




March 2025 NEWSLETTER



I can do
ALL THINGS
through

Christ



Who
STRENGTHENS
me

PHILIPPIANS 4:13

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

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Michelle Shearer.....	President	2 nd term, ends 12/2027
Beth Guffey.....	Vice President	1 st term, ends 12/2027
Kathy Arndt.....	Treasurer	2 nd term, ends 12/2027
Ruby Baker.....	Secretary	1 st term, ends 12/2027
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 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

- TUE, MAR. 4** **WORSHIP AND MUSIC COMMITTEE MTG.
SHROVE PANCAKE SUPPER**
- WED, MAR. 5** **ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP**
- FRI, MAR. 7** **FOOD BANK DELIVERY**
- SAT, MAR. 8** **BABY STEPS DIAPER PANTRY**
- SUN, MAR. 9** **FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT
OUTREACH COMMITTEE MEETING
FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING
FAITH LAB @ MLC
YOUTH GROUP @ MLC**
- TUE, MAR. 11** **OAKS SENIOR CENTER
RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE MEALS
PSALM BIBLE STUDY BEGINS (EVERY TUE.)**
- WED, MAR. 12** **LENTEN DINNER @ CELC (EVERY WED.)
HOLDEN PRAYER SERVICE @ CELC (EVERY WED.)**
- SAT. MAR. 15** **BOY SCOUT SPAGHETTI DINNER**
- SUN. MAR. 16** **SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**
- MON. MAR. 17** **COUNCIL MEETING (PLEASE NOTE DATE CHANGE)**
- SUN. MAR. 23** **THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT**
- MON. MAR. 24** **APRIL NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**
- SUN. MAR. 30** **FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT
DEADLINE FOR LONGWOOD GARDENS SIGNUP**

FROM THE PASTOR



“[Jesus] also told them a parable: “Can a blind person guide a blind person? Will not both fall into a pit? A disciple is not above the teacher, but everyone who is fully qualified will be like the teacher. Why do you see the speck in your neighbor’s eye, but do not notice the log in your own eye? Or how can you say to your neighbor, ‘Friend, let me take out the speck in your eye,’ when you yourself do not see the log in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your neighbor’s eye.”

Luke 6:39-42

Dear United In Christ,

You have heard it said:

- Don’t throw stones in glass houses.
- If you point your finger, you have three pointing right back at you.
- I’m rubber, you’re glue; whatever you say bounces off me and sticks to you.
- Or my personal favorite: look in the mirror, *pal!*

It’s amazing how many idiomatic retorts we have for trying to *turn the tables* on someone in the midst of conversation, criticism, and accusation, isn’t it? We’ve got so many creative and colorful ways to face down something being charged against us and try to *flip the script* on our accuser by levelling the very things they are laying out our feet right back at them! From the playground to the office to the halls of Congress, it seems as if we have all manner of means to dismiss criticism and go back on the attack at our accusers. With so many witty arrows in our quiver, it’s no wonder that we walk around just a little bit guarded – as if we’re always looking for the chance to fire back at those who come our way!

It's unfortunate, then, that Jesus' words here often get lumped into this armory. You've heard it right? Someone bears a charge or makes

a critical statement and the recipient fires back: “check the log in your own eye before you come after the speck in mine!” It’s a way to try to get off the hook by pointing out the faults of the one coming at us in the first place! It’s the uno-reverse card that tries to nullify any criticism by attacking the faults of the one bringing it to us.

But something tells me this isn’t what Jesus had in mind when he offered these words. In the midst of the sermon entirely about how we see our neighbor and how we are called to interact with them (read the first parts of chapter 6), I don’t think he is suddenly making a hard turn to give us ways to criticize those who are critical of us. Instead, Jesus is inviting the opportunity for deeper and far more meaningful self-reflection. He is asking his disciples to enter into a vulnerability that first asks what logs they have in eye that prevent them from seeing the world more clearly according to Jesus’ own vision. It’s an invitation to deep honesty that might be uncomfortable in what it reveals.

