



July 2024 NEWSLETTER



UNITED IN CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH STAFF

The Rev. Justin G. Lingenfelter: UIC Pastor

The Rev. Katy Moran: CELC Pastor

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

UIC COUNCIL MEMBERS	Michelle Shearer.....President	1 st term, ends 12/2024
	Kathy Guffey.....Vice President	2 nd term, ends 12/2024
	Lisa Rabuck.....Secretary	2 nd term, ends 12/2024
	Kathy Arndt.....Treasurer	1 st term, ends 12/2024
	Justin Cooley	1 st term, ends 12/2025
	Ken Criswell	1 st term, ends 12/2026
	Kim Criswell	2 nd term, ends 12/2025
	Kristie Koch	1 st term, ends 12/2026
	Randy Sprengle	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

- THU, JUL. 4 OFFICE CLOSED**
- SUN, JUL. 7 BAPTISM OF CHARLIE SPRENKLE
DEADLINE: CROSSCUTTERS TICKETS**
- MON, JUL. 8 SUMMER DAY CAMP BEGINS**
- TUE, JUL. 9 OAKS SENIOR CENTER**
- FRI, JUL. 12 SENIOR EXPRESS FOOD BOX DELIVERY**
- SAT, JUL. 13 BABY STEPS DIAPER PANTRY**
- SUN, JUL. 14 FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING
OUTREACH COMMITTEE MEETING
YOUNG ADULTS BOWLING**
- TUE, JUL. 16 ELCA YOUTH GATHERING BEGINS
COUNCIL MEETING**
- SAT, JUL. 20 LINGENFELTER BABY SHOWER**
- SUN, JUL. 21 CHRISTMAS IN JULY**
- MON, JUL. 22 AUGUST NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**
- SUN, JUL. 28 NEW MEMBERS SUNDAY
CROSSCUTTERS GAME**

FROM THE PASTOR



But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God— not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

Ephesians 2:4-10

The Christian individual is a completely free lord of all, subject to none. The Christian individual is a completely dutiful servant of all, subject to all.

Martin Luther, *The Freedom of a Christian*

Dear United In Christ,

You've heard about those viral do-gooders, right? You know, the ones who take their opportunity at the Starbucks (or Dunkin' or McDonald's) drive-thru window to pay for the order of the car that's behind them? It's a case of impromptu charity that often serves as a catalyst for a whole chain-reaction of altruistic endeavors. The first car pays for the car behind them, then that car pays for the one behind them, then *that* car pays for the one that's coming after; sometimes the system perpetuates itself over and over and over again a few dozen time, generally until it hits a mini-van full of Frappuccino orders and the driver at the window realizes they'd be paying \$67 for their \$3 black coffee.

But until that point, it's such a wonder-filled system of gratitude and service! People are genuinely so moved by the fact that the person ahead of them would anonymously show such a sign of generosity that their day is brightened and they *want* to offer that same feeling to those who come next. They certainly don't owe the car ahead or behind anything – they could easily ride off with free drink in hand, after all – but they *want* to be a part of the cycle of service! The system is fueled by the grace of receiving a free gift and a deep yearning to share in the abundance of that gift with those who come next.*

Now I'm not saying that the Kingdom of God is like a Starbucks (a boy can only dream, right?), but perhaps there's more in common than we think. "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God" (Eph. 2:8). Like the first person who starts the chain reaction at the drive through, this life of faith and discipleship in Christ starts with a gift – albeit one far more valuable than my double shot of espresso. By grace, God looks to each of us out of God's great love and makes us alive in Christ – this is the course of faith through which we are saved! This beginning act of grace becomes the fertile ground in which new life takes root. By taking that which so many others have tried to earn and choosing to first offer it as a gift, God frees us from having to worry any further about where we stand in God's care!

In turn, this freedom is the new bedrock under our feet, yet that does not mean we ought to simply embrace a chaotic free-for-all. As Martin Luther reflects later in *The Freedom of a Christian*, this freedom now offers us the ability to go out and be of service to the neighbors who surround us. Having been made free and subject to *none*, we are free to render out service to *all*. Having received a course of freedom from the very start, we are free to pass it on down the line out of our deeply rooted spirit of gratitude!

