



# Milton Lutheran Parish NEWSLETTER

September 2021

Serving God through faith formation, worship, service, evangelism, and fellowship

## Pastor Gary's September Message

Dear Friends of the Milton Lutheran Parish

It feels funny to be writing this to you as we prepare for the fall when the daily temperatures are topping off in the 90's! There is a lot of information to share with you this month as the summer winds down and we start back into our regular routines.

This month our fall kick-off will be on Sunday September 12<sup>th</sup>. On the 12<sup>th</sup> we will start our worship series called Ubuntu, Sunday School will resume, and we will do a dedication of the new communion table and station of the cross plaques. Following worship everyone is invited to join us downstairs for a time of fellowship. Our outreach team will be serving New Orleans style beignets to help us get ready for the Milton Harvest festival.

As you read through the newsletter you will find a lot of information about what I've shared as well as other ministry opportunities for the fall.

Blessings,

Gary Schaeffer, Pastor

## Welcome Hunter Ryan Farr to our faith Community !

Please join the whole Farr family in their celebration of Hunter Ryan Farr's baptism! On Sunday, August 29, we were so blessed to share in

the celebration for the baptism of Hunter Ryan Farr. We look forward to many years of watching you grow, in both height and in faith. Let us all welcome Hunter to our community of faith.



Great Grandmother Judy Farr, Grandmother Jennifer Robb, Hunter's Mother Katelyn, Hunter's sister Morgan, Cousin Khloe, Uncle Brandon, Godfather & Cousin Maddie Godmother.



## [Update on the Getting Ahead Program](#)

In June, the Milton Lutheran Parish made a positive difference in the lives of local families who are working to overcome poverty situations through the Getting Ahead in the Valley initiative. Poverty is a community problem, and it requires community solutions. In Union and Northumberland counties, 12.9% of residents live at the Federal Poverty Line (family of four = \$26,500/yr). This is not a “do for” program—this is a “be with” and “do with” community engagement initiative.

Since June, we’ve learned to calculate debit to income ratios, investigate time management, completed individual stability scales, the theory of change, research on what causes poverty, and the hidden rules of economic class. Most recently, our Getting Ahead group learned about the importance of language concepts that can improve interactions and build respectful relationships, resolve conflicts, and exchange information. Also, we learned how to use language to help prepare our children to learn and be more successful in school.

Yes! We have been very busy and moving forward. Thank you to all our volunteers and community supporters!

Sincerely,

Rose Williams

## **TRYING SMALL**

[An update from Brian Palmer – ELCA Pastor/Missionary serving in Totota, Liberia.](#)

Me, Bobby, Amos and Najohn

### [My Business](#)

A couple months ago I told you all I would be in the United States this summer and, indeed, as I write

this I am in Florida. Several congregations expressed an interest in my visiting in person; sadly that has not been an option. Due to COVID, in person visits are not permitted and the reason I came to the States is to seek medical intervention. There are murmurs that there is gonna be a big missionary shin-dig (i.e. meeting) in August of 2022 and my hope is the stars will align so as to allow in person congregational visits. I will keep you informed. In the meantime, anybody who would like a virtual visit or meeting just needs to let me know. Two recent activities stand out for me as kinda cool. The first is online teaching for the seminary. Most of you know I teach at the Gbarnga School of Theology (GST) in Gbarnga. The dean and I have been talking for a while about GST offering online classes and what with my medical needs conspiring with increased COVID cases in Liberia this seemed the perfect time to start. The semester started about 4 weeks before my coming to Florida and will continue for several weeks after my return to Liberia. These are the face-to-face bookends of six weeks of my online teaching. The two classes I am currently teaching online are Old Testament Exegesis and Christian Ethics. It’s going well...not great...but okay.

The second new and different activity I was recently involved in was to oversee the installation of a solar system for the Laboratory of a hospital in

Foya. Foya is in the bushy-bush-bush. The installation team is in the picture to the right. They are a great bunch of guys who are eager to learn. It is amazing what a little effort can do.

