

# THE PARISH VOICE

Newsletter of Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church of Milton, PA  
“God’s work. Our hands.”

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April 2015

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## Holy Week Services:

**Soup & The Word @ Trinity, Milton, every Wednesday noon to 1 p.m. thru Holy Week**

**Sunday of the Passion (Palm Sunday), March 29, 10:30 a.m. worship @ Christ Church**

**Maundy Thursday worship @ Christ Church, April 2, at 7 p.m.**

**Community Good Friday worship @ Trinity, Milton, April 3, noon; prayer vigil follows until 3 p.m.**

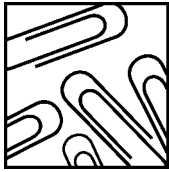
**Good Friday worship @ Grace Church, April 3, at 7 p.m.**

**Easter Vigil on Saturday, April 4, @ Pine Street, Danville OR First Lutheran, Watsontown, at 7 p.m.**

**Easter Day Festive Communion @ Christ Church, 10:30 a.m**

**Mission Statement:** We are called by God to follow Christ’s example and teachings by worshipping, witnessing, learning, supporting one another, and reaching out to others.

**Vision Statement:** Christ Lutheran Church will be a congregation of strong personal relationships between members. We will continue to serve our community and reach out to our neighbors with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.



# FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE

**Public Office Hours** are Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
Please feel free to stop by with bulletin announcements or monthly  
newsletter articles

***Deadlines:***

**Bulletin announcements** are due in office by ***Wednesday at 12:00 noon.***

**Newsletter articles** are due in office by the ***10th of each month*** (unless  
*otherwise noted on newsletter calendar or bulletin*).

***Deadline for the next newsletter is April 10.***

Please e-mail **secretary@christlutheranmpa.org** with any bulletin  
announcements or newsletter articles.

## ADDRESS/EMAIL CHANGE/ADDITION

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

email \_\_\_\_\_

## PRAYER

Sometimes some of us feel that we aren't good at praying. Perhaps this is because we feel that we can't say the right words, or we have gone through a bad situation and we just don't have the strength to try. Sometimes it is because we feel we aren't good enough. We all have different reasons but the bottom line is that often we make prayer complicated. Jesus wants us to come as we are, whatever frame of mind we are in, and speak to him in the same manner we would to a friend or relative. I would like to share a short devotional piece that was given to me several years ago. It was written by Ole Hallesby.

“ To pray is nothing more involved than to let Jesus into our needs. To pray is to give Jesus permission to employ His powers in the alleviation of our distress. To pray is to let Jesus glorify His name in the midst of our needs.

The results of prayer are, therefore, not dependent upon the powers of the one who prays. His intense will, his fervent emotions, or his clear comprehension of what he is praying for are not the reasons why his prayers will be heard and answered. Nay, God be praised; the results of prayer are not dependent upon these things!

To pray is nothing more involved than to open the door, giving Jesus access to our needs and permitting Him to exercise His own power in dealing with them.

He who gave us the privilege of prayer knows us very well. He knows our frame; He remembers that we are dust.

That is why He designed prayer in such a way that the most impotent can make use of it. For to pray is to open the door unto Jesus. And that requires no strength. It is only a question of our wills. Will we give Jesus access to our needs? That is the one great and fundamental question in connection with prayer.”

I hope you take time each day to have a conversation with Jesus. It is the healing ointment and maintenance medicine for our souls and we need to apply it each and every day of our lives. But the procedure really isn't that complicated.

Rose Handy

*Prayer is not conquering God's reluctance, but taking hold of God's willingness.* Phillips Brook

## Members, Friends and Family of Christ Lutheran Prayer List...



***For the sick:*** Sandra Aikey; Gene Caicco; Elijah Fox; Bob & Debbie Greenly; Anna Mae Harpster; Connie Mensch; Tiara Shipe; William Wessner; Darlas Yost

***For those with ongoing, extended illness:*** Stephen Albertson; Melody Baldwin; Nancy Bleznuck; Aiden Brown; Gage Campbell; Karen Campbell; Cathy Carpenter; Sherry Clark; Dale Dickey; Kyra Longenberger Dodge; Ryan Fitzgerald; Larry Forrey; Pat Fox; Jane Garrison; James Gautsch, Jr.; Clarence Gilnet; Bonnie Heimbach; Chuck Ishler; Carol J.; Raine Kime; Joann Klinger; Tristan Lindenmood; Robert Lukens; David Marks; Kathy Martin; Gary Mathias; Nancy Maturani; Kathy McClure; Rachel McDonald; Linda Mowery; Pastor Keith; Charles Pyers; James Reimensnyder; Lois Reimensnyder; Walt Scholl; Sally Shade; Jim Shambach; Roy Shrawder; Art Smith; Elizabeth Spickler; Polly Stackhouse; Mariah Streeter; John & Tracy Supsic; Larry Treas; Nancy Walters; Cheryl Walters; Stewart & Lorraine Watson; Dale Williams

