



# JULY 2018 NEWSLETTER

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*God Bless*  
A M E R I C A



**Gracious God, we give you thanks for the freedom  
and abundance that we experience as a nation.**

**Help us demonstrate in our lives and laws the values of  
freedom, justice, equality and care for all people.**

# UNITED IN CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH STAFF

**The Rev. Justin G. Lingenfelter: Pastor**

Cell: 610-973-4052

Email: pastor.justin17@gmail.com

**Terri Cromwell: Office Administrator and OAKs Coordinator**

Church Office: 570-568-2254

Cell: 570-850-5730

Church Email: office@unitedinchristlutheran.net

**Marilyn Gresh: Music**

Home: 570-473-9406

Email: marilyngresh@hotmail.com

**Terry Snyder: Sexton**

Cell: 570-238-4666

## WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION

**Sunday, 10am**

## CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

**Monday through Thursday, 9am to 2pm**

### UIC COUNCIL MEMBERS

|                                       |                                    |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>Cami Zimmerman, President</b>      | 1 <sup>st</sup> term, ends 12/2018 |
| <b>Charlie Dinsmore, V. President</b> | 1 <sup>st</sup> term, ends 12/2018 |
| <b>Annette Baker, Secretary</b>       | 2 <sup>nd</sup> term, ends 12/2018 |
| <b>Ken Baker, Treasurer</b>           | 1 <sup>st</sup> term, ends 12/2020 |
| <b>Ken Criswell</b>                   | 1 <sup>st</sup> term, ends 12/2019 |
| <b>Amy Danowsky</b>                   | 1 <sup>st</sup> term, ends 12/2019 |
| <b>Frank Danowsky</b>                 | 1 <sup>st</sup> term, ends 12/2018 |
| <b>Marianne Murray</b>                | 1 <sup>st</sup> term, ends 12/2019 |
| <b>John Sheaffer</b>                  | 2 <sup>nd</sup> term, ends 12/2018 |
| <b>Bob Swartz</b>                     | 2 <sup>nd</sup> term, ends 12/2019 |

Council Members are elected for a term of three years and no more than 2 consecutive terms.

### ***United In Christ's Mission Statement:***

*Led by the Spirit, we follow Christ's call to honor God and neighbor through worship, learning, service, prayer, stewardship and invitation.*

# Mark Your Calendars

**WED, JULY 4**

**OFFICE CLOSED**

Have a Happy 4th of July. Be safe!

**WED, JULY 11**

**OAKS**

**SAT, JULY 14**

**BABY STEPS DIAPER PANTRY**

**MON, JULY 16**

**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

**WED, JULY 25**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

## **PASTOR JUSTIN WILL BE AWAY**

Pastor Justin will be in Texas at the ELCA Youth Gathering, returning to the office on Thursday, July 5.

He will also be away on vacation July 16-July 22, returning to the office on Monday, July 23.

If you need pastoral care please call the office during office hours, 570-568-2254. After office hours please call Terri Cromwell on her cell, 570-850-5730. Terri will let the supply pastor know of the need.

# FROM THE PASTOR



*Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.*

*Romans 13:8-10*

*The Christian individual is a completely free lord of all,  
subject to none.*

*The Christian individual is a completely dutiful servant of all,  
subject to all.*

*Martin Luther  
The Freedom of a Christian*

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Dear, United In Christ,

With twenty straight years of schooling and two degrees from higher education, I've taken a *lot* of tests over the years. I'm not saying I enjoyed those experiences, but they came routinely enough that I began to recognize them as the necessities they were. Every quiz, every test, every final exam was given as a means of probing the limits of the material I had managed to retain from the weeks of coursework. They were given to see how well I had internalized the material and if I could use it to critically engage new topics at the outskirts of that knowledge. The key to test taking, especially in the later years, was being able to not only recite and reproduce the material I'd been given, but to *use* it to address something entirely new or different from what the professor had covered.

