



October 2026 Newsletter



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

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

THUR, OCT. 1	SMALL GROUP: BAKER (THURSDAYS)
FRI, OCT. 2	DELIVERY FROM FOOD BANK
SUN, OCT. 4	SMALL GROUP: CATHERMAN (SUNDAYS) PET BLESSING @ MLC FAITH LAB @ UIC (SUNDAYS)
MON, OCT. 5	GOD'S MONSTER @ CELC (MONDAYS)
TUE, OCT. 6	PICKLEBALL (TUESDAYS) WORSHIP & MUSIC COMMITTEE MTG. SMALL GROUP: CRISWELL (TUESDAYS)
WED, OCT. 7	SMALL GROUP: GUFFEY (WEDNESDAYS)
SAT, OCT. 10	BABY STEPS DIAPER PANTRY
SUN, OCT. 11	OUTREACH/FELLOWSHIP MEETING FALL FESTIVAL @ ST. JOHN'S
MON, OCT. 12	INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY: OFFICE CLOSED
TUE, OCT. 13	OAKS SENIOR CENTER SMALL GROUP: STITZEL (TUESDAYS)
SAT, OCT. 17	TRUCK-OR-TREAT @ MLC
MON, OCT. 19	NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
SUN, OCT. 25	REFORMATION SUNDAY PASTOR APPRECIATION LUNCHEON
TUE, OCT. 27	COUNCIL MEETING
WED, OCT. 28	THEOLOGY ON TAP
SUN, NOV. 1	ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

FROM THE PASTOR

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

~ Hebrews 1:1-4

Dear United In Christ,

Have you ever noticed how sometimes God likes to approach things a little *differently*?

I mean, just think about it. For centuries the people of Israel grew accustomed to interacting with God through the routine complex of the Temple in Jerusalem. It's where people came to make their sacrifices and offer up their first fruits to God. They knew that the Temple was the arena in which God operated. In turn, they fully anticipated God's word to arrive through messengers, through prophets to help guide the way. Yet, for all of that setup, for a system so well established, it seemed that things always had a way of going awry. Eventually, we the people made the institution of religion much more about the rules we could enforce, rather than about the God who encounters us.

That's when God decided to try something a little different. Rather than offer up a revision of rules, rather than speak through one more representative, God decided to come down from on high and step into God's creation. We called him the Son, the Messiah, Emmanuel, the God with us. We called him Jesus. Through him, God finally perfected what God had always set out to do: to establish a good and right relationship with God's people in God's

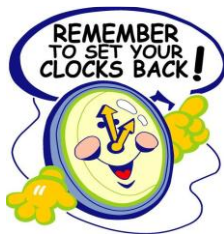
love. And while doing this different thing did not invalidate any of the ways in which God had worked before, it was certainly a new way of acting for our good. It showed that God is still willing to get creative for our sake and try things a little ~differently~.

In this month where we commemorate the bold actions of the Reformers who themselves tried things a little differently, I think it's helpful for us to remember God's precedent for us. God has never let things grow stagnant. At every turn along the way, God has been willing to try new things all for the sake of reaching God's people. It's a heritage that goes further back than even Luther and the Reformers; sometimes we have to try something different, something new. A seminary professor of mine called it "faithful experimentation." It's those moments when we set out to try something, not knowing fully how it will go, but trusting that we do so as faithful stewards of God's mission in the world.

This Reformation month, I encourage you to think boldly! Maybe try something a little *different*. Embrace the freedom of faithful experimentation and watch where the Holy Spirit takes you. There's no guarantee that every new thing will be met with success, but you can be sure that the God who tried something new to walk alongside you will be there along the way.

Yours, united in Christ,

~ Pastor Justin



Before you go to bed on Saturday, October 31st, turn your clocks back 1 hour or you'll be early for church.

