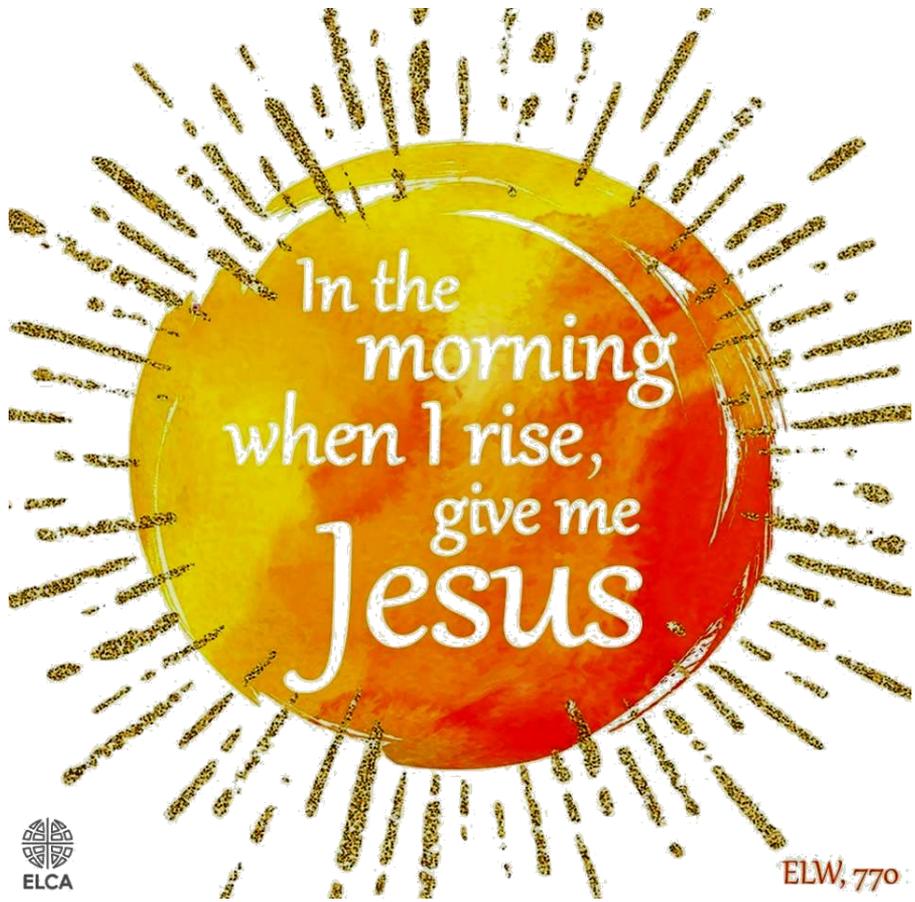




September 2025 NEWSLETTER



ELW, 770

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

- MON, SEPT. 1** **LABOR DAY**
OFFICE CLOSED
- TUE, SEPT. 2** **WORSHIP AND MUSIC MEETING**
- WED, SEPT. 3** **THEOLOGY ON TAP**
- FRI, SEPT. 5** **FOOD BANK DELIVERY**
- SUN, SEPT. 7** **SOCIAL HOUR RESUMES**
FAITH LAB RESUMES
- TUE, SEPT. 9** **OAKS SENIOR CENTER**
- WED, SEPT. 10** **BONHOEFFER STUDY BEGINS**
- SAT, SEPT. 13** **MILTON HARVEST FESTIVAL BOOTH**
BABY STEPS DIAPER PANTRY
- SUN, SEPT. 14** **OUTREACH MEETING**
- TUE, SEPT. 16** **COUNCIL MEETING**
- SUN, SEPT. 21** **HARVEST HOME SUNDAY**
OCTOBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
FAITH LAB

FROM THE PASTOR



Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light; but if your eye is unhealthy, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness! No one can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.

