



# December 2019 NEWSLETTER

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★  
JOY  
NOEL  
ANGEL  
JESUS  
PEACE HOPE  
WISEMEN  
CHRISTMAS  
BELIEVE FAITH  
PRINCE OF PEACE  
THANK YOU

## 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

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

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.*

# CELEBRATING 200 YEARS



On Sunday, November 17, United In Christ and St. Peters celebrated the 200th anniversary of worshipping on the hill. It all began in 1819 when a cabin was built for two congregations to share. Breakfast and the first half of worship was held at United In Christ then we walked across the street and finished worship at St. Peters.

# Mark Your Calendars

**SUN, DEC. 1**

**CHRISTMAS DECORATING**

**TUE, DEC. 3**

**SANDY HOOK VIGIL @ UIC**

**SAT, DEC. 7**

**CHRISTMAS CHILDCARE  
CHRISTMAS WORKSHOP**

**SUN, DEC. 8**

**POINSETTIA ORDER DEADLINE**

**WED, DEC. 11**

**OAKS SENIOR CENTER**

**SAT, DEC. 14**

**KIDS WORSHIP REHEARSAL  
BABY STEPS DIAPER PANTRY**

**SUN, DEC. 15**

**KIDS WORSHIP TAKEOVER  
CHRISTMAS CAROLING  
CHRISTMAS COOKIE DEADLINE  
COUNTRY COMFORT GIFT DEADLINE**

**WED, DEC. 18**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**FRI, DEC. 20**

**OFFICE CLOSED: TERRI OFF**

**SAT, DEC. 21      CHRISTMAS COOKIE ASSEMBLY  
CHRISTMAS COOKIE PICKUP**

**SUN, DEC. 22      BLUE CHRISTMAS WORSHIP  
CHRISTMAS COOKIE PICKUP**

**MON, DEC. 23      NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

**WED, DEC. 25      OFFICE CLOSED**

**TUE, DEC. 31      OFFICE CLOSED: TERRI OFF**

**WED, JAN. 1      OFFICE CLOSED**

## **2019 GIVING STATEMENTS**

All 2019 offerings must be handed in to the office by Sunday, December 29. Anything given after December 29 will be entered as a 2020 offering.

Statements will be ready for pickup on Sunday, January 19. Any statement not picked up on Sunday, January 19 will then be mailed out.

If you have recently moved, please make sure the office has your new mailing address.

# FROM THE PASTOR



*The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.*

*In days to come the mountain of the LORD'S house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!*

Isaiah 2:1-5

Dear United In Christ,

Is there a time of year more heavy-laden with both spoken and unspoken expectations than the month of December?

With every wrapped mystery under the tree, with every holiday calendar being lined up, with every personality being matched to a corresponding expression of love and gratitude, there is a weight of expectation hanging in the air. In this time of year there is always that extra sense of pressure to not let anyone down. We don't want to disappoint. We want everything to go just perfectly right at every step along the way. We set such high expectations for ourselves and for this season that it's a wonder that it doesn't burn us all out before it even arrives!

Then again, this level of expectation and anticipation really isn't

anything new. In the prophet Isaiah's words, we hear of similarly lofty expectations. Here the prophet envisions a future where God's reign from on high will draw all peoples together while issuing truly just arbitration. At the same time, he imagines God ushering in an age where swords can at last be beaten into plowshares and spears into pruning hooks as nations cease rising against one another. It's a radically beautiful image of what the fullness of God's arrival will look like and it's one that's *steeped* in heavy expectations for that arrival.

As we head into the season of Advent, we may just find that our expectations are not all that different from the prophet's. As we await the arrival of a Messiah, we do so with great expectations about what that day will look like. We long for the day when God's peace and justice will be made manifest for the sake of this world that God so loves. This Advent, as with every Advent that has come before, we will gather in hope-filled anticipation for the arrival of one who will carve for us a new way out of our brokenness to offer a word of life for all God's people across all time.

