

MUDDY CREEK LUTHERAN

SEPTEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER

www.mclchurch.org, 717-336-2770



Fall Worship Schedule Resumes on Sunday, Sept. 10

Beginning Sunday, Sept. 10, the fall worship schedule will resume with services at 8:00 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. Worship will continue to be livestreamed at the later service and posted on our church website and Muddy Creek YouTube Channel.

Jesus 'n Me Playgroup and Christian Education Resume Sept. 10 Adult Forum about "Blessings of Hope" on Sept. 17

Christian Education for all ages will resume on Sunday, Sept. 10 at 9 a.m.!

The Jesus 'n Me Playgroup for all young ones (babies, toddlers and preschoolers) and their caregivers/parents resumes monthly, on the second Sunday of the month, in the nursery at 9 a.m. Friends are encouraged and invited to come as well. On Sunday, Sept. 10, the playgroup will meet with the theme "The Little Lost Lamb". Children will hear the story of the lost sheep and play hide and seek with our own little stuffed lamb. Songs, craft, and a snack are also featured.

Beginning Sept. 10, the Sunday School Class for all other children (and young ones in any week when the Jesus 'n Me Playgroup is not meeting) will be in the Sunday School classroom every week at 9 a.m. All are invited, including friends.

And for adults, there is an Adult Forum on the third Sunday of each month in the Fellowship Hall at 9 a.m. The first Adult Forum, led by Pastor Peter, will be on Sunday, September 17 at 9 a.m. This Adult Forum will feature a presentation and video about the Blessings of Hope food ministry. The video will showcase the Blessings of Hope story and their remarkable program which saves and repackages tons of perfectly good food from tractor trailers and businesses that would have ordinarily gone directly into landfills. The saved food then goes to food banks, to individuals and families in need, and to anyone who volunteers at Blessings of Hope. Come and learn about this fascinating local food ministry!

Sign Up to Repackage Food at Blessings of Hope on Sat. Sept. 23!

Muddy Creek's Social Ministry Committee is sponsoring a volunteer opportunity on Sat. Sept. 23 from 8:30 - 11:00 a.m. We will repackage food at the Blessings of Hope warehouse, 500 Becker Rd., Leola (actually Brownstown/Oregon). If you are interested, please sign up on the clipboard under the mailboxes or contact Pastor Peter. Our group size is limited to 20 people, so please sign up now! We will meet at Muddy Creek to carpool, leaving at 8 a.m., or else you may meet us at 500 Becker Rd at 8:15 a.m.



Ingathering 2023: School Kit Donations for Lutheran World Relief Deadline to Bring in Items is Sunday, Sept. 10

Every Fall, our synod makes an appeal called an “Ingathering” to collect school kits, blankets and soap to be sent all over the world through Lutheran World Relief to help children in developing countries. You can help by donating the following items by Sept. 10, and placing them in the marked bins by the mailboxes in the sanctuary. Please pay attention to the specifics of each item, as it is a requirement that each kit be approximately the same. No religious or patriotic symbols on the items, please. Here is what we need:

- 70 sheet spiral notebooks, wide or college-ruled, apropos. 8 X 10 ½
- Small blunt scissors or safety scissors
- Black or blue ballpoint pens - new
- Crayons, 16 or 24 per box
- Rulers
- Small pencil sharpeners
- New bars of soap in original wrappers (4-5 oz. size)

Thank you so much for your generosity in bringing in donations! Questions? Contact Pastor Peter



“God’s Work, Our Hands” Sunday is Sept. 17th! School Kit Assembly on September 17 - All invited!

Every September, our denomination, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), celebrates “God’s Work, Our Hands” Sunday - a special day of using our hands to do works of love and charity on God’s behalf. We will participate in it on Sunday, Sept. 17th, after the 10:15 a.m. service, by assembling school kits for Lutheran World Relief. It will be held in the sanctuary, and everyone (including friends) is invited. These school kits will be sent to schoolchildren in the developing world. We will also be boxing up soap that was donated.



You are Invited to Sing in the Choir!

