



MILTON LUTHERAN CHURCH / OCTOBER 2025

# NEWSLETTER

*Fostering community through faith, love, and service*

## A Letter from the Pastor

2 Timothy 1:1-14

When the apostle Paul wrote his second letter to Timothy, he was nearing the end of his earthly journey. Imprisoned and facing death, Paul's words carry a special urgency. He is passing the torch to Timothy, encouraging him to hold fast to the faith and continue the mission of sharing the good news of Jesus Christ.

Paul reminds Timothy of his spiritual heritage—the sincere faith of his grandmother Lois and his mother Eunice. Their witness shaped Timothy, giving him a foundation of faith that Paul urges him to carry forward. We, too, are heirs of a faith that has been handed down to us. Parents, grandparents, mentors, pastors, Sunday school teachers—all have played a role in passing along the gift of God's Word and the hope of the Gospel.

He reminds us that faith is not something to be kept quietly on a shelf. It is a living gift that must be nurtured, strengthened, and shared. His encouragement to Timothy is the same encouragement for us today: *"Fan into flame the gift of God"* (v. 6).

So what does that look like in our daily lives as a congregation? Here are some concrete ways we can live out Paul's words together:

### **1. Remember and give thanks for those who passed faith to you.**

Just as Timothy was shaped by the witness of his grandmother Lois and mother Eunice, we are called to honor those who have nurtured our faith. Take a moment this week to thank someone who has encouraged you in your walk with Christ—or reach out to someone younger in faith and be that encouragement for them.

### **2. Keep the fire of faith burning.**

Fires need tending, and so does our spiritual life. Worship, prayer, and Scripture study aren't just good habits—they are how we keep faith alive. Join in Sunday worship, commit to regular prayer time, and consider taking part in a small group or Bible study this fall.

### **3. Live with courage, love, and self-control.**

Paul reminds us that *"God did not give us a spirit of fear, but of power, love, and self-discipline"* (v. 7). That means showing courage in speaking about your faith, practicing love in your relationships and service, and exercising self-control in choices that reflect Christ's way.

### **4. Guard the treasure of the Gospel.**

Guarding the Good News doesn't mean keeping it locked away—it means protecting its truth by living it out.

We are called to hold fast to the hope of Jesus, to resist messages that distort the Gospel, and to share it faithfully with our neighbors.

As a congregation, let's take these steps together. Let us fan into flame the gift of God within us so that the warmth of Christ's love spreads into our homes, our community, and beyond.

## Recognition and Thanks to the Reverend LeRoy Reitz

On behalf of the Milton Lutheran Church, we give thanks to God for the generous bequest of \$50,000 designated for the ministry of our congregation. This gift, given through the estate of Pastor Leroy Reitz, is a lasting witness to faith and generosity. Pastor Reitz served as the Pastor of one of your founding congregations, Trinity Lutheran Church starting February 1<sup>st</sup>, 1978- through June, 29<sup>th</sup> 2002

We acknowledge this bequest with deep gratitude and a sense of stewardship. These funds will be used in accordance with the Pastor Reitz's wishes, to strengthen the mission and ministry of our church.

We give thanks for the faithful life and witness of Pastor Reitz, whose generosity continues to bear fruit for the sake of the Gospel. May this gift inspire us all to live with open hands and open hearts, trusting in God's abundance.

With gratitude in Christ,

Gary Schaeffer, Pastor

Milton Lutheran Church

## An Update from MLC Church Council

From Council President Connie Stover

Council news

Council has had two coaching sessions with Pastor Ware.

Before the last coaching session, council had a brief meeting. The lease with the Community Mennonite Church was presented. They are expected to begin services at 100 Mahoning Street in mid October. The requests from the Endowment Committee were approved, and the financials were reviewed.

The next coaching session will be October 15th.

# Ministry Teams and Small Group Monthly Reports

## Outreach Team

- Harvest Festival Cake Wheel: Saturday September 6th
  - Received 176 donated baked items
  - Raised \$702 at event on a semi-rainy day
  - Church Bake sale raised \$148.01
  - A total of \$850.01 was raised for the Salvation Army Christmas Toy Drive



- Harvest Festival Beignet Stand: Saturday September 13th

- Proceeds from this stand will be used to purchase items for MLC Project Linus that are being donated to Women in Transition
- Stand raised \$857.00, with an additional donation of \$43.00, we raised \$900.00



- Self-Care Sanctuary
  - We are asking for donations of toothpaste for the month of October
- Trunk or Treat

