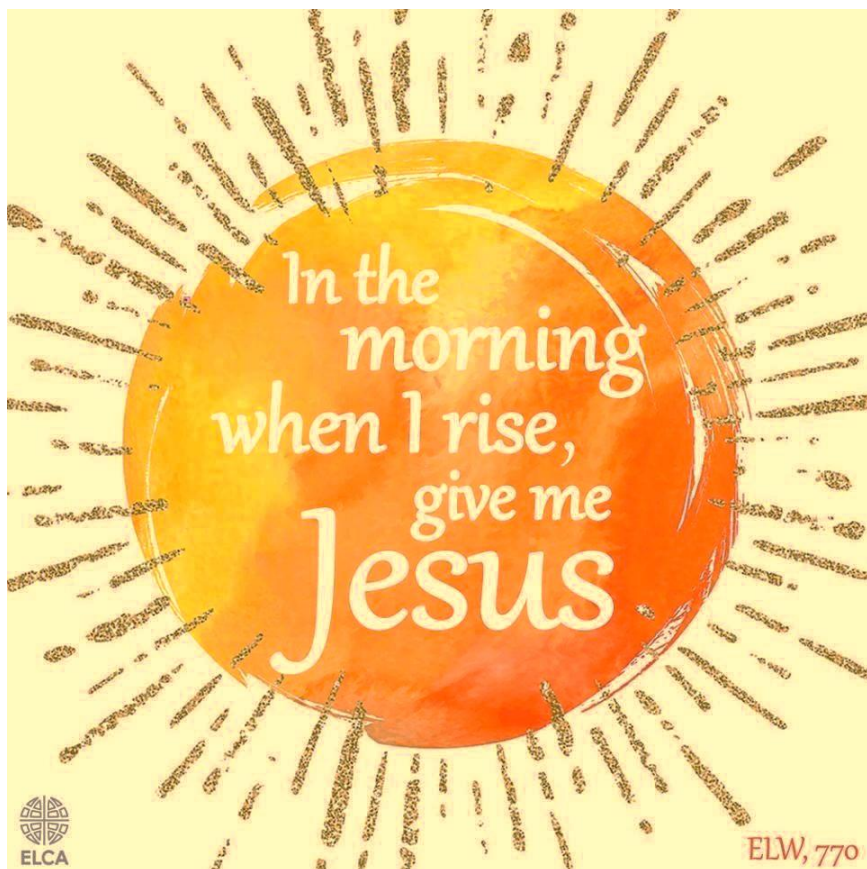




September 2026 Newsletter



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

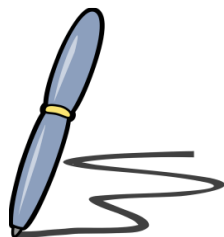
United In Christ's Mission Statement:

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

- TUE, SEPT. 1 WORSHIP AND MUSIC MEETING
- WED, SEPT. 2 THEOLOGY ON TAP
- FRI, SEPT. 4 DELIVERY FROM FOOD BANK
- MON. SEPT. 7 LABOR DAY
OFFICE CLOSED
- TUE, SEPT. 8 OAKS SENIOR CENTER
- SAT, SEPT. 12 BABY STEPS DIAPER PANTRY
- SUN, SEPT 13 UNDERSTANDING THE CHRISTIAN
FAITH WORSHIP SERIES BEGINS
SMALL GROUPS BEGIN
OUTREACH/FELLOWSHIP MEETING
FAITH LAB BEGINS
- SAT, SEPT. 19 MILTON HARVEST FESTVIAL
UIC BOOTH AT FESTIVAL
- SUN, SEPT. 20 OCTOBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
FAITH LAB
- MON, SEPT. 21 GOD’S MONSTERS BIBLE STUDY BEGINS
- TUE, SEPT. 22 COUNCIL MEETING
- SUN, SEPT. 30 FAITH LAB

FROM THE PASTOR



Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. . ."

Luke 24:13-23

Dear United In Christ,

When I was working on getting my driver's license as a teenager, I can remember my dad taking me out to practice in the back country roads around our school district. Every time we'd come to a stop sign or intersection, he'd say "go right here" or "hang a left up a head" or "just keep going straight for another mile or two." Finally,

after about twenty or so minutes of this, he'd say "alright, now get us home" and he'd sit back in the passenger's seat with his mouth closed for the rest of the ride! The first time he did this I was nearly panicked! I didn't know where we were, how to find where we needed to be, nor how to connect those two pieces of non-information! But I soon learned that you can't get anywhere without starting *somewhere*.

So, one road at a time I'd meander – sometimes getting us a little closer, sometimes flinging us farther afield – and eventually we'd finally strike something familiar and I could get us back home in time. Because it turns out that even when the road ahead seems confusing or uncertain or completely unknown, the only way to get where you need to be is by beginning – and the only way to begin is by beginning!

