



July
2022
NEWSLETTER



Happy Birthday America!

Have a safe and
happy 4th!

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

MON, JUL 4	INDEPENDENCE DAY Office Closed
WED, JUL 6	DEADLINE FOR COMMUNITY MEAL DONATIONS
SAT, JUL 9	BABY STEPS DIAPER PANTRY
SUN, JUL 10	SHARING OUR TABLES COMMUNITY MEAL
MON, JUL 11	DAY CAMP BEGINS
TUE, JUL 12	OAKS SENIOR CENTER
TUE, JUL 19	COUNCIL MEETING
WED, JUL 20	WORSHIP AND MUSIC COMMITTEE MEETING
SUN, JUL 24	CHRISTMAS IN JULY WORSHIP
SUN, JUL 24	SOCIAL MINISTRY COMMITTEE MEETING
SUN, AUG 14	CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
MON, AUG 29	1ST GRIEF SUPPORT MEETING

FROM THE PASTOR



The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

Ephesians 4:11-16

Dear United In Christ,

When I was in high school, my local youth athletic organization decided to start a volleyball league (since our school did not have a team). At the time, I was stoked to be one of the first names signing up to take part! I loved the sport and quickly found my place on

the larger team. Later, when they decided to start up a tennis club in similar fashion, I quickly added the skills into my rotation and found a new joy on the court in my coach's backyard. But a few years later when my brother joined both leagues, he absolutely cleaned my clock. I mean, he could kick my butt across both courts!

This was just the start of a growing trend in our house. I was proud when I got an A in my calculus class my senior year of high school; my brother aced it in his freshman year. I was relieved to attain the rank of Eagle Scout, narrowly getting my final paperwork in two days before the final deadline on my eighteenth birthday; I think my brother reached Eagle before he could drive. It seemed that at every turn when I thought I had a gift or a skill, even some sort of accomplishment, my brother showed me up with deft skill. And I'll admit (confess?) to you all these years later that it made me *so* jealous. I was envious of his capacity to excel at all these things to which I had already set myself! I genuinely coveted the gifts that he had. In the end, that envy really drove a wedge in my capacity to be in good relationship with my brother for years.

It wasn't until we had some time and space for differentiation in college that we finally discerned each of our own unique sets of gifts and skills. Ultimately, I became a pastor, he is now a captain in the Space Force; to say we landed in different places would be putting it lightly! But now, recognizing our own unique places and callings, we are able to support one another

with the same zeal with which we competed while growing up. Now, after finally recognizing the ways in which we have been equipped, we are able to build one another up in love (v. 16).

Admittedly, though, it's a tough needle to thread. All too often, it feels like we look out at the world and measure ourselves by what we see comparatively around us. Likewise, it seems as if we have a great propensity for trying to *be* and *do* everything ourselves. We strive for self-sufficiency and fierce independence. We don't want to have to acknowledge the gifts of others, let alone depend upon them. In this month when we rightfully celebrate our national independence and self-determination, we may find that it's all too tempting to go one step further and insist that we don't actually need anyone else alongside us. We may have a propensity for disregarding the gifts of those around us to try to make our way all on our own. In the end, though, such means are a disservice to the body of Christ. Encouraging one another's gifts – not competing for them like I did with my brother – is what provides for the mutual upbuilding of this community of faith. It starts with recognizing those unique skills, gifts, and callings in our kin around us.

But know that in similar fashion, *you too* have been uniquely equipped for the mutual support of this Body of Christ. You may need some distance to step away from the constant competitive cross-comparison that our world encourages, but the truth is you *have* been

equipped and called into this life of faith. May you not be blown about, but may you find your sure footing, uniquely held in *your* person, and may you leverage it for the joining and knitting of this life together!

Yours, united in Christ,

~ Pastor Justin

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Mark your calendars for **Sunday, August 14th** following **worship** for a special congregational meeting! The purpose for this gathering is to tackle three items in Council's hands:

Vote on a roofing project of \$9,000 to replace a section of the roof on the education wing that was led to leaking in the building.

Hear the Property Committee's report and proposal for a complete reworking of the education wing's roof.

Vote on the current Welcome Statement set forward and proposed by Council for UIC.

Be on the lookout for extra materials to help with this meeting and be sure to take a look at the current draft Welcome Statement in this month's newsletter to learn more!

UIC WELCOME STATEMENT

After months of study, conversation, and work, UIC's Congregational Council has prepared a draft Welcome Statement to put forward for the congregation. This statement is the product of the time and energy spent in intentional discernment with multiple of our Wednesday night study series and has been worked on and approved by the Congregational Council over the past few months. At its heart, this statement is meant to reflect the values of welcome and inclusion that UIC has baked into its very essence and has lived out for so long. While the statement holds a broader scope than any one demographic, this statement would also designate UIC as the *first* "Reconciling in Christ" congregation in the Upper Susquehanna Synod, a designation that names the community as a safe and inclusive place for members of the LGBTQIA+ community.

