

United In Christ Lutheran Church



Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 30, 2026

The Rev. Justin G. Lingenfelter

Welcome to our church!

*We hope the service is meaningful, and uplifting,
and that you will experience God's presence here.*

May God bless you during worship today.

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS

Please see a greeter.

ELEVATOR

Please see a greeter.

REST ROOMS

Downstairs across from the church office.

DIAPER CHANGING TABLE

In fellowship hall family restroom.

Visit us at www.unitedinchristlutheran.net

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

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.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, whose compassion endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection

Compassionate God,

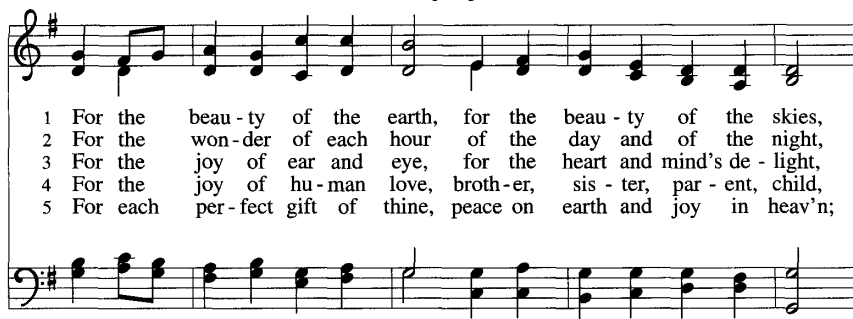
we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray. Amen

Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." In the name of God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love.

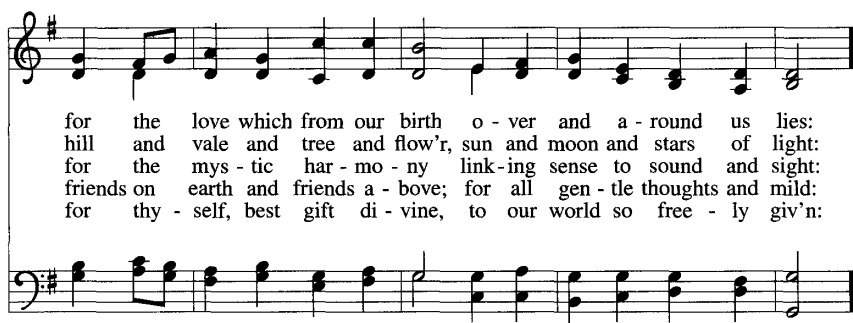
Amen.



For the Beauty of the Earth

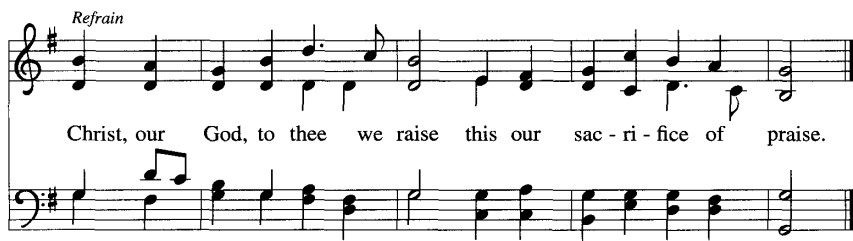


1 For the beau-ty of the earth, for the beau-ty of the skies,
 2 For the won-der of each hour of the day and of the night,
 3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de-light,
 4 For the joy of hu-man love, broth-er, sis-ter, par-ent, child,
 5 For each per-fect gift of thine, peace on earth and joy in heav'n;



for the love which from our birth o-ver and a-round us lies:
 hill and vale and tree and flow'r, sun and moon and stars of light:
 for the mys-tic har-mo-ny link-ing sense to sound and sight:
 friends on earth and friends a-bove; for all gen-tle thoughts and mild:
 for thy-self, best gift di-vine, to our world so free-ly giv'n:

Refrain



Christ, our God, to thee we raise this our sac-ri-fice of praise.

APOSTOLIC GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE

② Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;
 glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.
 ① Lord God, heav-en - ly king, al-might - y God and Fa-ther, we
 wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.
 ② Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;
 glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.
 ③ Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,
 Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
 world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the
 right hand of the Fa - ther: re-ceive our prayer.

