



August 2023 NEWSLETTER



Trust in the
LORD with all
your heart
and lean not
on your own
understanding

Proverbs 3:5

UNITED IN CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH STAFF

The Rev. Justin G. Lingenfelter: Pastor

Vicar Katy Moran: Senior Seminarian

Terri Cromwell: Parish 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/worship/

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 8:00am - 2:00pm

UIC COUNCIL MEMBERS	Kathy Guffey.....President	2 nd term, ends 12/2024
	Lisa Rabuck.....Vice President	2 nd term, ends 12/2024
	Emma Danowsky....Co V.P.	2 nd term, ends 12/2024
	Kim Criswell.....Secretary	2 nd term, ends 12/2025
	Ken Baker.....Treasurer	2 nd term, ends 12/2023
	Kathy Arndt	1 st term, ends 12/2024
	Justin Cooley	1 st term, ends 12/2025
	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, AUG. 2** THEOLOGY ON TAP: RUSTY RAIL
- FRI, AUG. 4** SENIOR EXPRESS FOOD BOXES DELIVERED
- SUN, AUG. 6** SOCIAL MINISTRY MEETING
CROSSCUTTERS BASEBALL GAME
- TUE, AUG. 8** OAKS SENIOR CENTER
- WED, AUG. 9** FINANCIAL COMMITTEE MEETING
- THU, AUG. 10** FIRST COMMUNION DAY
- FRI, AUG. 11** THEOLOGY ON TAP FIELD TRIP: 3 BEARDS
- SAT, AUG. 12** BABY STEPS DIAPER PANTRY
- SUN, AUG. 13** BLESSINGS OF BACKPACKS
- MON, AUG. 14** COMMUNITY HARVEST MEAL
- TUE, AUG. 15** COUNCIL MEETING
- WED, AUG. 16** OFFICE CLOSED
THEOLOGY ON TAP: RUSTY RAIL
- MON, AUG. 21** SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
- SAT, AUG. 26** COUNCIL RETREAT
- WED, AUG. 30** THEOLOGY ON TAP: RUSTY RAIL
- THU, SEPT. 14** HAM AND BEAN SOUP PREP
- FRI, SEPT. 15** HAM AND BEAN SOUP COOK & PACKAGE
- SAT, SEPT. 16** MILTON HARVEST FESTIVAL: SELLING SOUP

FROM THE PASTOR



For God is not unjust; he will not overlook your work and the love that you showed for his sake in serving the saints, as you still do. And we want each one of you to show the same diligence so as to realize the full assurance of hope to the very end, so that you may not become sluggish, but imitators of those who through faith and patience inherit the promises. When God made a promise to Abraham, because he had no one greater by whom to swear, he swore by himself, saying, "I will surely bless you and multiply you." And thus Abraham, having patiently endured, obtained the promise. Human beings, of course, swear by someone greater than themselves, and an oath given as confirmation puts an end to all dispute. In the same way, when God desired to show even more clearly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of his purpose, he guaranteed it by an oath, so that through two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible that God would prove false, we who have taken refuge might be strongly encouraged to seize the hope set before us. We have this hope, a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters the inner shrine behind the curtain, where Jesus, a forerunner on our behalf, has entered, having become a high priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.

Hebrews 6:10-20

I think I'd prefer evidence and immediate results.

As a product of the digital age – having been instilled with the tools required to mine the nearly infinite well-source of information that's accessible in the time it takes to type out a query – I tend to prefer gathering hard data on my own rapid timetable. It's easier to navigate life when I can pull the information I need in an instant to serve whatever moment is immediately in front of me. I'm accustomed to having results

right at my fingertips (or in my pocket). And boy howdy, look out if the internet should ever go down or cell service become spotty; the cranky turn I take is enough to make a gremlin fed after midnight look like polite table company!

