

Christ's Corner on the News

September
2026

570.524.0745 ♦ celdclewisburg@gmail.com ♦ www.christlutheranlewisburg.org

Wed., Sept. 2, 16 & 30

Theology on Tap
6pm @ Rusty Rail

Thursdays, Sept. 3 - Sept. 13

Ladies Bible Study
9:30 am & 3:30pm @ CELC

Mon., Sept. 7

Labor Day

Church Office Closed

Tues., Sept. 8

Preschool starts

Thurs. Sept. 10

Men's Breakfast
8:30am-noon @ LCH

Thurs. Sept. 10 & 24

Men's Bible Study
6pm @ CELC parlor

Sun., Sept. 13

Anniversary Sunday/Rally Day
ELCA World Hunger Day

Sun., Sept. 13, 20 & 27

Faith Lab 4:30 pm

Mondays, Sept. 21-Oct. 26

Fall Bible Study
6pm – 7:30pm @CELC

We will be transitioning in the new year to a digital format for the monthly newsletter. If you've recently changed your e-mail address, please make sure your contact information is up to date at the church office.

SEPT. WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

1	Wilmer & Betty Jo Leinbach
2	William & Amy Kenny
4	Charles & Susan Dinsmore
6	Tim & Mabelle Vasey
8	Kimber & Lori Benschhoff
12	Dennis & Donna Engdahl
14	Brian & Tammy Kerstetter
21	Adam & Megan Slear
29	Darlene Rowe & Bob Varney
30	Byron & Robin Brubaker

SEPT. 80+ BIRTHDAYS

5	Glenn Shuman
10	Benjamin Thomas III

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE is Mon., Sept. 14th.
The Oct. newsletter will be assembled & mailed out on
Tues., Sept. 22rd. Meet in the Lower Church Hall at 9:15 am.

Christ's Evangelical Lutheran Church
100 S. 3rd St., Lewisburg, PA 17837

Dear Christ's Lutheran,

One of my favorite things about the church calendar is that there are feast days that I didn't even know existed until I became a pastor. Christmas, Easter, Pentecost—those are the big ones. But Michael and All Angels? Michaelmas? There's a whole feast day dedicated to angels? Apparently, there is! And honestly, I kind of love that. September 29th is the Feast of Michael and All Angels, also called Michaelmas. It is a day in the church year when we pause to think about angels, those strange and mysterious beings who show up all over Scripture. Angels are messengers, protectors, worshipers, warriors, and generally some of the more dramatic characters in the Bible. They show up when people least expect them, tell people things they definitely weren't prepared to hear, and frequently begin their conversations with some variation of "do not be afraid," which is probably a solid indication that whatever happens next is going to be a lot.

And then there's Michael. Michael is one of the few angels actually named in Scripture. In Daniel, Michael is described as a protector of God's people. In Revelation, Michael leads the heavenly forces in a battle against evil. Michael is not exactly the soft, glowing, decorative angel we might put on a Christmas tree. Michael is a warrior, a protector, and a reminder that God's goodness is not passive—God is actively at work in the world, even when we cannot see or understand exactly how. Which is probably one of the reasons I think this feast day is worth mentioning and even celebrating!

We spend so much time trying to make sense of the world around us. We want to know *how* things work and *why* things happen. We want answers, explanations, to know what's going on behind the scenes, especially when life feels confusing or frightening. And angels are one of those things that don't really fit neatly into our need for explanations. We can't exactly put an angel under the microscope. We can't really explain what they look like or how they work or what, exactly, makes someone an angel instead of something else. Scripture gives us some wildly different descriptions, from beings who look like ordinary people to creatures with multiple wings and eyes. And somehow, over the centuries, we have settled on a fairly consistent cultural image of a beautiful person with wings, a halo, and probably a harp (though I think that's the least interesting image!).