☐ Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;
 glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.
 I For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,
 II you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly
 Spir - it, in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther, A - men.
 ☐ Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;
 glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth,
 and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

FIRST READING

ROMANS 12:9-21

⁹Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good;
¹⁰love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord. ¹²Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer. ¹³Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers.

¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. ¹⁶Live in harmony with one another; do not be arrogant, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰Instead, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink, for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." ²¹Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSIVE READING

PSALM 26:1-8

¹Vindicate me, O Lord, for I have walked in my integrity, and I have trusted in the Lord without wavering.

² Prove me, O Lord, and try me; test my heart and mind.

³ For your steadfast love is before my eyes, and I walk in faithfulness to you.

⁴ **I do not sit with the worthless, nor do I consort with hypocrites;**

⁵ I hate the company of evildoers and will not sit with the wicked.

⁶ **I wash my hands in innocence and go around your altar, O Lord,**

⁷ singing aloud a song of thanksgiving and telling all your wondrous deeds.

⁸ **O Lord, I love the house in which you dwell and the place where your glory abides.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL

MATTHEW 16:21-28

This is the Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 16th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²¹From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed and on the third day be raised. ²²And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him,

saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." ²³But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me, for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

²⁴Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

²⁷"For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. ²⁸Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON



Will You Come and Follow Me

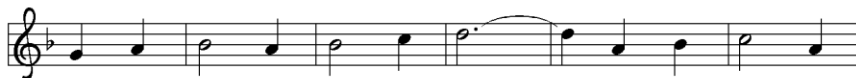
1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call
 2 "Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call
 3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call
 4 "Will you love the you you hide if I but call
 5 Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call



your name? Will you go where you don't
 your name? Will you care for cruel and
 your name? Will you set the pris - 'ners
 your name? Will you quell the fear in -
 my name. Let me turn and fol - low



know and nev - er be the same?
 kind and nev - er be the same?
 free and nev - er be the same?
 side and nev - er be the same?
 you and nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown, will you let my
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare, should your life at -
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as
 Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and



name be known, will you let my life be
 tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer
 this un - seen, and ad - mit to what I
 world a - round, through my sight and touch and
 foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and live and



grown in you and you in me?"
 pray'r in you and you in me?"
 mean in you and you in me?"
 sound in you and you in me?"
 grow in you and you in me.

APOSTLE'S CREED

Let us confess our faith using the Apostle's Creed:

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.***

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

With bold trust in God's unfailing provision, we pray for the Church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

Prayers continue with each petition ending:

Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

May the peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

The minister and congregation greet one another in the name of the Lord. Please share the peace at whatever level of physical contact with which you are comfortable.

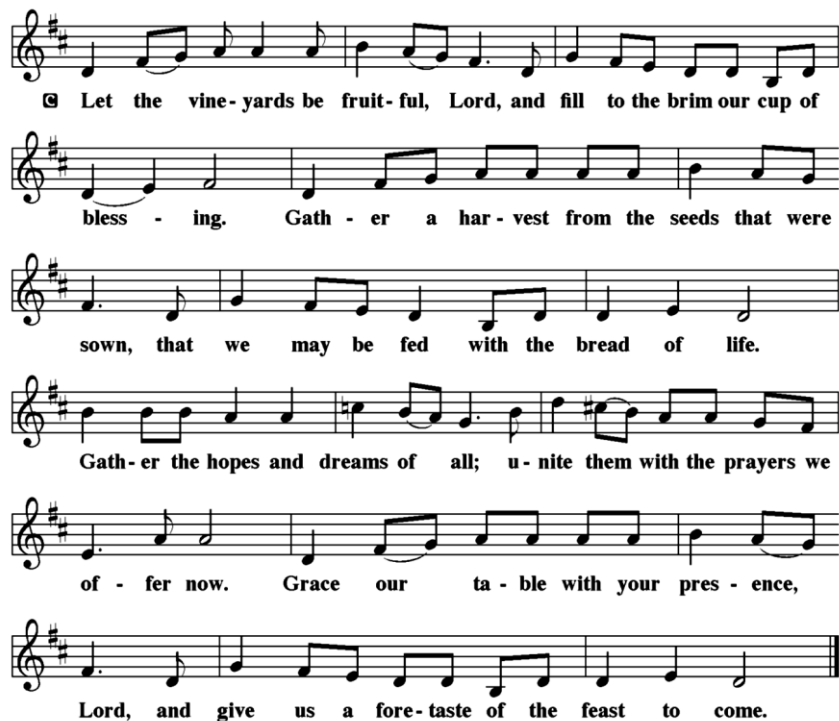
***Please fill out an Attendance Card,
and place the card in an offering plate.***