### "We Came for Our Christmas"

By far the two biggest holidays of the year in Liberia are Christmas and Independence Day, which is July 26th. As far as I can tell they are celebrated in nearly identical ways: The girls get

their hair done and all the children walk about in new clothes getting praised. The food is better and more abundant, not to mention the booze; lots of booze. As the children are passing around many will come to my house and say, "We came for our Christmas," or "We came for our 26th" which roughly translates to, "Trick or treat." Many people give the children small money as a way of thanking them for looking so great. I usually give out stick candy (lollypops) or gum or some other random small thing. This gone April I had a group of about 6 children stop at my house. They ranged in age from 3 to 8 or 9. They looked great all decked out in their new clothes and hair and plastic sunglasses. I asked what was going on and got, "We came for our Christmas." The puzzlement on my face got a, "We came for our 26th." I was baffled. After a minute of me going on about how fine they looked I finally got the missing piece, "We are Mandingo." That means Muslim...It was Ramadan! We all showed our teeth, proud of having reached our goal of communicating. I gave them all small money and a lot of praise and thanked them for stopping. It was lovely. I look forward to seeing them again next year.



Me, Bobby, Amos and Najohn

## Local News and Events

**Life After Loss - Thursdays, Sept 16 thru October 21, 2021 2-2:30 PM at 235 Hospital Dr. Lewisburg. Fee \$20.00.**

Coping with the loss of a loved one can be difficult, especially during these challenging times. So, we would like to let you know about a local program presented by Hospice of Evangelical and Community Health and Wellness. It is a 6-week bereavement class called "Life After Loss" Your program facilitator is Andrea Runkle MSW. Anyone over 18 or older who has experienced a loss is invited to attend. It is recommended that the loss be longer than 6 months ago. Pre-Registration is required. Registration is limited so please contact the hospital at 570-522-2157 Registration is required by Sept 8<sup>th</sup> to join this class.





**Blanket Sunday - Saturday, October 9, 2021 \* 9:00 A.M.. to 12:00 P.M.** \* Bring all donated items to the Upper Susquehanna Synod Office, 500 Rietz Road, Lewisburg. If you are not able to be there at this time, Please contact Robin in the Milton Lutheran Parish office or call Sue Baylor at [sueb12@ptd.net](mailto:sueb12@ptd.net) or 570-279-4766. Sponsored Jointly By The Women of the ELCA and The Committee for Global Missions Upper Susquehanna Synod of the ELCA \***please note the time**

### **33rd Convention for the Women of the ELCA**

Will take place at Camp Mt. Luther on SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25th 2021. Registration: 8:30 am - 9:00 a.m.

#### **A Note from the Women of the ELCA President:**

**Greetings fellow Women of the ELCA!** We have endured a very challenging year (and it's not over!) due to the pandemic which has turned everything upside down and inside out! There have been many road bumps along the way. However, we must think of our future as Women of the ELCA and begin moving forward. Starting in September, the 25th to be exact, we will hold our Women's Convention at Camp Mount Luther. This will be an

important day for us. We will be able to get together with our friends and this year, we are holding elections for a new President and Vice-President. I am always happy to be at our Convention, as I enjoy the company of the W/ELCA . I leave you with the words of Max Lucado from his book, MOCHA WITH MAX: "You have a God who hears you, the power of love behind you, the Holy Spirit within you, and all of heaven ahead of you. .... You have everything you need.

See you on September 25th! .....Shalom Jean Crumb.



**Important Information:** Ingathering: Lutheran Disaster Response. In kind gathering: Haven Ministry in Sunbury & Love Center in Jersey Shore. The wish list is for any size of children's winter clothing and coats. Twin size and full size blankets, sheets and comforters. Extra-large frying pans, any cleaning products, paper products such as towels, napkins, toilet paper. Any non-perishable food. You may either bring items to the convention or drop them off at one of the centers and please let convention staff know that you donated. Thank you for supporting local needs. At this year's

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Sue Baylor at 570-279-4766 or e-mail her at [sueb123@ptd.net](mailto:sueb123@ptd.net) You can get more information and register on the synod website or follow the link below. There are more forms and information available at: <https://www.uss-elca.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/WelCA-August-2021.2.pdf>

## Milton Lutheran Parish News



### Masking Policy

**Starting Sept 6<sup>th</sup> Masks must be worn by everyone while inside the church building.** As the cases continue to climb in our area it is important to do what we can to mitigate the spread of the virus. This is for worship, all events, and meetings at the church. Keep in mind that exposure to the virus either by a member or the staff would require us to quarantine for 10 days as a congregation which would close the office and place all church ministry online. While we recognize that wearing a mask is uncomfortable our hope is to minimize the possibility of spread, maximizing our

opportunities to gather in person. Thank you for your cooperation and consideration.