I have questions, as usual. But I also think there is something beautiful about not having all the answers. Michaelmas gives us an opportunity to remember that God's creation is bigger than what we can see. In the Nicene Creed, we confess that we believe in God, "maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen." We say those words, but I wonder how often we actually stop and think about them. All that is, seen and unseen.

There is a whole lot of unseen in our lives! There are things happening in our own hearts that other people cannot see. There are acts of kindness that never get recognized. There are prayers whispered quietly when no one else is listening. There are moments when we feel unexpectedly comforted or encouraged. There are people who enter our lives at exactly the right moment and somehow say exactly what we need to hear. Are those angels? Maybe. I don't think we have to know for certain.

I think it's enough to recognize that God has a habit of working through people and circumstances in ways that we don't always understand. Sometimes God's presence is obvious. Sometimes it's incredibly subtle. Sometimes it looks like an angel. Sometimes it looks like a friend sitting beside you in a difficult moment. Sometimes it looks like a stranger holding the door open when your

hands are full. Sometimes it looks like someone calling you because, for whatever reason, they were thinking about you that day. And sometimes, if we are really honest, it looks like someone being willing to sit with us in the middle of something painful without trying to fix it.

I think that is part of what makes Michaelmas meaningful. It isn't really about angels. It is about God. We don't worship angels. We don't pray to angels instead of praying to God. The point of the angels is not to draw our attention away from God, but toward God. They are messengers of the Lord's presence and reminders that we are part of something much bigger than ourselves. And that is especially important when the world feels frightening.

Michaelmas reminds us that evil does not get the final word. The stories about Michael are stories of God's power overcoming forces of evil and destruction. That doesn't mean that we will never experience suffering or fear. It certainly doesn't mean that everything will magically become okay because we celebrated a feast day. But it does mean that we are not alone. God is present with us, even when we cannot see God. God is present in the people who love us, in the communities that hold us, in the unexpected moments of grace that interrupt our ordinary lives! God is present in the seen and the unseen, in the things we understand and the things we absolutely do not.

And maybe we should be a little more comfortable with that mystery. And I'll be honest, I don't always want mystery. I want answers. I want God to explain why something happened, or tell me exactly what is coming next, or give me a nice, clear five-step plan for whatever problem is currently bothering me. Instead, faith so often gives us something much less tidy: trust. Trust that God is here. Trust that God's love is bigger than what we can see. Trust that we are surrounded by grace even when we don't recognize it. Trust that we do not have to understand everything in order to be held by God.

And that's why I love that the church gives us a feast day for angels. We get to celebrate the mystery! We get to remember that God's creation is bigger than our understanding. We get to give thanks for the messengers, protectors, helpers, and mysterious signs of God's presence that Scripture calls angels.

We also get to look around at our own lives and recognize the people who have been angels to us. Who has shown up when you needed them? Who has offered you a word of hope when you were struggling? Who has protected you, encouraged you, or simply reminded you that you are loved? We give thanks for these folks and their place in our lives. And then maybe ask yourself: Where might God be calling me to be that person for someone else?

We don't have to grow wings to be part of God's work in the world. We don't have to understand every mystery or have all the answers. We simply have to be willing to show up, to love one another, to offer hope, and to trust that God is already at work among us. So, this Michaelmas, let us celebrate the angels. Let us celebrate Michael. Let us celebrate all the mysterious ways that God moves through creation. And let us celebrate the simple, beautiful truth: We are not alone. God is with us—in the seen and the unseen, in the extraordinary and the ordinary, in the moments we understand and the moments that leave us scratching our heads. And honestly, I think that is more than enough of an answer.

Yours in Christ,
Pr. Katy

September Spiritual Growth Information

SPIRITUAL GROWTH TEAM MEETING – Wednesday, September 2 at 6:00 pm in the parlor. We will work on fall plans and finalize Rally Day Activities. Anyone interested in youth ministry and/or Christian education is invited to join the team. The workload is minimal and fun!

