



August 2025 NEWSLETTER

“
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/

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

- FRI, AUG. 1 FOOD BANK DELIVERY
FELLOWSHIP HALL RESERVED**
- SAT, AUG. 2 UIC PICNIC ~ SAVE THE DATE
FELLOWSHIP HALL RESERVED**
- SUN, AUG. 3 SELF-CARE SANCTUARY @ MLC**
- TUE, AUG. 5 W&M COMMITTEE MEETING**
- WED, AUG. 6 THEOLOGY ON TAP RESUMES**
- SAT, AUG. 9 BABY STEPS DIAPER PANTRY**
- SUN, AUG. 10 OUTREACH COMMITTEE MEETING**
- TUE, AUG. 12 OAKS SENIOR CENTER**
- SAT, AUG. 16 DIVERSITY FEST, LEWISBURG**
- SUN, AUG. 17 BLESSING BACKPACKS SUNDAY**
- TUE, AUG. 19 COUNCIL MEETING**
- WED, AUG. 20 THEOLOGY ON TAP**
- SUN, AUG. 24 SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**
- THU, AUG. 28 OFFICE CLOSED: TERRI VACATION**

FROM THE PASTOR



Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until day-break. When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." Then the man^a said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed." Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved."

Genesis 32:24-30

Dear United In Christ,

Do you have any idea what the purpose of studying parabolas, hyperbolas, and ellipses was in high school? I know I didn't. It was Algebra II in tenth grade and we were *deep* into studying the formulas for these various curves being plotted out on the board in front of us. I was growing increasingly frustrated in trying to keep each of the equations straight in my mind when I finally raised my hand and asked: "What is the point of these?" I was genuinely wrestling with the material and was hoping for some kind of tactile use-case to be able to tie it to; to understand at a different level what sort of application all of these numbers might have in the world.

My teacher thought I was being a smart-aleck. Thinking that I was just being disruptive and airing my grievances over the ma-

terial, she scolded me in a way that shut me up *real* quick and had me flushed with embarrassment. To her immense credit, she saw my embarrassment and the next day arrived with an apology and a stack of papers demonstrating all manner of the real-world applications for the material at hand. She helped me to wrestle better with the subject and gave me good grounding to take the next steps in the class. She ended up being one of my favorite teachers in all of high school.

As we prepare for the start of a new school year with our students, I hope and pray that they find teachers that help them to wrestle well. I hope that they find the ways to ask the right questions, just as much as they learn the right answers. I hope and pray that here, too, we might be a community that provides them with good ground to enter into the holy work of such wrestling; to ask questions bigger than we can imagine and struggle with them together.

See, I think Jacob wrestling with God gives us good grounding to do exactly that. The fact that, in this story from Genesis, Jacob is named as Israel only *after* (and because of) his wrestling with God means that there is confidence to be found in such a struggle with God! The fact that this name, Israel, is later carried by the entire nation of God's people means that in *their* very identity, God's community is one that is born out of such struggle – a veritable wrestling match – with God!

So, what makes us think we need to stop wrestling? As our kids get ready to head into a new school year, my prayer is that they learn to wrestle well! I hope they learn to struggle and fight for every inch of understanding they can garner. I pray the same for all of us, in fact. For so long, the Church has purported to be the place where you can come and get a simple black or white answer. But in our complex and complicated world, I pray that we might be less a place of trite oversimplification and more a community that is ready to wrestle in the grey; to wrestle with what

it means to be faithful in this time and place; to wrestle with the injustice we see around us; to wrestle with answers that seem too simple for the world; to wrestle in a faith that will surely leave us blessed, even if a little bit limping alongside Jacob/Israel at times.*

As we move into this new year of school and programming, then, may you wrestle well. May you bring all of your questions and all of your struggles with you into this community of faith. May you bring them and go toe-to-toe with God in a sacred striving for understanding. And when you feel your hip thrown out of joint, may you know that you have been blessed for the wrestling!

Yours, united in Christ,

~ Pastor Justin

* PS – If you want to join the UIC wrestling team, come on out to Theology on Tap on either Wednesday August 6th or 20th! We've gotten pretty good at wrestling with big questions together!

UPDATE ON SOCIAL HOUR



We will be taking a break from Social Hour because of summer and everyone's busy lives. We will start back up in September.

**BUFFALO VALLEY
FAITH LAB**

Scan to sign up!

1st and 3rd Sundays of the Month
4:30pm-6:30pm
September-May
Grades K-6
Free family dinner!

