

THE PARISH NEWS

Newsletter of the Milton Lutheran Parish

JUNE 2019

*Kind words
can be
short and
easy to
speak but their
echoes
are truly
endless.*

Mother Teresa

*Be kind whenever possible.
(It is always possible.)*



Dear Friends in Christ:

Exciting things are happening this summer!

As Intentional Interim Pastor, all I have shared here in whatever capacity I have, during my tenure has always come from the place of being a teacher, mentor, shepherd, advisor, guide, cheerleader, advocate, and, as I felt needed, a reality check as to the interim process, precisely because by the very nature of the beast, (and congregations normally aren't in this situation), it is a different kind of ministry and focus to be in! I do so, as I truly understand this to be my job, which I am passionate about. I will continue in that kind of oversight capacity as long as I am serving here at MLP as Interim Pastor.

As I have pointed out before, the interview stage can be shorter or longer, as this is a very fluid process, all dependent on many things: pool of candidates available at any given time, their match of leadership skills and mission goals with MLP, how the interviews go, schedules, logistics, et al. The point:

- This stage of Process takes on a life of its own, so.....
 - Anticipate anything!
 - Assume nothing.....and most of all....
 - ***Pray continuously!!! ;)***

You have an excellent Call Committee in place, who has been working very well together and hard to keep the process moving forward in a productive and positive manner.

Other upcoming excitement of note:

- A celebration luncheon for ***Christ Lutheran Director of Music, Brett Hostermann***, will take place immediately following the Joint Service on June 2nd. (9:30 am at Christ Lutheran). Please come to worship with your fellow Parish members, and join us as we thank God and Brett for his stellar leadership and musical gifts that have been a blessing for Christ Lutheran Church, The Parish and the greater Milton Community.
- Affirmation of Baptism will take place **Sunday June 9th** during the 8:30 am service at Trinity Lutheran Church.

Don't forget: "***The Parables of Jesus, A middle eastern perspective***", continues the second week of June. A video-presentation series, by Dr. Ken Bailey, offering a refreshing and compelling understanding of these timeless and treasured parables, presented from the context the Bible comes out of: The Middle East. No materials to purchase, just bring yourself, your Bibles, and a friend.

Make this summer a renewing, refreshing, and plain ol' fun one, giving thanks to God for everything, in season and out of season!

In Partnership,
Pastor Mark





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!

Thank You

Dear Members of Milton Lutheran Parish,
We would like to extend our sincerest gratitude to you for your generosity and hospitality. In December you graciously opened your doors to our members when we were in need of a rehearsal location. Thank you for your continued support! The Members of the Milton Area Community Band.

Members of Trinity,
Thank you so much for the surprise party! It was definitely a surprise and meant a lot to me! Thank you for the plaque, gifts and for everyone attending.
Chuck Stahl

I want to thank the members of Christ Evan. Lutheran and Pastor Mark Galbraith for the affirmation-induction service. I am happy to be received into your membership. Your kindness in presenting me with a lovely prayer shawl, loaf of bread, church cup and refreshments served afterwards are much appreciated.
Yours in Christ, Melitta K. Hagenbuch



Free Community Meals
2019 Community Meal Schedule

Sunday, June 9th

Sunday, August 11th

Sunday, October 13th

Sunday, December 8th



Upcoming Book Group

will be June 10th @ 10:00am

"Light On Snow"

By Anita Shreve

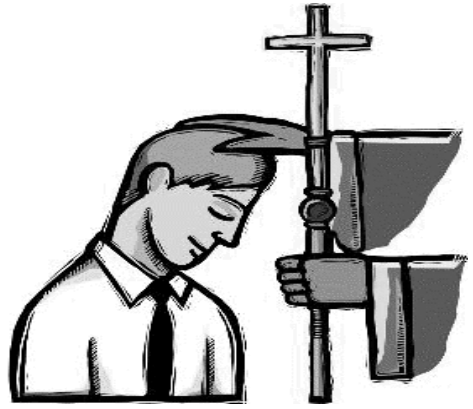
(This will be the last meeting until fall.)

New Members always welcome!