PASTOR APPRECIATION

During Social Hour on October 25th we will be thanking Pastor Justin and Pastor Katy for all they do for us. Let's shower them with our appreciation and love. A basket for cards and letters will be on the table by the kitchen for each of them. If you would like to give them a gift, please see the list of their preferred places.



Pastor Justin

Target
Chipotle
Starbucks
Mod Pizza
Rusty Rail
Buffalo Wild Wings

Pastor Katy

Giant
Target
Amazon
Walmart
Starbucks
Rusty Rail Brewery



UIC Council will provide the main dish for the luncheon on October 25th. You are invited to bring either a side dish or a dessert.



PICKLEBALL

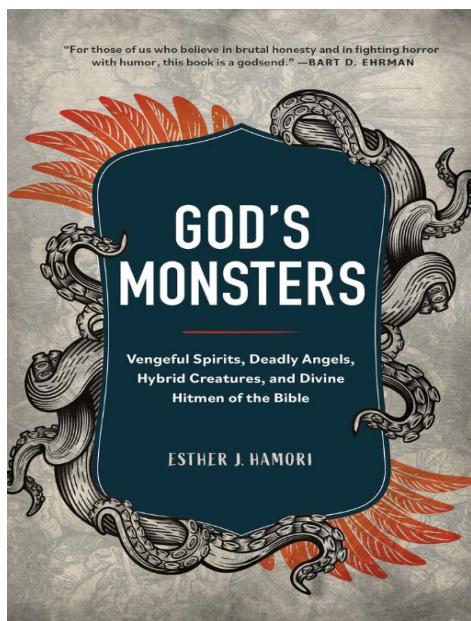
EVERY TUESDAY
9:00AM
Weather permitting

The courts on N. 15th St.
Lewisburg swimming pool

**A GREAT WAY TO EXERCISE,
ENJOY THE OUTSIDE, AND GET TO
KNOW FELLOW LUTHERANS.**
(PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN RACKET)

Questions? Contact Kevin Baker at
570-412-3127





Join us this fall for a six-week study of God's Monsters! Together, we'll explore some of the weird, eerie, and downright strange creatures and beings found in the Bible, using Esther Hamori's book. We'll see what the text actually says about some of these beings, what they might reveal to us about God and faith, and what they might mean for us today. Come join the conversation, bring your questions, and discover the stranger side of Scripture! We will meet on Mondays at 6pm, beginning on September 21st.

Join Pastor Katy on Mondays at 6pm at Christ's, in Room #204, for a six-week study of God's Monsters! Together, we'll explore some of the weird, eerie, and downright strange creatures and beings found in the Bible, using Esther Hamori's book. We'll see what the text actually says about some of these beings, what they might reveal to us about God and faith, and what they might mean for us today. Come join the conversation, bring your questions, and discover the stranger side of Scripture!



A big THANK YOU to everyone that helped out at this year's booth at the Milton Harvest Festival. It's always a fun time!!

United In Christ
ON THE GO!

 **Sundays in Advent**
November 29
December 6, 13, & 20

 **Faith Lutheran Church**
2349 Old Turnpike Rd.
Lewisburg, PA 17837 

~ SAVE THE DATES ~

Come along this Advent as we join our neighbors at Faith Lutheran in Lewisburg for worship on Sunday mornings! As we journey off the hill, we will take our tradition of worshipping in the round and share it with our neighbors in the flexibility of their worship space! More details to follow in the coming weeks, but be sure to mark your calendars now for this opportunity!

CONGREGATION MEETING

We are currently accepting nominations for council members. If you would like to nominate someone, or yourself, you may do so by either contacting a current member of council or Pastor Justin.



On Sunday, November 22th we will hold our annual congregational meeting. At the meeting we will vote on the 2027 spending plan proposal and elect council members. The meeting will take place immediately following worship service. All members are encouraged to attend. At the beginning of November, copies of the 2027 spending plan proposal will be in the fellowship hall on the bulletin board.



OAKS

SENIOR CENTER

Tuesday, October 13

10:00am - 1:00pm

Fall Pumpkin Craft

OAKS Senior Center is free.