### Confirmation and Youth Group

We are excited to share that we will be working with United In Christ Lutheran Church in West Milton to provide the opportunity for our teens in grades 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> to gather together and enrichen their faith experience. Pastor Justin Lingenfelter and Pastor Gary together will be leading these experiences for our families.

#### **Confirmation (Grades 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>)**

1. Confirmation instruction the **first Sunday of every month at 5:00pm.**
2. Summer Servant Trip- Working together with Camp Mount Luther and other congregations in the synod we will provide a summer servant trip for junior high students.
3. Shared Ministry Event- The teens from MLP and UIC will work together to plan and lead a shared ministry event for both congregations.
4. The confirmation program itself will be a two-year program.

#### **Youth Group (Grades 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>)**

1. We will be holding Youth Group (grades 7-12) **on the first and third Sundays of each month beginning around 6:00pm and ending by 8:00pm.**
2. Youth Group will begin with a meal for students, so those attending confirmation beforehand will have dinner provided those evenings.

**The launch date will be our first night of Youth Group on Sunday, September 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm! The first formal Confirmation class will then be Sunday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> at 5:00pm.**

To keep things simple, we will be meeting at United In Christ until we are able to help establish a routine for our teens. Following our first youth group time there will be brief meeting for parents that will start at 7:30 P.M.

## Upcoming Meetings & Events

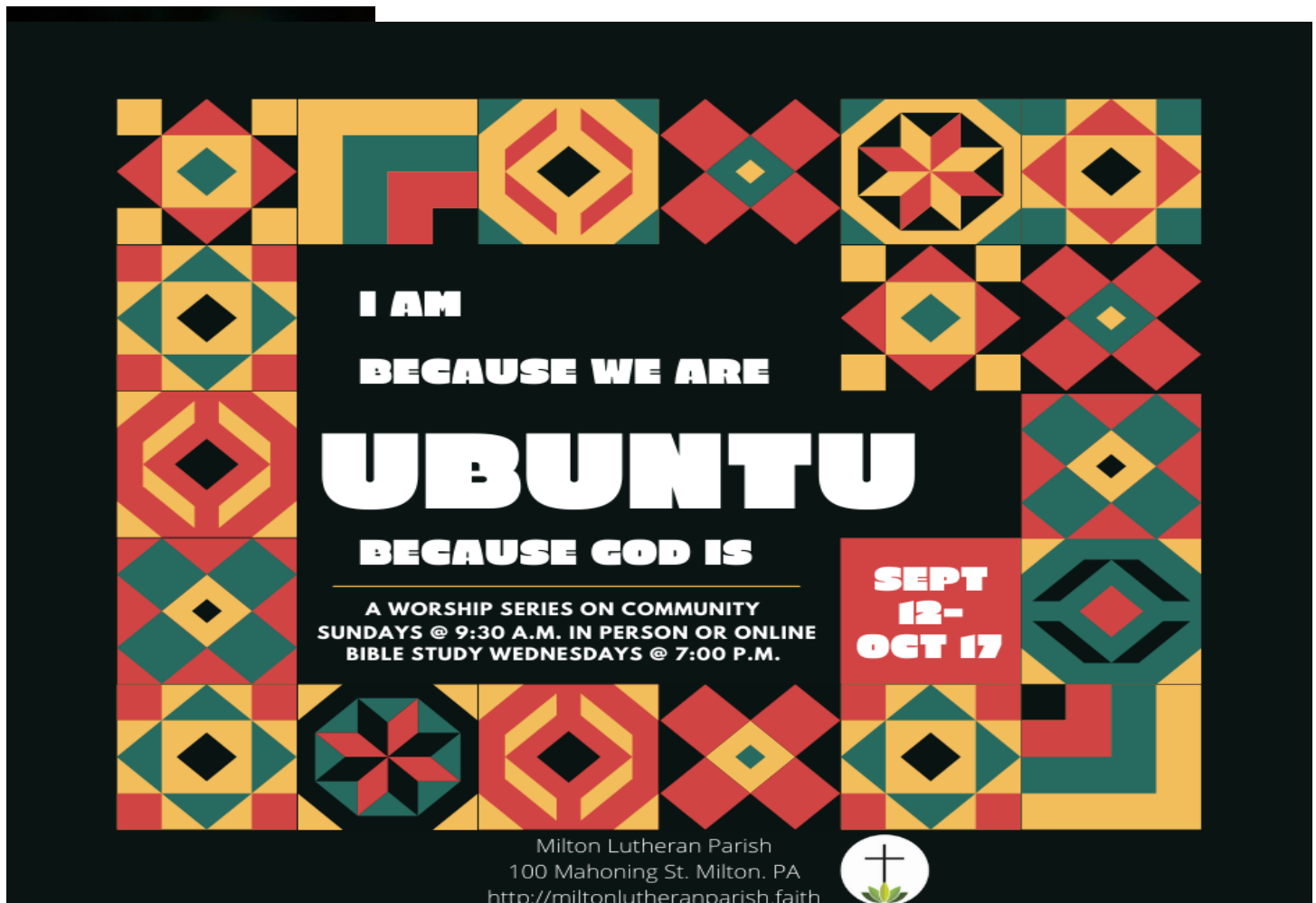
### Thursday, September 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 P.M Ministry Team Meetings

