

THE PARISH VOICE

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

February 2015

Ash Wednesday – February 18, 2015

(watch the weekly bulletin for worship times)

Begin the journey to the cross with Jesus

Annual Congregational Meeting

Sunday, March 15, 2015

During Worship

Snow Date: March 22, 2015

**PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR
AND PLAN TO ATTEND.**

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.



Public Office Hours – At the current time the office does not have set hours as we search for a New Office Manager.

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 February 9.

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 _____

Our Church Leadership

With the beginning of the new year, I thought it would be good to list the church committees and committee chairpersons. If there is a committee or ministry group that would interest you or if you would like to volunteer to help with any committee, please contact the chairperson (in parentheses). Or if you have a suggestion or notice something related to that ministry, please contact the person in parentheses.

Aunt Phoebe's Blessings:

This ministry devotes itself to deepening spiritual life, and to extend Christian compassion and helpfulness to the ill, the aged, the orphaned, the underprivileged, the imprisoned, and in general, to all persons in need of aid in body or soul.

Children, Youth and Families (Penny Coup):

This group will strive to create interesting and appropriate ways to teach the foundations of Christian faith, within the congregation and to the greater community, through the promotion of fellowship and education opportunities.

Christian Education (Glen Dewire):

Along with the pastor, the Christian Education Ministry Group oversees all educational programs and activities within the congregation. Included are:

- Sunday School & Vacation Bible School
- Annual Advent Pageant
- Vacation Bible School
- Bible and Book Study
- Growing Disciples
- Baptism
- 1st Communion
- Confirmation

Church Council

The church council has general oversight of the life and activities of this congregation--from financial and property matters, to working with staff support in all employment matters, to conducting two congregational meetings with the people. The Council monitors the worship life of this congregation to the end that everything is done in accordance with the Word of God and the faith and practice of the ELCA.

During the January Council meeting, the council elected the following people as the executive committee:

President:	Rose Handy
Vice-President:	Stephen Moll
Treasurer:	Rich Handy
Secretary:	Tiara Shipe

Finance (Don Fisher):

The finance ministry group oversees all financial affairs of the congregation to assure that they are being conducted efficiently and promotes the expression of Christian faith in daily living and teach the Christian use of money. The group also oversees the Endowment Committee and the Treasury function along with the Weekly Money Counters.

Hospitality (Nancy Mensch):

This ministry coordinates various fellowship meals within our congregation, including potluck dinners, special activity meals, and meals for families after funerals or for those who have other special needs.

Property (Don Fisher, Rich Handy):

This committee strives to assure the proper maintenance and protection of all the congregation's properties, facilities, furnishings, and equipment.

Staff Support (Don Shipe):

This committee seeks to promote the ministry between the pastor and other paid personnel and the congregation.

Transformational Ministry (Rose Handy):

This ministry group leads an intentional process of renewal as they guide their congregational into a new future.

Witness (Rose Handy):

Witness ministry leads this congregation in witnessing to the gospel of Jesus Christ to people who are not active members of a Christian congregation, to support the faith development of members, and to increase the membership of this congregation with Christ's help. Included in the Witness ministry group are:

- Friendship Ministry
- Homebound Communion
- Prayer Chain
- Prayer Team Ministry
- Weekly Worship Prayers

Worship and Music (Kellie Brouse):

This committee assures that the worship of the congregation is conducted regularly and in accordance with the liturgies of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, that competent acolytes, worship assistants, and greeters/ushers are recruited and trained, the altar is cared for and that worship books and other devotional materials are provided and properly cared for. Subcommittees include:

- Altar Guild
- Communion Server
- Usher
- Lector
- Senior Choir
- Sound System

Submitted by: Rich Handy

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



For the sick: Aiden Brown; Gage Campbell; Bob & Debbie Greenly; Bobby Steeley; Joann Streeter; Harold Webb

