

# MUDDY CREEK LUTHERAN

www.mclchurch.org

717-336-2770



## From the Pastors

### How is God Calling You to Serve the Poor and the Needy?

#### Announcing our Lenten Book Study: "Mountains Beyond Mountains"

When Jesus announced at the beginning of the Gospel of Luke that he had come to "bring good news to the poor" (Luke 4:18), and then proceeded to live it out, it has inspired his followers to do likewise. Most followers of Jesus have taken up his cause in some fashion (even if in small ways), and several have even done it in dramatic ways, such as St. Francis of Assisi, Mother Teresa of Calcutta, and Dr. Albert Schweitzer serving the poor in Africa.

This Lent, you are invited to study a novel about another such person, Dr. Paul Farmer of Massachusetts, who gives free medical care to the poor in Haiti and other places. While this novel is not strictly about Christian faith, it is thought-provoking for all Christians to read as we ask ourselves, "How is God calling me to serve the poor and the needy?" The answer is never dictated to any of us, but we can each search and find how to answer Jesus' call in our own unique way as it relates to our own unique circumstances. In this way, Dr. Farmer's example of answering Jesus' call to mission in Dr. Farmer's own way with his own special talents, can inspire us to seek out the answer that is our answer, and our answer alone.

The book is a biography called "Mountains Beyond Mountains: The Quest of Dr. Paul Farmer, A Man Who Would Cure the World" (2003). It is easy to read, and is inspiring. Dr. Farmer grew up in a poor household in Florida as one of six children. The book is written from the viewpoint of the author, Tracy Kidder, as Kidder first meets Dr. Farmer in Haiti in 1994 and follows Farmer in his work as a professor at Harvard near Boston, Massachusetts and as a founder of the health and social justice global organization, Partners in Health. Kidder writes, "I was drawn to the man himself. He worked extraordinary hours. Here was a person who seemed to be practicing more than he preached, who seemed to be living, as nearly as any human being can, without hypocrisy. A challenging person, the kind of person whose example can irritate you by making you feel you've never done anything as important, and yet, in his presence, those kinds of feelings tended to vanish. In the past, when I'd imagined a person with credentials like his, I'd imagined someone dour and self-righteous, but he was very friendly and irreverent, and quite funny."

Sign up on the clipboard under the mailboxes for a free copy of the book, and join us for a book discussion on Sunday mornings at 9 am in the sanctuary according to the following schedule: Feb. 23 (Part 1), March 8 (Parts 2 and 3), March 22 (Part 4) and March 29 (Part 5). Come even if you haven't read the part yet!

February 2020

#### Inside this issue:

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#### Special points of interest:

- *Spring Disaster Relief Trip*
- *Ash Wednesday*
- *Cluster Lenten Services*
- *Soup-er Bowl of Caring*
- *Family Bowling Event*
- *Lenten Book Study*
- *Sunday School Pretzel Making*
- *Special Adult Forum on What the Bible says about Money*
- *Spring Fling*

### Lenten Services - "Stories of Discipleship from the Book of Acts"

Wed. Feb. 26	7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Communion Service with ashes
Wed. Mar. 4	7:00 p.m. Cluster Lent Service at Faith United, Denver
Wed. Mar. 11	7:00 p.m. Cluster Lent Service at Bergstrasse, Ephrata
Wed. Mar. 18	7:00 p.m. Cluster Lent Service at St. John Center, East Earl
Wed. Mar. 25	7:00 p.m. Cluster Lent Service at Muddy Creek
Wed. Apr. 1	7:00 p.m. Cluster Lent Service at St. Paul Lutheran, Adamstown
No Holy Week Cluster Lenten Service	

## Upcoming Events

Spring Fling  
Fellowship Dinner  
Saturday, April 18,  
6 p.m.



Muddy Creek's annual Spring Fling Dinner will be held at the Reamstown Fire Hall on April 18. Donations for the Silent Auction (items, baked goods, craft/hobby items, gift certificates, services, etc.) would be greatly appreciated and can be dropped off at the church on Sunday, April 12, or you can contact Nancy Beck, 717-475-3234 if you would like to bring them the night of the dinner. Tickets for the dinner can be purchased at church services on Sundays in March and April. Hope to see you for The Fling!

Sunday School Pretzel Making  
Sunday, February 9, 9 a.m.