Everyone is welcome to join us!

United In Christ Luthern Church



1875 Churches Road, Lewisburg ~ 570-568-2254



UIC SMALL GROUP MINISTRY

Connecting the body of Christ

Programming begins this September!

Sign up for your group today!



SMALL GROUP MINISTRY

UIC has launched 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!



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



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*.



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



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!

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!

UNITED IN CHRIST'S PRAYER LIST

PRAYER REQUESTS: Dave Wall, Katarina Beavor, Natalie Patterson, Delroy Caris, Nikk Wintersteen, Ken Baker and family, family and friends of Dan McDavit, 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 emailing
office@unitedinchristlutheran.net or calling 570-568-2254.

Happy Anniversary

Dawn and Chris Warren 10/10/11
Randy and Kristin Sprenkle 10/14/00
Tina and Jeff Snyder 10/15/94
Aaron and Beth Guffey 10/28/17

Happy Birthday

<i>Linda Caris 10/1</i>	<i>Kelsey Lingenfelter 10/20</i>
<i>Cheryl Robuck 10/5</i>	<i>Lizzie Sprenkle 10/22</i>
<i>Ella Catherman 10/12</i>	<i>Dylan Cromwell 10/23</i>
<i>Ruby Baker 10/20</i>	

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

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

	Oct. 4	Oct. 11	Oct. 18	Oct. 25
Worship Leader	Katy	Justin	Michelle	Justin
Social Hour	S – Z	A – D	E – K	Luncheon (sides & desserts)
Bread/Wine	Shirley M.	Jane M.	Michelle S.	Sharon W.
Altar Guild	Terri C.	Beth G.	Kathy G.	Mary Lou K.
Digital Host	Michelle S.	Danielle M.	Terri C.	Beth G.
Greeter Front Door	Bob S. Trudy S.	Karen B. Sandy B.	Donna B. Jeff B.	Rosemary K. Ted M.
Greeter Side Door	Kathy G.	Bob K.	George W.	Ken N.
Lector	Ted M.	Beth G.	Danielle M.	Jared R.
Usher	Ken C. Terri C. Beth G. Rosemary K.	Jane M. Michelle S. Bob S. Trudy S.	Kathy A. Dave B. Karen B. Ken C.	Ted M. Shirley M. Terri C. Rosemary K.
Comm. Assist.	Dave B. Brad C.	Terri C. Dave D.	Cheryl R. Bob S.	Mary Lou K. Rosemary K.
Guest Relations	Jay H.	Mike M.	Ted M.	Ken N.
Offering Counter	Kathy G. Michelle S.	Connie S. Jared R.	Tim S. Jay H.	Celeste C. Beth G.

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.

Outreach

Senior Express Food Boxes

Food boxes will be delivered to UIC by the
Central Pa Food Bank on Friday, October 2nd.



Baby Steps DIAPER PANTRY

UPCOMING DIAPER PANTRY

October 10, 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 10:00am – 11:30am at United In Christ Lutheran Church, 1875 Churches Road Lewisburg. The pantry is open to caregivers of babies from the Milton, Lewisburg, Mifflinburg, and Watsontown communities.



TRUNK-OR-TREAT

UIC, CELC, and MLC will be hosting a Trunk-or-Treat on Saturday, October 17th at Milton Lutheran Church.

We need people to decorate trunks. Please sign-up at church or contact Terri in the office. See Pastor Katy if you need ideas on how to decorate a trunk, she has lots!

CANDY NEEDED

UIC will begin collecting candy to handout at Trunk-or-Treat. Please put your donations in the box in the Narthex.