Our next ministry team meeting will be held on Thursday, September 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 P.M. We will gather all the groups together in the fellowship hall then break into our individual ministry teams after that. If you are not a member of a team but are interested in joining you are most welcome to come to our meeting time.

## Ubuntu Worship Series

Our worship series, Ubuntu starts on **September 12th**. Join us as we spend some time learning from South African culture about how to better live with one another in community. The series will be for six weeks. There are a few different ways you can participate.

1. Worship- the sermon and scripture text will focus on a different concept of Ubuntu each week.
2. Bible Study- Our bible study group meets on Wed. nights at 7pm starting on Sept. 15th. The group will use the book, "Everyday Ubuntu"
3. Book Study- You can get your book from the church office or purchase it on your own. Even if you are not able to participate in the bible study group you can still read the book.
4. Online- We will continue to worship online, and you can join the bible study online. Contact the office for the Zoom link if you want to join the bible study online.




**I AM  
BECAUSE WE ARE  
UBUNTU  
BECAUSE GOD IS**

A WORSHIP SERIES ON COMMUNITY  
SUNDAYS @ 9:30 A.M. IN PERSON OR ONLINE  
BIBLE STUDY WEDNESDAYS @ 7:00 P.M.

**SEPT  
12-  
OCT 17**

Milton Lutheran Parish  
100 Mahoning St. Milton, PA  
<http://miltonlutheranparish.faith>



**Sunday Sept 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday School 8:30 AM** in the Library. Kellie Brouse will be leading Sunday School for anyone that would like to attend.

**Sunday Sept 12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> Fellowship Hour**, immediately following worship, **outside due to mask mandate and weather permitting**. Light refreshments are served. Come join us and chat, smile and laugh with us! All are welcome!

### **Wednesday Sept 15<sup>th</sup> Bible Study**

Begins, **Wednesday September 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 P.M.** in the library. Pastor Gary will be leading bible study each week. We will begin our study by using the book **“Everyday Ubuntu” by Mungi Ngomane**. You can pick up your book anytime in September by stopping off at the church office. You can join us in person or online. If you want to join us online for Bible Study please let the church office know so we can send you the Zoom link.



### **Saturday Sept 18<sup>th</sup> Harvest Festival**

Don't forget to visit us at our booth on Broadway for the Milton Harvest Festival on Saturday, September 18<sup>th</sup>. This year we will be serving Beignets. **Volunteers are needed to sign-up for 2-hour increments**. If you would like to volunteer, please let a member of our outreach team know.

**Sunday, September 19th Youth Group & Confirmation** our first night of Youth Group on Sunday, September 19th at 6:00pm! The first formal Confirmation class will then be Sunday, October 3rd at 5:00pm. For a more in-depth description see the Milton Parish News section above.



### **Wednesday, September 29 -Blood Drive 1:00 PM to 6:00 PM**

The blood mobile will be at 1125 Mahoning St. They will be there and ready to accept blood donations from 1:00 PM to 6:00 PM. Please stop by

to give blood if you can. With so much going on in the world your donation is needed now more than ever. Next Blood drive will be December 1, 2021.





BRING YOUR PETS!



# Pet Blessing

Done in partnership with United In Christ Lutheran Church and the Milton Lutheran Parish. Come anytime between 6-7 P.M. Look for our tent when you arrive. Donations of pet food and supplies are being accepted for the Danville SPCA

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3RD  
6:00 P.M.- 7:00 P.M.

