



MILTON LUTHERAN CHURCH / FEBRUARY 2026

# NEWSLETTER

*Fostering community through faith, love, and service*

## A Letter from the Pastor

There's a rule in virtually every household when families and friends gather for various occasions. You can talk about anything except religion and politics. I suspect there is some wisdom around that rule. At its core is the desire for everyone to get along, for people to feel safe regardless of their values and beliefs, and an expectation of unity.

There is also a danger to this rule, and we are seeing it play out. We take this into other areas of our lives. When things happen we don't agree with we must choose; say or do something or stay silent and avoid what's going on.

For many of us our churches have become such a place where we attempt to apply this rule. "Politics don't belong in the church." "We shouldn't talk about things that are controversial." "Just preach the bible, I don't want to hear about that other stuff". "I came to worship so I can feel good".

But Jesus calls us into the world as his followers for something far greater than our own sense of comfort and safety. He draws us to himself as the body of Christ and he calls us to live with another in unity.

Unity does not mean silence. It does not mean neutrality in the face of harm. And it does not mean protecting comfort while our neighbors suffer. Our unity is not something we manufacture by agreeing with one another. It is something Christ has already given us—and it is a unity that tells the truth.

It's that sense of unity and our desire to create it that gives us the strength to be in relationship with those we disagree with. It challenges us to forgive, to extend grace, and love our neighbor.

At the same time, Being forgiven does not excuse cruelty. Grace does not free us from accountability. Love of neighbor demands that we name sin when it wounds others.

Jesus did not stand above the pain of the world—he stepped directly into it. He spoke hard truths to those in power and stood alongside the poor, the excluded, and the silenced. Following Jesus means the church cannot look away when people are dehumanized or pushed to the margins.

Luther reminds us that sin curves us inward. Faith bends us outward—toward our neighbor, especially the vulnerable. When the church refuses to speak for those whose voices have been taken away, it has lost its way.

The way forward will be uncomfortable. Repentance always is. But Christ does not abandon us to our division. He calls us to truth, justice, mercy, and courage—together.

Are you feeling shaken up by what's happening? Are you feeling driven to say or do something? That's the Holy Spirit stirring in you. It's the power of compassion driving you. Let's not stay silent. Let's not live lives of inaction. Let us step out in faith and stand up for what is right.

## An Update from MLC Church Council

From Council President Connie Stover

Council news

Council elected officers for the 2026 year. President - Connie Stover; Vice President - Stephanie Byers; Secretary - Lynnette Weisner; Treasurer - Rose Deaner

The Annual Congregational meeting will be held on March 15th.

The committees which are working on the information for the buildings still have information to acquire. They hope to be finished by February or March at the latest.

### Ministry Teams and Small Group Monthly Reports

#### Outreach Team

- SC is collecting Toilet paper for the month of February.
- Service 1<sup>st</sup> is hosting a product collection drive for us in the month of April to collect items for both Self Care & Happy Tails.
- Join us for Scout Sunday with light refreshments being served following service on Sunday, Feb 15<sup>th</sup>
- Panther Pack Dates are Wednesday, Feb 11<sup>th</sup> & March 11<sup>th</sup> Sign-up sheet in binder
- We are hosting a dinner for residents at Milton Towers on Saturday, March 21st. Volunteers are welcome to come out and help, the sign-up sheet in binder.
- Easter Candy Sale starts on Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup> They are \$12/Dozen for Peanut Butter or Coconut. All proceeds being given to DIG. If you would like to help make them sign-ups sheet in binder- Friday, March 13<sup>th</sup> from 3 to 6 and Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup> from 7 am til noon.
- We are planning on hosting a Lock-In Event for our youth in April. More info to come in a few weeks!

Steph Byers

#### Fellowship Team

Our annual Chili Cookoff and Game Night is on Sunday March 8<sup>th</sup> from 4-6pm in the Fellowship Hall! Bring a pot of chili to fight for the chili prize and a game to play with others!

Carol Yost

**March 1st  
11:30 A.M.- 12:30 P.M.**

## Self- Care Sanctuary

Free hygiene / self-care products for anyone that needs them.

**MILTON**  
Lutheran Church  
1125 Mahoning St.  
Milton, PA



For the month of February, we are requesting donations of toilet paper.

We appreciate anything you can give to this ministry!

**HAPPY TAILS  
PET PANTRY**  
March 1st 11:30am-12:30pm

Free pet food products for anyone that needs them

1125 Mahoning St.  
Milton PA 17847  
miltonlutheranchurch.org



Our pet pantry is the first Sunday of the month from 11:30am-12:30pm held in conjunction with our Self-Care Sanctuary. Our next one is March 1st.