HAND UP
Rebuilding Hope 

Hours: The Food Bank will be open **only** the 1st and 2nd Wednesday of the month from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Qualified recipients are still eligible to receive their food allotment once per month. Questions, call 742-3000

Pentecost Sunday



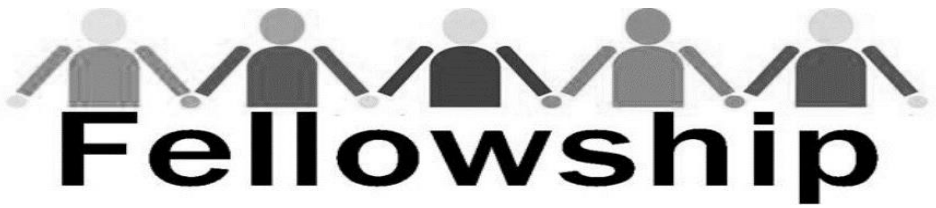
On Pentecost Sunday , June 9th we will be celebrating Pentecost and also the confirmation of four of our youth. Patience Benschoff, Gavin Russell, Eli Reitz and Noah Heimbach will all affirm their baptism at this service. Please join us after the service to celebrate this occasion and their hard work. All are welcome to celebrate with our confirmands and enjoy cake and beverages.

A JOB WELL DONE!

A Big thank you to the Confirmands and friends for a job well done on Palm/Passion Sunday. You did a great job sharing the Good News of God with your readings and other participations in the service. Trinity is blessed to have you as part of our family!

Confirmands: Patience Benschoff; Noah Heimbach; Eli Reitz; Gavin Russell

Friends: Chance Benschoff; Madison Coup; Ryleigh Heimbach; Tavin Reitz; Garrett Russell



Parish Fellowship Ministry

What is a Fellowship Ministry?

Opportunities to get together with other individuals, couples and families of the parish for activities to help get to know each other better as well as for inviting new visitors or new members to join us too.

Activities can be anything from dinners, picnics, trips, and/or recreational gatherings, whatever the group decides they have an interest.

We first want to know who would be interested in being part of this ministry and then we will schedule a meeting to decide the types of activities that most interest people and how often we would want to have these activities.

If you are interested in becoming part of our Fellowship Ministry, please sign up in the narthex.

If you have questions or would like to discuss further, please feel free to contact:

Penny Coup - 570- 412-3926 or pcoup72@gmail.com

Or

Linwood Hill - 570-742-7734 or lrhill20@verizon.net



Worship Helpers

Trinity Lutheran
Month of June

Head Usher:

Seth Reitz

Ushers:

Helen Billhime

Cuff Greiner

Sharon Greiner

Chuck Stahl

Reader:

Lynnette Weisner

Communion Assistant:

Connie Stover

Acolytes

Tavin Reitz



Worship Helpers

Christ Lutheran

June 2

Ushers: Nancy Mensch, Penny Ulmer
Acolyte/Asst: Kellie Brouse
Lector: Nancy Walters
Server: Donna Spear, Kay Dunn
Prayer Team Minister: Kellie Brouse

June 9

Ushers: Charlene Francis, Tonya Wargo
Acolyte: Penny Ulmer
Lector: Penny Ulmer
Server: Penny Ulmer(Asst.), Kay Dunn
Prayer Team Minister: Mae Jones

June 16

Ushers: Don Fisher, Peggy Fisher
Acolyte/Asst: Rose Handy
Lector: Nancy Walters
Server: Donna Spear, Rose Handy
Prayer Team Minister: Rose Handy

June 23

Ushers: Nancy Mensch, Donna Riccio
Acolyte: Kellie Brouse
Lector: Rose Handy
Servers: Rose Handy(Asst.), Rich Handy
Prayer Team Minister: Rose Handy

June 30

Combined Service at Trinity-9:30am



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.

