



August 2026

The Parish Echo

Millcreek Lutheran Church, P.O. Box 399, 221 N. Sheridan Rd., Newmanstown, PA 17073

“Motivating Lives Through Christ.”

Interim Pastor: Rev. Frank Terhune

Cell: 610-751-5472

Email: frankterhune@gmail.com

In Office: Tues. & Fri. 9am-12pm

Church: 610-589-2570

Office Administrator: Jennifer Miller

Email: secretary@millcreeklutheran.com

Lay Leader: Jennifer Rosengrant

www.millcreeklutheran.com

WORSHIP AT 9:30 AM

You can **listen to the worship service** over the phone patch at 9:30am. Just dial **717-628-0125**. You will hear a message welcoming you to Millcreek. At that point you are connected to our church sound system, so just stay on the line.



Back in 1997 then Bishop of the ELCA H. George Anderson wrote a short book entitled: A Good Time to Be the Church. While many people, then as now, were lamenting the impending death of the church, Bishop Anderson tried to rally us with his prophetic words.

He cited the history of Lutherans in the USA. The great movements in American Christianity, The Great Awakenings, the Evangelical Revival, the Social Gospel, and others didn't seem to involve Lutherans. We were an ethnic bunch. There were German Lutherans, Swedish Lutherans, Norwegian Lutherans, Slovak Lutherans, Finnish Lutherans, and they didn't always get along.

He cited the facts of American culture. People opting out of organized religion, preferring lifestyle as the “organizing principle” of their lives. Many people preferred to be believers not belongers. The Christian Churches that were growing were labeled as Evangelical.

Another change he postured was the arrival of world religions. The number of Muslims in the US were equal to the number of Episcopalians. There are as many mosques in our country as ELCA congregations. Hindu and Sikh Temples have emerged around us.

Former Episcopal Bishop of Bethlehem PA Mark Dyer said that once every 500 years the church must undergo a “rummage sale.” History seems to hold that it takes about that long for the church to undergo a major “house-cleaning” of the institutional trappings it has amassed and treasured. The first such event was the move from the time before Christ to the Common Era, followed about 500 years later by the fall of Rome, Gregory the Great, Benedict, and the rise of monasticism. The third great house cleaning came with the schism between Eastern and Western Christianity, with the next giant rummage sale coming with the advent of the Reformation and Martin Luther.

We have passed the next 500 year mark since the last great rummage sale, meaning we're living through another time of great change. The difference this time is that we're in an age where information technology and social media are making it possible to share and, one hopes, understand that experience in a new way. We have a choice to make: Shall we be fearful and retrench behind crumbling edifices, or shall we be hopeful and look with excitement for what God is doing in this time and place?

The church has always lived in challenging times. Ours is no different. How we approach the future depends upon how we perceive our possibilities. Are we like the shoe salesman who was dispatched to Africa to sell his product. He emailed his boss, “Coming home. There is no hope here. None of the people wear shoes!” or are we like another salesman who posted to his boss, “Send more shoes. None of the people here wear shoes. What a market!”

It is a good time to be the church. Challenging yes, but when hasn't it been so. We have a message of hope and new possibilities that many people are desperately needing to hear. We best send that message, not only with our words, but also with our lives. There is no end to the possibilities before us. It is indeed a good time to be the church.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Frank Terhune

PRAYER LIST

Please remember the following **MLC members** in your prayers:

Violet Hepler	Liz Leibig	Portia Lindermuth	Stewart Wolf
Brian Ream	Norm Sharp	Gerry Strickler	Julie Strickler
Aaron Yiengst	Devon Yiengst	Greer Zellers	Michael Yiengst, Jr.

Evangelism Updates

This year's Ingathering Project started July 5th and will continue through August 31st following the same format as the last few years:

In-gathering "Sticky Note" Project:

Devastating losses can occur in the blink of an eye! During the January 2025 California wildfires your PERSONAL CARE KITS helped many of those people affected. Lutheran World Relief was asked specifically for those kits which filled a critical need! Doesn't that make you feel good? Let's do what we canlike last year, grab a sticky note or two...purchase the item(s) listed and bring to church!

We thank you for your support!

