



February 2022 NEWSLETTER



LUKE 10:27



UNITED IN CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH STAFF

The Rev. Justin G. Lingenfelter: Pastor

Terri Cromwell: Office Administrator and OAKS Coordinator

Office: 570-568-2254

Email: office@unitedinchristlutheran.net

Marilyn Gresh: Music

WORSHIP: SUNDAYS AT 10:00 A.M.

www.unitedinchristlutheran.net/sermons/

Office Hours: Mon, Tue, Thr, Fri, 9am-3pm

Office is closed on Wednesdays

UIC COUNCIL MEMBERS

Kathy Guffey - President	2nd term, ends 12/2024
Emma Danowsky - Co President	2nd term, ends 12/2024
Lisa Rabuck - Vice President	2nd term, ends 12/2024
Jen Sheaffer - Secretary	1st term, ends 12/2022
Ken Baker - Treasurer	2nd term, ends 12/2023
Kathy Arndt	1st term, ends 12/2024
Ken Criswell	2nd term, ends 12/2022
Kim Criswell	1st term, ends 12/2022
Theresa Furman	1st term, ends 12-2024
Michelle Shearer	1st term, ends 12/2024

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

- SUN, FEB. 6** COLLEGE VALENTINE'S DEADLINE
CONFIRMATION
YOUTH GROUP
- TUE, FEB. 8** OAKS SENIOR CENTER
- WED, FEB. 9** INTERNSHIP COMMITTEE MTG.
- SAT, FEB. 12** BABY STEPS DIAPER PANTRY
- SUN, FEB. 13** SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY
- TUE, FEB. 15** COUNCIL MEETING
- WED, FEB. 16** BOOK STUDY BEGINS
- SUN, FEB. 20** YOUTH GROUP
- MON, FEB. 21** NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
BISHOP'S NIGHT
- SUN, FEB. 27** CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Join us on
Sunday, February 27
to hear 2021
Committee Reports,
and the audit report.



CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING

FROM THE PASTOR



“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another. ~ John 15:12-17

Dear United In Christ,

February was always a stressful month in elementary school. As the school’s bulletin boards began to fill up with hues of reds and pinks, as the hearts started appearing on every surface, I could always feel the apprehension rising. Seasonal candy would start lining the aisles of the grocery store and I would feel the pit growing in my stomach. As we decorated our shoeboxes to turn them into personalized mailboxes, the reality could no longer be avoided: Valentine’s Day was here.

Now I don’t know if my anxiety around Valentine’s Day was a ubiquitous one for my generation or not, but the fact of the matter was that I absolutely *agonized* over which Valentines to give to whom in school. Taking my pool of pre-made paper cards (typically either Star Wars or Pokémon themed, if I got to pick), I would painstakingly choose which person should receive which little message. How many cool Chewbacca cards did I have at my disposal? Would it be too much to address the Pikachu one saying “I choose you” to the girl I had a crush on? Would the person at the desk next to me be

offended if I gave them the lame C3-PO card? Each Valentine's day felt like a master class in social navigation wherein I was disclosing a part of myself in the cards being delivered. The last thing I wanted was to send the wrong message to someone and land squarely within a humiliating faux-pas! I had to make sure that I sent the right message!

"No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friend," Jesus says. Whoah! I don't even know who I would send *that* Valentine to, but something tells me you won't be finding such sentiment on any little piece of paper card. But here Jesus is, laying it all out there for those who are gathered around him. His sentiment of this love, his implication that it is found in the very laying down of one's life for one another, it's one of deeply seated conviction. This call to love is one that takes the whole of life and sees it as being intrinsically connected with the lives of those around us. To lay down one's life for one another requires a recognition that our own life is entirely grounded in the neighbors in our midst.

Now that's a love that not even Hallmark could capture! Yet, in this month of expressions of sentimentality, the reminder is that the love to which Jesus calls us is a far greater thing. The love that makes disciples – the love with which he first greets us – is enough to change the entire scenario. Here, we are called to step out in a love that seeks the well-being of those around us as if it were our own well-being. Here, having been met by the self-giving love of God, we reach out to this world with our own selves. Here, we find ourselves caught up on God's mission of building up a kingdom governed by a command of love.



So may you find love this Valentine's Day, United In Christ. I pray that in this month ahead you may find ways in which to embody this divine love for the sake of the neighbors around you. I hope that you may come to take respite in that same love meeting *you* with the fullness of God's self.

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 typed name.

BUFFALO VALLEY LAY SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

Interested in learning more about worship leadership or liturgical practices? Want to hear how the good news calls us to engage with issues of poverty? Want to see how to drum up excitement in the church? Then join us for the Buffalo Valley Lay School of Theology! Register for workshops from pastors and leaders across the synod designed for church members to grow in faith and leadership! Check out the workshops at <https://bit.ly/BVLaySchool2022> and touch base with Pr. Justin with any questions!