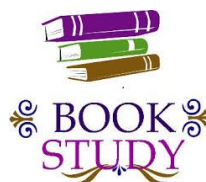


On Sunday, February 9 during the Christian Education Hour, the Sunday School will be making pretzels to celebrate the Lenten season. Pretzels originated as a way to teach children about prayer, with the crossed arms reminding them of how people used to pray with their hands crossed over their chest. Come and have some tasty fun!

Wear Your Favorite  
Sports Jersey to Church!  
Super Bowl Sunday, February 2nd!

## Lenten Book Study

“Mountains Beyond Mountains”



During Lent, Pastor Peter will lead a four-part book study on “Mountains Beyond Mountains” by Tracy Kidder. This well-written and easy to read biographical book follows the work of Dr. Paul Farmer to give free medical care to the poor and needy around the world. See the Pastors' Message on the front page of this newsletter for a fuller description.

Sign up to get a free book on the clipboard by the mailboxes (to use in the study or on your own). The dates are on Sundays from 9:00-9:45 a.m. in the sanctuary on February 23, March 8, March 22, and March 29. Or read it on your own!

## Disaster Relief Mission Trip

May 3-9, 2020

Calling all Volunteers!



The team from Muddy Creek invites you to come and volunteer with them and others from the North Lancaster District on a Disaster Relief Mission Trip to West Virginia on May 3-9 to help with flood recovery!

This is an annual trip of volunteers from many area churches, including Muddy Creek. No previous experience or skill needed. The cost is minimal, and a full subsidy is available for those who may need it.

If you are interested, please email Glenn Beard as soon as possible at [GBeard@luthercare.org](mailto:GBeard@luthercare.org), or speak to Pastor Peter if you have any questions.



Family Ministry  
Bowling

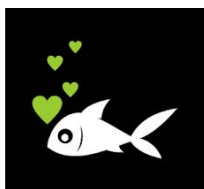
Sun. Feb. 16, 1 p.m. (tentatively)

All Muddy Creek families and their friends are invited to come bowling, tentatively scheduled for Sunday, Feb. 16 at 1 p.m. at Dutch Lanes in Akron. Please contact Wendy and Mike Sheaffer at [sheaffer237@comcast.net](mailto:sheaffer237@comcast.net) for more information and to sign up for the event.

## Upcoming Events

### Jesus 'n Me Parent/Child Group Monthly Sunday Mornings 9:00 am 0—4 year olds


Come join the fun in this interactive experience for parents and children (grandparents, or other adults are welcome with their little ones too!). Pastor Peter will lead everyone in simple songs, stories, activities, parachute play, puppets, and more.



February 16 Gathering:  
Theme: "Fishin' with God"

You won't want to miss the chance to hear "fishing" stories from the Bible. We will make "crumpled fish", and sing the all time favorite "One little, two little, three little fishies."

Ash  
Wednesday

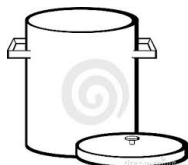


### Ash Wednesday Service

Wed. Feb. 26 at 7 p.m.

The Ash Wednesday service at Muddy Creek will feature Communion and the giving of ashes

### Soup-er Bowl of Caring Sunday Feb. 2nd



On Sunday, Feb. 2nd (Super Bowl Sunday), the children and youth of Muddy Creek will be collecting change from the congregation to give to the ELCA World Hunger Appeal.

Bring your spare change, and help those in need.

## Special Adult Forum

Sun. Feb. 9, 9 a.m.

### What the Bible Says About Money

By popular request, we will have special Adult Forums presented by Pastor Peter about questions posed by congregational participants. The first will be on "What the Bible Says About Money". It will be on Sun. Feb. 9, from 9-9:45 a.m. in the sanctuary. All invited!

## Cluster Lenten Services

This year, the area Lutheran churches will worship together during Lent around the theme "Stories of Discipleship from the Book of Acts". In case of snow or wintry weather, please contact the host church on the day of the service if you have questions.