PERSONAL CARE KIT “STICKY NOTE” ITEMS

1. One lightweight bath towel (dark color recommended) approx. --20” x 40” to 52” x 27”. ***see note***
2. Three bath size bars of soap, any brand (4 to 5 oz.), in original wrapping
3. One adult size tooth brush (packaged) ***see note***
4. One sturdy comb (LARGE TEETH), ---remove packaging--- NO fine tooth combs.
5. One “ADULT SIZE” (No infant size) metal nail clippers, with or without file, -remove packaging

If using multi-pack tooth brushes, you may seal one in a business size envelope.

*** You can provide the towel if you'd like. Wrap items in the towel and tie securely with ribbon or yarn. If not, the church will be purchasing towels to complete the kits***. Otherwise grab a sticky note and “LET’S GO”!!! Bins will be located in the narthex.

Evangelism committee will meet on July 8th @ 2:00 P.M.

Blessings! Dara Wolfe

UPCOMING SERVICE SCHEDULE

July & August services will be in the multipurpose room.

- Sunday August 2- 9:30am communion service
- Sunday August 9- 9:30am regular service
- Sunday August 16- 9:30am regular service with guest pastor Joel Risser
- Sunday August 23- 9:30am regular service
- Sunday August 23- 9:30am regular service
- Sunday August 30- 9:30am regular service

SUMMER MUSIC:

- August 9 - Jamie Keener dance
- August 16- open
- August 23 - Brian Klinger
- August 30 – Brothers in Grace
- September 6- open

ENVELOPE #54? Do you have offering envelope #54? If so, please reach out to David Engle at email: dgengle@yahoo.com



SUNDAY SCHOOL has created a new email address: millcreeklutheranss@gmail.com. We will be using this email to communicate important information throughout the '26/'27 Sunday school year. Please use this email if you need to reach any of the Sunday school teachers. Thank you!

SOCCER SHOT Summer camp will be held at MLC outside (or multi-purpose room in case of rain) on August 4, 5, & 6th. Soccer Shots is the most trusted & engaging children's soccer program for ages 18 months to 8 years.* Learn age-appropriate soccer skills, character-building, and have *FUN*! Register at: www.soccershots.com.



CHURCH BREAKFAST

The next church breakfast will be held at Country Fare Restaurant on **Saturday, August 8th at 8:00 a.m.** Everyone is welcome and no advanced notice is needed. Ask the hostess for the Millcreek Lutheran group & you will be directed to our table. We'd love to have breakfast with you...a nice way to start the day! ~Nancy Deiter



PARISH ECHO: The **deadline** for items for the **September church newsletter is August 17th.** Newsletter items sent via email should be addressed to secretary@millcreeklutheran.com. Items may also be submitted by placing a written note in the secretary mailbox in the church office or by phone.



MINISTERIUM TRAIN RIDE: Saturday Aug. 22 (rain date Saturday Aug. 29)

Picnic & train ride on the Allentown & Auburn Railroad located in Kutztown PA. Train leaves the station at 10:30am. Max 150 people. \$12 per adult, \$8 kids 4-10, 3 and under free to sit on parents' lap.

Includes: hot dogs, burgers, grilled chicken, and drinks. You are welcome to bring a covered dish to share. Enjoy cornhole & other games. Any money raised over the cost of expenses will go to the Ministerium. Pay cash for tickets the day of, at the train station

Call Tulpehocken Trinity (717) 866-5190 to add your name to the reservation list.



BINGO FUNDRAISER: Saturday, August 29th @ 1pm.

Millcreek Lutheran Church Multi-Purpose Room- Bingo Fundraiser to benefit the Millcreek Memorial Cemetery in Newmanstown. Cash Bingo, Raffle Baskets and Baked goods. Doors open at 12:15.

CAN TAB COLLECTION: There is now container on the shelf by the men's bathroom for can tab collection, for donation to a local school.



Top of the Hill Clean-Up

Saturday, September 12, 2026

9:00 – 11:30 a.m.

This will be our 6th Top of the Hill Clean-Up at Millcreek Lutheran Church. It's hard to believe how quickly the years roll by! There are a lot of changes within the church every year but the church and property remain here for us and need our consistent love and care. Jamie Keener does a wonderful job keeping our building clean and Brian Webber keeps our huge lawn mowed. The jobs we're concerned with, are the ones that go above and beyond weekly and routine care.