Frankly, I don't like wading into the unknown without a plan laid out by the most thorough rapid research I can do! I mean look, I don't go to a new place without cross comparing three different routes to get there on Google Maps while also analyzing whether or not the toll roads will be worth the fee. I don't go to a new restaurant without pulling up their website on my phone to see if I can access a menu ahead of time and start creating a game plan. I can't even place an Amazon order without (over) analyzing hundreds of purchase reviews and consumer ratings pulled up in an instant from the comfort of my couch!

Which is maybe why I feel personally indicted, as if the author of Hebrews is taking me to the mat here. Because where I prefer evidence and immediate results, here the author commends a different set of attitudes. In a scriptural tour de force that accompanies this text, the author lifts up a myriad of spiritual ancestors who "by faith" were found to be righteous in God's sight. Included in that list is Abraham, who now here is doubly commended for the patience he exhibited in life in the wake of God's irrevocable promise made to him and Sarah.* *Faith and patience*, it seems, were enough to bring God's people to the fruition of righteousness. With Jesus as the forerunner on their behalf, they were brought into the promises of God.

And maybe this is the reminder we (read: I) need as well. As we prepare for the summer to wind down and the school year to wind up, it's tempting to assume that God will work by our codified schedules and routines; we might be inclined to insist that Holy Spirit move with the instant pace to which we've grown accustomed. In a time when we are being called upon to summon more faith to trust that things can change and more

patience to see them through, maybe we need the reminder of the ancestors who modeled them well on our behalf. With the legacy they leave, with Jesus as the forerunner on *our* behalf, we can walk with the faith and patience that God gifts to provide for a world different than the one we see.

I suppose that is worth the wait.

Yours, united in Christ,

~ Pastor Justin

* I think it's fair to contend that Abram's acquiescence to Sarai's plan for a child via Hagar would be a model of *impatience*, but I guess we can stand with the author of Hebrews and give him credit for his late-in-life fatherhood.



UIC Family Picnic: Saturday, June 3



OAKS

SENIOR CENTER

Tuesday, August 8

10:00 am - Doors Open

10:30 am - Free Bingo with prizes

11:30 pm - Presentation by
Dedicated Nursing Associates

12:00 pm - Free Lunch

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



COLLABORATIVE LEADERSHIP

Dear United In Christ,

As we look to the end of the summer and begin our plans for the upcoming program year, Council and I want to take this opportunity to formally bring you up to speed on the next steps being taken in discernment regarding the model of collaborative leadership we have been piloting with our neighbors at Christ's Evangelical Lutheran Church (CELC) in Lewisburg.

A few weeks ago, the congregational councils from both UIC and CELC met with Bishop Miller to for conversation amid this period of intentional discernment. After that meeting together, both councils (with the Bishop's blessing) decided that they would like to continue this discernment process beyond the original trial period that would otherwise end this month. Accordingly, this past week both councils signed off on a renewed purchase of service arrangement to extend through the end of the year. Similar to the current arrangement, this purchase of service involves CELC paying UIC for pastoral services during the next few months. In addition, this renewed contract allows both communities to continue taking the next steps in exploring this model of collaborative leadership with one another.

So, what does this mean? Following the completion of her internship at the end of this month, Vicar Katy will be taking some time off here in August, but will then return to Lewisburg where she

will provide continued support to both congregations while finishing up the rest of her coursework online in her final semester ahead! Recognizing her full course load this Fall, Vicar Katy's primary responsibilities will be in providing worship leadership through the end of the year. The biggest difference will be that she will also lead worship at CELC once a month in order for her to get to know that congregation more fully – and for them to get to know her!

Meanwhile, throughout the Fall, you can continue to expect at least one of us each Sunday morning in worship. During this time, both councils will also continue to do the work of discernment surrounding this arrangement. With the help of the Bishop's discernment team, they will be exploring how this collaborative model of leadership may be a boon to both communities of faith.

If you have any additional questions about this process, please don't hesitate to reach out to me or any of our Council members! We are more than happy to discuss! Your reflections are important to the continued work of discernment that we will be engaged in over the next few months! As always, your prayers of support are very much appreciated as we discern where God may be leading us in this process! Thank you, UIC!