Wed. Mar. 4 7:00 p.m. at Faith United, Denver  
*Pentecost - Pastor Jim Goodyear*

Wed. Mar. 11 7:00 p.m. at Bergstrasse, Ephrata  
*Stephen's Martyrdom - Pastor Marissa Becklin*

Wed. Mar. 18 7:00 p.m. at St. John Center, East Earl  
*Paul's Conversion - Pastor Sandy Gideon*

Wed. Mar. 25 7:00 p.m. at Muddy Creek  
*Peter's Vision - Pastor Tom Darr*

Wed. Apr. 1 7:00 p.m. at St. Paul's, Adamstown  
*The Council at Jerusalem - Pastor Tim Craven*

No Holy Week Service

Thurs. May 21 7:00 p.m. at Swamp, Reinholds  
*Ascension Service - Pastor Peter Schwabe-Fry*

## Confirmation Gatherings



Youth in grades 5—8 are invited to attend mid-week gatherings at the church. Friends always welcome!

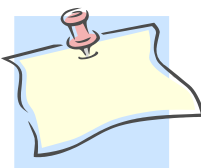
### Upcoming Wednesday Gatherings

- February 5, 6:30—8:00 p.m.
- February 26, 6:30—8:00 p.m. (including attending the Ash Wed. Service from 7-8 p.m.)

### Upcoming Confirmation Parents Class

- Feb. 2, 9 -10 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall

## News and Notes



- Thank you to Paul Shober for a very generous special donation of \$40,000 to the Elevator Fund. Thank you, Paul!

### New Member:

Welcome to Kristin Kunkle, who joined Muddy Creek on Jan. 12, 2020.

### Baptisms:

Welcome to Madeleine Kunkle, daughter of Kristin and Bryan Kunkle, who was baptized on Jan. 12, 2020.

Welcome to Christopher Gallagher, son of Lauren and Mark Gallagher, who was baptized on Jan. 19, 2020.

### Our Sympathies to:

The family of Tim Brower, who died Dec. 27, 2019. Funeral was on Jan. 3, 2020.

Patti Weaver and family at the death of her mother Anna Mae Moyer on Jan. 18.

## Council and Committee Highlights

### Church Council

- Elections were held for officers for 2020. The following were all re-elected: Mike Leid, president; Fred Hainley, vice-president; and Audrey Noll, secretary.
- The President reported receiving the resignation of Laura Vedder from Church Council. Her term will remain unfilled at the present, bringing the council down from 10 to 9 members, which had been the target number for 2021 and subsequent years.
- The Council received a report from the Elevator Committee that the financial numbers received from Horst Construction were substantially higher than expected and previously communicated. The Council decided to postpone the final congregational vote on the Elevator Project, to be held at a later date instead of at the Congregational Annual Meeting on Jan. 26. In the meantime, the Committee is meeting with Horst and exploring all options, so as to be fiscally responsible to all who have so generously donated to the Elevator Fund.

### Worship and Music

- The committee planned at length the yearly worship schedule and upcoming special worship services.

### Evangelism

- New Members are being received in January and February. Also, Easter signs will be distributed starting March 15. Plans for the Free Community Yard Sale in the Grove on June 13 were discussed. The Cookie Patrol to follow up with visitors with a plate of cookies continues to be very well received.

## February Birthdays



1	Zinia Zwally	16	Peggy Leid		
	Mason Sheaffer		Erin Strickland		
	Marsha Breidenstein	17	Warren Burkhardt		
2	Janine Aungst		Patricia Adair		
3	Audrey Riggle	18	Brenda Mumma		
4	Patricia Leid	19	Calleigh Foulkrod		
5	Lamar Seifrit	21	Kirby Burkhardt		
	Ashley Burkhardt		Dwayne Shober	Feb. 8	Joyce Keith, 86 8 Cardinal Dr., Apt. 1 Stevens, PA 17578
	Harrison Greene	22	Brett Strickland		
7	Jane Bearinger	23	Charles Hartranft		
	Cole Dimitris	24	Nancy Seifrit	Feb. 15	Nedra Bearinger, 83 56 Stony Run Village Denver, PA 17517
	Sophia Dimitris		Michael Breidenstein		
8	Joyce Keith	26	Millie Shober	Feb. 17	Warren Burkhardt, 97 47 Annabeth Road Oley, PA 19547
	Mallory Hassler		Leonard Lausch		
10	Christopher Stuck, Jr.	27	Edith Demming		
11	Jared Schutter	29	Dawn Schnader	Feb. 23	Charles Hartranft, 82 217 Akron Road Ephrata, PA 17522
	Tonya Bentz				
	Stan Czarnecki				
12	Melissa Carnes			Feb. 26	Millie Shober, 83 91 Denver Road Denver, PA 17517
	Michelle Carnes				
14	Julie Emrhein			Feb. 27	Edith Demming, 99 205 Wheat Ridge Drive Ephrata, PA 17522
	Brandon Walzl				
15	Nedra Bearinger			Feb. 29	Dawn Schnader, 80 1257 Kramer Mill Road Denver, PA 17517
	Monica Craig-Fry				



