



2020

From Our Pastor...

Buffalo Valley Lutheran Parish

A THANKSGIVING OF DOING THE "WHAT IF'S"

We often associate November as a month for thanksgiving, mindful of the recent harvests as well as our national holiday of Thanksgiving. And as Christians, we are also mindful of the thanksgiving we are to direct to God for our lives, our faith, our relationships, our provisions, and our hope in God's eternal promise to and for us in Jesus Christ. As such, all that we say and do should be an expression of thanksgiving to God because of the many and various ways God blesses us with the gifts of His presence, His love, His guidance and protection, His forgiveness, and His everlasting peace. St. Paul expressed a connection between our thoughts and actions and a life lived in thanksgiving to God: "And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts...And be thankful...And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him." (Colossians 3)

If we take St. Paul's counsel to heart, we shall notice that our thanksgiving to God is to be directly related to our thoughts and actions as they model that of Jesus and are consistent with God's will. As such, proper thanksgiving to God is expressed only as we live our lives fully trusting God's ways and promises revealed in and by Jesus and as we welcome, love, care for, forgive, and serve others in the same manner as Jesus comes to us. Therefore, thanksgiving to God is nothing other than living the way God wants us to live- in this world, in the here and now, knowing that in the presence of the Risen Jesus, the Kingdom of God is at hand.

We ought to give thanks to God for the gifts we receive from God. But more so, how we use these gifts in faithfulness

to God's Kingdom may be a more fitting and proper way to give thanks to God. Thanking God for the gifts we receive is to acknowledge to God that we shall use these gifts according to God's will and as means to share God's good news of love and forgiveness with all. In short, thanking God is simply a matter of living the way God wants us to live, to honor God by loving others as Jesus loves us.

And so, we ought to be asking ourselves: do our words of thanksgiving to God match the manner in which we use the gifts from God to help all realize that "the Kingdom of God is at hand" in the presence of our Lord Jesus? Do our words of thanksgiving ring true as we look out upon the shape of our lives, our relationships and the world in which we live? But what if...?

What if we become more intentional about understanding a proper thanksgiving to God as that which happens when we use God's gifts to honor God by following the way of Jesus? What would our world look like if we fully trusted God's way as revealed in Jesus? What if we all would begin to love each other, even our enemies, as Jesus loves us? What if we all would be forgiving of each other as God forgives us in Jesus? What if, in the face of opposition and danger, we all would seek peace and justice, as did Jesus, instead of violence and revenge? What if we all would heed Jesus' counsel to bless others, even those who persecute us, and to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and care for the poor without any expectation of return? What if we all would follow Jesus' admonition not to judge others lest we ourselves be judged? What if we all would begin to live, not according to our ambitions born of want

Con't. pg. 4

Parish Pastor

Rev. John D. Yost

Staff Members Of CULC

- Margie Dunkle, Secretary/Asst. Treasurer
- Dianne Shuck, Treasurer
- Cliff Valentine, Financial Recording Secretary
- Loretta Martin, Housekeeping

Council Members of CULC

- Lee Spangler, President & Facilities & Administration
 - Dave Murray, Vice President & Inreach
 - Barry Spangler, Council & Recording Secretary, & Inreach
 - Pearl Gemberling, Outreach
 - Doug Gemberling, Outreach
 - Maurice Clouser, Facilities & Administration
 - Joe Dressler, Outreach
 - Kim Blyler, Facilities & Admin
- Phone: 570-922-1860
Email: culc@dejazzd.com

Parish Council Members

- Lee Spangler, (CULC) President
- Jim Schwartz, (FELC) Vice President
- Sue Jows, (FELC) Secretary
- Drew Christy, (CULC) Treasurer
- Dianne Shuck, CULC
- Kim Sawyer, FELC

Staff Members of FELC

- Diane Scott, Director of Music
- Heather Klose, Church Admin.
- Hank Dorman, Sexton
- Loretta Martin, Housekeeping

Council Members of FELC

- Linda Skinner, Council President
 - Sue Jows, Vice President
 - Gloria Mincemoyer, Treasurer
 - Logan Bartlett, Secretary -Y
 - Mike Culp, Council
 - Ann Beckley, Council
 - Shirley Heasley, Council
 - Libby Loss, Council
 - Sherri Neece, Council
 - Kim Sawyer, Council
 - Jim Schwartz, Council
- Phone: 570-966-0266

Email:
felcmiffilburg@gmail.com
Website: felcmiffilburg.org
Facebook: First Evangelical
Lutheran Church Miffilburg PA

CULC Annual Meeting

The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held **Sunday, December 13th**, immediately following worship. Agenda items include: 2021 Budget and Council Elections. *Please see Pr. John or any council member if you're willing to be placed on the ballot.*

FELC Congregational Meeting

The November Semi-Annual congregational meeting will be held **Sunday, November 15th**, immediately following worship. Agenda items include the 2021 Budget and Council Elections.



