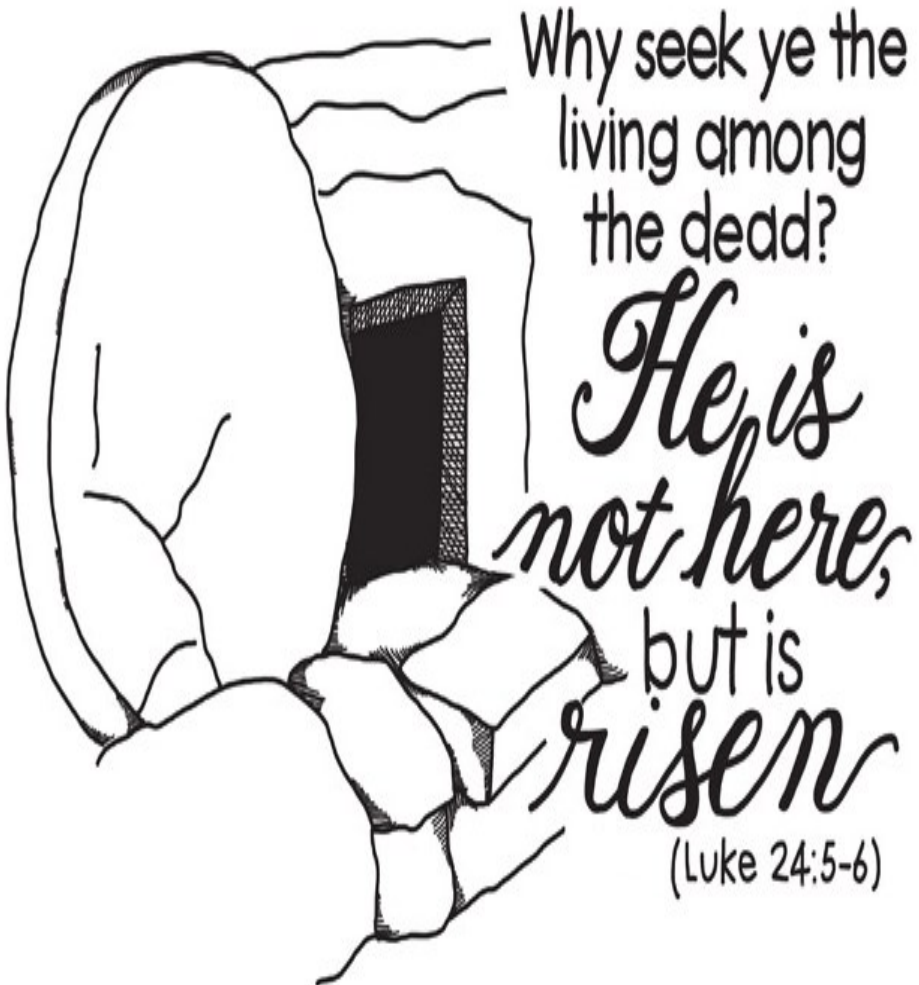




April
2022

NEWSLETTER



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

FRI, APR. 1	FOOD BANK DELIVERY
SUN, APR. 3	EASTER FLOWER DEADLINE CONFIRMATION/YOUTH GROUP
SAT, APR. 9	BABY STEPS DIAPER PANTRY
SUN, APR. 10	PALM SUNDAY
TUE, APR. 12	OAKS SENIOR CENTER
THR, APR. 14	MAUNDY THURSDAY CANDY DEADLINE (EGG HUNT)
FRI, APR. 15	GOOD FRIDAY FILLING PLASTIC EGGS
SAT, APR. 16	COMMUNITY EGG HUNT
SUN, APR. 17	EASTER SUNDAY SUNRISE WORSHIP BREAKFAST
MON, APR. 18	OFFICE CLOSED
SUN, APR. 24	SCOUT SUNDAY SOCIAL HOUR RESUMES
MON, APR. 25	NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
SAT, JUN. 4	CHURCH FAMILY PICNIC (save the date)

FROM THE PASTOR



Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him . . . As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

~ Luke 24:13-16, 28-35

Dear United In Christ,

I get it. Sometimes resurrection just doesn't seem possible. With all of the clamor and strain going on in our lives, sometimes new life does not feel like the most likely of situations. When our vision is tunneled in on the new medical prognosis or the new employment status or the crawling anxiety of the doomscroll or the updates to any myriad of ongoing catastrophes across our television screens, it might feel like we're already riding in the

handbasket with a singular destination ahead. I mean, you don't need me to point it out for you; you could fill in the blank (or a whole page worth of blanks) with the gnawing concerns and anxieties that occupy your days. With so much consuming our worlds and our worries, we simply might not have room to see resurrected life as a possibility.

