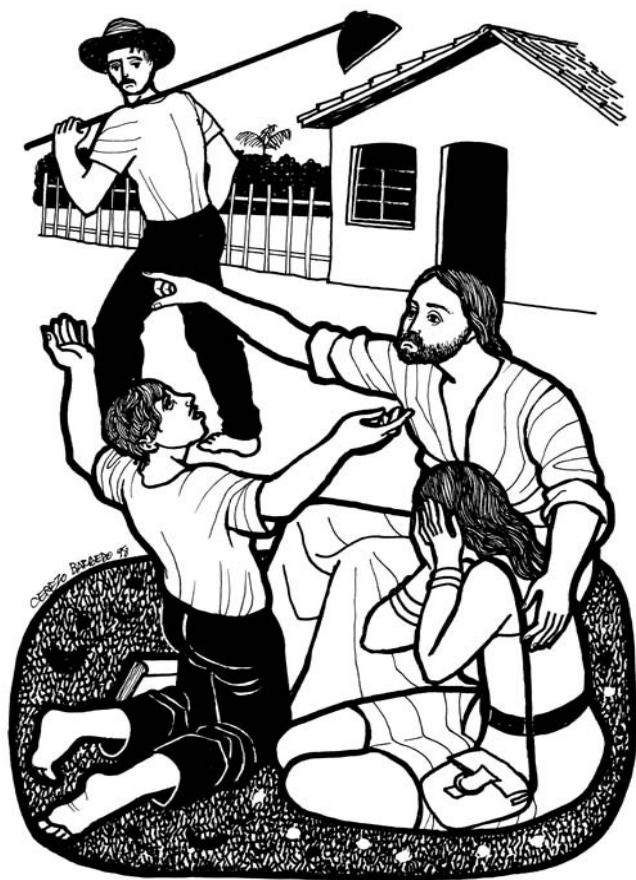


# United In Christ Lutheran Church



*Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost*

October 1, 2023

*Vicar Katy Moran*

# **Welcome to our church!**

*We hope the service is meaningful, and uplifting,  
and that you will experience God's presence here.  
May God bless you during worship today.*

***Special thanks to The Rev. Dale Biesecker, retired pastor  
from Christ's Evangelical Lutheran Church, for presiding  
over communion today.***

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## **LARGE PRINT BULLETINS**

*Please see a greeter.*

## **ELEVATOR**

*Please see a greeter.*

## **REST ROOMS**

*Downstairs across from the church office.*

## **DIAPER CHANGING TABLE**

*In fellowship hall family restroom.*

*Visit us at [www.unitedinchristlutheran.net](http://www.unitedinchristlutheran.net)*

## **UNITED IN CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH STAFF**

**The Rev. Justin G. Lingenfelter: Pastor**

**Vicar Katy Moran: Senior Seminarian**

**Terri Cromwell: Parish Administrator and OAKS Senior Center Director**

Office: 570-568-2254

Email: [office@unitedinchristlutheran.net](mailto:office@unitedinchristlutheran.net)

**Marilyn Gresh: Music Director**

## ***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.*

# WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## PRELUDE

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be God, the one who forms us, + Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

**Amen.**

Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Steadfast and faithful God,

**You have revealed the ways of justice,  
yet we fail to follow you.**

**We are overwhelmed  
by the world's violence and suffering.**

**We are afraid to risk what we have  
for the sake of others.**

**For the harm we have caused,  
known and unknown, forgive us.**

**For the unjust demands we place on others  
and your creation, forgive us.**

**For the ways we turn away  
from you and our neighbor, forgive us.**

**Lead us back to you and set us on the right path;  
in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior.**

**Amen.**

Beloved in Christ,

God's justice stretches beyond all understanding.

God's compassion is beyond compare.

In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.

In + Christ, you are already and always forgiven.

**Amen.**

*Come Ye Thankful People Come*

1 Come, ye thank-ful peo-ple, come; raise the song of har-vest home.  
 2 All the world is God's own field, fruit un-to his praise to yield;  
 3 For the Lord our God shall come and shall take his har-vest home;  
 4 E-ven so, Lord, quick-ly come to thy fi-nal har-vest home.