I sometimes imagine that this is how the two disciples on the road to Emmaus must have felt. Here they were reeling in the events of holy week while *trying* to process it all together. They were "talking with each other about all these things that had happened," Luke says. In my mind, their thoughts are sort of dashing, leaping in their recollection from one portion of the week to the next. I have to imagine that with so much at hand, it was hard for them to keep the plot! When a (seeming) stranger then approaches them and asks what they're discussing, perhaps their first unspoken response was "where do we even begin??" Yet, they begin by beginning and they recount what all had taken place.

And see, to me *that's* the beauty of this moment: even while everything else may have felt confusing or uncertain or unknown (like sixteen-year-old Justin lost on the back roads) by simply beginning – by taking those first steps through the intersection of interaction – these disciples find themselves walking not just a seven-mile stretch of road, but a path of understanding. By beginning with those first moments, they are drawn into a deeper understanding of what has taken place in accordance with their

history and their scripture. More importantly, with those first steps they are met by the Jesus who journeys with them along the way drawing them together and showing new life amid all of the uncertainty.

I take a great deal of courage from this story and I think it's the perfect reminder for this September as we head out onto our own Emmaus (or back country) roads. After all, this is a month *full* of new beginnings. Some are familiar to us – our students have begun their new school years, our Faith Lab programming kicks off with a renewed weekly rhythm, and our programmatic Fall calendar starts to ramp up. These are the steps that may be familiar to us, even if they are presented in new ways.

But this month also sees us heading out on a new road together. In the coming days, we will see the launch of our intentional Small Groups Ministry here at UIC. Here in these intimate gatherings, we will take our first steps together as we seek to build new relationships, extend our care for one another, and be drawn more closely to resemble the community of God's belonging. At the same time, we will begin a new series titled *Understanding the Christian Faith* both in those small group gatherings and in our worship series. Here, we will step out and seek to strengthen our foundations as God's beloved in worship and in study.

And listen, I get it; you may not be sure what to make of all of that. But I don't think those disciples on their way to Emmaus did either. That's why I encourage you to read on for more details and to make an effort to hit the road with us in these groups this month! Even if you may feel confused about what to say, uncertain as to where exactly it may lead, or like it's all a little too far into the unknown, I invite you to take the first steps – to begin by beginning – and see how it is that Jesus might just still be meeting us on the way, drawing us together as United In Christ for the journey!

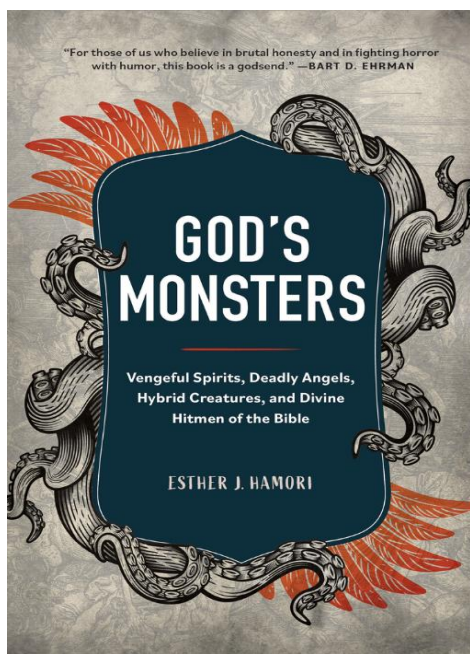
In the meantime, may the weeks ahead be filled with accompaniment and curiosity. May you find in one another beloved

companions for the journey in whom you can entrust both confidence and confusion. May you be met by the Christ who is already on this road and journeys with you in all that's ahead!

I'll see you on the road!

Yours, united in Christ,

~ Pastor Justin



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 beginning on September 21st, 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!



UIC SMALL GROUP MINISTRY

Connecting the body of Christ

Programming begins this September!

Sign up for your group today!



Small Group Ministry Begins!

This month, 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!



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: 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.