Turns out, you're not alone. In fact, if you are struggling to see such possibilities around us then it turns out you're in quite good company. As Luke tells the Easter story, the *disciples themselves* struggled to see the reality of resurrection *even as it was right in their face*. Can you blame them? Having journeyed through the excruciating events of a week we now label as "Holy," they watched as their friend and teacher was betrayed, arrested, beaten, and crucified in a public display of unfettered power. As intended by the state that carried out the course of actions, it was a downright demoralizing series of events. Jesus' disciples had had their worlds turned on their heads. The pain and hurt was all that they could see – it was all they could *imagine* in the moment. Even as the resurrected Christ appears with them on the road to Emmaus, they fail to recognize him. After all, they'd seen him dead and buried! That was a pretty definitive ending without much room for any other possibilities.

Yet, even while they cannot conceive of the possibility of new life, the resurrected Jesus shows up anyway. He comes alongside them, he hears the troubled focus of their world, and he journeys with them, opening up the heart of scripture to the reality of their painful situation. His comfort, even while they still don't recognize him, is enough to make the disciples invite him to stay awhile with them. It's not until later, when they gather around the familiar intimacy of the table (the same intimacy violated in betrayal by one of their own just a few nights ago at a different table) that they recognize their teacher in their midst, once more breaking bread with them and *for them*. In that moment, the disciples' eyes are opened and now they see: new life isn't just a possibility, *it's already in their midst*.

And that, United In Christ, is the sort of risen solace we need. As we take these last few days of our Lenten journey together, despite all appearances to the contrary, we find that we are quickly approaching the possibility of new life. In fact, *it's already here*. The risen Christ is already in our midst bearing signs of new life for you. In the familiar setting around the table, in the comfort food of bread broken among friends, *you* are being met with the signs of resurrected life being born into the world. Fed and sustained, met by the new possibilities Jesus offers, we then find our calling to face the world anew – to look back out and similarly put these signs of life on full display. In the quickly approaching Easter, we find our calling to share the good news that resurrection *is* possible and it is here! May you share its signs with a world desperate to see something new!

Yours, united in Christ,



EASTER FLOWERS

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

Ordering deadline is April 3

Order forms are on the front bulletin board in the fellowship hall and also on our website.

LILIES \$7.50 TULIPS \$6.50



OAKS

SENIOR CENTER

Tuesday, April 12

10:00 am - Social Hour

11:00 am - Free Bingo with prizes

12:00 pm - Free Lunch

1:00 pm

Watching
episodes of

**GILLIGAN'S
ISLAND**



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

COMMUNITY LEVEL-BASED MASKING GUIDELINES

At the March 15th, 2022 meeting of UIC's Congregational Council, the Council voted to adopt masking and building policy guidance based on the [CDC's "Community Level" guidelines](#). This policy will replace the former policy that was based on the CDC's transmission rate guidelines. The difference between these two metrics is that while the transmission rate guidelines were based solely off of the current pace of new cases in the county, the "Community Level" guidance accounts for the overall strain on the healthcare/hospital system in the area. This metric uses a green-yellow-red phase indicator to offer masking and intervention guidance for response. With this scale, red is a phase of high strain requiring greater intervention, yellow is a phase of medium strain that encourages some intervention, particularly for individuals with ongoing health concerns, and green is a phase of relatively low strain requiring the least amount of preventative measures.

What do these Community Levels mean for United In Christ?

Following the CDC recommendations, UIC will adopt the following adjustments for each phase:

Red Phase:

- Masks will be expected to be worn at all times while inside the building.
- Pews will be marked to encourage social distancing.
- Indoor meal opportunities will be avoided.

Yellow Phase:

- Masks will be optional while inside the building.
- Individuals with ongoing health concerns are encouraged to consult their doctor about what masking strategy is appropriate for them.
- Communion assistants *will* be asked to wear a mask during

the distribution of communion in worship.

- Pews will remain marked to encourage voluntary social distancing.
- Indoor meal opportunities will be allowed.