All be safe-ly gath-ered in ere the win-ter storms be-gin.  
 wheat and tares to-geth-er sown, un-to joy or sor-row grown.  
 from his field shall in that day all of-fens-es purge a-way;  
 Gath-er then thy peo-ple in, free from sor-row, free from sin,

God, our mak-er, doth pro-vide for our wants to be sup-plied.  
 First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall ap-pear.  
 give his an-gels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,  
 there, for-ev-er pu-ri-fied, in thy gar-ner to a-bide.

Come to God's own tem-ple, come, raise the song of har-vest home.  
 Lord of har-vest, grant that we whole-some grain and pure may be.  
 but the fruit-ful ears to store in his gar-ner ev-er-more.  
 Come, with all thine an-gels, come, raise the glo-rious har-vest home!

## APOSTOLIC GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## HYMN OF PRAISE



1. A - bove the hills the an - gel hosts  
2. In heav'n, on earth reigns God Most High,  
3. Sing jus - tice, mer - cy, joy and peace,  
4. We wor - ship you, our thanks we bring,  
5. To Je - sus Christ, God's Son, our Lord,



*Sing glo - ry! Glo - ry! Glo - ry!* God's Love is come to  
Yet ten - der - ly God  
God's own good will grants  
We bow be - fore you  
The Lamb of God, E -



seek the lost. *Give Glo - ry to God in the High - est!* \_\_\_\_\_  
hears our cry.  
sin's re - lease.  
as we sing,  
ter - nal Word,

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## FIRST READING

## PHILIPPIANS 2:1-13

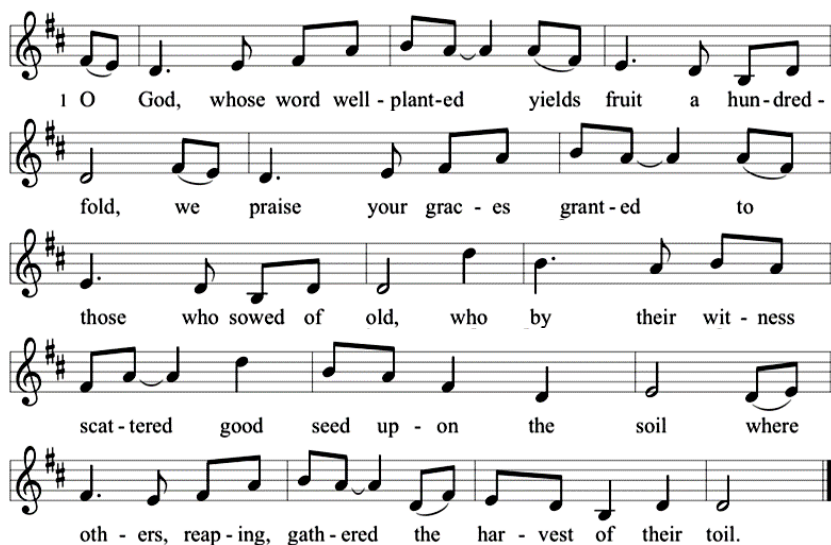
<sup>1</sup>If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, <sup>2</sup>make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. <sup>3</sup>Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. <sup>4</sup>Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. <sup>5</sup>Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, <sup>7</sup>but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, <sup>8</sup>he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. <sup>9</sup>Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, <sup>10</sup>so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup>and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

<sup>12</sup>Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; <sup>13</sup>for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



1 O God, whose word well - plant - ed yields fruit a hun - dred -  
fold, we praise your grac - es grant - ed to  
those who sowed of old, who by their wit - ness  
scat - tered good seed up - on the soil where  
oth - ers, reap - ing, gath - ered the har - vest of their toil.

## GOSPEL READING

## MATTHEW 21:23-32

This is the Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 21<sup>st</sup> chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>23</sup>When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” <sup>24</sup>Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. <sup>25</sup>Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ <sup>26</sup>But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.” <sup>27</sup>So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

<sup>28</sup>“What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ <sup>29</sup>He answered, ‘I will not’; but later he changed his mind and

went. <sup>30</sup>The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, 'I go, sir'; but he did not go. <sup>31</sup>Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. <sup>32</sup>For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

## SERMON

## HYMN OF THE DAY

**ELW 516**

### *Almighty God, Your Word is Cast*



- 1 Al - might - y God, your word is cast like seed in - to the ground;
- 2 Let not the sly sa - tan - ic foe this ho - ly seed re - move,
- 3 Let not the world's de - ceit - ful cares the ris - ing plant de - stroy,
- 4 So when the pre - cious seed is sown, life - giv - ing grace be - stow,



now let the dew of heav'n de - scend and righ - teous fruits a - bound.  
 but give it root in ev - 'ry heart to bring forth fruits of love.  
 but let it yield a hun - dred - fold the fruits of peace and joy.  
 that all whose souls the truth re - ceive its sav - ing pow'r may know.