Happy Anniversary

Celia and Woody Warren 9/11/71

Justin and Nicole Cooley 9/20/14

Terri and Chad Cromwell 9/22/01

Happy Birthday

Matt Wirth 9/3

Terri Cromwell 9/7

Kamden Swanger 9/8

Scarlette Cooley 9/11

Peyton Lebaron 9/12

Sue Keifer 9/17

Willow Lebaron 9/17

Dale Robuck 9/22

Dale Robuck 9/22

Karen Baker 9/23

Dawn Warren 9/23

Jane Guffey 9/24

Curtis Zimmerman 9/25

Kim Criswell 9/26

Cami Zimmerman 9/26

Pam Hauck 9/29

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

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

	Sept. 6	Sept. 13	Sept. 20	Sept. 27
Worship Leader	Katy	Justin	Michelle	Justin
Social Hour		A – D	E – K	L – R
Bread/Wine	Kathy G.	Ken C.	Megan C.	Sue K.
Altar Guild	Kathy G.	Terri C.	Beth G.	Sue K.
Digital Host	Danielle M.	Michelle S.	Terri C.	Kathy G.
Greeter Front Door	Karen B. Rosemary K.	Donna B. Jeff B.	Mary Lou K. Ted M.	Cheryl R. Dale R.
Greeter Side Door	Bob K.	Kathy G.	Ken N.	George W.
Lector	Jay H.	Beckett S.	Celeste C.	Brad C.
Usher	Kathy A. Dave B. Karen B. Ken C.	Terri C. Beth G. Rosemary K. Jane M.	Shirley M. Ted M. Dave B. Kathy A.	Bob S. Trudy S. Michelle S. Karen B.
Comm. Assist.	Michelle S. Bob S.	Rosemary K. Sharon W.	Cheryl R. Jay H.	Ted M. Celeste C.
Guest Relations	Ted M.	Mike M.	Ken N.	George W.
Offering Counter	Michelle S. Celeste C.	Connie S. Pam H.	Jared R. Tim S.	Jay H. Kathy 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, September 4th.



Baby Steps DIAPER PANTRY

UPCOMING DIAPER PANTRY

September 12, 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.

Saturday, September 19
MILTON HARVEST FESTIVAL

3 for
\$3

Pierogie Sale



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

United In Christ is selling Mrs. T's Pierogies at Milton's Harvest Festival on Saturday, September 19th.

Volunteers are needed from 9am – 4pm. Please see the signup sheet on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall, or contact the office, at our booth.



100% of proceeds will go to God's Chuckwagon. God's Chuckwagon is a nonprofit organization. We are a mobile soup kitchen using a renovated bus.

Trunk-or-Treat

UIC, CELC, and MLC will be hosting a Trunk-or-Treat on Saturday, October 17th at Milton Lutheran Church. Start planning your trunks!! Signup sheets will go up on September 20th

UIC will begin collecting candy on Sunday, September 20th to handout at Trunk-or-Treat. Please put your donations in the box in the Narthex.



SOCIAL HOUR RESUMES

September 13th



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.



OAKS

SENIOR CENTER

Tuesday, September 8

Free
Lunch

Free
Bingo

10:00am - 1:00pm

Speaker: WellSpan Hospice

OAKS Senior Center is free.

Everyone is welcome to join us!

United In Christ Lutheran Church



1875 Churches Road, Lewisburg ~ 570-568-2254

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

Any articles, events, photos, or thank you notes you'd like to have in the October Newsletter need to be in to the office by Sunday, September 20.

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



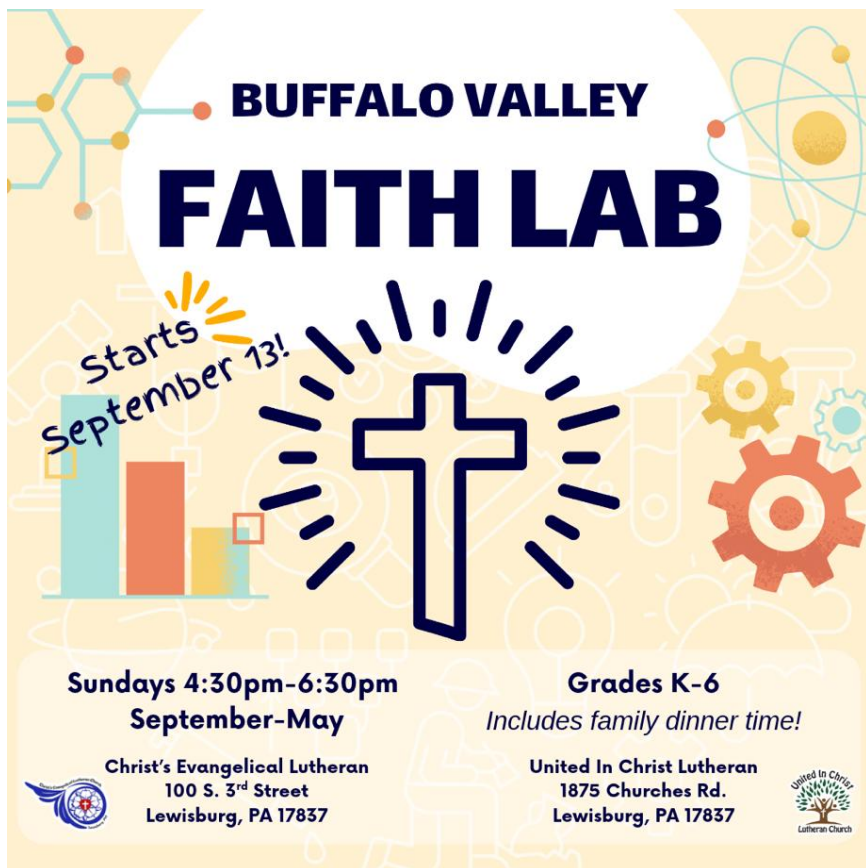
Please email Terri in the office at
office@unitedinchristlutheran.net or
call her at 570-568-2254



Theology on Tap on August 19th

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!