As we enter into the season of Lent this month, that same opportunity now presents itself to us. In this season of repentance, now is our opportunity to take our own inventory and ask where it is that *we* are the ones bearing ourselves in the wrong. In this season, can I take stock of what stones am *I* holding at the ready? What direction do I have *my* finger pointed in with more pointed back at me? Where am *I* the glue hurling insult across the way? What mirrors do *I* need to look long and hard into to see myself more clearly? *What logs are currently obstructing my own vision of the world?*

My prayer for you this season is that you might find the opportunity for such vulnerability. May you take this time in the wilderness ahead to ask after the hard truths in order to see the world around us more clearly with the vision of mercy and compassion that Christ asks of his disciples. May you remove logs from your eyes where you’ve been hunting for the specks in others.

But through it all, may you journey in the certainty of being seen most clearly by the one who looks to you in order to call you be-

loved. May you find your sure footing in the Jesus who embodies forgiveness beyond foibles and grace beyond guilt. May you move forward trusting that whatever it is you find in yourself along the way, the hope of new life and resurrection waits for you on the horizon. May you journey well!

Yours, united in Christ,

~ Pastor Justin

A circular graphic with a white background and a dark cross at the top. The background of the circle shows the interior of a church with white Gothic-style arches. The text is centered within the circle.

Ash Wednesday Worship
Wednesday, March 5th at 7:00pm
United In Christ Lutheran Church
1875 Churches Road
Lewisburg, PA 17837



*"Remember that you are dust and
to dust you shall return."*

A purple rectangular graphic with a white border and a yellow ribbon-like shape on the right side. The background has a white dotted pattern. The text is in a bold, dark purple font.

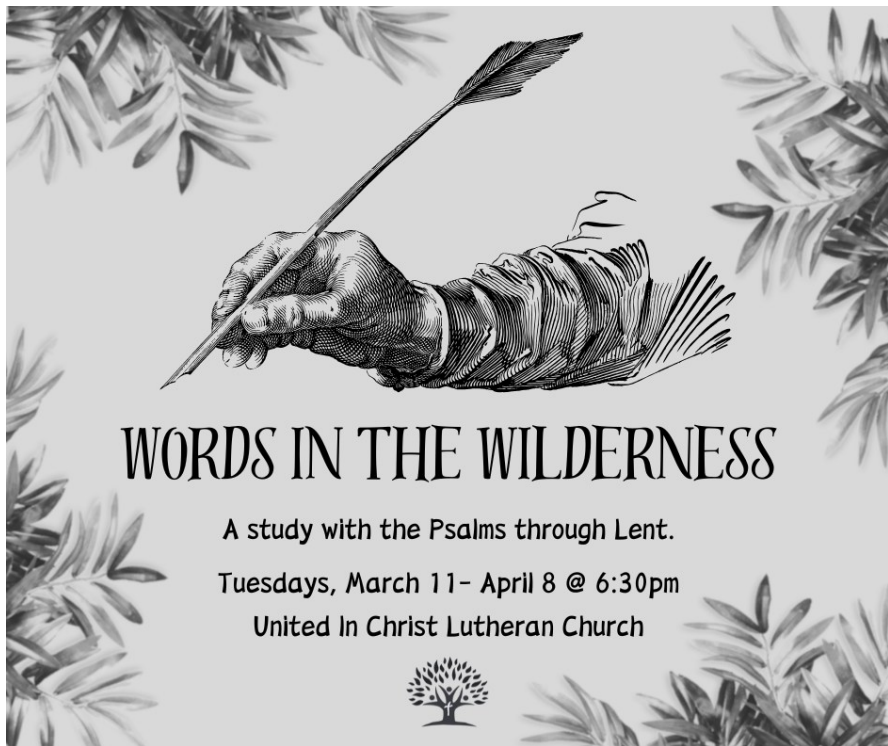
**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
MONDAY, MARCH 24TH**

Any articles, events, photos, or thank you notes you'd like to have in the April Newsletter need to be in to the office by Monday, March 24th.

Worship Volunteers, please give the office any dates in April which you will not be available.