## Brenda & Friends Tours

February 15, 2020 – “We’ve Only Just Begun – Carpenters Remembered” starring Michelle Berting Brett at Hunterdon Hills Playhouse  
 March 2, 2020 - Philadelphia Flower Show and Asher’s Chocolate with lunch at Cracker Barrel

March 14, 2020 - "The Irish Cabaret" starring Andy Cooney at Hunterdon Hills Playhouse

May 30, 2020 – “I Left My Dignity in My Other Purse” starring Joyce DeWitt at Hunterdon Hills Playhouse.

June 6, 2020 – 1-Day Mystery Trip

June 17-21, and again, June 27 -July 1, 2020 - The Inn at Crumpin-Fox, Bernardston, MA, Kringle Candle, The D. L. Moody Center, Cruise on Lady Bea, Rockefeller Mansion, Billings Farm, Saint-Gaudens Historic Site, Cornish-Windsor Covered Bridge, Norman Rockwell Museum in Stockbridge, Hancock Shaker Village, Bridge of Flowers at Shelburne Falls, Richardson Candy Kitchen, Yankee Candle, 4 Nights at the Inn at Crumpin-Fox, 13 meals, Tour Guide and Evening Entertainment

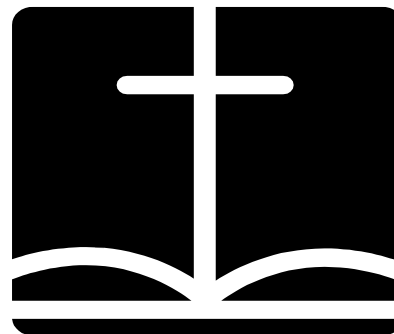
For more info contact Brenda at 717-336-6886 or [bergerb@dejazzd.com](mailto:bergerb@dejazzd.com). More info also on hallway table outside church office.

## Worship Helpers

### Coffee Ministry

#### February

2	Audrey and Roger Noll
9	Needed
16	Needed
23	Needed



### Money Counters

#### February

2	Jeanette and Mike Leid
9	Jere and Joan Shimp
16	Connie Hoover, Diane Leed
23	Brad and Doris Rauch

#### March

1	Marie and Walter Buohl, John Schutter
8	Gloria Aseli, Brenda Berger, Audrey Noll
15	Ray and Susan Sweigart
22	Linda Gerhart, Hollie Kemper
29	Lesia and Matthew Aungst, Kim Eshleman

### Lay Readers

#### February

2	Hollie Kemper
9	Lynn Breidenstein
16	Jill Youndt
23	Fred Hainley

#### March

1	Haley Leed
8	Brenda Berger
15	Diane Leed
22	Nancy Beck
29	John Schutter

### Altar Guild

#### February

Jane Wenger

### Bulletin Folders

#### February

5 (Wed)	Joyce Litzenberger, Judy Nichol
13	Judy Dengler, Betty McMahan
20	Charmaine Wenrich, Denise Burkhart, June Leid
27	Marian and Shorty Weinhold, Joyce Keith

#### March

5	Janet and Charles Frantz
12	Kathleen Ebling
19	June Leid
26	Sandra Bassett, Denise Burkhart, Charmaine Wenrich

### Ushers

#### February and March

2/2, 2/26 (Ash Wed.) - Michael Leid, Connie Hoover, Brad Rauch, Doris Rauch, Diet Aseli

2/9, 2/16, 2/23 - David Sloat, June Sloat, Dean Lutz, Scott Dimitris, Jim Weber

3/1 - Jane Wenger, Julie Emrhein, Terri Meckley, Linda Gerhart, Craig Brossman

3/8, 3/15, 3/22, 3/25 (Wed. Cluster Lent Service), 3/29 - Michael and Lynn Breidenstein, Pat Brendle, Nick Duong

