

BUFFALO VALLEY LUTHERAN PARISH NEWS

SEPTEMBER 2023

PASTOR'S PARAGRAPHS

Grace and peace to you,

I will be honest, this has been a tough season of ministry! It has been tough because you and I have lost friends and loved ones, and we are not sure why they left us so soon. It has been tough because a child in our community lost their life in a crazy freak accident. With everything that has happened, we have asked why. Why did God let these things happen? We have been angry with God for letting these things happen. But you have faithfully rallied together to pray for each other and to be there to support each other. You have had a pastor that has listened to you and prayed with and for you, but who pastors the pastor? It may seem like an odd question, but it's a real and serious question. Who do I get to fall back on when I face these same questions that you face? Who do I look upon when I am angry with God? Like some of you, I have been angry with God during this season of ministry. Wondering why me? Why my community again? Why my congregations?

So, let me tell you who I have leaned on. I have had a couple of close friends and church members (not going to mention any names, but you know who you are) who have listened and been there for me. Unexpectedly, some of the best help for me was a group of grieving fourth graders! I spent two afternoons at the Mifflinburg Intermediate School helping a group of kids process the loss of a close friend and to try and put a smile on their faces. But, in the midst of their pain, they were able to pull me out of a dark hole that I had been in for a while, and they were able to put a smile on my face! In our grieving and our hearts and minds filled with all kinds of emotions, we were able to help each other out! God

sent me to a group of kids to help, but God worked through those kids to help a grieving pastor. I am forever grateful for that group of kids, and I will continue to pray for them and be there for them when they need it!

Peace in Christ
Rev. Curt Wingert

BIBLE STUDY

This month's Bible studies will take place as follows:



Monday
1:30 p.m.
September 4 – No Bible Study
September 11 – No Bible Study
September 18
September 25

The Monday Bible Study will resume with the Book of Romans.

We would like to begin evening Bible studies in the fall. More information will be forthcoming.

PARISH EVENTS



On **September 10** we will have a joint worship service & picnic under one of the pavilions at the Mifflinburg Community Park. The service will start at **10:00 a.m.** The picnic will follow the service.

There are several things happening during this special service, which will also coordinate with "God's Work Our Hands (& Feet) Sunday"!

The Service

During the service there will be a special blessing for school age kiddos, teachers, staff, etc. and a blessing of student backpacks, teacher bags, laptop bags, etc. Bring lawn chairs for the service. **During the Backpack Blessings everyone will receive a special trinket.**

The Picnic

The picnic will follow the worship service. The Parish will be supplying paper goods, hot dogs and water while folks are asked to bring a covered dish to share



Day of Service



In conjunction with our joint service in the park on September 10, we will join the congregations of the ELCA for **“God’s Work. Our Hands” Sunday**, our annual day of service. This year marks the 10th anniversary of “God’s Work. Our Hands.” Sunday!

As a part of our day of service, we will be collecting the following items for Hope’s Haven: **Peanut Butter, Jelly, Pancake Mix, Pancake Syrup.**



We hope you will join us!! Please save the date!!

HELP NEEDED



I pray you all are doing well. I am seeking volunteers to help with a video project I am working on. For this project, I will ask you two easy questions in advance. Then I want to record you answering those two questions and post the video on social media. If you are interested in participating, please let me know!

Peace,
Pastor Curt

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FELC NEWS

New Worship Setting Beginning in October

Beginning in October, we will be using Setting 10 in the ELW. Also, beginning in October, on the first Sunday of each month we'll be coming to the rail for communion and we will also come to the rail on Christmas Eve and Easter.



Christian Ed Info

ONLY on the SECOND Sunday of each month we will have a SPECIAL Young Followers Church following the Children's message: Using the Sparks Story Bible that corresponds with the weekly scripture:

These monthly lessons will include Sparks Story Reading, Coloring Page and A Craft

- **September 10** Backpack Blessing @ combined service in the park
- **October 8** Sparks Story [Matthew 21:33-46](#) *The parable of the vineyard owner's son*
- **November 12** Sparks Story [Matthew 25:1-13](#) *The story of the wise and foolish bridesmaids*
- **December 10** Sparks Story [Mark 1:1-8](#) *John appears from the wilderness (Advent/Christmas Special Ideas too)*
- **January 14** Sparks Story [John 1:43-51](#) *The calling of the first disciples*
- **February 11** Sparks Story [Mark 9:2-9](#) *Revelation of Christ as God's beloved Son*
- **March 10** Sparks Story [John 3:14-21](#) *The lifting up of the Son of Man (Lenten/Easter Special Ideas too)*
- **April 14** Sparks Story [Luke 24:36b-48](#) *Eating with the risen Christ*
- **May 12** Sparks Story [Acts 1:15-17, 21-26](#) *Matthias added to the apostles*
- **June July August – off**

Young Followers Church Volunteer Schedule

September-Blessing of Backpacks @ combined service

October 8 – Jamie Bartlett

November 12 – Kim Sawyer

December 10 – Ann Beckley

January 14 – Barb Randecker

February 11 – Nicole Klose

March 10 – Shirley Heasley

April 14 – Christian and Buffy Boyer

May 12 – Kortney McBryan

If you are unable to fulfill your month, please try to make an exchange with another month's volunteer. If that is not possible, contact one of the following substitutes: Sally Rothermel, Liz Loss, Sherri Neece, Mandy Rothermel, Libby Loss. If you are still unable to get a replacement contact Ann Beckley.

Lesson plans will be emailed to you two weeks prior to your assigned Month.



Tone Chime Choir

We were fortunate to secure tone chimes from UCC (across the street) on loan for one year! We will be starting a tone chime choir beginning in the Fall. There was enough interest to make this happen!

Details will be forthcoming about rehearsals to start in September. Diane Scott will lead the tone chime choir, (in addition to the Chancel Choir as interest permits).

What are tone chimes? Tone chimes are designed to be starter instruments for hand bells. They are lighter and easier to ring, but still create a beautiful tone.