***For those anticipating and recovering from surgery:*** Mel Baker; Barb Gotaskie; Violet Heimbach; Wendy Hosterman; Steve Ishler; Matt Kriner; Gary Lenig; Karen Martello; Tresha Sudol

***For those in sorrow:*** All who have lost loved ones; All those in our community and the world who are recovering from natural disasters & tragedies

***For those needing daily strength:*** Betty Baumer; Doris Berry; Bruce Bolich; Lauren Byers; Ryan Byers; BJ Callenberger; Ed Coup; Rose Deaner; Evelyn Dewire; Glen Dewire, Jr.; Bill Dotts; Kay Dunn; Bradley Farrow; Vicki Frith; Ben Grimes; Adam Hartzwick; Joy Hoke; Michelle Ishler; Cathy Kime; Camille Kreisher; Rita Lenig; Bev Mertz; Betty Morgan; Hunter Page; Zach Perrin; Dorothejean Poeth; Mickey Renner; Alice Roush; Steve Scholl; Bill Sechler; Betty & Ray Shuman; Deb Snyder; Mackenzie Snyder; Tom Snyder; Mary Steeley; Dorothy Stevens; Jennifer Suarez; Doug & Jessica Werdman.

***For the imprisoned:*** Jennifer Gregory

***For those adjusting to life changes:*** All those affected by political & religious oppression

***For the homebound:*** Kathleen Burch; Mary Burns; Evelyn Campbell; Betty Dotts; Isobel Feehrer; Doris Heffelfinger; Violet Heimbach; Tom Kline; Pauline Reitz; Arlene Rice; Connie Sholly; Mary Steeley; Nancy Weikel; Jeannine Wilkerson

***For those serving in the military:*** Matthew Dorman; Patrick Fawess; Stephen Himes; Dan Moll; Anthony Nudson; Cody Pursley; Ken Ring; Cody Messinger

***For leaders, guides, students, and workers:*** Pr. Pat; Pr. Keith; Sunday School, Youth Group, & Bible Buddies facilitators, leaders and helpers; Rev. Brian & Christine Palmer, missionaries; Bishop Robert Driesen & Synod Staff; Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton & ELCA Staff; Our Confirmation students, parents, and mentors

***For activities and events, and for those who are traveling:***  
Our faith partners at Grace, Point Township; Transformational Ministry Team; Mutual Ministry Team; Council; Spiritual Growth; Stewardship; Christian Ed Ministry; Children, Youth & Family Ministry.



**Blessings and love to** Cathy (Crabb) Kime and her children, Jonathan and Sydney, in the death of their beloved spouse and father, Raine Joseph Kime. The family has been a beloved part of our Bible Buddies program for some time now, and we mourn with them in this time of sorrow. Raine’s celebration of life service was held at Christ Church on Monday, March 9. He is buried in Montandon Cemetary. *“Bless this family, Lord, and surround them with your continual love. Help us together in our grief, and bind us together in the hope that Jesus brings in eternal life. Amen.”*



From Jennifer Suarez:

I would like to take the time to thank everyone for their constant love and support after the death of my husband Abraham Suarez. I have gotten an over abundance of meals, cards, phone calls, and plenty of hugs. I believe God and Abe are with me everyday, and everywhere I go. I feel as if they are watching over me, keeping me safe and sane. They have brought people into my life that are very special, helping the kids and I getting through this difficult time.

Please believe that God is with ALL of you always. "But the Lord stood with me and gave me strength." 2 Timothy 4:7

From Donna Riccio:

I would like to take just a moment to thank everyone for being so welcoming! The opportunity to work here as office manager has been a true blessing to me in so many ways! So many of you have gone out of your way to call or email and welcome me as part of the Christ Evangelical Church family. I especially would like to thank Penny Coup, Ruth Greenly, Rose Handy, Rich Handy and Barry Yeager for their patience and kindness! And a HUGE thank you to Pastor Pat for being someone with the patience of Job-putting up with my endless questions!

