



MILTON LUTHERAN CHURCH / SEPTEMBER 2025

NEWSLETTER

Fostering community through faith, love, and service

A Letter from the Pastor

Living a Life of Lasting Love

Based on Hebrews 13:1–8, 15–16

The closing chapter of Hebrews gives us some of the most down-to-earth instructions for Christian living. After exploring the majesty of Christ as our High Priest, the writer turns to the practical: *“Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers... Remember those in prison... Keep your lives free from the love of money... Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.”*

These words remind us that faith is not only about what we believe, but also about how we live.

- **Love that lasts:** “Let mutual love continue” (v.1). Christian community thrives when we practice daily kindness, patience, and forgiveness with one another. This kind of love isn’t just a feeling—it’s a choice we renew each day.
- **Hospitality that welcomes Christ Himself:** The writer tells us that in showing kindness to strangers, some “have entertained angels without knowing it” (v.2). Every guest, every neighbor, every newcomer is an opportunity to welcome Christ.

This reminds me of a story of a small church that always kept an empty chair in their fellowship hall. At potlucks and gatherings, the chair was never filled. When newcomers asked about it, the congregation would say, *“That chair is for the guest we don’t yet know — because Christ may come to us as a stranger.”*

Over the years, countless visitors, travelers, and even people in crisis found a seat at that table. Many later said it was the first time they had truly felt seen and welcomed. That empty chair became a living reminder of Hebrews 13 — of showing hospitality, of remembering those who are lonely or far from home, and of trusting that in caring for one another we are, in fact, caring for Christ Himself.

- **Faith that is steady and unshaken:** In a world of change, we rest on this unchanging truth: *“Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever”* (v.8). Our security doesn’t come from wealth, status, or success, but from the Savior who never fails.

Finally, the passage calls us to **offer “a sacrifice of praise”** and to **“do good and share what you have”** (vv.15–16). Worship and service belong together. Our songs of praise on Sunday must spill into acts of compassion on Monday.

As we live into these words, we bear witness to a faith that is not abstract but embodied—a faith that takes shape in love, hospitality, generosity, and praise. And through it all, Christ remains our anchor, the same yesterday, today, and forever.

An Update from MLC Church Council

From Council President Connie Stover

Council news

There is no update from the council as we didn't meet this month. We will give you an update on everything in the October newsletter.

Ministry Teams and Small Group Monthly Reports

Outreach Team

Donation request for SCS- paper towels

Red Cross Bloodmobile Canteen- In need of food donations of cookies, cake, rolls, and deli ham for the event on September 24th

Harvest Festival Cake Wheel- September 6th- Booth 139

Proceeds for purchasing toys for the salvation army Christmas drive

Asking for baked goods (homemade/ store bought/ candy/ watermelon/ cantaloupe/ pumpkin/ etc.)

Hosting the beignet stand on September 13th

Proceeds for purchasing hats/ gloves/ scarves/ blankets for Women in Transition

Empty Bowl Dinner November 15th from 4-6 (save the date)

Proceeds benefit Milton's Panther Pack program

Tickets will go on sale in October

Volunteer sheets for working the event/ basket raffle donations/ etc.

Outreach team will be making hoagies for sale in October

Steph Byers

Fellowship Team

Fellowship has been busy with just our normal bi-monthly fellowship hour that included two pot-luck brunches. Both times were to have been outside worship and both times the weather didn't cooperate. But we still had fun being together, having fellowship and food!

Coming up will be the normal 2nd and 4th Sunday of Fellowship hour following worship. Extra events will be limited due to our participation in the Milton Harvest festivities on both Sept 6th-cake wheel and 13th our annual beignet stand. Fellowship will join Outreach for both of these events.

Coming up:

The annual pig roast, tentatively set for Saturday, Oct 4 at 4 pm.

The annual hayride that is held by St Johns in Pottsgrove.

Our third annual Friendsgiving in November, theme not yet determined.

We always welcome anyone that would like to join us for planning events. It's always fun to have some new, fresh ideas!

If you are interested in learning more, please see any member of the Fellowship team.

Carol Yost, Ruth Scott, Laura Spangler, Helen Billhime, Dawn Russell, and

Sally Shrawder.