And so we look to the baby. As we await God's arrival with great expectations, we look to the one who has made such perfect and just ways known in the vulnerability of taking on flesh and entering into this world. As we await the fullness of God's reign, as we await the birth of a Savior in this season, may you continue to find the fulfillment of your expectations in the God who comes wielding peace and justice from broken swords and spears. In this season, may you gather in wonder at the newborn king who shows – and lives – a new way forward for you and for all creation. Come and see this thing that has taken place. O come let us adore him!

Yours, united in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pastor Justin". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the text "Yours, united in Christ,".

# SANDY HOOK VIGIL



As we move into this season of Advent, a time of holy anticipation, we do so with a remembrance that our world still longs for a peace made perfect in our midst. The start of December also marks a day that many will never

forget as one where their time of waiting was met with cold indifference as they learned of the deaths of their children and loved ones in the shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School on December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2012. Every year during this month across the country, hundreds of vigils are held to remember those who still long for the ones they've lost.

This year, United In Christ has the privilege of hosting one of these vigils. On **Tuesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 pm** we will gather here in a time of reflection and interfaith conviction to remember those who were lost to the abject brokenness of the world seven years ago. We hope you will join us for this difficult, yet sacred time, as we remember the twenty-six victims who died in the Sandy Hook shooting and support one another in the midst of the grief that remains from that time. All are welcome to attend this vigil service.



# STEWARDSHIP FOR ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

Many of us cherish everything about the Christmas season -- except those incessant advertisements telling us to buy this and buy that. We ask, "Where's Jesus in all this commercialism?"

This is the right question. Though it asks us to examine every aspect of our lives, stewardship particularly challenges us to question the role money plays in our personal lives and our culture.

Christmas presents are wonderful expressions of love that makes both giver and recipient feel good. At the same time, we want to be wary of advertising's lure to make us overspend, or to think that the cost of our gift is proportionate to our love.

Most of all, we need to be sure that the main point of our Christmas is not the gifts *we give*, but the gift *we receive* from God – Jesus. Here are some ideas:

Challenge yourself to spend less for presents this year. Set a budget and stick to it.

Attend worship regularly in Advent and Christmas.

Give some handmade presents: A scarf or hat, a photo album, a batch of fudge, a card, a poem.

Prayerfully read Advent daily devotions (Richard Rohr's *Preparing for Christmas* is amazing!).

Give your time: a concert together, a shared meal, a day at a museum, a walk in the woods

Use an Advent calendar to help you remember all that God has given you.

Give service: wash a loved one's car, help clean the garage, paint a room, babysit for an evening.

Play Christmas music that has religious themes (More “Silent Night,” less “Frosty the Snowman.”)

Instead of buying a present, make a donation to a charitable organization in honor of your loved one (or check out ELCA Good Gifts!).

Make a generous year-end contribution to your congregation.

Our thoughtful practices for Advent and Christmas not only make for good stewardship of our time, talents, relationships and money, they also help us to draw near to Our Lord and experience God’s greatest gift to us.

--Rob Blezard

*Copyright © 2018, Rev. Robert Blezard. Reprinted by permission. Pastor Blezard serves as an assistant to the bishop of the Lower Susquehanna Synod and works as content editor for [www.stewardshipoflife.org](http://www.stewardshipoflife.org).*

## ADVENT DECORATING



*Help us get the church ready for the season by join us after worship on December 1 as we decorate the church.*

# Go **tail** it on the mountain.



Each year, Americans spend over \$300 billion on Christmas shopping. Imagine what would happen if even a fraction of that amount of money was spent to combat global hunger! With ELCA Good Gifts, you can do just that! Choose from over 50 charitable gifts to give in honor

of loved ones – from goats to water wells, school uniforms to food for refugees. All of these gifts can be given in honor of friends or loved ones as remarkable Christmas gifts.