Green Phase:

- Masks will be optional while inside the building.
- We will remove the pew markers.
- Indoor meal opportunities will be allowed.

All Phases:

- Mask wearing will be seen as a sign of good care for neighbor and for self. Those who would prefer to continue to wearing masks are welcome to do so.
- HEPA-grade air purifiers will be run throughout worship.
- Online streaming of worship will continue for anyone who wishes to join from home.
- If you are feeling sick, we lovingly encourage you to stay home to help keep our community safe, but reach out to let us know so that we can support you with care, prayer, and love!
- If you have not already, please consider receiving your full COVID-19 vaccine course and keep up with boosters as-needed. While you're at it, don't forget to get your seasonal flu shot!

When does this start?

These new guidelines take effect on Monday, March 21st, thus, the first Sunday that will be affected by these guidelines will be **Sunday, March 27th**! As of writing this, Union County remains in a yellow phase. This means that, barring any major changes, masks will be optional for worship beginning on the 27th.

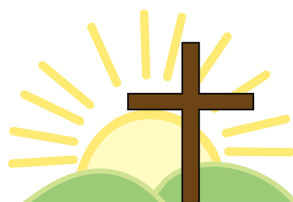
I'm still confused.

You're not alone. There is constantly updating information and standards. The Congregational Council has done a magnificent job of trying to stay as up-to-date as possible in order to respond as responsibly as they can. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact Pastor Justin or talk to a Council member!



EASTER SUNRISE WORSHIP

Looking for an early sign of resurrection this year? Join us for our joint Easter Sunrise Service at Central Oak Heights (75 Heritage Rd, West Milton) at 6:30am Easter Sunday! Gathering with the communities and pastors of Milton Lutheran Church and Saint Paul's UCC, we will keep first watch for the signs of the empty tomb outside for this intimate service to greet new life entering the world!



EASTER BREAKFAST POTLUCK



Bring your families and join us for Easter morning for a potluck breakfast from 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. We will also need volunteers to help serve and cleanup before worship. Food and Volunteer signup sheets are on the back bulletin board in the fellowship hall.

EASTER MORNING WORSHIP

Today Christ is risen and we gather together with astonishment and joy. Join us at 10 a.m. for worship. Christ is risen, and we have been set free from the bonds of death.



Holy Week

Palm Sunday, April 10

10:00 a.m. Worship

Maundy Thursday, April 14

7:00 p.m. Worship

Good Friday, April 15

7:00 p.m. Worship

Community Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 16 at 1:00pm

Easter Sunday, April 17

6:30am Sunrise Worship

(Central Oak Heights)

8:30 a.m. Breakfast

10:00 a.m. Worship

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

MONDAY, APRIL 25



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 25.**

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'S PRAYER LIST

Prayer Requests:

Ken Baker, Rosemary Fernsler, Family and friends of Karen Shaffer, Kay Martin, Jeff Charles, Ryan Hunter, Dr. Elwood Reiner, Ron Guffey, Dave Wall, Roger Neilson, Russ Wynn, Viv Marsh, Gladys Fawcett, Peyton Weiser, Alice Snyder, 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'll email your prayer request to UIC's prayer chain and keep them on the prayer list for 8 weeks, unless told otherwise.



WELCOME AREA

Christ In Our Home, which is also available in large print, and *The Word In Season* devotionals for April-June have been placed in the Welcome Area in the Narthex.

~ PLEASE HELP YOURSELF ~

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

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

	Lent 4 April 3	Palm Sunday April 10	Maundy Thursday April 14	Good Friday April 15
Bread/Wine	R. Baker	C. Zimmerman	Ken Criswell	
Altar Guild	M.L. Keifer	C. Troxell	S. Keifer	
Digital Host	S. Bingaman	K. Guffey	T. Cromwell	M. Shearer
Greeter Front Door	J. Sheaffer Jen Sheaffer	B. Swartz T. Swartz	Karen Baker	C. Zimmerman
Greeter Side Door	G. Weiser	S. Brown	Ken Baker	T. Cromwell
Lector	P. Hauck	S. Keifer	M. Shearer	T. McPherrin
Comm. Asst.	M.L. Keifer C. Troxell D. Baker	R. Kling Jen Sheaffer Ken Baker	B. Swartz M. Shearer S. Weiser	
Guest Rel.	G. Weiser	B. Troxell		
Offering Counter	M. Shearer C. Shreck	J. Sheaffer K. Guffey	Ken Baker M. Shearer	C. Zimmerman T. Cromwell

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.

