



Christ's Corner on the News

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FEBRUARY 2026

THE MARCH NEWSLETTER deadline for submission of articles is **Mon., Feb. 16**. The newsletter will be assembled & mailed out on **Tues., Feb. 24**. Helpers meet in the Lower Church Hall at 9 am.

HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER WORSHIP SERVICES & LENTEN SUPPERS begin Wed., February 25th and continue Wednesday evenings at 6:00 pm through March 25th. *The meal will be held in the Lower Church Hall prior to the Holden prayer services which start at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary.*

SOUP & SCRIPTURE LUNCHEONS will be held at the Presbyterian Church this year. We will provide dates and times once they are available.

FEBRUARY 80+ BIRTHDAYS

Robert Richard	February 15
Margaret Lockwood	February 23

FEBRUARY WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Don & Connie May	February 13, 1972
Kelly & Bruce Miller	February 25, 2000

MEMORIAL: A memorial gift was received in loving memory of Gene & Betty Hoffman from Annette Hoffman of Maryland.

Sun., Feb. 1
Faith Lab @ CELC
4:30pm –6:30pm

Wed., Feb. 4
Theology on Tap @ Rusty Rail
6:00pm

Thurs., Feb. 5
Helping at Dinner by the River - 4:30pm
@ Presbyterian Church, Lewisburg

Thursdays Feb. 5-March 5
Ladies Bible Study @ CELC
9:30am & 6pm

Sun., Feb. 8
UYG Superbowl Pre-Party @ St. Paul's
2:00pm –4:00pm

Sun., Feb. 15
Faith Lab @ UIC
4:30pm –6:30pm

Mon., Feb. 16
Mini Mission Monday - Fleece Blankets

Wed., Feb. 18
Ash Wednesday Service
7:00pm

Fri., Feb 20 - Sat., Feb. 21
Renew @ CML

Sat., Feb. 21
Winter Dinner Social
Scarlet D @ 6pm

Tue., Feb 24
Lenten Study @UIC
6pm

Wed., Feb. 25
Lenten Dinner/Holden Prayer Service
6:00pm

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake. Amen.

—Compline, ELW p. 326

This prayer has been one that I find myself turning to more and more. It's one that brings me a lot of comfort and has become a part of my own prayer discipline where I pray it each night before bed. Many of us might be looking for a source of comfort or something to ease our weariness in this winter season. Especially as we slide into February, this month still has the longer nights and the bitter cold of winter but no excitement of big holidays that we hold in December and January. Winter can be wearying—energy runs low, that snotty crud just can't seem to be shaken, and the early setting of the sun continues to shorten our days. February has a way of reminding us how long these winter nights can feel.

When we feel rundown, we turn to prayer. When we feel weary, we turn to prayer. When we are full of joy, we turn to prayer. This prayer meets us in these dark hours, in these moments, when worry, work, and weariness cannot be shaken. It names the truth of the rhythms of our lives with gentle honesty. Some are working through the night to keep others safe. Some are keeping watch beside hospital beds or waiting for a phone call. Some are simply lying awake, hearts busy with grief, fear, or unanswered questions. We are not all in the same place—but this prayer gathers us all into God's care.

Where I find most comfort in this prayer is the specificity of it. No one is overlooked; no condition is too small or too heavy for God's mercy. God does not offer vague goodwill, but compassionate attention: tending the sick, giving rest to the weary, blessing the dying, soothing the suffering. Even joy is named to remind us that gladness, too, needs protection in this messy and fragile world.

This prayer trusts that God is already awake. While we sleep (or lie awake hoping for sleep to come) God is keeping watch. When we feel stretched thin, God sends angels, seen and unseen, to care. And all of this is grounded in God's love for us. The prayer ends with words that can anchor us: "all for your love's sake." We pray not because we are strong enough to make it through winter on our own, but because God's love holds us through every season. Love that watches in the night. Love that tends the sick and gives rest to the weary. Love that carries us toward the promise of light and renewal ahead.

As you move through these February days, I invite you to pray this prayer slowly. Place yourself—and those on your heart—into God's keeping, trusting that even in the long nights of winter, you are not alone! God is keeping watch.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Katy



THE SEASON OF LENT: OUR FORTY DAY JOURNEY...