Annual Pet Blessing

**ALL PETS
WELCOME!**

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4TH
1:00P.M.**

**JOIN US ON THE 3RD
STREET SIDE OF THE
BUILDING!**

**CHRIST'S EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH
100 S. 3RD STREET
LEWISBURG, PA 17837**

**DONATIONS OF PET FOOD
AND SUPPLIES ARE BEING
COLLECTED FOR MILTON
LUTHERAN'S PET PANTRY!**



Join us on Sunday October 4th at 1:00pm for our Annual Pet Blessing at Christ's Evangelical Lutheran Church (100 S. 3rd Street, Lewisburg)! Together with Pastor Justin, Pastor Gary, and Pastor Katy, and the communities of faith at United In Christ, Christ's Lutheran and the Milton Lutheran Church, we will gather to give thanks for the blessing of all God's creatures. Traditionally falling close to the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi, this time will be an opportunity to give thanks for the creatures and critters in our own lives!

All are invited to join us for a short service of thanksgiving with a blessing for all of the faithful friends who gather with us! If Fido or Fluffy can't make it, feel free to bring a collar, food bowl, or picture as we give thanks for the blessings they are in our lives!

We will be collecting pet food that will be donated to
MLC's Pet Pantry.

Come and see!



The church office
will be closed for
Indigenous People's Day
on Monday, October 12th.

GATHER ~ CONVERSE ~ MINGLE



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.

UNITED IN CHRIST
LUTHERAN CHURCH
INVITES YOU TO

Theology on Tap

JOIN US AT RUSTY RAIL
6:00 PM ON
OCTOBER 28



Do you have some burning questions about the Bible, faith, or God?

Join us for Theology on Tap! We will be meeting at Rusty Rail on October 28th. 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**

FAITH LAB EVERY SUNDAY

Faith Lab is every **Sunday at 4:30pm**. In October we will meet **at United In Christ!** Faith Lab serves as our collaborative faith formation programming with Christ's Lutheran that is designed for the whole family! Each time we gather, our students hear a story from scripture then see it come to life in a craft or activity together. During that time, parents (or any adults who want to join) are invited to stick around for a Bible study on the same story. Each gathering then concludes with a free family style meal for everyone in attendance!

A colorful poster for Buffalo Valley Faith Lab. The background is a light yellow-orange with faint white line art of people and various scientific icons like a molecular structure, an atom, and gears. In the center, the text "BUFFALO VALLEY FAITH LAB" is written in large, bold, dark blue letters. Below this, a large white cross with radiating lines is centered. To the left of the cross, a bar graph with three bars (blue, orange, yellow) is shown, with the text "Starts September 13!" written in a curved, handwritten style above it. At the bottom, there are two columns of text. The left column says "Sundays 4:30pm-6:30pm" and "September-May" in bold, followed by the logo of Christ's Evangelical Lutheran Church and its address: "100 S. 3rd Street, Lewisburg, PA 17837". The right column says "Grades K-6" in bold, followed by "Includes family dinner time!" in italics, then the logo of United In Christ Lutheran Church and its address: "1875 Churches Rd., Lewisburg, PA 17837".

