



# July 2025 NEWSLETTER

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“  
For Nothing  
is  
impossible  
With  
God.”

LUKE 1:37

# 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/](http://www.unitedinchristlutheran.net/worship/)

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

## COUNCIL MEMBERS

<b>Michelle Shearer.....</b>	<b>President</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> term, ends 12/2027
<b>Beth Guffey.....</b>	<b>Vice President</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> term, ends 12/2027
<b>Kathy Arndt.....</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> term, ends 12/2027
<b>Ruby Baker.....</b>	<b>Secretary</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> term, ends 12/2027
<b>Ken Criswell.....</b>		1 <sup>st</sup> term, ends 12/2026
<b>Kim Criswell.....</b>		2 <sup>nd</sup> term, ends 12/2025
<b>Kristie Koch.....</b>		1 <sup>st</sup> term, ends 12/2026
<b>Randy Sprenkle.....</b>		1 <sup>st</sup> 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. 3-7 OFFICE CLOSED: TERRI ON VACATION**

**FRI, JUL. 4 HAPPY BIRTHDAY AMERICA!!**

**SUN, JUL. 6 SELF-CARE DRIVE BEGINS**

**TUE, JUL. 8 OAKS SENIOR CENTER**

**SAT, JUL. 12 BABY STEPS DIAPER PANTRY**

**SAT, JUL. 13 OUTREACH COMMITTEE MEETING**

**MON, JUL. 14 SUMMER DAY CAMP BEGINS**

**TUE, JUL. 15 COUNCIL MEETING**

**FRI, JUL. 18 SUMMER DAY CAMP ENDS  
LEWISBURG LUNCH PROGRAM**

**SUN, JUL. 20 CROSSCUTTERS BASEBALL GAME  
SELF-CARE DRIVE ENDS  
AUGUST NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

**SUN, JUL. 27 CHRISMTAS IN JULY  
COOKIE SOCIAL HOUR**

**SAT, AUG. 2 UIC PICNIC ~ SAVE THE DATE**

# FROM THE PASTOR



*For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery. . . For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters, only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become enslaved to one another. For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another. Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh.*

Galatians 5:1, 13-16

*My country, 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty, of thee I sing:  
land where my fathers died, land of the pilgrims' pride, from  
every mountainside let freedom ring!*

“America,” Samuel Francis Smith

Dear United In Christ,

The above words penned by Samuel Francis Smith in 1831 will undoubtedly ring out from countless locations this month as we mark our Independence Day celebrations across the country. The words of this opening verse set to the same music as the United Kingdom’s “God Save the Queen” provided a tremendously powerful reversal of expectation and identity in the nascent days of our nation. Where once that melody was used to pledge fealty to the monarch by her subjects, now that same tune was set to an announcement of liberty and independence in the founding freedom found in the first century of the United States. *“No more*

*shall tyrants here with haughty steps appear,”* Smith continues in the third verse, once more asserting the hard-fought freedom from the Crown that birthed the nation.

Such freedom, we know, is baked into our identity as a nation. It’s a hard-fought freedom of self-determination built into the American experiment that is surely worth celebrating each and every year. Even more, it is a freedom that is worth yet striving for as we yet still continue to seek out the fulfillment of its ideal for the sake of the neighbors who surround us. It’s no coincidence that Martin Luther King Jr called upon these words to “let freedom ring” at the end of his “I Have a Dream” speech. In the midst of the Civil Rights Movement that sought to enshrine equality for people of color, King knew that for freedom to ring true, it must ring true for *all* people. *“O, let America be America again — The land that never has been yet — And yet must be—the land where every man is free,”* wrote Langston Hughes in 1935 as he articulated that same tension found in the America he knew, even as he longed for it to live up to its own ideals.

“Let freedom ring!” we rightly sing in celebration this month. Yet, even now, our calling might just be to pause and determine for whom it has not yet rung. Who in our midst has not fully tasted the freedom that our ideals offer? Who is yet in need of experiencing the liberation for which our nation has striven?

It seems a suiting month, then, to be reminded of just what freedom means for us as we live into our own Christian vocation. Writing to the church in Galatia, Paul makes a pretty good case for understanding what true freedom means as it is lived into the community. *“For freedom Christ has set us free,”* Paul writes, but such freedom is not the grounding to turn towards a course

of solely self-interest, but instead freedom from the law means we turn to one another in care, becoming enslaved to one another through love. For Paul, freedom in Christ does not offer a carte-blanche way of flaunting self-interest; instead, freedom in Christ calls disciples to live such freedom out in a love of neighbor that seeks their own continued care and liberation.

Maybe this is the reminder we need this Independence Day as we give pause to celebrate the freedom we have come to know: self-determination ought not become self-indulgence. Our freedom is only freedom if it rings true for those who have yet to experience its fullness in our midst. Our freedom in Christ is yet calling us to offer a course of freedom out of the love of our neighbors – our vulnerable neighbors, our ignored neighbors, our invisible neighbors, our captive neighbors, our marginalized neighbors, and our disenfranchised neighbors all alike.

May this month remind you of the joy of such freedom grounded in Christ. Likewise, may you celebrate such ideals of our nation well. And in such grounding, may you continue to work for such freedom to take root around us still, as we strive to become that which we have always dreamed we are. Bound in love, may you meet our neighbors with a liberating word in Christ Jesus.

Let freedom ring!

Your, 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.





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.



*Pentecost Sunday*



# MILTON LUTHERAN CHURCH SELF-CARE SANCTUARY DRIVE

Please place your donations in the box in the Narthex.