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Curtis & Donna Duke	11/02	46 years
Jim & Sandy Sanders	11/06	44 years
Jeffrey Crossland & Linda Skinner	11/10	30 years
Curt & Mandy Rothermel	11/16	18 years
Kim & Sue Blyler	11/17	48 years
Jere & Marianne Motto	11/18	53 years
Charles & Arlene Behrent	11/25	15 years
Dwayne & Shayne Reed	11/25	24 years
Dennis & Janet Reed	11/28	49 years
Craig & Sally Rothermel	11/29	47 years
Mark & Julie Alexander	11/30	29 years

In Our Prayers:

Winifred Aikey
 Jan Beckley
 Roger & Becky Dunkle
 Mike Flickinger
 Doug & Pearl Gemberling
 Janet Hileman
 Ron & Darlene Ulrich & family
 Tom Watters
 Ethel Musser
 Eric Powell & Family
 Ken Smith
 John Snook
 Helen Troup
 TomWatters
 Family of Hertha Wehr
 Wendy Norton
 Diane Reamer
 John Bowersox
 John Dunkle
 Josh Frank
 Gary & Barb Gemberling
 Evelyn Gotterba
 Carol Gross
 Allen Hornberger
 Toni Hostalley
 Cindy & Dave Janaes
 Paul Kratzer, Jr.
 Janet Meyer
 Harry Moyer
 John Mumper
 Richard Rowe
 Gerry Shively
 Glen VanDyke
In Our Military:
 Brandi Gemberling
 Thaddeus Miller
 Zachary Miller



Lance Wagner	11/02	Keith Sawyer	11/21
Patricia Emery	11/03	Logan Stenger	11/21
Don Hower	11/03	Jeremiah Zimmerman	11/22
Victoria Kahler	11/05	John Ruhl	11/23
Harry Boyer	11/07	Tanna Stenger	11/23
Angela Mincemoyer	11/08	Lori Bailey	11/24
Karen Watters	11/09	Alexa Spigelmyer	11/24
Donna Duke	11/10	Dwayne Page	11/25
Jeannie Sawyer	11/10	Ferlin Zimmerman	11/25
Alexandria Scott	11/10	Justin Gemberling	11/26
Nicole Gessner	11/12	Evelyn Rice	11/26
Linda Schnure	11/12	Diane Valentine	11/26
Alexa Hackenburg	11/13	Duane Miller	11/28
Ryan Klose	11/13	Taylor Spencer	11/28
Aria Gessner	11/14	Maurice Clouser	11/29
Kyle Galer	11/15	Linda Smith	11/29
Xander Harvey	11/14	Jim Schwartz	11/30
Keyan Blyler	11/15	Stacey Veley	11/30
Sybil Spotts	11/19		

Shut-Ins:

Please take a moment to reach out
to our shut-ins either by mail or
telephone

Jim & Jan Beckley
 425 Market St.
 Mifflinburg, PA 17844
 570-966-4289
Jim & Florence Boop
Carolyn Bowersox
Barbara Grimmooris
Joan Herman
 Rolling Hills Manor
 17350 Old Turnpike Rd.
 Millmont, PA 17845
Janet Hileman
 Green Ridge Village, Room 112
 210 Big Spring Rd.
 Newville, PA 17241
 717-776-8344

Georgie Linke

Riverwoods
 3201 River Road
 Lewisburg, PA 17837

Betty Loudenslager

Elmcroft Assisted Living
 2421 Old Turnpike Rd.
 Lewisburg, PA 17837

Ethel Musser

Buffalo Valley Lutheran Village
 305 E. Tressler Blvd. Apt. 407
 Lewisburg, PA 17837

Helen Pirone

Richard Schnure

Meda Struble

Connie Wagner

**If you need an address
or telephone number
for a CULC member,
please contact Margie
at the church office.*

CULC Prayer List:

In an effort to keep our prayer list current, we are going to clear the list on a quarterly basis. **A new list will begin January, April, July and October.** **If you want to continue an existing prayer request or have a new prayer concern, please contact Margie.**



All Saint's Sunday

On Sunday, November 1st, we will remember those who have joined the Saints Triumphant during the past year:

Ethel Bilger - March 3, 2020

Joan Haire-Campbell - March 31, 2020

Ruth Diamond - October 19, 2019

Shirley Diehl - June 10, 2020

Peter Henninger, Sr. - November 15, 2019

Alvaretta (Pat) Korman - May 29, 2020

Betty Lauf - February 17, 2020

Dr. William T. Musser - October 9, 2020

Eugene Phillips - January 3, 2020

Trene Shirk - April 24, 2020

Delight Showalter - May 24, 2020

Marie VonNeida - September 12, 2020

Ed Wagner - June 26, 2020

Leona Wagner - January 15, 2020

Rozella Walter - May 2, 2020

Hertha Wehr - October 21, 2020

All Saints' Day falls on the first Sunday of November. It is a day when we commemorate those we have lost as well as the Christians who have lived before us and have testified to their Christian faith.

Lighting a virtual memorial candle is a symbolic way to honor someone's life and mourn their death. For some, a virtual memorial candle can represent a prayer. For others, it is simply a way to show that someone's spirit lives on in the hearts they have left behind.

We invite you to observe this occasion and remember your loved ones by bringing with you to the worship service a candle to light in memory of those we have lost.

Our Condolences...

Our condolences to the family of Dr. Bill Musser, 90, who passed away Friday, October 9th. Dr. Musser was a beloved and loving husband, father of four boys, eleven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. He leaves his spouse, Ethel Lois Musser of 67 years.

Dr. Musser was a devoted and active member of FELC. He was one of the original members of the Gifts & Endowments Committee as well as a member of the Finance Committee. Dr. Musser served as a lay reader and usher and was very proud of his involvement with the church community.

In addition to his wife, Bill is survived by his sons, Scott and wife, Heidi, of Franklin, MA, Steve and his wife, Pam, from Clackamas, OR; Tom and his wife, Jeanette, of St. Charles, IL and Bob and his wife, Karen, from Mifflinburg. His grandchildren, whom he loved dearly include: Leigh, Bradley, Laruen, Brian, Mark, Kelly, Claire, Taylor, Ryan, Nora and Carly. His five great-grandchildren were an additional blessing for Bill. They include: Amelia, Finn, Remington, Ella and Emerson.

Dr. Musser will be missed as a member of our congregation and by those whose lives he touched in many ways.

Our condolences to the family of Hertha Wehr, 97, who passed away Wednesday, October 21st. Hertha was a beloved member of the FELC congregation.

Ministerium Backpack Program

The churches of the Mifflinburg Ministerium are providing backpacks of food for students in the Mifflinburg School District for weekends when they may not have a hot meal.

The Ministerium is asking for help with this program through donations of the following items:

Single Serving Pudding Cups

Single Serving cereals or Pop Tarts

Peanut Butter or Cheese Cracker Packs

Single Serving Applesauce or Fruit Cups

Individual Microwavable Macaroni & Cheese

Gummies - Dried Fruit - Granola or Protein Bars

Individual Microwavable Chef Boy R Dee Products

Microwavable Individual Pasta Meals (e.g.: Chef Boy-R-Dee, Mac & Cheese)

CULC will be in charge of filling and distributing backpacks in December and FELC will cover May's distribution.

CML Fundraiser: Run4Camp 5K

on All Saint's Day

Camp Mount Luther invites you to be part of a fundraiser for camp that is being sponsored by Lutheran Outdoor Ministries. Sixteen Lutheran camps from across the country, including CML, are looking for folks to run/walk/rollerblade/bike/ski/wheelchair (whatever!) on Sunday, November 1, 2020. You will enter with a \$25 registration fee and then you can also get at least five sponsors for your 5K with all proceeds going to Camp Mount Luther. This is also a fundraiser for the Lutheran Outdoor Ministries organization as Camp Mount Luther has paid an entry fee to be part of this event. Your friends, family, colleagues, neighbors -- whomever you identify -- will fill out a form and they will then be directed to make a gift to your camp. The one form for ALL CAMPS & RETREAT CENTERS will make this whole thing go smoothly.