RALLY DAY - On Sunday, September 13th we will kick off Sunday school for the school year. All children, youth, and their parents will meet in the Lower Church Hall at 10:45 am. We will do God's Work - Our Hands projects, sing, pray, and give out materials for the year. The classes this year are for preschool/elementary with Kailyn and Charlene, and a middle school/high school group that meets a couple times a month with Pastor Katy.

FAITH LAB - Faith Lab is continuing this year with a little different make-up. We will meet almost every Sunday of the month from 4:30 to 6:30 pm. We will kick it off on September 13th. Place to meet is still being determined. It is an educational program on faith for preschool through 5th graders. This year we will be focusing on the major Bible Stories – using the Jesus Storybook Bible as our “textbook”. The parents also will have a class to study the same stories their children are learning about. We are looking for folks to provide meals for them when our church is hosting the program. If you have any questions you can talk to Pastor Katy or Charlene.



GAME DAY - The synod's Youth Ministry Initiative, led by youth from around the synod, is kicking off their third year of monthly events. The first event will be a game day at Christ's Lutheran Church, Lewisburg, on Sunday, September 13, from 2-4 p.m. Youth in 6th through 12th grade are invited to bring their own favorite games and enjoy some fellowship and refreshments with youth from around the synod.

ALIVE – The Lower Susquehanna Synod is holding a retreat at Camp Nawakwa for middle school youth. The theme is 'Rhythm'. God has a desired rhythm for our world. We also have a rhythm to our lives. Are you in step with God's rhythm? A group from the Upper Susquehanna Synod plans to attend. It is September 25-27. Contact Chad Hershberger at Camp Mount Luther for more information.

ELCA Youth Gathering – At the end of June and beginning of July 2027 the ELCA will be holding their Youth Gathering in Minneapolis. The theme is IMAGINE MORE. The Upper Susquehanna Synod is sending a group of youth, and we will be traveling with them with Charlene leading the entire group. Any youth in 8th through 12th grade are encouraged to attend. Youth just need to sign up on the Camp Mount Luther Website to reserve their space with a deposit of \$250.00 by November 6th. More details to come. If you have any questions, see Charlene.

Coming later in the Fall – Save the Dates

October 3 – Road Clean Up and Lunch – 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

October 11 - Synod Youth Team hosting a Halloween Party from 2:00 pm to 4:00 p.m. at St. Mark's in Williamsport

October 12 – Mini Mission Monday – 6:00 pm – in room 204-206 – College Care Packages

October 17 – Trunk or Treat at Milton Lutheran Church

November 1 – Brunch and Silent Auction Fundraiser for the Youth Gathering

November 8 – Synod Youth Team running a Ping Pong Tournament at Sharon Lutheran in Selinsgrove – 2 to 4.

November 9 – Mini Mission Monday – Operation Christmas Child Boxes – 6:00 pm in the Lower Church Hall

CELC Worship Bags!

The Spiritual Growth team is revamping the Sunday Morning Worship Bags found in the back cabinet. These bags help our youngest members and visitors stay engaged during the service. We want children and families to feel welcome and supported in the midst of our worship! These bags are for preschool through elementary aged children. However, we know many of the items have been well loved and need to be replaced. The current bags have been cleaned out and some of the best activities will continue to be used. Look for improvements and some new items coming soon!



Family Order Form

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Christ's Youth Group

We're ordering Gift Cards to raise funds for the youth trip for 2027. Get some cards for places you go or buy some for gifts. These are just some options. For more go to the website - RaiseRight.com. Orders due by September 27.