For those with ongoing, extended illness: Stephen Albertson; Melody Baldwin; Nancy Bleznuck; Karen Campbell; Cathy Carpenter; Sherry Clark; Kyra Longenberger Dodge; Ryan Fitzgerald; Larry Forrey; Jane Garrison; James Gautsch, Jr.; Bonnie Heimbach; Raine Kime; Robert Lukens; David Marks; Kathy Martin; Gary Mathias; Nancy Maturani; Kathy McClure; Rachel McDonald; Linda Mowery; Pastor Keith; Charles Pyers; James Reimensnyder; Walt Scholl; Sally Shade; Jim Shambach; Roy Shrawder; Elizabeth Spickler; Polly Stackhouse; Mariah Streeter; Larry Treas; Nancy Walters; Cheryl Walters; Stewart & Lorraine Watson; Dale Williams

For those anticipating and recovering from surgery: Wendy Hosterman; Karen Martello; Matt Kriner; Abe Suarez

For those in sorrow: Families of Betty Brown, Caroline Bobb, Elva Mazeall, and Terry Moll; 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; Vicki Frith; Ben Grimes; Adam Hartzwick; Joy Hoke; Michelle Ishler; Camille Kreisher; Cathy Merritt; Bev Mertz; Pastor Sue Moll; Betty Morgan; Hunter Page; Zach Perrin; Dorothejean Poeth; Mickey Renner; Alice Roush; Steve Scholl; Bill Sechler; Betty & Ray Shuman; Mackenzie Snyder; Tom Snyder; Mary Steeley; Dorothy Stevens

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; Nancy Weikel; Jeannine Wilkerson

For those serving in the military: Matthew Dorman; Patrick Fawess; Stephen Himes; Dan Moll; Adam & Josh Mosier; 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



More prayers needed... These are *member families* we have prayed for in Church since last issue: Dana, Kelly, Curtis, & Vanessa Schneider; Thomas Berger; Shawn Roush; Susan Berger; Bill Bloom; Rick Schneider; Andrea Engleman & Olivia Giacobbi; Bill Sechler; Terri Engleman- Fisher; Jim & Joanne Seidel; Susan Albert; Sydney & Isabelle Blosser; Alexa & Gillian Mitchell; Angela & Ryan Francis; James, Rachel & Alice Heffelfinger; Amy, Ellie, Allison & Sarah Auman.

God's love and blessings to the family of Elva Mazeall, who joined the saints triumphant on December 24, 2014. Pastor Elinor Allison officiated Elva's service on December 29, at Christ Church and Harmony Cemetery, Milton.

God's love and blessings to the family of Caroline Bobb, who joined the saints triumphant on December 25, 2014. Pastor Mark Brumbach of South Williamsport United Methodist Church officiated Caroline's service on December 30th at Brooks Funeral Home in Watsontown and Green Lawn Memorial Park in Montgomery.

God's love and blessings to the family of Elizabeth "Betty" Brown, who joined the saints triumphant on January 2, 2015. Pastor Pat officiated Betty's service on January 5, at Christ Church and Milton Cemetery, Milton.

God's love and blessings to the family of Terry Moll, husband of our former pastor, Marthasue Moll, and father to Stephen and his siblings. Terry joined the saints triumphant on Saturday, January 17, 2015. He was buried from St. Mark Lutheran Church, Elysburg, on January 22.

Lord, you send us loved ones to walk this journey of life and faith together. Receive Elva, Caroline, Betty, and Terry into the arms of your mercy, into the blessed rest of everlasting peace, and bring them with all your saints to your glorious kingdom. We mourn with all their families. Comfort all who loved them. Help their loved ones and friends to feel your Spirit surround and assure them for the days, weeks, and years ahead. Amen.

It is a joy to welcome Olivia Morgan Rohland and Paul Robert Spangler Rohland to the family of faith at Christ Church. Olivia and Paul are the children of Jason and Jenelle Rohland.