Read the working draft of the statement below as we prepare to vote on it at our August 14th Congregational Meeting. If you have any feedback or questions about this statement, please feel free to reach out to any Council member, a participant in our Wednesday study group, or Pastor Justin!

Draft UIC Welcome Statement

– June 2022

United In Christ Lutheran Church strives to be a community of heartfelt hospitality. We who call UIC

home have experienced firsthand the God-given gifts of welcome and participation in the life of this community. We come from different places, with different backgrounds, and with different life experiences. Yet, we come knowing what it means to be many members of one body in Christ (1 Corinthians 12:12).

We believe that, among the members of Christ's body, such diversity is a gift (1 Corinthians 12:14-26). We believe that we are called to share accordingly in the hospitality we have experienced with the diversity of members God has placed among us. We strive to welcome all of God's beloved in their diversity of race, ethnicity, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, socioeconomic bracket, political affiliation, education, nationality, marital status, physical ability, and mental ability. We seek to work alongside such diversity of members as co-laborers in the mission of God through this community.

We know that in the diversity of our backgrounds, there are profound differences among us. We welcome those differences, even as we move towards the vision of God's kingdom wherein true and genuine reconciliation takes place.

We invite you to come and see for yourself. We cannot promise that we will get this gift of hospitality right the first time, but as a community always being made new, we commit to the work of learning how to do better for the sake of our fellow members in this body we share.

VICAR KATY'S ARRIVAL

Thank you to everyone who made Vicar Katy feel right at home during her visit in June! We are looking forward to Vicar Katy's arrival at start at United In Christ at the start of next August! As we get ready to welcome her for the next year there are two ways you can help out ahead of time to set her up for success!

First, to help Vicar Katy get off to a good start, we will be collecting gift cards to Giant and Weis to help her stock her food pantry after moving! If you would like to contribute to this pantry stock, feel free to bring those



cards to the church. You can place them in an offering plate on Sunday or in Terri's mailbox at church. You can also mail them to the church, 1875 Churches Road, Lewisburg PA 17837. You can also contribute with cash or a check in an envelope marked as "Vicar Katy's Pantry" or using the option of the same name on [tithe.ly](https://www.tithe.ly). All contributions will then be used to purchase cards by August.

Second, as Vicar Katy prepares for her move to Lewisburg, there are a few remaining furniture items needed to furnish her space. Namely, her apartment needs a small dining set, a dresser, and a nightstand. If you have any of these items that you would be willing to donate or lend for the upcoming year, please touch base with Pr. Justin!

In the meantime, keep your eyes peeled for other ways to celebrate Vicar Katy's arrival!



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

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 al-

so 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 Bingaman***

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.

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

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

	July 10	July 17	July 24	July 31
Social Hour	L - R	S - Z	A - D	E - K
Bread/Wine	C. Zimmerman	R. Baker	S. Bingaman	Ken Criswell
Altar Guild	D. Byerly	T. Cromwell	K. Guffey	S. Keifer
Digital Host	M. Shearer	K. Lingenfelter	S. Bingaman	T. Cromwell
Greeter Front Door	Karen B.	J. Byerly	Ken B.	M. Ketchem
	K. Guffey	D. Byerly	R. Baker	R. Whitesel
Greeter Side Door	T. McPherrin	S. Brown	M.L. Keifer	T. Cromwell
Lector	S. Bingaman	S. Keifer	T. McPherrin	P. Hauck
Ushers	K. Arndt	S. Brown	K. Guffey	K. Baker
	D. Baker	L. Caris	S. McPherrin	B. Swartz
	Karen B.	Ken Criswell	J. Mertz	T. Swartz
	B.J. Koch	T. Cromwell	M. Shearer	C. Troxell
Comm. Asst.	S. Bingaman	M.L. Keifer	D. Baker	Ken Baker
	T. McPherrin	Jen Sheaffer	M. Shearer	C. Troxell
	B. Swartz	S. Weiser	C. Zimmerman	M.L. Keifer
Guest Rel.	B. Troxell	G. Weiser	Ken B.	S. McPherrin
Offering Counter	P. Hauck	M.L. Keifer	M. Shearer	J. Sheaffer
	C. Zimmerman	L. Rabuck	C. Shreck	K. Guffey

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

Bob and Carol Troxell 7/08/89
Justin and Kelsey Lingenfelter 7/11/15
Bob and Trudy Swartz 7/20/85
Kyle and Johanna Swanger 7/23/16
George and Sharon Weiser 7/27/63



Happy Birthday

Penny Golder 7/1
Pastor Justin 7/2
Marilyn Gresh 7/3
Chris Lee 7/4
George Weiser 7/4
Wendy Wirth 7/4
Kristie Koch 7/5
Landon Warren-Lee 7/5
Ken Noll 7/7



Sharon Weiser 7/7
Ellen McCormick 7/9
Julia Sanders 7/10
Kay Hilkert 7/22
Florence Van Dyke 7/24
Beckett Swanger 7/25
Connie Shreck 7/28
Kelsey Swanger 7/29
Scott A. Danowsky 7/29



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



Back left: Garrett Baker, Bonnie Katherman, Heather Allegar, Donna Corazza, Pastor Justin, Kristin Sprenkle, Randy Sprenkle.
 Front left: Charlie Sprenkle, Lizzie Sprenkle.

