

THE PARISH NEWS

Newsletter of the Milton Lutheran Parish

JANUARY 2019



*Good Habits are not made on
birthdays,*

*Nor christian character at
the new year*

*The workshop of character is
everyday life.*

*The uneventful and
commonplace hour is where
the battle is lost or won.*





Happy

New Year!

I hope your holidays were full of festivity, food, traditions, blessings, family, old and new friends, celebrations, surprise, joy, and rest. I know mine were! I always chuckle when people remarked "*well it's back to reality now!*" I prefer to think that the holiday celebrations we enjoyed celebrating the birth of our Lord and Savior are very much a part of a reality, and even *define* our reality! After all we enjoyed a week long preparation in celebration of the king of kings and Lord of lords. Can't be more real than that!

What are your New Year's resolutions for yourself? and for Milton Lutheran Parish? For me my resolutions yes of course always include that "weight thing!!;)".... but also include others including the blessing of my next place God will help me to be, to continue to grow personally and professionally both in ministry and my other pursuits, and to enjoy and receive all the surprises blessings and opportunities that this new year 2019 will bring!

How about for Milton Lutheran Parish? From my pastors' heart here are the resolutions that I wish for you based on Rick Warren's book, "**The Five Purposes of the Church**":

- 1.) *to be a compelling disciple making community, forming and developing the faith of ~-first and foremost~-adults, and also children, and youth.*
- 2.) *to be a vibrant community that gathers around Jesus' presence in Word and Sacrament, celebrating his presence in a variety of worship styles and sounds, traditional and contemporary.*
- 3.) *Boldly go out into the community in evangelism and outreach, share your faith stories and sharing the good news of Jesus Christ, and inviting the people of the greater Milton/Lewisburg area, to be a vibrant part of this disciple making church.*

4.) *to build with excitement on your service ministry, and look for ways to serve your community, your neighbors both near and far.*

5.) *to celebrate and grow your caring culture, so that the people will say as we have in scripture “see how they love each other (John 15:12)” and be a community that welcomes embraces and cherishes those who come to be with you.*

Of course these are new year’s resolutions that are “**All-Year**” resolutions, not just “**New Year**” ones that get quickly forgotten or swept under the rug, like, you know, those “weight-loss” resolutions! These “**All Year**” resolutions are biblically grounded purposes that the church of Jesus Christ in all her expressions, places, locales, and communities faithfully and passionately live out.

As you know, the MSP is completed and approved. I know you are excited about the Interview Phase of this Interim/Call Process being launched soon. Please take to heart that this process is unique to every setting, and will take longer than we wish or happen suddenly to our delight, and everything in-between! Please take to heart that “no time is wasted time”! This is God’s time for you to learn so much about yourselves, each other, and your partnership as a Parish.

Remember, God has a stake in this, too, and is with us and at work preparing you and this Parish for your next exciting chapter of ministry. Above all, please commit to praying every day for your Call Committee, and for this Interview Phase. Please continue to commit to faithfully attending the ministry that God still gives and asks us to deliver in faithfulness and joy. Please keep me in prayer, as I continue to be your “Pastor-in-Residence”, and I am also in “call process” too!

God bless us this year this new year of blessing, hope, surprise and possibility of 2019.

In Partnership,

Mark Galbraith, Intentional Interim Pastor

Happy New Year!



PARISH NEWS

On January 6, 2019, Milton Lutheran Parish and the Hispanic Free Methodist Church will hold a joint worship service at 9:30 AM at Christ Lutheran. Installation of the congregational council members and officers from Trinity and Christ will take place during this service. The 2019 council officers for Trinity are: President, Jeff Coup; Vice President, Krista Yaiko; Secretary, Lynnette Weisner; and Treasurer, Carol Yost.

Immediately following worship, we will have a covered dish meal in the fellowship hall. The parish will provide fried chicken, beverages, and table service. Members are asked to bring a covered dish to share. Please join us for worship, food, and fellowship.

During the combined December council meeting with Pastor Craig Miller, the MSP was unanimously approved. Pastor Miller discussed the next steps in the call process. The parish call committee has been elected. From Christ members are Kim Mitch, Nancy Walters, and Ed Coup. Members from Trinity are Cindy Coup, Bill Heimbach, and Joe Yaiko. Officers are: President-Cindy Coup, Secretary-Kim Mitch and Chaplain-Ed Co In January, the call committee will meet for orientation with Pastor Craig Miller and then with Pastor Miller and the parish council. At that point the MSP will be released and we are ready to begin the call process. We ask for your continued prayers throughout this process as we seek the right fit for a long term called pastor for Milton Lutheran Parish.

At the December Community meal, the Venture Scout troop from Trinity helped other volunteers to set up, serve, and clean up after the meal. We served a turkey dinner to 84 people and had 23 volunteers help with the meal. Through donations from parish members and the Thrivent grant we were able to provide 27 gift bags of food and candy treat bags for the children. Thank you to all who helped to make the meal a success!