OFFERING

You are invited to place your offering in one of the plates as they are passed or to make use of our online offering plate through tithe.ly by scanning the QR code to the right. You may also place your offering at <http://www.unitedinchristlutheran.net/giving> by clicking on the green “Give Now” button



OFFERTORY HYMN



☐ Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were
sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we
of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,
Lord, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERING PRAYER

Together, let us pray.

Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever. Amen.

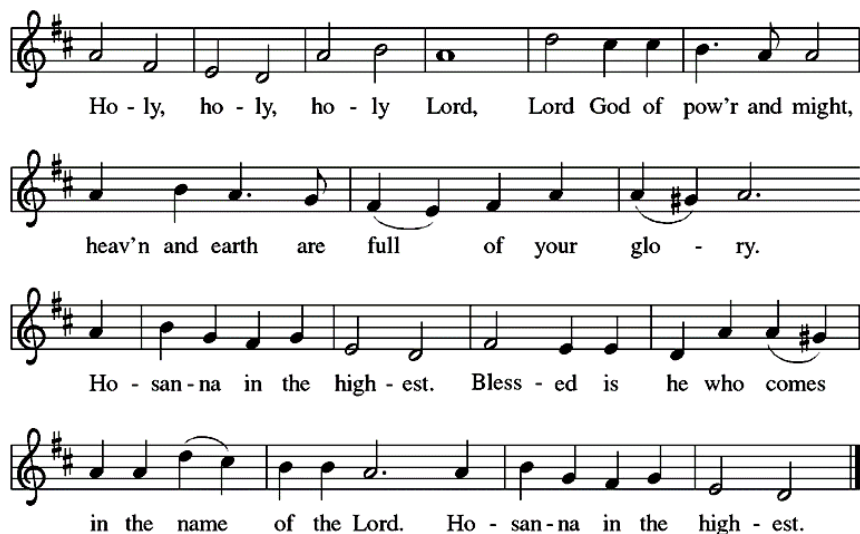
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san-na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san-na in the high - est.

Blessed are you, O God of the universe. Your mercy is everlasting and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth. Praise to you for saving the earth from the waters of the flood. Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea. Praise to you for leading your people through the wilderness to the land of milk and honey. Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one. Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ. Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

With this bread and cup we remember our Lord's passover from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread. Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world. Breathe new life into us. Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

Come, Holy Spirit.

With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us saying:

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

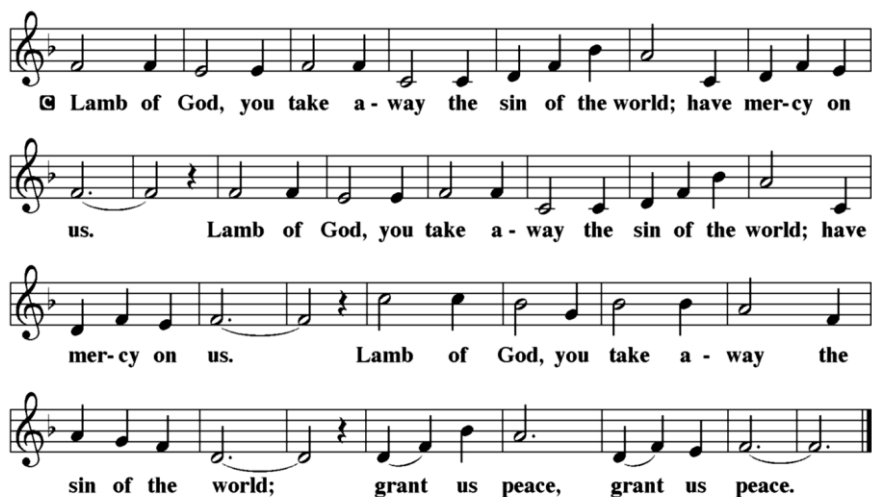
**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast!

