MUDDY CREEK LUTHERAN

APRIL 2025 NEWSLETTER

www.mclchurch.org, 717-336-2770

Holy Week and Easter Worship and Activities at Muddy Creek – Invite Your Friends!

Sunday, April 13, 8:00 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. – Palm Sunday, Passion Narrative Presentation
11:30 a.m. – Community Easter Egg Hunt in the Grove
Thursday, April 17 , 7:00 p.m. – Maundy Thursday Communion Service
Friday, April 18, 7:00 p.m. – Good Friday Tenebrae Service
Sunday, April 20, 6:30 a.m. – Easter Dawn Service in the Cemetery (assemble at the church)
7:30 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. – Easter Communion Services
8:30 a.m. – Easter Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall

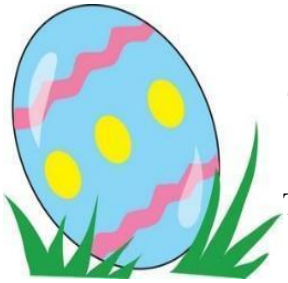
Easter Breakfast, April 20 at 8:30 a.m.

On Easter morning, March 31, at 8:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall, all are invited to an Easter Breakfast sponsored by our Parish Life Committee. You can help by bringing in breakfast food items. Contact: Audrey Noll, 717-336-3592, aan7@ptd.net.

The Deadline to Order Easter Flower Sponsorships is March 30th

You may give daffodils, tulips or lilies to adorn the church on Easter, and take them home following the Easter services on April 20. Use the form located on the table under the mailboxes, and then please place your orders and money in the marked box located there.

Community Easter Egg Hunt in the Grove
Sunday, April 13, 11:30 a.m.



On Palm Sunday, April 13 at 11:30 a.m. in the Muddy Creek Church Grove, we wil again hold our Community Easter Egg Hunt! Tell all your friends and neighbors! There will be separate sections for 2 years old under, 3-4 year olds, 5-7 year olds, and 8 and up. Smile for the Easter Bunny, too! Thank you to everyone from the congregation who donated eggs and candy!

Help Needed With Collection for Easter Egg Hunt and Assembling Eggs

*Until April 6th, we are collecting chocolates, candies and plastic Easter eggs for our Community Easter Egg Hunt in the Grove on April 13 (Palm Sunday) at 11:30 a.m. Items may be placed in the marked box near the mailboxes. This is being sponsored by the Evangelism Committee.
*You are invited to help stuff the plastic eggs immediately after the 10:15 a.m. service on April 6.

Easter Yard Signs

The Evangelism Committee has prepared yard signs advertising Easter services on April 20th 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 anytime in the sanctuary. Thank you for your help in spreading the news about services!

Cluster Lenten Services for April 2025

All are invited to Lenten services, held together with other local Lutheran churches in our cluster. The theme this year is “Perfect Love Casts Out Fear”. The offering will go toward supporting the upcoming Disaster Relief Mission Trip. The upcoming schedule is as follows:
*Wed. April 2, 7 p.m. at Mellingers Lutheran Church, Schoeneck. Pastor Jim Goodyear from Bergstrasse Lutheran will be preaching on “If You Love Me, You Will Keep My Commandments”.
*Wed. April 9, 7 p.m. at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church in Adamstown. Pastor Tim Craven from Mellingers will be preaching on “Perfect Love Casts Out Fear”.

Please Help with Cemetery Fence Clean Up on April 5th!

Volunteers would be deeply appreciated to come out on Saturday, April 5 at 8:30 a.m. (rain date: April 12) to clean up leaves from along the cemetery fence and move them over to the Grove where they will be mulched by our riding lawn mower. Please bring leaf blowers or rakes if you can. Scout Troop 61 and the Cemetery Board members are also helping out. If you have any questions, please contact Mark Gallagher at 570-660–1326 or Judy Nichol at 717-947-0802.

Jesus 'n Me Playgroup, Sun. April 6th at 9 AM in the Nursery

"Jesus is Alive.. An Easter Celebration"

All toddlers, babies and preschoolers and their parents (and friends) are invited to come to the Jesus 'n Me Playgroup on Sunday, April 6 at 9 a.m. in the nursery. We'll celebrate the Easter theme with "Jesus is Alive.. An Easter Celebration"

Upcoming: Sunday, April 13, Easter Egg Hunt at 11:30 a.m.
Sunday, May 11 - Special Event - Meet Nicki the Turtle!