Please email Terri in the office at
office@unitedinchristlutheran.net or
call her at 570-568-2254



Join us **Tuesday nights at 6:30pm** this Lent as we dive explore the Psalms of Scripture. Together we will hear God's peoples' words of hope and expectation, of grief and disappointment – everything that God's people have felt in the wilderness! Come as you are, no further materials necessary for this study! This year's study begins on Tuesday, March 11 and will conclude on Tuesday, April 8! Come and see!

Scouts Sunday: February 9th





Boy Scout Troop 600 Spaghetti Dinner (Take-out Only)



Come out and enjoy a hot spaghetti dinner made with delicious homemade sauce, while supporting our troop

Date: Saturday, March 15, 2025

Time: 4:00 pm-6:00 pm

Location: United in Christ Lutheran Church--
1875 Churches Road, Lewisburg

Cost: \$10 per meal--Tickets available in advance from the scouts and can be purchased upon arrival.
\$8 Jars of sauce available while quantities last

We are also collecting food items for the **Panther Packs** program. The Panther Pack program helps feed children in our community who are hungry on the weekends. When you pick up your spaghetti dinner, you can drop off any food items then. All donations are greatly appreciated. Also, meals are packed on the first Wednesday of the month at St. Andrew's Church in Milton.



The Panther Packs weekend backpack food program has been feeding Milton Area School District elementary students for the past eight years. Each Friday, a bag of non-perishable food is placed into students' backpacks by their teachers. Bags contain two breakfast items, two prepared meals (e.g. pasta, noodles or tuna), a fruit, and a snack item. Every other month a jar of peanut butter is sent home. This fall, we are currently feeding 271 children each weekend. Numbers tend to increase as the cold weather approaches. This program runs all year January - December.

IF YOU ARE ABLE TO DO A FOOD DRIVE,

THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALLY PACKAGED ITEMS ARE NEEDED:

- Ramen noodles
- Canned soups (16 oz size)
- Soup, stew, chili (one's containers with pop-top)
- Mac and cheese (individual cans)
- Tuna or chicken packs or small, pop-top cans
- Individual sized boxes of cereal
- Granola Bars/Trailmix Bars
- Oatmeal packs
- Pop tarts
- Fruit cups
- Applesauce cups
- 20-oz cups with fruit
- Pudding cups

1. Food item cannot be in glass
2. Food item must be non-perishable and not expired
3. Food items must be easy for a child to open or prepare on their own
4. Canned food items must have pop top lids
5. Food items must be individually packaged



Fellowship

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper!

Tuesday, March 4th @ 5:30pm

We'll bring the pancakes.
You bring your favorite toppings!



PRAYER CHAIN

Scripture instructs us to lift one another up in prayer. The prayer chain takes two forms: telephone or email. If you would like to be a part of the prayer chain, please let Terri Cromwell know. Make sure you tell her if you would like a phone call or an email.

Longwood Gardens Bus Trip

Kennett Square, PA

Wednesday, April 23, 2025

11:00 am – 4:00pm

Depart 8:00 am from the old Walmart (next to Weis Markets)

Last day to sign up-March 30th

\$27.00pp inc. bus trip/ticket

(Payment due day you sign up to secure your ticket)

Make checks payable to:

Christ's Lutheran Church

(in memo note Bus Trip)



- Depart Lewisburg @ 8:00am from the old Walmart (next to Weis Markets). Be there by 7:45am so the bus can leave promptly by 8:00am. We have timed tickets for admission to the gardens at 11:00am. We will depart Longwood Gardens at 4:00pm.
- Lunch is on your own in the gardens. There is a cafe or if you want fine dining you must make your own reservation at the 1906 Restaurant (610-388-5290) but they recommend making the reservation online. We will NOT be stopping anywhere after we leave the gardens so plan accordingly.

SOCIAL HOUR AFTER WORSHIP



Social Hour has started back up.
Social Hour is split up into 4 groups.

A-D E-K

L-R S-Z

We will rotate through each of these 4 groups on Sundays. When your name falls in that Sunday's Social Hour please bring a snack to share and help in the kitchen *during* social hour.

