

March 2024 NEWSLETTER



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

Marilyn Gresh: Music Director

WORSHIP: SUNDAYS AT 10:00 A.M.

www.unitedinchristlutheran.net/worship/

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

SS	Michelle ShearerPresident	1 st term, ends 12/2024
BERS	Kathy GuffeyVice President	2 nd term, ends 12/2024
ΕN	Lisa RabuckSecretary	2 nd term, ends 12/2024
Σ	Kathy ArndtTreasurer	1 st term, ends 12/2024
	Justin Cooley	1 st term, ends 12/2025
JNCII	Ken Criswell	1 st term, ends 12/2026
	Kim Criswell	2 nd term, ends 12/2025
ບ ບ	Kristie Koch	1 st term, ends 12/2026
	Randy Sprenkle	1 st term, ends 12/2026

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, MAR. 1	SENIOR EXPRESS FOOD BOX DELIVERY
SUN, MAR. 3	OUTREACH COMMITTEE MEETING YOUTH BOWLING NIGHT
MON, MAR. 4	PACKING FOOD BOXES AT FOOD BANK
TUE, MAR. 5	WORSHIP AND MUSIC COMMITTEE MEETING
WED, MAR. 6	PACKING FOOD AT PANTHER PACKS
SAT, MAR. 9	BABY STEPS DIAPER PANTRY
SUN, MAR. 10	FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING
TUE, MAR. 12	OAKS SENIOR CENTER
THU, MAR. 14	KIDS NIGHT AT UIC
SAT, MAR. 16	BOY SCOUT SPAGHETTI DINNER
SUN, MAR. 17	YOUTH GROUP
MON, MAR. 18	NEWSLETTER DEADLINE COUNCIL MEETING
SAT, MAR. 23	EMPTY BOWL FUNDRAISER @ MLC
SUN, MAR. 24	PALM SUNDAY
MON, MAR. 25	GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP
THU, MAR. 28	MAUNDY THURSDAY EVENING WORSHIP
FRI, MAR. 29	GOOD FRIDAY STUFFING PLASTIC EASTER EGGS EVENING WORSHIP
SAT, MAR. 30	COMMUNITY EGG HUNT
SUN, MAR. 31	EASTER SUNDAY SUNRISE WORSHIP POTLUCK STYLE BREAKFAST



When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

Mark 16:1-8

Dear United In Christ,

Did you know that the oldest manuscripts we have of Mark's Gospel end right there? That's it. Verse eight is all that those manuscripts have to offer as parting words. After sixteen chapters of material that move at a nearly breakneck pace in rapid development (Mark's favorite Greek word of urgency is "immediately," after all), the entire story full of healings and exorcisms and miraculous feedings – the entire good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God – it simply ends *here*. In the wake of an empty tomb, the tone wraps up with terror and amazement – it ends with sealed mouths revealing nothing more out of the fear that has stopped them up.

And, see, *that* is the genius of Mark's story telling. If, indeed, these oldest manuscripts represent the closest form to original we have of Mark's writing, then step aside Kubrick and Spielberg, because this is some masterful storytelling at work here. Because what Mark does in the wake of the empty tomb is he makes the reader – he makes you and I – the ones who have to carry the story on! What his Gospel makes clear is that the witness to this Christ no longer relies upon the players and the actors Mark introduced us to. The responsibility of the good news no longer rests with only the disciples who first followed Jesus. Their part of the story is over and they are saying nothing to anyone! Instead, you and I are implicated in carrying this good news away from the tomb! Mark passes us the baton and tells us to finish the race – to tell the rest of this story!

As we move towards our Easter celebration at the end of this month, maybe *this* is the Easter reminder we actually need! Maybe this Easter is *our* chance to keep telling the story. Even through terror and amazement, we now become messengers of this good news: the tomb is open! Alleluia! Christ is risen! Now is our chance to be a part of this same story yet unfolding for the world! Here and now, in *this* Easter, we have the opportunity to tell others about our encounters with this risen Christ.

So what's the rest of the story, UIC? Where have you seen signs of God's risen life breaking into your world? Where has the Spirit moved you to encounter newfound neighbors with the hope and joy of the empty tomb? Where has Jesus shown himself to be alive and well in your lives and the lives of those around you? This is your chance to pick up the pen and keep the story going because Alleluia! Christ *is* risen!