Aunt Phoebe's Blessings is a support group for those in need of a place to just talk – and unload daily struggles. We meet to share lunch and fellowship and will continue to gather each month. Watch your weekly bulletin for February dates.



To All: Thank you – all of you – for your generous Christmas gifts to me. I appreciate your loving care – ALWAYS!
-Pastor Pat

To Staff Support: A very special thank you for the generous and useful gift this year. It is very much appreciated.
-Barry Yeager

To Staff Support: Wishing you the blessings of Peace, Love and Joy this Christmas and New Year. Many blessings to you along with many thanks for your most generous gift.
-Nancy Walters

To Kim Mitch, Ruth Greenly, Nancy Mensch, Peggy Sheltman, Don Fisher, Charlene Francis, Dale Kriner, Penny Coup, Pastor Pat and Pastor Keith:

Thank you for volunteering at the “Feed a Friend 2014 Sorting Party!” Your presence made the hard work fun and our efforts helped provide a traditional Thanksgiving dinner at home for 200 families!

Every one of the committee members appreciate the sacrifice of your time and your heart for our neighbors.

God Bless You! -Kathy Shaffer
(HandUP)

To Mattress Warehouse: For providing a great deal on the purchase of two mattresses for our Sunday School Project in December. As a way of saying “Thanks” for our business, they are offering a 20% discount to our members on any purchase in their store by using the coupon below. There is no expiration date. Additional coupons will be available on the table in the narthex.

20% Off Any Purchase

**For Members of Christ Lutheran Church
Milton, PA 17847**
(Present Coupon for Discount)



Their New Address
2236 North Susquehanna Trail
Selingsgrove, PA 17870
570-743-7147

<u>Week of</u>	<u>Sun.</u>	<u>Wed.</u>	<u>Other Services</u>	<u>Total</u>
Nov. 9	*	6		
Nov. 16	59	8	2 (priv. comm.)	69
Nov. 23	44	+		44
Nov. 30	38	8		46
Dec. 7	42	6	4 (priv. comm.)	52
Dec. 14	37	11	27 (Kramm's)	75
Dec. 21	48	+		48
Dec. 24	74	*	2 (priv. comm)	76
Dec. 25	9			9
Dec. 28	24	+	1 (homebound)	25

*Attendance Not Recorded

+ No Worship Service

Loose Cash Offerings in Worship & Special Appeals Envelopes

February – Pastor’s Discretionary Fund (envelope provided with newsletter)

Please make checks payable to “Christ Lutheran Church.”

Weekly Giving Per Envelope – 12/31/14

<u># Envelopes</u>	<u>Amount Given Each Week</u>
3	\$100.01 or more
5	70.01 – 100.00
6	50.01 – 70.00
3	40.01 - 50.00
6	30.01 - 40.00
11	20.01 - 30.00
7	15.01 - 20.00
7	10.01 - 15.00
15	5.01 - 10.00
22	.01 - 5.00
31	0

Treasurer’s Report

(submitted by Rich Handy)

No Treasurer’s Report this month because the final bank statements have not been received from Santander Bank. December and January Treasurer’s Report will be in the next newsletter.

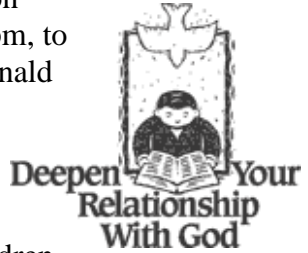
Thrivent Choice

Thank you to Pastor Pat and James Reaser for recently designating your Thrivent Choice Dollars to Christ Church. We appreciate your gifts!

For those who are Thrivent members and wish to designate Christ Church in your next opportunity for giving, talk with your Thrivent representative about how you can make that happen. Pastor Pat would be willing to help you with that, too – phone 570-742-7473, or see her at Church. Thank you!

