

BUFFALO VALLEY LUTHERAN PARISH NEWS

OCTOBER 2026

PASTOR'S PARAGRAPHS

Grace and peace to you,

It's hard to believe that it's October already and the leaves are beginning to change in different areas! The last Sunday of October brings Reformation Sunday. On October 31st, 1517, Martin Luther nailed his Ninety-five Theses to the church door in Wittenberg, Germany. Luther's intent was not to start a denomination but to reform the Catholic church. If you get a chance read Luther's Ninety-five, it's an interesting read on what the Catholic church was doing and why it needed to be reformed. This year on Reformation Sunday we will be worshiping together at the Elias Center in Mifflinburg. Built in 1806, the Elias Center was the first church in Mifflinburg and served the German Reformed (now UCC) and Lutheran congregations. I am looking forward to this service as we go back to our Lutheran roots in Mifflinburg.

As we continue into October, Bible study begins again! We have been on a long break, and I am looking forward to our study on Luther's Small Catechism. This study will begin on Thursday, October 8 at 7 pm. Most of us probably haven't read the Small Catechism since we were in confirmation and I think we need a little bit of a refresher on what we believe as Lutherans. We can recite the Apostles Creed or the Lord's Prayer word for word on a Sunday morning, but do we really know what it means to live them out every day? In the Small Catechism, Luther discusses the Ten Commandments, The Apostles Creed, The Lord's Prayer, The Sacrament of Holy Baptism, How the unlearned should be taught to confess, The Sacrament of the Altar, as well as morning and evening prayer. If you

would like a refresher on the catechism or are new to the Lutheran church, please join us on Thursday evenings beginning October 8th.

From Andrea:

There is a lesson in the falling leaves this month. The trees do not fight the coming winter; they gently let go of their leaves to prepare for a season of rest and new life ahead.

This October is a suitable time to ask ourselves: What anxieties, perfectionism, or extra weights do we need to let go of? Let us commit to looking for one another in this busy season. By anchoring ourselves in Christ and taking time to breathe, we can move through these autumn months with real, lasting peace.

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

Peace in Christ,

Rev. Curt Wingert

PARISH NEWS

Pastor Appreciation Month



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.

We often don't take the time to thank our pastor for all he does, but we would like to take this time during October, the month of National Clergy Appreciation.

This 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.

Benefit Dinner – October 3

There will be a Benefit Dinner for the Dunkle Family on **Saturday, October 3 from 4-7 pm** at Christ's United. The meal will consist of lasagna and spaghetti, salad, bread, and dessert. The cost will be on a donation basis. There will be take-outs available, as well as dine in.



Blanket Sunday

Think about how comforting and warm it feels when a blanket is wrapped around you. Now, think how comforting and necessary it would become if you were experiencing the aftermath of a hurricane or disaster. For many, a simple blanket given when they most need it is a loving way to offer warmth and hope. Both churches will receive a special offering for **Lutheran World Relief**. For every \$5.00 collected, LWR will purchase and distribute a blanket to people who suffer from war or natural disasters all around the world.

On October 4, FELC will receive their offering (**no blankets, please**) and **on October 11, CULC** will receive their blanket offering. Special envelopes will be available for your gift, or you can use your regular envelope and mark "Blankets" on the designated gift line. You can also bring a 60" x 80" (Queen sized) blanket (**CULC only**). Your donation can deliver the message of God's ever-present love to someone in need.



Apple Dumpling Sale

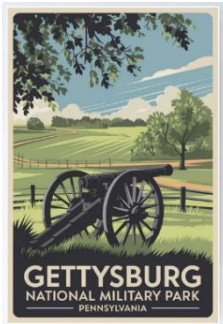
Plans are being made for an Apple Dumpling fundraiser again this year. The dumplings will be ready for pick-up at Christ's United on October 16 from 4-7 pm, and October 17 from 9 am-noon. The cost is \$6 each. The order deadline is **October 4**. For more information, contact Teresa Shuck (570-966-2053) or Linda Smith (570-768-7839).

APPLE DUMPLING SALE - PRICE: \$6.00
OCTOBER 16 – 4-7:00 PM OR OCTOBER 17- 9 AM-NOON

Name	Phone Number	Number Ordered		Total Amount Due
		Oct 16	Oct 17	

New Members Class/Bible Study – Beginning October 8

Bible Study will be held on Thursday evenings at 7 pm, beginning October 8th at First. We will be studying Luther's Small Catechism. Bible Study in November will be held at 4 Bells.



Attention Faith Followers Youth Group!