1st Sunday @ Christ's Lutheran
100 S. 3rd Street
Lewisburg, PA 17837

3rd Sunday @ United In Christ
1875 Churches Rd.
Lewisburg, PA 17837

Faith Lab returns this Fall! Beginning on Sunday, September 7th, we will return to our family-focused faith formation experience. This year we will be gather every first and third Sunday of the month; first Sundays will be at Christ's Lutheran in Lewisburg and third Sundays here at UIC! The experience has something for all kids from K-6 as well as adult formation to accompany the lessons the kids are learning! Plus, each gathering ends with a free meal!

Don't have kids in the age group but still want to help the program? Be on the lookout for a signup sheet in the Fellowship Hall to host the meal portion of one of the monthly gatherings here at UIC! We'd love to have your help along the way!

UNITED IN CHRIST
LUTHERAN CHURCH
INVITES YOU TO

Theology on Tap

JOIN US AT RUSTY RAIL
6:00 PM ON
AUG. 6TH AND AUG. 20TH



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.

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

	Aug. 3	Aug. 10	Aug. 17	Aug. 24	Aug. 31
Worship Leader	Justin	Katy	Justin	Justin	Michelle
Social Hour					
Bread/Wine	S. Weiser	K. Sprenkle	M. Catherman	R. Baker	D. Byerly
Altar Guild	ML Keifer	M. Catherman	B. Guffey	T. Cromwell	K. Guffey
Digital Host	D. Murphy	K. Guffey	M. Shearer	T. Cromwell	B. Guffey
Front Door Greeter	B. Swartz	K. Baker	B. Catherman	D. Byerly	D. Gottlieb
	T. Swartz	R. Baker	ML Keifer	J. Byerly	G. Glathar
Side Door Greeter	G. Weiser	S. Brown	R. Kling	K. Noll	M. Catherman
Lector	R. Baker	M. Shearer	T. McPherrin	R. Sprenkle	B. Swartz
Ushers	B. Guffey	K. Criswell	T. McPherrin	M. Shearer	K. Baker
	D. Baker	T. Cromwell	J. Mertz	B. Swartz	S. Brown
	K. Baker	R. Kling	L. Rabuck	T. Swartz	K. Criswell
	S. Brown	S. McPherrin	M. Rabuck	D. Baker	R. Kling
Communion Asst.	T. McPherrin	B. Swartz	M. Shearer	B. Catherman	D. Murphy
	C. Robuck	R. Sprenkle	S. Weiser	D. Davies	D. Baker
Guest Relations	G. Weiser	T. McPherrin	M. Mertz	K. Noll	M. Rabuck
Offering Counter	M. Rabuck	L. Rabuck	M. Shearer	P. Hauck	C. Shreck
	B. Guffey	K. Guffey	C. Shreck	M. Rabuck	L. Rabuck

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.

UNITED IN CHRIST'S PRAYER LIST

PRAYER REQUESTS: family and friends of Rodney Neilson, Joyce Tuttle, Ungard Family, family and friends of Millie Noll, family and friends of Jeff Watts, family and friends of Terry Young, Nelson Swanger, Millie Noll, family and friends of Rosemary Fernsler, Dolly Bittner, Tina Snyder, 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, 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.

Happy Birthday

Amy Danowsky 8/2

Bob Troxell 8/19

Jen Sheaffer 8/4

Bonnie Katherman 8/19

Ava Hauck-Dabney 8/12

Terry Snyder 8/21

Herb Marsh 8/12

Sonja Noll 8/23

Dave Baker 8/13

Justin Cooley 8/24

Steve Shearer 8/13



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



Back to School Drive

Help us support Milton students in need!

Backpacks and supplies will be blessed during worship on Sunday, August 17.

Place items in Back to School Drive box in Fellowship Hall.

- Backpacks
- Notebooks
- Crayons
- Pencils
- Markers
- Binders
- Rulers
- Pencil Boxes



NEWSLETTER DEADLINE SUNDAY, AUGUST 24TH

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

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



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

2025
DIVERSITY
Fest

CULTURAL AND RELIGIOUS ALLIANCE

ALL-INCLUSIVE

SATURDAY
AUGUST 16

HUFNAGLE PARK, LEWISBURG
11:00AM – 5:00PM

FAMILY-FRIENDLY FOOD TRUCKS
LIVE MUSIC ARTISANS

Baby Steps

DIAPER PANTRY

UPCOMING DIAPER PANTRY

August 9, 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 Watsonstown.



OAKS

SENIOR CENTER

Tuesday, August 12th

10:00 am Doors Open

10:30 am Free Bingo with Prizes

11:30 am What is A.I.? Presentation by Union
Country Public Library.

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

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 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