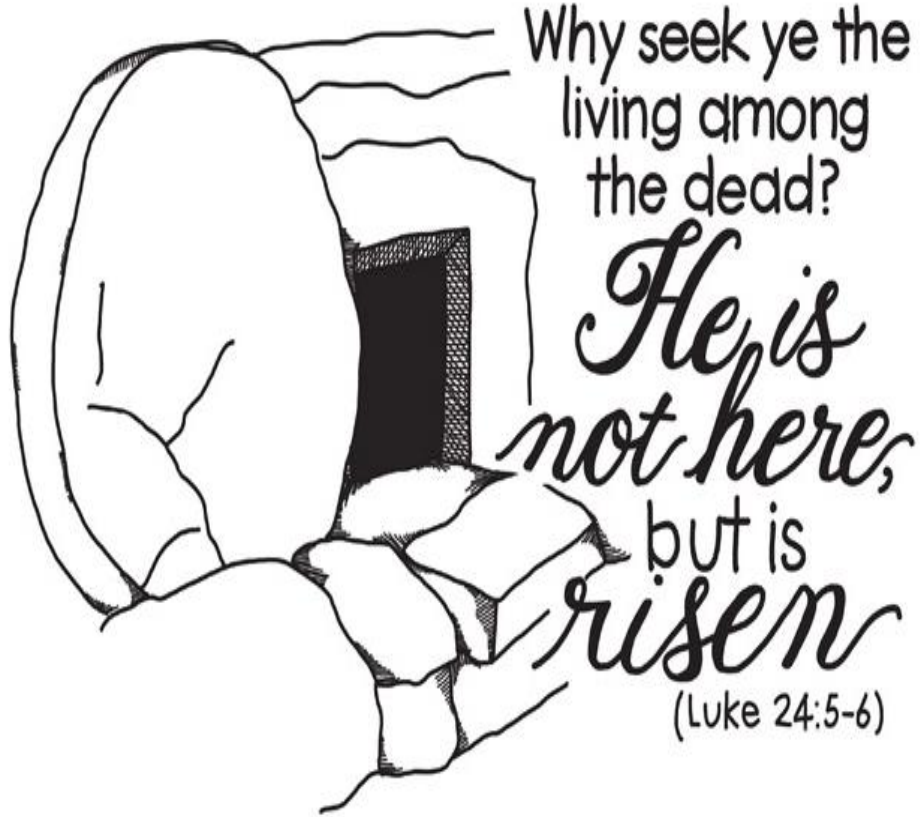




April 2019 NEWSLETTER



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

Office: 570-568-2254

Cell: 570-850-5730

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 Friday, 9am to 2pm

UIC COUNCIL MEMBERS

Cami Zimmerman - President	2nd term, ends 12/2021
Charlie Dinsmore - V. President	2nd term, ends 12/2021
Ken Baker - Treasurer	1st term, ends 12/2020
Lisa Rabuck - Secretary	1st term, ends 12/2021
Ken Criswell	1st term, ends 12/2019
Bob Swartz	2nd term, ends 12/2019
Kathy Guffey	1st term, ends 12/2021
Rick Whitesel	1st term, ends 12/2021
Emma Danowsky	1st term, ends 12/2021
Syann Steward	1st term, ends 12/2021

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, APR. 10** **OAKS SENIOR CENTER**
- SAT, APR. 13** **BABY STEPS DIAPER PANTRY**
- SUN, APR. 14** **PALM SUNDAY**
CLEARANCES WORKSHOP
- WED, APR. 17** **COUNCIL MEETING**
- THU, APR. 18** **MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE**
- FRI, APR. 19** **GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE**
- SAT, APR. 20** **COMMUNITY EASTER EGG HUNT**
- SUN, APR. 21** **RESURRECTION SUNDAY**
EASTER BREAKFAST
- MON, APR. 22** **NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**
PASTOR JUSTIN AWAY FOR THE WEEK
OFFICE CLOSED
- SAT, APR. 27** **WOODMEN'S BANQUET**
- MON, APR. 29** **PASTOR JUSTIN BACK**

FROM THE PASTOR



But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in, they did not find the body. While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again." Then they remembered his words, and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

- Luke 24:1-12

Dear United In Christ,

There are just some days when no amount of good news ever seems like enough to shake us from our stupor. It's those days when it feels like our misery will never end. It's those days when it feels like the fog will never be lifted. It's those days that make us feel as if there is nothing beyond the gloomy looming haze around us. Chipper, right? Really, though, there are some days when it just feels like things simply won't ever be good again.