Buy the Books Program

The women's church group is distributing money again for the higher learning 'Buy the Books' program. If interested in receiving funds, please send a letter to the church in care of 'WELCA Jane Moore' by Oct 31st. The funds will be distributed for the semester starting in January. For any questions, please contact Jane Moore.

Altar Flowers

The cost of altar flowers is now \$50.00 for 2 vases instead of \$40.00.

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.

Online Giving

First Evangelical Lutheran Church is excited to announce the introduction of an electronic option for making regular offerings. Contributions can now be debited automatically from your checking or savings account or processed using your credit or debit card. Our new electronic giving program offers convenience for you and provides donation consistency for our congregation.

Manage your giving online:

We are pleased to announce that you can now manage your giving online! Giving online is easy and allows you to set up automatic recurring contributions and view your complete online giving history from anywhere you have access to the internet. To get started simply follow these steps:

1. Visit the website at www.felcmifflinburg.org
2. Click on the give button, then
3. Follow the onscreen instructions to create an online profile and to schedule your recurring contributions.

Vanco Mobile App:

You can also manage your online giving by using the Vanco Mobile App. Download the Vanco Mobile App on your smartphone and search for First Evangelical Lutheran Church in Mifflinburg, PA and follow the directions.

As you contemplate future contributions, please consider electronic giving. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Curt or the church office (570-966-0266). We hope you enjoy this new way to contribute to our ministry!

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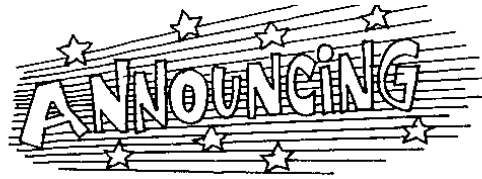
*The first supermarket supposedly appeared on the American landscape in 1946.*

*That is not very long ago. Until then, where was all the food?*

*Dear folks, the food was in homes, gardens, local fields, and forests.*

*It was near kitchens, near tables, near bedsides.*

*It was in the pantry, the cellar, the backyard.*



I am planning to share the plans for progressive dinners (in the fall/winter) at the September 10<sup>th</sup> joint parish service/picnic!

Keith and I had "music on the lawn" last September and randomly invited anyone we saw and it was so much fun! We are doing it again and hoping that we get many interested in a relaxing two hours of music! NO SALES PITCH - NO SECRET REASON TO GATHER - just a relaxing time!

So...it's not parish authorized but it is a great way to get anyone in the community and church together for a nice evening - pray for decent weather please!

Any questions, let me know! Very laid back - nothing fancy - just hopefully a kickoff of many more laid back times together in the future!

~Kim Sawyer



**Friday, September 15<sup>th</sup>** from 7-9 PM

906 Mountview Road, Mifflinburg

Join us and relax listening to

Brian Young of Route 15 on the front lawn

(Weather permitting of course)

***Bring your own lawn chairs and beverages!***

Music and snacks provided!

Questions? 570-713-4577

*Open to all - bring your friends!*

♥ Kim & Keith Sawyer ♥

# LOOK What's Going On!

## ***CULC NEWS***

### **Event Help Needed**

Help will be needed to serve food for the following events. Reach out to Kim Blyler ((570-716-5601) for details.

**Saturday, September 23, Late Afternoon & Evening**

Mifflinburg Area High School Class of 1961

**Saturday, October 14, Late Afternoon & Evening**

Family Reunion;

**Sunday, October 8, Afternoon**

Laurelton Center History Group

### **Worship & Music Committee**

The Worship & Music Committee will be meeting at Christ's United on **Monday, September 18, at 7:00 p.m.** Interested members are urged to come. --Barry Spangler

### **Indoor Yard Sale**

An indoor yard sale benefiting our Parish youth will take place on **Saturday, October 21.** More information will be forthcoming. Questions? Contact Idella Zimmerman (570-765-1830) or Teresa Shuck (570-966-2053).

### **Harvest Home Sunday**

Christ's United's Harvest Home Sunday is set for **October 22.** Please bring non-perishable food items that can be used for our Hope's Haven food ministry. Details on specific food items will be forthcoming. Want to know more, talk to a council member.

### **Sunday School Teacher**

We are looking for at least one member willing to volunteer to teach/lead adult Sunday School after our worship services. If interested, please reach out to Pastor Curt. He has access to materials and videos.



**CULC Money Counters**

We are still in need of additional offering counters after worship services. If interested, contact Barry Spangler (570-966-0406).

**Offering Envelopes**

We now have "Homemade" offering envelopes available on the table outside of the office. If you cannot find a set made out for your family, talk to Kim Blyler (570-76-5601). You can also continue to make any 2023 donations with a check or in an envelope with your name on it, so we can give you credit for your offering gift.



***CHRYSANTHEMUM ORDERS***

The glorious hues of autumn chrysanthemums will be adorning the sanctuary for our celebration of Harvest Home on **October 22**. If you would like to provide one or more of these colorful plants, please fill out the following and return it to Margie or Janice Wagner.



**CHRYSANTHEMUM ORDER FORM**

**Cost: \$6.50**

**Order Deadline: October 1**

**Return with payment to Margie Dunkle or Janice Wagner**

GIVEN BY \_\_\_\_\_

in memory of \_\_\_\_\_

in memory of \_\_\_\_\_

in honor of \_\_\_\_\_

in honor of \_\_\_\_\_

to the Glory of God \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER OF PLANTS ORDERED \_\_\_\_\_

AMOUNT ENCLOSED \_\_\_\_\_



***BLANKET SUNDAY @ CULC***  
***OCTOBER 1***

Think about how comforting and warm a blanket feels when it is wrapped around you. Now, think how comforting and necessary it would become if you were experiencing the aftermath of a hurricane or disaster. What if you did not even own a blanket and your very survival was in doubt. How lucky most of us are never to experience that kind of pain. A simple truth: Ordinary things -- things that we often take for granted like blankets, clean water, education, tents, garden tools and seeds -- can make a world of difference for people devastated by tragedy, as well as those working to build a better life for themselves and their communities.

