MUDDY CREEK LUTHERAN

NOVEMBER 2024 NEWSLETTER

www.mclchurch.org, 717-336-2770

All Saints Day - November 3rd, 2024
Celebration and Remembrance

On All Saints Sunday, November 3rd, you are invited to come to either the 8:00 a.m. or 10:15 a.m. worship service (or follow the livestream). Please note: Daylight Savings Time ends on this day, so please don't forget to set your clocks back one hour!

As is our tradition each All Saints Day, we will be having a special remembrance of all who have passed away since last All Saints Day. As well, we will remember all departed loved ones from any year with the lighting of small individual candles at our place in the pews. Additionally, we will be celebrating Holy Communion. Hope to see you then for this moving and special Sunday of remembrance!

There will special remembrances for the people who died on following dates:

Guyula Seifrit - November 2, 2023
Grace Schanz - January 2, 2024
Betty Ramsey - May 10, 2024
Helen Martin - October 1, 2024
H. Robert Stork - December 4, 2023
James Weber - March 15, 2024
Lucy Snader - May 22, 2024

Poinsettias Deadline Dec. 8

The deadline for ordering red or white poinsettias (5 blooms each) to decorate the church for the Advent/Christmas Season is Sunday, December 8. The cost is $7.50 each and they may be given in honor or in memory of someone. Forms are available on the last page of this newsletter or in the bulletin, or you may call the office to place your order.

Volunteers Needed to Help Decorate the Church for Advent and Christmas – Sat. Morning, Nov. 30, 8:30 a.m.

If you can volunteer to help decorate the church for Advent and Christmas, please come on Saturday morning, Nov. 30 at 8:30 a.m. We need help to set up the Christmas trees, attach the candleholders to the ends of the pews, and to set up other decorations. Your help is appreciated!

Chad Shober to Present on "Pilgrimages" at the Adult Forum on Sun. Nov. 17, 9 a.m.

On Sunday, November 17 at 9 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall, we are pleased to have a guest speaker, Chad Shober (the Shober family has been involved in Muddy Creek for many generations) come and present about his pilgrimage journeys around the world. For Chad, pilgrimages are a spiritual quest, and he views life as a pilgrimage in itself. He will also show pictures of his various pilgrimages. Check out Chad's website at thepneumaprocess.com. Come out for this special Adult Forum!

Pack and Take for Muddy Creek Shut-Ins, Older Members – Nov. 10

Following both services on Sunday, Nov. 10, everyone is invited to pack loaves of pumpkin bread and an apple into gifts bags, decorate the bags, and then take one or several bags to deliver to shut-ins and older members from Muddy Creek (addresses provided) to make their Thanksgiving season a little more special!

Contribute to Hurricane Milton and Hurricane Helene Relief Efforts

To contribute to the Lutheran Disaster Response to the victims of Hurricanes Milton and Helene**,** please designate a specific offering contribution as "Hurricane Disaster Relief", or else go to the homepage on the church website, mclchurch.org, click on the "Give Securely Online" button, and then select "Lutheran U.S. Disaster Response". You may also volunteer to help with Hurricane Relief in North Carolina in person (see the next announcement below).

Upcoming Disaster Response Mission Trip Meeting - Sun, Nov. 10 (note change of date)

Are you interested in volunteering with or learning more about the upcoming April 6-12, 2025, Disaster Relief Mission Trip? Please come to the Planning Meeting on Sunday, Nov. 10 (please note change of date) at 2:00 p.m. in the Community Room at Luther Acres, 600 E. Main St in Lititz (the Community Room is on St. John's Circle - follow the signs), or contact Pastor Glenn Beard at GBeard@luthercare.org. The participants of this yearly mission trip come from local Lutheran (and a few other) churches in Lancaster County and in our synod. The organizers are looking at potentially going to North Carolina to help with rebuilding efforts after the recent hurricanes.

