

# MUDDY CREEK LUTHERAN CHURCH

MAY 2024 NEWSLETTER

[www.mclchurch.org](http://www.mclchurch.org), 717-336-2770



## Sign Up to Volunteer and Repackage Food at Blessings of Hope on Monday Evening, May 20!

Muddy Creek's Social Ministry Committee is sponsoring a volunteer opportunity on Monday evening, May 20, 6:30 - 9:00 p.m. We will again be repackaging food at the Blessings of Hope warehouse at 500 Becker Rd. (Brownstown/Oregon). If you are interested, please sign up on the clipboard under the mailboxes or contact Pastor Peter. Every volunteer will also get a coupon to shop for 60 cents a pound at the Blessings of Hope store, 515 N. Franklin St., Lancaster. We will meet at the warehouse at 500 Becker Rd at 6:15 pm. If you wish to carpool, please make your own arrangements or contact Pastor Peter for assistance. Our group size is limited to 25 volunteers, so please sign up now! Volunteers must be 10 years old or older.

## Community Yard Sale in our Grove on Sat. June 8

On Saturday, June 8 from 7 a.m. to noon, the Evangelism Committee of Muddy Creek is again sponsoring a Community Yard Sale in our church Grove. Each space (12 foot frontage) costs only \$5, which goes entirely to our local food pantry, Peter's Porch. The Schoeneck Lions Club will be there with a food truck and our church will be selling baked goods and cookbooks. If you are interested in reserving a spot to sell your items, please contact Will Wood at 717-917-3141, [will.wood@live.com](mailto:will.wood@live.com).

If you can help make individually-wrapped baked goods (such as cakes, cookies, cupcakes, etc) to donate for the Yard Sale, please call Gail Bare at 717-672-6282. Donated baked goods can be dropped off at the church on Friday evening, June 7th, 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. or on Saturday morning on the day of the sale. They may also be dropped off at Gail's house, 935 Lincoln Heights Ave in Ephrata prior to the sale. Please let Gail know if you are interested in helping on Friday evening or Saturday morning with organizing and selling the baked goods.

Help is also needed with setting up and marking the grove, and with directing people on the day of the Yard Sale. If you can help, please contact Brenda Berger (chairperson of the Evangelism Committee) at 717-336-6886, [bergerb@dejazzd.com](mailto:bergerb@dejazzd.com).



## Mother's Day, May 12: Colored Bells



Come out on Mother's Day, May 12th! All women and children are also invited to come forward to play the colored bells during worship as part of our Mother's Day festivities at both worship services. It's fun and easy – no experience necessary. Hope to see you on Mother's Day!



## Confirmation Day, May 19 at 8:00 a.m. (also Pentecost Day)

On Sunday, May 19th at the 8:00 a.m. service, we are privileged to have a youth share her Confirmation Faith Statement. The youth, Emma Tafuri-Carretta, will also be confirmed at that service. We rejoice with Emma and her family as she affirms her faith in God on this day!

## Ascension Service at Swamp Lutheran on May 9

On Thursday, May 9 at 7:00 p.m., all are invited to our cluster Ascension Day Service at Swamp Lutheran Church, 275 Swamp Church Road in Reinholds. Pastor Tim Craven of Mellingers Lutheran Church will be preaching.

## Sunday School Until May 19

Sunday School for all children is held every Sunday at 9:00 a.m. downstairs in the Sunday School Room. The last day for Sunday School will be May 19.

## Summer Worship Schedule Begins May 26

On Sunday, May 26 (Memorial Day Weekend), our summer worship schedule returns with services at spoken worship at 8:00 a.m. and a service with liturgy, hymns and music at 9:00 a.m.

## Jesus 'n Me Playgroup - May 12th (Mother's Day)

All babies, toddlers and preschoolers and their parents are invited to the final Jesus 'n Me Playgroup of the school year. On Sunday, May 12th (Mother's Day) at 9:00 a.m. in the nursery, we will celebrate the love in families with "Thank You for the People Who Love Me!". Hope to see you there!



## Peter's Porch Collection

The next food collection for Peter's Porch (our local food pantry) will be Sunday, May 5, which is the first Sunday of the month. Food donations can be placed in the bins in the church entrances. (Peter's Porch distributes the food on the first Saturday of every month from 8-10 a.m. Contact Pastor Peter if you are interested in volunteering with the monthly distribution.)

