

MUDDY CREEK LUTHERAN

JANUARY 2023 NEWSLETTER

www.mclchurch.org, 717-336-2770



Annual Congregational Meeting, Luncheon – January 29, 2023

Mark your calendars for the Annual Congregational Meeting, immediately following the 10:15 a.m. service on January 29! Please come out to help us get our quorum of 40 people for the meeting to discuss the work of our congregation. We will also have a Congregational Luncheon in the Fellowship Hall following the meeting.

Committee Reports for the Bulletin of Reports are due to Pastor Peter by January 8.

Worship Services in January

January 1 - One service at 9 a.m. with Holy Communion. Also, there is no Christian Education on this Sunday.

January 8 – Regular worship schedule resumes with services at 8 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. Sunday School and Christian Education resume at 9 a.m.

Jan. 8 - Adult Forum on Proverbs and Ecclesiastes

On January 8th at 9 a.m. in the sanctuary, Pastor Peter will lead an Adult Forum on the books of Proverbs and Ecclesiastes.

Jesus ‘n Me Playgroup Jan. 22 – Are Tigers Ticklish?



You and your little ones are invited to the Jesus ‘n Me Playgroup in the nursery on Sunday, Jan. 22 at 9 a.m. The theme is “Are Tigers Ticklish?: A Celebration of Creation”. Children love exploring the wonders of creation. We will read stories and make a treat for our feathered friends who appreciate our attention, especially during the winter months.

Upcoming: Sunday, Feb. 19 at 9 a.m.: “Fishin’ with God”

Disaster Relief Mission Trip to Houston

Spots are filling up quickly for the Disaster Relief Mission Trip to Houston, Texas on April 16-22, 2023. Pastor Peter and a group from Muddy Creek will be joining together with others from local Lutheran congregations to go on the Mission Trip. Pastor Glenn Beard, the trip organizer, can take 40 people, and 10 have already signed up. If you are interested in going on the trip, email Pastor Beard to get forms to register. The cost is \$150 (talk to Pastor Peter if you would like a subsidy for the cost), payable to the "North Lancaster Conference Dean's Fund".

The next planning meeting on January 15th at 2:00 p.m. in the Community Room at Luther Acres, 250 St. Luke Drive, Lititz.

Sunday School on Sunday Mornings at 9 a.m.

All Sunday School children are invited to come to Sunday School every Sunday morning at 9 a.m. in the Sunday School rooms. Sunday School resumes on Jan. 8, following the Christmas break.

Upcoming Confirmation Zoom Gatherings

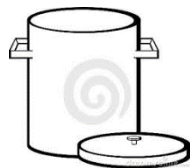
January 5 – Confirmation Zoom Gathering – Begin New Testament
 January 19 – Confirmation Zoom Gathering
 February 2 – Confirmation Zoom Gathering



Upcoming Opportunities for Youth

*All youth grades 3-9 are invited to the Winter Youth Retreat at Camp Kirchenwald, Jan. 6-8. The retreat includes great indoor and outdoor activities, including broom hockey on a frozen pond, sledding and snow soccer, depending on the weather. Count on creative Bible study and inspired worship. Friends welcome. Contact Pastor Peter if you are interested. Scholarships are available from the church to help defray the cost, which is \$150.00

*For all area Lutheran youth and friends, Swamp Lutheran is hosting a Snow Tubing Event at Iron Mountain on January 29. Please talk to Pastor Peter if you are interested.



"Soup-er Bowl" of Caring – Feb. 12

Mark your calendars for Feb. 12th, Super Bowl Sunday. We'll celebrate in church by wearing your favorite sports jerseys (any team of any sport), and by collecting loose change from the congregation to give to the ELCA World Hunger Appeal. Even as we celebrate the Super Bowl with snacks and feasting, we remember all in this world who are hungry or who have to rely on soup kitchens for food! Come out for the fun!

Prayer Shawl Dedication – Jan. 8

We will be dedicating Prayer Shawls at both services on Sunday, Jan. 8. Come and pick up a shawl for anyone you know who is going through a difficult time and might be able to benefit from our prayers and the warm embrace of God as they are wrapped in a shawl knitted by our Muddy Creek's Prayer Shawl knitters. We will have a Dedication of Prayer Shawls on the 2nd Sunday of every month in 2023, and shawls will be available then or on any Sunday (just ask Pastor Peter for help to get one for someone).

The Prayer Shawl Knitters from Muddy Creek meet twice a month at 6:30 pm on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at Yvonne Weaver's house. Upcoming dates are Jan. 10 and 24. Please contact Yvonne Weaver at 717-371-6453 if you are interested in knitting.



Peter's Porch Collection

The Food Collection for Peter's Porch (our local food pantry) will be Sunday, Jan. 1, which is the first Sunday of the month. Food donations can be placed in the bins in the sanctuary entrances. (Peter's Porch distributes the food on the first Saturday of every month from 8-10 a.m. Contact Pastor Peter if you are interested in volunteering with the monthly distribution.)

New Price for Altar Flower Sponsorships

Beginning Jan. 1, we will be using a new florist for our altar flowers, since our old florist, Roxanne's, went out of business. The new florist is Denise Beavens of Schaefferstown, with her florist company, Designed by Denise. The cost for altar flower sponsorships will increase slightly to \$45 per Sunday. Bulletin sponsorships are also available for \$15. If you would like to sponsor altar flowers or bulletins on any Sunday (they can also be given in honor or memory of someone), please sign up in the binder outside Pastor Peter's office. Payment can be given to Muddy Creek Lutheran Church.