Matthew 6:19-24

Dear United In Christ,

“The life of discipleship can only be maintained so long as nothing is allowed to come between Christ and ourselves – neither the law, nor personal piety, nor even the world. The disciple always looks only to his master, never to Christ *and* the law, Christ *and* religion, Christ *and* the world. . . If the heart is devoted to the mirage of the world, to the creature instead of the Creator, the disciple is lost.”

So wrote Dietrich Bonhoeffer in his reflection on this pericope from the Gospel of Matthew in his 1937 work *The Cost of Discipleship*. Bonhoeffer, a Lutheran pastor in Germany who was formed in the wake of WWI and was ultimately martyred during WWII, found himself wrestling with the effect of faith in the realities of his troubled world. He chafed at what he felt to be a watering down of discipleship – of living according to a cheap grace – within the Christianity of his time and place. His writings reflect

a conviction that a life lived unchanged by the call of Christ is one that can hardly be called Christian. For Bonhoeffer, a life of discipleship meant a new obedience lived out according to the measure and weight of the costly grace afforded by God.

In many ways, his conviction comes as a response to the synergizing of his own religion with the predominant culture and rising nationalism of his day. Even amid the rise of the Nazi party, Bonhoeffer reserves some of his harshest critique for the church of his own Lutheran tradition. The synchronicity of church and state, for him, dulled the call to obedience set forth by the Christ who draws disciples to follow him above all else. Serving two masters is not an option for the Christian disciple, Bonhoeffer says. Nothing ought to come between ourselves and the Christ whose command to follow draws us into the first steps of faith and obedience simultaneously.

If this sounds familiar, that's good. We, too, might feel the tension of a world that seeks to split our own loyalty. The pulls of success, meritocracy, nationalism, self-interest, and so much more continue to seductively invite a fealty that they promise will come with plenty of reward to the proselyte. But if this unresolved tension of competing calls sounds difficult, that's good too. The cost of discipleship *is* high. Following Christ runs counter to the ways of so many of the structures and institutions we've built for ourselves in this world. Bonhoeffer himself felt this tension well, yet chose a path that did not seek to inherently resolve such a tension, but rather to let the strain of that tension be felt on a daily basis.

As summer draws to a close and we enter into a time of new beginnings and new programming, I hope that you will find the opportunity to plumb the depths of such costly discipleship, UIC. The challenge set forth by Bonhoeffer ninety years ago might just be one that still has relevance to those of us gathering in that very same tradition today. As we dive into the gifts of our tradition in the months ahead, I invited you to be intentional in

your discernment of this cost of discipleship. If you'd like to do such work of discernment together, I invite you to join us for our "Bible with Bonhoeffer" study taking place starting this month (see more a few pages in for more details). As your pastor, I would love nothing more than to dive with you into these difficult and unresolved points of tension – into the depths of discipleship – in the hopes that we may emerge re-formed by the call to discipleship set before us by Jesus.

In the meantime, may you hear the voice of Jesus yet calling you in this world. May the treasure of your heart abound in that which neither moth nor rust can consume. May the light, which enlightens everyone, be that which greets you with each new day. May you know the cost that Christ has carried for you and, in it, may you find a worth worthy of sharing with the world around you.