And see, the thing is, I think *we* have a real test before us. As we celebrate our nation's Independence Day this month, we have been made acutely aware of the ways in which we, as a country *and* as people of faith, are being called upon to use the materials we've inherited and been taught in new and different ways. The issues, polarity, and vehemence we face as a country represent possibilities never conceived of by the figures who set the course of our history into motion. The challenges we face as people of faith were never on the minds of the likes of Luther or Augustine or Paul. What's more is that as our national rhetoric continues to blur the lines that have traditionally maintained the separation of Church and State, we as citizens and as Christians have been and will continue to be tested on multiple fronts. Make no mistake, our character, our collective moral fiber, the very spirit of who we are is up for grabs.

So how do we respond? We will need to draw from all the resources we've been gifted to engage the questions before us. In this month, when we celebrate our own country's Independence, we can draw on the principles over which such independence was declared in the first place: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness." These convictions of our country's founders gave us rationale for our independence. The ideal of this new nation was for a place wherein all people could freely pursue an abundance of life. Equally made, equal in status and rights, the ideal was for *all* to pursue the ideals of the new nation with a freedom that hadn't previously been experienced.

It's a theme that isn't dissimilar to our own heritage as people of faith. Over and over again, we come to our tradition to hear of the Christ who frees us from all the burdens of our own sin and its consequences to instead offer us an abundance of life in God's name. In-

deed, if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed (John 8:36)! This is and always will be, for us, the good news of Jesus Christ. Yet, in the same freedom found in him, we find the bounds of the love offered to us. While we are set free *from* the bonds of our own brokenness, we are also set free *to* reciprocate such radical freedom and love to our neighbors. Paul relays this conviction throughout his letters; his call to owe no one anything is likewise matched by a recognition that the love given in freedom begets love for others' sake, and thus is the fulfillment of the law. As Luther articulates later: through Christ, the Christian is made a completely free being, slave to none, yet is called to service for all, subject to all.

Make no mistake about it: united to Christ, we *have* been set free. Yet, united in Christ, we are inextricably connected to the well-being of our neighbors and are thus called to care for them freely as humble servants. While we take the time this month to rightly celebrate and give thanks for the freedom we have been afforded in this country, we come to recognize that such freedom comes with a call to seek out the well-being of others as well.

This month, give thanks for the freedom we have been afforded, both through the country we love and through the Christ who loves us. This month, *use* the freedom we have been afforded. Whatever the tests and challenges that come, draw from the rich heritages we've been given. May the freedom we've been gifted draw us into loving service for the sake of those who need to know the joy of such a gift.

Yours, freely united in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pastor Justin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a small flourish at the beginning.

# SONS BANQUET

Lisa Rabuck, along with the help of Sue Keifer, Carol Troxell, Jen Sheaffer, Kathy Guffey, Sharon Weiser and Tina Snyder, prepared and served pulled pork sandwiches, baked beans, green beans, macaroni salad, apple sauce and brownie sundaes to around 40 Sons of God on Friday, June 15.



KJ was the entertainment. Ladies, thank you for putting together an evening of fellowship, food, and fun!



Lisa Rabuck made and handed out Mr. Backscratchers as favors. Thank you Lisa!!



# 55TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION!

The Camp Mount Luther staff invites everyone to come to camp on Tuesday evening, July 3, to celebrate the camp's 55th birthday.

As part of our annual Family Camp, we'll be having a campfire and worship service to commemorate the birthday. KJ Reimensnyder-Wagner will be here to provide some special music as well.

It all gets underway at 6:30 p.m. The program will be held outdoors, weather permitting, so bring a lawn chair!

To help us plan, it would be helpful if you would please RSVP by emailing [chad@campmountluther.org](mailto:chad@campmountluther.org) or call 570-922-1587.