Free Community Meals **2019 Community Meal Schedule**

Sunday, February 10th

Sunday, April 14th

Sunday, June 9th

Sunday, August 11th

Sunday, October 13th

Sunday, December 8th



Quiet Communion

For those who are unable to make the regular Sunday worship services at Trinity or Christ there will be a weekly quiet communion at Christ. This will be every Wednesday afternoon at 3:00pm throughout the year. Come join us!



Upcoming Book Group
will be Jan.14th @ 10:00am
New Members always welcome!



Worship Helpers

Trinity Lutheran
Month of January

Head Usher:

Krista Yaiko

Ushers:

Joe Yaiko

Linwood Hill

Dale Cochran

Nancy Cochran

Reader:

Noah Heimbach

Communion Assistant:

Carol Yost

Acolytes

Patience Benshoff

Chance Benshoff



Worship Helpers

Christ Lutheran

January 6

Ushers: Kim Mitch, Brent Mitch

Acolyte: Austin Mitch

Lector: Rose Handy

Asst./Server: Rose Handy, Rich Handy

Prayer Team Minister: Rose Handy

January 13

Ushers: Don Fisher, Peggy Fisher

Acolyte: Penny Ulmer

Lector: Penny Ulmer

Asst./Server: Penny Ulmer, Donna Spear

Prayer Team Minister: Mae Jones

January 20

Ushers: Nancy Mensch, Donna Riccio

Acolyte: Kellie Brouse

Lector: Kellie Brouse

Asst./Server: Penny Ulmer, Kay Dunn

Prayer Team Minister: Kellie Brouse

January 27

Ushers: Kim Mitch, Brent Mitch

Acolyte: Austin Mitch

Lector: Rose Handy

Asst./Server: Rose Handy, Rich Handy

Prayer Team Minister: Rose Handy

Milton Lutheran Parish
Joint Worship Service Schedule
2019

The congregation councils voted to hold joint services the first Sunday of every month as well as the 5th Sunday of the months that have 5 Sundays. All services will start at 9:30am and will rotate between the two churches.

Jan. 6 – Christ
Feb. 3- Trinity
Mar. 3 – Christ
Mar. 31 – Trinity
Apr. 7 – Christ
May 5 – Trinity
Jun 2 – Christ
Jun 30 – Trinity
Jul 7 – Christ
Aug 4 – Trinity
Sep 1 – Christ
Sep 29 – Trinity
Oct 6 – Christ
Nov 3 – Trinity
Dec 1 – Christ
Dec 29 – Trinity



Joint Worship Service

Jan. 6, 2019

at

Christ Lutheran Church

at

9:30am

Participating churches:

Trinity Lutheran

Christ Lutheran

Free Methodist

Fellowship meal will follow the service.

Please bring a dish of food to share.

**Chicken will be furnished as a meat along
with beverages and tableware.**

All Are Welcome!

**Please come and join in the festivities for the
new year.**

Stewardship of time

O God, teach us to count our days that we may gain a wise heart. -Psalm 90:12

What does it mean to count our days? Certainly, the poet who wrote Psalm 90:12 was thinking of more than arithmetic, which may not necessarily gain us a wise heart. Wisdom comes from perspective, from painful introspection and prayerful deliberation.

We count in order to know not only how many days we have *lived*, but to ponder how many days we might have *left*. Counting, we remember that we are finite creatures whose lives march forward in steady 24-hour steps, carrying us from birth to death. Knowing, then, that our days are numbered, we appreciate each one more fully.

We count our days to gain the wisdom that every day is sacred; every day presents opportunities to live more fully in relationship with God and our neighbors; every day is for love and joy and peace and fulfillment. Yet it's all too easy to let the days slip away.

This month consider a focus on stewardship of your time – how you spend every day God gives you. Here is a “to do” list for making the most of every day:

- **Pray:** Begin each day communicating with the creator of the universe, meditating on Scripture or a wise Christian author. Even 10 minutes. End by praying Psalm 118:24: “This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.”
- **Care:** Convey through word or deed how much you care about someone in your life. Call up an old friend or relative. Invite a co-worker to lunch.
- **Help:** Look for some way to assist someone. Volunteer. Hold a door open for someone entering a store behind you. Stop for a pedestrian who wants to cross the street.
- **Enrich:** Find something that will deepen your knowledge, understanding or appreciation of the world. Read a poem or book. Listen to a sermon podcast or educational news program.

- **Stop.** That's right, do nothing. For at least 10 minutes (use your smart phone timer) sit quietly, breathe deeply and try to clear the busy thoughts from your mind. Open your spirit to God's presence.
- **Be healthy:** Do something to increase your physical health, such as eating a nutritious meal or taking a walk.
- **Pray:** End every day thanking the creator of the universe for another wonderful day. A day you have counted and that you have made count.

Focus on stewardship of time and see how your own life will change. Make it a permanent part of your discipleship.