February 1, 2026

Dear Siblings in Christ,

Just as our Lord Jesus was tempted in the wilderness for forty days, we also as believers enter into the 40-day journey of Lent as a season of growth in faith and discipleship. Lent is a time within the Church for increased worship opportunities. In an effort to provide these for you, Christ's Lutheran will be offering the following opportunity for spiritual renewal:

- ✚ United in Christ will be hosting a **Lenten Study, "Making Sense of the Cross"**, each Tuesday beginning February 24th through March 31st at 6:00 pm.
- ✚ The **Ash Wednesday Service** with Holy Communion and the Imposition of Ashes takes place on February 18 at 7:00 pm in our Sanctuary.
- ✚ Wednesday evening **Lenten Suppers** open to the community beginning February 25 at 6:00 p.m. in the Lower Church Hall.
- ✚ Wednesday evening worship in the Sanctuary using **Holden Evening Prayer** beginning February 25 through March 25 at 7:00 pm. (Please note: there will be no meals or Holden Prayer the Wednesday of Holy Week, March 29, 2026).

As part of our Lenten faith journey many believers also choose to spend time on additional spiritual disciplines or in place of that deny themselves some worldly pleasure. These could include fasting, increased prayer and devotional time or reading a portion of the Scriptures each day. In order to encourage spiritual growth Lenten devotional booklets are available in the Atrium. Consider setting aside a time each day to devote to prayer and meditation that you might grow richer in spirit and discipleship.

Special Lenten/Easter season offering envelopes have been included in this newsletter. Please consider an additional offering for Lent as a sacrifice of joyful and thankful response for the many blessings God has placed into your care. We suggest \$1 per day or \$40 for the 40 days of Lent. If you need to have a Lenten offering envelope sent to you please contact the Church Office.

We hope and pray that in this holy season your Lenten discipline will draw you closer to God as we walk our journeys of faith together here on earth. Please either mail in your envelope, or place your envelope in the offering box while you are here for a worship service during Lent, Palm Sunday or Easter Sunday. You may also give electronically by scanning the QR code.

In Christ's love and peace,

The Stewardship Committee of Christ's Evangelical Lutheran Church



February Information for Spiritual Growth

Souper Bowl of Caring - The Annual Souper Bowl of Caring is on! We'll collect cans of soup for the food bank from now until February 8th - Super Bowl Sunday. You can bring them to the church & put them in the Atrium on the designated table. If you want to make a monetary donation that's also fine. We'll be doing a noisy offering on Sunday the 8th – so bring any change to throw into the soup pots. You can also give cash or check. Please mark Souper Bowl of Caring on the memo line of the check. Thanks for helping with this yearly project.



FAITH LAB - Faith Lab continues in 2026 as we welcome students from pre-k through sixth grade to explore "Living in God's Time". Each month we gather for Bible study, songs, games, crafts, and a family dinner sponsored by the host congregation. There is also a Bible study class for the parents. Faith Lab takes place on the first Sunday of the month at Christ's Lutheran from 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm. Then on the third Sunday of the month we meet at United in Christ Lutheran on Churches Road from 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm.



United Youth Group – On Sunday, February 8 from 2 pm to 4 pm the youth will gather for a Superbowl Pre-party at St. Paul's United Methodist Church. This gathering is for all 6th through 12th graders. We will play football themed games and eat a ton of snacks.

Mini Mission Monday – We will be making fleece tie blankets for Project Linus on February 16th. We will gather in room 204-206 at 6:30 pm. Folks of all ages are welcome to join us as we create these blankets to give children comfort. The process is simple as we draw lines, cut strips, and tie fringe.

RENEW Retreat at Camp Mount Luther: February 20-21 - For Confirmation Students and High School Youth. The Upper Susquehanna Synod YOUTH Team and Camp Mount Luther are joining together to lead this retreat. The theme is Join the Faithful Feast. Come Gather and Reflect on the Word as we take a closer look at food and faith. Experience the Creator, play winter games, and find refreshment in the peace of camp in winter. Register at campmountluther.org/renew. The church will pay \$45.00 per person. Youth will need to pay \$46.00. There is an option of coming only on Saturday and you would just pay \$30.00. The time is Friday, from 6:30 pm to Saturday at 4:00 pm. If you are coming just for Saturday, you need to be there by 8:45 am. If you have any questions, please see Charlene Rineer.