Name	Customer #
Check #	Order Date

Clothing & Accessories				Entertainment				Specialty Retailer			
Product	%	QTY	Total	Product	%	QTY	Total	Product	%	QTY	Total
American Eagle \$25.00	10%		\$	Barnes & Noble \$25.00	8%		\$	Michaels \$25.00	7.5%		\$
Gap \$25.00	14%		\$	Fast Food				Sporting Goods & Outdoors			
Old Navy \$25.00	14%		\$	Product	%	QTY	Total	Product	%	QTY	Total
T.J.Maxx/ Marshalls/ HomeGoods/ Sierra \$100.00	6%		\$	Arby's \$10.00	8%		\$	Dick's Sporting Goods \$25.00	8%		\$
Department Store				Arby's \$25.00	8%		\$	Travel			
Product	%	QTY	Total	Burger King \$10.00	7%		\$	Product	%	QTY	Total
Boscov's \$25.00	8%		\$	Dairy Queen \$10.00	6.5%		\$	Disney \$25.00	3%		\$
Kohl's \$25.00	7%		\$	Domino's \$25.00	8%		\$	Universal Prepaid Cards			
Dining - Casual				Dunkin' \$10.00	3.5%		\$	Product	%	QTY	Total
Product	%	QTY	Total	Dunkin' \$25.00	3.5%		\$	Visa Gift Card - No Activation Fee \$25.00	1.25%		\$
Applebee's® \$25.00	8%		\$	McDonald's \$10.00	3%		\$	Visa Gift Card - No Activation Fee \$50.00	1.25%		\$
Bob Evans Restaurants® \$25.00	10%		\$	McDonald's \$25.00	3%		\$				
Buffalo Wild Wings® \$10.00	8%		\$	Panera Bread \$10.00	8%		\$				
Buffalo Wild Wings® \$25.00	8%		\$	Panera Bread \$25.00	8%		\$				
Cracker Barrel \$25.00	8%		\$	Starbucks \$10.00	4.5%		\$				
Darden Restaurants \$25.00	8%		\$	Starbucks \$25.00	4.5%		\$				
LongHorn Steakhouse \$25.00	8%		\$	Subway Restaurants \$10.00	6%		\$				
Olive Garden \$25.00	8%		\$	Wendy's \$25.00	6%		\$				
Red Lobster \$25.00	8%		\$	Gas & Auto							
Red Robin \$25.00	8%		\$	Product	%	QTY	Total				
Texas Roadhouse \$25.00	8%		\$	AutoZone \$25.00	7%		\$				
Discount Store & Outlets				Sheetz \$25.00	3%		\$				
Product	%	QTY	Total	Sunoco \$50.00	1.5%		\$				
Sam's Club \$25.00	2.5%		\$	Wawa \$25.00	2%		\$				
Target \$25.00	2.5%		\$	Health & Beauty							
Walmart \$25.00	2.5%		\$	Product	%	QTY	Total				
Electronics & Office				Bath & Body Works \$25.00	12%		\$				
Product	%	QTY	Total	CVS Pharmacy \$25.00	7%		\$				
Best Buy \$25.00	4%		\$	Great Clips \$25.00	8%		\$				
Entertainment				Home Improvement							
Product	%	QTY	Total	Product	%	QTY	Total				
AMC Theatres \$25.00	8%		\$	Lowe's \$25.00	4%		\$				
Barnes & Noble \$10.00	8%		\$	Online Shopping							
				Product	%	QTY	Total				
				Amazon \$25.00	1.25%		\$				

Make Checks Payable To: Christ's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Total Due All Columns:

\$

From the Music Team - Brandy & Joanne
Tentative Worship Schedule for Sept. 2026

Sunday, Sept. 6 - 15th Sunday after Pentecost or Creation in Christ Sunday; ELW Setting #2
9:30 am worship - Special Music TBA

Sunday, Sept. 13 - 16th Sunday after Pentecost - "God's Work, Our Hands"; ELW Setting #2
9:30 am worship - Pop-Up Orchestra to accompany Gathering and Sending Hymns
All ages and experience levels welcome! See announcement for more info.