Yours, united in Christ,

~ Pastor Justin

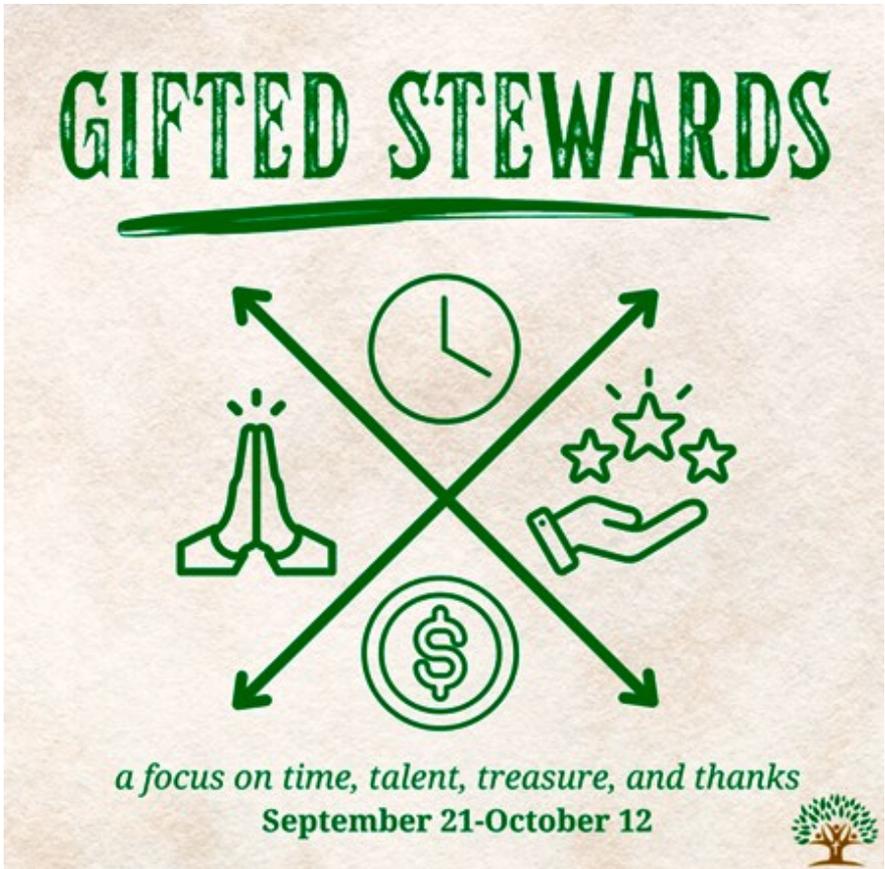
SOCIAL HOUR RESUMES



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 to clean up afterwards.

GIFTED STEWARDS SERIES

Join us for our four-week worship series (September 21 – October 12) focusing in on the ways in which we can be stewards of the gifts God has given us! Together, we will reflect on the ways in which we return our time, talent, treasure, and thanks to God and to the community in Christ! See you there!





Lewisburg Lunch Program: Brad, Megan, Ella, Maisey, and Jack Catherman, Gwen Murphy, Heather Allegar, Sherry Bingaman, and Ruby Baker.



2025 Summer Day Camp





UIC, CELC, and MLC folks got together and went to a Crosscutters Baseball Game.



2025 UIC Family Picnic



UIC Kids helping during communion

UNITED IN CHRIST
LUTHERAN CHURCH
INVITES YOU TO

Theology on Tap

JOIN US AT RUSTY RAIL
6:00 PM ON
SEPTEMBER 3RD



NEWSLETTER DEADLINE SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

Any articles, events, photos, or thank you notes you'd like to have in the October Newsletter need to be in to the office by Sunday, September 21st.