It must have been the same way for the apostles whose post-Good Friday daze left them feeling as if their entire world had been turned upside down. After having watched their teacher, mentor, and friend executed in the most degrading and humiliating way conceivable, after watching him suffer a criminal's death on a cross, they are left wondering how they will ever

push on. They are in the midst of days filled with sorrow and fear, days that surely drove them to wonder if things could ever get better.

It's little wonder, then, that when the women discover the joyous truth of the empty tomb on that first Easter and report back what they have seen to the apostles, their words fall on deaf ears. The apostles simply aren't having it. Their world is so clouded with gloom that they cannot hear the good news being brought to them. In fact, so impossible does the women's account seem to them that they dismiss the whole thing as an idle tale. To them, the women's story seems fanciful and naïve. Tombs don't simply empty themselves, after all.

Yet, as Peter quickly finds out, this is no idle tale at all. It turns out, the women absolutely had the right of it! Their story was accurate; the linens sitting alone proved what just before seemed unbelievable. The Jesus they had followed all this time had risen! His death had not been the final word. New life was real and it was here! Finally, the truth of the women's good news began to sink in as the dawn of resurrection burst into the gloom of the apostles' world.

And you know, United In Christ, I think that's just what we need. We need the light of a resurrection morning to break into our days. After this Lenten wilderness, you too may find that your days seem long with shadows that would preclude the possibility of any good news. That's why I pray that the light of Easter morning might shine with the good news of new life rushing into this world for you. Whatever it is that seems to be hanging over you, whatever it is that makes it seem like good news is simply impossible, I hope you see it give way to the joy of an empty tomb. This Easter, I hope you come to know intimately well the fact that this joy is no idle tale; this is the Christ who is risen for you. Don't believe me? Well, just come and see.

Yours, united in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pastor Justin". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "Pastor Justin".

ONLINE GIVING

We are excited to announce that United In Christ is now officially set up for online giving! This winter, we partnered with an organization called tithe.ly to be able to receive offering for the church through their digital giving platform!

For those Sundays when you forget to write a check, get cash from the bank, or just can't find those envelopes, now you will have the option of giving your offering online. You can even choose to give on Sundays when you know you won't make it to church!

[Tithe.ly](https://tithe.ly) provides the mechanisms for giving straight from a bank account of your choice *or* through the use of a debit or credit card. If you'd like, you can even set up recurring giving through their platform to make the process of first-fruits giving an automatic one! Still curious? Check out our Q&A section below!

Are we required to start giving online now?

Not at all! If you have a good rhythm with your offering envelopes, then by all means, carry on! No one is required to use the tithe.ly giving option. We simply want to be able to provide as many giving options to make it as easy as possible for givers of all types!

What does tithe.ly cost?

Setting up and hosting UIC's account through tithe.ly is absolutely free for the congregation! To keep the platform running, tithe.ly collects a modest transaction fee (less than 3%), much like a credit card machine at

the convenience store. We even receive a discount on that transaction fee for being an ELCA congregation! During the process, donors do have the option to cover this fee and factor it into their gift so that the congregation receives the full amount of what they intended.

How do I access this online giving?

Easy! You can simply head over to the church's website (www.unitedinchristlutheran.net) and click on the "Giving" tab at the top of the page! From there, you will follow the instructions to the tithe.ly website.

You can also keep your eyes peeled for the QR Code (see below) which will make its way into the bulletin in the near future. Simply scan the code with your phone's QR reader (most new phones have it built into their camera app) and follow the link when prompted! You will be taken directly to the tithe.ly website. It's so quick and easy you could get it done *during* the offering time on a Sunday morning!

Will the church be able to track my giving if I give through tithe.ly instead of my envelope?