Youth Education & Fellowship

- *Confirmation w/Youth Group* will meet on
 - Sunday, February 15, 5:30-7:30 pm, to serve a meal at the Ronald McDonald House in Danville
- *Confirmation w/mentors* will meet on
 - Sunday, February 22, 5:30-7:30 p.m., @ Oak Grove
- *Bible Buddies* is our youth group for children ages 4 through 5th grade, and it meets at Christ Church on the second Friday of each month, September through March. There is a meal provided for the children and adult helpers, followed by a story and activity based on the theme for the evening. This year we are studying “Kids in God’s Word.” Younger children are most welcome, too, with a parent or other responsible adult. We meet from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on February 13!



Christian Education News

By Glen Dewire, Chairperson



Bible and Book Studies

Are postponed until further notice due to weather and health condition of participants.

Looking for Associate Director for VBS

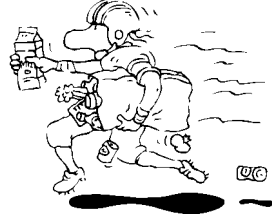
We have a need for an “Associate Director” for the Vacation Bible School program. If you discern that you have a calling for this important ministry, please contact Glen Dewire, any member of the Christian Education Ministry team or the church office. Vacation Bible School is typically held the third week of June from 6 to 8 pm.

HEY YOU CHICKEN AND TOMATO SOUP FANS, SOUPER BOWL 2015 KICKED OFF JANUARY 11th.

After the first quarter, Tomato Soup was leading 56 to 15. Chicken Noodle closed the gap a little in the second quarter but are still trailing at halftime 60 (\$22.00) to 24 (\$14.01).

WHO WILL BE THE VICTORS?
Chickens or Tomatoes?

Souper Bowl Sunday



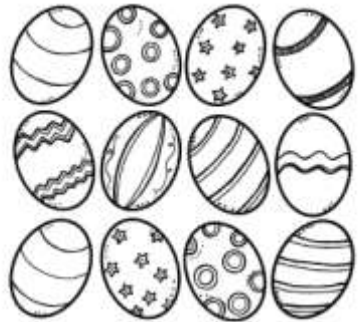
ITS TIME TO MAKE EASTER EGGS!

The Church is looking for donations to benefit the Relay for Life Team and the MS Walk:

- 2 lb. bags of confectionary sugar, wax paper, paper towels, 48 oz. or larger Jars of JIFF Peanut Butter (Requesting Jiff Brand ONLY)

Sign-up sheet will be in the Narthex. Donations need to be dropped off at the church kitchen by February 23rd.

We are looking to make the eggs at the church on February 27 (3:00-6:00 pm) & 28 (7:00am – 1:00 pm). Anyone wanting to help is welcome! Questions call Stephanie Byers 570-490-2049.



Soup & The Word – 2015

Saint Andrew's United Methodist Church will again host Soup and the Word this year – an hour of sharing a soup lunch and reflection on God's Word each Wednesday during Lent. It begins February 25, and will be held from noon to 1 p.m. through April 1.

This is this year's preaching and meal sponsor schedule:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Scripture Theme</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Soup, etc.</u>
2/25	Father Forgive Them...	Doug Diven	New Hope
3/4	Today...in Paradise	Steve Shirk	1st Presby.
3/11	Woman Behold your Son	Jill Bond	Revival Tabernacle
3/18	Why have you forsaken me?	Bob Barner	Comm. Mennonite
3/25	I thirst	Sheryl Hershey	TBA
4/1	It is finished	Dale Hippensteel	St. Andrews

You are invited and most welcome to attend.

A free will offering is taken each week.

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) 1008 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 cake and brownie mixes for *February*. 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 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.



Red Cross

Bloodmobile
Wed., February 4th
1 p.m. – 6 p.m.

ELCA provides \$100,000 to support containing Ebola

CHICAGO (ELCA) – In an effort to help contain the Ebola outbreak in Africa, provide food assistance and more, members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) have committed an initial \$100,000 as of Sept. 25 to support the response efforts of partners and Lutheran companion churches there.