## APOSTLE'S CREED

Let us confess our faith using the Apostle's Creed:

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.\***

**On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Remembering the caring and generous works of God, we pray for the church, creation, and the needs of our neighbors.

*Prayers continue with each petition ending:*

Merciful God,  
**Receive our prayer.**

Remember us according to your steadfast love as we offer these and the prayers of our heart, trusting in your compassion made known through Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

# SHARING OF THE PEACE

May the peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*The minister and congregation greet one another in the name of the Lord. Please share the peace at whatever level of physical contact with which you are comfortable.*

***Please fill out an Attendance Card,  
and place the card in an offering plate.***

## OFFERING

*You are invited to place your offering in one of the plates as they are passed or to make use of our online offering plate through [tithe.ly](http://tithe.ly) by scanning the QR code to the right. You may also place your offering at [www.unitedinchristlutheran.net/giving](http://www.unitedinchristlutheran.net/giving) by clicking on the green "Give Now" button.*



## OFFERTORY HYMN



1 Ac - cept, O Lord, the gifts we bring to  
2 The vines were plant - ed, seeds were sown. They  
3 Our hopes and dreams, our toils and cares we



place up - on your ta - ble. We do not wor - ship  
grew in your good plea - sure. What once was com - mon,  
lift in prayer be - fore you. Lord, by your grace now



as we ought but on - ly as we're a - ble.  
dai - ly food be - comes a ho - ly trea - sure.  
come to us, as hum - bly we a - dore you.

## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of power, God of plenty, all things belong to you. We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed. Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior

**Amen.**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



1 Long, long a - go in Je - ru - sa - lem, as the  
 2 High on a throne sat the might - y Lord, robes  
 3 Oh, what a sight it was to see and

scrip - tures do re - cord, I - sa - iah to the  
 flow - ing through the hall, while six - wing - ed an - gels  
 oh, what a sound to hear! The tem - ple door - posts

tem - ple came to see the ho - ly Lord.  
 flew a - bove. I - sa - iah heard them call.  
 shook and quaked. and smoke was in the air.

*Refrain*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, God's  
 glo - ry fills all heav'n and earth, God of pow - er and might.

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us saying:

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.**

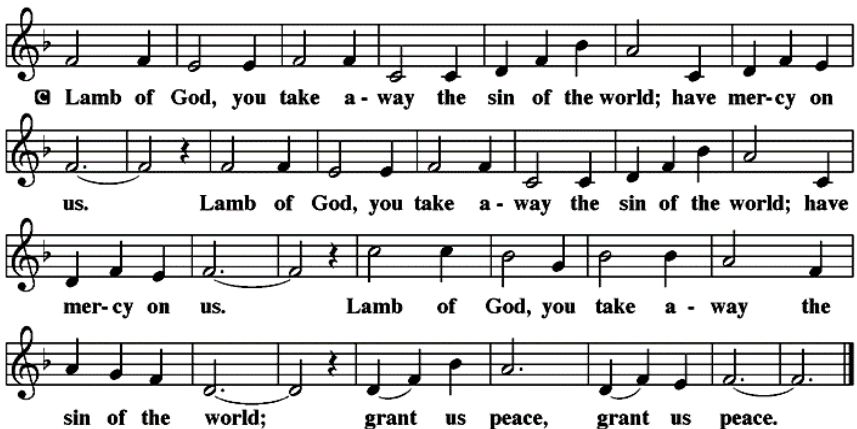
**Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Jesus invites you to this table. Come, eat, and live.

**Thanks be to God.**



☩ Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on  
us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

## COMMUNION

*Admission to the Sacrament is by invitation of the Lord, and all people are invited to his table. Those who do not wish to receive communion are invited to receive a blessing.*

The body of Christ, given for you.