Absolutely! When you create the transaction, you will be prompted to input your name. Tithe.ly will then track your giving through their website, which the church has access to so that we can provide you with your annual



giving statements, much the same as when we track with envelope giving.

Use your smartphone, tablet, or iPad and take a photo of the QR Code.

STEWARDSHIP OF TIME

O God, teach us to count our days that we may gain a wise heart. - Psalm 90:12

What does it mean to count our days? Certainly, the poet who wrote Psalm 90:12 was thinking of more than arithmetic, which may not necessarily gain us a wise heart. Wisdom comes from perspective, from painful introspection and prayerful deliberation.

We count in order to know not only how many days we have *lived*, but to ponder how many days we might have *left*. Counting, we remember that we are finite creatures whose lives march forward in steady 24-hour steps, carrying us from birth to death. Knowing, then, that our days are numbered, we appreciate each one more fully.

We count our days to gain the wisdom that every day is sacred; every day presents opportunities to live more fully in relationship with God and our neighbors; every day is for love and joy and peace and fulfillment. Yet it's all too easy to let the days slip away.

This month consider a focus on stewardship of your time – how you spend every day God gives you. Here is a “to do” list for making the most of every day:

Pray: Begin each day communicating with the creator of the universe, meditating on Scripture or a wise Christian author. Even 10 minutes. End by praying Psalm 118:24: “This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.”

Care: Convey through word or deed how much you care about someone in your life. Call up an old friend or relative. Invite a co-worker to lunch.

Help: Look for some way to assist someone. Volunteer. Hold a door open for someone entering a store behind you. Stop for a pedestrian who wants to cross the street.

Enrich: Find something that will deepen your knowledge, understanding or appreciation of the world. Read a poem or book. Listen to a sermon podcast or educational news program.

Stop. That's right, do nothing. For at least 10 minutes (use your smart phone timer) sit quietly, breathe deeply and try to clear the busy thoughts from your mind. Open your spirit to God's presence.

Be healthy: Do something to increase your physical health, such as eating a nutritious meal or taking a walk.

Pray: End every day thanking the creator of the universe for another wonderful day. A day you have counted and that you have made count.

Focus on stewardship of time and see how your own life will change. Make it a permanent part of your discipleship.

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Amazon has created a way for UIC to view our donation metrics. Here's what we've learned.

- 13 customers have selected United In Christ as their charity of choice.
- Between Dec.25 and Mar.25, those 13 people have made 49 AmazonSmile purchases. Which means UIC will receive .05% of the purchases!
- To date, we have received \$79.86 from AmazonSmile.

2017 4th Q. \$13.57

2018 1st Q. \$5.77

2018 2nd Q. \$8.17

2018 3rd Q. \$15.02

2018 4th Q. \$37.33

Are you an Amazon shopper?

If you are, don't let free money go to waste!

Every little bit counts.

To learn more about AmazonSmile and how to setup your charity of choice, visit the church's website.



HOW TO DIRECT THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS®

The **Thrivent Choice**® program encourages benefit members to recommend where **Thrivent** Financial distributes an amount of its charitable grant funds. Members make this recommendation by directing **Choice Dollars** to enrolled nonprofit organizations, including churches. We ask that you prayerfully consider choosing United In Christ.

Not sure if you are eligible to participate in Thrivent Choice? You can call Thrivent or visit this web page, www.thrivent.com/making-a-difference/files/28339A.pdf to find out.

To Designate Your Thrivent Choice Dollars Online:

Visit thrivent.com/thriventchoice. Click LOG IN at the top right of your screen and enter your Thrivent user ID and password. If you do not have a user ID and password, click Register Now. Look for your designated Choice Dollars amount on the right side of the screen. Click on Direct Choice Dollars button and enter your charity name in the box. Click the Direct Now button, then enter your desired amount.

To Designate Your Thrivent Choice Dollars By Phone:

Call 800-847-4836 and when prompted, say “Thrivent Choice.” Press 1 to direct Choice Dollars (a representative will assist you).

PASTOR TAKING A STAYCATION



Pastor Justin will be taking some time off beginning Monday, April 22 and returning on Monday, April 29.