Promise. Every single nickel pledged/given in support of YOU will go directly to Camp Mount Luther. Then, during your 5K on November 1, you will send a selfie of yourself while you are out on the road, or the trail, or wherever. And there are plans to have a virtual finish line as well. Be part of this exciting new opportunity for LOM and Camp Mount Luther! To sign up as a 5k'er, visit <https://lomnetwork.wufoo.com/forms/mi2zyf11iow6ol>



From the Pastor (*con't. from pg. 1*)

and pride, but by what God might expect of us, given that we are in the presence of Jesus and have received the power and the guidance of the Holy Spirit? What if we all would set aside our idolatries and live solely for God and within the family of God as sisters and brothers in Christ?

If we did these "what ifs," God would receive the best thanksgiving possible and the shape of our world would reflect God's eternal promise. In the end, thanksgiving is all about who and what is to be trusted. Will our thanksgivings bear witness to the trust we have in the way Jesus taught and showed us how to live?

*Blessings,
Pr. John*

YOUTH NEWS

MACY/Mini-MACY

Sunday, November 1st, 1PM: Fall Walk/Hike - Meet at Mitchell's house @ 149 Bald Eagle Ln, Millmont. Let Kim Sawyer know if you need a ride ASAP.

Sunday, November 8th, 1PM: First "Adventure Walk" - Meet at FELC parking lot and bring friends!

Sunday, November 22nd, 6PM: Friendsgiving - Meeting place TBD.

Volunteer Story Tellers Needed

We are looking for Volunteer Story Tellers to READ and RECORD a short story from the Children's Spark Story Bible. These video clips will then be uploaded on the FELC website and FB page so that our young families have the opportunity to view them.

During these unique times, most young families have not felt comfortable in returning to in person church and we felt this would be a great way to reach out to them. As of now we hope to get this started ASAP and will run through the end of this year...most likely through the winter months also.

If you have an interest please contact Ann Beckley, Christian Education Chair, @ 570-966-0646, email her at beckleyann07@gmail.com or text her at 570-490-0242.

We are looking for READERS of all ages!
Please consider helping with this outreach!

CULC Potpie Supper

A 'Drive Through' Pot Pie 'Quarts Only' sale will be held on November 7th at Christ's United. Serving will begin at 3:30 PM. Quarts of Chicken and Ham Pot Pie will be available for \$9 each. If you would like to pre-order, please go to our website at 4bellschurch.com.

A workday will be held on Friday, November 6th starting at 9AM. Help is needed to cut potatoes and mix broth, as well as get things arranged for Saturday.

Much help is also needed the day of the pot pie sale. At 8AM, help is needed to roll pot pie, cook pot pie, prepare the quart packing lines, etc. Help is also needed as the day goes on for other duties including filling the quarts and getting them to the vehicles, as well as clean up. If you are experienced, that is great; if not, we will provide training!

To volunteer to help call Kim Blyler at 570-716-5601 or email him at potpie@4bellschurch.com.

CULC Bon-Bons

Christ's United will once again be making Bon Bons. They will be made to order ONLY, so if you would like some, please order by Sunday, November 29th.

Order forms will be on the CULC bulletin stand for your use in obtaining orders from family and friends. If you would like to order for yourself, there will be a sign-up sheet on the CULC bulletin board, or you may order online using the link on our website.

The Bon Bons will be packaged in boxes of 6 for \$4. They will be available in Peanut Butter, Coconut Cream or a combo box (3 of each).

Your order may be picked up at Christ's United after Church on December 13th or 20th, or by 'Drive Through' on Friday, December 11th between 6-8 PM.

The Bon Bons will be made at Christ's United on Monday, December 7th. Help is needed at 9:00 AM when the Bon Bons will be mixed and shaped and starting at 6:00 PM when the Bon Bons will be dipped and packaged.

This is an easy and fun project. Please come out to help at either or both times. Any and all help you can give will be greatly appreciated.

For more information, contact Pearl at bon-bons@4bellschurch.com or call 570-716-4336.

ATTN: College Students and Military

This year, in lieu of sending "care packages", the youth group will be sending gift cards and cards to our college students and active military personnel.

Please send the name and address to Kim Sawyer via email at kimssawyer@gmail.com or text to 570-713-4577 by November 15th.