Following the Service Online

- *The 10:15 a.m. service is livestreamed online on our Muddy Creek Lutheran YouTube channel.
- *The service is then posted on our YouTube Channel, our church website, and our Facebook page.
- *To follow along, a special online edition (including words of the hymns and liturgy) of the 10:15 a.m. bulletin is now available on the home page of the church website, mclchurch.org. Past and present bulletins can also be found under the "Bulletins" tab on the website.
- *Offering may be given online with the "Give Online" button on our website homepage.
- *To obtain home communion sets of grape juice and wafers that you may use to receive communion as you follow along with any communion service, please contact Pastor Peter.

Choir Practices in January

Choir practices are on the Thursday evenings at 6:30 p.m. in the choir loft as follows:
Thursday, Jan. 5 (singing in church on Sunday, Jan. 8)
Thursday, Jan. 26 (singing in church on Sunday, Jan. 29)
All are welcome and invited to sing in the choir!

Thank You Notes

I wish everyone at Muddy Creek a blessed Christmas. I thank you for all the cards and visits I have been receiving. Sincerely, Dorothy Beam

Thank you to all who brought gifts and items in for our Christmas Caring Tree Project. The gifts were brought to women and children at the Good Samaritan Shelter in Ephrata.

Many thanks to all from both Peace and Muddy Creek churches and friends who participated in the Muddy Creek Cemetery Veteran's Wreath project, for the second year. A sincere thank you to those who contributed financially in order for the Cemetery Board to organize the wreath laying event. Thank you to Greg Gehman who helped set up and arrange tables in the fellowship hall. And as always, Pastor Peter assisted with coordinating the arrangements, work space and set up. Red bows were tied to wreaths by Curt Glass, Robin Hunter, Mardel Lausch, Joyce Litzenberger, Pat Long, Judy Nichol, Mindy Stoner, Sue Sweigart, Linda Tomlinson, Vicki Sweigart, and Helen Youndt. Clair Lausch, along with Boy Scout parents, provided transportation for the wreaths from the Fellowship Hall to the cemetery with many hands helping to load the wreaths. Bob Hinkley, Scout Master, who was instrumental in seeing this activity through to completion, led the scouts, cemetery board members and friends in a moving dedication and tribute to the veterans as a wreath was laid in their honor at the flag pole. Adamstown Troop 61 Boy Scouts and Cub Pack boys placed wreaths on over 200 veterans' graves. And thank you to Brenda and Linda Berger, who cleaned pine needles from the carpet in the Fellowship Hall. Thank you, The Muddy Creek Cemetery Board

New Member

Welcome to Pat Marino, a participant at Muddy Creek for several years, who now officially joined as a member. Welcome, Pat!

Condolences

Our condolences to the family of Charles Hartranft, who passed away on December 5. The funeral was held on December 10.

Our condolences to the family of Lois Quinter. We have learned that she passed away on March 14. Daughter and son-in-law Nina and Doug Haines sent an appreciation for the support and card from Muddy Creek.

Attendance

Worship Attendance	Viewed on Muddy Creek YouTube Channel and Facebook
November 20, 8 a.m. – 12, 10:15 a.m. - 49	67 (includes livestream)
November 27, 8 a.m. – 12, 10:15 a.m. - 36	27 (includes livestream)
December 4, 8 a.m. – 20, 10:15 a.m. - 61	57 (includes livestream)
December 11, 8 a.m. – 22, 10:15 a.m. - 52	54 (includes livestream)
December 18, 8 a.m. – 25, 10:15 a.m. – 56	45 (includes livestream)

(There are currently 82 subscribers to the Muddy Creek Lutheran YouTube Channel, and 192 followers on the Muddy Creek Facebook Page.)

Offering

Income to General Fund in November: \$11,271.65
 Expenses to General Fund in November: \$20,994.51
 Income to General Fund Year-to-Date as of end of November: \$148,931.63
 Expenses to General Fund Year-to-Date as of end of November: \$188,947.67
 Air Conditioning Fund Total as of December 11: \$11,503.10

Worship Helpers in January

- Jan. 1, 9:00 am Communion Assistant - Grace Youndt
 9:00 am Acolyte – Grace Youndt
 9:00 am Lay Reader – Lynn Breidenstein
 9:00 am Cantor - Hollie Kemper
 9:00 am Money Counters - Ray and Susan Sweigart
 Bread Baker - Marliese Smith
- Jan. 8, 10:15 am Acolyte - Zach Sheaffer
 10:15 am Lay Reader - Will Wood
 10:15 am Cantor - Pastor Peter
 10:15 am Money Counters - Linda Gerhart, Hollie Kemper
- Jan. 15, 10:15 am Acolyte - Cannon Youndt
 10:15 am Lay Reader - Doris Rauch
 10:15 am Cantor - David Sensenig
 10:15 am Money Counters - June and Neal Leid
- Jan. 22, 10:15 am Acolyte - Cole Dimitris
 10:15 am Lay Reader - Brenda Berger
 10:15 am Cantor - Gail Bare
 10:15 am Money Counters - David and June Sloat
- Jan. 29, (Annual Meeting) 10:15 am Acolyte - Jack Lammey
 10:15 am Lay Reader - Nancy Beck
 10:15 am Cantor - Greg Gehman
 10:15 am Money Counters - Michelle Dimitris, Jim Weber, Jane Wenger