You are Invited to the Property Committee Meeting on Dec. 4

All interested volunteers are invited to come to the next Property Committee meeting on Wed. Dec. 4 at 3:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Breakfast Buffet Fundraiser for Mission Trip - Sat. Nov. 16

A fundraiser for the upcoming Disaster Response Mission Trip will be held on Saturday, November 16, 7-10 am at Swamp Lutheran Church, 275 Swamp Church Road, Reinholds. It will be an All-You-Can-Eat Breakfast Buffet, consisting of eggs, home fries, creamed chipped beef, pancakes, french toast, bacon, sausage, pastries, fruit, coffee, tea and juices. Proceeds will go to support the North Lancaster Conference of Lutheran Churches Disaster Relief Mission Trip in spring of 2025. Admission by donation. Please make checks payable to North Lancaster Conference Dean's Fund.

Upcoming Choir Practice Schedule

You are invited to come practice with the choir on selected Thursday evenings at 6:30 p.m. in the choir loft in the sanctuary. Upcoming practices are:
Thurs. Nov. 7 (singing in church on Sun. Nov. 10)
Thurs. Nov. 21 (singing in church on Sun. Nov. 24)

Mark Your Calendars: Congregational Meeting Will Be Sunday, Dec. 15

The Congregational Meeting to approve the 2025 Budget and elect people to serve on Church Council and the Cemetery Board will be held on Sunday, December 15, immediately following the 10:15 a.m. service. Please come out so that we may have a quorum. If you have any questions about the budget prior to the meeting, please contact Scott Strickland. Copies of the budget will be made available under the church mailboxes.

Helping With Cemetery Veterans Wreath Project – Saturday, Dec. 14

Wreath laying for the veterans in the Muddy Creek Cemetery will take place on Saturday, December 14, 2024. Again this year we will be tying bows on the wreaths and having the Boy Scouts place the wreaths the same day. For those who would like to help with tying bows on the wreaths please mark your calendars for December 14 at 9:00 a.m. at Muddy Creek Church in the Fellowship Hall. At 10:30 a.m. Adamstown Troop 61 Boy Scouts and Cub Pack will arrive to take the wreaths from the church to the cemetery, conduct a brief ceremony at the flagpole and then lay the wreaths on graves of our veterans. A rain date for placing the wreaths is scheduled for the next day, Sunday, December 15. Please contact Judy Nichol, 717-484-1447, jnichol @windstream.net, if you are able to help with this project.

During November, containers will be provided by the Muddy Creek Cemetery Board for donations to the veteran's wreath fund for those who would like to contribute. Checks can be made out to Muddy Creek Lutheran Church and marked with "Cemetery Veteran's Wreaths". A current list of veterans and plot locations will be available near the donation containers. Two veterans, Carl Gehman and Jim Weber, have been added in 2024 for a total number of 246.

Community Christmas Carol Hymn Sing at Muddy Creek
Sunday, Dec. 15 at 3 P.M.

Muddy Creek and Peace U.C.C. are holding a joint Christmas Carol Hymn Sing at Muddy Creek on Sunday, Dec. 15 at 3 p.m. Come out and celebrate the spirit of the Christmas season with our church neighbors! Friends are welcome and invited!

Jesus 'n Me Playgroup - Sunday Nov. 3: "Thank You God for Food"

On Sunday, Nov. 3 at 9 a.m. in the nursery, all infants/toddlers/preschoolers and their caregivers are invited to come for a Thanksgiving-themed Jesus 'n Me Playgroup, "Thanksgiving: Thank You God for Food". We will read a great "lift the flap" book entitled "What do you eat?". Our little ones will explore with their fingers some of the fun foods God has given and then make a collage of their favorites.

In December, the Playgroup will meet on December 8th for "A Christmas Celebration".

Sunday School is on Sunday Mornings at 9 a.m.

All Sunday School children, from preschool to 6th grade are invited to come to Sunday School every Sunday morning at 9 a.m. in the Sunday School rooms.

