



June
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: Monday- Friday 8:00am - 12:30pm

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

WED, JUN 1 **WORSHIP & MUSIC MEETING**
BOOK STUDY

THU, JUN 2 **DAY CAMP MEETING**

SAT, JUN 4 **UIC FAMILY PICNIC**
VICAR KATY VISITING

SUN, JUN 5 **PENTECOST SUNDAY**
NEW MEMBER SUNDAY
VICAR KATY VISITING

WED, JUN 8 **BOOK STUDY**

SAT, JUN 11 **BABY STEPS DIAPER PANTRY**

TUE, JUN 14 **OAKS SENIOR CENTER**

WED, JUN 15 **BOOK STUDY**

MON, JUN 20 **JUNETEENTH**
OFFICE CLOSED

TUE, JUN 21 **COUNCIL MEETING**

WED, JUN 22 **BOOK STUDY**
Last one for the summer

FRI, JUN 24 **OFFICE CLOSED**

MON, JUN 27 **NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

FROM THE PASTOR



Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him . . . Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him.

Acts 8:26-31, 35-38

Dear United In Christ,

That Spirit sure can get unruly, huh?

I mean, that Spirit really moves in the seemingly most unlikely of places. Maybe it's just in the Spirit's nature to stir up trouble. At the very least, it seems as if the Spirit's inclination is to undermine the seeming principles of good order wherever and whenever possible! Just look at this story from Acts. Here we have this moment where, by all appearances, the Spirit drives

Philip to undermine a legacy of good religious order to welcome the most unlikely of individuals in the waters of baptism. In baptizing the Ethiopian eunuch, Philip follows the Spirit's movements to break a few rules and welcome this otherwise would-be outsider into the Jesus following community.

See, there's a tremendous amount of irony in the question that the eunuch asks of Philip. When they pose the thought out loud that "*Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?*" the answers should be more than self-evident. For starters, as an Ethiopian, they were an *outsider*, a foreigner! They did not belong to the nation of God's chosen! More, they were in service to that foreign power! Serving the Candace meant they would a conflict of interest in their allegiance if they were to be baptized into the *Jesus* following community. Finally, but perhaps most prohibitively of all, there was the seemingly insurmountable hurdle of their gender identity! While the disciples at this time were actively debating whether or not individuals needed to be circumcised before becoming part of the Jesus movement, here was an individual *for whom circumcision was an impossibility*. That alone should have been the grounds that prevented him becoming a part of their community!

So what was to stop the eunuch from being baptized? The answer was obvious: *everything* should have stopped them! Yet, in following the Spirit's movement, Philip did the exact thing he probably wasn't supposed to do by the rules and customs set before him. In following the Spirit's movement, Philip opted for the life-giving path of inclusion over the divisive insistence of exclusion. In following the Spirit's movement, Philip simply baptized the eunuch!

Maybe, United In Christ, maybe this is the exact reminder that we need. In this month where we celebrate the Spirit's arrival at Pentecost, we may just find that in following the Spirit's movement we will arrive at all manner of new conclusions. As UIC continues to work on our Welcome Statement, I find myself

growing increasingly convinced that part of our call as the church of this age may, in fact, be to recognize the continued movements of the Spirit where the Church once thought impossible. As Philip was led to fully welcome the Ethiopian eunuch just as they were, we too might just be receiving encouragement from God's Spirit to wholly welcome and include the neighbors around us regardless of their gender identity, their place of origin, their sexual orientation, their skin color, their religious starting places, or any other line of identity that we would otherwise use as grounds for exclusion. It's as if the Spirit is calling us to see *all* these neighbors, especially the ones we have historically found a way to exclude, and hear the eunuch's question once more: "what's to prevent them from being baptized?"

I think the answer is *nothing* UIC. Just as Philip simply stepped up and baptized the Ethiopian eunuch, just as he moved past all perceived barriers to include them in community of Jesus' followers, we too can take courage from such a simple conviction. Just as *you* have been met by and welcomed into this community, now we can do the same simple work of welcoming and including others in God's community and God's work *no matter who they are*. God's Spirit truly is an unruly one to follow, but I trust that it is that very Spirit that will set the most life-giving course ahead! Let's see where it leads!