## USSWO CONVENTION

Upper Susquehanna Synodical Women's Organization Annual Convention will be held on Sat., July 21, at Camp Mount Luther, 8:30am-4pm. This one-day convention is an excellent opportunity for you to meet your sisters from neighboring churches and become informed about the workings of the Women of the ELCA.

The theme for this year's convention is "*Called to Serve.*" Registration forms are available at:

[www.uss-elca.org/upper-susquehanna-synodical-womens-organization/](http://www.uss-elca.org/upper-susquehanna-synodical-womens-organization/)





# UPPER SUSQUEHANNA SYNOD

God's Work. Our Hands.

## 2018 Synod Assembly June 15-16



*Camp Mount Luther staff led worship  
at the opening of the assembly on Friday, June 15.*

Bishop Collins gave a talk on “I bet you any money that Jesus was an introvert.” Pastor Justin gave a presentation on OAKs Senior Center. Of the 9 synods that support Seafarers, Upper Susquehanna Synod is #1 in providing Christmas Sea bags with 550 last year!

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of Synod Assembly, participants sat around tables in the Susquehanna University cafeteria and shared their thoughts and experiences on the following statements.

***We are Church.***

***We are Church Together.***

***We are Church for the sake of the World.***



*UIC at the 2018 Synod Assembly: Pastor Justin, Ken Baker, Dustin Kemper, Kelsey Swanger, Larissa Shearer, Ruby Baker, and Cami Zimmerman (not pictured).*

## **MIGRANT CHILDREN**

The Upper Susquehanna Synod passed a resolution encouraging its congregations and members to call for compassionate treatment of persons designated as undocumented minors.

The assembly called for the U.S. Congress, the President of the United States, the Attorney General of the United States, and the Secretary of Homeland Security to halt the policy of separating children from their parents at the border or anywhere undocumented children and their families are found.

They also urged Synod Bishop Barbara J. Collins to make the synod's position known throughout the synod and the public-at-large and called upon synod leaders, pastors, deacons and congregations to support the work of Luther-

an Immigration and Refugee Services and the Evangelical Lutheran Church's AMMPARO program.



The resolution also called for the synod to assist in equipping congregations, institutions, and ministries to engage in advocacy to welcome strangers as they would the Lord.

Read the full resolution here: <http://www.uss-elca.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Resolution-Regarding-the-Treatment-of-Migrant-Children-in-the-Custody-of-the-United-States.pdf>



*A blessing was offered for the ELCA Youth Gathering participants at the Assembly's closing of worship.*

# JULY WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

\* Please remove from newsletter and post on your fridge.\*

|                  | Jul. 1        | Jul. 8      | Jul. 15      | Jul. 22      | Jul. 29      |
|------------------|---------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Altar Guild      | S. Keifer     | J. Mertz    | C. Troxell   | C. Zimmerman | S. Keifer    |
| Greeter          | E. Brown      | B. Guffey   | Ken Baker    | A. Guffey    | B. Swartz    |
|                  | S. Brown      | L. Rabuck   | R. Baker     | B. Guffey    | T. Swartz    |
|                  | T. Snyder     | B. Keifer   | E. Brouse    | L. Danowsky  | C. Zimmerman |
| Acolyte          | L. Warren-Lee | E. Danowsky | K. Swanger   | D. Sheaffer  | L. Shearer   |
| Asst. Minister   | T. McPherrin  | M. Shearer  | B. Swartz    | C. Zimmerman | A. Baker     |
| Lector           | B. Guffey     | R. Baker    | A. Baker     | S. Keifer    | Ken Baker    |
| Comm. Asst.      | C. Troxell    | B. Swartz   | Jen Sheaffer | C. Troxell   | R. Kling     |
|                  | W. Wirth      | T. Snyder   | K. Koch      | T. McPherrin | M. Baker     |
| Usher            | D. Shearer    | K. Arndt    | K. Criswell  | B. Koch      | E. Brown     |
|                  | B. Troxell    | O. Arndt    | D. Baker     | S. McPherrin | L. Rabuck    |
|                  | A. Guffey     | L. Caris    | J. Sheaffer  | M. Rabuck    | Jen Sheaffer |
|                  | R. Kling      | Karen Baker | S. Brown     | J. Mertz     | T. Swartz    |
| Guest Rel.       | M. Rabuck     | B. Troxell  | J. Mertz     | F. Danowsky  | T. McPherrin |
| Offering Counter | W. Wirth      | K. Guffey   | M. Shearer   | J. Sheaffer  | C. Zimmerman |
|                  | T. Snyder     | M. Rabuck   | W. Wirth     | M. Rabuck    | T. Snyder    |
| Bread/Wine       | C. Troxell    | M. Shearer  | K. Criswell  | T. Snyder    | S. Weiser    |
| Social Hour      | E - K         | L - R       | S - Z        | A - D        | E - K        |