He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

Yours, united in Christ,

N Pastor Justin

LENTEN OPPORTUNITIES

Parables of Jesus Study Series

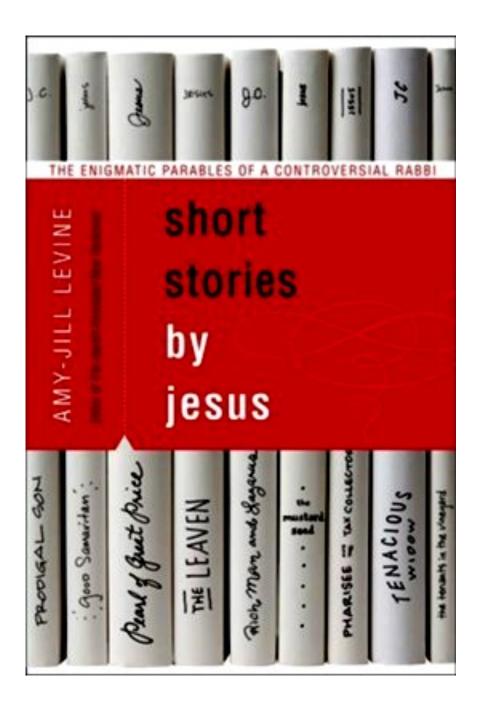
Join us at United In Christ for our upcoming Bible Study on Tuesday evenings beginning on February 20th at 6:30pm through the season of Lent! This year we will be journeying through the parables of Jesus alongside Dr. Amy Jill-Levine, the Rabbi Stanley M. Kessler Distinguished Professor of New Testament and Jewish Studies at Hartford International University for Religion and Peace using her series: Short Stories by Jesus: The Enigmatic Parables of a Controversial Rabbi. In the wake of an increase of anti-Semitism and islamophobia, the effects of which even felt here in the Susquehanna Valley, the interfaith voice that Dr. Jill-Levine brings to these stories from Jesus will be of tremendous value as we journey through the wilderness.

Each week will focus on a new parable with a short video and accompanying discussion guide. Copies of the participant guide are available through the church office for \$10/copy. Even without a copy of the guide, you are invited to join us at any point along the way for the study! Come and see!

From the publisher:

Jesus was a skilled storyteller and perceptive teacher who used parables from everyday life to effectively convey his message and meaning. Life in first-century Palestine was very different from our world today, and many traditional interpretations of Jesus' stories ignore this disparity and have often allowed anti-Semitism and misogyny to color their perspectives.

In Short Stories by Jesus, Amy-Jill Levine analyzes these "problems with parables" taking readers back in time to understand how their original Jewish audience understood them. With this revitalized understanding, she interprets these moving stories for the contemporary reader, showing how the parables are not just about Jesus, but are also about us—and when read rightly, still challenge and provoke us two thousand years later.



Soup & Scripture Luncheons

Coordinated by the Lewisburg Council of Churches, join us for Soup and Scripture, which meets at Christ's Evangelical Lutheran Church on Wednesdays at 12pm through the season of Lent (February 14th-March20th). Each week will welcome a different Lewisburg area pastor to the table to lead a time of devotion and study during this light meal. The theme for this year is the "I Am" Statements by Jesus in the Gospel of John.

Holden Evening Prayer and Lenten Supper

All are welcomed to join us at Christ's Evangelical Lutheran Church for Holden Evening Prayer worship services beginning Wednesday, February 21st and continuing every Wednesday evening at 7:30 pm through March 20th. All are welcomed to come early and join in a Lenten supper held prior to the prayer services at 6:30 pm in the Lower Church Hall!

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE



Worship Volunteers, please give the office any dates in April 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 avail-

able to serve that day. Any articles, events, photos and/or thank you notes you'd like to have printed in the April News-letter need to be in the office **by Monday, March 18th.**

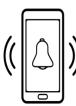
united in christ lutheran church Holy Week Worship

JOIN US AS WE JOURNEY THROUGH DEATH INTO LIFE

MAUNDY THURSDAY: 3/28 AT 7:00PM GOOD FRIDAY: 3/29 AT 7:00PM EASTER SUNRISE: 3/31 AT 6:30AM EASTER SUNDAY: 3/31 AT 10:00AM