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 text "Yours, united in Christ,".

VICAR KATY VISIT!

Be sure to clear your calendars for the weekend of June 4th-5th so that you can stop by to meet Vicar Katy as she gets ready to spend the upcoming year with us at United In Christ! Vicar Katy will be joining us for the family picnic on the 4th and again on the 5th for Pentecost Sunday worship! We look forward to Vicar Katy's start date in August, but in the meantime, be sure to stop by and meet her during her visit in June!



Upper Susquehanna Synod

United as Christ's Disciples, we Support one another and Serve God in the world

SYNOD ASSEMBLY

Please keep the congregations and delegates of the Upper Susquehanna Synod in your prayers as they meet during the annual Synod Assembly from June 17th-18th! During this Assembly, we will be giving thanks to God for Bishop Collins and her years of service as Bishop of the synod. We will also be gathering to elect a new bishop as part of our annual business together. Please keep all of the delegates, including UIC's representatives Sherry Bingaman and Michelle Shearer, in your prayers as they follow the movement of the Spirit to elect a new bishop for the synod!

YOUTH AND FAMILY

The poster features a central graphic with a cross, a green tree, and a red sailboat on a blue base, with the text "CAMP MOUNT LUTHER" below it. To the left is the Milton Lutheran Church logo, and to the right is the United In Christ Lutheran Church logo. The background shows a stylized mountain range and forest.

MILTON
Lutheran Church

CAMP MOUNT LUTHER

United In Christ
Lutheran Church

**SUMMER
• DAY CAMP •**

JULY 11-15 • 9AM-3PM
**FOR STUDENTS COMPLETING
GRADES K-5**

SAVE THE DATES!

**FOLLOW MILTON LUTHERAN CHURCH AND
UNITED IN CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH FOR MORE!**

CML DAY CAMP

Hosted by UIC and Milton Lutheran Church

Its time to register! We're hosting a free Camp Mount Luther Day Camp in conjunction with Milton Lutheran Church at West Milton Memorial Park July 11th - July 15th. This is open to grades K-5. It will be 9am-3pm. We will provide lunch and snacks. Feel free to invite friends and relatives!

Camp Mount Luther staff will lead each day with Bible stories, songs, crafts, games, and worship. There will also be a special activity each day, including a full day at Camp Mount Luther!

Please register on-line at
www.myvbs.org/Miltonlutheranchurches.

Each child will also need to bring with them a filled out health and consent form, which can be printed **here**, copies are also on the front bulletin board.

If you'd like to be part of this wonderful event, click the above link to signup as a volunteer or see the signup sheet in the fellowship hall.

For any other information contact the church office at 570-568-2254 or office@unitedinchristlutheran.net or Sherry.

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 \$35. You may take your flowers home with you after service.

Flower Chart is located in the Fellowship Hall.

SOCIAL HOUR RESUMES

4 WEEK ROTATION
LAST NAMES BEGINNING WITH:

A - D L - R
E - K S - Z



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

Please look on the Worship Volunteer Schedule, which can be found in the middle of the newsletter, in the back of a printed bulletin, and on the church's calendar on our website, 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 out in the kitchen **during** social hour by making coffee and cleaning up.

Having a 4 week rotation means everyone will get to enjoy social hour and the same people won't be stuck in the kitchen every Sunday, missing out on some much needed fellowship time!

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

MONDAY, JUNE 27



Worship Volunteers, please give the office **any dates in July** 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 July Newsletter need to be in the office **by Monday, June 27.**

UNITED IN CHRIST'S PRAYER LIST

Prayer Requests:

Ken Baker, Bonnie Katherman and her family, Zack Born, Shirley Russell, Kim Payne, 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

Visit our Welcome Area in the Narthex for copies of the monthly Lutheran Magazine, additional copies of the newsletter, including large print copies, and a variety of daily devotionals, Our Daily Bread, Christ In Our Home, and The Word in Season.

