



February 2026 NEWSLETTER



LUKE 10:27



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

Ruby Baker.....	President	1 st term, ends 12/2027
Beth Guffey.....	Vice President	1 st term, ends 12/2027
Kathy Arndt.....	Treasurer	2 nd term, ends 12/2027
Michelle Shearer.....	Secretary	2 nd term, ends 12/2027
Megan Catherman.....		1 st term, ends 12/2028
Ken Criswell.....		1 st term, ends 12/2026
Dave Davies.....		1 st term, ends 12/2028
Kristie Koch.....		1 st term, ends 12/2026
Gwen Murphy.....		1 st term, ends 12/2028
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

SUN, FEB. 1	SCOUT SUNDAY FAITH LAB @ CELC
TUE, FEB. 3	WORSHIP AND MUSIC MEETING
WED, FEB. 4	THEOLOGY ON TAP
FRI, FEB. 6	DELIVERY FROM FOOD BANK
SUN, FEB. 8	SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY FAITH AND FUN SUNDAY OUTREACH MEETING
MON, FEB. 9	2025 COMMITTEE REPORTS DUE
TUE, FEB. 10	OAKS SENIOR CENTER
WED, FEB. 11	PACKING MILTON PANTHER PACKS
SAT, FEB. 14	BABY STEPS DIAPER PANTRY
SUN, FEB. 15	FAITH LAB @ UIC
MON, FEB. 16	NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
TUE, FEB. 17	SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER COUNCIL MEETING
WED, FEB. 18	ASH WEDNESDAY
SAT, FEB. 21	WINTER DINNER SOCIAL
SUN, FEB. 22	LENT 1 CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
TUE, FEB. 24	LENTEN STUDY BEGINS
WED, FEB. 25	HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER @ CELC BEGINS
THU, FEB. 26	LENTEN BRUNCH BEGINS

FROM THE PASTOR



Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became bright as light. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will set up three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." And when they raised their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone. As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

Matthew 17:1-9

Dear United In Christ,

A couple years ago Kelsey and I got one of these jump packs that are meant to help you out if your car battery dies. It's a whole self-contained unit that you have to charge at home, but that is then supposed to be able to hook straight up to your car battery and give you a jump if it dies. In effect, it's a clever thing that's supposed to replace the need for jumper cables and a second car if your battery ever goes down!

Lo and behold, two summers ago we were at a concert out past Pittsburgh when we got back to the car only to discover that the battery had died. After the initial frustration, we regrouped and thought what a great opportunity it was to finally test the new jump pack! We opened up the trunk to go get it out only to discover that the ding-dang thing was nowhere to be found! There we were at 11 o'clock at night tearing

the car apart with our phone flashlights trying to find this pack only to come to the only logical (but most disheartening) conclusion:

The jump pack was still sitting in the garage at home.

Obviously, the pack didn't do us much good from over 200 miles away! It needed to go with us in order for it to have been of any use in that, our hour of need! It didn't matter that we knew how to use it or that it was charged up properly! All the knowledge in the world couldn't help us if we didn't actually take it along! It did us no good simply sitting back at home all to itself!

That, I think, is precisely the same conviction that we are meant to share about this moment of transfiguration here in Matthew's Gospel. As Peter, James, and John accompany Jesus up to the mountaintop, they bear witness to an absolutely incredible and revelatory sight! The shining light, the miraculous appearance of their ancestors of faith, the voice from on high declaring the majesty of their rabbi; it all adds up to a *phenomenally* encouraging scene – one that surely supercharged their sense of discipleship! It was a revelatory moment that surely had the power to change the entire course of Jesus and his disciples' moving ministry.

But it would do them no good if they left it in the garage – or in this case on the mountaintop. Surely this is why, despite Peter's earnest desire to build dwellings to bask in this radiance, Jesus beckons them forth to head back down the mountain. He knows that they cannot leave this magnificence tucked away. They need to take the supercharged scope of this moment and take it back down the mountain to greet the people with the fullness of all God had just put on display.