BUFFALO VALLEY

FAITH LAB

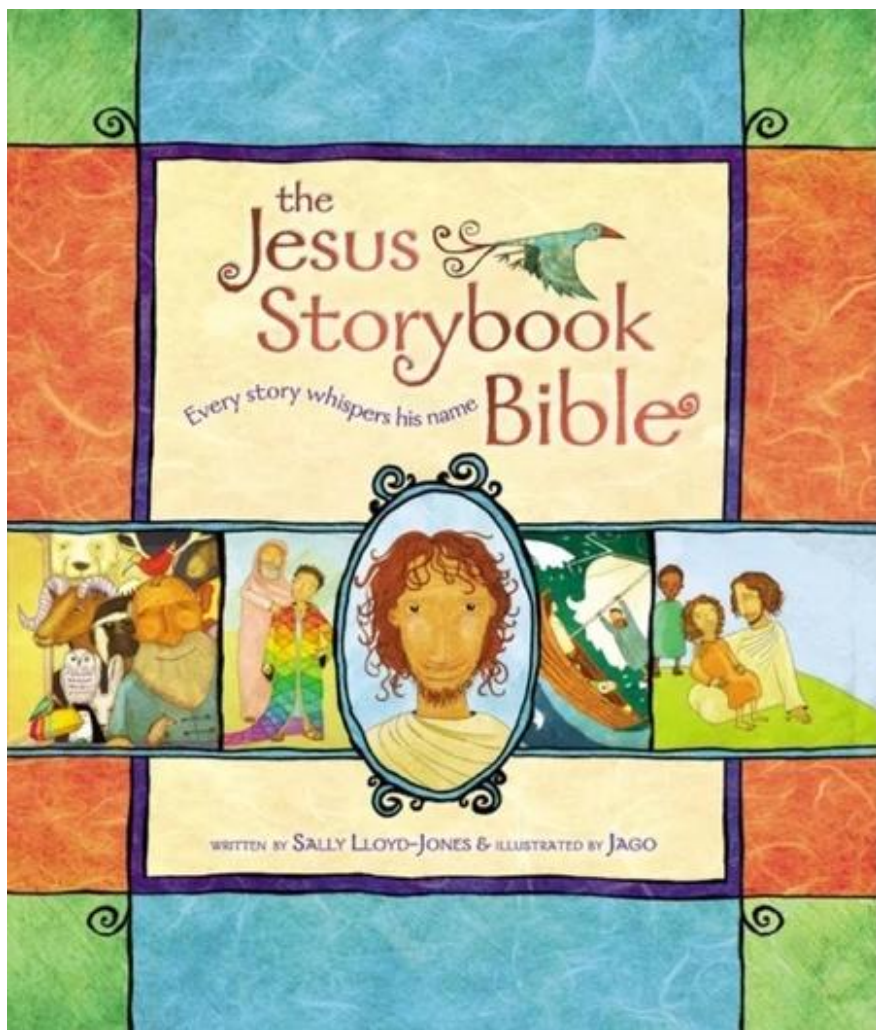
Starts September 13!

Sundays 4:30pm-6:30pm
September-May

Christ's Evangelical Lutheran
100 S. 3rd Street
Lewisburg, PA 17837

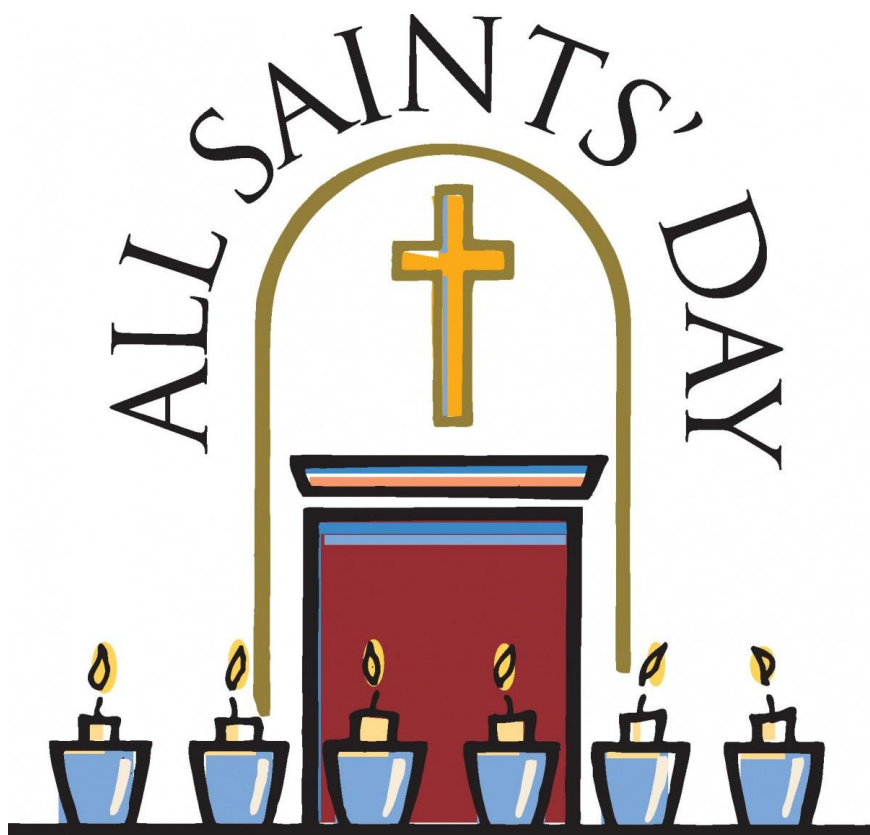
Grades K-6
Includes family dinner time!