EVERY SUNDAY AT 10AM · 1875 CHURCHES ROAD, LEWISBURG

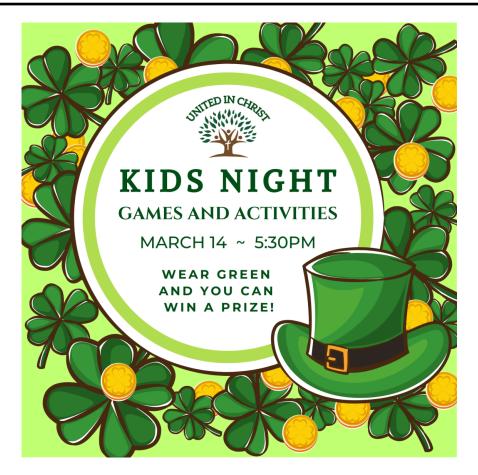
LET US KNOW



Please let us know when you are in the hospital or have an upcoming surgery. Call the church office at 570-568-2254 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.

Fellowship



NEXT MEETING SUNDAY, MARCH 10 WE NEED PEOPLE ON THE TEAM!! PLEASE COME OUT!!

Easter Breakfast

Sunday, March 31 8:30am

> Bring your family and join us Easter morning for a potluck breakfast.

SOCIAL HOUR

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





Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner with Karaoke Tuesday, February 13.



Thank you to everyone who helped us bless our five college students with cards and monetary donations. We were able to send each student a \$25 gift card, along with your cards and snacks.



Scout Sunday ~ Sunday, January 28 Visit the church's website to see more photos



SATURDAY, MARCH 16 4PM-6PM

United In Christ Lutheran Church 1875 Churches Road, Lewisburg

Boy Scout Troop 600 Annual Fundraiser

\$10.00 Takeout Only



Joined together, the communities of Milton Lutheran Church, Christ's Evangelical Lutheran Church, and United In Christ will meet for our monthly grief support group on **Monday, March** 25th at 6:30pm at Christ's Evangelical Lutheran Church.

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. No matter where you are on the journey you are welcomed here. Contact Pastor Justin if you have any questions or would like to be a part!



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.

Sunday, March 3 Sunday, March 17



WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

	March 3	March 10	March 17	March 24 Palm Sunday
Social Hour	E-K	L-R	S - Z	A - D
Bread/Wine	K. Sprenkle	S. Weiser	R. Baker	S. Bingaman
Altar Guild	ML Keifer	T. Cromwell	K. Guffey	S. Keifer
Digital Host	T. Cromwell	K. Guffey	M. Shearer	S. Bingaman
Front Door	R. Kling	M. Ketchem	D. Byerly	K. Guffey
Greeter	T. McPherrin	R. Whitesel	J. Byerly	ML Keifer
Side Door Greeter	G. Weiser	K. Baker	S. Brown	D. Gottlieb
Lector	T. McPherrin	M. Shearer	M. Haussmann	R. Sprenkle
	D. Baker	T. Cromwell	K. Guffey	M. Shearer
Ushers	K. Baker	R. Kling	J. Mertz	A. Stark
USHEIS	S. Brown	S. McPherrin	L. Rabuck	B. Swartz
	K. Criswell	T. McPherrin	M. Rabuck	T. Swartz
Communion	S. Bingaman	T. Cromwell	R. Kling	M. Shearer
Asst.	E. Haussmann	ML Keifer	R. Sprenkle	T. McPherrin
Guest Relations	S. McPherrin	M. Mertz	K. Noll	M. Rabuck
Offering	P. Hauck	K. Guffey	M. Rabuck	M. Shearer
Counter	L. Rabuck	ML Keifer	C. Shreck	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.

	March 28 Maundy Thursday	March 29 Good Friday	March 31 Easter Sunday
Social Hour			
Bread/Wine	D. Byerly		K. Criswell K. Guffey
Altar Guild	ML Keifer		T. Cromwell K. Guffey
Digital Host	T. Cromwell	K. Guffey	M. Shearer
Front Door	L. Rabuck	K. Baker	B. Swartz
Greeter			T. Swartz
Side Door Greeter	S. Brown	R. Kling	K. Noll
Lector	A. Stark		B. Swartz
	B. Troxell		S. Brown
Ushers	K. Arndt		K. Criswell
USHEIS	D. Baker		T. Cromwell
	K. Baker		K. Guffey
Communion	A. Stark		M. Haussmann S. Weiser
Asst.	B. Swartz		D. Baker S. Bingaman
Guest Relations			B. Troxell
Offering	C. Shreck		ML Keifer
Counter	K. Guffey		M. Rabuck

UNITED IN CHRIST'S PRAYER LIST



PRAYER REQUESTS: Megan Darzanoff, Ken Baker, Celia Warren, Annette Baker, Rosemary Fernsler, Ryan Hunter, Mark Rabuck, Shirley Russell, Bob Keifer, 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.