The youth group of the Buffalo Valley Lutheran Parish is heading to Gettysburg on **Saturday, October 24, 2026!** To ensure we have enough transportation for everyone, we need to finalize our vehicle reservations quickly. Please let us know as soon as possible if you plan on attending.

RSVP Required: Please contact us right away to secure your spot in the van.

Contemporary Service - October 25

The monthly joint contemporary service will be held at the **Elias Center**, 212 S. 5th St., Mifflinburg on Sunday, October 25 at 10 am. We hope you will plan to join us!



Joint Service & Senior Adult Luncheon - November 29

There will be a joint contemporary worship service at Christ's United on **Sunday, November 29, at 10:00 am.** A Senior Adult Luncheon will follow the service. If you were born in or prior to 1964, you, along with a guest, are invited to attend the annual Parish Senior Adult Luncheon to be held following the service.

Reservations are very helpful in planning the meal. Please fill out the attached form and return it to **either church office by November 22.** Contact Teresa Shuck with questions (570-966-2053).

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Senior Adult Luncheon Reservation **November 29 following the joint worship service**

Name _____

Number attending _____ Phone _____

(Return by November 22)

Advent by Candlelight

I know you are all thinking about fall, but it is also time to start thinking of Advent by Candlelight. This year it will be held on **Sunday, December 6th**. Please let me know if you are interested in hosting a table that evening. As a hostess you will be responsible to decorate a table and invite 7 guests to join you. (They don't have to be members of our Parish). Hostesses may be from either congregation. If you have questions, contact Libby Loss (570) 966-1606.

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## BUGGYTOWN WORKCAMP REGISTRATIONS DUE:

OCTOBER 31, 2026



**BUGGYTOWN WORKCAMP**  
YOUTH MISSION TRIP

Serve • Build • Grow • Make a Difference

Faith in Action  
Friends for Life

**JULY 18 - 24, 2027**  
Lodging: Mifflinburg Middle School

**Total Cost: \$584**  
per teenager

**\$100 DEPOSIT DUE OCTOBER 31, 2026**  
Payable to: First Lutheran Church Youth fund

The remaining **\$484**  
may be earned through  
LOTS of upcoming  
**FUNDRAISERS!**

Hands to Serve  
Hearts to Love  
Lives to Change

**SIGN UP TODAY!**

FOR MORE INFORMATION  
CONTACT:  
Andrea Wingert @ 717-816-3979  
Kim Sawyer @ 570-313-4577

Together We Can Make a Difference!

PEOPLE + PURPOSE + FRIENDSHIPS = A BRIGHTER TOMORROW

Please include the following information with your deposit:  
Teen's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_



## ***CULC NEWS***

On **October 11** we are going to continue our long-standing tradition of a Harvest Home service, when we gather to give thanks for the bounty of the year's crops, for family & friends, and for God's many blessings.

On this special Sunday the sanctuary will be decorated with glories of the season. 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 10.**

**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 11<sup>th</sup>. We will collect the donations during worship.

Specific items requested are: **pancake mix, pancake syrup, canned tuna, canned chicken, canned fruit (no applesauce cups), canned vegetables, peanut butter & jelly.**

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.

Contact Teresa Shuck (570-966-2053) if you want more information.

### **Special Meeting on October 11**

There will be a special congregational meeting after the worship service on October 11.

### **Mark Your Calendars!**

There will be a 'Drive Through' Pot Pie Sale on **November 7**.

## ***FELC NEWS***

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

First Lutheran will be serving a free community meal on **Saturday, October 3, from 11 am–12:30 pm**. All are welcome! Please enter the door in the alley behind the church. Meals for the remainder of the year will be held on **November 7 and December 5**.

### **Harvest Home**

First Lutheran will be celebrating Harvest Home on **Sunday, October 11**. As an act of giving thanks for the harvest, we will be sharing with those less fortunate by collecting food items for the Kiwanis food boxes given to needy families in December. The following foods are needed:

Canned fruit, vegetables, and soups; pasta and sauce; boxed potatoes, peanut butter and jelly; pancake mixes and syrup, and cereal.

**Please be sure the items are in date until the end of February 2027.**



Food should be brought to the church and placed on the pew next to the pulpit door **no later than Friday, October 9 by noon**. The doors will be open on **Friday from 8 am - Noon**.

### **Music News**

The Tone Chimes are on hold until the new year.

### **Monthly Coffee Hour – October 18**

We will be holding our next monthly coffee hour on October 18. We will be meeting in the fellowship hall following the service. We need a few desserts for October, everything else will be provided. We will continue to meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month. If you would like to provide a dessert or have any questions, contact Janet Shoemaker at (570) 966-0494.