If you are unable to serve on your scheduled day, please try to trade with someone on the schedule and then notify the office of the change. If you are unable to trade with someone, please call Terri Cromwell at the church, 570-568-2254, and she will find a replacement for you.

# MEMBER UPDATES

*If we missed your birthday or anniversary, please call the church office with these dates.*

## Happy Birthday

|                              |                               |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <i>George Rice 7/1</i>       | <i>Sharon Weiser 7/7</i>      |
| <i>Penny Golder 7/1</i>      | <i>Ellen McCormick 7/9</i>    |
| <i>Pastor Justin 7/2</i>     | <i>Julia Sanders 7/10</i>     |
| <i>Mac Keifer 7/2</i>        | <i>Nelson Minium 7/14</i>     |
| <i>Marilyn Gresh 7/3</i>     | <i>Jackie Russell 7/15</i>    |
| <i>Bradley Kemper 7/3</i>    | <i>Kay Hilkert 7/22</i>       |
| <i>Chris Lee 7/4</i>         | <i>Frank Danowsky 7/23</i>    |
| <i>George Weiser 7/4</i>     | <i>Florence Van Dyke 7/24</i> |
| <i>Wendy Wirth 7/4</i>       | <i>Garrett Baker 7/24</i>     |
| <i>Kristie Koch 7/5</i>      | <i>Connie Shreck 7/28</i>     |
| <i>Landon Warren-Lee 7/5</i> | <i>Kelsey Swanger 7/29</i>    |
| <i>Ken Noll 7/7</i>          | <i>Scott A. Danowsky 7/29</i> |



## HAPPY Anniversary

*Bob and Carol Troxell 7/08/89*  
*Justin and Kelsey Lingenfelter 7/11/15*  
*Bob and Trudy Swartz 7/20/85*  
*Kyle and Johanna Swanger 7/23/16*  
*Merv and Dawne Reedy 7/27/93*  
*George and Sharon Weiser 7/27/63*



# IN MEMORIAM

Only Ruthanne (Noll) Rishel, 92, of 240 Scottsdale Drive, Mifflinburg, formerly of Geneva, Ohio, passed away peacefully on June 12, 2018, at Buffalo Valley Lutheran Village, Lewisburg, after a brief illness.



She was born July 25, 1925, in New Columbia, a daughter of the late Bryson C. and Edith M. (Derr) Noll. On March 9, 1946, she married Percy Franklin Rishel who preceded her in death in April, 1988.

Only was a 1941 graduate of Milton High School. She was employed by Geneva Metal Wheel Co., East Ohio Gas Co., and retired from the Union County Courthouse. She was a member of United In Christ

Lutheran Church, a 50-year member of Eastern Star and Past Mother Advisor of Rainbow Girls in Geneva. She was a 50-year member of the American Legion Auxiliary and past advisor to Legion Junior Girls in Toledo, a member and past president of Athenaeum Club and Buggy Museum in Mifflinburg and the Milton Chapter of AARP. She served 25 years as secretary of the Church Hill Cemetery Board and 20 years as a board member of the Selective Service System for Union County.