Sunday, Sept. 20 - 17th Sunday after Pentecost; ELW Setting #2
9:30 am worship - Pre-Service anthem and prelude by Parish Peal
Handbell Choir/Handbell Ensemble; Communion Anthem by Pop-Up Choir:
"O Living Bread from Heaven" - ELW # 542

Sunday, Sept. 27 - 18th Sunday after Pentecost; ELW Setting #2
9:30 am worship - Anthems by Parish Choir; Additional anthems TBA



Choirs - Ensembles - Pop-Up Orchestra - Special Music

1) Pop-Up Orchestra - Will be accompanying the Gathering and Sending hymns on Sept. 13. All string, woodwind and brass instrumentalists welcome! All ages and experience levels are encouraged to participate. Music for your particular instrument will be available prior to Sept. 13. Gathering hymn will be "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" and Sending Hymn will be "God's Work, Our Hands" ("Earth & All Stars" hymn tune.) More info will be available in weekly bulletins. If interested in participating, please contact Joanne Vasey.

2) Parish Peal Handbell Choir/Handbell Ensemble - Will rehearse on Monday, Sept. 14 at 6:30 pm in preparation for ringing on Sunday, Sept. 20. Folks interested in learning to ring handbells are welcome to attend this rehearsal, observe experienced ringers and learn some basic technique. Interested folks are asked to contact Joanne Vasey prior to the rehearsal.

3) Pop-Up Choir - Will provide the communion anthem on Sept. 20. Anthem will be "O Living Bread from Heaven" - ELW # 542 (same tune as "The Church's One Foundation"). All interested singers welcome! Simply come forward and grab a binder! Folks not comfortable singing an alto, tenor or bass part may stay on the familiar melody. For more info, contact Brandy Aguirre.

4) Parish Choir - Will resume rehearsals beginning on Monday, Sept. 14 at 7:15 pm. New singers welcome! No previous choir experience necessary. Participate as your schedule allows. For more info, contact Brandy Aguirre.

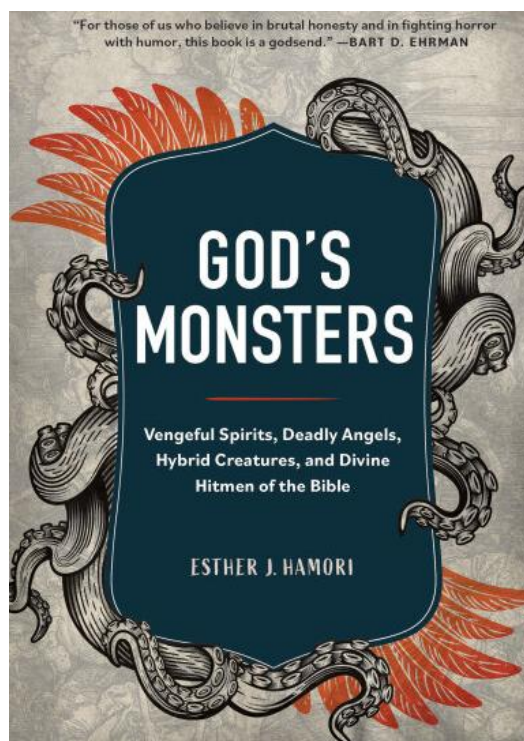
5) Children's Choir - For pre-school and elementary age children. Will resume rehearsals during the Sunday school hour in preparation for singing for worship in late September or early October. For more info, contact Brandy Aguirre.

6) Instrumental Ensembles - A variety of instrumental ensembles will be organized at announced times. Examples include Bass Instrument Ensemble, Woodwind Ensemble, String Ensemble, African Drumming Ensemble, Orff Ensemble, Orchestra, etc. For more info, contact Brandy & Joanne.

7) Special Music - Musicians in the congregation are always welcome to provide anthems for worship. All ages and experience welcome! Anthems may be instrumental and/or vocal. Some advanced notice is appreciated for planning purposes. If interested, contact Joanne Vasey.

Thanks to the following musicians who shared their talents this summer.