Jeff and Donna Byerly 3/18/15 Brandon and McKenzie Baker 3/25/20



Rob Troxell 3/1 Krista Wirth 3/2 Wade Cooley 3/9 Michael Ketchem 3/15 Blayzze Baker 3/16 Allyssa Stark 3/26 Chad Cromwell 3/29 Julie Rowe 3/31

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

Outreach



NEXT OUTREACH MEETING SUNDAY, MARCH 3 JOIN US!



Tuesday, March 12

- 10:00 am Doors Open
- 10:30 am Free Bingo with prizes
- 11:30 pm Game: Name That Tune!
- 12:00 pm Free Lunch



United In Christ Lutheran Church

1875 Churches Road, Lewisburg ~ www.unitedinchristlutheran.net



2/11/24 ~ Souper Bowl Sunday





(no chocolate please)

Please place your donations in the box in the narthex labeled "EASTER CANDY".

We will meet on Friday, March 29th at 9am in the Fellowship Hall to fill the plastic eggs. Please join us!

SENIOR EXPRESS FOOD BOXES

Food boxes will be delivered to UIC on Friday, March 1. Delivery teams, please make plans to deliver your food boxes.



MONTHLY FOOD COLLECTION



The Social Ministry collects nonperishable food items each month. Your donations get delivered to the Our Little Free Pantry in West Milton by the gas station across from the on ramp to 15.

During cold month, please do not donate items in glass containers since the pantry is open to the elements outside.

Place these items in the baskets located in the Narthex.

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.

There are lots of open slots to order flowers in memory of a loved one or in honor of a special event. The flowers are yours to take home after worship! Altar flowers cost \$35.

Flower Chart is located in the Fellowship Hall.



Don't forget to set your clocks one hour ahead before you go to bed on Saturday, March 9th!

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. <u>www.unitedinchristlutheran.net/worship</u>

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. <u>www.unitedinchristlutheran.net/calendar</u>

Online Giving: www.unitedinchristlutheran.net/giving/

Newsletter Archive: Read current and past newsletters. www.unitedinchristlutheran.net/newsletter

Facebook Page:

www.facebook.com/unitedinchristlutheran

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

2024 News: Check out additional photos from UIC events. <u>www.unitedinchristlutheran.net/2024news</u>

UIC COMMITTEES

FAITH & FUN: Sherry Bingaman, Michelle Shearer, Al Stark

FELLOWSHIP: Al Stark, Sherry Bingaman, Kathy Guffey

FINANCE: Kathy Arndt, Karen Baker, Donna Corazza, Jared Rutt

HOME COMMUNION: Pastor Justin, Vicar Katy, Kathy Guffey, Michelle Shearer

OAKS: Terri Cromwell, Kathy Arndt, Ruby Baker, Sherry Bingaman, Shirley and Ted McPherrin, Jane Mertz, Lisa Rabuck

OUTREACH: Kathy Arndt, Ruby Baker, Sherry Bingaman, Donna Byerly, Donna Corazza, Kathy Guffey, Michelle Shearer, Al Stark

PROPERTY: Ken Criswell, Elwood Brown

RICH HUFF: Shirley McPherrin, Kim Criswell, Kathy Guffey, Jane Mertz, Michelle Shearer, Sharon Weiser

SENIOR EXPRESS: Sherry Bingaman, Terri Cromwell, Kathy Guffey, Rosemary Kling, Rowe Family, Michelle Shearer

WORSHIP & MUSIC: Pastor Justin, Vicar Katy, Sherry Bingaman, Terri Cromwell, Marilyn Gresh, Sue Keifer, Rosemary Kling, Connie Shreck, Sharon Weiser



Looking for a place to plug in and help? Curious what UIC's committees do? Interested in joining a committee?

FAITH & FUN: Faith and Fun is committed to teaching our youngest youth (k-5) God's word by meeting after worship on Sunday's downstairs in our Youth Room.