Only loved to cook, raise flowers, read, play cards, knit prayer shawls for church and sew blankets for World Relief and the Linus Project. Her annual vacation was spent with her daughter attending the reunions of her late husband's World War II Ninth Infantry Division Association for the past 65 years and she was a faithful visitor and companion of family and friends who were shut-ins.

She is survived by one daughter, Judith Janine Rishel of Ellicott City, Md.; and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by three brothers, William in 1933, Quay in 1943, and Floyd in 2008.

Visitation was held from 7pm-9pm on Sunday, June 17, with an Eastern Star service at 8:45pm, at the John H. Shaw Funeral Home, 801 Market St., Lewisburg, and from 10am-11am on Monday, June 18 at United In Christ Lutheran Church, 1875 Churches Road, Lewisburg, followed by the funeral at 11. Burial followed in Church Hill Cemetery. Donations in Only Rishel's memory may be made to United In Christ Lutheran Church.



# Congratulations!



*The Rev. Felicia Swartz, Bishop Collins*

One of our members, Felicia Swartz, can now officially be called The Rev. Felicia M. Swartz.

Felicia was ordained on Saturday, June 2, 2018. She has been called to Stony Creek Parish, which is a part of the Allegheny Synod, which is east of Pittsburgh.

We pray that God blesses you as you begin this new journey in ministry.



*Pastor Justin, Leslie Stewart (mother), Syann Stewart, and Cheryl Merrel (grandmother)*

**Syann Stewart was baptize by Pastor Justin on  
Sunday, June 24, 2018.**

# YOUTH AND FAMILY

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On Sun., June 24, United In Christ blessed those attending the 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston Texas, which are Larissa Shearer, Pastor Justin, Dustin Kemper, Felicia Swartz, Bradley Kemper, Kelsey Swanger, Syann Stewart, Marianne Murray, and Amy Danowsky (not pictured).



We pray for the 30,000+ people that are attending the 2018 ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston Texas, that they have safe travel and that they may feel the Holy Spirit working through them!







# Baby Steps DIAPER PANTRY

1,600 diaper were given out at  
June's diaper pantry.

## NEXT DIAPER PANTRY

July 14 ~ 10-11:30am

1 bag (40 diapers) per child.



## IMPORTANT LINKS

UIC's website: [www.unitedinchristlutheran.net](http://www.unitedinchristlutheran.net)

**Newsletter Archive:** Read current and past newsletters.

[www.unitedinchristlutheran.net/newsletter](http://www.unitedinchristlutheran.net/newsletter)

**Church Calendar:** Stay up-to-date on everything that's happening at UIC and Sunday's Worship Volunteers are listed each week under each "worship" event.

[www.unitedinchristlutheran.net/calendar](http://www.unitedinchristlutheran.net/calendar)

**Sermons:** Listen to a sermon you may have missed or just listen to it again and see the readings for that Sunday.

[www.unitedinchristlutheran.net/sermons](http://www.unitedinchristlutheran.net/sermons)

# Social Ministry



## LUNCH AND LEARN

Special thanks to Ruby Baker for heading the bagged lunches for Bucknell's *Lunch and Learn* program for children in need in Lewisburg. Also, thank you to Annette Baker, Jane Mertz, Pam Hauck, Linda Caris, Sharon Weiser and Michelle Shearer for helping Ruby put together the packed lunches for the week.

June 25-28 Ruby delivered 120 lunches to Essex Place Meadowview, and the community gardens in Lewisburg.



# MONTHLY FOOD COLLECTION



The Social Ministry collects non-perishable food items each month. Your donations get delivered to Mazeppa Manna and HandUP on an alternating basis. Both organizations are especially in need of cereal, peanut butter, tuna, mac & cheese dinners, ketchup, canned fruit, pasta, sauce, and boxed mixes.

**Place these items in the baskets located in the Narthex.**

## COMMUNITY AID BIN



We've partnered with CommunityAid, which is a local, faith based non-profit organization that operates thrift stores, the closest being in Selinsgrove.