On **Sunday, October 1**, we will receive a special offering for **Lutheran World Relief**. For every \$5.00 collected, Lutheran World Relief will purchase and distribute a blanket to people who suffer from war or natural disasters all around the world.

Special envelopes will be available for your gift or you can use your regular envelope and mark "Blankets" on the designated gift line. Your donation will make a positive impact upon a person in America and around the world.

Donations of new and like-new blankets measuring approximately 60" X 80" for LWR are also welcome (no electric blankets or afghans please).

Blankets are a gift of love that keeps on giving. Your blanket or donation can deliver that same message — of God's ever-present love and care — to someone in need.



## ***HARVEST HOME AT CHRIST'S UNITED***

The Harvest Home Celebration is a tradition that goes back many years. Years ago our congregation was made up largely of farmers who liked to gather in the fall for a big celebration to give thanks for their harvest. Today we don't have as many farmers, but still like to gather to give thanks for the harvest, for family & friends, and for God's many blessings.

We are continuing this tradition on **October 22**. On this special Sunday the sanctuary will be decorated with glories of the harvest. If you can provide any of the following items to help us do that, please have them here by **9:00 a.m. on October 21**.

**Pumpkins – Gourds - Indian Corn – Corn Ears - Corn Stalks - Fresh Fruit – Fresh Vegetables - Fall Leaves – Fresh or Dried Flowers - Home Canned Items - Crates - Baskets**

Be sure to have your name on all items so they can be returned to you. Also, if you would be available to lend a hand with decorating, your help would be exceedingly welcomed.



A collection of non-perishable food and monetary donations for Hope's Haven to help those in need will be received at this service. We have all been truly blessed and we ask that you share your blessings with those who are less fortunate by bringing a monetary donation and/or non-perishable food items along to worship on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. We will collect the donations during worship.

We invite you to join us for this Celebration of Thanks-giving as we give thanks for the blessings, gifts, and the harvest we have received this year from God.



## ***WITH HEARTFELT SYMPATHY***

We want to offer our deepest condolences to the families of Jeff & Tharifah Wenrich who passed away on July 30.

The son of Benivel Wenrich and the late Barbara Herrold Wenrich, Jeff who graduated from Mifflinburg High School in 1978, retired last year after serving the military for 42 years.

Surviving in addition to his father, are one daughter, Ashley Wenrich of Seattle, Washington; three step-siblings and their spouses, Janice and Lance Wagner of Millmont, Dianne Shuck of Mifflinburg, and Greg and Teresa Shuck of Mifflinburg; two grandchildren, Landon Auld and Naleia Auld, and numerous aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins.

Tharifah, who grew up in Singapore and lived in Canada for 30 years, was a featured author in “20 Lives Ignited: How 20 Women Over 60 are Creating Success on Their Own Terms,” published by Aurora Corialis Publishing, where she recounted her own journey to overcome personal and professional obstacles. Tharifah was a lifestyle coach and owned a shopping network business where she guided clients in the use of natural products in their daily lives. Her survivors include a son and a sister.

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We also want to extend our sincerest sympathy to Luke & Mandie Flickinger and their family following the death of 9-year-old Joslyn Flickinger on September 5.

According to social media posts from Buffalo Community Church and the Mifflinburg Wildcat Football program, Joslyn Flickinger died Tuesday morning from brain damage following the accident over the weekend while playing with her friends.

According to social media posts, Joslyn leaves behind her parents and three sisters.

Posts say the family is grateful for all who have prayed for Joslyn and her family and are asking for continued prayers of strength and peace.

A donation link has been set up by the Buffalo Community Church and that information is posted below.

No other details about the accident are known at this time.

**1) You can give online here:**

<https://www.paypal.com/donate/...>

**\*Please be sure to select “Joslyn” on the Drop Down List. Any online donations will be transferred to the fund mentioned below.**

**2) A fund has been created at Mifflinburg Bank & Trust to support the Flickinger family. If you would like to donate, you can go into any Mifflinburg Bank location and ask to donate to the “Flickinger Family Medical Fund.”**

**3) Send a check via mail to:**

**Mifflinburg Bank & Trust Co.**

**250 East Chestnut Street**

**Mifflinburg, PA 17844**

**Payable to “Flickinger Family Medical Fund”**

**4) Get your donation to Liz Loss or Erin Threet and they will make sure it gets to the bank.**

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Please continue to pray for these families as they struggle with their tragic losses.



## ***YOUTH NEWS***

### **Venturing Crew Plans**

CULC sponsors a Venturing Crew group who consists of youth interested in outdoor activities. They are planning a “homeless campout” on our church grounds and collect food donations for Hope’s Haven on **Wednesday & Thursday, November 22 & 23** (Thanksgiving Eve & Day). More information can be secured from Joel Blyler (570-768-6582).

### **Cub Scouts**

Do you have a child in 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade who is looking for adventure, excitement, fun, activities, and learning life skills? Encourage them to be a Cub Scout! There’s something for everyone in scouting. Pack 3520 meets weekly at First Evangelical Lutheran Church, 404 Market Street in Mifflinburg. For more information, contact: [Admin@pack3520.org](mailto:Admin@pack3520.org) or call Cubmaster Denny Vasbinder at 248-765-4571 or Chad Hershberger at 570-713-5826.

There will be an informational recruitment night on Tuesday, September 26, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. at First Lutheran Church.

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I miss the days when everything worked with just an “on’ and “off” switch.