MILTON STATE PARK  
205 PA-642, MILTON, PA



## Sunday Oct 3<sup>rd</sup> -Blessing of the Animals from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM

*All things of creation are children of the Father and thus brothers of man. God wants us to help animals if they need help. Every creature in distress has the same right to be protected.*

*St. Francis of Assisi*

Join us on Sunday October 3<sup>rd</sup> from 6:00pm-7:00pm for our Blessing of the Animals on the island at Milton State Park. Together with Pr. Justin Lingenfelter and the community of faith at United In Christ 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 (October 4<sup>th</sup>), this time will be an opportunity to give thanks for the creatures and critters in our own lives! All are invited to stop by the park any time in that hour window with their pet friends to receive a pet blessing! If Fido or Snowball 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! **In addition, we will be collecting pet food/litter/supplies that will be donated to the Danville SPCA as we seek to reciprocate the blessing that these critters provide in our lives! Come and see!**

## Sunday, October 10, 2021 - Community Meal at 5:00 PM

In partnership with Bethany United Methodist Church, The Milton Lutheran Parish & Saint Paul’s United Church of Christ. All meals will be provided as take out, either by drive up or walk up. Menu to be announced soon, so watch this section for more information





## Recipes – YUM!

These recipes are out of the cookbooks that each church created; these recipes were shared by members. Here are some recipes for all our corn lovers. It's in season so get it while it lasts and support our local farmers too! Enjoy!



### Corn Muffins

Shared by Penny Coup

#### Ingredients

$\frac{3}{4}$  Cups Sugar

2 Eggs

2 Cups Flour

Pinch of salt

$\frac{1}{2}$  cup Butter

1 Cup Corn Meal

4 Teaspoons baking powder

1  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup milk

Optional: Add  $\frac{3}{4}$  cup cooked corn kernels (preferably cut from a cob) and  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup fresh chopped basil

Instructions - Mix all ingredients together. Grease a muffin pan with butter, Bake in a muffin pan at 350 degrees until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean. Or for a more traditional feel, bake in a buttered cast iron 10-inch pan at 350 degrees. Let cool and cut into triangles and serve.

These are soooo good for breakfast with honey butter!

### Corn Fritters

Shared by Connie Marsh

This is a great way to use left over corn on the cob. You will need an oil thermometer and a skillet that can hold about  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch deep hot oil. Set pot on stove, add oil and thermometer, they usually hang on the side, let it heat up while you put together the ingredients. The oil needs to reach 350 to 375 degrees. Otherwise, your fritters will be greasy.

#### Ingredients

Cut the corn off 3 Large Ears of corn (after cooked and cooled enough to handle)

3 Eggs (separated into yolks and white)

3 Tablespoons Flour

Salt and Pepper to taste

\*\*\*Add a dash of your favorite hot sauce for a little extra spice or some chopped fresh cilantro a unique flavor.

#### Instructions

Place egg white in a bowl and beat until soft peaks form. (a stand mixer works great for this)

Combine Corn, Egg Yolks, Flour and Salt & Pepper, Gently fold in the beaten egg whites, then immediately drop by tablespoon full into the hot oil. Let fry on each side until golden brown (2-3 minutes ) Drain on paper towels. Don't be too impatient, they can be HOT, let cool sprinkle lightly with salt is desired and eat!

## September Birthdays



9/1 Melvin Crist	9/12 Rose Handy	9/22 Greg Valiquette
9/2 Rodney Bastian	9/14 Steve Greenly	9/24 Dotty Brouse
9/2 Ruth Swanger	9/16 Karen Fry	9/24 Chuck Stahl
9/4 Ed Kaye	9/17 Elwood Engleman	9/25 Bob Greenly
9/5 Judith McNeal	9/17 Gerald Greenly	9/27 Rose Deener
9/5 John Wargo	9/19 Connie Sholly	9/28 Marilyn Keiser
9/6 Bean Yost	9/21 Apple Evans	9/29 Steve Liebscher
9/6 Nora Yost	9/22 Charolotte Marts	9/29 Nora Strawser
9/8 Dawn Russell		9/29 Mary Ellen Bartholomew
9/8 Andra Dehart-Robbins		