In much the same way, this becomes our call as well, United In Christ. For all the joy that we can experience from our mountaintop moments – whether in worship, in study, in fellowship – we are called to take those convictions and take them with us into this world. We are called to *share* the experiences we have with a world desperately in need of some good news. We can't leave our battery pack in the garage! We are called to take this radiant splendor back out into the world around us!

In the coming weeks there will be plenty of opportunity to both recharge on the mountain and put that experience to good use! With Lent's arri-

val later this month, we will have new and returning opportunities with a new study series, Holden Evening Prayer worship, and a new daytime opportunity for gathering in the Spirit. I hope and pray that these opportunities charge you well for our continued journey of service and mission as we follow God's call in the world. Read on to see all of the ways you can get involved in the coming weeks!

For now, may you not forget to pack the jump pack! May you take the joy of God's continued movements and live it out for the sake of the world around us! May you go from the mountain to greet the world with all that God declares!

Yours, united in Christ,

~ Pastor Justin



Ash Wednesday Worship

Wednesday, February 18th at 7:00pm

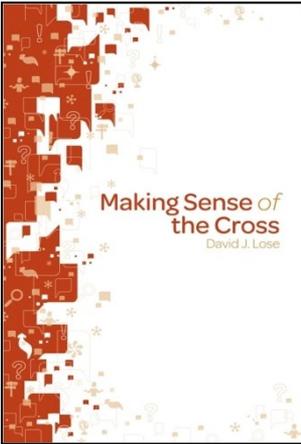
United In Christ Lutheran Church

1875 Churches Road

Lewisburg, PA 17837



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



Join us for the start of a new Lenten study series: *Making Sense of the Cross!* Beginning on **Tuesday, February 24th at 6:30pm**, we will gather weekly with neighbors from CELC and MLC here at UIC for a video series that explores how the cross has been understood over time and how we might understand it as Christians today!

For those interested, we invite you to pick up a copy of the accompanying participant book to read at home each week. **Copies are \$15 each and can be ordered using the signup sheet in the fellowship hall!**

From the publisher: *Listen in on a conversation between two people having an open and candid discussion about the cross. One assumes the role of teacher or coach, someone who has had the time and opportunity to study the faith in some depth. The other is curious, knows a little bit about the faith, and brings a lot of questions: So what's with the cross? What does the cross say about God? What's the big deal? Did Jesus have to die?*

UIC LENTEN OFFERING

Lenten offerings will go to UIC's Pastor's Discretionary Fund. The fund is managed by Pastor Justin and is used for aid requests from members of the church and the community.

In 2025, the fund distributed \$1,338 in aid. The Pastor's Discretionary Fund currently has a balance of \$536.79.



Join the fun in worship on **Sunday, February 8th** as we mark the return of Faith and Fun Sunday! This service is designed with our kids in mind as we get them up and active while interacting with the scripture assigned for the day!

This month, the kids will embrace what it means to be the salt of the earth, the light of the world, and a city on a hill! It's a great day to invite the family to join in the fun! We hope to see you there!

SCOUT SUNDAY



Join us on Sunday, February 1st as we worship with all of the Cub and Boy Scouts that meet here every week. We will have a special blessing for the scouts and their leaders, and they will be serving as lectors, ushers and greeters that day.

We are asking for extra snacks for Social Hour after worship on Sunday, February 1. There will be lots of hungry kiddos!

If you are able,
please bring something to share!