- Saturday, October 18th from 3:00 to 5:00
- If you are hosting a Trunk, a car registration form must be filled out (be here by 2:00)
- Food will be provided: popcorn, hotdogs, water, etc.
  - We are looking for volunteers to work the food stand



- Hoagie Sale
  - Hoagies will be pre-sold from September 21st- October 5th
  - Pick Up date will be October 20th from 3:00-5:00
  - Assembling hoagies from 1 to 3
    - We are looking for volunteers to assemble the hoagies
  - Selling price \$6
  - Proceeds are going to Self- Care
- The outreach team soup sale fund raiser along with an endowment grant allowed MLC to purchase ELCA good gifts in the form of an abundant community that bundle includes a goat, roosters, cow, 3 chicks, seeds, honey bees, gardening tools, 3 fruit trees , farmers field school and a community garden we also were able to purchase a water filter, fish farm, latrine,, piglet and 2 additional chicks. These gifts will have a great impact on a community in need! Thank you for everyone that supported our fundraiser in February!

As you can see, the Outreach team has had a busy month. The team would like to thank the congregation for their support.

Steph Byers



### Fellowship Team

Sept 6 & 13 - we helped where needed at the Harvest Festival stand

Sept 14 & 28 - Fellowship hour

Oct 19 - Annual Hayride with St Johns/Follmer in Pottsgrove - beginning at 5 pm at St Johns in Pottsgrove. Bring a dessert!

November 8 - Annual Friendsgiving meal - @5 we will be streaming the Penn State game!

Christmas Craft workshop and Beers and Carols - dates to be determined.

Coming up in 2026:

Chili cookoff and game night

Ice cream and movie night

Always accepting new members!

Carol Yost

## Hiking Group

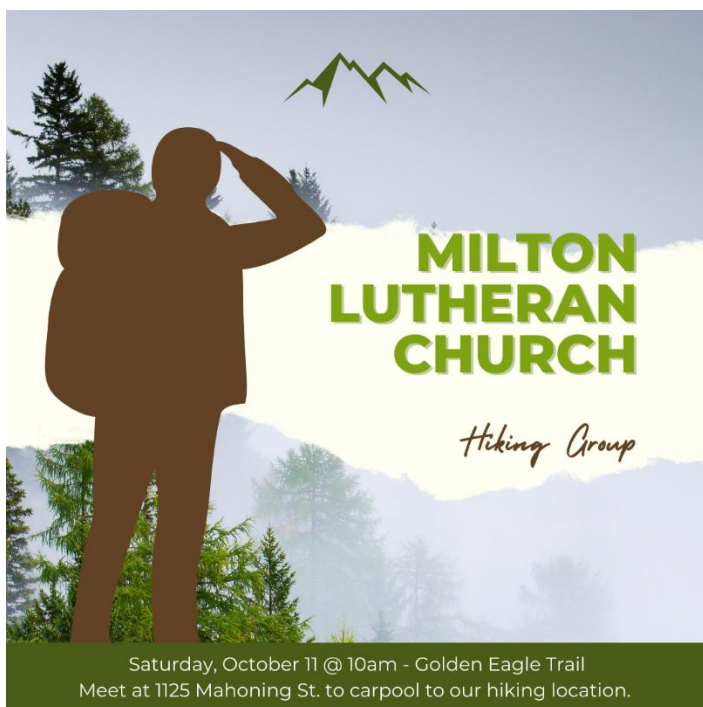
On Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup> four of us hiked the vista trail and the nature trail at Raymond B. Winter State Park, and couldn't have asked for a nicer day to hike. After the hike we had refreshments at the Forest House Hotel. We had a small group because Jeff goofed and sent the reminder to his biking friends, rather than his hiking friends!



The next hike will be on Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup>. We will be hiking the Canyon Vista Trail, with Cold Run Loop addition at World's End State Park. This has become a group favorite. It is a 5.3 mile hike with some moderate elevation changes. You can look at this as a fall classic hike! With any luck, I will send out a reminder that week asking if you will carpool from the church or meet us at the trail head.

Jeff





**Saturday, October 11, 2025: Golden Eagle Trail** - We will leave the church parking lot at 9 am or you can meet us at the trailhead along Rt 414, North of Cammal, PA at 10:15 am. This is considered the best day hike in PA! It is 9.3 miles long and as 2,343' of elevation. It has several nice vistas of the Pine Creek Valley including the spectacular Raven's Horn! We will have all day so we will take an easy pace. We will stop for refreshments on the way home, maybe at the Bald Birds Brewery, but you will want to pack a sandwich for a lunch break on the trail.



