



# Milton Lutheran Parish Newsletter

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

August 2019

FYI:

Quiet Communion is each  
Wednesday at 3 pm at  
Christ Lutheran

Councils meet August 12:  
Parish Council at 5:30  
Combined Councils at 6:30  
at Trinity Lutheran

Next Free Community  
Meal (with backpack  
giveaway and Kingdom  
Kidz) at Christ is Sunday,  
August 11 at 5 pm

Book Group is back on  
Monday, September 9, at 10  
am at Trinity

Updated Joint Worship at  
9:30 a.m. for 2019:  
August 4 - at Trinity  
August 11 - at Trinity  
August 18 - at Trinity  
August 25 - at Trinity  
September 1 - at Christ  
September 29 - at Trinity  
October 6 - at Christ  
November 3 - at Trinity  
December 1 - at Christ  
December 29 - at Trinity

Visit the Milton Lutheran  
Parish Website for more  
information!

[miltonlutheranparish.faith/](http://miltonlutheranparish.faith/)

## Message from Parish Council

Greetings to our Fellow Milton Lutheran Parish Members,

Your Parish Council would like to take this opportunity to give you an update on what is happening within our Parish. As you will see below, we are active and working to move forward as a Parish.

With Pastor Mark leaving us, the Parish Council has begun the process with the synod to find a new interim pastor. We have submitted forms to the synod describing our needs and requirements for a part-time interim pastor. The part-time interim would be a similar position to the part-time interims that each congregation had before Pastor Mark arrived, but now that we are a parish, there will be one interim pastor to serve both congregations.

Starting in August, we will utilize authorized lay worship leaders and supply pastors to lead our Sunday services. We have requested that our new interim pastor conduct Sunday services occasionally when his or her schedule permits. This is something that we will need to discuss with the new interim pastor and will let you know what we can establish.

The Parish Council is in the early stages of preparing for a new series of congregational conversations with parish members to discuss how all of us can best work together to meet our mission goals. More information will be coming this fall.

The Call Committee is ready to interview potential candidates for our full time pastor position, but at this time the synod has no candidates to present. Please continue to be patient and keep the Call Committee in your prayers.

As always, please don't hesitate to ask questions of any of our Congregation Council and Parish Council members.

Blessings,

Don Fisher  
Parish Council President

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## Newsletter Updates

Our monthly Parish Newsletter has a new look! As we continue to transform and grow as a Parish, so do our processes, documents, and communication. During the next few months, we will be looking at how our newsletter and information is provided to our members and the greater community. This includes determining how many members request to continue to receive a mailed “paper copy” and how many members request to read it “digitally” either through an emailed version or online on our Parish website. With everyone’s input and feedback, those changes are scheduled to take effect starting January 2020.

## MLP Mission and Vision Statements

Milton Lutheran Parish created and adopted new mission and vision statements in July. These statements reflect the goals and missions we developed during our combined congregational conversations in the fall of 2018. This is an exciting step toward our transformation as a parish and as people of God and will help us focus on the great work of serving, and learning, and growing with Christ in our hearts. Our mission is located in the heading of our newsletter while our vision is located at the bottom of each page, printed in our weekly worship service bulletins, and displayed on our Parish website at <https://miltonlutheranparish.faith/>.

## Congregational Conversations 2.0

Small group meetings in the fall of 2018 led the Milton Lutheran Parish to develop our new mission and vision while giving all participants voice in a structured and consistent Q & A format. This fall the next phase of congregational conversations will be scheduled with the purpose of determining how we can best reach our mission and vision and serve God as a Parish. There will be several opportunities to participate beginning in September. Please watch for these dates and bring your voice to these congregational conversations 2.0!

## Milton Food Bank



The Milton Food Bank is in need of volunteers. It is located at the Hand Up Foundation and is open from 9-3 on the 1st and 2nd Wednesday of each month. Volunteers are needed to sign people in at the registration table, pack bags of groceries, fill the carts, pack fresh produce, breads, and freezer foods. At the end of the day volunteers may also help to tear down boxes for recycling, sweep, and reorganize the food for the next time. On the Tuesday before the food bank, volunteers are needed to

help stock shelves with the incoming donated food and start to pack food boxes for distribution the next day. Two to three volunteers are needed at one time and you may split the day into shifts if you can only help out for a few hours. The goal for the Parish Stewardship team is to have enough volunteers to help the food bank one day per month. This is a great way to live out God’s Work, Our Hands in our community. If you are interested and can help with any of these tasks at the food bank, please contact Penny Coup or Lynnette Weisner.

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# Upper Susquehanna Synod News

IT'S TIME FOR THINKING CAPS AND BRIGHT IDEAS!