Caring Tree Collection to Support
Hollie Kemper's Mission Trip and the Good Samaritan Shelter

The Caring Tree will be in place by the mailboxes beginning Sunday, December 1st. Please bring in your items by Sunday, Dec. 22nd. This year for the Christmas Caring Tree, we are collecting for two charitable efforts.

The first is a collection of new packaged underwear for boys and girls ages 3 to 18. Muddy Creek participant Hollie Kemper will bring them with her on her upcoming mission trip to Jamaica. On Feb. 15-22, Hollie will be working with the H2Jamaica group to provide free medical and dental service and do construction projects at the New Vision Orphanage in Manchester Parish or south central Jamaica. The orphanage serves 37 children. New packaged underwear (not gift-wrapped) may be placed under the Caring Tree.

We are also once again collecting items for women and their children at the Good Samaritan Women's Shelter in Ephrata and for men at the Men's Shelter. We are collecting laundry detergent, hand soap, dish soap, new bedding (twin, toddler, and crib size), new blankets, new pillows for beds, waterproof bedbug covers (twin size), laundry baskets (for welcome baskets), Swiffer Wet Jet and refill pads, disinfectant wipes, multi-purpose surface cleaner, Scrubbing Bubbles bathroom cleaner, diapers (all sizes & pull-ups), baby wipes, paper towels, toilet paper, 13-gallon drawstring trash bags, new bath towels, new wash cloths, aluminum foil, body lotion, shavers, shaving cream, socks, winter hats, gloves, scarfs, NIV Bibles, journals, and pens.

Also - Unwrapped Christmas gifts for kids: toys for all ages, stuffed animals, dolls, and legos. Gift cards: Fashion Cents Ephrata, Walmart, Weis Grocery Store, Redners, and gas cards to Sheetz, Wawa, or Turkey Hill. Storage bins with lids would also be greatly appreciated for proper storage of donations. Thank you for your generous support!

Christmas Eve Services Lawn Signs

Help spread the word about Muddy Creek's Christmas Eve services! Beginning Sunday, Dec. 1, the Evangelism Committee will be handing out yard signs which list the times of Christmas Eve services at Muddy Creek. All are invited to take one to put up on your lawn. Questions, contact Brenda Berger at 717-336-6886, bergerb@dejazzd.com.

Thanks to Mason Sheaffer for his Eagle Scout Project of Renovating our Playground in the Church Grove! Join Us for the Dedication on Sunday, Nov. 3rd at noon!

Mason Sheaffer recently completed a renovation of Muddy Creek's playground in our Grove for his Eagle Scout project. You are invited to a dedication of the Playground on Sunday, Nov. 3 at noon.

Mason and his team completely replaced both swing sets, added six brand-new swings and a new slide, put new seats on the benches, cleaned and sanded all the woodwork in the playground, repaired the borders and placed new mulch in the playground and Ark areas, replaced boards and added a captain's wheel and telescope in the Ark. As well, Mason and the Scouts weeded, cleaned and trimmed the entire playground area. Thank you so much, Mason! It looks wonderful!

Please help spread the word that our playground is all renovated and that it is open to the community and the public for everyone's enjoyment!

Visit Kelby Weaver's Art Studio in Lancaster!

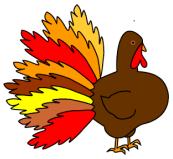
Kelby Weaver, a young adult from Muddy Creek, is inviting everyone to visit his recently-opened art studio in Lancaster. It is located at the Lancaster Art Vault, 100 N. Queen St, Floor 1, in Lancaster. Kelby will be at the studio on most days on the following schedule: Tuesdays 3:30 - 5:00 p.m., Thursdays, 3:30 - 5:00 p.m., Fridays, 3:30 - 8:00 p.m, and Saturdays 3:30 - 6:00 p.m. Kelby recently graduated from the Pennsylvania College of Art and Design.

Please Bring in Food Items for Peter's Porch on Sunday, Nov. 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, Nov. 3 and place them in the bins located in the sanctuary entrances. Thank you! (Our December food collection will be on Sunday, Dec. 1st.)