If you need pastoral care while he is off, 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.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE



Worship Volunteers, please give the office **any dates in May** which **you will NOT be available** to serve during worship. After you are scheduled it will be your responsibility to trade

with someone else on the schedule if you are not available to serve that day.

Any articles, events, photos and/or thank you notes you'd like to have printed in the May Newsletter need to be in the office **by Monday, April 22.**

UNITED IN CHRIST'S PRAYER LIST

Our Members: Irene Stark, Delroy Caris, Tina Snyder, Joan Ketchem, Alice Snyder, Willard Hauck.

Family and Friends:

Mya Cromwell, Richard Caldwell, Florence Snyder, Dorie Minium, Charlie Fegley, Brook Larson, Patrick Payne, Donald Ritter, Harold Snyder, Ronald Winder, Frank Roan, Glen VanDyke, Joan Rearick, Dennis Rearick Jr.



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. We will email your prayer request to UIC's prayer chain. We'll print prayer requests for 4 weeks.

APRIL WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

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

	April 7	April 14	Maundy Thursday April 18
Altar Guild	K. Guffey	S. Keifer	J. Mertz
Greeter	B. Keifer S. Keifer P. Swinehart	D. Baker Karen B. R. Kling	E. Brown S. Brown
Acolyte	K. Swanger	L. Warren-Lee	E. Danowsky
Asst. Minister	A. Baker	M. Shearer	B. Swartz
Lector	B. Swartz	R. Baker	M. Hauck
Comm. Asst.	M. Baker Ken B.	M. Murray S. Danowsky	D. Shearer M. Shearer
Usher	K. Arndt O. Arndt M. Shearer T. Swartz	B. Troxell C. Troxell W. Wirth E. Brouse	L. Rabuck M. Rabuck
Guest Rel.	F. Danowsky	M. Mertz	
Offering Counter	W. Wirth T. Snyder	M. Rabuck C. Zimmerman	
Bread/Wine	S. McPherrin	T. Snyder	
Social Hour	E - K	L - R	

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.

APRIL WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

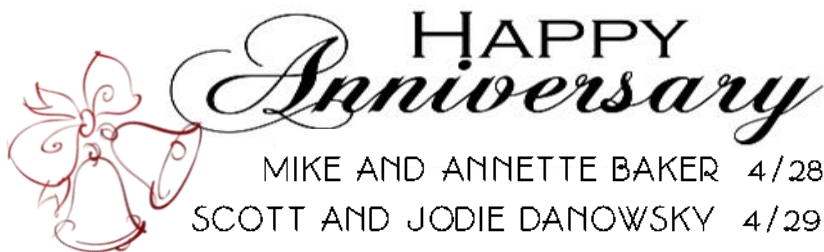
* Please remove from newsletter and post on your fridge.*

	Good Friday April 19	Easter April 21	April 28
Altar Guild		C. Troxell	C. Zimmerman
Greeter	Ken B. R. Baker	K. Guffey L. Rabuck G. Weiser	L. Danowsky K. Noll S. Noll
Acolyte		C. Noll D. Sheaffer	L. Shearer
Asst. Minister		C. Zimmerman	A. Baker
Lector		A. Baker	S. Keifer
Comm. Asst.		D. Baker Jen Sheaffer S. Keifer	C. Troxell W. Wirth
Usher		L. Caris K. Criswell B. Koch K. Koch	D. Baker Karen B. R. Kling S. McPherrin
Guest Rel.		K. Noll	M. Rabuck
Offering Counter		J. Sheaffer K. Guffey	M. Shearer W. Wirth
Bread/Wine		J. Sheaffer M. Shearer	J. Mertz
Social Hour			S - Z

MEMBER UPDATES



Congratulations to Brian and Jolynn Heckman! They welcomed their new baby boy John on February 25. He was 7lbs 1oz and 19" long. **Gabbie loves being a big sister!**



MIKE AND ANNETTE BAKER 4/28/84
SCOTT AND JODIE DANOWSKY 4/29/95



Happy Birthday

BEN CRISWELL 4/1	LOGAN AUCKER 4/13
KATHY LOSS 4/3	BREANNA MARTZ 4/15
ROSEMARY KLING 4/5	COLE SNYDER 4/17
CINDY SNYDER 4/5	KYLE SWANGER 4/17
JACK STIBER 4/5	KEN CRISWELL 4/19
BOB SWARTZ 4/6	MARIANNE MURRAY 4/28



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

TIME TO THINK ABOUT CAMP



If you have a UIC youth that is interested in attending Camp Mount Luther this summer please see Pastor Justin. We need to get them registered by April 15 in order to receive the early registration discount.

