



# ***BUFFALO VALLEY LUTHERAN PARISH NEWS***

## **AUGUST 2025**

### **PASTOR'S PARAGRAPHS**

Grace and peace to you!

*"<sup>13</sup> Someone in the crowd said to him, 'Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me.' <sup>14</sup> But he said to him, 'Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?' <sup>15</sup> And he said to them, 'Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.' <sup>16</sup> Then he told them a parable: 'The land of a rich man produced abundantly. <sup>17</sup> And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?' <sup>18</sup> Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. <sup>19</sup> And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' <sup>20</sup> But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' <sup>21</sup> So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God.'"* —Luke 12:13-21

This is the gospel reading for this coming Sunday (August 3<sup>rd</sup>), and this text is used for stewardship pleas. Jesus is in the middle of encouraging his disciples to confess even when they are under threats, violence, and constraints. He is interrupted by someone in the crowd who wants Jesus to settle a financial dispute between siblings. But, Jesus doesn't enter the squabble but instead offers to teach about the seduction of wealth. In this parable that Jesus tells, we probably wonder what the farmer is doing wrong because he is not portrayed as wicked or greedy. And, honestly, what is wrong with building a larger barn to store today's bounty for a leaner tomorrow? I would answer that there is nothing wrong, but there might be an exception. The farmer's focus seems to be on himself: "What should I do, for I have no place to store *my* crops?" Then he said, "I will do this: I will pull down *my* barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all *my* grain and *my* goods. And I will say to *my* soul...." There doesn't seem to be

anyone else in the life of the farmer. Maybe this parable isn't about money or wealth. Perhaps this parable is about community. Who was Jesus addressing? The person who brought the complaint? The brother? The disciples? The crowd? Us? How do you hear Jesus' words today? Right now, there is a break in the community! We struggle with our leaders. We struggle with telling the truth and listening to the truth. There seems to be a constant fear. We hear throughout scripture "do not be afraid," and hearing that makes it easier for us to turn to one another with our fears, hopes, dreams, and needs to form a community, because it's hard to care for your neighbor and create community when you are afraid. Community is not easy! It means that we have to tolerate people who may disagree with us. It means that we have to put up with people who might annoy us and even hurt us! Forgiveness and trust are key! The farmer who was rich in possessions but was dirt poor in relationships never got that message. When I was in seminary, Dr. Rick Carlson, who taught my evangelism class, discussed how the church has an inward focus. And, I agree with Dr. Carlson, we focus too much on the inside of these four walls. We, as the church, need an outward focus. We need to focus on what is going on outside these four walls. We need to focus on our communities. How many of us are willing to look outside of these four walls? How many of us are willing to form new relationships in our communities? How many of us are willing to show our community the love of Christ?

As always, I continue to lift you up in prayer! If you have any pastoral care needs, please let me know.