For the month of October, we are requesting donations of toothpaste.

We appreciate anything you can give to this ministry!

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 October 5th.



## Fidget Quilt



Our Fidget Quilt group has changed their meeting schedule!

The meeting dates for this year are:

September 3<sup>rd</sup>

And December 3<sup>rd</sup>!

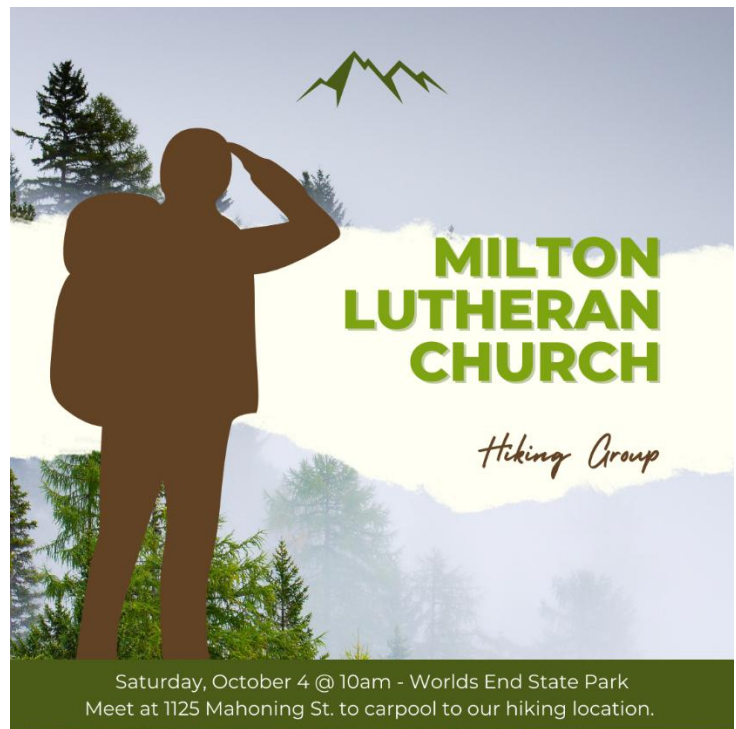
If you have any questions, contact Connie Stover.

The MLC outreach team will be joining the teams at St Andrew's Methodist Church located at 102 Lower Market St. Milton on 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.



**Saturday, October 4, 2025: Canyon Vista Trail @ Worlds End State Park** – Leave from the church at 9 am or meet us at the trailhead parking lot about 10 am. This is a more difficult 5 mile hike as we will be doing the Cold Run Loop Extension too. This is a beautiful hike and a favorite for our group in the fall. We will stop at The Barn for refreshments on the way home.

**Contact Jeff Coup if interested in joining.**



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!!

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.



Pub Theology will be meeting on at the Turbotville Public House on October 9<sup>th</sup> at 7pm! We hope you join us for this opportunity for fellowship!!





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!



Trunk or Treat will be on Saturday, October 18<sup>th</sup> from 3-5pm.

Sign-ups to be a trunk are in the binder.

We also are asking for donations of candy for handing out.

If you can volunteer to run inside games for Trunk or Treat, sign-ups for that is also in the binder.

We are hosting our second Empty Bowl Dinner fundraiser on November 15<sup>th</sup>. We will be having a raffle basket fundraiser along with it, and appreciate any donations of raffle baskets you can provide. Baskets are due to the office/Steph by October 19<sup>th</sup>. Thank you in advance for all who donate a basket for this event!



# Annual Pet Blessing

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5TH  
1:00P.M.

CHRIST'S EVANGELICAL  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
100 S. 3RD STREET  
LEWISBURG, PA 17837

JOIN US ON THE 3RD  
STREET SIDE OF THE  
BUILDING!

DONATIONS OF PET FOOD  
AND SUPPLIES ARE BEING  
COLLECTED FOR MILTON  
LUTHERAN'S PET PANTRY!

**ALL PETS  
WELCOME!**



# MLC Friendsgiving Feast

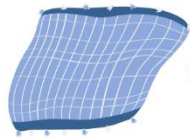
November  
**8**  
at 4:30 PM

*Gather  
around  
the table*

**1125  
Mahoning  
Social  
Hall**



## Winter needs Collection



BLANKET



SCARF



HAT



GLOVES

Please consider donating blankets, scarves, hats, gloves, and mittens. Donations need to be in between Sept 7<sup>th</sup> and October 19<sup>th</sup>. All donations go to Women in Transition in Lewisburg.