We welcome the following new members on Sunday, June 5!

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| Heather Allegar | Kristin Sprenkle |
| Garrett Baker | Sarah Sprenkle |
| Donna Corazza | Lizzie Sprenkle |
| Bonnie Katherman | Charlie Sprenkle |
| Randy Sprenkle | |

The office
 will be
 closed on
 July 4



IN-PERSON WORSHIP ATTENDANCE	
May 29	50
Jun 5	76
Jun 12	45
Jun 19	53
Jun 26	56

Social Ministry



SHARING OUR TABLES FREE COMMUNITY MEAL

A ministry partnership of Milton and West Milton congregations.

*The next Sharing Our Tables meal
is only a few weeks away and we need your help!*

You can help by donating food and volunteering. Please stop at the bulletin board at the back of the fellowship hall to signup!

SOCIAL MINISTRY MEETING

We will have a meeting to discuss August-October on
Sunday, July 24th after worship.
Please meet in the fellowship hall.

All are invited to join us!

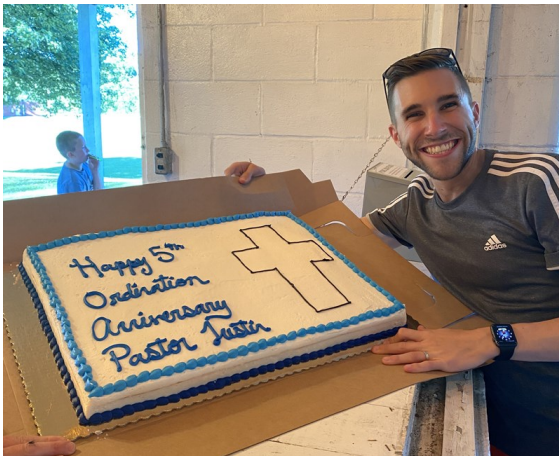
UNITED IN CHRIST FAMILY PICNIC



On Saturday, June 4 we had our 1st Annual Family Picnic at West Milton Memorial Park.

We also celebrated Pastor Justin's 5 years of ordination. We secretly took up a collection and put together a coffee basket and our very own, Theresa Furman, created a rainbow stole. UIC is blessed to have you all!!!







Upper Susquehanna Synod

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



Synod Assembly took place on Friday, June 17th and Saturday, June 18th. Michelle Shearer and Sherry Bingham attended as delegates for UIC.

A new bishop was elected. Congratulations to The Rev. Craig Miller who will be our next bishop, which holds a 6 year term.

Pastor Gary Schaeffer,
Milton Lutheran Church,
was installed as Dean of
our conference. Congrat-
ulations Pastor Gary!



Bishop B.J. Collins,
thank you for your
years of service.
We will miss you.
Enjoy retirement!



The new MILTON LUTHERAN CHURCH
was recognized at the synod assembly.

Congratulations to our
brothers and sisters in Christ across the river!



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

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP



Together with the communities of Milton Lutheran Church and Saint Paul's UCC, UIC will be starting a new monthly grief support group beginning on **Monday, Aug.29th at 6:30pm at UIC.**

If you find yourself struggling with grief after the loss of a loved one, a broken relationship, or the overall strain on your being, know that this group is for you. Each month will be led by one of the pastors of our three congregations and we will take turns rotating between our buildings. Be on the lookout for more information in the weeks ahead, but know that you are welcomed here!



OAKS

SENIOR CENTER

Tuesday, July 12

10:00 am - Doors Open

10:30 am - Free Bingo with prizes

11:30 pm - Activity

12:00 pm - Free Lunch



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

THANK YOU

Thank you all so very much for the wonderful surprise celebration of five years of ordination! It has been a genuine joy to serve these first five years of ordained ministry with you all in this place. I am so grateful for all of your continued support in our service together. I am also incredibly grateful for your generous gifts and cards! The stole you gifted is a marvelous symbol of all we have done together and the PLETHORA of coffee has been a fantastic stimulus heading into the summer! Thank you all so very very much!



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, JULY 25



Worship Volunteers, please give the office **any dates in August** 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 August Newsletter need to be in the office **by Monday, July 25**.

UNITED IN CHRIST'S PRAYER LIST

Prayer Requests: *family and friends of Randy Neilson, Darwin Neilson, Mark Rabuck, Kathy Loss, Marlene Kibler, Ryan Hunter, Family of Little Bean, Louella Swanger, Ken Baker, Bonnie Katherman and her family, Zack Born, Shirley Russell, Rosemary Fernsler, Family and friends of Karen Shaffer, Kay Martin, Jeff Charles, Dr. Elwood Reiner, Ron Guffey, 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.

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 ~

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-Fri, 8am-12:30pm