Peace in Christ,  
***The Rev. Curt Wingert***

## ***PARISH EVENTS***

### **Bible Study**

The Parish Bible Study is on Summer Break. A start-up date will be forthcoming.

~~~~~

## **VBS REPORT**

### **2025 Buffalo Valley Lutheran Parish Community Evening Vacation Bible School @ Mifflinburg Town Park**

Curriculum created by Ann Beckley, VBS Coordinator  
"Community Crusaders" Putting on our Armor of God  
Dates: Monday, July 7 through Thursday, July 10

Lesson One – Ephesians 6:10-18 (Armor of God)  
Lesson Two – Acts 2:42-47 (Being a Community)  
Lesson Three – Matthew 22:29 (Love your Neighbor)

- Advertising: Barry Spangler
- Food Service: Libby Loss & Sue Jows
- Nurse: Marianne Motto
- Music: Bethany Boyer
- Games/Activities: Christian Boyer
- Crafts: Ann Beckley
- Special Guest: Jerry Amibile
- Youth Squad Leaders:
  - Erica Boyer, Hannah Boyer, Brynn Umholtz, Abby, Kendra Kline, Avery Kline, AddyIn Zimmerman, Breonna Zimmerman, Marla Hicks, Connor Hicks, Ari Gessner

**Pre-Registered: #21 (2 no shows)**  
**Add-ons during the week - #3**

**Nightly Attendance:**

7.7 -- #20  
7.8 -- #21  
7.9 -- #18  
7.10-- #13 (New Berlin Parade)







A Heartfelt Thanks to anyone /everyone who helped with another successful Community Vacation Bible School. ACB



The Union County West End Fair is approaching! This is the 100th anniversary of the Fair, and it is starting a day early. The Buffalo Valley Lutheran Parish will be running the Bingo Stand again this year, and we are looking for volunteers. Bingo starts at 6 pm, and we are looking for volunteers on the following dates: August 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9. The proceeds from this fundraiser will help those in need in our communities. If you would like to volunteer, please get in touch with Pastor Curt or Dianne Shuck.



On **September 7**, the Parish will have a joint worship service at the Mifflinburg Community Park. The service will start at **10 am**, with a picnic following the service. Those attending are asked to bring a covered dish to share. More details about the picnic will be forthcoming.

**Sunday, September 7**, is also our annual day of service, “**God’s work. Our Hands.**”

## ***YOU ARE INVITED***

***TO A SERVICE OF ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF***

***AMY SHUCK***

***TO THE MINISTRY OF WORD AND SACRAMENT***

***AUGUST 17 AT 2:00 P.M.***

***FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH***

***400 MAIN STREET, WATSON TOWN***

***ALL CLERGY INCLUDING DEACONS, S.A.M. AND ALWL’S ARE  
INVITED TO VEST AND PROCESS.***

***(SNACKS WILL FOLLOW IN THE  
CHURCH SOCIAL ROOM)***

### ***CULC NEWS***

#### **Helpers Needed**

We continue to be in need of additional helpers to count offerings after worship services. If interested, contact Barry Spangler (570-966-0406).

## Council

The next regular scheduled council meeting for Christ's United will be held on **Tuesday, August 19, starting at 7:00 p.m.**

## Upcoming

Mark your calendars for the following 2025 Meals at CULC:



**September 27** – Turkey Dinner  
**November 1** – Pot Pie Quart Sale

## ***FELC NEWS***

### Free Community Meal at FIRST

First Lutheran will be serving a free community meal on Saturday, **August 2**, from 11:00 –12:30. All are welcome! Please enter the door in the alley behind the church. Meals for the remainder of the quarter will be held on September 6.



### Guest Musicians for August

- Aug. 3 - Piano/Organ duet with Paula Christy
- Aug. 10 - Comfort Road Consort (Fred Hooper, piano & Broderick Lesher, violin)
- Aug. 17 – String Trio: Audra McIlwaine (violin), Olin McIlwaine (violin), Katelyn Chen (cello)
- Aug. 24 – Enjoy the music styling of Diane Scott, organ!
- Aug. 31 - Pearl Holmes (8 years old) playing favorite hymn selections at the piano

### Food Donations

The Mifflinburg Kiwanis Club provides food boxes each December to needy families within our school district. This past year 75 boxes were distributed. As you can imagine, it takes a tremendous amount of food to fill these boxes. In an attempt to fill these boxes, we are asking church members to help. Each month there will be a designated food item you can donate. A box will be in the hallway for donations. Please be sure your item will not go out of date before February 2026. Thank you for helping to feed those in need. **For the month of August, we will be collecting jelly.**