~ PLEASE HELP YOURSELF ~

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

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

	June 6	June 12	June 19	June 26	July 3
Social Hour	E - K	L - R	S - Z	A - D	E - K
Bread/Wine	J. Sheaffer	M. Shearer	S. Weiser	C. Troxell	
Altar Guild	C. Zimmerman	C. Troxell	M.L. Keifer	S. Keifer	
Digital Host	S. Bingaman	K. Guffey	M. Shearer	K. Lingenfelter	T. Cromwell
Greeter Front Door	D. Byerly	Ken Baker	L. Rabuck	M. Ketchem	B. Swartz
	J. Byerly	R. Baker	C. Zimmerman	R. Whitesel	T. Swartz
Greeter Side Door	T. McPherrin	S. Brown	G. Weiser	R. Kling	K. Noll
Lector	T. McPherrin	M. Shearer	C. Zimmerman	B. Swartz	R. Baker
Ushers	K. Arndt	L. Caris	BJ Koch	Jen Sheaffer	M. Shearer
	D. Baker	K. Criswell	S. McPherrin	B. Swartz	B. Troxell
	Karen Baker	T. Cromwell	J. Mertz	T. Swartz	C. Troxell
	S. Brown	R. Kling	L. Rabuck	K. Arndt	K. Criswell
Comm. Asst.	D. Baker	R. Kling	T. McPherrin	Ken Baker	
	M.L. Keifer	M. Shearer	C. Troxell	R. Kling	
	Jen Sheaffer	B. Swartz	S. Weiser	B. Swartz	
Guest Rel.	M. Mertz	Ken Baker	T. McPherrin	M. Rabuck	K. Noll
Offering Counter	C. Zimmerman	K. Guffey	M.L. Keifer	Ken Baker	M. Shearer
	P. Hauck	J. Sheaffer	L. Rabuck	M. Rabuck	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

Delroy and Linda Caris 6/02/63

Ben and Kim Criswell 6/7/03

Don and Sharon Byerly 6/11

BJ and Kristie Koch 6/12/10

Steve and Michelle Shearer 6/21/97

Matt and Wendy Wirth 6/21/86

Ken and Ruby Baker 6/24/89

Scott and Colleen Danowsky 6/26/11

Ken and Sonja Noll 6/30/63



Happy Birthday

Mike Mertz 6/2

John Sheaffer 6/11

Amanda Rabuck 6/13

Allen Loss 6/17

Scott Danowsky 6/17

Cheryl Stiber 6/18

Tara Condit 6/18



Lisa Rabuck 6/18

Celia Warren 6/20

Emma Danowsky 6/20

Bertie Danowsky 6/22

Felicia Swartz 6/22

Kathy Arndt 6/23

Michelle Shearer 6/23



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

The office
will be
closed on
June 20
and
June 24.



IN-PERSON WORSHIP ATTENDANCE	
May 1	42
May 8	67
May 15	60
May 22	54

NEW OFFICE HOURS

Terri will be helping out our neighbors at Milton Lutheran Church while they search for a new Parish Administrator. In the meantime, in order to help them out, we will be shifting our open office hours to the following:

- Monday 8:00am - 12:30pm
- Tuesday 8:00am - 12:30pm
- Wednesday 8:00am - 12:30pm
- Thursday 8:00am - 12:30pm
- Friday 8:00am - 12:30pm



Pentecost is on Sunday, June 5.

Don't forget to wear red.

We will also be welcoming 9 new members and our upcoming intern, Vicar Katy, will be at church! Be sure to say “hi” and get to know our newest members:

Heather Allegar

Kristin Sprenkle

Garrett Baker

Sarah Sprenkle

Donna Corazza

Lizzie Sprenkle

Bonnie Katherman

Charlie Sprenkle

Randy Sprenkle

Social Ministry



On May 15 we served almost 250 meals!

Thank you to everyone that helped by donating ingredients for the meal, helping move all those ingredients, prepping, cooking, serving, and helping to clean up!



SHARING OUR TABLES FREE COMMUNITY MEAL

A ministry partnership of Milton and West Milton congregations.



UNITED IN CHRIST FAMILY PICNIC

Fun begins at 2pm and the meal will be served at 5pm

Saturday, June 4
West Milton Park

Activities will include 3 different Minute to Win it Games, face the cookie, suck it up, and balloon bop, wiffle ball game, selfie photo booth, sack race, ring toss, hula hoop contest, puzzles, and a horseshoe and corn hole competition.