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

A Note From the Parish Call Committee

To date, the Milton Lutheran Parish Call Committee has interviewed one candidate for our pastoral position. With prayer and thoughtful discussion, the committee made the unanimous decision that this candidate was not best suited to fill the needs of our parish. We are currently waiting for the Synod to provide us with prospective candidates. Please continue to pray for our parish as we wait for God's direction and pray also for the Call Committee as we seek wisdom and discernment during this process.
Blessings, LaCinda Betz Coup, Call Committee Chair

Milton Lutheran Parish Mission and Vision Statements



As we continue our transformation as a Parish, our call process for a rostered pastor, and our journeys together in faith formation, worship, service, evangelism, and fellowship, the Parish Council has written new mission and vision statements to reflect our published ministry site profile. Please take a few moments to read and reflect on the statements and provide feedback to any member of the Parish Council, Trinity Council, or Christ Council before June 2. An official vote to

adopt these statements will be held at the next combined council meetings on June 10 and will become official on July 1. As you read each, think of the mission statement as the “what” and the “why.” Think of the vision statement as the “how.”

Milton Lutheran Parish Mission Statement:

We, the baptized people of Milton Lutheran Parish, by God’s leading are united to carry out God’s mission through faith formation, worship, service, evangelism, and fellowship.

Milton Lutheran Parish Vision Statement:

Our energy is ignited by taking a more active and intentional ownership in faith formation, worship, service, evangelism, and fellowship. We are guided by the Word and in the Spirit’s filling and directing us to ever being transformed and being a transforming community for Jesus.

Parish Council: Don Fisher, President; Bill Heimbach, Vice President; Joe Yaiko, Secretary; Rich Handy, Treasurer; Donna Spear, Lynnette Weisner

Trinity Council: Jeff Coup, President; Krista Yaiko; Vice President; Lynnette Weisner, Secretary; Kevin Fry, Crystal Gnidovec, Bill Heimbach, Tiffany Heimbach, Seth Reitz, Dawn Russell

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

Stewardship of Generosity

Develop a heart of generosity

Remember the words of the Lord Jesus, for he himself said, “It is more blessed to give than to receive.”

Acts 20:35b

A friend who regularly volunteers to serve meals to the needy illustrates the truth of Jesus’ teaching.

“It’s so rewarding to help,” she says, explaining that the time and hard work is worth it. “I think get more out of it than they do.”

It feels good to give, but we are blessed with so much more when we give generously. The act of giving truly blesses us by shaping our personalities and developing our character. That’s a truth affirmed by research. (Check out “The Science of Generosity” white paper from the University of California at Berkeley, or “The Science of Generosity Initiative” at Notre Dame University!)

Generous people tend to be the kind of good folk we want as friends and neighbors. We often think of generosity only in terms of financial giving, but generous people go way beyond that, embodying generosity with all they have and all they are. They are not merely generous, they are *generous-hearted*.

Anyone can develop a generous heart, or a *more* generous heart. Begin by deepening your relationship with God, seeking guidance and wisdom in daily prayer. Then simply begin to pour yourself out for the sake of others, giving generously as a spiritual exercise and discipline. Here are five action steps:

Give smiles. Smile at everyone you see. You may be surprised at how it changes your outlook.

Give nice words. Say something nice to everyone – family and friends, coworkers, parishioners, store clerks, folks in an elevator.

Give courtesy. Hold a door open for the person behind you; stop for pedestrians; let someone go ahead of you in line.

Give your time. Serve people *face-to-face*: tutor schoolchildren, serve meals, visit a shut-in, teach ESL, volunteer at a homeless shelter.

Give your resources: Slowly increase your giving to God’s ministry. Make tithing a long-term goal.

Jesus said it is more blessed to give than receive. When we give our time, talents and possessions, God blesses us by developing in us a generous heart.

--Rob Blezard



Let Me Be a Giver

by Mary Carolyn Davies

God, let me be a giver, and not one
—Who only takes and takes unceasingly;
God, let me give, so that not just my own,
—But others' lives as well, may richer be.

Let me give out whatever I may hold
—Of what material things life may be heaping,
Let me give raiment, shelter, food, or gold
—If these are, through Thy bounty, in my keeping.

But greater than such fleeting treasures, may
—I give my faith and hope and cheerfulness,
Belief and dreams and joy and laughter gay
—Some lonely soul to bless.

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Public Office Hours – 8am-3:30pm

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 June 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

Website – www.christlutheranmpa.org

1125 Mahoning Street, Milton, PA 17847

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

Church Phone-570-742-4601

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Pastor Mark Galbraith-pastormarkpg@gmail.com