COMING UP IN MARCH

- Sunday, March 1 - 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm – United Youth Group (UYG) Road Trip Bible Study at Christ's
- Sunday, March 8 – 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm – Synod Youth Event – Open Mic/Talent Show at Milton Lutheran
- Mini Mission Monday – We will be putting together care packages for military persons on March 16th from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm. We will gather in room 204-06. We are looking for donated items for these packages. Requested Items are socks, foot powder, baby wipes, Q-Tips, lip balm, puzzle books, pencils and pens, powdered drink mixes, nuts, jerky, and other snacks. You can put your donations in the blue bin that is by the faith formation bulletin board. Thank you for your support. If you have a person in your family that we can send a package to please make sure we have a current address.
- Sunday, March 22 – 6 pm – 8 pm – UYG Movie Night at Beaver UM
- Sunday, March 29 – 6 pm to 8 pm – UYG Gathering for an Easter escape room at 1st Baptist.

SAVE THE DATE – “Wear Love” Day Camp will be July 27-31. We are teaming up with Camp Mount Luther, United in Christ Lutheran, and Milton Lutheran. This is for children in kindergarten through fifth grade.

Proposed Worship Schedule for February

Sunday, Feb. 1 - *Fourth Sunday after Epiphany* - ELW Setting # 4
9:30 am worship - Anthems TBA

Sunday, Feb. 8 - *Fifth Sunday after Epiphany* - ELW Setting # 4
9:30 am worship - Anthems TBA

Sunday, Feb. 15 - *Transfiguration of Our Lord* - ELW Setting # 4
9:30 am worship - Anthems by Handbell Ensemble

Wed., Feb. 18 - *Ash Wednesday* - ELW Setting # 10
7:00 pm worship - Anthems TBA

Sunday, Feb. 22 - *First Sunday in Lent* - ELW Setting # 10
9:30 am worship - Anthems TBA

Wed., Feb. 25 - *Holden Evening Prayer*
7:00 pm - Cantor and speaker TBA

Choir & Ensemble Updates - Contact Joanne

Parish Peal Handbell Choir/Handbell Ensemble - Will provide anthems on Feb. 15. Ringers should check their e-mail for updates to the rehearsal schedule. Anyone wishing to learn to ring handbells is asked to contact Joanne.

Parish Choir - Interested singers are asked to check e-mail and weekly bulletins for updates. Please stay tuned. Dates to sing TBD. New singers are welcome at any time!

Special Music - Musicians in the congregation are welcome to provide anthems for worship. All ages and experience levels welcome! Choose vocal and/or instrumental anthems. Team up with some family members for duets, ensembles, etc. Choose pre-service, prelude, offertory, or communion slots. Some advance notice is required for planning purposes. Contact Joanne.

Cantors Needed for Holden Evening Prayer

Anyone wishing to serve as a cantor for Holden Evening Prayer on Wednesday evenings during Lent is asked to contact Joanne Vasey. Cantors may also choose to deliver the message if so desired. Dates are Wed. evenings Feb. 25, March 4, 11, 18 and 25 at 7:00 pm.

Thanks to all musicians who shared their talents in worship during the month of January.



LET'S GET SOCIAL!

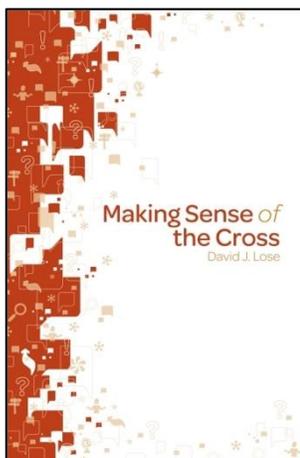
Christ's Lutheran Church invites you to a

WINTER DINNER SOCIAL

February 21 at 6pm
Scarlet D Tavern, Mifflinburg

All Are Welcome

SIGN UP by Feb. 15th



Join us for the start of a new Lenten study series: *Making Sense of the Cross!* Beginning on **Tuesday, February 24th at 6:30pm**, we will gather weekly at United In Christ for a video series that explores how the cross has been understood over time and how we might understand it as Christians today!

For those interested, we invite you to pick up a copy of the accompanying participant book to read at home each week. **Copies are \$15 each and can be ordered using the signup sheet at the welcome desk!**

From the publisher:

Listen in on a conversation between two people having an open and candid discussion about the cross. One assumes the role of teacher or coach, someone who has had the time and opportunity to study the faith in some depth. The other is curious, knows a little bit about the faith, and brings a lot of questions: So what's with the cross? What does the cross say about God? What's the big deal? Did Jesus have to die?