## Donations for Cemetery Veteran's Wreath Project, Mulching

Throughout the month of May, there will again be containers in the church to receive donations for the veteran's wreath project, so that this Christmas tradition can continue in the Muddy Creek Cemetery. Donations can also be made throughout the year by specifying "Veterans Wreath Project" on a check or envelope and putting them in the church mailbox of Judy Nichol.

Additionally, the Cemetery Board will be mulching around the new plantings in the cemetery this Spring. If you would also like to make a contribution for the mulch, please also specify this on a check or envelope and put it in Judy' Nichol's church mailbox. Thank you for your continued support!

## "Brenda and Friends" Bus Trip Schedule

May 7, 2024 – Flight 93 Visitor Center, Flight 93 Memorial, and Tower of Voices

May 12, 2024 – Gaither Concert in York, PA - Sunday Evening

May 21, 2024 - Mount Vernon and Boat Cruise on the Potomac River

June 1, 2024 – One Day Mystery Trip

June 11, 2024 – "Weekend Comedy" at Hunterdon Hills Playhouse

June 21, 2024 - "The Highwaymen Live" - Willie Nelson, Waylon Jennings and Johnny Cash Tribute at Hunterdon Hills Playhouse

July 18, 2024 - "Daniel" at Sight and Sound Theatre with meal afterwards at Hershey Farms

August 8, 2024 - "Always...Patsy Cline" at Hunterdon Hills Playhouse

## **Prayer Shawl Ministry**

For all those interested in knitting shawls for our prayer shawl ministry, the Knitting Group meets at Yvonne Weaver's house, on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. Contact: Yvonne Weaver at 717-371-6453. All are invited! Next meetings: May 14 and May 28.

## **Please Return Easter Yard Signs**

Thank you to all who put out yard signs to advertise our Easter services to your neighborhood! Signs can be returned to the church anytime and put by the mailboxes or put in the money counting room.

## **Council Continues With "Planning for the Future" - Update**

At the Church Council meeting on April 10, the council again took up the congregation's ongoing agenda of "Planning for the Future". The recommendations from the Planning for the Future Committee and the suggestions received at the March 3rd Congregational Forum were reviewed.

The Council formed a subgroup of Hollie Kemper, Lauren Gallagher, Brenda Berger and Pastor Peter to produce a congregational "Time, Talent and Interest Survey" for distribution to the congregation in early summer. This is so that, as we prepare the present and future ministry at Muddy Creek, we may utilize the greatest assets that Muddy Creek has - its people! The subgroup met already on April 21 to begin preparing the survey. In conjunction with this, a Volunteer Fair is also planned for Sunday, September 8th ("God's Work, Our Hands Sunday") where Muddy Creek participants can sign up in person to volunteer for various tasks and committee work.

The Council researched the cost of an electronic road sign and discovered that it would cost \$50,000 - \$70,000 and would involve yearly permits and having to comply with state regulations, which include limiting us to one road sign total. Input was also given from the Evangelism Committee, which discussed the idea as well. The Committee proposed increased advertising of our church through means other than an electronic sign. The council decided that we would not pursue an electronic road sign, but that the Evangelism Committee would work on increasing our advertising and publicity to the community.

The Council was also reached out to by the Council President of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Ephrata, who are currently exploring various options, one of which includes the possibility of sharing a pastor with another congregation. They had contacted several local Lutheran churches, including ours. Muddy Creek Council's Executive Committee will set up a casual meeting with Holy Trinity's Executive Committee to discuss and learn more about what Holy Trinity is contemplating as we likewise plan for the future of Muddy Creek.

In other news, the Synod Assembly of our Lower Susquehanna Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America will be held online on May 31 and in person on June 1 at St. Matthew Lutheran Church in York. Will Wood and Pastor Peter will be our delegates representing Muddy Creek. Will Wood also represented Muddy Creek at the Northern Lancaster Conference Meeting on April 18th.

## Congratulations

\*Congratulations and welcome to Ashley Warner, who was baptized at Muddy Creek on April 14th. Sponsors were her aunt and uncle, Pat and Sev Yerger. Welcome, Ashley!