*The communicant may say: **Amen***

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

*The communicant may say: **Amen***

*Music will accompany the distribution of communion.*

## TABLE BLESSING

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**Amen.**

## POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE



1 O Lord of the blos-som, O God of the seed, O gra-cious pro -  
2 O Lord of the har-vest, O God of the feast, where sor-rows are



vi - der for all hu-man need, you have nour-ished our faith at your  
van-quished and joys are in - creased, where the tree of life grows in your



ta - ble of grace, and nur - tured new life in the light of your  
or-chards a - bove, we'll join in the cho-rus in praise of your



face. O Lord of the grain - field, O God of the  
love. Sing praise to the Fa - ther, sing praise to the



vine, you've fed us your pres - ence in bread and in  
Son, sing praise to the Spir - it. Praise God, Three in

wine. In com - mun - ion you've blest to us ar - bor and  
One! You have made us one peo - ple you've fed by the  
plow, and shown us the gos - pel, your word for us now.  
hand, O Lord of the heav - ens, O God of the land.

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied.

In Jesus' name we pray.

**Amen.**

## BENEDICTION

The God of glory, + Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**



*Praise and Thanksgiving*

1 Praise and thanks-giv - ing, God, we would of - fer for all things  
 2 God, bless the la - bor we bring to serve you, that with our  
 3 Fa - ther, pro - vid - ing food for your chil - dren, by Wis - dom's  
 4 Then will your bless - ing reach ev - 'ry peo - ple, free - ly con -



liv - ing, you have made good: har - vest of sown fields, fruits of the  
 neigh - bor we may be fed. Sow - ing or till - ing, we would work  
 guid - ing teach us to share one with an - oth - er, so that, re -  
 fess - ing your gra - cious hand. Where you are reign - ing, no one will



or - chard, hay from the mown fields, blos - som and wood.  
 with you, har - vest - ing, mill - ing for dai - ly bread.  
 joic - ing with us, all oth - ers may know your care.  
 hun - ger; your love sus - tain - ing show - ers the land.

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. God is at work in you.

**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

*After worship please join us in the  
 fellowship hall for social hour.*



# What's Happening at UIC

- Sun, Oct. 1      **HARVEST HOME SUNDAY**  
Worship, 10:00am  
Social Hour, 11:00am  
Faith and Fun, 11:00am  
Outreach Team Meeting, 11:00am  
Youth Group/Murder Mystery, 12:30pm
- Mon, Oct. 2      Walking Group, 6:00pm  
Boy Scouts, 7:00pm
- Tue, Oct. 3      Faith and Civic Life Study, 6:30pm  
Boy Scouts, 7:00pm
- Wed, Oct. 4      Finance Team Meeting, 6:30pm
- Thu, Oct. 5      Women's Bible Study: CELC, 9:30am  
Women's Bible Study: CELC, 6:00pm  
Walking Group, 6:00pm
- Fri, Oct. 6      Office Closed  
Senior Express Food Box Delivery
- Sun, Oct. 8      Worship, 10:00am  
Social Hour, 11:15am  
Faith and Fun, 11:15am  
Fellowship Team Meeting, 11:15am  
Corn Maze at Ard's, 12:30pm

# UNITED IN CHRIST'S PRAYER LIST

**Please pray for:** Joel, Dottie McNett, Jaxon Baker, Joann Vanata, family and friends of Max Engle, Family and friends of Joslyn Flickinger, Peg Swinehart, Patrick Moseley, Russ Weiser, Eric and Audrey Ekstrom, Denise Clark, Betsy Thomas, June Campbell, Ken Kearney, Earl Butch Tyson, Russ Wynn, Rosemary Fernsler, Ryan Hunter, Mark Rabuck, Shirley Russell, Bob Keifer, Martha Ketchem, 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](mailto:office@unitedinchristlutheran.net)



# Happy Birthday

*Linda Caris 10/1*



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

# YOUTH GROUP



Youth Group is open to all students in grades 7-12 and typically runs for about two hours! Youth Group meets on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month.

If you are or have a youth member interested in being part of Youth Group, please reach out to Pastor Justin or Vicar Katy and they'll get you connected!