### **Cookies Needed for Dandelion Run – August 30**

Donations of homemade cookies are needed for the annual run, which will be held on August 30. Cookies should be delivered to the church no later than **Friday, August 29 by 2 pm. The door will be unlocked on Friday, August 29 from 9 am - 2 pm.** There is a sign-up sheet on the hallway bulletin board. If you have any questions, contact Shirley Heasley at 570-966-1008.

### **Word in Season Devotionals**

The Word in Season devotionals for July - September 2025 are available in the back of the sanctuary.

### **Altar Flowers**

The cost of altar flowers is now \$50 for 2 vases.

### **Empty Coffee Cans Needed**

We are in need of empty #1 coffee cans for altar flowers. You may place them on the pew in the office hallway.

### **Weis/Wenger's Gift Cards**

Gift cards are available in denominations of \$25, \$50, or \$100 and make wonderful gifts for any occasion. Kim Sawyer is selling the cards. The cards will be available on Sundays, before or after church; at her home; in the church office when the secretary is in; and Kim will also deliver; contact her at 570-713-4577. Make checks payable to "First Lutheran Church" and use them as cash or the recipient can do the same. YOU receive the card's full value, and Weis gives 5% and Wenger's 10% of purchase to our mission fund! Many thanks to all who support this mission.



### **Synod Youth Ministry Events**

Mark your calendars for this school year's Synod Youth Ministry events:

**Sep. 14** - Game Night at Christ's, Lewisburg

**Oct. 12** - Murder Mystery (location TBA)

**Nov. 9** - Ping Pong Tournament (location TBA)

**Dec. 7** - Worship and Fellowship at Camp Mount Luther

**Jan. 2-5, 2026** - Winterfest in Lancaster

**TBA** - Renew Retreat

**Mar. 8** - Open Mic/Talent Show (location TBA)

**Apr. 12** - Potluck Picnic (location TBA)

## **REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR:**

### **CHRIST'S UNITED**

Randy & Gayle Baker  
Paul Brann  
Roger Dunkle  
Rick & Darlene Endy  
Dorothy Furgison  
Gary Gemberling  
Pearl Gemberling  
Gary & Janet Hackenberg  
Keith Hackenberg  
Paul & Sherri Klauger  
Nancy Klinepeter  
Roy Laudermilch  
Tonia Longer  
Kay Martin  
Steve & Judy Moyer  
Melinda Noll  
Dave Oberlin  
Kevin & Ashley Reber  
Larry Sampsell  
Lucas Sandford  
Lee & Kathy Spangler  
Chuck Spurr  
Dave & Linda Swartz  
Kerm Wagner  
Gary & Marlene Walters  
Tom Watters  
Donald Weller  
Alica Zimmerman

### **The Shut-Ins:**

Betty Goss, Helen Pirone, Dottie Rathfon, Louise Ritter, Sam Schnure.

*In an effort to keep the prayer list current, Christ's United will clear their current list on a quarterly basis. A new list will begin in January, April, July, and October. If you want to continue an existing prayer request or have a new prayer concern, please contact Margie.*

### **FIRST LUTHERAN**

John Schnure  
Max Zeller

### **The Shut-Ins:**

Millard Boyer  
Mary "Lib" Dunkle  
Lois Elliott  
Doris Moll  
Ethel Musser  
June Ocker  
Barb Reed  
Dotty Seebold  
James Shipton  
Pat Smith  
Nancy Ulrich

### **The Troops:**

Thaddeus Miller  
Zachary Miller





## BIRTHDAYS

- 1 – Carol Shipton (F)
- 2 – Kimm Watson (F)
- 3 – Larry Sampsell (C), Troy Smith (F)
- 5 – Libby Loss (F)
- 6 – Michael Beckley (F), Kaleisha Page (F)
- 7 – Kim Blyer (C)
- 8 – Bailey Klose (F), Jane Moore (F)
- 9 – Erica Boyer (F), Hannah Boyer (F)
- 10 – Grace Alexander (F), Logan Bartlett (F)
- 11 – Landon Auld (C), Sue Jows (F)
- 12 – Erica Hess (F), Eric Hull (F), Mike Shoemaker (F), Payton Spigelmyer (C),  
Carla Watson (F), Brandi Zimmerman (C)
- 13 – William Donmoyer (F)
- 14 – Tom Catherman (C), Calista Girton (F), Elizabeth Loss (F)
- 15 – June Wenrich (C)
- 17 – Karen Musser (F), Nancy Ulrich “80” (F), Larry Zerbe (C)
- 19 – Dorothy Bollinger (F), Traci Musser (F)
- 20 – Stacey Gemberling (C)
- 21 – Denise Seebold (F)
- 22 – Sue Blyler (C), Jamie Ulrich (F)
- 24 – Timothy Klose (F), Janet Shoemaker (F)
- 25 – Eric Dunkle (C), Janet Hackenberg (C)
- 26 – Lori Galer (F)
- 27 – Angela Hendricks (F)
- 28 – David Galer (F), Calen Loss “16” (F), Kaelex Shuck (C)
- 30 – Lindsey Snyder (C)

## ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 – Tom & Lisa Woodring (F) (41 yrs.)
- 20 – Don & Erma Hower (F) (**75 yrs.**), Larry & Gayle Zerbe (C) (1967)
- 24 – Grant & Lisa Lapp (C) (1991)
- 29 – Drew & Paula Christy (F) (55 yrs.), Brian & Debbie Dauberman (F) (27 yrs.)
- 31 – Andrew & Jennifer Keister (C) (2013)



# AUGUST

## VOLUNTEERS

### CULC

| Date: | Lay Reader:    | Communion Assistants: |
|-------|----------------|-----------------------|
| 8/03  | Lisa Lapp      | Janice Wagner         |
| 8/10  | Barry Spangler | Barry Spangler        |
| 8/17  | Lee Spangler   | Judy Moyer            |