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



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



HAPPY *Anniversary*

John and Jen Sheaffer 10/6/01

Chris Lee and Dawn Warren 10/10/11

Randy and Kristin Sprenkle 10/14/00

Jeff and Tina Snyder 10/15/94

Tom and Marilyn Gresh 10/18/69

Rick and Kathy Guffey 10/25/86



Happy Birthday

Linda Caris 10/1

Cheryl Robuck 10/5

Shirley Russell 10/10

Ella Catherman 10/12

Ruby Baker 10/20

Kelsey Lingenfelter 10/20

Lizzie Sprenkle 10/22

Dylan Cromwell 10/23

Jaxon Baker 10/24

Mel Baker 10/25



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

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

	Sept. 7	Sept. 14	Sept. 21	Sept. 28
Worship Leader	Justin	Katy	Justin	Katy
Social Hour	A - D	E - K	Milton Lutheran Church	L - R
Bread/Wine	K. Criswell	K. Guffey	S. Keifer	S. McPherrin
Altar Guild	S. Keifer	ML Keifer	M. Catherman	B. Guffey
Digital Host	D. Murphy	T. Cromwell	K. Guffey	M. Shearer
Front Door Greeter	K. Guffey	M. Ketchem	C. Robuck	B. Swartz
	ML Keifer	R. Whitesel	D. Robuck	T. Swartz
Side Door Greeter	R. Kling	L. Rabuck	K. Noll	G. Weiser
Lector	B. Catherman	V. Tyrell	B. Guffey	D. Murphy
Ushers	J. Mertz	T. Swartz	K. Baker	R. Kling
	L. Rabuck	B. Guffey	S. Brown	L. Rabuck
	M. Rabuck	K. Arndt	K. Criswell	M. Rabuck
	B. Swartz	D. Baker	T. Cromwell	J. Mertz
Communion Asst.	C. Robuck	ML Keifer	R. Kling	T. Cromwell
	M. Shearer	R. Sprengle	B. Swartz	S. Weiser
Guest Relations	G. Weiser	M. Mertz	K. Noll	M. Rabuck
Offering Counter	B. Guffey	M. Rabuck	K. Guffey	C. Shreck
	P. Hauck	M. Shearer	L. Rabuck	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.

UNITED IN CHRIST'S PRAYER LIST

PRAYER REQUESTS: family and friends of Dolly Bittner, Cathy Hoover, Diane Gottlieb, 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 calling 570-568-2254 or emailing it to office@unitedinchristlutheran.net.

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.



ALTAR FLOWERS

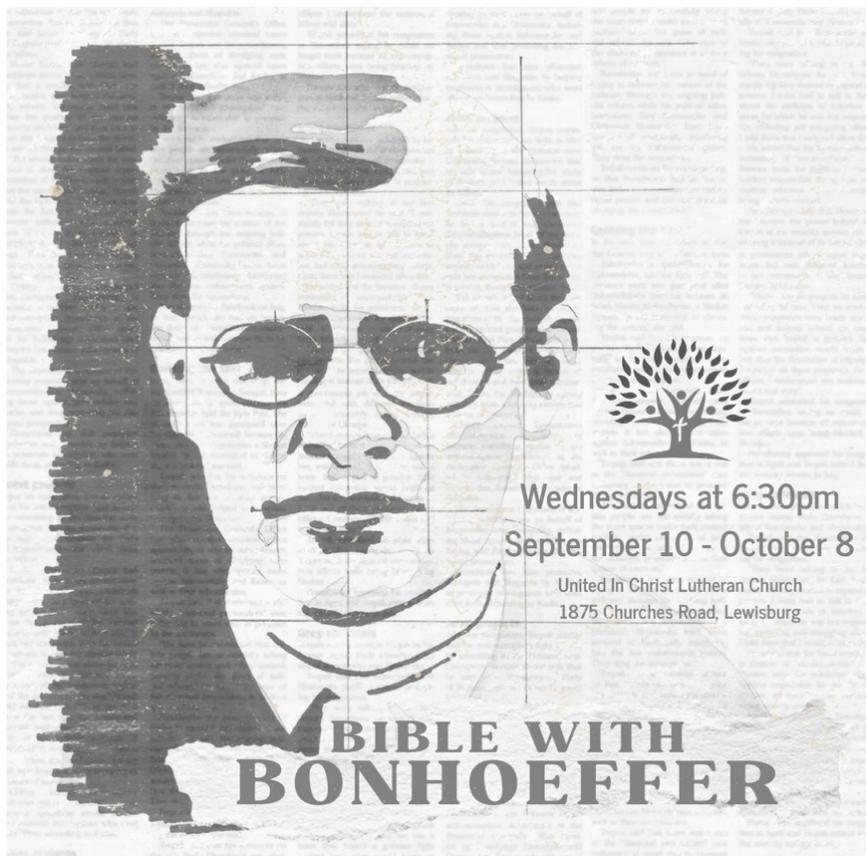
Cost is \$35.

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



BIBLE WITH BONHOEFFER STUDY

Join us for a five-week study series beginning **Wednesday, September 10th at 6:30pm** as we dive into scripture alongside the life and convictions of 20th century Lutheran pastor, theologian, and martyr, Dietrich Bonhoeffer. Formed in the decades following WWI and living as a German during the rise of Nazism and onset of WWII, Bonhoeffer developed works that provide deeply impactful insight into the convictions of faith as they met the realities of the troubled world around him. Each week we will dive into scripture together while using reflections from Bonhoeffer's works to continue wrestling with the meaning of faith in the world! We hope you will join us for study and reflection!