Yours, united in Christ,
~ Pr. Justin

YOUTH AND FAMILY



Congratulations to our confirmation students Dylan Cromwell, Olivia Hauck, Gabbie Heckman, and Emma Danowsky.



Youth Group at Bloomsburg's CAN U XCAPE escape room.

COMMUNION DAY

Has your student grown increasingly curious about what we do around the Lord's Table? Do they want to know more about being included in sharing this sacrament with God's people? On **Thursday, August 10th**, UIC will be hosting a Communion Day for students of all ages looking to learn more as they prepare for their own First Communion and for students who would like a bit of a refresher. We will meet at the church at 10:00am and will spend the day getting a full snapshot of why and how we do what we do around the Eucharist. At the end of the day, we will gather in the spirit of service that Jesus exemplified with his friends to host a spaghetti supper for students' families and show them some of what we've learned. If you have a student who is interested in joining us for this day, please let Pastor Justin know!



Interested in First Communion?
Looking to learn a little more about
what we do during The Eucharist?

JOIN US FOR

COMMUNION DAY!

Thursday, August 10th
10:00am-6:30pm

TALK TO PR. JUSTIN TO LEARN MORE!

2023 DAY CAMP

Another successful year of Camp Mouth Luther Day Camp with UIC and MLC! To those that helped plan and coordinate, made lunches and snacks, helped buy craft supplies, or volunteered at camp, THANK YOU!! Camp wouldn't have been a success without each of you! [\(see more photos on church website\)](#)





Baby Steps DIAPER PANTRY

UPCOMING DIAPER PANTRY

August 12, 2023 at 10-11:30am

1 bag (40 diapers) per child.

Newborn to size 6

Baby Steps Diaper Pantry is held on the second Saturday each month from 10-11:30 a.m. in United In Christ's fellowship hall. The pantry is open to caregivers of babies from the communities around Milton, Lewisburg, Mifflinburg, and Watsontown.

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

ATTENTION
WORSHIP
VOLUNTEERS

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

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

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

	August 6	August 13	August 20	August 27
Social Hour	E - K	L - R	S - Z	A - D
Bread/Wine		R. Baker	S. Bingaman	D. Byerly
Altar Guild		C. Troxell	C. Zimmerman	D. Byerly
Digital Host	S. Bingaman	T. Cromwell	K. Guffey	M. Shearer
Front Door Greeter	D. Byerly J. Byerly	Ken Baker R. Baker	S. Brown K. Baker	K. Guffey M.L. Keifer
Side Door Greeter	R. Kling	D. Gottlieb	T. Cromwell	T. McPherrin
Lector	B. Swartz	S. Bingaman	M. Shearer	R. Baker
Ushers	L. Rabuck A. Stark B. Swartz T. Swartz	B. Troxell C. Troxell C. Zimmerman K. Arndt	D. Baker K. Baker Ken Baker S. Brown	K. Criswell T. Cromwell K. Guffey R. Kling
Communion Asst.		C. Troxell S. Weiser	C. Zimmerman R. Sprenkle	E. Hausmann D. Baker
Guest Relations	M. Mertz	K. Noll	B. Troxell	G. Weiser
Offering Counter	C. Shreck M.L. Keifer	M. Shearer C. Zimmerman	Ken Baker L. Rabuck	K. Guffey P. Hauck

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.

UNITED IN CHRIST'S PRAYER LIST

Earl Butch Tyson, Judy Rishel, Russ Wynn, Rosemary Fernsler, Ryan Hunter, Annette Baker, Mark Rabuck, Shirley Russell, Bob Keifer, Martha Ketchem, Peg Swinehart, Marie Tanner, Viv Marsh.



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 request to UIC's prayer chain and keep them on the prayer list for 4 weeks, unless told otherwise.