The food pantry is open for distribution on the first Saturday of every month, from 8-10 am. Doors open at 7:30 am, and a free hot breakfast is offered in addition to groceries. For more information about volunteering to distribute food, please contact the Faith United office, 717-336-2141, faithunited@ptd.net.

Community Thanksgiving Day Dinner Returns



The Cocalico-Ephrata Community Thanksgiving Dinner (free) is being held once again this year. On Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 28 from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Ephrata Business Center, 400 W. Main St., Ephrata, all are welcome to come and enjoy a free sit-down Thanksgiving meal. Take-out is not available. Delivery is available to those who are homebound who pre-register with Ephrata Area Community Services at 717-733-0345 by Nov. 8th.

If you are interested in volunteering to help with the event, please contact EASS at the above phone number. Or, if you'd like to make a monetary donation to support the event, checks may be mailed to: Cocalico Ministerium, P.O. Box 313, Ephrata, PA 17522.

"Brenda and Friends" Bus Trip Schedule

*November 30, 2024 - Fall Getaway to Lewisburg, PA - We will start the day with a stop at Purity Candy's Factory Store before our visit to the Street of Shops in Lewisburg, PA, with over 375 shops located completely indoors in a restored historic woolen mill. We will have an included evening meal on the way home at Ranch House Restaurant.
*December 5, 2024 - "Christmas at the Playhouse" at Hunterdon Hills Playhouse. Enjoy a hot plated lunch and unlimited dessert buffet before the afternoon show.
*December 7, 2024 - We are hoping to go to see "White Christmas" at The Pines Dinner Theater in Allentown.
*December 14, 2024 - Christmas at Winterthur and Longwood Gardens. Both places will be spectacularly decorated for Christmas. We will also drive through the light display at Herr's Snack Food's in Nottingham on the way home.
*December 27, 2024 - "The Christmas Candy Caper" at Revere Tavern (due to the fire at Bird-in-
Hand Restaurant and Stage earlier this year) Included is a buffet lunch before the afternoon show.

Bring in Your Redners Sales Slips

Bring in your sales slips from Redner's Market and put them in the marked boxes in the entryways. We receive money from Redner's when you do that. Gas purchases from Redner's are no longer eligible for donation, so you no longer need to bring in your gas receipts. Please do not

cut off the bottom of the receipts, as this part is needed by us to redeem them. Thanks!

Offering Envelope and Year End Giving Statement Information

* Giving Statements for 2024: Anyone wishing to receive a giving statement who did not receive one in the past should contact Nedra Bearinger at 717-336-7444 before January 1, 2025 in order to receive one.

*2025 Envelopes: These will be available in your mailbox in the sanctuary beginning Sunday, Dec. 8th. Please be sure to write your designations for your offering on the outside of each envelope: Current, Benevolence (mission to Synod and ELCA), Building/Improvement, Other (such as altar flowers, bulletins, World Hunger, Good Samaritan Fund, Ephrata Area Social Services, etc.), or Special Envelopes (Communion, Lent, Easter, Thanksgiving, and Christmas)—money goes to the mission of the Synod and ELCA unless it is designated otherwise.

*Four other ways to give besides envelopes: Simply Giving Program (an automatic deduction from your bank account - talk to Nedra Bearinger if you are interested), Bill Pay from your bank, clicking on the "Give Online" button on the church website, mclchurch.org, or scanning the QR code in your bulletin. We appreciate your generosity!

Local AGO Chapter to Sponsor Richard E. Fritsch Memorial Organ Recital on Nov. 10.

Open to the public, the Lancaster Chapter of the American Guild of Organists (AGO) is sponsoring the Richard E. Fritsch (1955-2007) Memorial Organ Recital to be played by Dr. Robert C. Horton. Selections by Franz Liszt and Jehan Alain plus an improvisation on a given melody. The organ is a two manual, 27 rank Dobson, Op. 83, pipe organ (2006). The date is Sunday, November 10 at 4:00 PM. The Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd is hosting the Memorial Recital and is located at 750 Greenfield Road, Lancaster, PA. A free-will offering will be taken to support future Fritsch Memorial Organ Recitals. For more information, go to www.lancasterago.org.

