# Muddy Creek Lutheran Church
## Newsletter
## August 2025

Happy August, Muddy Creek,

While we know that August is the 8th month of the year, "august" is also an adjective that means "inspiring reverence or admiration." That certainly defines Muddy Creek. In just over 6 weeks, I have read and heard even more stories about this august congregation and its rich heritage; truly inspiring and worthy of admiration!

So, in keeping with the good work that this congregation is known for, what are our tasks in the weeks ahead as we consider the end of vacation season, hotter temperatures, and all that comes with back-to-school? Perhaps, we can take a page from farmers. For them, August brings the peak of summer harvests, and the start of preparation of fall crops. It is the time to consider and live into the necessary transitions ahead.

In our time together, we will continue to harvest those stories and honor the heart of the traditions of the past. We will find ways to lift up those who have served this community and pay homage to years of faithful service. And we will also turn our attention to the future as we discern the most fruitful and faith-filled ways forward. Together, we will decide what the fall "crops" should be, and we will set expectations for outcomes and harvests.

Some people long for transition and others fear it. Because our bodies can interpret change as loss, we hold space for those who may struggle. In these times, I ask that we remember the farmer who knows that without crop rotation, you run the risk of decreased yield and infertile soil. In essence, we should remember that without necessary transitions, we can't grow. I also ask that we remember to take everything to God in prayer.

Muddy Creekers represent an august congregation with a robust history. With God's help and the Holy Spirit's guidance, we will transition mightily and reap greatly. May this month renew your commitment to planting God's word in the hearts of others.

In Christ's+ Love,
Pastor Chavis

## Church Council Corner

Updates from Muddy Creek Congregational Council

**ADMINISTRATIVE**

We would like to thank our church Leaders and the Administrative Team who have helped realign processes to better reflect current needs.

**CONNECTIONS**

We are taking steps to streamline communication with the office staff and the pastor. Look for news about this in the coming weeks!

**AUGUST BUSINESS**

- The **Executive Committee** will meet on August 6th to discuss the Council meeting agenda and Finance team needs.
- **Church Picnic!!** August 10th!

- The next **Council Meeting** will be August 13th @ 7 pm. Moving forward, Church Council meeting minutes will be posted/ available, ensuring that the congregation has access to them.

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

*Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.* Phil 4:6-7

# UPCOMING EVENTS

**Church Picnic**! AUG 10th *Parish Life/Social Ministry Committee*
Remember to sign up for the Church Picnic: a time to gather for food and fellowship. We will play games (Cakewalk, Now you Have it, Now You Don't, etc.) and hotdogs, barbecue, and water will be provided. Sunday, August 10th. Please bring lawn chairs, lawn games, and a wrapped gift for the Now You Have It game. The sign-up sheet is on the table next to the Pastor's office.

**Back to School Blessing** AUG 17th *Pastor Chavis*
During the service, we will bless backpacks, book bags and any desired items for students, educators, drivers, librarians, nurses, and all associated with education.

**Brenda & Friends Tours: Virginia Beach, VA** SEP 7-10th *Brenda Berger*
We will be staying oceanfront in Virginia Beach at the Sandcastle Resort. Tour includes First Landing State Park Visitor Center, Military Aviation Museum, Virginia Aquarium and the Marine Science Center with a Dolphin Watch Cruise. We will come home by way of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel. There will also be free time to go on the beach and explore the boardwalk. Included: 2 meals each day, deluxe motor coach and a tip for the driver.

**Ingathering 2025: Lutheran World Relief School Kits** SEP 7th and 14th *Nancy Beck and Audrey Noll*
Support of Lutheran World Relief's work to supply school kits, blankets and soap to those in need around the world. Donations accepted until **September 7th** to be assembled on Sunday, **September 14th**. Note: for the safety of the recipient, we are unable to pass along items with religious or patriotic symbols.
**NEW** items needed:
Most Needed: 70 pg. spiral notebooks; Pencils and small sharpeners; Safety scissors; 2 ½ inch erasers
Also Needed: Rulers; 16 or 24 box crayons; Black or blue ballpoint pens; 4-5 oz bars of soap

**Weave Together!** SEP 21st and OCT 3rd *Salem-Kissel Hill & Bergstrasse*
North Lancaster and Lancaster County congregations are invited to participate in our first annual "Weave Together" Community Service Project & Retreat! Invite friends and neighbors to crochet or knit 12" X 12" single squares using any washable & dryable worsted (4) weight yarn. Any stitch, any color! We will collect the squares and deliver them on Friday, September 19th.
**ALSO**: register for the "Weave Together" Retreat (Saturday, October 3, 8:30 am - 4:00 pm) to weave the gathered squares into blankets to be distributed to unhoused persons between Thanksgiving and Christmas. The retreat includes a bible study, lunch, snacks and a time of sharing. If you don't crochet or knit, there will be plenty of work to be done sorting, gathering, cooking, etc.! Watch for dates when the gifts will be presented to our unhoused neighbors. Contact Pr. Traci Glover pastortri1016@gmail.com, Rebecca Brewster R.brewster72107@gmail.com or Wren Dillon schoeneckwren@gmail.com

**"Cool" Humor for Hot August Days**

A man goes out ice fishing one morning. He reaches the ice and is about to cut a hole in it when he hears a voice from above: "There are no fish here." The fisherman is shocked but gets up and moves to another spot. As he's about to cut a hole, he hears a voice from above again, "There are no fish here either."

He gets up and moves to a third spot. Before he's even finished walking, the voice says, "I'm telling you, there are no fish here." The fisherman says, "God, how can you be so sure there aren't any fish here?"
The voice replies, "This is the ice rink manager."