CommunityAid gives back to the community by giving their partners \$.04 per pound of clothing/shoes collected from their bins. Please help support us by dropping off any lightly used clothing or shoes.



# Older Adults Kickin' it up! Monthly Senior Center

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**Wed. July 11, 10am-2pm**

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**10 am - Social Hour**

**11 am - Free Bingo with Prizes**

**12 pm - Free Lunch**

**1 pm - Patriot K9 Rescue**



**FROM THE  
BATTLEFIELD  
TO YOUR  
BACKYARD!**



# UNITED IN CHRIST'S PRAYER LIST

**Our Members:** Kay Hilker-  
ert, family and friends of  
Only Rishel, Mel Baker Jr.

**Family and Friends:**  
Annabelle.

**Are you or a loved one in  
need of prayer?**



Submit your prayer request by  
calling 570-568-2254 or  
emailing it to

[office@unitedinchristlutheran.net](mailto:office@unitedinchristlutheran.net). We will email your  
prayer request to UIC's prayer chain. We'll also print  
your prayer request for 4 weeks.

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## LET US KNOW



Please let us know when you are in the  
hospital or have an upcoming surgery. Call the  
church office at 570-568-2254 or Pastor Justin  
at 610-973-4052 to let us know. Please do not  
assume that if you tell someone in church that the office  
or pastor will find out.

Because of confidentiality issues, it's best if you contact  
Pastor Justin or the church office directly.



# CAMP MOUNT LUTHER

Dear Members of United In Christ Lutheran Church,

In late 2016, the liner of Camp Mount Luther's sewage system was severely damaged by a bear. Fortunately, this occurred after the camping season was over so there was sufficient time to repair the damage prior to the 2017 camping season. In addition, some modifications needed to be made to meet state testing requirements.

The funds necessary to make the repairs were borrowed from a financial institution so the repairs have already been made and the system is operational. In total, approximately \$100,000 was spent to:

- Replace the aeration system
- Repair the liner
- Install a new decanter
- Install a new blower
- Haul out the waste before repairs could be made
- Hire an engineering firm

Camp Mount Luther is presently engaged in a Special Gifts Appeal to raise the \$100,000 to repay the outstanding load. I am happy to report that \$33,000 has been raised, as of June 4, 2018. Once the loan is re-paid, Camp Mount Luther will once again be debt-free.

If you would like to help us repay our loan, any amount would be helpful, you can send your gift to, Camp Mount Luther, 355 Mt. Luther Lane, Mifflinburg PA 17844.

God's Peace,

Chad Hershberger, Executive Director

# THANK YOU

*Thank you very much for your generous scholarship award. I will be attending Grove City College in the fall and your monetary gift will be put to good use for books and other expenses. Thank you again.*

*Sincerely, Lance Klinefelter*

*I would like to thank you for selecting me to be one of the recipients of the Rich Huff Scholarship. I am very honored and grateful to have received this scholarship. It will definitely help me on my way to a higher education.*

*Thank you, Kailey Betz*

*I am writing to express my thanks for awarding me a Rich Huff Scholarship. I am truly honored to have been chosen as one of the recipients of this award. Thank you for inviting me to your church, I thoroughly enjoyed interacting with members of your congregation and meeting your pastor. This award means a great deal to me and I am thankful to have been considered and chosen.*

*Yours very sincerely, Denise Seebold*

*Thank you for your recent business with us, it is greatly appreciated. We look forward to doing business with you in the future.*

*John, Carpetman in Milton*

UNITED IN CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH  
1875 CHURCHES ROAD  
LEWISBURG PA 17837

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Location: 1875 Churches Rd., Lewisburg, PA  
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Website: [www.unitedinchristlutheran.net](http://www.unitedinchristlutheran.net)  
Office Hours: Mon. thru Thurs. 9 a.m. - 2