Pre-K class for 4 and 5 year olds who expect to begin kindergarten in Fall 2026. **For more information**, please call the volunteer preschool coordinator, Linda Miller at 570-326-5405 or 1-272-230-7215. **Registration forms are also available in the church office. Since space is limited early registration is encouraged. Thank you**



∞ Scholarship Available to the Pennsylvania State University

The Jane Elizabeth Newlin and Everett Mason Batschelet Memorial Scholarship is offered annually to an incoming first year student who will be enrolled at any campus of the Pennsylvania State University *including the Pennsylvania College of Technology*. To qualify for the Newlin-Batschelet scholarship, an applicant must be a public high school graduate or prospective graduate. The recipient will be nominated by a committee appointed by our Congregation Council. Nominees will be submitted to the Pennsylvania State University in order to verify the nominee's financial eligibility as determined by the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

Approved candidates will be informed by Penn State and will receive an annual scholarship of \$5,000.00 for a maximum of four years, as long as they are enrolled as a full-time student on a Penn State campus, remain eligible, and funds are available.

Applications for this scholarship may be obtained by calling the church office. **All applications are due in the church office by Monday, May 4th.** **Because references, SAT scores, and transcripts must also be filed, applicants should obtain an application as soon as possible.**