## Worship (Communions) Attendance

<u>Week of</u>	<u>Sun.</u>	<u>Wed.</u>	<u>Other Services</u>	<u>Total</u>
Feb. 1	28	8		36
Feb. 8	29	8		37
Feb. 15	25	28		53
Feb. 22	14	4		18

## Weekly Giving Per Envelope

<u># Envelopes</u>	<u>Amount Given Each Week</u>
12	\$100.01 or more
8	70.01 – 100.00
0	50.01 – 70.00
8	40.01 - 50.00
10	30.01 - 40.00
10	20.01 - 30.00
13	15.01 - 20.00
1	10.01 - 15.00
4	5.01 - 10.00
<u>5</u>	.01 - 5.00
71	

## Loose Cash Offerings in Worship & Special Appeals Envelopes

**April – Lutheran World Relief**  
(envelope provided with newsletter)

*Please make checks payable to “Christ Lutheran Church.”*

**Treasurer's Report**  
(submitted by Rich Handy)

**Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church**

**Statement of Income and Expense**

**For the Months Ended 1/31/15 and 2/28/15 and Year Ended 2/28/15**

**GENERAL FUND**

	Jan	Feb.	Year-to-date	Annual	Remaining
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Budget	Budget
<b>Income</b>					
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>8,781.00</b>	<b>6,692.17</b>	<b>15,473.17</b>	<b>155,867.00</b>	<b>140,393.83</b>
<b>Expense</b>					
<b>Christian Ed Total</b>	62.97	211.94	274.91	1,950.00	1,675.09
<b>Children Youth and Family Total</b>	0.00	68.62	68.62	1,000.00	931.38
<b>Worship/Music Total</b>	139.99	597.34	737.33	3,400.00	2,662.67
<b>Property Total</b>	1,421.97	1,889.43	3,311.40	26,800.00	23,488.60
<b>Office Equipment Total</b>	207.75	251.45	459.20	8,735.00	8,275.80
<b>Witness Total</b>	0.00	53.00	53.00	800.00	747.00
<b>Church Staff Total</b>	1,604.33	1,299.50	2,903.83	31,493.00	28,589.17
<b>Pastoral Ministry Total</b>	6,393.69	6,239.59	12,633.28	75,189.00	62,555.72
<b>Miscellaneous Total</b>	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,500.00	2,500.00
<b>Mission Support Total</b>	0.00	668.00	668.00	4,000.00	3,332.00
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>9,830.70</b>	<b>11,278.87</b>	<b>21,109.57</b>	<b>155,867.00</b>	<b>134,757.43</b>
<b>Income Less Expense (loss)</b>	<b>(1,049.70)</b>	<b>(4,586.70)</b>	<b>(5,636.40)</b>	<b>0.00</b>	



## Youth With A Hopeful Future



“We’re different,” says Renee Splichal Larson, pastor of Heart River Lutheran Church in Mandan, N.D. “Half of us are incarcerated,” she says. “When half of the people at church can leave and the rest are locked up, it makes the struggles of life very real.”

Heart River, a congregation of the ELCA Western North Dakota Synod, is housed on the campus of the North Dakota Youth Correctional Center. From its unique location, Heart River serves both the community and youth in the correctional center. Taylor, 19, was incarcerated for using and selling drugs. When she was released, she came to Heart River. “It was at a time when I was really vulnerable,” she said. The congregation “helped me find myself.”

But Heart River is not just about reaching out to troubled kids. These young people fully participate in the life of the congregation. “We as a congregation feel it’s not a ministry to, it’s a ministry with,” Renee says. “They are all very gifted and have a lot to offer to the life of the congregation.”

When Taylor was released, members of the congregation surrounded her with the gift of a quilt and spoke a benediction – a tradition they do with every young person who leaves the center. “The quilt is still in my room,” she says. “For me, it symbolizes a new beginning.”

Through the ELCA social statement, “The Church and Criminal Justice:Hearing the Cries,” congregations are called to renewed ministry on behalf of those whom the system affects: victims of crime and their families, the incarcerated and their families, affected communities, those who work in the system and many others.

(From STORIES OF FAITH IN ACTION, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America)

## Christian Education News

By Glen Dewire, Chairperson



The last day for **Sunday School** this year will be **Sunday, May 17**. And don't forget that **Vacation Bible School** is set for the week of **Sunday, June 28 – July 2**.



### **Calling all Children and Youth... IT'S TIME TO SIGN UP FOR CHURCH CAMP!!!!**

Camp Mt. Luther in Mifflinburg is gearing up to begin the camping season in June but it's time now for campers to sign up to attend. All programs have maximum enrollment so it is important to register as early as possible. A Spring Open House is scheduled for Sunday, April 26th from 2:00-4:00 for those who are interested in going to camp this summer but want to get more information, ask questions, get a tour of the camp and see what it's like to be a camper. First time campers who attend the open house will get a \$25.00 discount on their summer registration.

Our Children, Youth & Family Ministry Group wants to assure that any child/youth who wants to attend camp is able to do so and will be working to secure funding to supplement or underwrite the cost. So pickup a camp brochure in the narthex today and check out all the camping opportunities. If you have questions, please contact Penny Coup or Pastor Pat. Camp registrations/health forms should also be given to Penny who will submit along with the required deposit.