For over a year now, the Upper Susquehanna Synod has been considering mission and ministry within the synod. It began with a discussion of how the synod is currently perceived, as well as what the congregations feel they need from the synod. At last year's Assembly, roundtable conversations provided facilitators with information from which goals were developed. This year's Assembly took things a step further by defining and discussing three areas of focus through which our congregations can develop relationships among their members. These areas of focus include:

**Church/Unity** – We are Church; We are Church Together; We are Lutheran; We are Church for the sake of the world. We are *only, holy, catholic and apostolic* Church. How will we be church and enhance our unity?

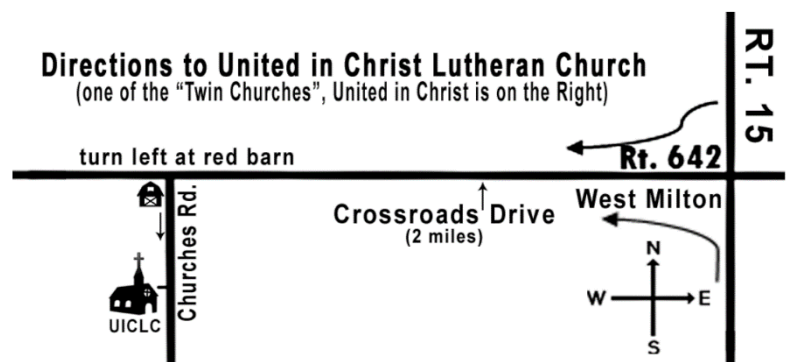
**Support/Presence** – We are a church in relationship with God, each other, our church partners, and the world. How can we deepen these relationships?

**Discipleship/Leadership** – We are a church called to lead others to the profound grace of Jesus. How do we recognize leaders in our congregations and beyond?

The discussions of the Areas of Focus took place by conference. The Buffalo Valley Conference had a great brainstorming session and many good ideas were put forth such as implementing a conference newsletter, joint worship services (e.g., Ascension Day), pulpit exchanges, and shared youth group activities among many others.

One of the best suggestions was to have an all-conference meeting of interested persons to begin conversations on how we might share together in mission and ministry to our communities. This initial meeting will be **Sunday, August 25, 6:00 pm** at United in Christ Lutheran Church, 1875 Churches Road, Lewisburg. Each church in the conference should be represented at this meeting. There is no limit on how many people from a congregation may attend. For questions or additional information, please contact

**Lynnette Weisner, Mindy Bartholomew, Rick Coup, Donna Spear or Rich Handy.** Let's see what God is up to in the Buffalo Valley Conference!



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## USS ARK

USS Ark is a monthly newsletter highlighting ministries in the Synod. Visit this link at the Upper Susquehanna Synod website to read the latest edition <https://www.uss-elca.org/uss-ark/>. Or, pick up a copy at either church building.

### God's Work, Our Hands Sunday

God's Work Our Hands Sunday is September 8. Once again, we will be serving a noon picnic meal to residents of the Towers and Centre Town Apartments in the community room at the Towers. The menu will be hot dogs, hamburg BBQ, macaroni salad, baked beans, dessert, and a beverage. We will need food donations and volunteers to help prepare, set up, serve and clean up after the meal. Sign-up sheets for food donations and volunteers are posted on the bulletin board in mid-August. Please volunteer some of your time to help make this event a success as we serve others in our community. If you have any questions, contact Lynnette Weisner.



### Harvest Festival Float

Hello parade fans! As summer slowly fades and fall fastly approaches, it's that time of year to start preparing for the Parish Float. The parade is on September 21 at 1:00 p.m. This year's theme is "Harvesting a Community of Helpers." We need volunteers to help with decorating, riding the float, and anyone who is willing to walk along the parade route to hand out candy. We would like to have children and adults participating in this year's theme. Joe and Krista Yaiko have graciously volunteered again this year to provide the space to decorate. The dates and time to decorate the float are: September 5, 12, 19 and 20, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Also, food will be provided at each decorating session with a picnic to follow on the 20th. If you are interested in participating, please contact Crystal Gnidovec at [cgnidovec91@gmail.com](mailto:cgnidovec91@gmail.com), or (570) 246-3268, or our Stewardship Committee. Let's make this another fun year in working together and spreading God's word! Thank you.

### Quiet Communion

Did you know that the Milton Lutheran Parish holds a casual church service each Wednesday at 3:00 pm in the Parlor at Christ Lutheran? For many years, it has been referred to as a Quiet Communion Service, but a better description would be a casual, family style service that includes a homily and Holy Communion. It includes many elements of a Sunday service in a much more casual setting. The length of the service is between 45-60 minutes. The regular attendees really enjoy this service and have remarked many times about how it feels like "family" to be there. All are welcome! The Pastor and Ed Coup, Authorized Lay Worship Leader, take turns conducting the Wednesday service and encourage you to attend, especially those who may find it difficult to get to Sunday services. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Ed Coup, or call either church and speak to the Parish Administrative Assistant, Donna Riccio.