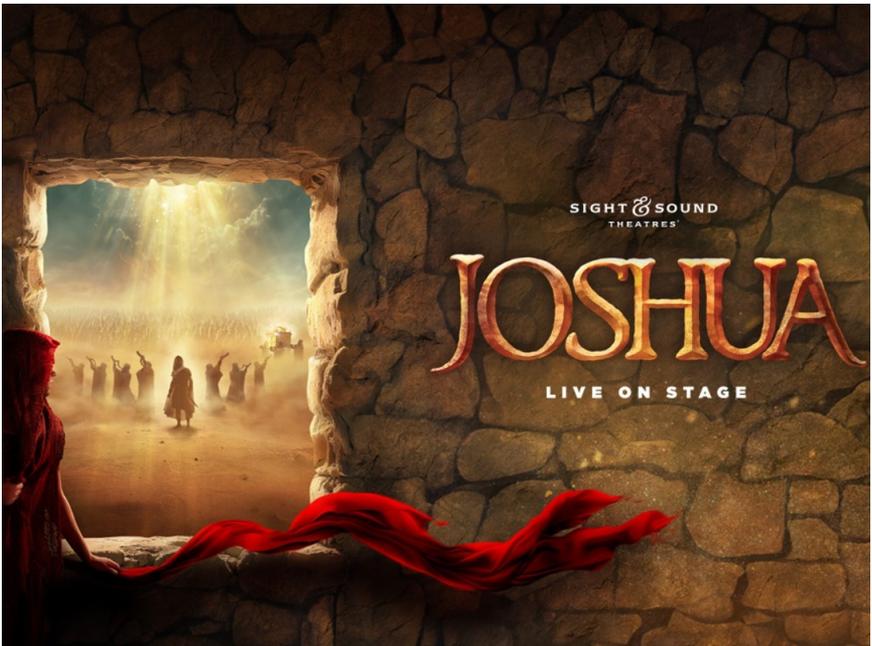
Annual Congregational Meeting



Sunday, February 22nd

The meeting will take place immediately following worship service. All members are encouraged to attend.

At the meeting we will hear the 2025 Annual Report.



SAVE THE DATE

Join us and our friends at Milton Lutheran Church and Christ's Evangelical Lutheran Church Lewisburg - Wednesday, April 15th

SENIOR EXPRESS FOOD BOXES

Food boxes will be delivered to UIC
by the Central Pa Food Bank on Friday, February 6th.

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



NEWSLETTER DEADLINE MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16

Any articles, events, photos, or thank you notes you'd like to have in the March Newsletter need to be in to the office by Monday, February 16.

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



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



OAKS

SENIOR CENTER

Tuesday, February 10

10:00 am Doors Open

10:30 am Free Bingo with Prizes

11:30 am Phoenix Physical Therapy
Talk on Incontinence

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



HAPPY Anniversary

Mel and Nancy Baker 2/14/03
Dave and Michelle Davies 2/14/19
Jack and Cheryl Stiber 2/26/65



Happy Birthday

Megan Catherman 2/1
Larissa Shearer 2/3
Dalton Shearer 2/4
Delroy Caris 2/5
Jeffrey Snyder 2/6
Rick Whitesel 2/8
Aaron Guffey 2/10

Maiya Hauck-Dabney 2/12
Eleanor Brouse 2/14
Annette Baker 2/19
Elwood Brown 2/19
Gwen Murphy 2/19
Mary Lou Keifer 2/21
John Heckman 2/25



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

LET'S GET SOCIAL!

Christ's Lutheran Church invites you to a

WINTER DINNER SOCIAL

February 21 at 6pm
Scarlet D Tavern, Mifflinburg

All Are Welcome



WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

	Feb.1	Feb. 8	Feb. 15	Feb. 18	Feb. 22
Worship Leader	Justin	Justin	Katy	Justin	Justin
Social Hour	A - Z	S - Z	A - D		E - K
Bread/Wine	J. Mertz	M. Shearer	K. Sprengle	R. Baker	S. Weiser
Altar Guild	ML Keifer	M. Catherman	S. Keifer	T. Cromwell	K. Guffey
Digital Host	B. Guffey	T. Cromwell	D. Murphy	K. Guffey	M. Shearer
Front Door Greeter	Scouts	Catherman Family	L. Rabuck M. Rabuck	B. Swartz T. Swartz	ML Keifer R. Kling
Side Door Greeter	Scouts	K. Baker	K. Guffey	T. McPherrin	B. Keifer
Lector	Scouts	D. Murphy	M. Shearer	J. Rutt	B. Swartz
Ushers	Scouts	K. Arndt D. Baker K. Baker K. Criswell	B. Guffey R. Kling S. McPherrin T. McPherrin	T. Cromwell L. Rabuck M. Rabuck M. Shearer	B. Swartz T. Swartz B. Troxell K. Arndt
Communion Asst.	D. Baker B. Swartz <small>T. Cromwell - helper</small>	D. Davies S. Weiser	R. Sprengle R. Kling	ML Keifer B. Swartz	D. Murphy C. Robuck
Guest Relations	T. McPherrin	M. Mertz	K. Noll		M. Rabuck
Offering Counter	M. Shearer B. Guffey	C. Shreck P. Hauck	T. Stitzel M. Rabuck	R. Baker K. Guffey	L. Rabuck J. Rutt