VBS REPORT

As VBS coordinator I would like to send my most sincere THANK YOU to anyone & everyone who had any part of another very successful Community Vacation Bible School!!! We are truly blessed to have such wonderful volunteers. --Ann Beckley

2023 Buffalo Valley Lutheran Parish **Community Evening Vacation Bible School @ Mifflinburg Town Park**

Churches participating: Christ United, First Evangelical, Messiah NB.
Pastor Curt Wingert
Curriculum from Camp Mount Luther: Holy Trinity/Wholly Love
Dates: Sunday, July 23 through Thursday, July 27

- VBS Coordinator: Ann Beckley
- Advertising: Barry Spangler
- Food Service: Libby Loss & Sue Jows
- Nurse: Marianne Motto
- Music: Bethany Boyer
- Games/Activities: Christian Boyer
- Crafts: Ann Beckley
- Adult Volunteers from 3 churches +23
- Youth Volunteers from 3 churches +6
- Wood Crafters from 3 churches +4

Registered/Attended

- **Blue 4,5,6-year-olds** – 12 registered/9 participants
- **Green 6,7,8-year-olds** – 12 registered/10 participants
- **Red 8,9,10-year-olds** – 15 registered/11 participants

Nightly Attendance:

Sunday #27/Monday #28/Tuesday #29/Wednesday #29/Thursday #28
Camp Mount Luther Counselors: Cassidy, Michael, and Natalie



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**WHAT TO TAKE TO BED WITH YOU**

*(not a joke)*

*Put your car keys beside your bed at night.*

*Tell your spouse, your children, your neighbors, your parents, your doctors' office, the check-out girl at the market, everyone you run across. Put your car keys beside your bed at night.*

*If you hear a noise outside your home or someone trying to get in your house, just press the panic button for your car. The alarm will be set off, and the horn will continue to sound until either you turn it off or the car battery dies.*

*This tip came from a neighborhood watch coordinator. Next time you come home for the night and you start to put your keys away, think of this: It's a security alarm system that you probably already have and requires no installation. Test it. It will go off from most everywhere inside your house and will keep honking until your battery runs down or until you reset it with the button on the key fob chain. It works if you park in your driveway or garage.*

*If your car alarm goes off when someone is trying to break into your house, odds are the intruder won't stick around. After a few seconds, all the neighbors will be looking out their windows to see who is out there and sure enough the criminal won't want that. And remember to carry your keys while walking to your car in a parking lot. The alarm can work the same way there. This is something that should really be shared with everyone. Maybe it could save a life or a sexual abuse crime.*

*P.S. I am sending this to everyone I know because I think it is fantastic. Would also be useful for any emergency, such as a heart attack, where you can't reach a phone. My Mom has suggested to my Dad that he carry his car keys with him in case he falls outside and she doesn't hear him..... He can activate the car alarm and then she'll know there's a problem.*

*Please pass this on even IF you've read it before. It's a reminder.*





## ***UPCOMING MEALS***

### **Free Community Meal at FIRST**

First Lutheran will be serving a free community meal on **Saturday, September 2, from 11:00 – 12:30**. All are welcome! Please enter the door in the alley behind the church. Upcoming meals for the remainder of the year will be held on, **October 7, November 4, and December 2**.

### **Turkey Dinner**

A 'DRIVE THROUGH' Turkey Dinner is planned for Saturday, September 30, at Christ's United. All proceeds benefit our 'Hope's Haven' Food Pantry. The time is 3:30 p.m. until sold out. Advance Orders also will be taken. Please check our Web Site at [www.4bellschurch.com](http://www.4bellschurch.com). Dinners include Turkey, Mashed Potatoes, Stuffing, Gravy, Vegetable and Applesauce. Cost is \$12 per dinner and they will be packaged in microwavable containers.

A workday will take place on Friday, September 29 at 9am to clean the turkeys, prepare the stuffing and to mix and package the applesauce. Please let us know if you can help.

Help will be needed at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, Sept 30, the day of the dinner, to cook and cut the turkey, prepare the stuffing, vegetable, mashed potatoes, and gravy. Help is also needed as the day goes on for other duties including making up the dinners and taking them to the cars, as well as clean up.

If you have any questions, or to volunteer to help, please call Kim Blyler at 570-716-5601 or email [kim@4bellschurch.com](mailto:kim@4bellschurch.com).

## **Pot Pie**

A 'Drive Through' Pot Pie 'Quart Only' Sale is planned for Saturday, November 4 at Christ's United. The time is 3:30 p.m. until sold out. Advance orders also will be taken. Please check our website at [www.4bellschurch.com](http://www.4bellschurch.com). Cost is \$10.00 per quart.

A workday will take place on Friday, November 3rd starting at 9:00 a.m. Please come out on Friday to help peel and cut potatoes, mix broth, prepare meat, etc.

Help is also needed the day of the pot pie sale. At 8:00 a.m., help will be needed to roll and cook potpie. Help is also needed as the day goes on for other duties including filling the quarts and taking them to the cars, as well as clean up. If you are experienced, that is great; if not, we will provide training!

If you have any questions, or to volunteer to help, please call Kim Blyler at 570-716-5601 or email him at [kim@4bellschurch.com](mailto:kim@4bellschurch.com).

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UNIVERSAL TRUTHS

1. *Even under ideal conditions people have trouble locating their car keys in a pocket, finding their cell phone, and Pinning the Tail on the Donkey - but I'd bet everyone can find and push the snooze button from 3 feet away, in about 1.7 seconds, eyes closed, first time, every time!*
2. *How many times is it appropriate to say "What?" before you just nod and smile because you still didn't hear or understand a word they said?*
3. *How the heck are you supposed to fold a fitted sheet?*
4. *I hate leaving my house confident and looking good and then not seeing anyone of importance the entire day. What a waste.*
5. *I hate when I just miss a call by the last ring but when I immediately call back, it rings nine times and goes to voicemail. What did you do after I didn't answer? Drop the phone and run away?*
6. *I have a hard time deciphering the fine line between boredom and hunger.*
7. *I keep some people's phone numbers in my phone just so I know not to answer when they call.*
8. *I can't remember the last time I wasn't at least kind of tired.*
9. *I think the freezer deserves a light as well.*
10. *Triangular sandwiches taste better than square ones.*
11. *I'm always slightly terrified when I exit out of Word and it asks me if I want to save any changes to my ten-page research paper that I swear I did not make any changes to.*
12. *Map Quest really needs to start their directions on #5. I'm pretty sure I know how to get out of my neighborhood.*



SENIOR MEMBER DINNER

Inside every older person is a younger person wondering what the heck happened!