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## **Milton Lutheran Parish Prayer Concerns**

### ***Members, Friends and Family of Milton Lutheran Parish Prayer List***

Wanda Aikey, Glenda Arnold, Patsy Aunkst, Linda Bastian, Rodney Bastian, Betty Baumer, Carolyn Beach, Pam Belkins, Julie Benshoff, Karen Bergan, Harry Berger, Mary Billhime, Georgia Boyer, Nancy Brown, Betty Callenberger, Colleen Cameron, Gerry Cashner, Caroline Jean Carter, Margaret Clemens, Tracy Coleman, Donna Collins, Barbara Coup, Mary Jane & Melvin Crist, Rose Deaner, Terry Deaner, Jordan Deitrick, Travis Deitrick, Anthony DeLong, Frank Dominick, Betty Dotts, Peggy Drum, Matt Edinger, Terry Eisenhuth, Deniene Enders, Quentin Erb, Jaime Evoke, Jim Evoke, Judy Farr, George & Joanie Fisher, Helen Fisher, Charlene Francis, Nolan Francis-Miller, Robert Francis Jr., Ken Gaugler, Sean Gay, Martha Jean & Gary Gill, Patricia Gitschlag, Gerald Greenly, Kimberly Handy, Valerie Handy, Neil Hauger, John Heffelfinger, Doris Heffelfinger, Emily Heintzelman, Mary Wagner Hines, Florence Ishler, Evelyn Kelley, Ronnie Kessler, Curtis Klodnikie, Bill Lebard, Ray & Dottie Leeser, Brookson Lehman, Danny Leitzel, Tom Martin, Jean Matthews, Nancy Mensch, Sharon Moll, Rod Moore, Ed Nelson, Jonathan Noaker, Mark Nolder, Oren Oberlin, Linda Parrish, DorithiJean Poeth, Bob Queen; Lois Reimensnyder, Helen & Leroy Reinard, Henry Reinsborrow, Bill Rothermel, Alice Roush, Mark Rudisill, John Shaffer, Jean Shirk, Connie Sholly, Larry Shurtz, Tim Simko, Barb Smith, Cathy Smith, Gordy Smith, Janet Smith, Janet Timms, Keisha Trimble, Fran Valentine, Karen Walters, Nancy Walters, Nancy Weikel, Shirley Wargo, Ava Westhaupt, Jeannine Wilkerson, Erick Wood, Sheri Yingling, Darlas Yost, Harold Webb, George Zeyn

#### **Those serving in the military:**

Kristen Bastian, Matthew Dorman, Jeremiah Fisher, Stephen Himes, Cody Pursley, Cody Messinger, Tyler Sokolas and Trent Wargo.

#### **Our leaders, guides, & activities:**

Pr. Mark, Rev. Brian & Christine Palmer, missionaries, Bishop B.J. Collins, Synod Staff, Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, Authorized Lay Worship Leaders, our Parish Call Committee, Mutual Ministry Team, Parish Council, Parish Stewardship, Christian Ed Ministry and Spiritual Growth Ministry.

**PLEASE CHECK THIS LIST EACH WEEK IN THE SUNDAY BULLETIN AND LET THE OFFICE KNOW OF ANYONE WHO NEEDS ADDED OR CAN BE REMOVED.**

**THANK YOU TO ALL OUR PRAYER WARRIORS!**

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## August Birthdays and Anniversaries

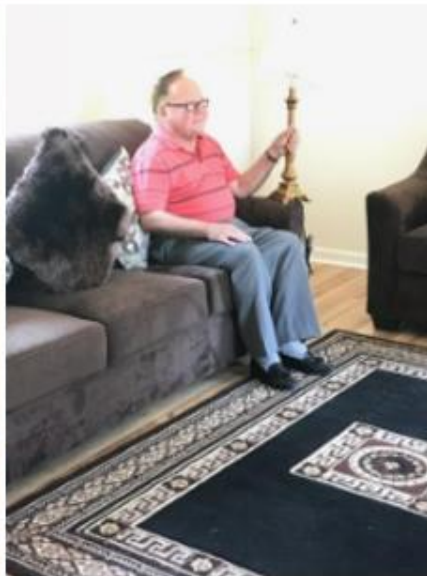
### **Birthdays**

Kathy Longenberger- 8/3  
Ernest Delp Sr. 8/4  
Karen Walize 8/4  
Don Fisher 8/8  
Charlie Stigerwalt 8/9  
Judy Farr 8/10  
Kellie Brouse 8/12  
Noah Heimbach-8/12  
Tim Shrawder 8/12  
Tavin Reitz- 8/13  
John Yingling- 8/16  
Ann Gelnett- 8/17  
Carol Reed- 8/18  
Nancy Cochran- 8/19  
Nevin Yost Jr. – 8/19  
Patsy Aunkst- 8/23  
Mike Kaar- 8/23  
John Martello- 8/28