Happy Birthday

Amy Danowsky 8/2

Peg Swinehart 8/3

Jen Sheaffer 8/4

Ava Hauck-Dabney 8/12

Herb Marsh 8/12

Dave Baker 8/13

Steve Shearer 8/13

Bob Troxell 8/19

Marie Tanner 8/19

Terry Snyder 8/21

Sonja Noll 8/23

Justin Cooley 8/24



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

UNITED IN CHRIST
LUTHERAN CHURCH
INVITES YOU TO

Theology on Tap

JOIN US AT
RUSTY RAIL
6:00 PM ON AUGUST 2,
AUGUST 16,
+ AUGUST 30



Do you have some burning questions about the Bible, faith, or God?

Join us for Theology on Tap! This August we will be meeting at Rusty Rail on Wednesdays August 2nd, 16th, and 30th. Bring your questions to put in the stein, grab your drink of choice, and be ready to dive into them together as a group—we might not settle on an answer, but we can at least try! We will meet at 6:00 pm to grab food, drinks, and socialize a bit before starting discussion once we are settled. Email Pastor Justin or Vicar Katy if you plan to attend or have any questions about the specifics.

Rusty Rail Brewing

5 North 8th Street, Mifflinburg

UNITED IN CHRIST
LUTHERAN CHURCH
INVITES YOU TO

Theology on Tap



This summer Theology on Tap will be going on some road trips! In addition to our regular Wednesday nights, there will be a few Fridays where we will be exploring some different venues. We will continue our regular format so come with questions and don't forget to bring the essentials as we hit the road!

Email Pastor Justin or Vicar Katy if you plan to attend or have any questions about the specifics. Meet us there or meet in the church parking lot at 5pm to carpool.

Friday, August 11
Three Beards Brewing

109 Carroll Rd, Sunbury

UNITED IN CHRIST WALKING GROUP

MILTON STATE PARK

Mondays and
Thursdays at 6pm
Meet near restrooms



*Looking to get your daily step goal
with some good company?*

Join some UIC folks at Milton State Park by the public restrooms for our new walking group! They plan to meet every Monday and Thursday evening. Be on the lookout for Sherry Bingaman, Kathy Guffey, or Donna Grant Byerly if you join! If they cancel for any reason they will post in the church's [Facebook Group](#).

STEWARDSHIP of Your Whole Life

Before you read further, stop and list the top five things you value most in life? Then rank them by importance. Go!

All done?

If you're like most people, your top-five list includes family, health, time, God, friends, job, home or community. Does money even show up? For many of us, it doesn't, and yet most of church talk about "stewardship" involves how we use our gifts of money.

Yes, we are "stewards," or caretakers of the material wealth with which God has blessed us, but we are also responsible for nourishing and cherishing all the OTHER blessings that God has put into our lives. That goes especially for the things we value most.

Now refer back to your top-five list. For each, consider these questions:

- Why is this item in the top five?
- How well am I caring for this?
- Am I treating it as one of the most valuable items in my life?
Why or why not?
- How could I care even more for this item?
- How would God want me to care for this, and why?

How would my life change if I really cherished and nourished this gift?

Being a good steward of all the blessings and opportunities God gives to us opens our lives to the full joy and potential that God intends for us. How can you be a better steward of what God has given you?

Rob Blezard

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Social Ministry



UIC at Lewisburg's Pride Fest on Saturday, June 17th.

Check out our new banner.

LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR, NO EXCEPTIONS!





Back to School Drive

Help us support Milton students in need!

Backpacks and supplies will be blessed during
worship on Sunday, August 13.

Place items in Back to School Drive box in Fellowship Hall.

- Backpacks
- Notebooks
- Crayons
- Pencils
- Markers
- Binders
- Rulers
- Pencil Boxes



Next Social Ministry Meeting

We will meet on Sunday, August 6 at
11:30 am in the Sunday School Room.

Everyone is invited!