(continued)

The Lutheran Church in Liberia and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Sierra Leone, for example, have asked the ELCA for assistance in containing the outbreak, distributing food, shipping personal protective equipment, training of health care workers, offering education about prevention and completing an isolation unit at Phebe Hospital and School of Nursing in Monrovia, Liberia.

Through Lutheran Disaster Response, the following allocations are underway:

+ \$25,000 to the Lutheran Church of Liberia, which is providing food assistance to nearly 1,000 households in six territorial areas. The assistance includes a month's supply of oil, rice and fish per household.

+ \$15,000 to the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Sierra Leone, which is overseeing the distribution of oil, rice and fish to 3,000 individuals.

+ \$50,000 to ACT Alliance (Lutheran Development Service in Liberia), working to raise awareness and share messages about Ebola symptoms and prevention methods to 4,500 individuals (2,000 males and 2,500 females) in Liberia. Lutheran Development Service hired a contractor to ensure that the construction of the isolation center at Phebe Hospital and School of Nursing meets World Health Organization standards.

The Ebola outbreak "is truly unprecedented," said Dr. Rebecca Duerst, ELCA program director for global health. "The outbreak is not only causing an extraordinary number of deaths but also from other treatable diseases, childbirth and starvation."

"When a situation like this arises, the importance of the church's commitment to be present in a community, with ministry of health and hunger, become clear. It is because of this ongoing work that the ELCA is able to confidently

encourage support through health centers and programs in Liberia and Sierra Leone. These churches have experience, through good times and difficult days, to provide food and build for sustainability. And it is our privilege to stand with them now as they work in this most difficult situation," said Rift, who also expressed his gratitude to ELCA members "who are responding to this special invitation for support."

For information contact:

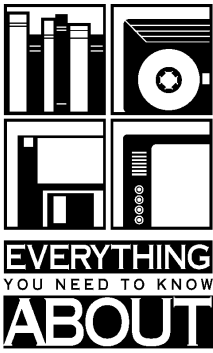
Melissa Ramirez Cooper, Manager, Public Relations
773-380-2956 or Melissa.RamirezCooper@ELCA.org

Church Website & Facebook

Go to www.christlutheranmpa.org or 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.



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!



Jason & Elizabeth Walls
 Feb 14 – 12 years
 Allene & Elwood Engleman
 Feb 2 – 57 years
 Nevin & Nancy Mensch Jr.
 Feb 24 – 15 years
 Terry & Rose Deaner
 Feb 25 – 43 years



Dianne Perrin 2/1
 Travis Bartlett 2/5
 Joanne Seidel 2/5
 Trent Wargo 2/5
 Darlas Yost 2/5
 Logan Faust 2/7
 Hope Harrington 2/10
 Gillian Mitchell 2/10

Camille Kreisher 2/11
 Harold Webb 2/13
 Skyler Harrington 2/15
 Dale Kriner 2/15
 Tanila Ramos-Valentin 2/15
 Kristie Ishler 2/18
 Victor Randolph 2/18
 Mary Burns 2/20
 Nancy Mensch 2/20
 Glenwood Dewire Jr. 2/23
 Jack Plotts 2/24
 Jeannine Wilkerson 2/25
 Amy Auman 2/26
 Karen Martello 2/28
 Joan Trate 2/28

(If we missed your birthday, call the Church Office
 and let us know!)

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

**NON PROFIT
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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
Secretary E-mail: secretary@christlutheranmpa.org
Transformational Ministry E-mail: tmt@christlutheranmpa.org
Treasurer E-mail: treasurer@christlutheranmpa.org
Church Website: www.christlutheranmpa.org**

Staff:

**The Rev. Patricia A. T. Pittsnogle, Pastor
TBD, Church Office Manager
Donna Spear, Webmaster
Nancy Walters, Director of Church Music
Brett Hosterman, Organist
Richard Handy, Jr., Treasurer
Ruth Greenly, Financial Secretary
Barry Yeager, Custodian
Bob & Deb Greenly, Groundskeepers**