Blessings of Hope Service Project on April 3rd

Ten people from Muddy Creek will be going to repackage food for food banks at the Blessings of Hope warehouse on Becker Road on Thursday, April 3, from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. Registration is now closed for this event, but look forward to upcoming service projects this year at Blessings of Hope. Thank you to Nancy Beck and the Social Ministry Committee for organizing the event!

Fellowship Hall Renovation Project Update

Thank you to all the volunteer painters from Muddy Creek who recently completed painting the Fellowship Hall and the downstairs hallway. Some dividers were also removed and a new curtain for the stage was added. Thank you to the Property Committee for all their work on this and to Gail Bare for coordinating the project. The new flooring will be installed in the Fellowship Hall and hallway on April 14-16, just in time for Easter!

Farewell Luncheon For Pastor Peter and Family - May 18th

All are invited to a Farewell Luncheon for Pastor Peter and his family on Sunday, May 18th at about 11:30 a.m. following the second service. Pastor Peter will retire on May 31, and his last Sunday services will be the 8:00 and 9:30 a.m. services on May 25 (Memorial Day weekend), and his last day at Muddy Creek will be May 31st.

Retirement Transition Update

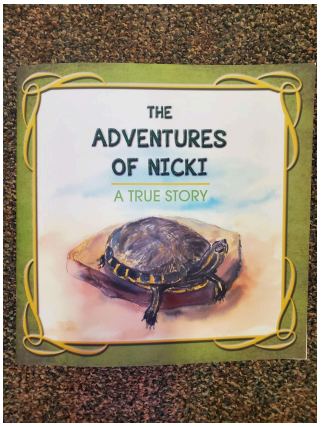
Pastor Peter will be officially retiring on May 31st. A Transition Team has been formed to coordinate a smooth transition after Pastor Peter's retirement on May 31. The Transition Team consists of Gail Bare (chairperson), Audrey Noll, Will Wood, Judy Nichol, Matt Aungst, and Scott Strickland and has already started meeting. The Church Council has already been in touch with the Synod Office and is currently assembling a Call Committee (with different people from the Transition Team). The Church Council will continue to keep everyone informed about the call process.

Special Event at Muddy Creek on Sunday, May 11th (Mother's Day) Adult Forum, Last Day of Sunday School and Playgroup Come Meet Nicki the (Famous) Turtle at 9 a.m.!

All adults, children, families and Jesus 'n Me Playgroup families are invited to come to a special event at Muddy Creek on Sunday, May 11th (Mother's Day) at 9:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Jeannie Aungst, the mother of Matt Aungst, Stacy Aungst and Theresa Trout, will be coming along with her famous 71 year-old turtle, Nicki! The Aungst family got Nicki as a small southern cooter turtle in a bowl many years ago, and she has since grown considerably and aged well! Nicki has since been featured in articles, in online website posts with 28 million views, and in many in-person presentations to groups, schools and pet stores.

Her daughter Theresa wrote and published an illustrated childrens' book about the story of Nicki, entitled "The Adventures of Nicki: A True Story". Jeannie will read this story to everyone as well.

This special event is also the last Adult Forum, the last day of Sunday School before the Summer break, and the last Jesus 'n Me Playgroup of the year. Come and meet Nicki!



More Mother's Day Happenings on May 11th:
Confirmation Sunday!
Women and Kids Play the Colored Bells at Church!

At both worship services on Mother's Day, May 11, all women and children are invited to come forward to play a song on the colored bells to celebrate Mother's Day.

As well, this is Confirmation Sunday. Wyatt Youndt will give his Faith Statement at both services, and will be confirmed at the 10:15 a.m. service. Congratulations, Wyatt!

Peter's Porch Collection

The next food collection for Peter's Porch (our local food pantry) will be Sunday, April 6th, 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 Faith Lutheran Church if you are interested in volunteering with the monthly distribution.)

Summer Schedule

The summer worship schedule will begin on Memorial Day weekend. There will be services at 8:00 a.m and 9:30 a.m. for the summer until Labor Day.

The last day of Sunday School before the Summer break will be May 11th.