BUFFALO VALLEY

Lay School of Theology

February 4 - February 27

Join us online!

<https://bit.ly/BVLaySchool2022>



Upper Susquehanna Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

NEW DIALOGUES STUDY SERIES

Join us for the first of our new study series beginning on **Wednesday, February 16th at 6:30pm!**



Using the ELCA's *Dialogues* series, we will begin this month with *Dialogues on Race*, a weekly study that will help us to engage with our understandings of race within our communities and our church.

Each week we will gather to reflect on a chapter provided by various authors with a corresponding video for discussion. This series will also help us at UIC as we prepare a new Welcome Statement for the congregation by giving us an inward glimpse of what genuine

welcome looks like across racial lines.

Given the nature of this study and the work it means for UIC, participation in these *Dialogues* series (look for another after Easter) is highly encouraged for our members. Recognizing its importance, UIC's Congregational Council has also agreed to make the accompanying books for this study **free** to all participants!

Sign up to be a part of this study using the sheet in the Fellowship Hall!

Buffalo Valley Conference BISHOP'S NIGHT

Join us on **Monday, February 21st at 7:00pm** as United In Christ hosts an evening with Bishop Collins and Pastor Miller! Together with the churches of the Buffalo Valley Conference, we will gather to hear about opportunities for increased partnership and ministry among our congregations. Come out and meet fellow Lutherans from around the area during this evening together!

BUFFALO VALLEY CONFERENCE BISHOP'S NIGHT!

Monday, February 21 at 7:00pm
United In Christ Lutheran Church
1875 Churches Road, Lewisburg



 Upper Susquehanna Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God is with Us Always

ASHES TO-GO

Can't make it to Ash Wednesday worship? Stop by for "Ashes To-Go!" From 12:00pm-6:00pm on March 2nd, Pastor Justin will be available with Pastor Gary Schaeffer (Milton Lutheran Church and Pastor Tim Hogan-Palazzo to provide imposition of ashes for anyone in the community! Be sure to come by this Ash Wednesday! *(location to be determined)*



MILTON COMMUNITY

ASHES TO-GO

MARCH 2, 2022

Receive ashes while on the go!
Find us on Ash Wednesday in Milton, exact location TBD.
12:00noon-6:00pm

Sponsored in partnership by:



WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

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

	Feb. 6	Feb. 13	Feb. 20	Feb. 27
Bread/Wine	S. McPherrin	K. Guffey	S. Keifer	J. Mertz
Altar Guild	T. Cromwell	K. Guffey	S. Keifer	M.L. Keifer
Digital Host	T. Cromwell	K. Lingenfelter	K. Guffey	M. Shearer
Greeter Front Door	D. Byerly	K. Baker	Ken Baker	B. Swartz
	J. Byerly	Jen Sheaffer	R. Baker	T. Swartz
Greeter Side Door	R. Kling	T. Cromwell	S. Brown	G. Weiser
Acolyte				
Lector	T. Furman	P. Hauck	M. Shearer	S. Keifer
Comm. Asst.	S. Bingaman	R. Kling	M. Shearer	S. Weiser
	M.L. Keifer	D. Baker	B. Swartz	C. Zimmerman
	Ken Baker	Jen Sheaffer	C. Troxell	D. Baker
Guest Rel.	M. Mertz	K. Noll	M. Rabuck	B. Troxell
Offering Counter	P. Hauck	M.L. Keifer	J. Sheaffer	M. Shearer
	C. Zimmerman	L. Rabuck	K. Guffey	C. Shreck

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.



HAPPY *Anniversary*

Mel and Nancy Baker 2/14/03

Jack and Cheryl Stiber 2/26/65

Herb and Vivian Marsh 2/28/59



Happy Birthday

Larissa Shearer 2/3

Dalton Shearer 2/4

Delroy Caris 2/5

Jeffrey Snyder 2/6

Rick Whitesel 2/8

Maiya Hauck-Dabney 2/12

Eleanor Brouse 2/14

Annette Baker 2/19

Elwood Brown 2/19

Gwen Murphy 2/19

Mary Lou Keifer 2/2

John Heckman 2/25



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

2021 ELCA GOOD GIFTS

You did it again! You've blessed so many by your donations.
Below is the list of items which were purchased this season.

ITEM	PRICE	QTY	TOTAL
CHICKS	\$10	3	\$30
ROOSTER	\$15	1	\$15
HONEYBEES	\$20	2	\$40
PIGLET	\$30	2	\$60
GOAT	\$50	6	\$300
SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR A CHILD	\$10	2	\$20
SCHOOL FEES & UNIFORM FOR A GIRL	\$40	1	\$40
WATER FILTER	\$30	1	\$30
FEED REFUGEE FAMILY	\$25	3	\$75
FEED 50 AT A SOUP KITCHEN	\$100	1	\$100
TOTAL			\$710



ADVENT 2021 OFFERING

You gave a total of \$717 for Advent
which will be going to
Lutheran Disaster Response.