**July 6 - July 20**



- ▶ Shampoo
- ▶ Bar Soap
- ▶ Deodorant
- ▶ Toothbrush
- ▶ Toothpaste
- ▶ Razor
- ▶ Adult Disposable Underwear



## 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.



# OAKS

## SENIOR CENTER

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Tuesday, July 8<sup>th</sup>

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10:00 am Doors Open

10:30 am Free Bingo with Prizes

11:30 am Signs of a Stroke

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

# UNITED IN CHRIST'S PRAYER LIST

**PRAYER REQUESTS:** Millie Noll, family and friends of Rosemary Fernsler, Dolly Bittner, Tina Snyder, Bonnie Katherman, Zach Smith, Rick Diamond, Dan and Gloria McDavitt, Patrick Moseley, Gigi Pray, Ted McPherrin, Bob Troxell, Eugene Bain, Annette Baker, Carol Troxell, Mark Rabuck, Shirley Russell, Bob Keifer.

## **Are you or a loved one in need of prayer?**

Submit your prayer request by emailing it to [office@unitedinchristlutheran.net](mailto:office@unitedinchristlutheran.net), or calling 570-568-2254.

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.

## UPDATE ON SOCIAL HOUR



On Sunday, July 27th we will have a special social hour for Christmas in July. Please bring in your favorite cookies to share during social hour.

The rest of the Sundays we will be skipping Social Hour because of summer and everyone's busy lives. We will start back up in September.

# WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

	July 7	July 13	July 20	July 27
Worship Leader	Michelle	Justin	Katy	Justin
Social Hour				A - Z
Bread/Wine	S. Keifer	S. McPherrin	J. Mertz	M. Shearer
Altar Guild	M. Catherman	T. Cromwell	K. Guffey	S. Kefier
Digital Host	K. Guffey	T. Cromwell	M. Shearer	B. Guffey
Front Door Greeter	K. Baker	D. Gottlieb	D. Byerly	C. Robuck
	ML Keifer	G. Glathar	J. Byerly	D. Robuck
Side Door Greeter	R. Kling	K. Guffey	R. Baker	S. Brown
Lector	V. Tyrell	B. Catherman	B. Guffey	D. Murphy
Ushers	B. Swartz	B. Guffey	T. Cromwell	L. Rabuck
	T. Swartz	D. Baker	S. McPherrin	M. Shearer
	S. Brown	K. Baker	T. McPherrin	B. Swartz
	K. Criswell	R. Kling	J. Mertz	T. Swartz
Communion Asst.	B. Catherman	C. Robuck	D. Baker	T. Cromwell
	S. Weiser	D. Murphy	ML Keifer	R. Kling
Guest Relations	T. McPherrin	M. Mertz	K. Noll	M. Rabuck
Offering Counter	M. Rabuck	P. Hauck	C. Shreck	K. Guffey
	M. Shearer	L. Rabuck	M. Shearer	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.



# 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*

*Maisey Catherman 7/1*

*Vicky Tyrell 7/1*

*Pastor Justin 7/2*

*Marilyn Gresh 7/3*

*Chris Lee 7/4*

*George Weiser 7/4*

*Wendy Wirth 7/4*

*Kristie Koch 7/5*

*Landon Warren-Lee 7/5*

*Ken Noll 7/7*

*Sharon Weiser 7/7*

*Julia Sanders 7/10*

*Jeff Rowe 7/10*

*Mae Haussmann 7/13*

*Mark Haussmann 7/14*

*Rose Stitzel 7/16*

*Diane Gottlieb 7/17*

*Brandon Baker 7/21*

*Kendall Condit 7/21*

*Kay Hilkert 7/22*

*Garrett Baker 7/24*

*Beckett Swanger 7/25*

*Grant Rowe 7/26*

*Connie Shreck 7/28*

*Kelsey Swanger 7/29*

*Scott A. Danowsky 7/29*



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

# LEWISBURG LUNCH PROGRAM



**FRIDAY, JULY 18 ~ 1:00PM - 4:00PM**

UIC will put together bagged meals for kids. We need a minimum of 4 people. Please sign up at church or contact Ruby Baker. Meet at Lewisburg Pentecostal Church, 2822 Buffalo Rd, Lewisburg.



**Baby Steps**  
**DIAPER PANTRY**

## **UPCOMING DIAPER PANTRY**

July 12, 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.

**CAMP MOUNT LUTHER**

**MILTON Lutheran Church**

**United In Christ Lutheran Church**

**Church of Evangelical Lutheran Clergy**

**SUMMER DAY CAMP**

**JULY 14-18 • 9AM-3PM**

**1125 MAHONING STREET, MILTON, PA**

**FOR STUDENTS COMPLETING GRADES K-5**

**REGISTER TODAY!**

**WWW.MYVBS.ORG/MILTONLUTHERANCHURCHES**



# *Class of 2025*

**Congratulations Mae Hausmann and Colby Noll!!**



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 6th**

## **NEWSLETTER DEADLINE SUNDAY, JULY 24TH**

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

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



Please email Terri in the office at [office@unitedinchristlutheran.net](mailto:office@unitedinchristlutheran.net) or call her at 570-568-2254



## **ALTAR FLOWERS**

Cost is \$35.

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





# UIC COMMITTEES

**FELLOWSHIP:** Al Stark, Kathy Arndt, Kathy Guffey, Jolynn Heckman

**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 Sprengle, 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](mailto:office@unitedinchristlutheran.net)

Website: [www.unitedinchristlutheran.net](http://www.unitedinchristlutheran.net)