## Thank You's

Thanks to Pastor Peter for the hospital visits and prayers while my husband Jim was at Reading Tower Health Hospital in March. And also, thanks for Jim's beautiful Celebration of Life church service. Our family appreciated the congregation's support through the many sympathy cards, prayers and concerns we received during this difficult time of Jim's passing.

- Mary Ann Weber, The Weber and Dimitris Family

Dear friends at Muddy Creek, Thank you for remembering my 90th birthday with flowers, gifts, cards, and letters. I miss you all - Dorothy Beam

Dear Muddy Creek congregation, I am so beyond thankful for the snack box that was sent to me. If there is anything that keeps me going through college, it is some good snacks! So, thank you for taking the time to put all this together and sending it out to me. I hope that everyone has a wonderful Spring, and hope to see you soon. Many thanks again, Madeline Beichner

I wanted to thank you and everyone who helped to get snacks together and send them out for the study snack box again this semester. I am always up early into the morning studying for exams, and having snacks from the church to munch on always helps me stay awake. This is my final semester so I will hopefully be starting a job soon with my major and starting my career in Cybersecurity. I hope everyone at the church is doing well, and once again I just wanted to say how much I appreciate you all thinking of me and helping me get through the end of this semester. Thank you, Brandon Walz

I wanted to express my gratitude for the delicious cookie plate that was delivered to my house on the Sunday that I visited Muddy Creek. I've never received such a warm welcome! Please know how special it felt to be thought of. Sincerely, Adam Mietelski

Dear Muddy Creek congregation, A heartfelt thank you to Pastor Peter for his visit to me at Encompass Rehab in Reading after I fell and injured my head. A grateful thank you as well to the choir and to others for the very nice cards you sent me. - Susan Siegel

## Zachary Sheaffer's Eagle Scout Project at the Manheim Township Library

As he works toward attaining the rank of Eagle Scout this summer, Zachary Sheaffer (a youth from Muddy Creek) recently completed his Eagle Scout Project. Zach built a new tortoise enclosure at the Manheim Township Public Library for Athena, the library's Russian Tortoise. The project involved extensively researching the best habitat for the tortoise and then constructing it in his basement before installing it at the library with the help of his father Mike, his brother Mason, and other scouts. Congratulations, Zach!



## Worship Helpers

May 5: 8:00 am Communion Assistant - Scott Strickland  
 10:15 a.m. Communion Assistant and Acolyte - Sophia Dimitris  
 10:15 am Lay Reader – Brenda Berger  
 10:15 am Cantor - David Sensenig  
 10:15 am Money Counters - David and June Sloat  
 Bread Baker - Marliese Smith

May 12 (Mother's Day), 10:15 am:

Acolyte - Grace Youndt	Lay Reader - Nancy Beck
Cantor - Gail Bare	Money Counters - June and Neal Leid

May 19, 10:15 am:

Acolyte -	Lay Reader - Hollie Kemper
Cantor - Hollie Kemper	Money Counters - Michelle Dimitris, Jim Weber, Jane Wenger

May 26 (Memorial Day Weekend, Summer Worship Schedule Begins), 9 am:

Acolyte -	Lay Reader -
Cantor - Greg Gehman	Money Counters - Julie and Dave Emrhein, Kim Eshleman

## Attendance

### Worship Attendance

### Online Views (Muddy Creek Lutheran YouTube/Facebook

March 28 (Maundy Thursday) - 34	29
March 29 (Good Friday) - 21	24
March 31 (Easter), Dawn – 34, 7:30 a.m. – 43, 10:15 a.m. – 90	79
April 7, 8 a.m. – 28, 10:15 a.m. – 49	38
April 14, 8 a.m. – 29, 10:15 a.m. – 57	57
April 21, 8 a.m. – 23, 10:15 a.m. – 55	21

(There are currently 99 subscribers to the Muddy Creek Lutheran YouTube Channel, and 212 followers on the Muddy Creek Facebook Page.)

## Offering

Income to General Fund in March: \$17,399.69

Expenses to General Fund in March: \$15,015.55

Income to General Fund Year-to-Date as of end of March: \$53,440.18

Expenses to General Fund Year-to-Date as of end of March: \$48,425.35