



August 2026 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

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

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, AUG. 4	W&M COMMITTEE MTG
WED, AUG. 5	THEOLOGY ON TAP
FRI, AUG. 7	DELIVERY FROM FOOD BANK
SAT, AUG. 8	BABY STEPS DIAPER PANTRY
SUN, AUG. 9	BACKPACK SUNDAY FAITH AND FUN SUNDAY OUTREACH/FELLOWSHIP MTG.
TUE, AUG. 11	OAKS SENIOR CENTER
TUE, AUG. 18	COUNCIL MEETING
WED, AUG. 19	THEOLOGY ON TAP
SUN, AUG. 23	OUTDOOR WORSHIP AT CENTRAL OAK HEIGHTS CHURCH PICNIC NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
SUN, AUG. 30	CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

FROM THE PASTOR



Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.

Romans 12:9-18

Dear United In Christ,

I am so glad to live in this technological era. I am so grateful for the unprecedented access to information available at my fingertips. I am thrilled by the levels of entertainment I can find on Netflix or Hulu or the PlayStation. I love that my computer and my phone and my headphones and my watch all talk to one another in a way that moves me seamlessly through the day with synchronicity. Every time I refresh my social media page or email server and find the latest and greatest clearance sales, I am reminded that I never would have made it out of the cave of our ancestors as I gratefully click that “Shop Now” button.

But I also acknowledge that one of the real challenges to this highly synchronized life is in the way it can leave me ironically more isolated than ever, if I'm not careful. Juggling emails and my Facebook feed and news threads and about eighteen open tabs on my browser can give me the illusion that I'm hyper connected when, in reality, it's just me sitting behind a couple of screens at the same time.

I don't think I'm alone in this, though. Maybe you know that illusory feeling of being more connected than ever, only to feel a little bit hollow when you finally log off and power down for the day. Maybe you know the enticing thrall of checking one more post or watching through until more commercial break. Maybe you know what it feels like to keep scrolling the algorithm for one more hit of short-form dopamine, only to realize the day has gone by around you. The temptation with so much at my fingertips at once is to become a consumer of the world around of me instead of a participant in the communities at hand.

Which is why I need to be reminded every now and again that actually being in community is the foundation for the body of Christ. This is the imagery that Paul draws upon over and over again; the body of Christ cannot survive with its many members living in isolation. Each contributes to the fuller whole with one another. In this way, our Sunday gatherings become an incredibly important and interruptive discipline for me! Every week I am forced to remember that I am not alone. We are not alone and we reflect Christ best when we are drawn together.

This does not always come easy, though. Paul seems to know this as well. I think that's why, in writing to the Romans, he lays out a sort of behavioral template on how to live together in this community. It's a veritable laundry list of principles, but they

serve the community well! “Let love be genuine,” he says. Contribute to the needs of the saints, extend hospitality to strangers, rejoice with the rejoicing, weep with the weeping, live in harmony, “so far as it depends on you, live peaceable with all” These are no easy courses. They demand intentionality and work. They require practice to develop enough muscle memory to implement them fluidly in and for the sake of the world. I would even argue that in this technological era when it’s easier than ever to just keep to our own, these practices become even more of an uphill excursion as we work against the grain of so many other forces. Yet, in so doing, gathering as the beloved community now becomes iconoclastic by defying the other isolating systems and forces of value to instead insist on Christ’s call to be one as he and the Father are one (John 17:21-23).

This work of community that Paul maps out is precisely what we will be orienting ourselves towards in the weeks ahead here at UIC. This month we will be reminded that we take the joy of our community and use it to spread good in this world when we take the energy of our Faith and Fun Sunday to bless students in our community with backpacks and school supplies. We will embody this joy of community and put it on display as we travel to Central Oak Heights to worship and gather for our annual church picnic, celebrating the joy of the Spirit drawing us as a community. Most pointedly, this month we will be preparing to exercise these muscles as we get ready to launch our new small group ministries in just a few weeks! Read more about this opportunity in the pages ahead, but I hope you will make the time to join in this new way of embodying God’s call to community with one another!