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: Joann Sullivan, family and friends of Harold Danowsky Sr., Rose Stitzel, Scott Cutter, Brenda Bowser, Elwood Brown, Sandy Brown, Debbie, Jayne, Patrick Moseley, Bob Troxell, Eugene Bain, Annette Baker, Mark Rabuck, 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.

LET US KNOW



Please let us know when you are in the hospital or have an upcoming surgery. Call the church office at 570-568-2254 to let us know. Please do not assume that if you tell someone in church that the office or pastor will find out.

Because of confidentiality issues, it's best if you contact Pastor Justin or the church office directly.

Use our partner
number when you
donate to
CommunityAid!

#30192



Every donation using our
partner number supports
ministries at UIC!



ALTAR FLOWERS

Cost is \$35.

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



**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

United In Christ
Lutheran Church

Join us for our family-focused faith formation experience on Sunday, February 1st at Christ's in Lewisburg and Sunday, February 15th 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?

Join us for our Adult roundtable while the kids are in their group!

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.



Tell me
something
good

Grounding ourselves in
the good news this Lent

Join us this Lent as we center ourselves on a new worship series: *Tell Me Something Good: Grounding Ourselves in the Good News this Lent*. Join us for this series in worship on Sunday mornings as we move through our Lenten journey seeking out the good news, even in the wilderness. This year, we will be making this journey alongside our neighbors at Milton Lutheran Church (MLC) and Christ's Evangelical Lutheran Church (CELC), as all three communities move through this series together!

As we lean into this year's theme, we invite you to join in three opportunities beyond Sunday morning worship to tell "something good" in the wilderness!

First, we invite you to join us for the opportunity to be told something good from new perspectives as we gather for mid-week worship. Beginning on **Wednesday, February 25th**, we **invite you to join us weekly at CELC for a time of soup and fellowship at 6:00pm, followed by Holden Evening Prayer at 7:00pm in the sanctuary.** Each week, we will hear “something good” from a lay leader from one of the three congregations. We hope you will come out to be renewed by the perspectives that bring!

Second, we invite you to join us for a new opportunity for gathering and digesting this good news during the week. Beginning on **Thursday, February 26th at 11:00am**, we **invite you to join us weekly for food and fellowship at Silver Moon Restaurant!** Each week, we will gather to reflect on the themes of that week and digest what was heard in worship on Sunday and Wednesday of the week prior!

Finally, as we hear “something good” each week this season, we will be *sharing* “something good” with the neighbors around us. Each week, all three congregations will collect much needed household items to be donated to DIG Furniture bank in Milton. These items will go to support families getting a fresh start in our community! Keep your eyes peeled for which items we will be collecting each week (ex. bath towels, throw pillows, etc.) to share in something good! Items can either be gently used or new!

We hope you will join us for any or all of these opportunities in the weeks ahead!

About the Series:

Lent was originally a season for new converts to learn and prepare for their baptism on Easter. During that time, they would study what was central to Christianity. As we crafted this series, we studied what was central to Jesus’ life and ministry: radical welcome, love for neighbor, care for the vulnerable, nourishment for the hungry, nonviolence in the face of

injustice. At the heart of Jesus' teachings, we find liberation, love, mercy, and grace—all of which are meant to be very good news for us all.

Jesus' ministry can be described as "radical" which comes from the Latin word "radicalis," meaning "root" or "ground." Therefore, the good news should bring us back to our roots. Emulating Jesus and embodying his teachings should ground us in who God created us to be. Can we be "good news" people in a world too often burdened by bad news?

This Lent, let us remember that the good news really is *good news*. It is joyful—like fine wine saved for celebration. It grows like a mustard seed and smells like perfume poured from an alabaster jar. It tastes like bread passed endlessly through a hungry crowd. It sounds like laughter and feels like mercy. The good news is alive in the world.