Our Fidget Quilt group is next meeting on March 4<sup>th</sup>.

If you have any questions, contact Connie Stover.

# MILTON PANTHERS

## Milton Panther Pack Program

ST. ANDREW'S METHODIST CHURCH  
102 LOWER MARKET ST. MILTON PA

FEBRUARY 11TH AND MARCH 11TH  
6PM - 7:30PM





The purpose of the Milton Lutheran Church Endowment fund is to further the Mission of MLC by supporting projects, programs, and events sponsored by our members. Endowments will be granted for areas dealing with children and youth, matching funds for existing fundraisers, service projects, local, national, and international initiatives, and existing church partnerships. Applications will be reviewed by the endowment team and granted upon their approval. Deadlines for requests are March 1, June 1, September 1, and December 1.

Applications can be found on the website on the *documents & videos* page, under *Milton Lutheran Church Documents*, and at the church office.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact the office and your questions will be directed to whomever can best answer the query.

Our capital campaign is still going strong for Camp Mount Luther! As we near the end of the year, we are tallying our total for 2025 for matching gifts through MLC! You still have the opportunity to donate to this cause to raise our total for matching!

You can make a contribution through a weekly/monthly donation in your offering to the church, noting the contribution is for the Camp Mount Luther Capital Campaign; a one-time donation to the campaign through your giving envelope to the church, or by going to the website: <https://www.campmountluther.org/capital-campaign/> and making a donation either by check to the camp or by credit card. It's as easy as that!

By giving through MLC's campaign, you basically double your giving as we match the gifts that come in!

Camp is a respite for so many. A place that spreads love and joy and the Word of God! Your donation will help improve Camp to be the best it can be for all who attend!







Bible Study at May's Drive-In (2675 PA-405 Milton PA). Our Breakfast Club Bible Study meets from 9am-10am on Tuesdays! We hope you join us to explore the upcoming Sunday's texts with us! See you there!

**Chili**  
**COOK OFF & GAME NIGHT**  
**Sunday March 8th**  
**4pm-6pm**  
**In The Fellowship Hall**

Bring a pot of chili to fight for the coveted chili prize! Winner gets bragging rights and a trophy!  
 You are also invited to bring games to play!

**Open Sunday's for Flower Donations**

January 25th  
 February 8th  
 February 15th  
 February 22nd  
 March 1st  
 March 8th  
 March 29th  
 June 28th  
 July 19th  
 July 26th  
 August 2nd  
 November 29th



**FELLOWSHIP HOUR**

**SUNDAY,  
FEBRUARY 8<sup>TH</sup> &  
22ND**

**FOLLOWING WORSHIP** In our fellowship hall.

**MILTON LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
1125 MAHONING ST. MILTON, PA

**MOVERS & SHAKERS**  
**SENIOR'S GROUP**

FEBRUARY 17TH 10:30AM - 12:30PM

**MEAL**

**CONVERSATION**

**BINGO**

February 12th 7pm

**PUB  
THEOLOGY**

FELLOWSHIP & MEANINGFUL CONVERSATION

Pub Theology will be meeting on at the Turbotville Public House on February 12th at 7pm! We hope you join us for this opportunity for fellowship!!

**ANNUAL  
MEETING**

March 15th  
following worship

**DIRECTORY**

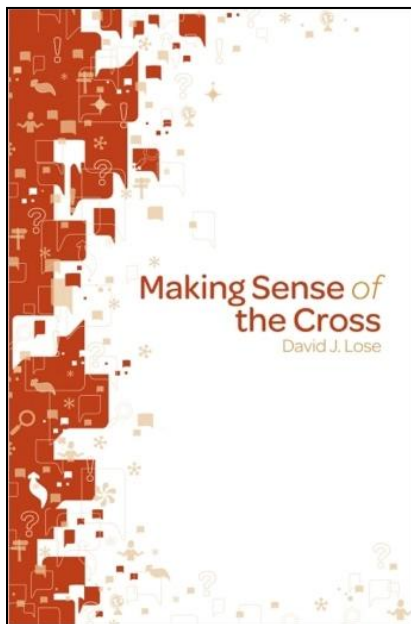
Directories are complete!!!  
These will be reprinted once a year to keep information up to date! If you have any corrections to the information provided in the directory, let the office know, and it will be updated for the next printing!





You are invited to join us as we dig deeper into our Lenten Worship Series "Tell Me Something Good". Together, Christ Lewisburg, 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.

Meeting at 11am!



