

# MUDDY CREEK LUTHERAN

OCTOBER 2020 NEWSLETTER  
[www.mclchurch.org](http://www.mclchurch.org), 717-336-2770



## Indoor Worship (with Communion) Returns October 4

It seems so long ago—and actually it was! 7 months ago on March 8!—that we last had worship services indoors at Muddy Creek. Because of the global CoVid pandemic, we, along with everyone else, had to make accommodations for the sake of health and safety. First, we put Sunday messages online and people worshiped from home. Then, on the last Sunday in June, we added a weekly in-person outdoor worship in the Grove.

Now that restrictions on indoor gatherings have just been changed from 25 people total to 50% capacity (but still socially-distanced and wearing masks), we can resume indoor worship. The Church Council and the CoVid task force have been meeting regularly and can now announce that worship will be moving indoors as of Sunday, October 4, with one service at 9 a.m. following the same format as Grove Worship. The first Sundays of the month (including Oct. 4) will resume as Communion Sundays, held in the pews using pre-packaged communion. The socially-distanced pew locations are marked, the procedures are in place!

Here is what you need to know:

- Masks covering the nose and mouth, and social distancing of 6 feet is still required. Anyone who cannot wear a mask due to age, capacity or medical condition is asked not to come, and is encouraged to watch worship live-streamed online (see below for livestreaming details).
- There will still be no congregational singing.
- Enter either through the left-hand upstairs door by the concrete steps and ramp, or through the downstairs door by the carport. Please keep 6 feet apart from other households as you enter (there will be marks on the ground). Doors will open at 8:30 a.m., a half-hour prior to the start of the service. You may arrive any time after 8:30 a.m.
- Seating will be by household (1-4 people) at the pew locations marked with a green cloth. If you have more than 4 adults/older youth in your household, please split the group into two marked locations.
- At the conclusion of the service, the ushers will dismiss each pew. There will be no Coffee Hour. You may have socially-distanced conversations in the parking lot, but please keep the walkways clear.
- Restrooms are available.
- Cleaning and ventilation protocols will be followed.
- Out of regard for the safety of others, please refrain from attending worship if you have any illness symptoms, have traveled to any state on the Pennsylvania Quarantine List within the past 14 days, if you are awaiting results of a CoVid test, or if you have recently tested positive. If you do happen to test positive for CoVid and have recently attended worship, please let Pastor Peter know. Your name will be kept confidential and we can then notify other attendees of their risk of possible exposure.

- Your decision as to whether or not to attend indoor worship is up to you. We encourage you to consider the CDC guidelines regarding individuals who are at increased risk. Feel free to stay home for any reason, as your health and safety come first.
- Services will now be livestreamed onto the Muddy Creek Lutheran Church YouTube channel, which means that you can follow the service in live time at 9 a.m. (Click on our YouTube Channel anytime between 8:50 and 9:00 a.m., but not before). You have two ways to get to the livestream on your computer: Click on the link on the church website (mclchurch.org), or search for “Muddy Creek Lutheran Church YouTube” on your computer browser. If you want to catch a repeat of the livestream, go the church website any time after 10 a.m. and click on the link. Feel free to become a subscriber to the channel.

We look forward to welcoming those who wish to come to indoor worship! The Task Force and Council will continue to monitor conditions over the coming months and make adaptations as needed. We will continue to update you about any changes.

## News and Notes



### Pastor Nancy to Retire

The Pastors have really appreciated everyone’s patience and support as Pastor Nancy took a leave to care for her mother and since then as she has been deciding what to do subsequent to her mother’s death. After much thoughtful and prayerful deliberation, Pastor Nancy has decided to retire from ministry after serving for over 35 years as a pastor to various congregations. Her retirement from Muddy Creek and the ministry will be effective on November 1, 2020. Her time at Muddy Creek has been very much appreciated, and thank you to everyone for your support, your friendship and the faith we have shared. Pastor Peter will continue to serve Muddy Creek. Blessings, Pastor Nancy and Pastor Peter

### Greg Gehman Facebook Live Organ Performance

Muddy Creek’s organist and music director will give a half-hour organ performance on Sunday, September 27<sup>th</sup> at 3 p.m., livestreamed on Facebook Live. If you do not have a Facebook account but have a computer, simply type “Facebook Muddy Creek Lutheran Church” into your web browser to access the page. If you do have Facebook, just search for our church. As always, you are encouraged to “follow” our account. The event will not be posted on YouTube Live on our Muddy Creek YouTube channel, as was previously announced.