Check out CML List of Summer Programs here....

www.campmountluther.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/2019-Program.pdf

Camp Mount Luther Spring Open House will be held on Sunday, April 28, 2019, from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

You can ask questions, tour camp, and see what it's like to be a camper!

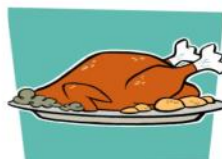
TURKEY WAFFLE DINNER



The dinner was a success! Over \$2240 was raised for Camp Mount Luther scholarships and the next Youth Gathering in 2021.

***A HUGE THANK YOU TO EVERYONE
WHO HELPED WITH THE DINNER!***

To those that donated food to those that helped serve and to those that came out to eat, without each of you we couldn't have do it. Thank you!!





EASTER FLOWERS

Easter flowers serve as a beautiful reminder that Easter is a time for rejoicing and celebrating.

Order forms are in the Fellowship Hall.

LILIES \$7.50 TULIPS \$6.50

**DEADLINE
SUNDAY, APRIL 7**

CLEARANCES MEETING

In an effort to responsibly protect our students, we are required by law to have both Child Abuse History Clearances and Pennsylvania State Police criminal history reports for *all* volunteers working with students under the age of 18 on file here at the church.

If you are a volunteer who works with our students, we will be having a meeting **after worship on Sunday, April 14th** to go over those clearances. If you already have them done, please bring copies with you that Sunday so we can add them to our records. If you have not had your clearances done in the past five years, we will have stations set up for you to submit your requests on that Sunday!

***Thank you for your help in making sure
we set the safety of our students as one of our
highest priorities here at UIC!***



Palm Sunday, April 14

10:00 a.m. service

Maundy Thursday, April 18

7:00 p.m. service

Good Friday, April 19

7:00 p.m. service

Community Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 20

2:00 p.m.

Resurrection Sunday, April 21

8:30 a.m. breakfast prepared

and served by youth

10:00 a.m. service

RICH HUFF FUND

Please help us make this auction a success
by donating a basket.

In the fellowship hall, you'll find a Christmas tree filled with Santa Tags. Each tag has a basket theme and a list of items that could go in the basket. Please take one or more Santa Tags and fill a basket with items that match the theme or bring in your items and we will whip up a basket for you.

- Baskets need to be brought to the church **by May 5th.**
- Write your name and basket theme on the paper by the tree.
- If you have an idea of your own, mark it down.
- Two baskets can be made of the same theme.

Donations of any new or gently used items and baskets of all sizes are also needed.



Baby Steps
DIAPER PANTRY

1,160 diaper were given out at
March's diaper pantry.

NEXT DIAPER PANTRY

April 13 ~ 10-11:30am
1 bag (40 diapers) per child.

Rich Huff Fund's Annual Fundraiser **OPERATION SANTA CLAUS**



HELPING AREA CHILDREN IN NEED!

Rich Huff Fund provides needy children in the community with items like, but not limited to, diapers, clothing and shoes, beds, mattresses and bedding, medicine prescriptions, school lunches throughout the year and gifts at Christmas.



Raffle/Silent Auction

Food stand will be open on Friday and Saturday

Auction begins at 5pm on Friday and ends at 2pm on Saturday.

Winners do not need to be present.

If you win, you will receive a phone call on Monday to claim your winnings.



Proceeds from 'Operation Santa Claus' will go to Baby Steps Diaper Pantry and the needs of area children.



OAKS

SENIOR CENTER

Wednesday, April 10

10:00 am - Social Hour

11:00 am - Free Bingo with Prizes

12:00 pm - Free Lunch

1:00 pm - *VisitingAngels*
Helping you Age in Place



Join us for a presentation on how you can live in your own home, independently, and comfortably as you age.