## Helping Others

- Campbell's Soup labels and Labels for Education for the Navajo Lutheran Mission project
- Can tabs for Ronald McDonald House
- Pennies for Social Ministry projects
- Recycling caps (box located to left of narthex door) – Update: Currently, we have recycled (and kept out of landfills) 1068 pounds of plastic caps! That's a LOT of caps! Keep the recycling for God's creation going!!!!



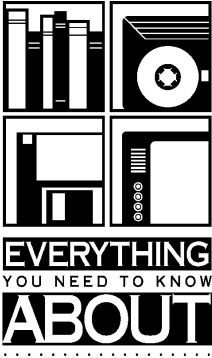
## HandUP Foundation

**Food Bank** – The Milton Food Bank is collecting cereal and canned tuna *for April*. Please place your donations in the grocery cart in the narthex. Thank you for helping feed the hungry in our community!!



*Hours:* The Food Bank will be open **only** the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

## Available on the Resource Table in the Narthex



Copies of USS ARK (Upper Susquehanna Synod news), CAMEL TRACKS (Camp Mt. Luther news), the LUTHERAN MAGAZINE, our PARISH VOICE NEWSLETTER, and also SYNOD & COMMUNITY INFORMATION, DEVOTIONALS, and PRAYER BOOKS. You will also find our SIGN-UP SHEET BOOK, CALENDARS, and other items of interest.

Please feel free to make use of these materials!



## Church Website & Facebook

Go to [www.christlutheranmpa.org](http://www.christlutheranmpa.org) or [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) and search for “Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church” for up-to-date Church information! For postings/ideas/suggestions regarding the website, contact Donna Spear, Webmaster, at [speardonna@gmail.com](mailto:speardonna@gmail.com).

## Little Needs... Little Things... Little Ways You Can Help

The church needs these items on a regular basis. If you can provide any of them, THANK YOU!

- Paper napkins
- Boxes of tissues
- Dishwashing soap for kitchen and sacristy
- Cascade powder for the kitchen dishwasher
- Gallon-size ziploc plastic bags
- Aluminum foil
- Sunday School snacks and breakfast items
- Check out the sign-up sheets in the narthex for more ways you can offer your time and talents!



### Other Upcoming Events

- The next **Free Community Meal** hosted by Christ Lutheran Church, New Hope Ministry Center and the HandUP Foundation will be held **Sunday, April 19, 2015 at 5:00 pm here at our church.** 12-15 volunteers are needed. If you would like to help prepare or serve the meal, please see Rose Handy or Penny Coup.

**10<sup>th</sup> Annual Bishop's Open Golf Classic**  
**Monday, May 11, 2015**  
**At Susquehanna Valley Country Club, Hummel's Wharf**  
Benefits Camp Mount Luther

# Anniversary Blessings



James & Joanne Seidel

4/1

53 yrs.



Evelyn Campbell	4/2	Sarah Auman	4/16
Jack Aunkst	4/3	Sarah McHenry	4/19
Betty Callenberger	4/3	Ashley Winner	4/21
Donald Gray	4/4	Nevin Mensch	4/23
Timothy Harpster	4/4	Brent Mitch	4/23
Thomas Kline	4/4	James Seidel	4/28
Alissa Bartlett	4/5		
Larry Mensch	4/6		
Dorothijean Poeth	4/8		
Peggy Drum	4/10		
Isabelle Blosser	4/11		
Michelle Ishler	4/12		
Marlin Frederick	4/13		
Lindsay Tanner	4/13		

**CHRIST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
1125 MAHONING STREET  
MILTON, PA 17847**

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**Public Office Hours: Monday thru Friday 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.**

**Phone (570) 742-7473**

**Pastor E-mail: [pastor@christlutheranmpa.org](mailto:pastor@christlutheranmpa.org)**

**Secretary E-mail: [secretary@christlutheranmpa.org](mailto:secretary@christlutheranmpa.org)**

**Transformational Ministry E-mail: [tmt@christlutheranmpa.org](mailto:tmt@christlutheranmpa.org)**

**Treasurer E-mail: [treasurer@christlutheranmpa.org](mailto:treasurer@christlutheranmpa.org)**

**Church Website: [www.christlutheranmpa.org](http://www.christlutheranmpa.org)**

**Staff:**

**The Rev. Patricia A. T. Pittsnogle, Pastor**

**Donna Riccio, Church Office Manager**

**Donna Spear, Webmaster**

**Nancy Walters, Director of Church Music**

**Brett Hosterman, Organist**

**Richard Handy, Jr., Treasurer**

**Barry Yeager, Custodian**

**Bob & Deb Greenly, Groundskeepers**