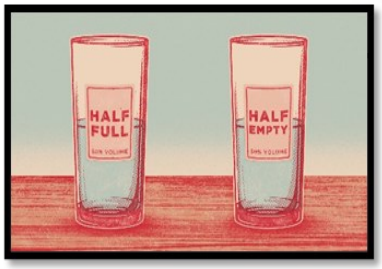
Muddy Creek Lutheran Church
JULY 2025
Newsletter

People who wonder whether the glass is half empty or half full miss the point: The glass is refillable.
Simon Sinek



Happy July Muddy Creek,

It has been my pleasure to begin a term as Interim Pastor with you and I am looking forward to all the ways the Holy Spirit will lead us as we journey together.

As we passed the half-year mark together, I am reminded that an often-overheard refrain is "can you believe the year is half over already?!" This is the time when we look back over the first six months of the year and wonder where the time went. It seems that the older we get, the faster time passes and for some that brings feelings of accomplishment. We must also be sensitive to those for whom the passing of time brings thoughts of doubt, of worry, or of regret.

Like the old optimist-pessimist question of whether the glass is half full (optimism) or half empty (pessimism), we can get stuck wondering whether our service to God and community is great or is simply not enough. I encourage us to remember to live in the Power of Perpetual Pentecost. Our service and capacity are neither half full nor half empty, but they are refillable because we are fueled by the God of Abundance.

I look forward to learning more about Muddy Creek, navigating transitions with you, and to living into the fully and constantly refillable Grace and Love of God.

In Christ's⁺ Love,
Pastor Chavis

Church Council Corner

Updates from Council President Audrey Noll

PASTORAL

We welcomed Pastor Stacy Chavis who began as our Interim Pastor on June 16th – we look forward to her guidance and to working with her.

ADMINISTRATIVE

We welcomed Teresa Renninger, our newest staff member. She will perform additional Admin Assistant duties. Her hours are 1-3pm, Monday-Friday. Linda Mohn will continue to provide Admin services Tuesday and Thursday mornings.

NEW BUSINESS

- A **Call Committee** has been appointed. They will work with Synod office staff who will guide them through the Call process.
- **Church Picnic!!**
  August 10th!
  Planning Mtg.
  July 13th

- The next **Council Meeting** will be August 13th @ 7 pm.

We'd Love to Hear From You!
(717) 336-2770 / office@mclchurch.org
11 South Muddy Creek Road
Denver, PA 17517

I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth; do you not perceive it?
I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. Isaiah 43:19

SAVE THESE DATES!!

Church Picnic! *Parish Life/Social Ministry Committee*
We will have a time of Fellowship and Fun in the Grove, as we celebrate Muddy Creek and its members on Sunday, August 10th. Please join us then **and** at the Planning Meeting which will be held after the 2nd service on Sunday, July 13th.

Ingathering 2025: Lutheran World Relief School Kits *Nancy Beck and Audrey Noll*
We partner with our Synod in their support of Lutheran World Relief's work to supply school kits, blankets and soap to those in need around the world. Muddy Creek will be accepting donations until **September 7th** and will assemble Kits on Sunday, **September 14th**. You can help this cause by reviewing the lists below and donating throughout the summer. Note: for the safety of the recipient, we are unable to pass along items with religious or patriotic symbols.

Most Needed: (new items only, please) 70 sheet spiral notebooks (wide or college-ruled); Pencils; Small pencil sharpeners; Small blunt scissors (or safety scissors); 2 ½ inch erasers

Also Needed: (new items only, please) Rulers; Crayons (16 or 24 per box); Black or blue ballpoint pens; bars of soap in original wrappers (4—5 oz. size).

Disaster Response Mission Trip Rescheduled for November
The Spring 2025 Disaster Response Trip had to be postponed due to the wildfires in North Carolina. The new dates have now been finalized. It will take place November 9-15, 2025. There is still room for others to come along if you'd like to take part in supporting our brothers and sisters in North Carolina. A planning meeting will be held on Sunday, September 14th, at 2:00 p.m. in the Community Room at Luther Acres, 250 St. Luke Drive, Lititz. We will finalize our group size and discuss details of the trip at that meeting. If you would like to participate in the trip, please contact Pastor Glenn Beard at gbeard@luthercare.org as soon as possible.

JULY WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

July 6 8:00 am Communion Assistant - Judy Dengler
9:30 am Communion Assistant - Lynn Breidenstein
Acolyte Barbara Yerger
Bread Baker - Marliese Smith
Cantor Gail Bare
Counters Jeanette and Mike Leid
Lector Will Wood

July 13 9:30 am Acolyte - Mason Sheaffer
Cantor Greg Gehman
Counters Marie Buohl, Connie Hoover, Charles Leid
Lector Doris Rauch

July 20 9:30 am Acolyte - Sophia Dimitris
Cantor Hollie Kemper
Counters Brad and Doris Rauch
Lector Brenda Berger

July 27 9:30 am Acolyte -
Cantor David Sensenig
Counters Brenda Berger, Judy Nichol, Audrey Noll
Lector Hollie Kemper

Some Humor for Hot July Days

On a sunny morning, William's mother came into her son's room and said, "William, it's Sunday. Time to get up! Time to get up and go to church! Get up!"

From under the covers came mumbles, "I don't want to go!" "What do you mean?" she said. "That's silly! Now get up and get dressed and go to church!"

"No!" he shot back.
"I'll give you two reasons: I don't like them and they don't like me!"

"Nonsense," she told him. "I'll give YOU two reasons to go. First, you are 42 years old, and second, YOU are the Pastor!"