Thanks be to God.





COMMUNION

*Admission to the Sacrament is by invitation of the Lord,
and all people are invited to his table. Those who do not wish
to receive communion are invited to receive a blessing.*

The body of Christ, given for you.

The communicant may say: **Amen**

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

*The communicant may say: **Amen***

Music will accompany the distribution of communion.

TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and
keep you in his grace.

Amen.

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE



© Thank - ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev - 'ry -
one what God has done. Let all who seek the
Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.
Send us with your prom - is - es, O God, and
lead us forth in joy with shouts of thanks -
giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Together, let us pray.

Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever. Amen.

BENEDICTION

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ☩ one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Because He Lives, by David Crowder Band

*God sent His Son they called Him Jesus
He came to love heal and forgive
He bled and died to buy my pardon
An empty grave is there to prove
My Savior lives*

*Because He lives I can face tomorrow
Because He lives all fear is gone
Because I know He holds the future
And life is worth the living
Just because He lives*

*And then one day I'll cross that river
I'll fight life's final war with pain
And then as death gives way to vict'ry
I'll see the lights of glory
And I'll know He lives*

*Because He lives I can face tomorrow
Because He lives all fear is gone
Because I know He holds the future
And life is worth the living
Just because He lives*

*And life is worth the living
Just because He lives*

DISMISSAL

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE



*Today's altar flowers are given
to the glory of God
by Michelle and Dave Davies
in Memory of David and Marie Tanner*

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What's Happening at UIC

- Sun, Aug. 30 Worship, 10:00am
 Congregational Meeting, 11:30am
- Mon, Aug. 31 Boy Scouts, 6:45pm
- Tue, Sept. 1 Worship and Music Mtg., 11:00am
 Boy Scouts, 6:45pm
- Wed, Sept. 2 Theology on Tap, 6:00pm
- Fri, Sept. 4 Delivery from Food Bank
 Office Closed
- Sun, Sept. 6 Worship, 10:00am

Happy Birthday

Matt Wirth 9/3

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.

UNITED IN CHRIST'S PRAYER LIST

PRAYER REQUESTS: Nikk Wintersteen, Ken Baker and Family, family and friends of Dan McDavit, Michelle Davies, Diane Powers, Elwood Brown, 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.

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.



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!



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



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!

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



HAVE YOU SEEN?



Did you leave something at church? Check out the LOST AND FOUND bin on the shelf by the restroom in the fellow-ship hall.



Faith Lab is Back!

Faith Lab returns on **Sunday, September 13th at 4:30pm here 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 free a family style meal for everyone in attendance!

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

	Aug. 30	Sept. 6	Sept. 13
Worship Leader	Justin	Katy	Justin
Social Hour			A – D
Bread/Wine	Donna B.	Kathy G.	Ken C.
Altar Guild	Megan C.	Kathy G.	Terri C.
Digital Host	Beth G.	Danielle M.	Michelle S.
Greeter Front Door	Cheryl R. Dale R.	Karen B. Rosemary K.	Donna B. Jeff B.
Greeter Side Door	George W.	Bob K.	Kathy G.
Lector	Ted M.	Jay H.	Beckett S.
Usher	Jane M. Michelle S. Bob S. Trudy S.	Kathy A. Dave B. Karen B. Ken C.	Terri C. Beth G. Rosemary K. Jane M.
Comm. Assist.	Celeste C. Cheryl R.	Michelle S. Bob S.	Rosemary K. Sharon W.
Guest Relations	George W.	Ted M.	Mike M.
Offering Counter	Beth G. Pam H.	Jared R. Celeste C.	Connie S. 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.



1875 Churches Road, Lewisburg PA 17837
570-568-2254

WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION
Sundays at 10:00am

THE REV. JUSTIN G. LINGENFELTER

CHURCH OFFICE
Open Monday – Thursday
8:00am – 2:00pm

VISIT US AT
Website: www.unitedinchristlutheran.net
Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/UICLC