United In Christ Lutheran
1875 Churches Rd.
Lewisburg, PA 17837



This year, our families will be working their way through more stories than ever as we read through the *Jesus Storybook Bible*! To help us keep pace, we will also be gathering on a weekly basis throughout the program year!

If you have any questions or want to get involved, please reach out to Pr. Justin or Danielle Murphy!



November 1, 2026

On ALL SAINTS SUNDAY we remember those who have died in the last year and those who have been born or baptized.

Family members and friends will be invited to light candles in memory of loved ones.

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

November 1, 2026

On All Saints Sunday we remember those who have died in the last year and those who have been born or baptized.

Please notify the church office of those who have been born, were baptized or died since November 1, 2025, their names will be listed in the bulletin on All Saints Sunday.

Family members and friends will be invited to light candles in honor of UIC Members who have been born or baptized in the past year, and in memory of our members who have passed into eternal life.

If you need additional sheets, there are more forms on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall.

IN MEMORY (those who have died in the past year)

Name: _____

Date of death: _____

Your name: _____

Phone/email: _____

_____ ***Yes, I WILL*** be present at the service to light a candle.

_____ ***No, I WILL NOT*** be present to light a candle.

IN HONOR (those born or baptized in the past year)

Name: _____

Date of birth/baptism (circle one) _____

Your name: _____

Phone/email: _____

_____ ***Yes, I WILL*** be present at the service to light a candle.

_____ ***No, I WILL NOT*** be present to light a candle.



Empty Bowl Dinner

Being hosted by Milton Lutheran Church & United in Christ Lutheran Church

An all you can eat dinner with a variety of soups, breads, and desserts.

Saturday, November 7, 2026

from 4:00 pm- 6:00 pm

1125 Mahoning Street, Milton, PA 17847

Phone: 570-742-4601

Proceeds benefitting the Getting Ahead Foundation

Guest Speaker @ 5:30pm

Minimum Donation: \$15.00

~ SAVE THE DATE ~

United In Christ and Milton Lutheran Church will be hosting an Empty Bowl Dinner (all you can eat soup, breads, and desserts) to help raise money for the Getting Ahead Foundation.

Getting Ahead in the Valley is a community initiative offered at no cost to interested families who are ready to begin moving toward freedom from poverty. It is a program that supports low income individuals as they work to build resources and achieve goals towards stability.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE MONDAY, OCTOBER 19

Any articles, events, photos, or thank you notes you'd like to have in the November Newsletter need to be in to the office by Monday, October 19.

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



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

**Sunday
October 25**

**Don't forget to
wear RED!!**

Reformation Sunday



IMPORTANT LINKS



For easy access, bookmark these pages on your computer or add the page to your tab-let or smartphone's home screen.

UIC's website: www.unitedinchristlutheran.net

Sermons and Bulletins: Print the Sunday bulletin so you can follow along at home. You can also view past sermons.

www.unitedinchristlutheran.net/worship

Church Calendar: Stay up-to-date on everything that's happening at UIC. www.unitedinchristlutheran.net/calendar

Online Giving: www.unitedinchristlutheran.net/giving/

Newsletter Archive: Read current and past newsletters.

www.unitedinchristlutheran.net/newsletter

Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/unitedinchristlutheran

Facebook Group: www.facebook.com/groups/UICLC/

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