## OUTREACH TEAM HOAGIE SALE



**\$6 FOR  
8 INCH  
SUB**

**ORDERS AND PAYMENTS MAY  
BE PLACED FROM 9/21-10/5  
PICK UP ON 10/20**

## EMPTY BOWL FUNDRAISER AND BASKET RAFFLE

Benefits Milton's  
Panther Pack  
Program

An All You Can Eat soup dinner  
At 5:30pm **Speaker:** Susan Bastian  
- Coordinator of Milton Panther  
Packs

NOV.  
15,  
2025

4 - 6  
PM

### EVENT DETAILS

**Location:** Milton Lutheran  
Church Fellowship Hall  
1125 Mahoning Street  
Milton, PA 17847

**Ticket Price:** \$10.00 suggested  
minimum donation

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!

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



3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday @ United In Christ  
1875 Churches Rd.  
Lewisburg, PA 17837



**CAMP MOUNT  
LUTHER**

presents  
an evening at

**Shade Mountain  
Winery & Vineyard**

November 7 • 6:00-8:00 p.m.

**SPACE IS LIMITED**  
**Make your reservation today!**  
**contact: 570-922-1587 or**  
**[cml@campmountluther.org](mailto:cml@campmountluther.org)**

**All proceeds benefit Camp Mount Luther**



# Autumn Hayride

5 p.m. Sunday, October 19

St. John's Lutheran

70 S. Mill Road, Milton

Food & Fun!!

RSVP to Lois Buck  
[lbuckpa@dejazzd.com](mailto:lbuckpa@dejazzd.com)

by Oct. 15





|                    |                                                                                                        |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>WED, OCT 1</b>  | 6pm Boy Scouts<br>6pm Panther Pack Program at St. Andrews Methodist Church 102 Lower Market St. Milton |
| <b>THU, OCT 2</b>  | 7pm Outreach Team Meeting                                                                              |
| <b>SAT, OCT 4</b>  | 9am Hiking Group                                                                                       |
| <b>SUN, OCT 5</b>  | 9:30am Worship<br>10:30am Choir Practice<br>11:30am Self-Care Sanctuary and Pet Pantry                 |
| <b>MON, OCT 6</b>  | 6pm Boy Scouts                                                                                         |
| <b>TUE, OCT 7</b>  | 9am Breakfast Club at May's Drive-In Lewisburg<br>10am TOPS                                            |
| <b>WED, OCT 8</b>  | 6pm Boy Scouts                                                                                         |
| <b>THU, OCT 9</b>  | 1pm Worship Team Meeting<br>7pm Pub Theology at Turbotville Public House                               |
| <b>SAT, OCT 11</b> | 9am Hiking Group                                                                                       |
| <b>SUN, OCT 12</b> | 9:30am Worship<br>10:30am Choir Practice<br>11am Fellowship Hour<br>11am Fellowship Team Meeting       |
| <b>MON, OCT 13</b> | 6pm Boy Scouts<br>Executive Council Meeting                                                            |

|                    |                                                                                                    |
|--------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>TUE, OCT 14</b> | 9am Breakfast Club at May's Drive-In Lewisburg<br>10am TOPS                                        |
| <b>WED, OCT 15</b> | 6pm Boy Scouts                                                                                     |
| <b>SAT, OCT 18</b> | 3pm Trunk or Treat                                                                                 |
| <b>SUN, OCT 19</b> | 9:30am Worship<br>10:30am Choir Practice<br>5pm Hayride at St Johns Lutheran 70 S. Mill Rd. Milton |
| <b>MON, OCT 20</b> | 1pm Hoagie Pickup<br>6pm Boy Scouts                                                                |
| <b>TUE, OCT 21</b> | 9am Breakfast Club at May's Drive-In Lewisburg<br>10am TOPS<br>10:30am Movers and Shakers          |
| <b>WED, OCT 22</b> | 6pm Boy Scouts                                                                                     |
| <b>SUN, OCT 26</b> | 9:30am Worship<br>10:30am Choir Practice<br>11am Fellowship Hour                                   |
| <b>MON, OCT 27</b> | 6pm Boy Scouts                                                                                     |
| <b>TUE, OCT 28</b> | 9am Breakfast Club at May's Drive-In Lewisburg<br>10am TOPS                                        |
| <b>WED, OCT 29</b> | 6pm Boy Scouts                                                                                     |

**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 September**