A red-themed event poster. At the top left is the Milton Lutheran Church logo (a cross above a green flower) with the text 'MILTON Lutheran Church'. At the top right is the 'United In Christ Lutheran Church' logo (a green tree) with the text 'United In Christ Lutheran Church'. The main title 'MURDER AT THE TEEN IDOL AWARDS' is centered in large, stylized, glowing letters. 'MURDER' is in red block letters, 'AT THE' is in smaller red letters, and 'TEEN IDOL AWARDS' is in large, outlined, glowing letters. Below the title is a red carpet leading to a stage, flanked by stanchions with red ropes. At the bottom, a red banner contains the text 'Sunday, October 1st 12:30-3:30pm' in white.

# SENIOR EXPRESS FOOD BOXES

*Food boxes will be delivered on  
Friday, October 6.*

*Volunteers, please make plans to deliver your boxes.*

An advertisement for Ard's Farm Corn Maze. The background is a field of corn with a green maze graphic overlaid. The text reads: "JOIN US AT: ARD'S FARM CORN MAZE! Sunday, October 8th Meet @ 12:30pm". Below the text is a logo of a tree with a cross in its trunk. The price is listed as "\$14/ person (payable through UIC)" and the sign-up deadline is "Thursday, 10/4".

JOIN US AT:

## ARD'S FARM CORN MAZE!

Sunday, October 8th  
Meet @ 12:30pm

\$14/ person  
(payable through UIC)

Signup by  
Thursday, 10/4

# Annual Pet Blessing

**ALL PETS WELCOME!**

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15TH  
1:00P.M.

JOIN US ON THE 3RD  
STREET SIDE OF THE  
BUILDING!

CHRIST'S EVANGELICAL  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
100 S. 3RD STREET  
LEWISBURG, PA 17837

DONATIONS OF PET FOOD  
AND SUPPLIES ARE BEING  
COLLECTED FOR THE  
DANVILLE SPCA!



**FREE!**

# TRUNK *or* TREAT

Saturday, October 21st  
3pm - 5pm  
1125 Mahoning Street  
Milton, PA 17847



# OAKS

## SENIOR CENTER

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# Tuesday, October 10

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**10:00 am - Doors Open**

**10:30 am - Free Bingo with prizes**

**11:30 pm - Speaker from the  
Alzheimer's Association**



**5.8** Americans are living with Alzheimer's  
**MILLION**

BY 2050, this number is projected to rise to nearly **14**  
**MILLION**



**1 IN 3**

seniors dies with Alzheimer's or another dementia

It kills more than breast cancer and prostate cancer

**COMBINED**

ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE IS THE

**6<sup>TH</sup>**

leading cause of death in the United States

# WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

	Oct. 1	Oct. 8	Oct. 15
Social Hour	E - K	L - R	S - Z
Bread/Wine	C. Zimmerman	S. Noll	K. Sprenkle
Altar Guild	D. Byerly	T. Cromwell	K. Guffey
Digital Host	S. Bingaman	T. Cromwell	K. Guffey
Front Door Greeter	K. Baker	K. Guffey	M. Ketchem
	S. Brown	R. Kling	R. Whitesel
Side Door Greeter	T. Cromwell	D. Byerly	C. Zimmerman
Lector	B. Swartz	E. Hausmann	C. Zimmerman
Ushers	K. Arndt	S. Brown	T. Cromwell
	D. Baker	K. Criswell	R. Kling
	K. Baker	K. Guffey	S. McPherrin
	C. Zimmerman	Ken Baker	T. McPherrin
Communion Asst.	R. Kling	D. Baker	T. Cromwell
	T. McPherrin	S. Bingaman	M. Shearer
Guest Relations	M. Rabuck	B. Troxell	M. Mertz
Offering Counter	P. Hauck	C. Zimmerman	M. Shearer
	L. Rabuck	Ken Baker	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.



## **Lutheran Church**

**1875 Churches Rd. Lewisburg, PA 17837  
570-568-2254**

**WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION**  
Sundays at 10am

**THE REV. JUSTIN G. LINGENFELTER**

### **CHURCH OFFICE**

Open Mon. - Thur. 8:00am - 2:00pm  
Email: [office@unitedinchristlutheran.net](mailto:office@unitedinchristlutheran.net)

### **VISIT US AT**

Website: [www.unitedinchristlutheran.net](http://www.unitedinchristlutheran.net)  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/groups/UICLC](http://www.facebook.com/groups/UICLC)