Join us for the start of a new Lenten study series: *Making Sense of the Cross!* Beginning on **Tuesday, February 24<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm**, we will gather weekly at United In Christ (1875 Churches Road, Lewisburg) 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 through the church office!**

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?*

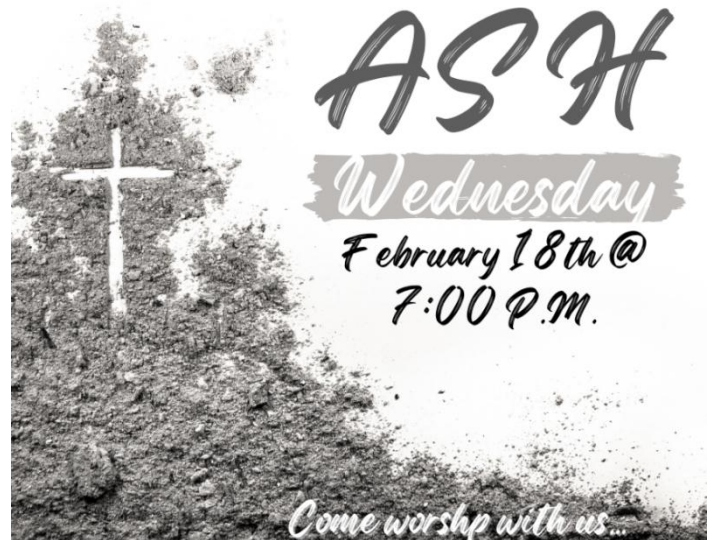




SAVE THE DATE! Wednesday, April 15<sup>th</sup>, we are going to see Joshua at Sight and Sound in Lancaster! We will be stopping at Shady Maple on the way home for a late lunch. We hope you choose to join us!

Sign-ups are due March 2<sup>nd</sup>. Payment is due March 16<sup>th</sup>. You can pay cash or check made out to Milton Lutheran Church, subject line Sight and Sound.

Ticket price is \$150 per person.



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 United In Christ (UIC) and Christ's Evangelical Lutheran (CELC), as all three communities move through this series together!

In addition to the lenten brunch, we invite you to join us for the opportunity to be told something good from new perspectives as we gather for midweek worship. Beginning on **Wednesday, February 25<sup>th</sup>**, we invite you to join us weekly at **CELC (100 S. Third St, Lewisburg) 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!

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!



## Announcements from our Friends



**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!

**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday @ Christ's Lutheran**  
100 S. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street  
Lewisburg, PA 17837



**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday @ United In Christ**  
1875 Churches Rd.  
Lewisburg, PA 17837





<b>SUN, FEB 1</b>	9:30am Worship 10:30am Choir Practice 11:30am Self-Care Sanctuary and Pet Pantry
<b>MON, FEB 2</b>	6pm Boy Scouts
<b>TUE, FEB 3</b>	9am Breakfast Club at May's Drive-In Lewisburg 10am TOPS
<b>WED, FEB 4</b>	6pm Boy Scouts
<b>SUN, FEB 8</b>	9:30am Worship 10:30am Choir Practice 11am Fellowship Hour 11am Fellowship Team Meeting
<b>MON, FEB 9</b>	Executive Committee Meeting 6pm Boy Scouts
<b>TUE, FEB 10</b>	9am Breakfast Club at May's Drive-In Lewisburg 10am TOPS
<b>WED, FEB 11</b>	6pm Boy Scouts
<b>THU, FEB 12</b>	1pm Worship Team Meeting 7pm Pub Theology
<b>SUN, FEB 15</b>	9:30am Worship 10:30am Choir Practice
<b>MON, FEB 16</b>	6pm Boy Scouts

7pm Council Meeting

**TUE, FEB 17**

9am Breakfast Club at May's Drive-In Lewisburg

10am TOPS

10:30am Movers and Shakers

**WED, FEB 18**

6pm Boy Scouts

**SUN, FEB 22**

9:30am Worship

10:30am Choir Practice

11am Fellowship Hour

**MON, FEB 23**

6pm Boy Scouts

**TUE, FEB 24**

10am TOPS

6:30pm Lenten Book Study at United In Christ (1875 Churches Road, Lewisburg)

**WED, FEB 25**

6pm Lenten Soup Supper and Holden Prayer at CELC (100 S. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Lewisburg)

**THUR, FEB 26**

11am Lenten Brunch at Silvermoon

**Please Contact the Office if You Have Any Questions About Any Upcoming Events**

**Donations Made in the Names of Loved Ones to the Abiding Memorial Fund**

**No Donations were received for the month of February**