We hope this series will provide fertile ground for conversation and worship, rooting our hearts and lives in the expansive goodness of God. This Lent, let the teachings of Jesus lead us forward. May the good news inspire us to take action in a world desperate to hear, see, and taste what is good.

LENTEN BRUNCH

You're invited to join us as we dig deeper into our Lenten Worship Series "Tell me Something Good". Together, CELC, UIC and MLC will delve into our weekly theme and enjoy some great food together. Our discussions will be led by Pastors Justin, Katy, and Gary.

Thursdays from Feb. 26th- March 26th
11am at Silver Moon restaurant in Lewisburg.

UNITED IN CHRIST
LUTHERAN CHURCH
INVITES YOU TO

Theology on Tap

JOIN US AT RUSTY RAIL
6:00 PM ON
FEBRUARY 4



Theology on Tap on January 21st



Looking for a way to plug in and help build relationships at UIC? You might just be the right person to join our pilot group for small group ministries! This spring our pilot group will be gathering regularly to help shape the future of small group ministries here at UIC! We'd love your energy and enthusiasm to help get us there! If you are interested in being a participant (or even training to become a group leader), please reach out to Pr. Justin!

Outreach



SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8

Collecting food items for
Milton Panther Packs

We will be collecting individually sized food items for Milton Panther Packs which provides backpacks of food over the weekends, when school meals are not available. Every week there are over 250 children that take home food backpacks.

- Ramen Noodles
- Chef-Boyardee
- Oatmeal Packets
- Soup
- Creamy Peanut Butter (15 ounce)
- Fruit Cups
- Mac and Cheese Cups
- Applesauce Cups

All can items must have pop-top lids

Please place your items in the box in the Narthex.



SERVING OPPORTUNITY

Packing food bags for
MILTON PANTHER PACKS
Wednesday, February 11 ~ 6pm-7pm
ST ANDREW'S UMC
102 Lower Market St, Milton



Join us on Wednesday, February 11 to pack up the items that were donated to Milton Panther Packs from Souper Bowl Sunday!

SENIOR EXPRESS FOOD BOXES

Food boxes will be delivered to UIC by the Central Pa Food Bank on Friday, February 6th.

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





Let's give our college students a big warm hug by blessing them with Valentine's Day Care Packages. We can share with these students the message that United In Christ remains a constant in their lives and Jesus' love is always present!

UIC's college students are Owen Arndt, Mya Cromwell, Emma Danowsky, Mae Haussmann, Colby Noll, Grant Rowe, and Sarah Sprenkle.

You can place "thinking of you" cards in the box in the Narthex. Please make sure you write their name on the card envelope.

Monetary donations, or gift cards, can be placed in the offering plate. Please write "Valentine's" on your envelope. Monetary donations will be used to purchase gift cards for our 7 students.

Deadline will be Sunday, February 16th.



Baby Steps DIAPER PANTRY

UPCOMING DIAPER PANTRY

February 14, 2026 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.

THANK YOU

Thank you for the love and care you shared. Best wishes to you in the new year.

Love,
Cindy Reedy

On behalf of Danville State Hospital, I would like to thank you for your kindness. Your sponsorship of 15 individuals brought smiles to each of them. For them to know someone cares lifts their spirits. I am grateful for your thoughtfulness.

Thank you,
TJ Burk, CEO

UIC COMMITTEES

FINANCE: Kathy Arndt(c), Karen Baker, Jared Rutt

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

OAKS: Terri Cromwell(c), Kathy Arndt, Ruby Baker, Sherry Bingaman, Shirley and Ted McPherrin, Jane Mertz, Gwen Murphy, Lisa Rabuck

OUTREACH: Michelle Shearer(c), Heather Allegar, Kathy Arndt, Ruby Baker, Sherry Bingaman, Kathy Guffey, Al Stark

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

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

SENIOR EXPRESS: Sherry Bingaman(c), Ruby Baker, Garrett Glathar, Ted and Shirley McPherrin, Rowe Family, Michelle Shearer, Bob and Trudy Swartz, Warren Shipe

WORSHIP & MUSIC: Pastor Justin(c), 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