Here at UIC, we will set up a Good Gifts Tree in the fellowship hall, with ornaments for all sorts of gifts. If you would like to purchase one of these Good Gifts for someone, simply take the ornament of the corresponding gift and place the designated payment in one of the pink special offering envelopes (checks payable to United In Christ), marking it with the type of gift you are purchasing. Then place the envelope and payment in the box beside the tree. At the end of the season, we'll gather the orders and send them to ELCA Good Gifts. You can also always purchase through the ELCA Good Gifts website at [ELCA.org/goodgifts](http://ELCA.org/goodgifts).

**Church Office will  
be closed on  
December 20, 25, 31,  
and January 1.**



# 25 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS ACTS OF KINDNESS

1 Say thank you	2  SUPPORT A SMALL BUSINESS	3 Create care packages 	4 Write letters to deployed soldiers	5  Hold the door open for someone
6 Pay for someone's meal	7 Give a compliment 	8 Leave a friendly note in a library book	9 Donate used books	10  Pick up Litter
 11 Donate to a charity	12 VOLUNTEER AT A SHELTER	13  Send a handwritten letter	14 BAKE COOKIES FOR POLICE AND FIREFIGHTERS	15 Donate on Go Fund Me 
16 PAY FOR SOMEONE'S FOOD	17  Tell family members you love them	18 SHOVEL SNOW FOR A NEIGHBOR	19 Collect soda tabs for Ronald McDonald 	20 Cook dinner for someone
21 Help a friend 	22 DONATE FOOD	23 Babysit for free	24 Ask others to pay it forward 	25 Have a great Christmas! 

A festive graphic for a Reverse Advent Calendar. The text "Reverse Advent Calendar" is written in a dark purple, serif font across the center. The text is surrounded by several wrapped gifts in various colors (red, blue, purple, green, orange) and sprigs of green pine needles and red poinsettias.

# Reverse Advent Calendar

*Each day add an item to a box. On Christmas Eve donate the contents to a local Food Bank.*

- Dec. 1 - box of cereal
- Dec. 2 - peanut butter
- Dec. 3 - stuffing mix
- Dec. 4 - boxed potatoes
- Dec. 5 - macaroni and cheese
- Dec. 6 - canned fruit
- Dec. 7 - canned tomatoes
- Dec. 8 - canned tuna
- Dec. 9 - dessert mix
- Dec. 10 - jar of applesauce
- Dec. 11 - canned sweet potatoes
- Dec. 12 - cranberry sauce
- Dec. 13 - canned beans
- Dec. 14 - box of crackers
- Dec. 15 - package of rice
- Dec. 16 - package of oatmeal
- Dec. 17 - box of pasta
- Dec. 18 - spaghetti sauce
- Dec. 19 - chicken noodle soup
- Dec. 20 - tomato soup
- Dec. 21 - canned corn
- Dec. 22 - canned mixed vegetables
- Dec. 23 - canned carrots
- Dec. 24 - canned green beans



# Baby Steps DIAPER PANTRY

## NEXT DIAPER PANTRY

December 14 ~ 10-11:30am

1 bag (40 diapers) per child.

Newborn to size 6

Baby Steps Diaper Pantry is for families-in-need living within the Milton, Warrior Run, Mifflinburg, and Lewisburg school districts.

## NEWSLETTER DEADLINE



**Worship Volunteers**, please give the office **any dates in January** 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 January Newsletter need to be in the office **by Monday, December 23.**

# UNITED IN CHRIST'S PRAYER LIST

**Our Members:** Grace Yost, Joan Ketchem.

**Family and Friends:**

Joe Walter, Heather Clewell, family and friends of Linda Wenrich, Sherry Goff, Terry Burns, Colette Richards, Matthew Koch, Bill Krause.