Hiking Group

The MLC Hiking Group enjoyed two hikes in August. The first, on August 3rd, saw 8 of us hike a portion of the Appalachian Trail at the top of Peters Mountain to the Table Rock Vista and on to one of the camping shelters. Then we back tracked to the trailhead giving us a nice 6 mile hike. After the hike we all enjoyed refreshments at the historic Doyle Hotel in Duncannon. The hotel is a popular spot for thru hikers as it's front sidewalk is on the Appalachian Trail.



The second hike, on August 17th, had 3 of us hiking the a loop near Arnot, PA. We hiked a portion of the Mid-State Trail to Sand Run Falls, and then the Sand Run Falls Trail back to the trailhead. The 6.7 mile hike was well worth it to see the falls! After the hike we had our refreshment stop at the Trout Run Hotel.

Our next hike will be close by as we hike the Halfway Dam Vista Loop on Sunday, September 7th. We will car-pool from the church parking lot at 12:30 pm, or you can meet us at the main parking lot on Sand Mountain Road about 1 pm. The trail is an easy 3.3 miles with only 400' of elevation and a beautiful view overlooking the park. We will probably stop at the Forest House Hotel for refreshments. If you would like to join us, please let Jeff Coup, jeffcoup@verizon.net or 570-412-1436 know by 5pm the day before if you will meet the group at the church or the Half Way Dam parking lot.



Jeff





**September 7th
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

TOOTH PASTE

DEO

SOAP

SHAMPOO

MILTON LUTHERAN CHURCH
1125 MAHONING ST. MILTON, PA

MOVERS & SHAKERS
SENIOR'S GROUP

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16TH 10:30AM - 12:30PM

MEAL

CONVERSATION

BINGO

For the month of September, we are requesting donations of paper towels.

We appreciate anything you can give to this ministry!

The MLC outreach team will be joining the teams at St Andrew's Methodist Church located at 102 Lower Market St. Milton on Wednesday Sept 3rd and Wednesday October 1st from 6 pm to 7:30 pm to pack food packs for the Milton Panther Pack Program. Anyone interested in going can sign up in the book in the lobby or see Stephanie Byers.

MILTON
PANTHERS

Milton Panther Pack Program

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

WED. SEPT. 3RD AND WED. OCT. 1ST
6PM - 7:30PM

Food

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 September 7th.



Our Fidget Quilt group has changed their meeting schedule!

The meeting dates for this year are:

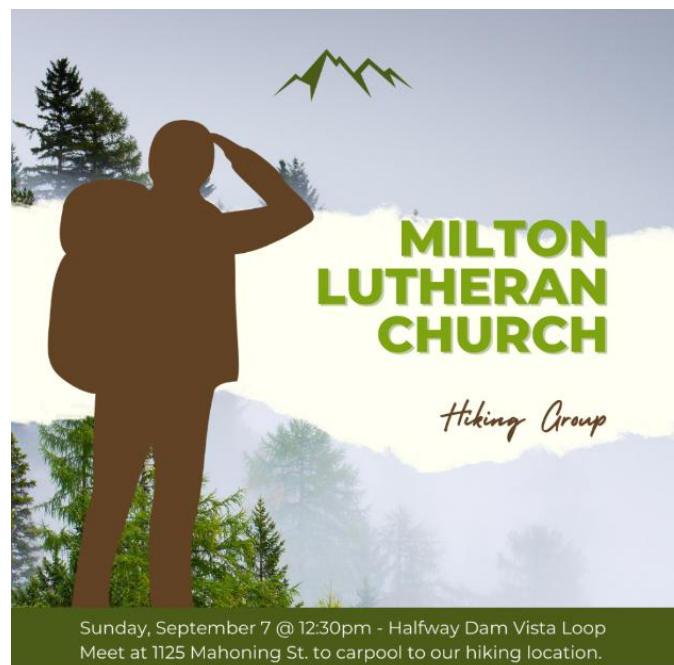
September 3rd

And December 3rd!

If you have any questions, contact Connie Stover.

Sunday, September 7, 2025: Halfway Dam Vista Loop - We will leave the church parking lot at 12:30 pm, or you can meet us near the entrance to the main parking lot on Sand Mountain Road about 1:00 pm. The trail is an easy 3.3 miles with only 400' of elevation and a beautiful view overlooking the park. We can stop at the Forest House Hotel for refreshments.

Contact Jeff Coup if interested in joining.





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.