If you were born in or prior to 1961, you, along with a guest, are invited to attend the annual Parish Senior Member Dinner on **Sunday, October 29, at 1:00 p.m.**

Reservations would be very helpful to us in planning the meal. Please reserve in order for the cooks to prepare enough food. Just fill out the attached and return it to the church office by **October 22.**

Mark your calendars and plan to be present for a yummy meal and first-rate fellowship.

SENIOR MEMBER DINNER

**October 29, 2023
1:00 p.m.**

Number of reservations _____

Signed _____

Telephone _____

(Return by October 22)

*If wrinkles must be written upon our brows,
let them not be written upon our hearts.
The spirit should never grow old.
~James A. Garfield*



FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Weis/Wenger's Gift Cards Offer

Gift cards make wonderful gifts for college students, birthdays, weddings, ♥ day, holidays, birth of a new baby, a new neighbor....the list is endless....such a useful gift!

First Lutheran - offers cards in denominations of \$25, \$50 or \$100. Simply make checks payable to "First Lutheran Church" and use them as cash or the grateful recipient can do the same. Don Seebold will even deliver! Give him a call at 966-0727 or 412-1505.

YOU receive the full value of the card and then Weis gives 5% & Wenger's gives 10% of the purchase to the FELC mission fund!

Christ's United - Grocery cards can now be purchased from Idella Zimmerman. Available grocery cards in denominations of \$25 or \$50 will be for Weis Markets, L & L Marketplace, and Wenger's. If you would like to pay by check, it should be made payable to "Christ's United Lutheran Church" and put "Grocery cards" on the memo line.

October is Pastor Appreciation Month

Although some folks believe that pastors only work a few hours, one day a week, the truth is they're on call 24/7. Pastors work vigorously, often neglecting personal needs to give us comfort and direction. Every Christian needs encouragement, and pastors are no exception. Because he is used by God to bless and encourage you, it's important that you do the same for him.

In October, church members get the chance to show their pastors just how much they're loved and appreciated as it is Pastor Appreciation Month. The entire month of October becomes a time when congregational members can pause, deliberately take the time, and expend the effort, to let pastors know they are deeply appreciated.

Next month (or any time) intentionally take the time and expend the effort to let Pastor Curt know he is deeply appreciated, not just in October, but all year through.

Note of Appreciation

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The family of Jeff Wenrich would like to thank you for the many acts of kindness and support shown to us during the difficult time of passing of our beloved son, father & stepbrother. It was all greatly appreciated.

Thank you to everyone who helped serve the luncheon following the service. A special "thank you" to Pastor Curt for the many phone calls, visits and a very touching service that we know was not an easy one.

Blessings to all.

--Ben, Ashley, Janice & Lance, Dianne, Greg & Teresa

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#### **"SUMMER'S END"**

*No flowers to plant,  
No garden to tend,  
As summertime lazily  
Comes to an end.*

*It's time to sit back  
and deliciously savor  
The beauty of the season  
and the fruits of our labor.*

*Farewell to summer;  
for autumn make way,  
With this last celebration  
We call Labor Day.*

IN OUR  
*Thoughts and Prayers*

**CHRIST'S UNITED**

Winifred Aikey  
Paul Brann  
Phil Crosbie  
Roger Dunkle  
Darlene Endy  
Rozelle DeDe Ensminger  
Annette Feltman  
Gary Gemberling  
Pearl Gemberling  
George (Mick) Guffey  
Gary & Janet Hackenberg  
Scott Hummel  
John Keister  
Roy Laudermilch  
John Morrison  
Harry Moyer  
Dave Oberlin  
Louise Ritter  
Sam & Ethel Schnure  
Tom Watters  
Jesica Wheeler  
Glenn Wiand

**The Shut-Ins:**

Winnie Aikey, Florence Boop  
Betty Goss, Helen Pirone, Dottie Rathfon.

**Also:**

The families of  
Jeff & Tharifah Wenrich

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**

Cathy Hower Brungard  
Amanda Galer  
Harvey Ilgen  
Ed Libhart  
Logan Roush  
Ken & Pat Smith

**The Shut-Ins:**

Mary Lib Dunkle  
Lois Elliott  
Carol Mensch  
Doris Moll  
Ethel Musser  
Dotty Seebold  
James Shipton  
Trena Zeller

**The Troops:**

Dylan Harvey  
Thaddeus Miller  
Zachary Miller





**CULC**

- 9/1 Ramon Beiler
- 9/14 Sandy Sanders  
Karen Zimmerman
- 9/15 Aiden Gemberling  
Doug Gemberling Jr  
Gayle Zerbe
- 9/19 Forrest Showalter  
Beth Zechman
- 9/20 Douglas Gemberling  
Molly Keister
- 9/21 Terry Kline
- 9/22 Jacob Moyer
- 9/23 Jodi Marshall
- 9/26 Eugene Hassinger  
Jason Zimmerman

**FELC**

- 9/2 Vicki Hackenburg  
Brynn Umholtz
- 9/3 Elliana Girton
- 9/4 Daphine Fritz
- 9/6 Stephen Smith
- 9/9 Amanda Galer  
Craig Rothermel
- 9/12 Blaine Dunkle  
Jayla Yoder
- 9/13 Mary Jane Feaster
- 9/14 John Uehling
- 9/15 Jace Watson
- 9/16 Jadyn Rothermel
- 9/17 Grace Crossland
- 9/19 Curt Rothermel
- 9/24 Nathan Lynch  
Ella Montesinos
- 9/25 Millard Boyer
- 9/26 William Batlor  
Tracy Mensch  
Tom Woodring  
Max Zeller
- 9/28 Ruth Gessner  
Linda Lewis  
Andrew Schwartz
- 9/30 Brenda Ilgen  
Maxine Stahl

TODAY IS THE OLDEST  
YOU'VE EVER BEEN  
AND THE YOUNGEST  
YOU'LL EVER BE AGAIN.