**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 print prayer requests for 6 weeks.

## 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.

# DECEMBER WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

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

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



# DECEMBER WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

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

	Dec. 24 7pm	Dec. 24 11pm	Dec. 29
Altar Guild	S. Keifer C. Troxell	C. Zimmerman	J. Mertz
Greeter	J. Snyder T. Snyder Nancy Walter	Ken Baker  R. Baker	M. Ketchem R. Whitesel T. Swartz
Acolyte	G. Heckman	L. Shearer	K. Swanger
Asst. Minister	T. McPherrin	C. Zimmerman	M. Shearer
Lector	Jen Sheaffer	M. Shearer	B. Swartz
Comm. Asst.	S. Danowsky S. Bingaman A. Baker		Jen Sheaffer C. Troxell
Usher	S. McPherrin J. Mertz L. Rabuck M. Rabuck	D. Shearer  M. Shearer	K. Arndt O. Arndt D. Baker Karen Baker
Guest Rel.			F. Danowsky
Offering Counter	W. Wirth J. Sheaffer	M. Shearer C. Zimmerman	M. Rabuck P. Hauck
Bread/Wine	T. Snyder P. Swinehart	C. Troxell	S. Weiser
Social Hour			L - R

# MEMBER UPDATES



HAPPY  
*Anniversary*

ROB AND TEENA ZIMMERMAN 12/21/02



*Happy Birthday*

TED MCPHERRIN 12/3

JEFF SNYDER 12/5

JANE MERTZ 12/6

NICOLE COOLEY 12/7

KEN BAKER 12/8

BOB KEIFER 12/9

KAREN HAUCK 12/11

MARTHA KETCHEM 12/14

TINA SNYDER 12/14

FRANK DANOWSKY JR. 12/16

ZOE SCOTT 12/19

SYANN STEWART 12/21

DYLAN SHEAFFER 12/25

ED SNYDER 12/30

NANCY BAKER 12/31



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

# CHRISTMAS COOKIES

## *Youth Fundraiser*



COOKIES HOMEMADE BY OUR YOUTH!

**\$5 FOR 18 COOKIES**

(mixed assortment)

Order forms are in the Fellowship Hall.  
Cookie Order Deadline: Sunday, Dec. 15

### COOKIE PICK-UP TIMES

Sat, Dec. 21 ~ 11am-1pm

Sun, Dec. 22 ~ 11:30am

# YOUTH AND FAMILY

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## CHRISTMAS WORKSHOP



Join us on **Saturday, December 7** here at UIC for our free community Christmas Workshop! We will gather starting at 10am to make all sorts of Christmas crafts for kids, sing some carols, and of course have plenty of cookies and cocoa! We are still looking for some thrifty folks to help lead a few craft stations and supply baked goods for the day, so if you'd like to

put that Pinterest board or recipe box to good use, please talk to Pastor Justin or Sherry Bingaman! We hope you can join us! Come and see!



## Reformation Sunday's Faith and Fun Worship

To see more photos from Sunday, October 27 please visit our website, <http://unitedinchristlutheran.net/2019news/>.

# CHRISTMAS CHILDCARE



Tying into Christmas Workshop, on **Saturday, December 7**, our Youth Group will be offering childcare here at UIC for parents/grandparents/caretakers to make use of while they – *ahem* – go to visit Santa with everyone’s lists ahead of Christmas Day. Drop off begins at 10am with pickup by 3pm that afternoon. We will provide movies, snacks, activities, and games with additional adult chaperones on hand to help out. We will also provide either grilled cheese or PB&Js for lunch. If your student has specific dietary needs, please plan to pack a lunch for them. Donations for this childcare service will be accepted towards the Youth Group’s next National Youth Gathering in Minneapolis in 2021! If you have any questions, please reach out to Pastor Justin!

# KIDS WORSHIP TAKEOVER

Be sure to mark your calendars for **Sunday, December 15** for our second annual Kids Worship Takeover. As we gather on this 3rd Sunday of Advent, we will once again be led by our students who will cover almost every part of the service together! You don’t want to miss this sacred day of being led by the youngest in our midst!