The poster has a light yellow background with various scientific and religious icons. At the top left is a molecular structure, and at the top right is an atomic model. In the center is a large white circle containing the text 'BUFFALO VALLEY FAITH LAB' in bold blue letters. Below this, on the left, is a bar graph with three bars of increasing height, with the text 'Starts September 13!' written above it. In the center is a large blue cross with radiating lines. To the right of the cross are three interlocking gears in yellow, orange, and red. At the bottom, there are two columns of text. The left column is for Christ's Evangelical Lutheran, and the right column is for United In Christ Lutheran. Both columns include the date and time of the event. The bottom corners feature the logos for both churches.

BUFFALO VALLEY
FAITH LAB

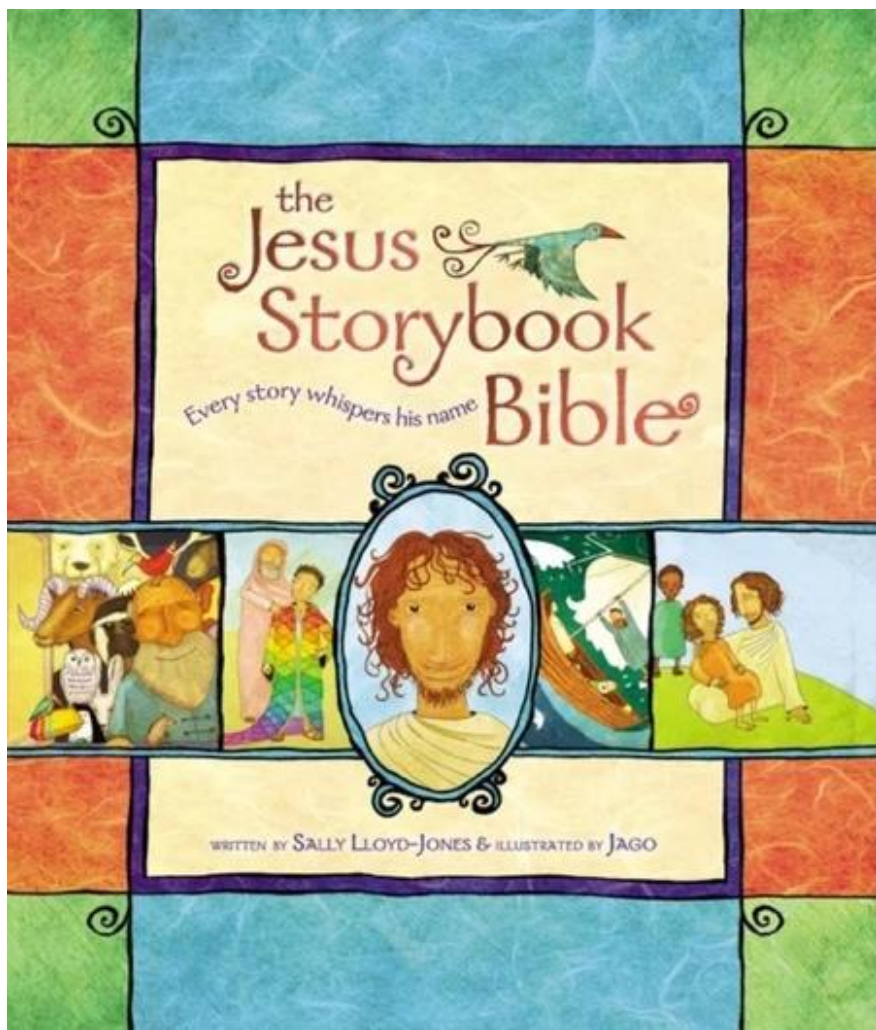
Starts September 13!

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!

We're looking forward to the year ahead! If you have any questions or want to get involved, please reach out to Pr. Justin or Danielle Murphy!

UNITED IN CHRIST
LUTHERAN CHURCH
INVITES YOU TO

Theology on Tap

JOIN US AT RUSTY RAIL
6:00 PM ON
SEPTEMBER 2



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 September 2. 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**



Worship on
8/23 at
Central Oak
Heights



UIC church picnic at Central Oak Heights



Faith and Fun Sunday and Backpack Blessing

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/



The office will be closed on
Monday, Sept. 7th

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