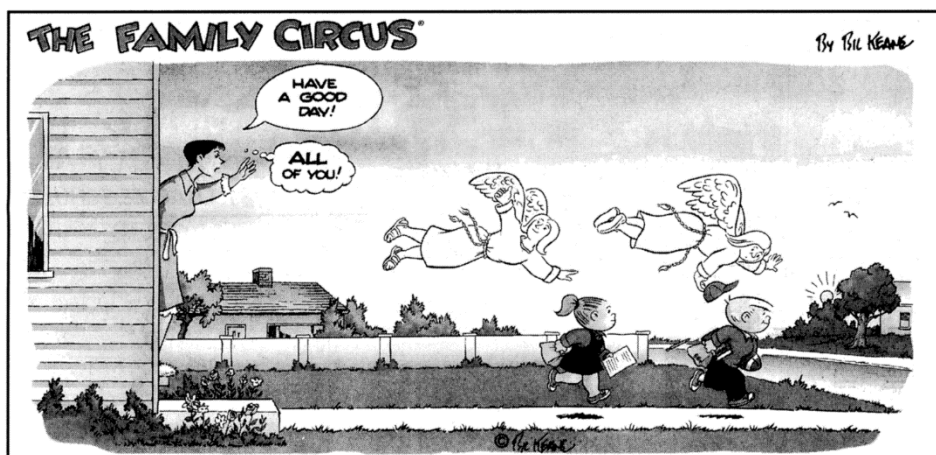


## CULC

- 9/6 Cliff & Diane Valentine (1969)
- 9/9 Tom & Evelyn Rice (1972)  
Chip & Beth Zechman (2009)
- 9/16 Kris & Carla Ruhl (1978)
- 9/18 Zachary & Abigail Harvey  
(2004)
- 9/25 Joe & Sherry Zimmerman  
(1976)
- 9/28 D.J. & Halie Boop (2019)
- 9/29 Ken & Patty Emery (1973)

## FELC

- 9/6 Jed & Liz Loss (15 yrs.)
- 9/25 Christian & Bethany Boyer (2 yrs.)
- 9/26 Jeff & Vicki Hackenburg  
(25 yrs.)
- 9/30 Jason & Daphine Fritz  
(23 yrs.)
- Eric & Gwen Hull (28 yrs.)
- Max & Trena Zeller (34 yrs.)



from *The Joyful Noiseletter* Reprinted with permission of Bil Keane





## VOLUNTEERS

### CULC

|              |                                   |                    |                              |
|--------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>Date:</b> | <b>Greeters</b>                   | <b>Lay Reader:</b> | <b>Communion Assistants:</b> |
| 9/03         | Maurice & Barbara Clouser         | Greg Shuck         | Janice Wagner                |
| <b>9/10</b>  | <b>Worship @ Mifflinburg Park</b> |                    |                              |
| 9/17         | Barry Spangler                    | Maurice Clouser    | Dianne Shuck                 |
| 9/24         | Bev Catherman                     | Barry Spangler     | Judy Moyer                   |

**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 services scheduled during the month.

### FELC

|              |                                              |                          |                         |
|--------------|----------------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Date:</b> | <b>Lay Reader:</b>                           | <b>Ushers:</b>           | <b>Young Followers:</b> |
| 9/3          | Linda Lewis                                  | Jeff Orren/Linda Skinner |                         |
| 9/10         | <b>Service at Mifflinburg Community Park</b> |                          |                         |
| 9/17         | Shirley Heasley                              | Carol Klose/Liz Loss     |                         |
| 9/24         | Tom Orren                                    | Jeannie & Kim Sawyer     |                         |

#### **Acolytes:**

9/3 – Erica Boyer

9/10 – **Service at Park**

9/17 – Brynn Umholtz

9/24 – Aria Gessner/Colbie Loss

**Chief Usher:** Jamie Bartlett

**Money Counters:** Mike Beckley/Kim Sauers

**Altar Guild:** Linda Lewis/Jane Moore

**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.



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

### **September 2 - Dandelion Run**

Camp Mount Luther will be holding a 5- and 10- kilometer trail run race at the camp on Saturday, September 2, 2023. This is an entry-level trail race on Mount Luther grounds with proceeds going to the camp. The start time for the race is 9:00 a.m. Runners decide on race day if they want to do a 5k or 10K (a double loop of the 5K) run.

Registration is \$35. Registration opens at 7:30 a.m. on race day. Shower facilities are available after the race. All miles for the course will be marked, and there is one water stop on the course. There will also 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. Again, this year there will be a one-mile fun walk! Same registration fees and amenities apply. Walk will be on a dirt road. Timing will be electronically done. To register, visit <https://runsignup.com/Race/PA/Mifflinburg/DandelionRun5k10kTrailRace>. You must be registered by midnight, August 14 to receive a hoodie! There will be an awards ceremony following the races.

The Dandelion Run, begun in 2002, is organized by Joel and Shelley Heasley of Middleburg. It was named in honor and 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. Heasley's widow, Shirley, is also involved in the planning of the race.

### **Cookies Needed for Dandelion Run**

Donations of homemade cookies are needed for the annual run. Cookies should be delivered to the church no later than **Friday, September 1<sup>st</sup> by 2:00 p.m.** The door at First will be unlocked on Friday, September 1st from 9 am - 2 pm. If you have any questions, contact Shirley Heasley at 570-966-1008.

## **A Reminder**

Camp Mount Luther's Young Adult Fellowship meets via Zoom on the last Wednesday of every month. On **September 27**, we will meet at **8:15 p.m.** for check-ins and Bible study. If you consider yourself a young adult, you can join us! Questions or want the link? Email [jim@campmountluther.org](mailto:jim@campmountluther.org).

## **Saturday, October 14**

Camp Mount Luther's Associate Director and certified MBTI practitioner Jim Vitale will offer a retreat on the intersection between personality and spirituality. Participants will be invited to take the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI) assessment before coming to Camp to learn more about the true selves God has created them to be. The retreat will feature worship, prayer, scripture reading, discussion, and MBTI coaching. More information to follow. Questions, email [jim@campmountluther.org](mailto:jim@campmountluther.org).