In the meantime, I pray that you continue to remember who you are: United In Christ. When it's easier than ever to take on the false assumption that you are on your own, may you encounter the blessing of this community. May you rejoice in the hope it offers, be patient through one another's suffering, and persevere in prayer for each other. May you love one another with mutual affection and outdo one another in showing honor. May you embody this community, even as you find your place within it. May you make space for the stranger knowing that this community is not yet whole until you both find your place within it. May you remember that you are not alone.

Yours, united in Christ,

Pastor Justin

Congregational Meeting



Sunday, August 30th

The meeting will take place immediately following worship service.

All members are encouraged to attend.

At the meeting we will hear the proposal and vote on the church steeple repair project.

LEWISBURG SUMMER YOUTH LUNCH PROGRAM

On Friday, July 17th, Heather Allegar, Ruby Baker, Karen and Dave Baker, Trudy and Bob Swartz, and Terri Cromwell met at the United Pentecostal Church in Lewisburg to put together bags of food for children.

Each bag contained canned fruit, veggies, black beans, and pasta, it also contained granola bars, rice, self-stable milk, a pack of cheese, ham lunch meat, bread, and tortias. All of this is purchased by the lunch program.



The lunch program happens 2 times a month, always on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of the month.



Churches supply fresh fruits and vegetables each time. Rich Huff Fund supplied fresh blueberries, green beans, and snow peas.

We distributed 36 bags of food to 25 clients with 61 children!!

Thank you Rich Huff Fund for supplying the fresh fruits and vegetables and thank you to UIC members for your help prepping, signing people in, and helped to carry out bags to clients vehicles!!



United In Christ **ON THE GO!**



SUNDAY, AUGUST 23

10:00AM Worship
Church Picnic to Follow!



CENTRAL OAK HEIGHTS

75 Heritage Road
West Milton, PA 17886



We're taking a Sunday field trip! Mark your calendars to join us for worship at **Central Oak Heights on Sunday, August 23rd at 10:00am!**

We have rented a golf cart for the day, so rest assured we will get you where you need to be for worship that morning! We hope you will join us for this fun excursion off the hill!

Be sure to stick around afterwards for our annual church picnic! Bring a covered dish to go with the grilled chicken graciously prepared by the Shearer family!

As a bonus, Central Oak Heights is opening up the pool for our use, so anyone who would like is welcome to bring swim attire as well! Don't miss out on the fun!



UIC CHURCH PICNIC

Sunday, August 23rd

Join us for a full day of fun at Central Oak Heights!
Worship will begin at 10am, followed by a church picnic. There is also a pool so bring your swimsuit if you'd like to get in.
Please signup at church or call the office to RSVP for the picnic.
Please bring a covered dish to share and a camp chair!

For those with mobility needs, a golf cart will pick you up at your car and take you where you need to be all day.

Central Oak Heights
75 Heritage Road, West Milton

The church will be supplying BBQ Chicken, water, plates, silverware, napkins, and cups. Please bring something to share. You can signup at church or contact Terri in the office so we can get a head count for the picnic.

The church is also renting a 4-person golf cart for the day for anyone with mobility needs. We will have a driver for the golf cart. The golf cart can pick you up at your car and transport you anywhere you need to go during the day!! If you have any questions please contact Terri in the office.

UNITED IN CHRIST
LUTHERAN CHURCH
INVITES YOU TO

Theology on Tap

JOIN US AT RUSTY RAIL
6:00 PM ON
AUGUST 5 & 19



Join us for Theology on Tap! We will be meeting at Rusty Rail on August 5th and 19th. Bring your questions to put in the stein, grab your drink of choice, and be ready to dive into them together as a group—we might not settle on an answer, but we can at least try! We will meet at 6:00 pm to grab food, drinks, and socialize a bit before starting discussion once we are settled. You can let us know you're coming through the sign-up sheets, or you can email Pastor Justin or Pastor Katy.