Join us this Lent as we center ourselves on a new worship series: *Tell Me Something Good: Grounding Ourselves in the Good News this Lent*. Join us for this series in worship on Sunday mornings as we move through our Lenten journey seeking out the good news, even in the wilderness. This year, we will be making this journey alongside our neighbors at Milton Lutheran Church (MLC) and United In Christ (UIC), as all three communities move through this series together!

As we lean into this year's theme, we invite you to join in three opportunities beyond Sunday morning worship to tell "something good" in the wilderness!

First, we invite you to join us for the opportunity to be told something good from new perspectives as we gather for midweek worship. Beginning on **Wednesday, February 25th**, we invite you to join us weekly here at **CELC for a time of soup and fellowship at 6:00pm, followed by Holden Evening Prayer at 7:00pm in the sanctuary**. Each week, we will hear "something good" from a lay leader from one of the three congregations. We hope you will come out to be renewed by the perspectives that bring!

Second, we invite you to join us for a new opportunity for gathering and digesting this good news during the week. Beginning on **Thursday, February 26th at 11:00am, we invite you to join us weekly for food and fellowship at Silver Moon Restaurant!** Each week, we will gather to reflect on the themes of that week and digest what was heard in worship on Sunday and Wednesday of the week prior!

Finally, as we hear “something good” each week this season, we will be *sharing* “something good” with the neighbors around us. Each week, all three congregations will collect much needed household items to be donated to DIG Furniture bank in Milton. These items will go to support families getting a fresh start in our community! Keep your eyes peeled for which items we will be collecting each week (ex. bath towels, throw pillows, etc.) to share in something good! Items can either be gently used or new!

We hope you will join us for any or all of these opportunities in the weeks ahead!

About the Series:

Lent was originally a season for new converts to learn and prepare for their baptism on Easter. During that time, they would study what was central to Christianity. As we crafted this series, we studied what was central to Jesus’ life and ministry: radical welcome, love for neighbor, care for the vulnerable, nourishment for the hungry, nonviolence in the face of injustice. At the heart of Jesus’ teachings, we find liberation, love, mercy, and grace—all of which are meant to be very good news for us all.

Jesus’ ministry can be described as “radical” which comes from the Latin word “radicalis,” meaning “root” or “ground.” Therefore, the good news should bring us back to our roots. Emulating Jesus and embodying his teachings should ground us in who God created us to be. Can we be “good news” people in a world too often burdened by bad news?

This Lent, let us remember that the good news really is *good news*. It is joyful—like fine wine saved for celebration. It grows like a mustard seed and smells like perfume poured from an alabaster jar. It tastes like bread passed endlessly through a hungry crowd. It sounds like laughter and feels like mercy. The good news is alive in the world.

We hope this series will provide fertile ground for conversation and worship, rooting our hearts and lives in the expansive goodness of God. This Lent, let the teachings of Jesus lead us forward. May the good news inspire us to take action in a world desperate to hear, see, and taste what is good.

A **BIG THANK YOU** to everyone who supported children and families in need by donating clothing to the Union County Clothes Closet the last few months



CELC will be leading a group for ***Dinner by the River*** at the Presbyterian Church (Lewisburg) on **Thursday, February 5th**. From 4:30pm – 8pm. Guests are served at 6:00 pm. We need volunteers for: Meal prep, Serving & Clean-up. Sign-up at Welcome Desk.

CHRIST'S LUTHERAN CHURCH INVITES YOU



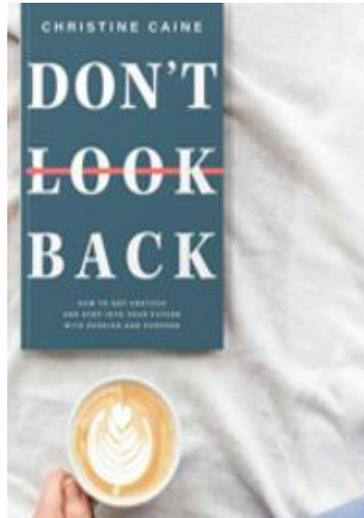
Men's Bible Study

NEW STUDY of ACTS

6:00PM IN THE PARLOR



THURSDAY
meets biweekly
ALL ARE WELCOME



Ladies Bible Study
starts
Thurs., Feb. 5th
through **March 5th**
(weather permitting)

Mornings: 9:30am
Evenings: 6pm

UNITED IN CHRIST
LUTHERAN CHURCH
INVITES YOU TO

Theology on Tap

JOIN US AT
RUSTY RAIL
6:00 PM ON FEBRUARY 4th



Soup and Scripture fellowship & study begins **Wed., February 18th** and continues every Wednesday through **March 25th** at the **First Presbyterian Church**.