### **Anniversaries**

John & Karen Martello- 8/6  
Pete & Florence Ishler- 8/13  
John & Ruth Yingling- 8/14  
Bob & Deb Greenly- 8/18  
Steve & Cindy Trapane- 8/25

## Mission Trip to Areas of North Carolina



You can be part of making this kind of change. The Upper Susquehanna Synod (ELCA) and Northumberland Presbytery (PCUSA) are sponsoring another mission/work trip to hurricane-ravaged areas of North Carolina from October 20-26, 2019. The cost is \$100 plus transportation. All levels of experience are needed. For more information, contact:

Doug Orbaker  
570-768-6436  
[dougorbaker@yahoo.com](mailto:dougorbaker@yahoo.com)

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**Office Hours** – 8 am-3:30 pm  
Trinity-Mon.-Fri. mornings  
Christ- Mon.-Fri. afternoons

**Deadline for the next newsletter is August 15. Any items received after the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month will not be in the newsletter.** Please **e-mail** the Parish Administrative Assistant with any bulletin announcements or newsletter articles or drop them off at either church.

**Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church**

1125 Mahoning Street, Milton, PA 17847 Church Phone- 570-742-7473  
Parish Administrative Assistant – [driccio@christlutheranmpa.org](mailto:driccio@christlutheranmpa.org)

**Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church**

100 Mahoning Street, Milton, PA. 17847 Church Phone-570-742-4601  
Parish Administrative Assistant- [tlcmilton@ptd.net](mailto:tlcmilton@ptd.net)

Milton Lutheran Parish Website: <https://miltonlutheranparish.faith/>

Parish Council Members

Don Fisher - President  
Bill Heimbach - Vice President  
Joe Yaiko - Secretary  
Rich Handy - Treasurer  
Donna Spear  
Lynnette Weisner

2019 Christ Council Members

Donna Spear - President  
Tonya Wargo - Vice President  
Penny Ulmer - Secretary  
Rich Handy, Treasurer  
Kellie Brouse  
Kay Dunn  
Don Fisher  
Nancy Mensch  
Nancy Walters

2019 Trinity Council Members

Jeff Coup, President  
Krista Yaiko, Vice President  
Lynnette Weisner, Secretary  
Kevin Fry  
Crystal Gnidovec  
Bill Heimbach  
Tiffany Heimbach  
Seth Reitz  
Dawn Russel

Church Staff

Donna Riccio, Parish Administrative Assistant  
Donna Spear, Parish Webmaster  
Bob Greenly, Christ Groundskeeper  
Rich Handy, Christ Treasurer  
Nancy Walters, Christ Church Music Director and Choir Director  
Helen Billhime, Christ Custodian  
Charles Stahl, Trinity Sexton  
John Warfel, Christ Organist & Trinity Organist, Choir and Bell Choir Director  
Carol Yost, Trinity Treasurer

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# August 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4 <b>8th Sunday in Pentecost</b>  <u>Combined Service</u> <u>9:30am</u> <u>At Trinity</u>	5 <i>ARC 6-8pm</i>	6 <u>TOPS 9:30am</u>	7 <i>Red Cross Blood Drive 1pm-6pm</i>  <i>Quiet Communion 3pm</i>	8 <u>PTSD Meeting 7pm</u>	9	10
11 <b>9th Sunday in Pentecost</b>  <u>Combined Service</u> <u>9:30am</u> <u>At Trinity</u> <i>Community Meal Backpack Giveaway &amp; Kingdom Kidz 5:00pm</i>	12 <i>ARC- 6-8pm</i>  <u>Parish Council 5:30pm</u> <u>Worship &amp; Music 6:00pm</u> <u>Combined Council 6:30pm</u>	13 <u>TOPS 9:30am</u>	14 <i>Quiet Communion 3pm</i>	15 <u>PTSD Meeting 7pm</u>	16	17
18 <b>10th Sunday in Pentecost</b>  <u>Combined Service</u> <u>9:30am</u> <u>At Trinity</u>	19 <i>ARC -6-8pm</i>	20 <u>TOPS 9:30am</u>	21 <i>Quiet Communion 3pm</i>	22 <u>PTSD Meeting 7pm</u>	23	24
25 <b>11th Sunday in Pentecost</b>  <u>Combined Service</u> <u>9:30am</u> <u>At Trinity</u>	26 <i>ARC- 6-8pm</i>	27 <i>Stewardship Meeting-6:30pm</i>	28 <i>Quiet Communion 3pm</i>	29 <u>PTSD Meeting 7pm</u>  <i>Community Meal Planning Meeting 6:30pm</i>	30	31

At Trinity Lutheran Building-Underlined      At Christ Lutheran Building-Italics

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