I am in the process of compiling a list of tasks that need to be accomplished in and around the church. There is a listing of these tasks posted on a clip board in the multi-purpose room. If you are aware of a specific job that should be done, let me know & I will be sure it's on the list. You can sign up for tasks on a first come basis.

We will meet at the church at 9:00am to work on the jobs each of you have selected to work on. Dress appropriately and be prepared to work on your given task. Each person will be responsible for whatever cleaning supplies or equipment is necessary to complete the job.

This is a good time for anyone who has a personal space in the building to focus on that area & give it an extra thorough cleaning. It is hard for someone to clean and tidy another person's space without disrupting that person's organization or throwing away needed materials. While volunteers work on common areas, you can work in your personal area. If you are not available on this day, feel free to work on your own when you are able to fit it into your schedule.

Should you find that your schedule does not allow you to work with the group on September 12th, you may sign up for one of the tasks and take care of that responsibility as you are able.

If you have questions, please feel free to call or email me.

Nancy Deiter: email: Indeiter@comcast.net Phone: 717-866-4665 or 717-383-0899



Mark your calendars for our annual Rally Day, Sunday September 13th - Connecting and Reconnecting with God's Family. Service will be outdoors followed by a picnic and the Giant Slip N Slide. Lots of Fun to be had with Trivia, Giant Connect Four, Giant Jenga and a Foam Blaster on the slip n slide. We hope you and your family can join us!

MIDDLE CREEK WILDLIFE ART SHOW: MLC member Roy Hoglund will be among the exhibitors.



 **MIDDLE CREEK**

WILDLIFE ART SHOW

Friday, July 31 | 12 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday, August 1 | 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sunday, August 2 | 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Featured Artist: Jennifer Lynn Becker

 100 Museum Rd, Stevens, PA, 17578

FEATURING ART RAFFLE
& BBOON SITE





FEATURING ART FROM:

Jocelyn Beatty	Gerald Putt
Jennifer Becker	Susan Bankey-Yoder
Scott Calpino	Chance Tedesco
Dan Christ	Catherine Zeigler
Catherine Colsher	Sarah Smith (Gersbach)
Sheree Daugherty	Mackenzie Fish
Laura Mark-Finberg	Roy Hoglund
Patrick Gnan	Ed Johns
David Hughes	Doug Anderson
Ken Hunter	Toni Kelly
Stephen Leed	Craig Boyhunt
Bob McGee	Robert Heinrich
Michael McNelly	Phillip Jaquith
Sue Ann Myers	Rich Gdovin
Chris Pagano	Wade Prescott
Jack Paluh	

Millcreek Community Group Presents the 2026
Music in Memorial Park
Newmanstown, PA



**The Karen Krater
Memorial Season**



Sunday Shows in August

Food & Drinks on Sale at 5pm | Shows begin at 6pm

Aug 2nd Barry Wenrich
Homegrown crooner returns from South Carolina!

Aug 9th Rustic Rewind
A variety of music types to delight!

Aug 16th Richland Express
A local band playing all types of music!

Aug 23rd The Youngers
Original Roots Rock / Americana

Aug 30th Jeff Krick Jr.
A must see Elvis impersonator!

**Bring
Lawn
Chairs!**

No Charge!
A free will offering
to be taken
at intermission

In Case Of Rain

To be held at Living Stones Church (Formerly Millcreek Community Center)
at 229 E. Main Street. Check out our Facebook page for details.

Be sure to get a list of our sponsors & visit them!

August Birthdays

1	Charles Lindermuth
2	Amber Blessing
5	Linda Ream
12	Harry Bump
17	Mary Meyer
18	Matthew Long
20	Morgan Hoffman
22	Julie Strickler
	Liz Leibig
23	Erin Stettler
24	Darryl Bentz
26	Zachary Batdorf
27	Jodi Hoffman
29	Melanie Warnick
31	Matthew Bentz



If you would like to be included on the birthday list, please email to secretary@millcreeklutheran.com or place a slip of paper in her mail slot in the church office.

AUGUST 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2 930am Communion Service	3	4	5	6	7	8 8AM CHURCH BREAKFAST
9 930am Service	10	11	12	13	14	15
16 930am Service with Pastor Risser	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 930am Service	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 930am Service						