Barbara Hoffman (organ & piano), Brandy Aguirre (vocals & violin), Pop-Up Choir (vocals), Bob Lamparter (violin & viola), Bass Instrument Ensemble (Tom Milbrand, baritone horn; Maddy Hauck, trombone; Joey Martin, trombone; Dan White, bassoon), Patti Faux (vocals and piano), Laura Faux (flute), Woodwind Ensemble (Laura Faux, flute; Eliza Haley, flute; Violet Hauck, clarinet; Joanne Vasey, clarinet; Dan White, bassoon), Dan, Kailyn, Lennox & Laurel White (vocals, violin, bassoon, piano).



MONDAYS 6pm-7:30PM
SEPT. 21 – OCT. 26
(CELC Rooms 204-206)

Join Pr. Katy this fall for a **six-week study of God's Monsters!** Together, we'll explore some of the weird, eerie, and downright strange creatures and beings found in the Bible, using Esther Hamori's book. We'll see what the text actually says about some of these beings, what they might reveal to us about God and faith, and what they might mean for us today. Come join the conversation, bring your questions, and discover the stranger side of Scripture!

Ladies Bible Study: Beginning Sept. 3rd

TITUS

DISPLAYING THE
GOSPEL OF GRACE

Thursdays at 9:30 am and 3:30pm

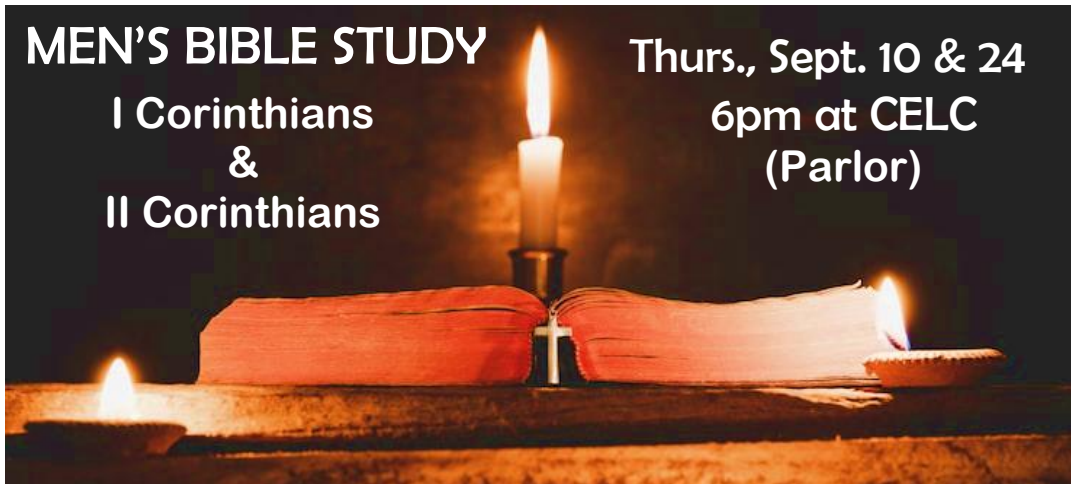
We will be doing an 8 week study of "TITUS" by Courtney Doctor and Hunter Beless. They have teamed up to explore every verse of Paul's letter to his friend Titus. You'll see the essential connection between right belief and right character and the way both testify to the goodness of the gospel. And you will be reminded that our world will be attracted to the gospel when they see its beauty displayed in us. Participants can purchase books from Amazon or Bible Depot.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

I Corinthians
&
II Corinthians

Thurs., Sept. 10 & 24

6pm at CELC
(Parlor)



Thurs., Sept. 10th @ 8:30am

Lower Church Hall

Sign up at the Welcome Desk by Sept. 6th

Good Food & Fellowship

Women's Outreach Works

Another afternoon to Connect, Refresh, and Be Inspired

WOW, it's a September Picnic

With three presenters to inform us — in a picnic table setting —
while enjoying light treats and refreshing iced tea & lemonade