**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?***

We need people to host the meal portion of one of the monthly gatherings here at UIC! We'd love to have your help along the way! Please see the sign up sheet in the fellowship hall.



OAKS

SENIOR CENTER

Tuesday, September 9th

10:00 am Doors Open

10:30 am Free Bingo with Prizes

11:30 am Scams: PA State Police

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



Sacred Steps

A Discernment Event

**Sponsored by the Upper Susquehanna Synod
Candidacy Committee and Lay Ministry Institute**

*Feel as though God is calling you
into something more?*

Join us for a day of discernment to discover where God might be leading you to live deeper into the Good News of Christ Jesus for the sake of the church and the world.

Keynote Speaker: Rev. Dr. Martin Otto-Zimmerman, ULC

Saturday, October 11 ~ 9am - 4pm

Camp Mount Luther ~ 335 Mt. Luther Lane, Mifflinburg

Cost: \$25 to cover cost of lunch and book

Pre-register by contacting the Synod Office
at 570-524-9778 by September 26th.

Saturday, September 13
MILTON HARVEST FESTIVAL

3 for
\$3

Pierogie Sale



100% of proceeds will go to God's Chuckwagon
a mobile soup kitchen in our area.

This year Outreach is selling Mrs. T's Pierogies at Milton's Harvest Festival. Please see the signups sheets on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall, or contact the office, to help donate supplies and volunteer at our booth.

Trunk-or-Treat

UIC, CELC, and MLC will be hosting a Trunk-or-Treat on Saturday, October 11th at Milton Lutheran Church. Start planning your trunks!! Signup sheets will go up later in September.

Outreach will begin collecting candy on Sunday, September 28 to handout at Trunk-or-Treat. Please put your donations in the box in the Narthex.



We will be collecting food for the Milton Panther Packs. Milton Panther Packs provides backpacks of food every weekend, when school meals are not available, for 347 children in the Milton School District. Items cannot be in glass and should be non-perishable foods that a child could open or prepare on their own. Food can be placed in the collection box in the Narthex.

SEPTEMBER 21

Oatmeal cups or packets

Individual cereal boxes

Ramen noodles

**Soup, stew, chili
(pop top lid)**

**Canned chicken or
tuna (pop top lid)**

Mac and cheese cups

Granola bar

Peanut butter crackers

Applesauce cups

Fruit snacks

Fruit roll-ups

**Canned pasta
(pop top lid)**

Fruit cups

Pudding cups

Pop tarts

Breakfast bars

SENIOR EXPRESS FOOD BOXES

Food boxes will be delivered to UIC by the Central Pa Food Bank on Friday, September 5st.

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



Baby Steps DIAPER PANTRY

UPCOMING DIAPER PANTRY

September 13, 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.

Use our partner
number when you
donate to
CommunityAid!
#30192



Every donation using our
partner number supports
ministries at UIC!

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.

THANK YOU

Our Self-Care Sanctuary team at Milton Lutheran Church would like to thank you for your gifts of time and donations to our ministry. With the rising costs of products needed to stock our pantry, your donations helped us to be able to continue the longevity of our outreach project.
The Self-Care Sanctuary Team

Dear Rich Huff Scholarship Committee,
Thank you so much for selecting me as a recipient of the Rich Huff Scholarship. I will be moving into Elizabethtown College later this week. Your generosity will help me pay for my education as I pursue a future career in Occupational Therapy.

Sincerely,
Maura Smith

Rich Huff Fund,
Thank you so much for all of the donations to help replace our son's items he lost. We appreciate and can't thank you enough for everything you have done. Thank you so much!!

God Bless,
Brittany, Timothy, Timmy Ungard

Dear United In Christ,
Words can't express how much we appreciate all the prayers and donations sent by you. We couldn't have gotten through this difficult time without all your support. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

God Bless,
Brittany, Timothy, Timmy Ungard

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