Rusty Rail Brewing
5 North 8th Street, Mifflinburg



Thank you to the entire congregation for their support of the Milton Lutheran Church Self-Care and Pet Food Sanctuary during the July drive. We collected over 200 personal care and paper products and over 60 pet food items. Special thanks to Bob and Trudy Swartz for using their Thrivent Action Team Grant to stretch the number of items donated to this monthly distribution!

~ UICLC Outreach Committee

SENIOR EXPRESS FOOD BOXES

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

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



WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

	Aug. 2	Aug. 9	Aug. 16	Aug. 23	Aug. 30
Worship Leader	Justin	Justin	Katy	Justin	Justin
Social Hour				Church Picnic	
Bread/Wine	Shirley M.	Jane M.	Michelle S.	Sharon W.	Donna B.
Altar Guild	Kathy G.	Beth G.	Sue K.	Mary Lou K.	Megan C.
Digital Host	Danielle M.	Michelle S.	Terri C.	Kathy G.	Beth G.
Greeter Front Door	Rose S. Karen B.	Donna B. Jeff B.	Kathy G. Ted M.	Bob S. Trudy S.	Cheryl R. Dale R.
Greeter Side Door	Bob K.	Ken N.	Rosemary K.	Terri C.	George W.
Lector	Vicky T.		Brad C.	Beth G.	Ted M.
Usher	Rosemary K. Ted M. Shirley M. Jane M.	Bob S. Trudy S. Dave B. Karen B.	Michelle S. Kathy A. Ken C. Rosemary K.	Beth G. Terri C. Ted M. Shirley M.	Jane M. Michelle S. Bob S. Trudy S.
Comm. Assist.	Bob S. Sharon W.	Jay H. Terri C.	Brad C. Dave B.	Mary Lou K. Michelle S.	Celeste C. Cheryl R.
Guest Relations	Mike M.	Ken N.	Jay H.		George W.
Offering Counter	Tim S. Jay H.	Celeste C. Kathy G.	Connie S. Jay H.	Michelle S. Jared R.	Beth G. Pam H.

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: Brent, Luke Vann, Michelle Davies, Dan and Gloria McDavit, Diane Powers, Elwood Brown, Ken Baker, Mark Rabuck, Jayne, Gigi Pray, Patrick Moseley, Bob Troxell, Eugene Bain, Annette Baker, 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.

Happy Birthday

Amy Danowsky 8/2

Ava Hauck-Dabney 8/12

Herb Marsh 8/12

Dave Baker 8/13

Steve Shearer 8/13

Bob Troxell 8/19

Bonnie Katherman 8/21

Sonja Noll 8/23

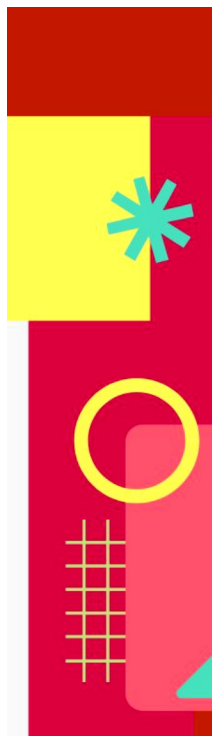
Justin Cooley 8/24



Join us for our next Faith and Fun worship service on **August 9th at 10:00am!** This service is designed to get our kids up and about interacting with the liturgy and scripture throughout the service!

As part of this service, we will hold our annual Backpack Blessing as our students prepare for the new school year! Be sure to bring those new backpacks with you to worship that day!

This is also a *fantastic* service for inviting friends and family! The more the merrier on this day fueled by the Spirit! Come and see!



Back to School Drive

Help us support Milton students in need!

Backpacks and supplies will be blessed during worship on Sunday, August 9.

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

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



July 12, 2026 ~ Lutheran Day at the Crosscutters Baseball Game



UIC SMALL GROUP MINISTRY

Connecting the body of Christ

Programming begins this September!