Thanksgiving Worship/Harvest Home Donations Needed

On **Sunday, November 22nd at 10:00 AM**, there will be a ***combined worship service at CULC*** to celebrate Thanksgiving and Harvest Home.

Donations of non-perishable goods are being collected at both churches. All items will be donated to CULC's Hope's Haven. Donations are due at either church by Thursday, November 19th.

CULC Proposed 2021 Budget Presentation

<u>Account Name</u>	<u>2020 Approved Budget</u>	<u>2021 Proposed Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Administration & Facilities			
Total:	\$74,050	\$69,250	-\$4,800
Benevolence/ELCA Total	\$7,500	\$7,000	-\$500
Mutual Ministry (Parish) Total	\$54,000	\$54,000	\$0
Inreach Ministry Total	\$9,250	\$9,950	\$700
Worship	\$7,500	\$7,600	\$100
Education	\$750	\$750	\$0
Youth	\$600	\$1,200	\$600
Church & Society	\$400	\$400	\$0
Outreach Ministry Total	\$4,700	\$4,100	-\$600
<hr/>			
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$142,000	\$137,300	-\$4,700

FELC Proposed 2021 Budget Presentation

<u>Account Name</u>	<u>2020 Approved Budget</u>	<u>2020 Projected Expenses</u>	<u>2021 Proposed Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Salary & Benefits Total	\$118,502	\$107,476	\$105,144	\$13,358
<i>Changes include elimination of Asst. Church Administrator. No salaries were increased.</i>				
Worship & Music Total	\$1,550	\$758	\$1,200	-\$350
Office Expenses Total	\$9,300	\$7,605	\$8,300	-\$1000
Service Expenses Total	\$200	\$0	\$100	\$100
Christian Education Exp.	\$1,000	\$888	\$1,000	\$0
Fellowship & Rec. Exp.	\$200	\$30	\$200	\$0
Outreach Expenses	\$350	\$200	\$350	\$0
Church Property Expenses	\$40,900	\$29,426	\$44,200	\$3,300
<i>Changes include the addition of air conditioner maintenance, interior painting and liability insurance increase</i>				
Misc. Expenses Total	\$500	\$189	\$500	\$ 0
Benevolence Exp. Total	\$18,883	\$18,883	\$17,100	-\$1,783
<hr/>				
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$191,385	\$165,455	\$178,094	\$13,291

NOVEMBER 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Worship: 8:30AM: CULC 10:30 AM: FELC 1:00PM: MACY Fall Walk/Hike	2 10:30AM: Bible Study - CULC	3 10:30AM: Bible Study - FELC 	4 10:00AM: Hope's Ha- ven - CULC 7:00PM: FELC Council	5 7:00PM: Bible Study - CULC	6	7
8 Worship: 8:30AM: CULC 10:30 AM: FELC 1PM: Youth "Our 1st Adventure"	9 10:30AM: Bible Study - CULC	10 10:30AM: Bible Study - FELC	11 10:00AM: Hope's Ha- ven - CULC	12 7:00PM: Bible Study - CULC	13	14
15 Worship: 8:30AM: CULC 10:30 AM: FELC	16 10:30AM: Bible Study - CULC	17 10:30AM: Bible Study - FELC 7:00PM: Council - CULC	18 10:00AM: Hope's Ha- ven - CULC	19 7:00PM: Bible Study - CULC	20	21
22 Worship: 10:00AM CULC - Harvest Home/Thanksgiving Service 6:00PM: MACY "Friendsgiving"	23	24	25 10:00AM: Hope's Ha- ven - CULC	26 	27	28
29 Worship: 8:30AM: CULC 10:30 AM: FELC	30					

November Bible Study Schedule

**Please note that the Wednesday study at
CULC will now be held Thursday.*

<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>*Thursday*</u>
10:30 a.m.	10:30 a.m.	7:00 p.m.
<u>CULC</u>	<u>FELC</u>	<u>CULC</u>
Nov. 2nd	Nov. 3	Nov. 5th
Nov. 9th	Nov. 10th	Nov. 12th
Nov. 16th	Nov. 17th	Nov. 19th

CULC November Volunteers:

Altar: Janice Wagner

No other volunteers at this time

FELC November Volunteers:

Chief Usher: Jim Schwartz

Ushers:

11/1: Marianne Motto

11/8: Don Seebold II

11/15: Liz Loss

11/22: Jane Moore

11/29: Jeannie Sawyer