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

### **Blanket Sunday October 1**

Sponsored jointly by The Women of the ELCA and The Committee for Global Missions Upper Susquehanna Synod of the ELCA collection will be **Saturday October 14, from 9 am to Noon** at the Faith Lutheran Church 2349 Old Turnpike Road, Lewisburg, PA

### **Fall Retreat October 21**

We invite you to Camp Mount Luther for a one-day Fall Retreat. This Retreat will focus on the mission of Abby Yorks, an Ambassador for Soles4Souls (S4S), a non-profit organization collecting shoes (new and used) to be distributed to those who are in need. Abby is a native of Juniata County and currently lives in Middleburg. She attends Mifflinburg United Methodist Church. She has collected more than 70,000 pairs of shoes over

the past 14 years. Abby says, "None of this would have been possible without God. He has guided me, strengthened me, and filled me with knowledge and love." Light morning refreshments and lunch will also be provided. The fee for the day is \$30.00

To register, please complete and detach the bottom portion of this page and mail with a check for \$30.00 (made payable to USSWO) by Friday, September 29, 2023 to Deb Hackenberger, 8892 William Penn Hwy, Mifflintown PA 17059. You may also email your registration to [dktabb@gmail.com](mailto:dktabb@gmail.com) and pay on the day of the event.

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2023 USSWO Fall Retreat Registration

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Congregation \_\_\_\_\_

Your Address \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any dietary restrictions we need to accommodate? If so, please list:



## ***SYNOD NEWS***

### **The Synod Office Has Moved**

The new location is at 100 Mahoning Street, Milton. UPDATE! The internet is now hooked up and staff are able to access email. Phone service is not yet up and running so please be patient with synod communications.

The mailing address will remain PO Box 36, Lewisburg, PA 17837.

### **The ELCA Wants to Hear Your Opinion!**

Throughout the next couple of months, the ELCA is asking for your help. We are looking for your thoughts and ideas on how we are called to be a church in today's world. Please visit our website on Future Church: God's Love Made Real – <https://lovemadereal.elca.org> – where you can watch a video from Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton that explains more about this action and complete a survey to share your views of the church and the world today. In the coming weeks we will offer listening sessions where you can participate in online opportunities to provide your thoughts on God's call for the church.

### **“Church Record Keeping through Transitions: What Should We Keep”**

will be a major theme of the annual meeting of the Lutheran Historical Society of the MidAtlantic, on Saturday, September 9 at the Gettysburg campus of United Lutheran Seminary. Church historian Maria Erling and archivist Victoria Jesswein will help congregations and agencies decide what information and resources to preserve and how – an important topic as we seek to remember how we lasted through COVID. The day will also include an address by Matthew Borrasso, winner of the St. Paul, Biglerville Prize for his book on the work of biblical scholar and hymnist Martin Franzmann. Registration for the morning events is free and open to all, and lunch is available for \$10. To register for the event and for more information, see [2023 Annual Meeting and Program – Lutheran Historical Society of the Mid Atlantic](#)

**This year marks the 10th anniversary of “God’s work. Our hands.” Sunday!**

On **Sunday, Sept. 10**, congregations of the ELCA will join together for our annual day of service. “God’s work. Our hands.” Sunday began in 2013 in connection with the ELCA’s 25th anniversary. It continues to be an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the ELCA — one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor.

As you explore opportunities to participate in your community, [ELCA.org/DayofService](http://ELCA.org/DayofService) has the [resources](#) you need to plan and promote your day:

- Planning tool kit.
- Worship resources.
- [NEW] Slides for projection screens or online worship.
- Posters, postcards and social media graphics.
- Spanish-language resources.
- Promotional banners.
- Videos.
- Special hymn text, sheet music and recording.

[Old Lutheran](#) has T-shirts and other items available for purchase. The deadline for ordering your congregation’s personalized T-shirts is Aug. 18. Don’t forget to share your congregation’s participation with us! Send stories and photos to [LivingLutheran@elca.org](mailto:LivingLutheran@elca.org) so that together we can celebrate what God accomplishes through you.

Participate on social media using **#GodsWorkOurHands**.

If your congregation cannot participate on Sept. 10, you are welcome and encouraged to pick an alternate date that suits your schedule.

“God’s work. Our hands.” Sunday is an extension of **the work you do every day** to make your community a better place.

**Join us in celebrating 10 years on Sept. 10!**

## **July 26-20, 2024: ELCA Youth Gathering "Created to Be"**

2024 ELCA Youth Gathering is being held in New Orleans, Louisiana on July 16-20, 2024. Every three years, thousands of high school youth and their adult leaders from across the ELCA gather for a week of faith formation and fellowship known as the ELCA Youth Gathering. Through inspiring speakers, conversations with partners, Bible study and being immersed in the host city, young people will be inspired, challenged, and called to live out their faith in their daily lives. Additionally, young people will have opportunities to explore their vocation and discern where they are being called into this world. The 2024 Gathering theme is "Created to Be" which is centered around Psalm 139 with emphasis on verse 14 "I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well". Questions? Comments? Laments? Celebrations? Contact the Upper Susquehanna Synod Gathering Synod Champion, Charlene Rineer ([ckrorange@yahoo.com](mailto:ckrorange@yahoo.com) or 717-880-2872), who would love to journey through this Gathering experience with you.

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A DIFFERENT DRUG PROBLEM

The other day, someone at a store in our town read that a Methamphetamine lab had been found in an old farmhouse in the adjoining county and he asked me a rhetorical question. "Why didn't we have a drug problem when you and I were growing up?"

I replied, I had a drug problem when I was young: I was drug to church on Sunday morning. I was drug to church for weddings and funerals. I was drug to family reunions and community socials no matter the weather.

I was drug by my ears when I was disrespectful to adults. I was also drug to the woodshed when I disobeyed my parents, told a lie, brought home a bad report card, did not speak with respect, spoke ill of the teacher or the preacher, or if I didn't put forth my best effort in everything that was asked of me.

I was drug to the kitchen sink to have my mouth washed out with soap if I uttered a profanity. I was drug out to pull weeds in mom's garden and flower beds and cockleburrs out of dad's fields. I was drug to the homes of family, friends and neighbors to help out some poor soul who had no one to mow the yard, repair the clothesline, or chop some firewood, and if my mother had ever known that I took a single dime as a tip for this kindness, she would have drug me back to the woodshed.