There will be time for questions after the presentation.

90% of seniors want to stay in their own home as they age.

OAKS SENIOR CENTER IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

ALL ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US!

DONATION BIN BENEFITS OAKS SENIOR CENTER



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. CommunityAid sends us a check at the end of the quarter. In 2018 we received \$390! All money made from the bin is used to run our free monthly OAKS Senior Center at UIC!

2018 1st Quarter	\$14
2018 2nd Quarter	\$129
2018 3rd Quarter	\$138
2018 4th Quarter	\$109

Please continue to support us
by dropping off any lightly used
clothing or shoes.



Upper Susquehanna Synod

God's work. Our hands.

SYNOD CAMPUS MINISTRY APPEAL

Synod Council is initiating an appeal for Campus Ministries that the synod supports. To balance the budget and not make cuts, council decided to ask individuals and congregations to support the work of campus ministries through this appeal.

The goal is \$6,000. The synod helps to support the faith formation of young adults, provide opportunities for leadership development, and to form connections to the larger church.

The Upper Susquehanna Synod works with:

- Protestant Campus Ministry at Bloomsburg University
- Campus Ministry at Lock Haven University
- Campus Ministry at Mansfield University
- United Campus Ministry at Pennsylvania College of Technology
- Lutheran Campus Ministry at Penn State
- Susquehanna University

If you would like to give to this ministry, please write "Synod Campus Ministry" on your envelope on Terri Cromwell will make sure your offering goes to the Synod. If the goal is exceeded, the Synod will use the additional funds for various campus ministries.

COLLEGE WORKSHOP

4 out of 5 parents send their children to college without knowing how to pay for it. Do you know there are ways to potentially save on your out of pocket costs? If you are the parent of an 8th through 11th grade student, join Thrivent Representative Melissa Apanel on Sunday April 7th at 5:00 p.m. for a free presentation, “College Planning Strategies” presented by college planning expert and Thrivent representative Chris Grant. You’ll learn why....

- Applying to more than one college can improve admissions and financial aid chances
- College with high sticker price can turn out to be less costly out of pocket than a competitive public college
- Similarly situated families can have widely different FAFSA results that can affect their student’s financial aid.

You’ll also learn how to access free college planning tools, resources, and information to make your family’s college planning efforts as effective as possible. Taking on \$30,000 in student loan debt (the average debt per borrower at graduation), can’t be the best strategy to starting life after college. Learn how having a solid plan for admissions, focusing on academics, and understanding the financial process could provide a much better option.

Please RSVP to melissa.apanel@thrivent.com or call 570-884-4060 by April 3rd. This event is open to all – please feel free to share with others that may have interest in attending. It will be held at the office of Melissa Apanel, Thrivent Financial, 434 Market St (Iron Front), Lewisburg, PA 17837. Students are encouraged to attend with their parents. No products will be sold at this event.

UIC BOWLING NIGHT



If you missed UIC Bowling Night, you missed out on a great evening. It was so much fun!



We have around 25 people bowling on 5 lanes. Some of us killed the bowling pins while others couldn't stay out of the gutters, but the score didn't matter. What mattered was the time we got to spend together, **PRICELESS**.



ALTAR FLOWERS



Altar flowers are a beautiful gift to our Lord and a wonderful expression of our love for God. It honors loved ones and gives thanks for special people and events in our lives.

The cost is \$30 and you may take your flowers home with you after service!

To place your order please email the office at office@unitedinchristlutheran.net or call 570-568-2254.

THANK YOU

Thank you Pastor Justin for your uplifting visits and prayers during my several stays in the hospital and River Woods Rehab. Also, thank you to everyone for the prayers, visits, cards, and phone calls of concern.

God's blessing to all,
Delroy Caris



UNITED IN CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
1875 CHURCHES ROAD
LEWISBURG PA 17837

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Location: 1875 Churches Rd., Lewisburg, PA
Office Phone: 570-568-2254
Email: office@unitedinchristlutheran.net
Website: www.unitedinchristlutheran.net
Office Hours: Mon. thru Fri. 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.