To help us prepare, if you have a student from pre-k through 6<sup>th</sup> grade who can be part of the takeover, please plan to join us on **Saturday, December 14 at 10am** (the day before the Sunday takeover) to divvy up, go over, and rehearse our portions of the service together! It’s sure to be a blast! **Come and See!**

# MOUNT LUTHER

## Summer Brochure Release Party



Sunday, December 29, 2019  
2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.  
Evergreen Center at Mount Luther

Everyone, but most especially campers, parents, alumni staff, and potential campers and families are invited to come to a new, exciting winter camp event! Celebrate the holidays and meet up with camp friends to do crafts, games, singing, eating, and more. Members of the 2019 Summer Staff will lead this program!



While the kids are playing with the staff, we'll have our annual **CAMPERSON MEETING** at 3:00 p.m. A camperson is a liaison between camp and your congregations. They are our ambassadors, regularly promoting camp news. Each synod congregation is asked to send a representative to this event to learn more about Mount Luther!



At 3:30, we'll release details for everyone about Summer 2020's schedule and theme. You can get your own copy of the summer brochure and start making plans. You won't want to miss it!

*Camel Bucks for the camp store will be given to those who attend this event. Campersons will get Camel Bucks for all those who attend from their congregation!*



## CAMP MOUNT LUTHER

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355 Mt. Luther Lane, Mifflinburg, PA 17844

Phone: (570) 922-1587    Fax: (570) 922-1118  
E-Mail: [cml@campmountluther.org](mailto:cml@campmountluther.org)

# CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS



Please help us fill the sanctuary with beautiful poinsettias in memory or honor of those loved by members of the congregation at United In Christ. After brightening our sanctuary, these beautiful plants can be taken home or you can choose for them to be delivered to members of our congregation who are unable to make it to church.

**COST IS \$5.50**

**DEADLINE: SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8**

Dedicate a poinsettia by submitting an order form, along with payment. Order forms are in the fellowship hall.

**Poinsettias are a beautiful gift to our Lord  
and a wonderful expression of our love for God  
and all he has given us!**

## 2020 OFFERING ENVELOPES

Starting Sunday, December 15, if you have a church mailbox, you'll find your 2020 offering envelopes in your mailbox. If you do not have a mailbox, you'll find your 2020 offering envelopes in the fellowship hall. If you do not get offering envelopes, but would like to, please see Terri in the office.

# Social Ministry

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## DONATE A GIFT



Annette Baker has a list of residents at Country Comfort that won't be getting any gifts this year, as they don't have any family. If you would like to bless one of them with a gift, please see Annette after church.

**Please bring your gifts to church by  
Sunday, December 15th.**

## CHRISTMAS CAROLING

All are invited to join us on **Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm** for an evening of Christmas Caroling! We will gather together at UIC and then form a caravan to go old-school door-to-door caroling to some of our homebound members who might not otherwise make it out for the season. Afterwards, we will wrap up the evening back at the church with some cookies and cocoa to share together. Whether or not you can keep a tune, you are invited to come and spread the joy of the season with us! We hope to see you there!







# OAKS

## SENIOR CENTER



**WEDNESDAY, DEC. 11, 10am-2pm**



**10am - Social Hour**

**11am - Free Bingo w/ prizes**

**12pm - Free Lunch**

**12:30pm - Christmas Ornament & Cards**



We'll be making a ribbon Christmas tree ornament and easy Christmas cards.



**OAKS IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.  
ALL ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US!**

# Blue Christmas Worship Service

The faith communities of both United In Christ Lutheran Church and Saint Paul's United Church of Christ, West Milton, invite you to join us as we gather to worship and fellowship on one of the longest nights of darkness of the year, **Sunday, December 22, at 7 p.m.**

While for many, Advent and Christmas are seasons of light, we also know that this season can be a season of physical and emotional distress. On this night, we will acknowledge at this time of year that we may be confronted with fear, sadness, loss and shattered hope, perhaps from the loss of a loved one, seasonal depression or simply a feeling you can't explain.