Beginning Thursday, Sept. 21 at 6:30 p.m. in the choir loft, choir rehearsals will resume twice a month. The choir will sing twice a month at the 10:15 a.m. service, with the first performance on Sunday, Sept. 24. Everyone is invited to come and sing! Please contact our Director of Music, Greg Gehman, if you have any questions.



Please Bring in Food Items for Peter's Porch on Sunday, Sept. 3

On the first Sunday of every month, we are collecting food items for Peter's Porch, the food distribution pantry operated by our sister congregation, Faith United Lutheran Church in Denver. Please bring in food items on Sunday, Sept. 3 and place them in the bins located in the sanctuary entrances. Thank you!

Fellowship and Refreshments After the 10:15 a.m. Service

You are invited to stay after the 10:15 a.m. service every Sunday to enjoy cookies and beverages in the sanctuary! Thank you to the Parish Life Committee for sponsoring this, and for all who have been signing up for and bringing in refreshments.

Volunteers are needed to host future fellowship times. If you can help, please sign up on the sheet over at the fellowship table in the sanctuary. In a modified and easier format, we are suggesting you bring a light snack of cookies and a cold drink for the congregation to enjoy after the service. As well, you would be in charge of putting water into the Keurig coffee maker and turning it on. If you have any questions, please contact Audrey Noll at 717-336-3592.

"Harvest Home" To Be Celebrated Sept. 24th, Please bring items



Harvest Home will be celebrated at both services on Sunday, Sept. 24th. Thank you to Jeanette Leid for the beautiful fall display! On Sunday, Sept. 17th or before, please bring a canned good of fruit, vegetable, soups or meat for the display and put it in a Peter's Porch bin at the sanctuary entrances. Also, fresh apples, pears, potatoes, squash, pumpkins and fall mums for the display are appreciated. All the collected food is given to Peter's Porch, a food bank we help support at Faith United Lutheran Church in Denver.

Free Muddy Creek Athletic Trophies! - Help Yourself!

During the month of August, we have been displaying in the downstairs hallway the historic trophies that teams from Muddy Creek won in church leagues over the decades. Trophies include those won by Muddy Creek for Dartball, Bowling, and Softball. Maybe you even played on one of those championship teams!

Now, beginning in September, you are invited to take home any trophy from the tables outside the History Room in the downstairs hallway. First come, first serve! The trophies have been photographed and archived for posterity, but the actual physical trophies are no longer needed. The remaining trophies will be removed at the beginning of October. Help yourself!



Muddy Creek Softball Trophies

Needed: Unused Christmas Cards for Stockings for Soldiers

If you have any unused Christmas cards that can be sent to Stockings for Soldiers, please bring them in and put them in the marked box under the mailboxes in the sanctuary. Volunteers from Muddy Creek will be signing them. Also, the LCBA branch that meets in our Fellowship Hall twice a month on Wednesday mornings will be signing some of these cards.

Planning for the Future Committee Update - Congregational Survey

The Council's "Planning for the Future" Committee is putting together a survey for the congregation about current and future ministry areas. The survey will be released soon. Your help in filling out a survey will be appreciated. The Committee is looking at long-range planning needs for Muddy Creek in the next few years and beyond. On July 26th, the Committee interviewed Pastor Peter about planning for future ministry needs and staffing. On Sept. 6th, the Committee will meet again in order to put together the survey.

New: Scan this QR Code to Donate

Scan this QR code with the camera on your cellphone to easily donate offering to the General Fund or other funds at Muddy Creek, and to Disaster Response (including the Maui wildfire) and World Relief. Here it is:



Committee Budget Worksheets - Due Sept. 24

The budget worksheets for all committees of the church are due to Treasurer Scott Strickland by Sept. 24th. Thank you to the chairpeople of all the committees!

Volunteers Needed - New Outdoor Church Property Team, Mowing the Lawn for the Riggle's

Three more volunteers are needed to help with our newly-created Outdoor Church Property Team to do occasional light outdoor work at Muddy Creek. Please contact Property Chairperson Tim Fritz at 717-335-0776 if you can help.