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

	March 2	March 5	March 9
Worship Leader	Pastor Justin	Pastor Justin	Pastor Katy
Social Hour	A - D		E - K
Bread/Wine	M. Catherman	R. Baker	K. Criswell
Altar Guild	S. Keifer M. Catherman	ML Keifer M. Catherman	T. Cromwell M. Catherman
Digital Host	T. Cromwell	K. Guffey	M. Shearer
Front Door Greeter	R. Baker K. Baker	B. Swartz T. Swartz	A. Stark L. Olds
Side Door Greeter	G. Weiser	K. Noll	K. Olds
Lector	A. Stark	D. Davies	B. Swartz
Ushers	M. Shearer B. Swartz T. Swartz B. Troxell	A. Stark L. Olds K. Olds D. Baker	K. Baker S. Brown K. Criswell T. Cromwell
Communion Asst.	E. Hausmann ML Keifer	T. Cromwell C. Robuck	R. Sprenkle B. Catherman
Guest Relations	G. Weiser	K. Noll	B. Troxell
Offering Counter	K. Guffey P. Hauck	M. Shearer C. Shreck	R. Sprenkle 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.

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

	March 16	March 23	March 30
Worship Leader	Pastor Justin	Pastor Justin	Pastor Katy
Social Hour	L - R	S - Z	A - D
Bread/Wine	K. Guffey	S. Keifer	J. Mertz
Altar Guild	K. Guffey	S. Keifer M. Catherman	K. Guffey M. Catherman
Digital Host	T. Cromwell	K. Guffey	M. Shearer
Front Door Greeter	B. Catherman M. Catherman	D. Gottlieb G. Glathar	M. Ketchem R. Whitesel
Side Door Greeter	G. Weiser	S. Brown	K. Noll
Lector	V. Tyrell	B. Catherman	R. Baker
Ushers	R. Kling J. Mertz M. Shearer B. Swartz	T. Swartz B. Swartz A. Stark K. Olds	L. Olds D. Baker K. Baker S. Brown
Communion Asst.	A. Stark B. Swartz	M. Shearer S. Weiser	R. Kling D. Davies
Guest Relations	G. Weiser	M. Mertz	K. Noll
Offering Counter	M. Shearer C. Shreck	K. Guffey P. Hauck	R. Sprenkle C. Shreck

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HAPPY *Anniversary*

Allen and Kathy Loss 3/16/01

Jeff and Donna Byerly 3/18/15

Brandon and McKenzie Baker 3/25/20



Happy Birthday

Krista Wirth 3/2

Alyasdair Stark 3/26

Wade Cooley 3/9

Brad Catherman 3/26

Michael Ketchem 3/15

Chad Cromwell 3/29

Blayzze Baker 3/16

Julie Rowe 3/31

Dave Davies 3/22



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

HAVE YOU SEEN?

**LOST
AND
FOUND**



Did you leave something at church? Check out the LOST AND FOUND bin on the shelf by the restroom in the fellowship hall.

UNITED IN CHRIST'S PRAYER LIST

PRAYER REQUESTS: John Oliver, Paul Hilkert, Leroy Baker, Mary Baker, Annette Baker, Rachel Lynn, Carol Troxell, Rosemary Fernsler, Ryan Hunter, Patrick Mosley, Mark Rabuck, Shirley Russell, 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.



ALTAR FLOWERS

Cost is \$35.

Flower Chart is in the Fellowship Hall. You may take your flowers home after worship.



Dates available to sponsor flowers for worship.

March: 2, 9, 23, 30

April: 6, 13, 20, 27

May: 4, 11, 18, 25

June: 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

July: 6, 13, 20, 27

August: 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

September: 14, 21, 28

October: 5, 12, 19, 26

November: 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

December: 7, 14, 28

Outreach



Souper Bowl food donations were dropped off at Panther Packs, St. Andrew's UMC in Milton. We had a total of 660 donations collected. Mark Rabuck used one of his 2025 Thrivent Action Team Grants of \$250 which provided over 250 items in this total.

Here is a rundown of the items collected:

Mac-n-Cheese Cups: 94	Applesauce: 90
Canned Pasta: 85	Pudding Cups: 96
Noodle Packs: 82	Cans of Soup: 39
Breakfast Cereal/Cups: 76	Cans of Fruit: 14
Breakfast Bars and PopTarts: 69	Crackers: 12

Thank you for donating!!