FELLOWSHIP: The Fellowship Committee's role is to foster relationships within UIC by organizing events, like our upcoming Kids Night. These events are designed to build community among all of us, young and old. Fellowship also coordinates funeral luncheons that take place at UIC. Fellowship Committee meets on the 2nd Sunday every month in the meeting room across from the offices, directly after worship. **This committee could use some help!**

FINANCE: The Finance Committee's role is to oversee the finances and stewardship of UIC, by developing the annual budget, monitoring investments, develop and recommend financial policies to the Council.

HOME COMMUNION: The Home Communion Committee visits our homebound members, at least once a month, to give them communion.

OAKS: The OAKS Committee provides a monthly program for social interaction and community building for community senior citizens. OAKS coordinates presenters and education opportunities for participants. OAKS provides a nutritious lunch each month. OAKS Committee meets on the 2nd Tuesday every month from 10:00am - 1:00pm.

OUTREACH: Outreach provides service opportunities for us to serve those outside of our church, bridging the gap between community and church. Outreach meets on the first Sunday of the month in the meeting room across from the offices directly after worship.

PROPERTY: The Property Committee handles minor repairs to the church and property, and also oversees all other repairs that are done by outside vendors. This committee could use some help!!

RICH HUFF: The Rich Huff Committee runs the Baby Steps Diaper Pantry, gives out yearly scholarships to graduating area students, and helps children in need in our community.

SENIOR EXPRESS: Senior Express is a sub-committee under Outreach. The Committee delivers Central Pa Food Bank food boxes to area senior citizens in our area.

WORSHIP AND MUSIC: W&M Committee's role is to help facilitate and ensure faithful worship of God in proclamation of the Word and administration of the sacraments. W&M provides input to Pastor(s) and Music Director in shaping the course of Sunday morning worship/liturgy and tending to seasonal changes. W&M prepares the sanctuary with appropriate seasonal paraments, liturgical elements, and decoration for the church seasons and holidays.



WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

Volunteering is a great way to feel like part of this community while serving Jesus at the same time. If you would like to begin serving during worship, please fill out form and place in Terri Cromwell's mailbox.

Name:

I would like to volunteer for the following.

- Altar Guild: Altar Guild does not require a large time commitment but is vital. Responsibilities include setting up the elements of wine and bread before service & clean up after service. Altar Guild occasionally changes the altar and pulpit cloths as the church seasons change throughout the year. (training available) People needed!
- Bread/Wine: A loaf of unsliced bread is brought to the church at least 30 minutes before service begins and \$5 is given for the purchase of communion wine.
- **Communion Assistant:** Each service, three Communion Assistants assist the pastor in distributing communion wine and bread during communion. (*training available*)
- Digital Host: The Digital Host holds the camera which streams worship. Don't worry the viewers can't hear you! We have separate mics that record the sound from up front.
- Guest Relations: Guest Relations remains in the fellowship hall during worship incase a visitor needs assistance.
- **Greeter:** Greeters are essential for providing a welcoming environment, handing out bulletins, and answering questions like where to find things in the building. There is 1 greeter at the side door and 2 at the front door, 2 in case 1 greeter gets busy talking to a newcomer or visitor. Having someone stationed at the doors to assist people can be the difference as to whether someone visits us again. Greeters arrive at church 30 minutes prior to worship.
- Lector: Lector reads the 1st reading from the pulpit. The reading is emailed ahead of time so you can become familiar with it.
- Offering Counter: A team of 2 counters prepare the deposit after each worship service. (training available)



UPCOMING DIAPER PANTRY

March 9, 2024 at 10-11:30am 1 bag (40 diapers) per child. Newborn to size 6

THANK YOU

Thank you so much for the cards and snacks! I appreciate them so much. I miss all of you! ~ Mya Cromwell

On behalf of the consumers of Danville State Hospital, thank you so much for your generosity this holiday season.



Easter Flowers Order Form

Flowers are a beautiful gift to our Lord and a wonderful expression of our love for God and all he has given us!

Dedicate flowers by submitting order form **<u>no later than Sunday, March 10th</u>**.

		6" Potted Plants	
	Tulips	x \$6.50 =	\$
	Lilies	x \$8.50 =	\$
		Tota	l \$

The following will be printed in the Easter Bulletin. Please write legibly.

NAME: (from)

IN MEMORY OF:

IN HONOR OF:

You may take your plants home after worship on Easter Sunday. Any plants left at the church will be given away.

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-Thur, 8am-2:00pm