Also, volunteers are temporarily needed to mow the lawn for Audrey and Tom Riggle (300 Black Horse Rd., Reinholds) due to Tom's ongoing illness. If you can help, please contact Pastor Peter.

Thank You's

Thank you to all who helped celebrate my 92nd birthday in church on August 7. What a great morning we had! I couldn't have been more blessed with a nicer group of people! Thank you to Fred Hainley for the cake, to Brenda Berger for the other treats, and to Brenda and Audrey who served the cake. Also, thank you for the cards and the beautiful flower bouquet. - Mary Zerbe

Thank you to Pastor Peter for your visit to Walt and me, and to everyone for the phone calls and cards we received after our separate falls. The second hospitalization was tough for me, and it is good to know family and friends care and that God is with me. - Susan Siegel

Thank you to Pastor Peter for the prayers and phone calls during my surgery and recovery. Also, thank you to the Prayer Shawl Knitting Group for the beautiful prayer shawl I received. I love the colors! Thanks so much for caring. - Michelle Warkentin

I would like to thank the members of Muddy Creek for all the cards and prayers during Jack's recent illness and hospitalization. We especially thank Pastor Peter for coming to visit Jack at Hershey Medical Center. We appreciate all the prayers and kindness. Jack is now out of the hospital and is improving. Thank you, Brenda Peters

Thank you from Muddy Creek to the estate of the late Gerald Wingenroth, who gave \$17,063.51 to the Bequest Fund of Muddy Creek. Thank you as well to his daughter Deidre Brown and to his family.

A thank you was received from Peter's Porch Hunger Ministry and Faith United Lutheran Church for our recent donation of food to Peter's Porch.

Welcome To:

*Emma Tafuri-Carretta, who was baptized at Muddy Creek on August 6th. Emma is beginning the confirmation program at Muddy Creek. Welcome, Emma!

*Tom Carretta and Kris Tarfuri-Carretta, who also joined Muddy Creek as members on Aug. 6th. Welcome Kris and Tom!

Our Condolences To:

*The family of Penny Bender, including the Beck and Heist families, who passed away on August 5th.

Attendance

<u>Worship Attendance</u>	<u>Viewed on Muddy Creek YouTube Channel and Facebook</u>
July 30, 8 a.m. – 21, 9:00 a.m. – 46	42 (includes livestream)
Aug. 6, 8 a.m. – 30, 9:00 a.m. – 44	45 (includes livestream)
Aug. 13, 8 a.m. – 18, 9:00 a.m. – 49	66 (includes livestream)
Aug. 20, 8 a.m. – 14, 9:00 a.m. – 40	30 (includes livestream)

(There are currently 86 subscribers to the Muddy Creek Lutheran YouTube Channel, and 200 followers on the Muddy Creek Facebook Page.)

Offering

Received in General Fund in July: \$13,284.69 Expenses to General Fund in July: \$14,764.99

Income to General Fund year to date through July: \$100,878.76

Expenses to General Fund year to date through July: \$119,762.35

Worship Helpers

Sept. 3 8 am Communion Assistant - Scott Strickland
 9 am. Communion Assistant and Acolyte- Kelby Weaver
 9 am Lay Reader – Brad Rauch
 9 am Cantor - Pastor Peter
 9 am Money Counters - Nick Duong and Thai Phan, Pat Brendle
 Bread Baker - Marliese Smith

Sept. 10 10:15 am Acolyte - Grace Youndt
 10:15 am Lay Reader - Lynn Breidenstein
 10:15 am Cantor - David Sensenig
 10:15 am Money Counters - Jeanette and Mike Lied

Sept. 17 10:15 am Acolyte -
 10:15 am Lay Reader - Will Wood
 10:15 am Cantor - Gail Bare

10:15 am Money Counters - Marie Buohl, Connie Hoover, David Sensenig

Sept. 24 10:15 am Acolyte - Cannon Youndt 10:15 am Lay Reader - Doris Rauch
10:15 am Cantor - Hollie Kemper
10:15 am Money Counters - Brad and Doris Rauch