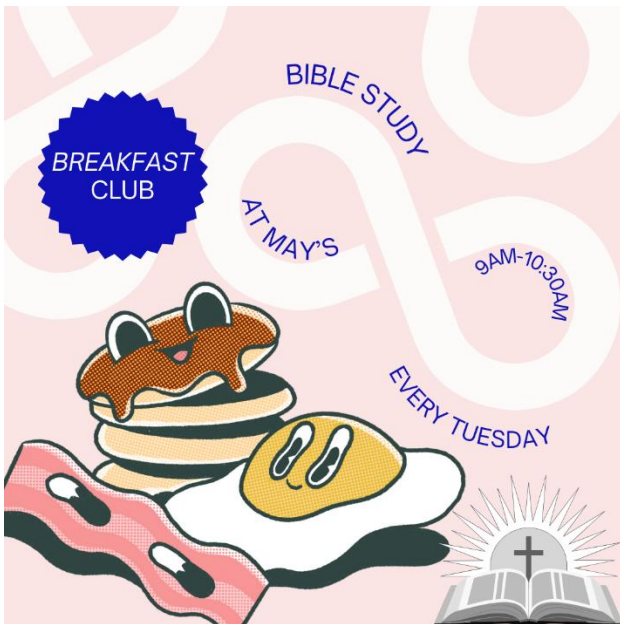
This spring, we began the capital campaign for Camp Mount Luther, that includes matching funds from MLC. If you didn't sign up initially to be a part of this very important ministry, IT'S NOT LATE!

There are many ways that you can still take part. 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 just that simple! Still have questions? Pastor Gary, Carol Ann or Rick Coup would be more than happy to answer your questions.

Remember that any of your contributions are matched by the church, so you have effectively DOUBLED the contribution to the campaign.

It's NOT too late!!





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

We will start back up on 9/9!



Pub Theology will be meeting on at the Turbotville Public House on September 11th at 7pm! We hope you join us for this opportunity for fellowship!!

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!

1st Sunday @ Christ's Lutheran
100 S. 3rd Street
Lewisburg, PA 17837

3rd Sunday @ United In Christ
1875 Churches Rd.
Lewisburg, PA 17837

GAME NIGHT

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2025
2-4 PM
CHRIST'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, LEWISBURG

ALL YOUTH GRADES 6-12 ARE WELCOME! BRING YOUR FAVORITE GAME!



MON, SEPT 1	6pm Boy Scouts
TUE, SEPT 2	10am TOPS 6:30pm Milton Community Band Rehearsal
WED, SEPT 3	1pm Fidget Quilters 6pm Boy Scouts
THU, SEPT 4	6:30pm MCB Rehearsal 7pm Outreach Team Meeting
SAT, SEPT 6	Milton Harvest Festival Begins
SUN, SEPT 7	9:30am Worship 10:30am Choir Practice 11:30am Self-Care Sanctuary and Pet Pantry 7pm MCB Concert
MON, SEPT 8	Executive Committee Meeting 6pm Boy Scouts
TUE, SEPT 9	9am Breakfast Club at May's Drive-In Lewisburg 10am TOPS
WED, SEPT 10	6pm Boy Scouts
THU, SEPT 11	1pm Worship Team Meeting 7pm Pub Theology at Turbotville Public House
SAT, SEPT 13	Last Day of Harvest Festival
SUN, SEPT 14	9:30am Worship 10:30am Choir Practice

11am Fellowship Hour
11am Fellowship Team Meeting

MON, SEPT 15 6pm Boy Scouts
7pm Council Meeting

TUE, SEPT 16 9am Breakfast Club at May's Drive-In Lewisburg
10am TOPS
10:30am Movers and Shakers

WED, SEPT 17 6pm Boy Scouts

SUN, SEPT 21 9:30am Worship
10:30am Choir Practice

MON, SEPT 22 6pm Boy Scouts

TUE, SEPT 23 9am Breakfast Club at May's Drive-In Lewisburg
10am TOPS

WED, SEPT 24 Red Cross Blood Drive
6pm Boy Scouts

SUN, SEPT 28 9:30am Worship
10:30am Choir Practice
11am Fellowship Hour

MON, SEPT 29 6pm Boy Scouts

TUE, SEPT 30 9am Breakfast Club at May's Drive-In Lewisburg
10am TOPS

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 Abiding Memorial Donation Made in the Month of August