

# MUDDY CREEK LUTHERAN

MARCH 2022 NEWSLETTER

www.mclchurch.org, 717-336-2770



## Updated CoVid Protocols To Begin March 1

Due to the continuing drop in CoVid transmission in our county, beginning March 1<sup>st</sup> masks over nose and mouth will be recommended but not required for worship. The other current protocols will temporarily remain in place, with the exception that we will be singing more verses of the hymns (two).

Ash  
Wednesday 

### Ash Wednesday Service on March 2

At 7 p.m. on Wednesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, we will have an Ash Wednesday Service. Ashes will not be administered for CoVid safety reasons, but we will have Communion in the pews. Masks will be recommended but not required for this service.

## Cluster Lenten Services for 2022

The theme for our Cluster Lenten Services this year is “Returning to Joy” (What Happens When We Return to the Lord?)” All services are on Wednesdays at 7 p.m. according to the schedule below. Also, the sermon for each service is available online starting at 7 p.m. each Wednesday on the Faith United Lutheran YouTube Channel. Here is the link:  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC71KtpWXDEsp9oKK7wYhf2A>.

Masks are recommended but not required, and no refreshments will be served due to CoVid. The offering will go to Ephrata Area Social Services. If you would like to donate online to Ephrata Area Social Services, please go to their website, [ephrataareasocialservices.org](http://ephrataareasocialservices.org), and click the green “Give” button.

**Wed. March 9:** Pastor Marissa Becklin will be preaching at St. Paul’s, Adamstown.  
Theme: Returning to a Party (Parable of the Prodigal Son) – Luke 15:11-23

**Wed. March 16:** Pastor Tim Craven will be preaching at Faith United, Denver.  
Theme: The Trees Shall Clap Their Hands - Isaiah 55:1-3, 6-13

**Wed. March 23:** Pastor Jim Goodyear will be preaching at Muddy Creek, Denver.  
Theme: I Am About to Do a New Thing - Isaiah 43:1-7, 14-21

**Wed. March 30:** Pastor Sandy Gideon will be preaching at Mellingers, Schoeneck.  
Theme: Everlasting Joy Shall Be Upon Their Heads - Isaiah 51:4-11

**Wed. April 6:** Pastor Scott Brubaker will be preaching at St. John Center, East Earl.  
Theme: God Has the Last Word – Revelation 21:1-7

**Thursday, May 26 (Ascension):** Pastor Peter Schwabe-Fry will be preaching at Swamp, Reinholds. Theme: Returning with Joy – Luke 24:44-53

## Sunday School, Monthly Adult Forum, Playgroup All Resume in March

Beginning with the first Sunday in March (March 6<sup>th</sup>), Sunday School will resume (with masks required for all participants). The Monthly Adult Forum will resume (see announcement below), and the Jesus 'n Me Playgroup will resume with masks required (see below).

### Our 290<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year at Muddy Creek!

#### Special Adult Forum on the History of Muddy Creek – March 13

On Sunday, March 13 at 9 a.m. (note: clocks move ahead one hour on this day for Daylight Savings Time), we will offer a special Adult Forum. As part of our 290<sup>th</sup> anniversary year celebration, Pastor Peter will present on the history of Muddy Creek. Come out and learn more about our congregation's history!

#### Upcoming Jesus 'n Me Playgroups



Sunday, March 27<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. in the Nursery (masks required).  
Theme: "Praise Parade": Everyone loves a parade, especially when it is in celebration of our wonderful God! Little ones will make noisemakers with which to praise God. Add some singing, stories, and parachute play, and it makes for a lively morning!

Sunday, April 10<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. in the Nursery (masks required).  
Please note: This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month, not the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday.

Theme: Jesus 'n Me Easter Egg Hunt and Easter Celebration

Invite your friends for a special Jesus 'n Me Easter Egg Hunt for the Playgroup members and friends. We will meet in the nursery for the theme of "Jesus is Alive – An Easter Celebration", and conclude with the Egg Hunt (either outdoors or indoors depending on the weather).



#### Adult Bible Study is Cancelled

Due to the unfortunate passing of its leader, John Schutter, the Sunday Morning Adult Bible Study will no longer be held.

#### Upcoming Confirmation Gatherings

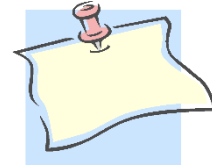
Confirmation Gatherings resume in-person at 9 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall as follows:

Sunday, March 6<sup>th</sup>: Parents and Youth Confirmation Gathering

Sunday, March 20<sup>th</sup>: Youth Only Confirmation Gathering

Sunday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>: Last Gathering of the Year – Parents and Youth Confirmation Gathering

Sunday, May 8<sup>th</sup>: The Day of Confirmation at both services



## News and Notes

### Easter Yard Signs

The Evangelism Committee has prepared yard signs advertising Easter services at Muddy Creek. Please consider using these in your lawn as a way to let the community know about our Easter Services and invite them to attend. Signs may be picked up from the church beginning Sunday March 6. Thank you for your help in spreading the news about services.