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

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

	Easter April 17	Scout Sunday April 24	May 1
Bread/Wine	J. Danowsky T. Furman	D. Byerly K. Guffey	S. Bingaman
Altar Guild	C. Zimmerman T. Cromwell	K. Guffey T. Cromwell	M.L. Keifer
Digital Host	K. Lingenfelter	S. Bingaman	T. Cromwell
Greeter Front Door	D. Byerly J. Byerly	Scouts	M. Ketchem R. Whitesel
Greeter Side Door	M.L. Keifer	Scouts	R. Kling
Lector	B. Swartz	Scouts	R. Baker
Comm. Asst.	T. McPherrin M. Shearer D. Baker C. Troxell	Jen Sheaffer Ken Baker B. Swartz M.L. Keifer	S. Bingaman R. Kling C. Troxell
Guest Rel.	Ken Baker	T. McPherrin	M. Mertz
Offering Counter	Ken Baker M.L. Keifer	J. Sheaffer K. Guffey	T. Cromwell P. Hauck
Social Hour		A - Z	A - D



HAPPY Anniversary

Mike and Annette Baker 4/28/84
Scott and Jodie Danowsky 4/29/95



Happy Birthday

Ben Criswell 4/1
Kathy Loss 4/3
Rosemary Kling 4/5
Cindy Snyder 4/5
Jack Stiber 4/5
Bob Swartz 4/6



Logan Aucker 4/13
Breanna Martz 4/15
Cole Snyder 4/17
Kyle Swanger 4/17
Ken Criswell 4/19
Marianne Murray 4/28



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

The office
 will be
 closed on
 Monday,
 April 18.



In-person Worship Attendance	
Feb. 27	50
Mar. 2	32
Mar. 6	54
Mar. 13	50
Mar. 20	53

Social Ministry

Senior Express food program at UIC is growing. We added 8 new people in March. We now deliver monthly food boxes to 17 seniors! We continue to take the food you donate to the *Our Little Free Pantry* in West Milton. In March we took 145 food items! If you would like to donate food please place your items in the wicker basket in the Narthex. On the day of OAKS Senior Center we will be packaging 15 meals to take over to the Ronald McDonald.

At our next meeting we'll be planning activities for the Family Picnic. You are all invited to come to the meeting! We will meet at Tastecraft in Milton on Tuesday, May 3 from 4-6pm. If you can't make it to the meeting but would like to help, please email Terri at office@unitedinchristlutheran.net.

SOCIAL HOUR RESUMES

After 24 month,
social hour returns!



Social Hour is a time for us to stay connected with each other, while enjoying a light snack.

Our first social hour will be after worship on Scout Sunday, which means we need snacks! If you are able, please bring something to share.

Beginning May 1, if your last name begins with one of the letters listed for that Sunday's Social Hour, please bring a snack to share and help to clean up afterwards.



Sharing Our Tables is a community meal by United In Christ, Milton Lutheran Church, and Saint Paul's UCC which is served at 1125 Mahoning Street in Milton. On March 13, 189 meals were distributed. Thank you to everyone that helped by donating food, cooking, delivering meals, and that helped with clean up. Here are some photos from the day.



Next Sharing Our Tables meal is on Sunday, May 15.



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

Lutheran Disaster Response

UIC's Lenten offering will go to Lutheran Disaster Response, Eastern Europe Crisis Response.

Your gifts designated for "Eastern Europe Crisis Response" or "Lent" will be sent to Lutheran Disaster Response and will be used entirely (100%) to provide support for people in Ukraine and neighboring countries impacted by conflict in the region.

UKRAINE CRISIS: MAPPING YOUR IMPACT THROUGH LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE

Your gifts of more than **\$1 million** to support relief to those impacted by the crisis in Eastern Europe through Lutheran Disaster Response are already at work.*

Thank you!

EXAMPLES OF RESPONSE PROJECTS

- Cash support for refugees and displaced people
- Emergency items such as beds, blankets and shelter
- Food, clean water and hygiene items
- Protection and safeguarding of vulnerable individuals and groups
- Psychosocial care, pastoral support
- Gender justice and the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse



Additional responses with partners in these countries and others in the region are expected in the coming weeks and months. Learn more and give by visiting ELCA.org/disaster.

