



Calendar of Events



Sunday, May 10

9:30 am Worship/Communion

Monday, May 11

5:30 pm Sit Happens

Tuesday, May 12

6:30 pm Preschool Committee

6:30 pm Worship and Music Committee

Wednesday, May 13

Thursday, May 14

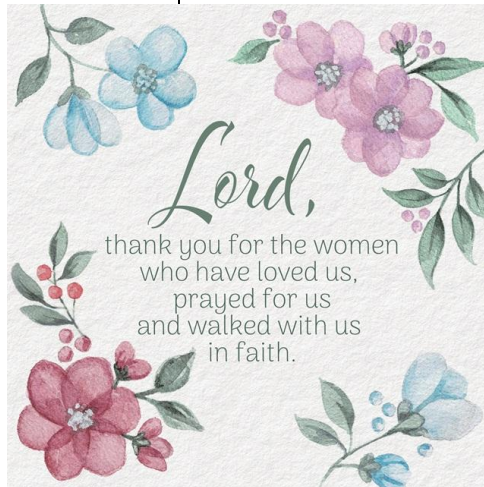
1:00 pm Backpacks Packing

2:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

7:30 pm NA

Friday, May 15

Saturday, May 16



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

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May 6, 2026

VOL. 83 – NO. 1



In between the first (“The Junior Year”) and the Second (“The Middler Year”) of seminary, it is customary...maybe even “traditional” among Lutheran seminarians...to spend the summer working in a hospital or other “institutional” setting, as part of a group under supervision, doing chaplaincy work. We call it “Clinical Pastoral Education” or CPE for short. For many students, it’s our first experience in the field of “Pastoral” work. The groups are usually “ecumenically” composed, which means that for many of us, this will be our first real experience with other Christian and even other religious traditions. For instance, in my first CPE group, I was the only “Lutheran” in the bunch: my supervisor was a United Methodist pastor, and my colleagues were seminarians from Baptist, Methodist, Disciples of Christ, and a Quaker...very different outlooks and approaches than my “Lutheran” view.

I remember one day, my Baptist colleague was going on about “the Holy Spirit” and I said (rather blithely) “We Lutherans don’t ‘do’ that ‘Holy Spirit stuff’...” My supervisor, who was a United Methodist, fixed me with a steely glare and said: “You haven’t read much Martin Luther, have you?” And he was right. That was an invitation for me to get serious about “my own” theological heritage, and I did start “reading” Martin Luther with a serious eye that summer. What I found was that “Lutherans,” historically did “DO” that “Holy Spirit stuff”...A LOT. Luther, in particular was extremely serious and devout about the life and work of the Holy Spirit. We might not be, in Church terminology, “Charismatic” like my Baptist friend was, but without the Holy Spirit there would be no Church, no Faith, no life.

In fact, most of what we get most riled up about these days is not really about “our work,” but more properly understood as “The Work of the Holy Spirit.” In his letter to the Galatians, Saint Paul writes: “...the fruits of the spirit is **love, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.**” Do you fear that “the world is going to hell in a handbasket,” that too few people are “coming to Church”? PRAY FOR THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT. Do you mourn the increasing violence and strife that seems to infect our community? PRAY FOR THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT. Do you worry about the seeming plague of recklessness and impulsivity that destroys lives in moments? PRAY FOR THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT! (*continues inside*)

(continues from cover)

The Holy Spirit is what works love, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control in the human heart. Far from wringing our hands, we need to be crying out “Come! Come! Come Holy Spirit!” and opening our hearts to his presence among us.

Our Lord Jesus Christ sends the Holy Spirit upon his Church that we might not “be orphaned” but that we might know Christ’s life among us continually. It is the Holy Spirit who “calls, gathers, and enlightens the whole Christian Church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one, common, True Faith.” (Luther’s Small Catechism) Far from “not doing that Holy Spirit stuff” we need to be constantly seeking and calling upon the Holy Spirit.

Veni! Veni! Veni Sancte Spiritus!

Pax Christi;

Pr. Jerry Kliner, STS



Sunday, May 10, 2026

SERVICE ASSISTANTS

Ushers: Mike Larson, Brian Bair, Al Cole, Sally Congdon, Kim Brofee; **Lay Asst:** Janet Stroble; **Comm. Asst.:** Candy Watkins; **Acolyte:** Dylan Sherman; **Altar Guild:** Susan Bryan, Yvonne Kaiser; **Greeters/Presenters:** Carol Waltz, Barb Waltz
Cantor: Carol Waltz; **Flower Delivery:** Jody Fullmer

Sunday, May 3: Attendance: *In Church: 107; Online:5*; Offering: **\$12,817.30**

IN BLESSED MEMORY

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in honor of all mothers by the Gist family.

The Basket of Flowers is given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Percy Batey and Gladys Reigel Batey, by the Steiner, McCracken and Packard families.

The Basket of Flowers is given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of our sister Carol Riley’s 69th birthday on May 10th, by her sisters Emily Bausinger and Connie Hess.

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

Eucharistic Ministers will be sent out Sunday, May 17th. Please let the office know if you are not available to take communion. If anyone is homebound, can’t get to church and would like to receive Communion please notify the church office at 570-326-9171.