A graphic for a community meal. The background is a dark wood surface. In the top right, there's a red and white checkered napkin with two wooden spoons and a white plate with some green herbs and a tomato slice. The text 'Community Harvest Meal' is written in a white, cursive font, surrounded by small white petals. A yellow rounded rectangle contains the date and volunteer information. At the bottom center, there is a small green tree icon with a white cross on its trunk.

Community Harvest Meal

MONDAY AUG. 14

Volunteers are needed to help prepare and serve the community meal.

See signup sheet in fellowship hall or call office.

This is a weekly community meal run by Bucknell's Office of Civil Engagement at St. Andrew's Church at 102 Lower Market Street in Milton. UIC is partnering with CELC. Each church needs a minimum of 4 helpers. Contact Terri in the office if you would like to signup!

We will also be helping on September 11. If you can't help in August maybe you can in September. That signup sheet will go up on Sunday, August 20.

SENIOR EXPRESS FOOD BOXES

*Food boxes will be delivered on **Friday, August 4.**
Volunteers, please make plans to deliver your boxes.*



MONTHLY FOOD COLLECTION



Social Ministry collects
non-perishable
food items each week.

Your donations get delivered
to the *Our Little Free Pantry*
in West Milton, by the gas station
across from the on ramp to 15.

93 food items were delivered in July!

Place these items in the basket located in the
Welcome Area of the Narthex.

CAPITAL PROJECTS

Double your impact and help us build up the future of United In Christ!

All contributions designated for UIC's "Capital Projects" will be matched dollar for dollar up to \$35,000!

[DONATE NOW](#)



As we begin this new year and you begin your process of budgeting for 2023, please consider how you might be able to contribute to United In Christ's Capital Expense Fund as we prepare for the upcoming roof, window, and steeple projects on the horizon. As a reminder, your contributions to these projects will have double the impact thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor who is matching all funds designated for UIC's "Capital Expense Fund" dollar-for-dollar up to \$35,000 for the duration of the project campaign! Thank you for your continued financial partnership!

*We are over 2/3 of our way
to our goal of \$70,000!*

\$25,336.96 Donations

\$25,336.96 Matching Funds

\$50,673.92 Total Capital Campaign

THANK YOU

Thank you to Amy and Jodie Danowsky, Sherry Bingaman, and Cheryl Robuck for volunteering in the office while I was on vacation. I appreciate you!!!!

~ Terri Cromwell, Parish Administrator

I am writing this thank you card to express my gratitude for receiving the Rich Huff Fund Scholarship. I thank you for this, as it will help me to continue my education at a higher level. This scholarship will allow me to help others in the future. I thank you once again for your generosity and thoughtfulness toward not only me but also the Mifflinburg School District. This scholarship is much appreciated.

Sincerely,
Katrina Bennage

Thank you so much for reviewing my application for the Rich Huff Scholarship. It is truly an honor to be selected for the scholarship. All the best,
Nick Mahoney





The church
office will be
closed on
Wednesday,
August 16.



ALTAR FLOWERS

The Church is in need of sponsorships for 2023 Altar Flowers.

Cost is \$35.

Flower Chart is in the Fellowship Hall.

Flowers can be donated in memory of or in honor of family or friends. Please write on the chart what you would like printed in the bulletin. You may take your flowers home after worship.



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

Sermons and Bulletins: Print the Sunday bulletin so you can follow along. You can also view past sermons. Bulletins appear on website the morning of that day's worship.

www.unitedinchristlutheran.net/worship

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

Online Giving: www.unitedinchristlutheran.net/giving/

Newsletter Archive: Read current and past newsletters.

www.unitedinchristlutheran.net/newsletter

Facebook Page: [www.facebook.com/](http://www.facebook.com/unitedinchristlutheran)

[unitedinchristlutheran](http://www.facebook.com/unitedinchristlutheran)

Facebook Group: www.facebook.com/groups/UICLC/



UNITED IN CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
1875 CHURCHES ROAD
LEWISBURG PA 17837

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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Email: office@unitedinchristlutheran.net
Website: www.unitedinchristlutheran.net
Office Hours: Mon-Thur, 8am-2:00pm