**Seafarer Campaign** - We will once again be providing Christmas-at-Sea gift sacks for ships' crews that come into East Coast ports during the Advent and Christmas seasons. Fabric gift sacks, with instructions, are available on the hall table. **Please pay attention to the detailed instructions for each bag! Substitute items SHOULD NOT be included.** Please return the filled bags on the seat in the hallway by **November 4**. Contact Shirley Heasley at 570-847-4574 with questions. **NO XL SIZES.**

### **Buy the Books Program**

The women's church group is again distributing money 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 **October 4<sup>th</sup>**. The funds will be distributed for the semester starting in January 2027. With any questions, please contact Jane Moore.

### **Word in Season Devotionals**

The Word in Season devotionals for October-December 2026 are available in the back of the sanctuary.

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

We are offering \$25 gift cards to Davy's Fresh Market in Lewisburg, in addition to the Weis and Wenger's gift cards. The Weis and Wenger's cards are available in denominations of \$25, \$50, or \$100. They make wonderful gifts for any occasion. Kim Sawyer is selling the cards, and they will be available on Sundays, before or after church; at her home; in the church office when the secretary is in; and she will also deliver. Contact her at 570-713-4577. Many thanks to all who purchase cards and support our Mission Fund. Make checks payable to "First Lutheran Church".

### **Empty Coffee Cans Needed**

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

## **TAKE NOTE:**

Information for the November newsletter is due in the church offices by **October 20**.

Daylight Saving Time ends on November 1. **Don't forget to turn your clocks back 1 hour before retiring on Saturday, October 31.**

# **PRAYER REQUESTS**

## **CHRIST'S UNITED**

Tom Catherman  
Nicole Dunkle  
Rick & Darlene Endy  
Melanie Eng  
Amy Evers  
Dorothy Furgison  
Gary Gemberling  
Pearl Gemberling  
Linda Gingrich  
Gary & Janet Hackenberg  
Keith Hackenberg  
Eugene Hassinger  
Michael Keister  
Paul & Sherri Klauger  
Nancy Klinepeter  
David Laudermilch  
Roy Laudermilch  
Kyleigh Leiser

Tonia Longer  
Cathy Meiser  
Scott Meiser  
Tim Meiser  
Erika Morrison  
Brian Nogle  
Bob Page  
Larry Sampsell  
Lucas Sanford  
Hayden Showalter  
Leona Showalter  
Lee & Kathy Spangler  
Chuck Spurr  
Don Swartzlander  
Rhelda Valentine  
Kerm Wagner  
Marlene Walters  
Tom Watters  
Donald Weller

**The Shut-Ins:** Betty Goss, Helen Pirone, Dottie Rathfon, Sam Schnure

**The family of Eve Rantz**

In an effort to keep our prayer list current, we are going to clear the 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 appeal or have a new prayer request, talk to Margie.**

## **FIRST LUTHERAN**

Ruth Gessner  
Rodney Culp  
Tonia Swartz

### **Shut Ins:**

Mary "Lib" Dunkle  
Doris Moll  
June Ocker

### **Shut Ins:**

Barb Reed  
Dotty Seebold  
Nancy Ulrich  
Max & Trena Zeller

### **The Troops:**

Thaddeus Miller  
Zachary Miller



## **BIRTHDAYS**

- 1 – David Swartz (C)
- 2 – Kris Ruhl (C)
- 3 – Arlene Behrent (F)
- 9 – Quinton Bartlett (F)
- 10 – Emil Stenger, Jr. (F)
- 11 – Don Seebold II (F), Richard Troutman (C)
- 13 – Marjorie Dunkle (C)
- 14 – Conner Neece (F), Idella Zimmerman (C)
- 16 – Barb Reed (F), Mary Wehr (F)
- 17 – Ava McBryan (F)
- 19 – Doris Moll (F)
- 21 – Kendall Neece (F)
- 22 – Barry Spangler (C)
- 24 – Christian Boyer (F), Gloria Mincemoyer (F)
- 29 – Pearl Gemberling (C)

## **ANNIVERSARIES**

- 10 – Paul & Sherri Klauger (1975) (C)
- 11 – Eugene & Katherine Hassinger (1959) (C)
- 13 – Tom & Shelly Orren (36 yrs.) (F)
- 16 – Jim & Karen Zimmerman (1976) **(50 yrs.)** (C)
- 20 – David & Dayna Bickhart (1979) (C)
- 28 – Dale & Sybil Spotts **(60 yrs.)** (F)