THANK YOU!

United In Christ Lutheran Church

660 items

Thanks to your efforts this year, more dollars have been raised, more lives have been changed, and the nation has seen the impact of people working together to help those in need. Thank you for working to transform the time around the Super Bowl into the nation's largest celebration of giving and serving.



February 9, 2025

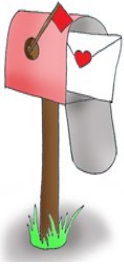
Alison Reese
Executive Director
Tackle Hunger: Home of the
Souper Bowl of Caring

DISCONTINUING MONTHLY FOOD COLLECTION



Non-perishable food items were collected in a basket in the Narthex on an ongoing basis. Your donations were delivered to Our Little Free Pantry in West Milton. A brand-new building was donated and placed on the grounds in December by T Ross

Construction. The Outreach Committee plans to discontinue this ministry in 2025. Feel free to stop by the new building next to the gas station in West Milton to donate your items anytime.



You gave a total of \$265 for College Valentines. We were able to send each of our 5 college students a \$53 Walmart gift card. Michelle Shearer also send each student a card package from Amazon. Thank you Michelle!!

SENIOR EXPRESS FOOD BOXES

Food boxes will be delivered to UIC by the Central Pa Food Bank on Friday, March 7th.

Delivery teams, please make plans to deliver your food boxes the following week.



DONATIONS NEEDED

We are asking for donations for the next OAKS and Ronald McDonald House meals. Outreach is looking for chocolate chip cookies, cornbread, ice cream cups, clementine's, and apples. A signup sheet is on the fellowship hall bulletin board. Thank you for helping feed those in need!



OAKS

SENIOR CENTER

Tuesday, March 11th

10:00 am Doors Open

10:30 am Free Bingo with Prizes

11:30 am Native Americans,
Union County Historical Society

12:00 pm Free Lunch



OAKS Senior Center is free and has no age requirements.
Everyone is welcome to join us!

United In Christ Lutheran Church
1875 Churches Road, Lewisburg ~ 570-568-2254



BUFFALO VALLEY
FAITH LAB

You're invited to the launch of a new monthly family faith formation program!

Second Sunday of the Month
4:00pm-6:00pm

Free family dinner!

Sponsored by:





Faith Lab is for kids in pre-k through 5th grade. On the second Sunday of each month we gather for Bible study, games, crafts, and (of course) food!

We have a great group of volunteers to ensure that students who gather for Faith Lab have the chance to break out into groups based on their grade levels to steep in the stories of scripture set for each gathering.

If you are a family that is interested in participating please scan the QR code here to fill out a signup form that will help us prepare as best as possible ahead of time. If you know additional families who may be interested, please feel free to share the info as well!

NEXT FAITH LAB

Our next Faith Lab will be on Sunday, March 9th at MLC. We will begin at 4pm and have dinner at 5:30pm.

COMBINED LUTHERAN YOUTH GROUP

Milton Lutheran, United In Christ, and Christ's Lutheran have formed a Combined Lutheran Youth Group. Youth Group is for any student in grades 7-12. Youth Group will meet at 6:15pm on Sunday, March 9th, after Faith Lab, at MLC.

If you would like to join, or have questions, please see Pastor Justin or Pastor Katy.



Baby Steps DIAPER PANTRY

UPCOMING DIAPER PANTRY

March 8, 2025 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 of Milton, Lewisburg, Mifflinburg, and Watsontown.

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 at home. You can also view past sermons. www.unitedinchristlutheran.net/worship

Church Calendar: Stay up-to-date on everything that's happening at UIC.

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/unitedinchristlutheran

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

UIC COMMITTEES

FELLOWSHIP: Al Stark, Kathy Arndt, Kathy Guffey

FINANCE: Kathy Arndt, Karen Baker, Jared Rutt

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

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

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

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

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

SENIOR EXPRESS: Sherry Bingaman, Garrett Glathar, Diane Gottlieb, Kathy Guffey, Rosemary Kling, Ted and Shirley McPherrin, Rowe Family, Michelle Shearer, Warren Shipe

WORSHIP & MUSIC: Terri Cromwell, 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