Thank You Notes

The Property Committee would like to thank everyone who came out and helped with the Spring Outdoor Clean Up around the church on Saturday, March 22nd. About 16 people from the church gathered to clean up leaves, remove dead plantings, weed and mulch. Thank you to the Boy Scouts for picking up debris and sticks in the Grove.

Thank you to everyone who brought in snack items for the Goodie Boxes for our college students and military members!

Thank you to everyone who brought in chocolates, candies and plastic eggs for our community Easter Egg Hunt!

Dear Pastor Peter and siblings-in-Christ at Muddy Creek,

Thank you so much for the warm and gracious welcome that you extended to my wife Kim and me as we worshiped with you on March 2nd. I am so grateful that you enabled me to celebrate the 70th anniversary of my baptism in your presence. It made for a very special day for both of us. I am so glad also to have been able to reconnect with Jane Wenger (of the Oberholtzer family) and with members of the Leid family. Once again, thank you so much for welcoming us to share my baptism anniversary with you. Yours in Christ, Lowell L. Leitzel

(Note: Lowell's father, Pastor Celo Leitzel, served Muddy Creek from 1953-1958)

Congratulations

Our congratulations to:
*Cathleen Fuchs and her adult son Raymond Troupe who were both baptized on March 17. Welcome Cathleen and Raymond!
*Richard Robert Ueberroth IV who was baptized on March 30. Richard ("Ridge") is the son of Ricky and Mackenzie Ueberroth, the little brother of Remmie and Tierney, and the grandson of Lee Anne Ueberroth. Welcome Richard!
*Mason Sheaffer who will be receiving his Eagle Scout Award on May 28!

Condolences

Our condolences to:
*Hollie Kemper at the death of her mother Elsie on Feb. 23.
*The family of Raymond Martzall who passed away on Feb. 23

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 $45 to sponsor altar flowers or $15 to sponsor bulletins. Call the church office at 717-336-2770 if you have any questions.

Offering

Income to General Fund in February: $18,467.41
Expenses to General Fund in February: $13,420.96
Income to General Fund Year-to-Date as of end of February: $27,109.47
Expenses to General Fund Year-to-Date as of end of February: $29,519.05

Attendance

Worship Attendance	Viewed on Muddy Creek YouTube Channel and Facebook
February 23, 8 a.m. – 28, 10:15 a.m. - 70	55 (includes livestream)
March 2, 8 a.m. – 21, 10:15 a.m. - 62	35 (includes livestream)
March 5 (Ash Wednesday) 7:00 p.m. - 33	22 (includes livestream)
March 9, 8 a.m. – 15, 10:15 a.m. – 46	34 (includes livestream)
March 16, 8 a.m. – 28, 10:15 a.m. – 60	49 (includes livestream)
March 23, 8 a.m. – 22, 10:15 a.m. – 64	28 (includes livestream)

(There are currently 107 subscribers to the Muddy Creek Lutheran YouTube Channel, and 223 followers on the Muddy Creek Facebook Page.)

Worship Helpers in April

April 6 8:00 am Communion Assistant - Judy Dengler
10:15 a.m. Communion Assistant - Audrey Noll
10:15 am Acolyte -
10:15 am Lay Reader - Judy Nichol
10:15 am Cantor - Greg Gehman
10:15 am Money Counters - Jeanette and Mike Leid
Bread Baker - Marliese Smith

April 13 Palm Sunday/Passion Narrative
Passion Narrative Readers 8 am & 10:15 am – Lynn Breidenstein, Joe Sanchez, Will Wood
10:15 a.m. Acolyte - Mason Sheaffer
10:15 am Lay Reader – Lynn Breidenstein
10:15 am Cantor - Hollie Kemper
10:15 am Money Counters - Marie Buohl, Connie Hoover, Charles Leid

April 20 Easter
7:30 am Communion Assistant and Acolyte - Grace Youndt
10:15 am Communion Assistant and Acolyte - Kelby Weaver
10:15 am Lay Reader - Will Wood
10:15 am Cantor - Pastor Peter
10:15 am Money Counters - Brad and Doris Rauch

April 27 10:15 am Acolyte - Malia Mancini
10:15 am Lay Reader - Doris Rauch
10:15 am Cantor - David Sensenig
10:15 am Money Counters - Brenda Berger, Judy Nichol, Audrey Noll