Sign up for your group today!



This September UIC is launching a cohort of intentional small group ministries within the congregation! This is a new format of ministry where around five households will regularly gather together for a time of community building, fellowship, and mutual support. We will begin this Fall with five host groups taking place at different times with different hosts throughout the week, so sign up for the group that works best for you!

With this ministry, you are especially encouraged to sign up for a group with folks whom you have not gotten a chance to know well within the congregation! Part of our

desire with this ministry is to get to know one another a little bit better so that there are fewer “less familiar” faces to us when we gather on a Sunday morning!

To get us started, each group will begin by gathering around a six-week study series titled *Understanding the Christian Faith*. This series will be tied to a Sunday morning preaching series from Pr. Justin and will include both a book and video component as follow up during the small group gatherings later in the week. Copies of the book are already available at the church office. If you’d like, you can make a \$13 donation to help offset those costs!



Goals for UIC Small Groups

Create Belonging

“You are welcome here.”

Build Relationships

“You are known here.”

Extend Support

“You are cared for here.”

Communicate Value

“You are vital here.”

Bonus: It’s scriptural! 1 Corinthians 12:14-31



In the meantime, we hope you will prayerfully consider which group you'd like to join! We'd love to see as many folks as possible get connected through this new ministry! Check out the signup sheets in the fellowship hall to sign up today! See Pastor Justin if you have any additional questions!



Why Small Groups for UIC?

New needs/challenges at UIC

- Shifting composition post-pandemic
- New “normal” in participation
- “Pastor, I look around and don’t recognize people!”



The Importance of Community

“In other words, we live into our humanity as made in the image of God more fully in community. Not only that, but in small groups, we work out our humanity, and our mission, as we seek to follow Jesus together.”

Fuller Institute Video





Rich Huff Fund received a \$2,500 check from Pom of Pennsylvania LLC to purchased diapers for the Baby Steps Diaper Pantry.



Baby Steps
DIAPER PANTRY

UPCOMING DIAPER PANTRY

Saturday, August 8 ~ 10:00am-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.

CHRISTMAS IN JULY







OAKS

SENIOR CENTER

Tuesday, August 11

10:00am - 1:00pm

Speaker: Union County Housing Authority

OAKS Senior Center is free.

Everyone is welcome to join us!

United In Christ Lutheran Church

Free
Lunch

Free
Bingo



1875 Churches Road, Lewisburg ~ 570-568-2254

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE MONDAY, AUGUST 23

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 Monday, August 23.

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

ALTAR FLOWERS



Altar flowers are a beautiful gift to our Lord and a wonderful expression of our love for God. It honors loved ones and gives thanks for special people and events in our lives.

The cost is \$35.

You may take your flowers home with you after service.

Flower Chart is located in the Fellowship Hall.

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.

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.

*Dear Members of United In Christ Lutheran Church,
On behalf of everyone at Milton Lutheran Church,
thank you for your generous donation of hygiene items
for our Self-Care Sanctuary pantry. Your thoughtful gift
helps ensure that individuals and families in our com-
munity have access to essential personal care items at
no cost. These everyday necessities can make a mean-
ingful difference for those facing financial hardship,
and your generosity allows us to continue serving our
neighbors with dignity, compassion, and care.*

*We are also deeply grateful for your continues partner-
ship and unwavering support of the many ministries we
share. Your encouragement and generosity strengthen
not only the Self-Care Sanctuary but also the broader
mission and work of Milton Lutheran Church. Is a bless-
ing to serve alongside a congregation that so faithfully
lives our Christ's call to love and care for others.*

*Thank you for your kindness, your compassion, and
your commitment to our shared ministry. We are truly
grateful for your partnership and look forward to con-
tinuing this important work together.*

*With sincere appreciation and God's blessings,
Stephanie Byers
Outreach Chairperson
Milton Lutheran Church*

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

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

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

SENIOR EXPRESS: Sherry Bingaman(c), Ruby Baker, 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