--*Rob Blezard*



***Members, Friends and Family of
Christ Lutheran Prayer List...***

***For those with ongoing health
issues/disability/illness:***

Wanda Aikey; Pam Belkins; Harry Berger;
Barbara Coup; Rose Deaner; Terry Deaner; Peggy Drum; Matt
Edinger; Terry Eisenhuth; Robert Francis Jr., Patricia
Gitschlag, Gerald Greenly; Doris Heffelfinger; John Heffelfinger;
Mary Wagner Hines; Evelyn Kelley; Danny Leitzel, Nolan Francis-
Miller; Rod Moore, Bob Queen; Lois Reimensnyder, Alice Roush;
John Shaffer; Tim Simko; Gordy Smith; Fran Valentine, Karen
Walters; Shirley Wargo; George Zeyn...



For those anticipating and recovering from surgery:

Pat Bender; Florence Ishler; Laura Beck; Terry Deaner;
Caroline Jean Carter

For those in sorrow: and all who have lost loved ones; All those in
our community and the world who are recovering from natural
disasters & tragedies.

For those needing daily strength:

Rodney Bastian; Betty Baumer; Betty Callenberger; Charlene
Francis; Rita Lenig; Nancy Mensch; Shannon Moll; Kelly Packer;
Helen & Leroy Reinard; Donna Riccio; Mike Rudisill; Tim Simko;
Keisha Trimble; Curtis Klodnikie; Darlas Yost; Harold Webb.

For the imprisoned: Aundre Moten

For those adjusting to life changes: All those affected by political &
religious oppression.

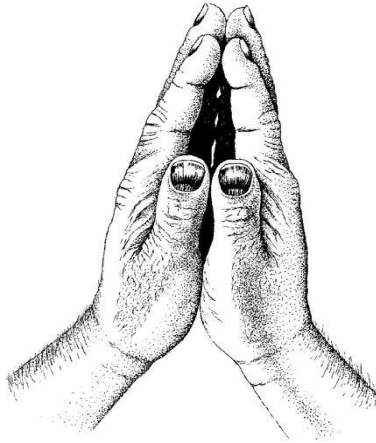
For the homebound and those unable to be at home:

George & Bebe Bolich; Betty Dotts; Tom Kline; Harry Berger
Doris Heffelfinger; Violet Heimbach; Connie Sholly; Nancy Weikel;
Jeannine Wilkerson

For those serving in the military: Kristen Bastian; Matthew Dorman; Jeremiah Fisher; Stephen Himes; Anthony Nudson; Cody Pursley; Cody Messinger; Trent Wargo

For leaders, guides, students, and workers: Pr. Mark; Rev. Brian & Christine Palmer, missionaries; Bishop B.J. Collins, Synod Staff; Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton & ELCA Staff, Authorized Lay Worship Leaders, Parish Call Committee

For activities and events, and for those who are traveling: Our faith partners at Trinity; Mutual Ministry Team; Council; Spiritual Growth; Stewardship; Christian Ed Ministry; Children, Youth & Family Ministry





Prayer Requests

Names for healing prayers are printed for several weeks at a time, but can be lifted up again as requested. The Prayer Chain Team & others continue to pray for this Sunday list and other concerns daily.

HEALING Mary Billhime; Georgia Boyer; Judy Farr; Ken Gaugler, Brenda Whipple, Julie Benschhoff, George & Joanie Fisher, Helen Fisher, Mary Jane & Melvin Crist, Dottie Leeser; Ray Leeser, Ed Nelson; Sheri Yingling, Ava Westhaupt, Mark Nolder, Brookson Lehman, Jane Fish, Bob Smith, friends, David, Linda Parrish, Janet Timms, Donna Collins, Barb Smith, Henry Reinsborrow, Tracy Coleman, Carol Shurtz, Frank Dominick, Jonathan Noaker, Quentin Erb, Carolyn Beach, Erick Wood, Neil Hauger, Pete, Jaime Evoke, Bill Leband, Gerry Cashner, Chris; Tom Martin; Karen, Martha Jean & Gary Gill, Aaron; Jean Shirk; Larry Shurtz, Barb; Ronnie; Lee; Peggy Fulmer; Gerald Greenly, Bill Rothermel, Glenda Arnold; Anthony Nudson; Annabelle, Brett Meckley, Craig, Peggy Wilson, Noah, Colleen Cameron, Cathy Smith, Rod Moore, Richard Hoffman, Karen Bergan, Jean Matthews, Bobby, Ronnie Kessler...

Seminarian: Marlene Phillips



Public Office Hours – Trinity- Mon.-Fri.- mornings
Christ- Mon.-Fri.- afternoons

Newsletter articles are due in office by the **15th of each month** (unless otherwise noted on newsletter calendar or bulletin).

Deadline for the next newsletter Jan 15. Any items received after the 15th of the month will not be in the newsletter.

Please e-mail Donna at **driccio@christlutheranmpa.org** or **tlcmilton@ptd.net** with any bulletin announcements or newsletter articles or drop them off at either church.

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Church Phone- 570-742-7473

Church E-mail – driccio@christlutheranmpa.org
Pastor Mark Galbraith -pastormarkpg@gmail.com

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

100 Mahoning Street, Milton, PA. 17847
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Pastor Mark Galbraith-pastormarkpg@gmail.com