Wednesday
Sept 23, 2026

Doors open @ 1:00 PM

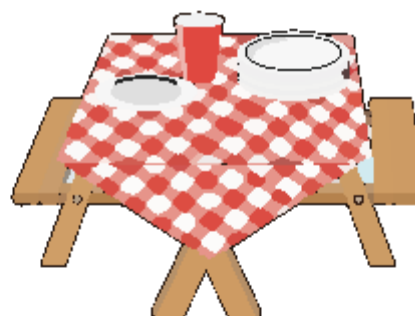
Event: 1:30-3:30 PM

At the
New Berlin Fireman's Hall
416 Liberty Street,
New Berlin

RSVP

by Sept 9

Miriam Milbrand
570-490-3403



FEATURING SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS BY:



at Beaver Methodist
Church, Lewisburg





Dandelion Trail Run - September 5, 2026 @ 9:00 am - 9:00 am

Camp Mount Luther is hosting a benefit 5K and 10K entry-level trail run race, "The Dandelion Run," on Saturday, September 5, 2026. The race starts at 9:00 a.m. with "day of" registration beginning at 7:30 a.m. Cost is \$35. Register at:

<https://runsignup.com/Race/PA/Mifflinburg/DandelionRun5k10kTrailRace>.

Register by midnight, August 16, to receive a T-shirt.

Timing is electronic and all miles are marked. There is one water stop on the course. Runners decide on race day if they want to do a 5K or 10K but cannot change once the race starts. Awards for top male and female finisher for each distance immediately following the race. Finisher awards for all finishers.

The event also features a one-mile fun walk on a dirt road with the same registration fees and amenities. Following the race, there will be a Kids Fun Run! The age groups are 6 and under and 7 – 10. Special awards will be presented to every participant in the fun run.

The Dandelion Run, begun in 2002, is organized by Joel and Shelley Heasley of Middleburg, assisted by Shirley Heasley of Mifflinburg. The family started the race in memory of Rev. Glenn E. Heasley, Jr., former Assistant to the Bishop of the Upper Susquehanna Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Glenn's favorite "flower" was the dandelion, because no matter what you do with them, they always rise again!



LEWISBURG COOPERATIVE PRESCHOOL MUMS FUNDRAISER

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

CELC Church

Cost: \$10 Each or 3 for \$25

COLOR	QTY	COST
RED		
YELLOW		
ORANGE		
PURPLE		
WHITE		
TOTAL		

***PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO "CELC"**

ORDERS ARE DUE BY WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16th. MUMS WILL BE AVAILABLE
AT THE CHURCH (NO DELIVERIES) ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24th.

Worship Assistants for September 2026

9:30 am	September 6 15 Pentecost	September 13 Anniversary Sunday	September 20 17 Pentecost	September 27 18 Pentecost
Worship Asst.	Dale Beisecker	Joseph Martin	Sarah Patte	Heather Miller
Lector	Miriam Milbrand	Tom Milbrand	Jim Snyder	Laura Faux
Acolytes	Aaron Hersberger Devlynn Williams	Maddy Hauck Lilley Tillson	Lilly Patte Claire Hersberger	Violet Hauck Ruth Miller
Communion Ushers	Jackie Cvik Sarah Patte	Tim Apple Miriam Milbrand	Mel Wunder Laura Faux	Colleen Nevil Beckie Stahlnecker
Communion Assistant	Rick Slear	Tess Trowbridge	Jackie Goff	Carol Apple
Communion Pourers	Carole & Bill Bollinger	Tim Goff Darlene Rowe	Adelynn & Mark Elliot	Laura Faux Tim Apple
Usher Team	Colleen Nevil Beckie Stahlnecker	Laura Faux Jackie Cvik	Rick Slear Tess Trowbridge	Bill Wagner Cordell Dean
Welcome Desk	Janie Keiser	Beverly Harvey	Laurie Slear	Robertta Winder
Grocery Cards	Charlene Rineer	TBD	TBD	TBD
Altar Guild	Diane Miller			
CPIC	Laura Adams			