| 8/24  | Greg Shuck     | Greg Shuck            |
| 8/31  | Glenn Spangler | Glenn Spangler        |

**Sound System:** Dianne Shuck

**Altar Guild:** Bev Catherman & Barry Spangler

**Ushers:** Dave Bickhart & Eugene Hassinger

**REMINDER!** You are responsible for finding a substitute if you are unable to be here when scheduled. Altar Guild Members, Sound System Operators & Ushers are responsible for any special servis scheduled during the month.



### FELC

| Date: | Lay Reader:     | Ushers:                      |
|-------|-----------------|------------------------------|
| 8/03  | Jane Moore      | Jane Moore/Marianne Motto    |
| 8/10  | Shirley Heasley | Hull Family                  |
| 8/17  | Linda Skinner   | Jeff Crossland/Linda Skinner |
| 8/24  | Sherri Neece    | Sherri Neece/Barb Randecker  |
| 8/31  | Tonia Swartz    | Carol Klose/Tonia Swartz     |

### **Acolytes:**

8/03 – Erica Boyer

8/10 – Brynn Umholtz

8/17 – Hannah Boyer

8/24 – Jane Moore

8/31 – Harry Boyer

**Chief Usher:** Council

**Money Counters:** Ann Beckley/Jane Moore

**Altar Guild:** Andy Long

**Volunteers, Please Note:** If you are scheduled to help with the service and are unable to fulfill your responsibility, please contact the head usher. If you are scheduled to count money and are unable to do so, please find a substitute.

# **BUFFALO VALLEY LUTHERAN PARISH**

**The Rev Curt Wingert, Pastor**

**Pastor Curt's e-mail:** [pastorbuffalovalleyparish@gmail.com](mailto:pastorbuffalovalleyparish@gmail.com)

**Parish Council Members:** Terry Kline, Marianne Motto, Barb Randecker,  
Kim Sauers, Teresa Shuck, Linda Smith

**CHRIST'S UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
13765 Old Turnpike Rd., Millmont, PA 17845  
570-922-1860

**CULC e-mail:** [culc@4bellschurch.com](mailto:culc@4bellschurch.com)  
**CULC Website:** [www.4bellschurch.com](http://www.4bellschurch.com)  
**CULC Facebook:**  
<https://www.facebook.com/4bellchurch1>

## **OFFICE HOURS:**

Monday-Thursday – 9:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

## **STAFF MEMBERS**

**The Members of the Congregation,**

*The Ministers*

**Matthew Wagner**, Organist

**Diane Valentine & Karen**

*Zimmerman*, Pianists

**David Swartz & Barry Spangler**,

*Digital Music Arrangers*

**Loretta Martin**, Custodian

**Margie Dunkle**, Secretary/Asst. Tr.

**Brandi Zimmerman**, Council Secretary

**Dianne Shuck**, Treasurer,

*Financial Recording Secretary*

## **COUNCIL MEMBERS**

**Joel Blyler - Dennis Boop**

**Gina Buttorff - Bev Catherman**

**Terry Kline - Lisa Lapp**

**Greg Shuck - Teresa Shuck**

**Linda Smith - Lee Spangler**

**Breonna Zimmerman - Idella Zimmerman**

**FIRST EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
404 Market St., Mifflinburg, PA 17844  
570-966-0266

## **FELC e-mail:**

[felcmifflinburg@gmail.com](mailto:felcmifflinburg@gmail.com)

**FELC Website:** [felcmifflinburg.org](http://felcmifflinburg.org)

**FELC Facebook:** First Evangelical  
Lutheran Church Mifflinburg Pa

## **OFFICE HOURS:**

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday –  
9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

## **STAFF MEMBERS**

**Sue Nentwig**, Church Secretary

**Katiann Lloyd**, Financial Secretary

**Gloria Mincemoyer**, Treasurer

**Diane Scott**, Director of Music

**Hank Dorman**, Sexton

**Kay Trick**, Housekeeping

## **COUNCIL MEMBERS**

**Jamie Bartlett - Christian Boyer**

**Drew Christy - Perri Hull**

**Linda Lewis - Jeff Mensch**

**Barb Randecker - Kim Sauers -**

**Don Seebold II**





355 Mt. Luther Lane, Mifflinburg, PA 17844  
Telephone (570) 922-1587 Fax (570) 922-1118  
E-mail: [cml@campmountluther.org](mailto:cml@campmountluther.org)

### **Dandelion Run – August 30**

Camp Mount Luther is hosting a benefit 5K and 10K entry-level trail run race, “**The Dandelion Run**,” on Saturday, August 30. The race starts at 9:00 am with “day of” registration beginning at 7:30 am. The cost is \$35. Register by midnight, August 10, to receive a T-shirt.

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!



## **SYNOD NEWS**

On Sunday, Sept. 7, congregations of the ELCA will join together for the annual day of service, “**God’s work. Our hands.**” This day continues to be an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the ELCA — one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor.

## ***WOMEN OF THE ELCA***

### **October 5 – Blanket Sunday**

Mark your calendars for October 5, when we will participate in Blanket Sunday. The CWS Blanket program provides warmth, hope, and care during cold and trying times. Your gift provides a sturdy, comforting blanket to children, men, and women who are struggling against the cold.