See, this is what the course of freedom looks like. In this month when we mark the occasion of celebrating our nation's independence and the gifts and freedoms we enjoy as citizens, it often feels like we take this time to put our freedom front and center to demonstrate a voracious independence that relies on no one else and is primarily concerned with keeping a strict line of individual determination. In a way, we sometimes have a propensity of slipping into defending a freedom that is *only* self-serving in its course.

Yet, here is a reminder of what our freedom *ought* to resemble. True freedom, the freedom of *God's* kingdom, might just look more like that line at Starbucks than one of complete and total isolation of independence. Freedom in the kingdom sees *our* freedom as the exact cause for entering into the service of those placed around us, just as much as it is about relishing the joy that we have been gifted ourselves.

Later this month our day camp students as well as those heading to the National Youth Gathering will hear this freedom during day one of their experiences under the theme of "Created to be Free." As they take this grounding for their own experiences, may you know the same. You, too, are created to be free; free in grace, free in love, free in service. May you know such freedom in Christ this month and always.

Yours, freed and 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 name.

** I've been told that this parade of serial generosity is FAR less enjoyable for the workers inside who have to juggle varying receipts with actual orders and have to extend the transactions by telling each new vehicle about what's going on. Ultimately, I suppose, this is a reminder that all metaphors have limits.*



UNITED IN CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
INVITES YOU TO CELEBRATE

CHRISTMAS IN JULY!

Sunday, July 21st at 10:00am



One of the best times to make Christmas cookies is in July when it's not so busy. Please bring a plate of your favorite Christmas cookies to share during social hour.


**WE ARE CLOSED ON
INDEPENDENCE DAY**
HAVE A HAPPY 4TH OF JULY!


Outreach

**NEXT OUTREACH COMMITTEE MEETING
WILL BE ON SUNDAY, JULY 14TH.**

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.

Place these items in the baskets located in the Narthex.

SENIOR EXPRESS FOOD BOXES

Food boxes will be delivered to UIC on Friday, July 12th. Delivery teams, please make plans to deliver your food boxes.



FLECK & FRIENDS *fresh express*



FREE FOOD DISTRIBUTION

Friday, July 12th
12:00 P.M. – 2:00 P.M.

Sponsored by the
Central PA Food Bank



1125 Mahoning St.
Milton, PA
(570) 742- 4601

Fresh Express is a year-round program that provides nutritious food to our neighbors that are in need, no income requirements! This program is sponsored by the Central Pennsylvania Food Bank.

Volunteers are needed each month to help! If you are interested in learning more or want to volunteer, please contact the office.

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

	July 7	July 14	July 21	July 28
Preaching	Justin	Katy	Justin	Justin
Social Hour	Cake		Cmas Cookies	Cake
Bread/Wine	J. Mertz	S. Noll	M. Shearer	K. Sprenkle
Altar Guild	ML Keifer	S. Keifer	K. Guffey	ML Keifer
Digital Host	M. Shearer	T. Cromwell	K. Guffey	M. Shearer
Front Door Greeter	C. Robuck	M. Ketchem	D. Byerly	Ken Baker
	D. Robuck	R. Whitesel	J. Byerly	R. Baker
Side Door Greeter	K. Baker	D. Gottlieb	T. Cromwell	R. Kling
Lector	S. Keifer	M. Shearer	T. McPherrin	R. Sprenkle
Ushers	D. Baker	R. Kling	L. Rabuck	B. Swartz
	K. Baker	S. McPherrin	M. Rabuck	T. Swartz
	S. Brown	T. McPherrin	M. Shearer	B. Troxell
	K. Guffey	J. Mertz	A. Stark	K. Arndt
Communion Asst.	T. Cromwell	M. Shearer	A. Stark	C. Robuck
	T. McPherrin	R. Sprenkle	B. Swartz	S. Weiser
Guest Relations	K. Noll	M. Rabuck	B. Troxell	G. Weiser
Offering Counter	K. Guffey	L. Rabuck	M. Shearer	M. Rabuck
	P. Hauck	R. Sprenkle	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.