## Worship Helpers

### Acolytes

#### February

2	Grace Youndt
9	Paige Walzl
16	Mason Sheaffer
23	Jack Lammey
26 (Ash Wed)	Cole Dimitris

#### March

1	Brandon Walzl
8	Cannon Youndt
15	Zach Sheaffer
22	Sophia Dimitris
29	Grace Youndt

### Communion Assistants

February 2	Kelby Weaver
February 26 (Ash Wed)	Sada Aungst
March 1	Brandon Walzl

### Greeters

February 2	Millie Shober
March 1	Phil Ramsey

## NEWSLETTER ARTICLE SUBMISSION DEADLINE: February 9, 2020

## Attendance and Giving Report

	Worship	Sunday School
Dec. 22	121	23
Dec. 24 (4:30)	140	
Dec. 24 (10:30)	130	
Dec. 29	62	
Jan. 5	98	18
Jan. 12	102	15
Jan. 19	72	16

	Income	Expenses
December	\$ 23,789.74	\$ 15,721.41
Year thru Dec.	\$179,954.62	\$187,854.09

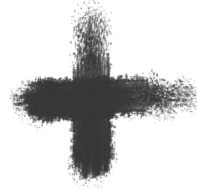
Elevator Fund as of 1/19/20: \$167,124.03 !

## Upcoming Events

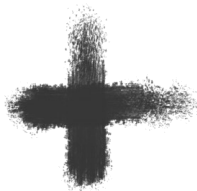
March 29, Sunday - Family Ministry "Bring and Take" Event to Shut-Ins  
 April 5, Sunday - Easter Egg Hunt, Palm Sunday  
 April 9, Thursday—Maundy Thursday Worship  
 April 10, Friday— Good Friday Worship  
 April 12, Sunday—Easter  
 April 18, Saturday – Spring Fling, at Fire Hall  
 May 3-9, District Relief Mission Trip to W. Virginia

## February Office Hours

Admin. Asst.: Tues. & Thurs. 9:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.  
 Pastors: Tuesday 9:00 a.m.—11:00 a.m.  
 Thursday 9:00 a.m.—11:00 a.m.  
 Additional hours by appointment and at various times throughout the week



# February 2020



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>2</b> Soup-er Bowl of Caring 8 a.m. Worship 9 a.m. Sunday School 9 a.m. Confirmation Parents Class 10:15 a.m. Worship	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 6:30 p.m. Confirmation Gathering	<b>6</b> 6:30 p.m. Choir	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>  <b>8</b>
<b>9</b> Newsletter Deadline 8 a.m. Worship 9 a.m. Sunday School, Pretzels 9 a.m. Special Adult Forum 10:15 a.m. Worship	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 6:30 p.m. Prayer Shawl Gathering at Yvonne's	<b>12</b> 7:00 p.m. Council Meeting	<b>13</b> 6:30 p.m. Choir	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> 8 a.m. Worship 9 a.m. Sunday School, Playgroup 10:15 a.m. Worship 1:00 p.m. Family Ministry Bowling	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 6:30 p.m. Choir	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> 8 a.m. Worship 9 a.m. Sunday School 9 a.m. Adult Forum— Book Study 10:15 a.m. Worship	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 6:30 p.m. Prayer Shawl Gathering at Yvonne's	<b>26</b> 6:30 p.m. Confirmation Gathering 7:00 p.m. Ash Wed. Communion and Ashes	<b>27</b> 6:30 p.m. Choir	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>

Muddy Creek Lutheran Church, 11 South Muddy Creek Road, Denver, PA 17517, www.mclchurch.org, 717-336-2770—for urgent pastoral needs call pastors at 717-598-5095.

Office email: [office@mclchurch.org](mailto:office@mclchurch.org) Pastors' email: [peter@mclchurch.org](mailto:peter@mclchurch.org)

Pastors: Peter Schwabe-Fry  
 Nancy Schwabe-Fry (on temporary leave)  
 Administrative Assistant: Linda Mohn  
 Director of Music: Greg Gehman  
 Sextons: Mark Saylor, Brenda Berger, Linda Berger

President: Mike Leid  
 Vice-President: Fred Hainley  
 Council Secretary: Audrey Noll  
 Treasurers: Scott Strickland, Gail Bare

Note: The Sobriety Sisters meet every Thurs evening at the church.