# August 2025

| Sunday                                                                                                                                                          | Monday                                                                   | Tuesday                            | Wednesday                                                                                       | Thursday                                                     | Friday                                                                                                                              | Saturday                                                                                                |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                          |                                    |                                                                                                 |                                                              | <b>1</b>                                                                                                                            | <b>2</b><br>11-12:30<br>Community<br>Meal-FELC<br><br>Bingo Stand at<br>West End Fair                   |
| <b>3</b><br>8:30 Worship-<br>CULC<br>9:00 Adult SS-<br>FELC<br>10:30 Worship-<br>FELC                                                                           | <b>4</b><br><b>No Bible Study</b><br><br>Bingo Stand at<br>West End Fair | <b>5</b>                           | <b>6</b><br>10:00 Hope's<br>Haven-CULC                                                          | <b>7</b>                                                     | <b>8</b><br>4:00 Wedding<br>Rehearsal-FELC                                                                                          | <b>9</b><br>3:45 Wedding-<br>FELC                                                                       |
| <b>10</b><br>8:30 Worship-<br>CULC<br>9:00 Adult SS-<br>FELC<br>10:30 Worship-<br>FELC                                                                          | <b>11</b><br><b>No Bible Study</b>                                       | <b>12</b>                          | <b>13</b>                                                                                       | <b>14</b>                                                    | <b>15</b>                                                                                                                           | <b>16</b>                                                                                               |
| <b>17</b><br>8:30 Worship-<br>CULC<br>9:00 Adult SS-<br>FELC<br>10:30 Worship<br>-FELC<br>2:00 Amy Shuck<br>Installation-<br>Watsontown<br><b>Pastor's Vac.</b> | <b>18</b><br><b>No Bible Study</b>                                       | <b>19</b><br>7:00 Council-<br>CULC | <b>20</b><br>10:00 Hope's<br>Haven-CULC<br><br><b>September<br/>Newsletter<br/>Articles Due</b> | <b>21</b><br><b>First Day of<br/>School-<br/>Mifflinburg</b> | <b>22</b>                                                                                                                           | <b>23</b>                                                                                               |
| <b>24</b><br>8:30 Worship-<br>CULC<br>9:00 Adult SS-<br>FELC<br>10:30 Worship-<br>FELC                                                                          | <b>25</b><br><b>No Bible Study</b>                                       | <b>26</b>                          | <b>27</b>                                                                                       | <b>28</b>                                                    | <b>29</b><br>Cookies for<br>Dandelion Run -<br>bring to FELC<br>from 9am – 2pm<br><br>Fellowship Hall<br>& Kitchen<br>Reserved-CULC | <b>30</b><br>9:00 Dandelion<br>Run – Mt.<br>Luther<br><br>Fellowship Hall<br>& Kitchen<br>Reserved-CULC |
| <b>31</b><br>8:30 Worship-<br>CULC<br>9:00 Adult SS-<br>FELC<br>10:30 Worship-<br>FELC                                                                          |                                                                          |                                    |                                                                                                 |                                                              |                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                         |