## September Anniversaries



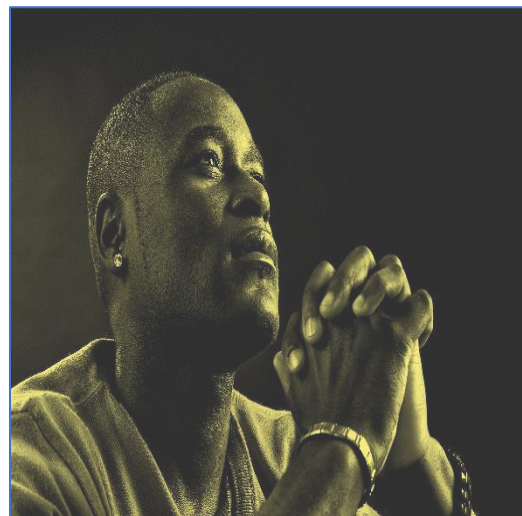
9/10 John & Tonya Wargo – 33 Years  
9/11 Scott & Amy Solomon – 22 Years  
9/14 Joe & Mary Ann Solomon – 58 Years  
9/15 Dave & Karen Walize – 42 Years  
9/18 Charles & Shirley Stigerwalt – 56 Years  
9/27 James & Donna Spear – 35 Years  
9/29 Ken & Penny Ulmer – 42 Years

*Did we miss you on the birthday or anniversary list? Please let us know! Call the Parish office.*

## Please Join Us in Prayer For...

Patricia Muffly  
Patsy Aunkst  
MaryLou Benshoff  
Julie Benshoff  
Terry Deaner  
Joanie Fisher  
Ken Gaugler  
Karen Smith  
John Pittsnogle  
Kathy Rearick

Gerald Greenly  
Doris Heffelfinger  
Chole Henderson  
Kathy Longenberger  
Mina Hoover  
Florence & Pete Ishler  
Jim Seidel  
Jack Mosier  
Kimberly Dill  
Pastor Pat Pittsnogle & Family



*Please let the office know of anyone who needs added or can be removed from the monthly prayer list.*

## Online Worship and Resources



Have you checked out our parish website recently? If you haven't, we hope you will take some time to visit the site. You can find worship service links, weekly bible studies, the church calendar, pictures, and resources to deepen your spiritual life. Feel free to invite others to stop by the website as well! <http://miltonlutheranparish.faith>

<b>Milton Lutheran Parish Leadership Team</b>	
Pastor	Gary Schaeffer
Parish Organist, Music Director	John Warfel
Parish Office Administrator	Robin A. McKean-Power
Digital Ministry Coordinator	Seth Reitz
Sexton/Custodian	Chuck Stahl and Helen Billhime
Treasurers	Rich Handy, Carol Yost, Craig Lawler, and Lorraine Lawler
Groundskeeper	Bob Greenly
Transitional Council	Kellie Brouse, Krista Yaiko, Don Fisher, Jeff Coup, Penny Ulmer, Crystal Gnidovec, Rose Deener, Seth Reitz
Worship Team	Jeff Coup, Kellie Brouse, Nancy Walters, Sue Warfel, John Warfel
Digital Ministry Team	Aaron Coup, Rick Coup, Seth Reitz, Stephen Moll, Donna Spear
Outreach Team	Connie Stover, Kay Dunn, Claire Weisner, Lynnette Weisner, Carol Yost, Linwood Hill, Krista Yaiko, Karen Martello
Discipleship Team	Rose Handy, Ed Coup, Kate Budman, Kellie Brouse
Parish Ministry Team	Penny Ulmer, Rose Handy, Lynette Weisner, Ruth Scott, Joe Yaiko and Cindy Coup
Parish Property Team	Don Fisher (point person for Christ) Chuck Stahl (point person for Trinity), Bob Greenly, Rusty Brouse, Helen Billhime, Bill Heimbach, Seth Reitz, Joe Yaiko

### Parish Office Hours

Monday – 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
Tuesday - 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
Wednesday – Noon to 5 p.m.  
Thursday - 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
Friday - Office Closed

### Pastoral Office Hours

Mon, Tue, Wed & Thursday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
Please call the office to reserve time to speak with Pastor Gary.

### Office Location:

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, 100 Mahoning Street, Milton, PA 17847, 570-742-4601

Parish Office Administrator email: [info@miltonlutheranparish.faith](mailto:info@miltonlutheranparish.faith)

Website: <https://miltonlutheranparish.faith/>

Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and our YouTube Channel to connect with us online.

Email or drop off bulletin announcements or newsletter articles.

*Inspirational thoughts:*

*“ The Weak can never forgive. Forgiveness is the attribute of the strong.”*

*Mahatma Gandhi*

*When we want to give high praise to someone we say, “Yhu, u nobuntu”: “Hey so-and-so has ubuntu.” Then you are generous, you are hospitable, you are friendly and caring and compassionate.*

*Archbishop Desmond Tutu - from “No Future Without Forgiveness”*