Dinner, which will be provided by the church and Social Ministry committee, will be pulled pork sandwiches, fried chicken, mac and cheese, pasta salad, baked beans, fresh fruit, and cake.

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



**You will need to
RSVP by May 29
with the number
of people you are
bringing!**



Buffalo Valley Conference of the Upper Susquehanna Synod ELCA

Join the Facebook page for Buffalo Valley Conference of the Upper Susquehanna Synod ELCA to keep informed about upcoming events within our 16 Lutheran churches.

www.facebook.com/bvcuss/

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

RICH HUFF FUND SCHOLARSHIPS

Each year the Rich Huff Committee awards area students with \$500 scholarships. This year three scholarships were awarded.



^(L) Mya Cromwell, member of UIC, is from the Milton School District . Mya will be attending Kutztown University, majoring in elementary education for grades 4-8 with a concentration in math and social studies.

^(M) Sara Harter is from the Mifflinburg School District. Sara will be attending Penn State, majoring in communication sciences and disorders.

^(R) Madison Walter is also from the Mifflinburg School District. Madison will be attending Bloomsburg University, majoring in nursing.

Congratulations to each of you and may you go forward in life and do great things!



Baby Steps
DIAPER PANTRY

UPCOMING DIAPER PANTRY

June 11, 2022 10-11:30am

1 bag (40 diapers) per child.

Newborn to size 6



OAKS

SENIOR CENTER

Tuesday, June 13

10:00 am - Doors Open

10:30 am - Free Bingo with prizes

11:30 pm - Presentation by Union County
Library on their Adult Outreach
program and what they offer.

12:00 pm - Free Lunch



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

Last month at OAK Dea Schader, who is the SHARE Housing Coordinator from the Union-Snyder Agency on Aging, spoke at OAKS Senior Center. Dea spoke about the ECHO program, Elder Cottage Housing Opportunity.

As your loved one ages they may still want independence, yet you would like them close by as they may need help more often. Instead of adding an addition of a first floor bedroom and bathroom to your house for your loved one, an ECHO cottage could be your solution.

ECHO program places a 600 square foot cottage on the property of a relative or close friend. The Agency on Aging does all the prep work for the site and all the hookups. The tenant pays a rental for the cottage which is determined by their income. When the cottage is no longer needed by your loved one the program will remove the cottage and recondition it so it may be used by another person in need.

The cottages are owned by the Union County Housing Authority. If you would like more information on the ECHO program please contact Dea Schader at 570-524-2100.



THANK YOU

Senior Express,

I would like to thank all of you who are working hard to make our Senior Express Food delivery a success. I am sure the seniors in our community greatly appreciate your service.

I'd like to offer a special thank you to Dawn and Landon Warren who sponsored flowers as an Easter gift to all our clients last month. A wonderful way to show the love of our risen Lord!

Sherry

A heartfelt thank you to all who kept our granddaughter, Peyton Weiser, in your prayers the past nine months. Many of you probably did not know why she was on the prayer list but prayed for her anyway. She did a Gap Year following her graduation last year to join World Race. The mission statement of World Race is : "We exist to awaken and activate people worldwide to their identity and role in the Kindgom of God".

She served in Guatamala, Jeffreys Bay (South Africa) and Ecuador. The route originally scheduled was changed once due to COVID and once due to the war in the Ukraine. She worked with both adults and children to share God's love with them and to teach them some

things that would help them to maybe have a better life. Not only did she share and teach but the people she met and helped taught her as well. As of this writing, May 23rd, she is back in the US but will not return to her home until May 28th. Because of many prayers that were sent on her behalf she has had a safe journey. Well, she did have a tangle with a dog the last week of serving that resulted in a series of painful shots, but she has been kept safe and well and will be coming home ready to share so much of her experiences and also continue to share her love of God and His grace. We think it is important to share when prayers are answered and prayers for Peyton were, so again thank you!

Sharon and George Weiser



UNITED IN CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
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LEWISBURG PA 17837

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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