Those drugs are still in my veins and they affect my behavior in everything I do, say or think. They are stronger than cocaine, crack or heroin. If today's children had this kind of drug problem, America would be a better place.

God bless the parents who drugged us.

~Author Unknown

BUFFALO VALLEY LUTHERAN PARISH

The Rev Curt Wingert, Pastor

Pastor Curt's cell phone: 1-814-876-0974

Pastor Curt's e-mail: pastorbuffalovalleyparish@gmail.com

Parish Council Members: Shirley Heasley, Sue Jows, Jennifer Keister,
Terry Kline, Kim Sawyer, Barry Spangler

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

CULC e-mail: culc@4bellschurch.com
CULC Website: www.4bellschurch.com
CULC Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/4bellchurch>

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.

Dianne Shuck, Treasurer

Janet Hackenberg, Asst. Treasurer

Tammy Boop, Financial Recording
Secretary

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Joel Blyler, Worship & Music

Kim Blyler, Facilities & Administration

Sue Blyler, Eucharist/Visitation

Bev Catherman, Eucharist/Visitation

Joe Dressler

Jennifer Keister, President, Youth

Terry Kline

Teresa Shuck, Inreach/Outreach

Barry Spangler, Council Secretary, W&M

Lee Spangler, V Pres, Christian Education

Idella Zimmerman, Eucharist/Visitation

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

FELC e-mail: felcmifflinburg@gmail.com
FELC Website: 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, Secretary

Katiann Lloyd, Financial Secretary

Diane Scott, Director of Music

Hank Dorman, Sexton

Carrie Lasoski, Housekeeping

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Jeff Mensch, Council President

Kim Sauers, Council Vice President

Linda Lewis, Secretary

Gloria Mincemoyer, Treasurer

Jamie Bartlett, Council

Christian Boyer, Council

Shirley Heasley, Council

Sue Jows, Council

Jane Moore, Council

Marianne Motto, Council

Don Seebold II, Council



ICE CREAM

Find and circle all of the Ice Cream flavors that are hidden in the grid.

The words may be hidden in any direction.



| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| O | I | H | C | A | T | S | I | P | B | B | N | K | N | A | O |
| O | R | L | V | C | N | A | I | L | T | A | T | Y | N | O | U |
| C | H | E | A | A | Y | A | U | A | T | M | U | R | O | L | C |
| V | H | C | C | E | N | E | C | I | U | T | N | R | M | A | T |
| U | R | O | A | I | B | I | L | E | U | L | L | E | A | L | K |
| P | O | C | C | E | R | O | L | N | P | B | A | H | N | M | U |
| A | C | N | R | O | P | O | L | L | A | R | W | C | N | O | L |
| L | K | R | I | A | L | E | C | N | A | U | E | E | I | N | O |
| B | Y | U | E | E | Z | A | A | I | E | R | L | T | C | D | R |
| I | R | N | T | A | C | N | T | E | L | O | P | E | T | L | K |
| N | O | U | H | E | A | K | C | E | I | B | A | B | A | U | B |
| A | A | T | A | P | U | M | P | K | I | N | M | A | K | B | B |
| A | D | S | T | R | A | W | B | E | R | R | Y | T | Z | R | N |
| O | T | H | G | U | O | D | E | I | K | O | O | C | H | H | C |

WHAT TO TAKE

ALMOND
BANANA
BLUEBERRY
BUTTER PECAN
CHERRY
CHOCOLATE

CINNAMON
COOKIE DOUGH
HAZELNUT
LICORICE
MAPLE WALNUT
NEAPOLITAN

PEACH
PISTACHIO
PUMPKIN
ROCKY ROAD
STRAWBERRY
VANILLA

September 2023

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|---|--|---|----------------------------|--|--|
| OCTOBER NEWSLETTER ARTICLES DEADLINE – OCTOBER 20 | | | | | 1
9:00-2:00
Cookies for
Dandelion Run -
bring to FELC
from | 2
9:00 Dandelion
Run – Mt. Luther

11-12:30
Community
Meal-FELC |
| 3
8:30 Worship-
CULC
9:30 Koinonia
Kafe-CULC
9:30 Sunday
School-CULC
10:30 Worship-
FELC | 4 Labor Day

Church Offices
 Closed

No Bible
 Study | 5

6:30 Scouts-FELC | 6
10:00 Hope’s
Haven-CULC

6:30 Council-
FELC

No Chancel Choir | 7

1:00 WELCA | 8 | 9
CULC FH
Reserved-
Laurelton Center
Retirees |
| 10 God’s Work,
 Our Hands
 Sunday
10:00 Joint
Worship & Picnic
@ Mfb Park | 11
1:30 Parish Bible
Study-FELC | 12

6:30 Parish
Council-FELC
6:30 Scouts-FELC | 13
10:00 Hope’s
Haven-CULC

6:30 Chancel
Choir-FELC | 14 | 15

7:00-9:00
Music on the
Lawn-Sawyers | 16 |
| 17
8:30 Worship-
CULC
9:30 Sunday
School-CULC
10:30 Worship-
FELC | 18
1:30 Parish Bible
Study-FELC

7:00 W&M
Committee-culc | 19

6:30 Scouts-FELC
7:00 Council-
CULC | 20
10:00 Hope’s
Haven-CULC

6:30 Chime
Choir-FELC | 21 | 22 | 23

5:30 Class of ‘61
Banquet-CULC |
| 24
8:30 Worship-
CULC
9:30 Sunday
School-CULC
10:30 Worship-
FELC | 25
1:30 Parish Bible
Study-FELC | 26

6:30 Scouts-FELC
6:30 Council-
Messiah | 27
10:00 Hope’s
Haven-CULC

6:30 Chancel
Choir-FELC | 28 | 29
9:00 Workday | 30
9:00 Workday

3:30 Drive-Thru
Turkey Dinner |

*The Lord sees not as man sees;
 man looks on the outward appearance,
 but the Lord looks on the heart.
 1 Samuel 16:7*