Social Ministry



Let's give our college students a big warm hug by blessing them with Valentine's Day Care Packages. We can share with these students the message that United In Christ remains a constant in their lives and Jesus' love is always present!

UIC's college students are Alli Arndt, Owen Arndt, Dalton Shearer, Larissa Shearer, and Amy Danowsky.

We'd like to flood them with "thinking of you cards"! Please make sure you write their name on the envelope. Cards can be placed in the box on the Welcome Table in the Narthex.

We'll also be creating care packages with some of their favorite things. You can help contribute to these care packages by selecting "Valentine's Day Care Packages" on our on-line giving here or by placing money or a check in an offering plate. Please write "Valentine's day Care Packages" on your envelope.

DEADLINE IS SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 6



LET'S TACKLE HUNGBER

FEB. 13th IS SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY

We'll be collecting food for Milton Panther Packs, which feeds hungry children in the Milton School District. Panther Packs provides backpacks of food over the weekends, when school meals are not available. Every week there are over 250 children that take home food backpacks.



We'll also be collecting monetary donations, which will be used to buy food when we sponsor a meal at SHARING OUR TABLES, which is a free community meal in Milton. All checks should be made out to



United In Christ, with “Souper Bowl Sunday” written on the memo line.

This year we will again pit the right side and left side of the church against each other.

Let’s see which side will win by giving the most in food and monetary donations.

WEAR YOUR FAVORITE TEAM’S COLORS

Items brought in on Sunday, February 13 can be placed upstairs on whichever side you are rooting for. Teams are still in the playoffs so we don’t know yet who the teams will be on the 13th.

Items cannot be in glass and should be non-perishable foods that a child could open or prepare on their own.

Individual sized items like...

Ramen Noodles

Canned Pasta (pop top lids)

Soup, Stew, Chili (pop top lids)

Canned Chicken

Canned Tuna

Vacuum Packs of Tuna

Fruit Cups

Individual Cereal Boxes

Pudding Cups

Mac and Cheese Cups

Granola/Breakfast Bars

Oatmeal Packets

Pop Tarts

Single Serving

Microwavable Meals

Peanut Butter Crackers

Micro Chef-Boy-R-Dee

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 \$40. You may take your flowers home with you after service.

Flower Chart is located in the Fellowship Hall.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE MONDAY, FEBRUARY 21



Worship Volunteers, please give the office **any dates in March** 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 March Newsletter need to be in the office **by Monday, February 21.**

UNITED IN CHRIST'S PRAYER LIST

Prayer Requests:

Rosemary Fernsler, Malcolm Arter, Russ Wynn, Janet Day, Brandon Baker, Justin Golder, Carson Rehm, Lauren Rehm, Viv Marsh, family and friends of Barry Hauck, family and friends of Gladys Hauck, Shirley Russell, Frank Danowsky Jr., family and friends of Barry Beck, Dale Robbins, Barbara Church, Jim Yost, family and friends of Willard Hauck, Shirley Hauck, Kim Payne, family and friends of Darv Krouse, family and Friends of Irene Stark, Gladys Fawcett, Peyton Weiser, Marie Tanner, Grace Yost, Peg Swinehart, Martha Ketchem, Bob Keifer.

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.





OAKS

SENIOR CENTER

Tuesday, Feb. 8 ~ 10am-12pm

10:30 am - Free Bingo with Prizes

12:00 pm - Take Home Bagged Lunch

UIC asks that all individuals, regardless of vaccination status, wear masks while in the building.



Baby Steps

DIAPER PANTRY

UPCOMING DIAPER PANTRY

February 12, 2022 10-11:30am

1 bag (40 diapers) per child.

Newborn to size 6

Diapers will be given to families in the surrounding communities of Lewisburg, Mifflinburg, Milton and Watsonstown.

IMPORTANT LINKS



For easy access, bookmark these pages on your computer or add the page to your tablet or smartphone's home screen.

UIC's website: www.unitedinchristlutheran.net

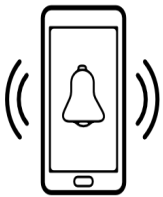
Newsletter Archive: Read current and past newsletters.
www.unitedinchristlutheran.net/newsletter

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

Sermons: Print the worship bulletin so you can follow along during digital worship or watch previous worship services. www.unitedinchristlutheran.net/sermons

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 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.

UNITED IN CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
1875 CHURCHES ROAD
LEWISBURG PA 17837

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Location: 1875 Churches Rd., Lewisburg, PA
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Email: office@unitedinchristlutheran.net
Website: www.unitedinchristlutheran.net
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