### Some Activities at Muddy Creek Will Not Resume Yet

Other than Council Meetings and the Confirmation Program (being held on Sunday mornings outside until October 18), some in-person activities will not resume yet at Muddy Creek. Committees may meet virtually or in a manner that is deemed appropriate for safety. Choir, Christian Education, and Office hours will not resume yet due to safety concerns. Also, other than the Church Council serving as ushers, there will be no worship helpers at this time.

## **All Saints Sunday**

We will celebrate All Saints Sunday on November 1st at 9:00 a.m. with our annual remembrance of all loved ones who have passed away. As is our tradition, there will also be a special remembrance of all who have died within the past year since last All Saints Day. The celebration will be take place in a modified format, with no candle lighting but with an adapted remembrance. All are invited. And don't forget to change your clocks on this day as Daylight Savings Time ends!

## **Devotional Booklets Available**

Free copies of the "Christ in our Home" Devotional Book (large print or regular) are available in the bin located outside the downstairs door by the carport and can be picked up anytime at your convenience. They contain daily devotions for October, November and December.

## **Notes**

I would like to thank everyone who sent me cards and supported me with prayers and phone calls after the passing of my husband Charlie. It was nice to know that we have such a great church family. Thank you, - Janet Frantz and family

## **Sympathies**

Our sympathy to:

- Charmaine Wenrich at the death of her sister, Wanda Leed.
- Bill and Lynn Lausch at the death of Lynn's brother, Jhun Laceda.

## **Council Notes**

The Church Council's latest meeting in September focused on hearing plans from the CoVid Task Force about moving indoors for worship, following health and safety guidelines and recommendations from our Bishop and Governor. A letter stating the plan will be sent out to the congregation. The council was informed that Pastor Nancy will be retiring from the ministry and from Muddy Creek on November 1, 2020. That information will be included in the letter. Also, Council President Mike Leid shared that he had received a note from Natalie Frankfort Howe resigning from council. The council discussed potential replacement candidates to be appointed to temporarily fill her position until the elections at the next Congregational Meeting.

## October Birthdays



### Happy Birthday to our “Over 80” Members with October Birthdays:

- Oct. 12 – Donald Hiester, 83, 281 Kurtz Road, Ephrata, PA 17522
- Oct. 13 – Marvin Sweigart, 83, 295 Paradise Road, Denver, PA 17517
- Oct 19 – Ken Frazer, Keystone Villas, 90, 100 N. State St., Apt. 105, Ephrata, PA 17522
- Oct. 26 – Carl Schnader, 85, 1257 Kramer Mill Road, Denver, PA 17517
- Oct. 28 – Bud Thunberg, 83, 1685 Reading Road, P.O. Box 337, Bowmansville, PA 17507

### October Birthdays (If you know of any omissions or corrections, please email Pastor Peter)

- Oct. 2 - Lori Martin
- Oct. 3 - Diane Grube, Frank Zimmerman, Megan Wummer, Kelby Weaver
- Oct. 4 - Paige Walzl
- Oct. 8 - Terri Meckley, Nathan Bordner
- Oct. 10 - Darlene Weidman
- Oct. 11 - Phillip Leid, Celia Sgaramella
- Oct. 12 - Donald Heister, Andrew Schnader
- Oct. 13 - Marvin Sweigart
- Oct. 14 - Paul Moyer, Rick Harding
- Oct. 16 - Russell Beck, Katie Ueberroth, Jordan Rutt, Justin Martin
- Oct. 17 - Randl Roth, Cari Czarnecki
- Oct. 18 - Marian Sgaramella, Gunnar Geisel
- Oct. 19 - Kenneth Frazer
- Oct. 21 - Courtney Zwally, Riley Beichner
- Oct. 22 - Janet Frantz, Eric Becker
- Oct. 24 - George Nagle, Joe Sgaramella
- Oct. 26 - Pastor Nancy, Madeline Beichner, Shawn Bearinger, Carl Schnader
- Oct. 27 - Jason Becker, Justin Blatt, Richard Ueberroth III
- Oct. 28 – Bud Thunberg, Ashley Kemper
- Oct. 29 - Craig Brossman
- Oct. 30 - Angie Stuck
- Oct. 31 - Madeline Kunkle