Muddy Creek Field Trip to Lancaster History in Early December

On an afternoon in early December, Pastor Peter, the Archive Task Force, and all interested people will be taking a field trip to Lancaster History, 230 North President Avenue, Lancaster. We will be handing over some more historical items, and viewing the original Muddy Creek Deed from the sons of William Penn, the Parish Record dating from 1732, as well as some other Muddy Creek historical items. If you are interested in coming along, please contact Pastor Peter.

Condolences

Our condolences and deepest sympathy to the family of Helen Martin, who passed away on Oct. 1. Funeral service was Oct. 8th.

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.

Thank You's

*Thank you to Marleise Emrhein for refreshing the bulletin boards in the sanctuary entryways!
*Janet Frantz wishes to thank everyone for the cards and greetings on her recent 81st birthday.
*A special thank you to Linda Mohn, Muddy Creek's Administrative Assistant, for 20 years of service to Muddy Creek! She started 20 years ago in the month of October. We appreciate you!

Attendance

Worship Attendance	Viewed on Muddy Creek YouTube Channel and Facebook
Sept. 29, 8 a.m. – 12, 10:15 a.m. – 42	33 (includes livestream)
Oct. 6, 8 a.m. – 26, 10:15 a.m. – 54	16 (includes livestream)
Oct. 13, 8 a.m. – 20, 10:15 a.m. – 50	22 (includes livestream)
Oct. 20, 8 a.m. – 18, 10:15 a.m. – 50	24 (includes livestream)

(There are currently 102 subscribers to the Muddy Creek Lutheran YouTube Channel, and 213 followers on the Muddy Creek Facebook Page.)

Offering

Received in General Fund in Sept.: $20,752.54, Expenses to General Fund in Sept.: $12,106.98
Income to General Fund year to date through end of September: $179,268.48 (includes a Qualified Charitable Distribution - Thank you!)
Expenses to General Fund year to date through end of September: $146,313.00

Worship Helpers Schedule

Nov. 3 All Saints Day (Clocks Change)
8:00 am Communion Assistant - Karen Oglesby
10:15 a.m. Communion Assistant and Acolyte -
10:15 am Lay Reader – Fred Hainley 10:15 am Cantor - Gail Bare
10:15 am Money Counters - June and Neal Leid
Bread Baker - Marliese Smith

Nov. 10 10:15 am Acolyte - Mason Sheaffer
10:15 am Lay Reader - Lynn Breidenstein 10:15 am Cantor - Greg Gehman
10:15 am Money Counters - Jere and Joan Shimp

Nov. 17 10:15 am Acolyte - Grace Youndt
10:15 am Lay Reader - Will Wood
10:15 am Cantor - Pastor Peter
10:15 am Money Counters - David and June Sloat

Nov. 24 10:15 am Acolyte -

10:15 am Lay Reader - Doris Rauch
10:15 am Cantor - Hollie Kemper
10:15 am

Place completed form, with money attached, in the marked box on the table under the mailboxes (if using a check, note: poinsettias.)

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Deadline for orders is Sunday, December 8, 2024

Cost is $7.50 (Red or White plant, 5 buds each)

I desire # of plants: Red _____ and/or White _____.

Everyone is responsible to pick-up the plants they order.
Flowers can be picked up after the Christmas Eve services, or anytime following.

Plants will be placed in the church by December 22.

If you would like your poinsettia "in honor of" or "in memory of" included in the bulletin, please list below (please print clearly). Please note: Please complete a separate form for each poinsettia purchased (for instance, Do not list "in Honor of" and "in Memory of" on the same form.)

Purchaser's Name _____

In Honor of _____

By _____

(optional)

In Memory of _____

By _____

(optional)

If you wish to order poinsettias without your name being listed in the bulletin,

check here _____