This is why, as communities of faith gather, we will honor "Blue Christmas" this year as a service of acknowledgement and a journey of faith to seek to understand how "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it," as is recorded in John 1:5.

How can this light help us through what can become the hardest time of the year? Join us as we acknowledge, explore, worship and support one another as we fellowship together.

The service will be held at Saint Paul's United Church of Christ, 433 High Street, West Milton, Pa., led by both Pastor Justin Lingenfelter and Pastor Timothy Hogan-Palazzo. The evening will include special music by Saint Paul's Chancel Choir.



Please consider joining us as we are surrounded with warmth and welcome in a time to seek hope and healing.

***All are welcome.***

# Christmas Eve Services

*“To you is born this day in the city of David a Savior,  
who is the Messiah, the Lord.*

*This will be a sign for you:  
you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth  
and lying in a manger.”*

Luke 2:11-12

We hope that you will join us this  
Christmas Eve to gather around the manger  
to celebrate the birth of the Savior.

**Worship times this Christmas Eve include:**

**\* 7:00pm Candlelight Service**

**\* 11:00pm Candlelight Service**

*“Let us go now to Bethlehem  
and see this thing that has  
taken place, which the  
Lord has made  
know to us.”*

Luke 2:15



# ATTENTION AMAZON SHOPPERS



## What is AmazonSmile?

AmazonSmile is a website owned and operated by Amazon. The AmazonSmile website has the same products, prices, and shopping features as Amazon. The difference is that when you buy through AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of your purchases to the charitable organization of your choice, at no cost to you!

A few tips, if you use the Amazon app to do your shopping you can browse and add any items to your shopping cart, but before you pay/checkout on the app open your browser and go to the AmazonSmile website to checkout. Once you sign-in all of your shopping cart items will appear on the AmazonSmile website. As long as you checkout through the AmazonSmile website, .5% of your purchases will be donated to whichever charity you have selected.

This holiday season, don't forget to make your purchases through [smile.amazon.com/ch/23-3079221](https://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-3079221) and AmazonSmile will donate to United In Christ Lutheran Church.



# CHURCH COMMUNITY UPCOMING EVENTS

Here's what's happening within our district.

**Saturday, Dec. 7 - Breakfast with Santa and Mrs. Claus- 9am**  
B.V. Lutheran Village, Commons - 6 Tressler Blvd, Lewisburg  
FREE event - Join us for breakfast! We'll have pancakes, plus arts and crafts stations—and photos with Santa and Mrs. Claus!  
Because seating is limited, please RSVP to Katie at 570-523-4285.

**Saturday, Dec. 7 - Community Meal - 11am-12:30pm**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Evangelical Lutheran Church - 404 Market Street, Mifflinburg**  
Every 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month

**Thursday, Dec. 26 - Community Meal - 4:30-6pm**  
St. John's Delaware Run - 6590 Musser Lane, Watsontown  
Every 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month

## 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. You may take your flowers home with you after service.

**Flower Chart is located in the office.**

# THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who came out to be a part of cottage visits the past few weeks! Each one of our gatherings proved to be incredibly valuable as we were able to discuss our life in Christ here at UIC! I am so grateful for the conversations we shared and felt genuinely renewed by the passion and stories everyone brought to the table. Big thanks, in particular, go out to all of those who were willing to host our visits in their homes! Thank you!

~ Pr. Justin

A great big thank you is in order for this community who showered us in wonderful gifts of gratitude during Pastor Appreciation month. Your cards and gifts have been incredibly touching and have served as a beautiful affirmation of our partnership together. We both feel grateful to be a part of this community and, as always, are excited about what the future has in store for us all together. Thank you again for your incredible generosity and beautiful words of appreciation.

~ Kelsey & Pr. Justin



# A LITTLE **HUMOR** TO BRIGHTEN YOUR DAY.



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