CAMP MOUNT LUTHER NEWS

RENEW (formerly Grow in the Snow)

WHEN: February 20-21

WHO: open to youth confirmation-age and up (roughly 6-12 grade)

WHERE: Camp Mount Luther!

THEME: Join the Faithful Feast! Come see how food draws us closer to God and each other.

COST: \$91 (food, lodging & programming are all included. Scholarships are available)



This year's curriculum theme is "Wear Love"! Together, we will see how God wants us to put on love every day, just like our favorite clothes. At camp, we will learn to show love through kindness, humility, calmness, sticking with what's right, and forgiving others. When we wear love, we help our community grow stronger and share God's love with the world!

TIERED PRICING!

Choose the level that works best for you. Scholarships are available.

Day Camp (per camp)
\$90 | \$75 | \$60

Mini Camp & Family Camp
\$550 | \$425 | \$345

Week-long Camps
\$1,100 | \$850 | \$690

For more info go to campmountluther.org/summer

Worship Assistants for February 2026

9:30 am	February 1 4 Epiphany	February 8 5 Epiphany	February 15 Transfiguration	February 18 Ash Wednesday	February 22 1 Lent
Worship Asst.	Dale Biesecker	Heather Miller	Sarah Patte	Dale Biesecker	Joseph Martin
Lector	Beverly Harvey	Laura Faux	Jim Synder	Rick Faux	Ken Stitley
Acolytes	Violet Hauck Aaron Hershberger	Devlynn Williams Lilly Tillson	Lilly Patte Olivia Koontz	Ruth Miller Marie Winder	Maddy Hauck Aaron Hershberger
Communion Ushers	Jackie Cvik Judy Cotner	Miriam Milbrand Rick Faux	Mel Wunder Jim Synder	Beckie Stahlnecker Colleen Nevil	Tim Apple Ken Stitley
Communion Assistants	Mark Elliot	Patti Faux	Jackie Goff	Tim Goff	Tess Trowbridge
Communion Pourers	Bill Wagner Tim Apple	Carole Bollinger Darlene Rowe	Laura Adams Jackie Cvik	Rick Faux Laura Faux	Adelyn & Mark Elliot
Usher Team	Bob Varney Darlene Rowe	Gary Parks Wayne Hook	Cherie Jarrett Mary Lou Shedden	Bill & DeeDee Wagner	Jerry & Julie Albright
Welcome Desk	Adelyn & Mark Elliot	Carole Bollinger	Laura Adams	XXXXXXX	Miriam Milbrand
Altar Guild	Jackie Goff's Team				
CPIC	Tim Apple				

Easter Flowers & Palm Plant Order Form—2026

DEADLINE FOR PLANT ORDERS TO BE IN THE CHURCH OFFICE IS MONDAY, MARCH 23, 2026

Name & Envelope Number : _____

Telephone Number: _____

I wish to order:

_____ Easter lilies @ \$10.00 each

_____ Tulip plants @ \$7.50 each

_____ Hyacinths plants @ \$7.50 each
each

_____ Palm Plants @ approx. \$25.00
** This price is subject to change.*

Total Enclosed: \$ _____ (Please make checks out to Christ's Lutheran Church)

I will pick up plants _____ OR _____ I will leave plants to be delivered.

In loving memory of: _____

In honor of: _____

By: _____

SAVE THE DATE! Wed., April 15th
Milton Lutheran Church invites CELC to see Joshua at Sight & Sound in Lancaster!

SIGHT & SOUND
THEATRES

JOSHUA
LIVE ON STAGE

Deadline to make reservation is March 2nd.
For more information or to make a reservation,
please contact Milton Lutheran Church at
office@miltonlutheranchurch.org or 570.742.4601