### Easter Flowers

Easter flowers to decorate the sanctuary (and take home after the Easter services) can be ordered with the form in the bulletin, by contacting the church office (office@mclchurch.org, 717-336-2770), or by contacting Jane Wenger (717-471-0556). The cost for lilies (white, 3-4 blooms) is \$6.90, daffodils (6.5 inch pot) is \$5.65, and tulips (6 inch pot) is \$5.70. Checks can be made out to Muddy Creek Lutheran Church, with “Easter Flowers” written on the notation. The deadline to order is April 3<sup>rd</sup>.



### Snack Item Collection for College Students and Military Members

Beginning March 6, we will be collecting snack items to send to college students and military service members from our congregation. Snack items may include cookies, chips, candies or crackers. Donations can be placed in the marked boxes at any of the entrances. If you know of any student or service member to add to our list, please contact Jane Wenger (717-471-0556). The deadline to contribute is March 27<sup>th</sup>. Thanks!

### Air Conditioning Fund Open

The Air Conditioning Fund is now open and gratefully accepting donations for this, our next improvement project. As of February 20, we have \$1004.00 in the Air Conditioning Fund. Thank you to all for your generous support!

### Money Collected on Super Bowl Sunday for World Hunger

On Super Bowl Sunday, the congregation collected \$179.00 for World Hunger. This is part of the “Soup-er Bowl of Caring”, and the collected money was sent to the ELCA World Hunger Appeal. Thank you to all who contributed!



## Peter's Porch Collection

Please bring in canned, bagged and boxed items for the Peter's Porch drive-thru food distribution located at our sister congregation, Faith United Lutheran Church in Denver. Items can be brought to Muddy Creek Lutheran Church and placed in the collection bins inside the entrances on Sunday mornings, as well as during the week at office hours.

Here is a complete list of other items requested by Peter's Porch -

Cans and Jars: fruits, vegetables, fish, chicken, poultry, beans, soup, spaghetti sauce, tomato sauce, salsa, broth boxes (chicken, vegetable, beef).

Pasta, rice, tortillas, taco shells.

Cereal, oatmeal, pancake mix, snacks, crackers, popcorn.

Monetary Donations

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.

## Volunteers Needed For Property Tasks

If you can help with any of the following property tasks, please contact Walter Buohl at 717-445-6060. We will provide the materials, and you may do it at your convenience. Thank you!

- Paint the railing along the steps at the front of the church
- Paint the aluminum window sills on the outside of the Fellowship Hall
- Power-wash the church's equipment shed

## Cemetery Plots Available

A new section of the Muddy Creek Cemetery is now open and plots are available. If you are interested in purchasing a plot, please contact Matthew Aungst, 484-880-3115.

## New Stonework Under Grove Sign

Thank you to Brent Bearinger, son of Nedra Bearinger, for the new stonework under the church sign in our grove. This stonework prevents the sign's floodlights from shining into the windshields of passing cars. The stones came from Nedra's own family property. Thank you!



## Thank You Notes

The kindness, support, cards and endless prayers for the family of Jeffrey Leid has been greatly appreciated by the family. Special thanks to Pastor Peter. May God bless you.

- Peggy Leid and family

### **Condolences**

Our condolences to Peggy Leid and family at the passing of her son, Jeffrey Leid Sr., on February 4. Service was on February 11.

### **Money Counter Helpers**

March 6 – David and June Sloat

March 13 – Jim Weber, Jane Wenger

March 20 – Lori and Mike Martin

March 27 – Linda and Tim Fritz

### **Office Hours**

Office hours are Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9:30 a.m. to noon. Please use the intercom button by the elevator entryway, and our Administrative Assistant, Linda Mohn, will buzz you in. Feel free to use the new elevator to come to the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor!

### **Altar Flower Sign-Ups**

If you wish to sponsor altar flowers or bulletins (you may make them in honor of or in memory of someone if you wish), please sign up in the binder located outside Pastor Peter's office. Cost is \$30 to sponsor altar flowers or \$15 to sponsor bulletins. Call the church office at 717-336-2770 if you have any questions.

### **Attendance**

Worship Attendance	Viewed on Muddy Creek YouTube Channel and Facebook
January 30, 8 a.m. – 7, 10:15 a.m. – 30	50 (includes livestream)
February 6, 8 a.m. – 20, 10:15 a.m. – 40	34 (includes livestream)
February 13, 8 a.m. – 7, 10:15 a.m. – 23	42 (includes livestream)
February 20, 8 a.m. – 22, 10:15 a.m. – 35	23 (includes livestream)

(There are currently 75 subscribers to the Muddy Creek Lutheran YouTube Channel, and 181 followers on the Muddy Creek Facebook Page.)

### **Offering**

Income to General Fund in January: \$13,358.23

Expenses to General Fund in January: \$16,396.00

Income to General Fund Year-to-Date as of end of January: \$13,358.23

Expenses to General Fund Year-to-Date as of end of January: \$16,396.00