## VOLUNTEERS

### CULC

| <b>Date:</b> | <b>Greeters:</b>                             | <b>Lay Reader:</b> | <b>Communion Assist:</b> |
|--------------|----------------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|
| 4            | Judy Moyer/Idella Zimmerman                  | Greg Shuck         | Greg Shuck               |
| 11           | Judy Moyer/Idella Zimmerman                  | Lee Spangler       | Judy Moyer               |
| 18           | Judy Moyer/Idella Zimmerman                  | Andrea Wingert     | Dianne Shuck             |
| 25           | -----10:00 Joint Service – Elias Center----- |                    |                          |

**Sound System:** Barry Spangler

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

**Ushers:** Barry Spangler/Gina Buttorff

**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>Acolytes:</b>          |
|--------------|---------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 4            | Karen Boyer                                       | Jane Moore/Marianne Motto    | Hannah Boyer/Owen Mayeski |
| 11           | Linda Skinner                                     | Jeff Crossland/Linda Skinner | Perri Hull/Andrea Wingert |
| 18           | Andrea Wingert                                    | Jeff Hackenburg/Dewey Reed   | Erica Boyer/Harry Boyer   |
| 25           | Barb Randecker/<br>Barry Spangler/<br>Pastor Curt | FELC/CULC                    |                           |

**Chief Usher:** Jamie Bartlett

**Money Counters:** Karen Boyer/Libby Loss

**Altar Guild:** Jamie Bartlett/Barb Randecker

**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 cell phone:** 1-814-876-0974

**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/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

**Barry Spangler** – Digital Music Arranger

**Loretta Martin** – Custodian

**Margie Dunkle** – Secretary/Asst. Treasurer

**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

**Diane Scott** – Director of Music

**Dylan Maneval** – Sexton

**Kay Trick** – Housekeeping

## **COUNCIL MEMBERS**

**Jeff Mensch** – Council President

**Kim Sauers** – Council Vice President

**Linda Lewis** – Secretary

**Gloria Mincemoyer** – Treasurer

**Jamie Bartlett** – Council

**Christian Boyer** – Council

**Drew Christy** – Council

**Perri Hull** – Council

**Barb Randecker** – Council

**Don Seebold II** – Council

| October 2026                                                                                                                        |                           |                                                                        |                               |                                    |                                          |                                                           |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| Sunday                                                                                                                              | Monday                    | Tuesday                                                                | Wednesday                     | Thursday                           | Friday                                   | Saturday                                                  |
|                                                                                                                                     |                           |                                                                        |                               | 1<br>1:00 WELCA-FELC               | 2                                        | 3<br>11-12:30 Community Meal<br><br>4-7 Benefit Meal-CULC |
| 4<br><b>CULC</b><br>8:30 Worship<br>9:30 Koinonia Kafe<br><br><b>FELC</b><br>9:00 Adult SS<br>10:30 Worship<br>Choir rehearses      | 5<br>6:00 Kiwanis-FELC    | 6                                                                      | 7<br>10:00 Hope's Haven-CULC  | 8<br>7:00 Parish Bible Study-FELC  | 9<br>8-12:00 Bring food for Harvest Home | 10                                                        |
| 11<br><b>CULC</b><br>8:30 Harvest Home Worship<br><br><b>FELC</b><br>9:00 Adult SS<br>10:30 Harvest Home Worship<br>Choir rehearses | 12<br><b>Columbus Day</b> | 13                                                                     | 14<br>6:30 Council-FELC       | 15<br>7:00 Parish Bible Study-FELC | 16<br>4-7:00 Apple Dumpling Pick up-CULC | 17<br>9-Noon Apple Dumpling Pick up-CULC                  |
| 18<br><b>CULC</b><br>8:30 Worship<br><br><b>FELC</b><br>9:00 Adult SS<br>10:30 Worship<br>Choir rehearses<br>Coffee Hour            | 19<br>6:00 Kiwanis-FELC   | 20<br>7:00 Council-CULC<br><br><b>November Newsletter Articles Due</b> | 21<br>10:00 Hope's Haven-CULC | 22<br>7:00 Parish Bible Study-FELC | 23                                       | 24<br>Faith Followers' Gettysburg Trip                    |
| 25 Reformation<br><br>10:00 Joint Worship-Elias Center                                                                              | 26                        | 27                                                                     | 28                            | 29<br>7:00 Parish Bible Study-FELC | 30                                       | 31                                                        |