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

Charlie Sprenkle 7/1

Jeff Rowe 7/10

Penny Golder 7/1

Mae Haussmann 7/13

Pastor Justin 7/2

Mark Haussmann 7/14

Marilyn Gresh 7/3

Diane Gottlieb 7/17

Chris Lee 7/4

Brandon Baker 7/21

George Weiser 7/4

Kay Hilkert 7/22

Wendy Wirth 7/4

Florence Van Dyke 7/24

Kristie Koch 7/5

Beckett Swanger 7/25

Landon Warren-Lee 7/5

Grant Rowe 7/26

Ken Noll 7/7

Connie Shreck 7/28

Sharon Weiser 7/7

Kelsey Swanger 7/29

Ellen McCormick 7/9

Scott A. Danowsky 7/29

Julia Sanders 7/10



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

UNITED IN CHRIST'S PRAYER LIST

PRAYER REQUESTS: Judy Rishel, Tom Burns, Bob Becker, Kristopher Ficks, Kristen Sprenkle, Terri Cromwell, Ken Baker, Annette Baker, Rosemary Fernsler, Ryan Hunter, Patrick Mosley, 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.



Baby Steps **DIAPER PANTRY**

UPCOMING DIAPER PANTRY

July 13, 2024 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.



OAKS

SENIOR CENTER

Tuesday, July 9

10:00 am - Doors Open

10:30 am - Free Bingo with prizes

11:30 pm - Foster Grandparent Program

12:00 pm - Free Lunch



FOSTER GRANDPARENTS

Share Today. Shape Tomorrow.



United In Christ Lutheran Church

1875 Churches Road, Lewisburg ~ www.unitedinchristlutheran.net



Fellowship

SOCIAL HOUR

We will have social hour on 3 Sundays this month.

We'll be serving cake on the 7th to celebrate Charlie Sprenkle's baptism and on the 28th to celebrate our new members.

On July 21st we'll have Christmas In July. Folks from Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church in New Berlin will be joining us for worship. If you can, please make some Christmas cookies for social hour.

**FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE
WILL MEET ON
SUNDAY, JULY 14**

**Everyone is invited to join
the meeting.**



Baby Lingenfelter Baby Shower

Saturday July 20th
10:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Join us in the UIC Fellowship Hall



Please join us as we celebrate Kelsey and Pastor Justin! The theme is Renaissance Faire and light refreshments will be served. They are registered at babylist.com. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Katy or Emily Haussmann.

It's a Boy



LUTHERAN NIGHT AT THE PARK



VS



SUNDAY, JULY 28 @ 4:05PM

Signup Deadline: Sunday, July 7th

Ticket Price: \$6/Person

Signup sheet is in the fellowship hall or you can signup by contacting Terri in the office. We'll be seated in the Family Section-4, under the pavilion. Tickets will be handed out at the game and are \$6 per person.



**Signup
Deadline is
Sunday,
July 7th**



**Young Adults
Bowling**

**LET'S STRIKE
UP SOME FUN!**

July 14 ~ 1pm
Imperial Lanes
679 S. Front St. Milton

Ages 18yrs.-30yrs.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE



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 in the August Newsletter need to be in the office **by Monday, July 22nd**.



ALTAR FLOWERS

Cost is \$35.

Flower Chart is in the Fellowship Hall.

You may take your flowers home after worship.

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.



The following dates are available to sponsor flowers for the altar.

July: 21, 28

November: 3, 10, 17

August: 4, 11, 18, 25

December: 8, 15, 29

September: 1, 29

October: 6, 27

UIC COMMITTEES

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

FELLOWSHIP: Al Stark, Sherry Bingaman, Kathy Guffey, Jolynn Heckman

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

HOME COMMUNION: Pastor Justin, Annette Baker, Kathy Guffey, Michelle Shearer, Bob and Trudy Swartz.

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

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

PROPERTY: Ken Criswell, Dave Baker, Elwood Brown, Scott Danowsky, Mark Rabuck, Randy Sprenkle

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

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

WORSHIP & MUSIC: Pastor Justin, Marilyn Gresh, Sue Keifer, Rosemary Kling, Connie Shreck, Sharon Weiser



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