BIBLE READINGS

Sunday, May 10: Acts 17:22-31; 1 Peter 66:8-20; John 14:15-21

Monday, May 11: Psalm 93; Genesis 9:8-17; Acts 27:39-44

Tuesday, May 12: Psalm 93; Deuteronomy 5:22-33; 1 Peter 3:8-12

Wednesday, May 13: Psalm 93; Deuteronomy 31:1-13; John 16:16-24

Thursday, May 14: Acts 1:1-11; Psalm 47; Ephesians 1:15-23; Luke 24:44-53

Friday, May 15: Psalm 93; 2Kings 2:1-12; Ephesians 2:1-7

Saturday, May 16: Psalm 93; 2 Kings 2:13-15; John 8:21-30



The Library Corner – Highlighted Books



Children - **Mommy Promises** - From tucking them in at night to waving goodbye at the bus stop, from teaching them to tie their shoelaces to teaching them to lace their fingers in prayer, a mother's love for her child is reflected in so many ways. This book celebrates and affirms that love.

In words and pictures this book takes a warm and wonderful look at the special relationship between mother and child and at the one of a kind relationship between our heavenly Father and His chosen children. Book is in the Children's section of our library.

Adults - **Ideals Mother's Day** - This is a book that shares stories, poems, a recipe and even a craft for Spring and highlighting Mother's Day. A wonderful way to reminisce and look forward. Great book to share with mothers of all ages. Book is in the Other Holiday Section of our library.

OUR STAFF

OFFICE NUMBER: 570-326-9171

Senior Pastor: Rev. Gerald Kliner..... **Ext. 206**

Secretary: Pam Eveleth **Ext.201**

Financial Secretary: Jean Kelley **Ext. 207**

Organist: Jared Gist call the office

Sexton: Chris Haefner **Ext. 208**

Preschool Co - Coordinators: Linda Miller (volunteer) and Deb Wheeler

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 9:00 A.M – 3:00 P.M and Friday, 9:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

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



Seeking Names of Graduates: Please call the church office by May 31st, with the name/address of anyone in your family who is graduating from High School and Undergrad or Grad School this spring. Your Messiah family would like to recognize your accomplishment. *Thank you!*



A Special Invitation

Sunday, May 30, 4:00 p.m.

Installation of The Rev. Gerald Kliner

Rejoice and celebrate with us as Pastor Gerald Kliner is installed as Senior Pastor of Messiah Lutheran Church.

A Catered Buffet Meal with Dessert will be held in Shaheen Hall following the Worship Service.

The congregation is invited to attend.

Please sign-up on the sign-up sheet in the Narthex if you are able to attend.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL "Tropical Trek" will be held Monday, June 15 – Friday, June 19. If you would like to volunteer to help, please call Kathryn at 570-244-6964 or call the church office. **THINGS WE NEED:** If you have any artificial ivy, ferns

or other house plants/trees that we can borrow or have, it would be appreciated (no Christmas trees or evergreen garlands). If you do want them returned, please make sure to put your name on them somewhere. We will also be collecting brown packaging paper like what comes in Amazon shipments. Please place your items in the box in the alcove near the elevator. Thank you, Kathryn Pratt



School Kits Update: Our sew-a-thons were very productive this year, but a few people have approached us asking to sew additional backpacks at home. If you enjoy sewing and would like something to keep you busy, we do have a small stash of backpacks in various stages of production that could be finished.

Please contact Kathy Wither at 570-651-2802, call or text, and she will get them to you.

Next steps: The oldest class of children attending Vacation Bible School will string the packs (June 15-19), and after that we will have our "Knotty Party" – watch for more information on that! In the meantime, **help is needed to prepare for Bible School.** We still have two rolls of cord to cut for the drawstrings, and the ends need to be knotted to keep them from fraying. We are looking for 2-3 people who would be willing to work together for a few hours to finish that task. Please contact Kathy (570-651-2802) if you can help. **Thank you all!**



2026 1st Quarter Budget Report

FUND NAME	2026 BUDGET 1 st Quarter	ACTUAL INCOME	ACTUAL EXPENSES	OVERAGE OR SHORTFALL
General Fund	\$45,500.00	\$ 71,740.00	\$51,295.00	(+)\$20,455.00
Rebuilding Fund	\$12,500.00	\$11,089.00	\$21,093.00	(\$2,742.36)
Children's Ministry	\$1537.00	\$2,554.00	\$519.00	(+)\$2,035.00

The South Williamsport Ministerium will host a Baccalaureate Service here at Messiah on Sunday, May 31st, at 7:00 p.m. for South Williamsport Area High School's Class of 2026 graduates. Please join us in praying for these teens and for all of our high school graduates as they embark on a new stage in their lives.



The Rev. Amy Shuck, pastor of First, Watsontown, will be officiating at **Old Immanuel Lutheran Church's Annual Memorial Service** on Sunday, June 14, 2026, at 2:30 p.m., at 2633 Lime Bluff Road, Muncy. Along with our country's 250th birthday, we will be celebrating 235 years of Old Immanuel, the oldest Lutheran church in Lycoming County! You are most welcome to join us, but please be aware that the church has no electricity or running water, and is not ADA compliant.



Donations of gently used clothing and accessories for Daniel's Closet are being accepted at Messiah. Clothing and accessories, shoes, bags and purses, suitcases, and outerwear are accepted. You may place your donations in the large blue bin in the alcove outside of the Chapel whenever the church or the office is open. Please bag all items and try to limit the size of the bag to no larger than a kitchen sized trash bag as anything larger than that is very heavy and difficult for our volunteers to handle or to lift out of the bin. Daniel's Closet is a ministry of Redeemer Lutheran Church on Washington Boulevard to provide free clothing to anyone who has a need, regardless of income. **The next Closet is May 23, 8:30-11:00 a.m.**