Save the Date

Saturday, June 4

Save the date for a new tradition at UIC.
We are combining the Sons Banquet
and the Daughters Banquet in to one event,
UIC Family Picnic!

*Invite your relatives for a fun afternoon
of fun, food, and fellowship!*

Social Ministry is busy planning a fun afternoon of
games and activities. More details to come!





Here's what's happening within our area.

SINDR Mission/Work Trip Planning Meeting ~ April 3, 2022

Last December, tornado damage devastated Western Kentucky. The rubble is now cleared and it is time to help them rebuild. The SINDR is sponsoring a mission/work trip to Madisonville, KY, on April 24 -30, 2022.

All skill levels are needed as we will be doing rough carpentry and some debris cleanup. Lodging and cooking facilities will be provided at First Presbyterian Church, Madisonville, KY. The cost is a contribution toward food and mileage.

There will be a trip planning meeting on Sunday, April 3, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. at the Synod Office and on ZOOM. For more information, contact Craig Miller at the Synod Office.

Lutheran Day at the Capitol April 28, 2022

As LAMPA continues to move through the pandemic, they look forward and invite you to mark your calendar for Lutheran Day in the Capitol.

They will gather in Harrisburg on Thursday, April 28, 2022. They have moved this annual event to partner with United Lutheran Seminary's Spring Convocation, in prayerful anticipation of gathering safely once more.

YOUTH AND FAMILY



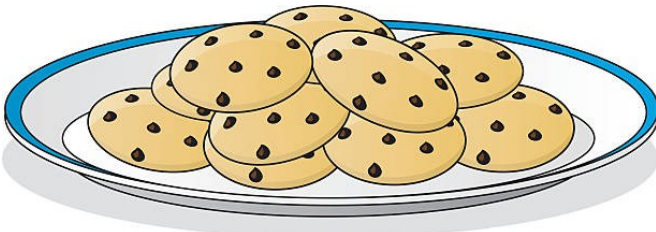
SCOUT SUNDAY

April 24

Join us on Sunday, April 24th as we worship
with all of the Girl, Cub, and Boy Scouts
that meet here every week.

We will have lots of hungry kids!

If you are able, please bring something to share
for Social Hour after worship.





5 Cub Scouts from Troop 3600 crossed over to Boy Scout Troop 600. Pastor Justin gave each of the boys a Lutheran Study Bible from the church.



The Boy Scout spaghetti dinner was a success. They sold 407 meals!

COMMUNITY EGG HUNT

SATURDAY, APRIL 16



The Easter Egg Hunt will begin at 1pm and is for children 12 years old and younger. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

CANDY DONATIONS NEEDED

Please put your donations in the box labeled "EASTER CANDY" which can be found under the table at the back of the fellowship hall. **Deadline is Thursday, April 14.**

Want to help fill plastic eggs?

Meet in the fellowship hall on Friday, April 15 at 9am.

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 would like 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/2021/12/2022-Booklet.pdf

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



Baby Steps DIAPER PANTRY

UPCOMING DIAPER PANTRY

April 9, 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 Watsontown.

THANK YOU

Thank you so much for your very generous donation of food items from your Souper Bowl fundraiser to the Panther Packs Ministry at St. Andrew's United Methodist Church.

This is the fifth year that Panther Packs Ministry has prepared nutritious weekend meals for students at the Milton Elementary Schools. Approximately 350 students continue to be served by this ministry because of the kindness of folks like you.

Sincerely,
Mary Richie, Treasurer

Dear Church family,

Thank you so much for the care package! The cards were very much appreciated during my week of tests at Bloomsburg University. I was also excited to get Country Cupboard cookies before they closed. I am halfway through the Spring Semester and doing well in all of my classes. Thank you all and I can't wait to see you in the summer!

~ Larissa Shearer

Dear United in Christ Family,

Thank you for the Valentine's Day care package that I received. I appreciate all of the gifts and cards that were sent my way as I approach the home stretch in my schooling at Penn College. I am currently in my last full semester and then I will start my operating hours in the summer to fulfill my class requirements. It is hard to believe that my time at Penn College is almost over. I would not have been able to do it without the prayers and support of my UIC family.

Thank You,
Dalton Shearer :)



UNITED IN CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
1875 CHURCHES ROAD
LEWISBURG PA 17837

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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