
The Parish Echo

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

September 2024

“Helping God restore and renew our community, our congregation, and ourselves.”

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SUNDAY SCHOOL AT 9:00 AM

WORSHIP AT 10:15 AM

You can **listen to the worship service** over the phone patch at 9:30 AM. 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.



PARADISE CORNER

The early pages (i.e., 9–12) of our Lutheran Book of Worship (i.e., “the green hymnal”) provide three ways to use time to mark the story of God and humanity: through Jesus Christ, the Holy Scriptures, and those who have gone before us in the faith. Christmas, Easter, Pentecost, and Sundays hold the primary place. (Every Sunday is a celebration of the resurrection, which occurred on a Sunday). The commemorations invite us to remember the faithfulness of particular heroes of the faith from outside the Bible. The lesser festivals, appearing in small capital letters in the hymnal’s calendar, invite us to celebrate important witnesses from the Bible.

Sunday, September 29 is the lesser festival set aside (since the 400s) for Saint Michael and All Angels. In Jewish angelology, Michael is one of the four archangels (along with Gabriel, Raphael, and Uriel) who carry out the will of God. The focus of the observations of September 29 eventually broadened to include thanksgiving for all the angels, who are seen as messengers of the word and will of God.

On this day, the church ponders the richness and variety of God’s created order and the limits of human knowledge. The Scriptures speak of angels (the word means “messengers”) who worship God in heaven. Angels speak for God on earth in both testaments. We remember angels most vividly as they appear to the shepherds and announce the birth of the Savior as well as at the Empty Tomb. Michael is an angel whose name appears in Daniel (chapters 10–12) leading the faithful dead to God’s throne on the day of resurrection. In Revelation, Michael fights in a cosmic battle against Satan.

As it falls near the equinox, Michaelmas (a British name for September 29) is associated with the beginning of autumn and the shortening of days. Michaelmas is a special day in some private schools. This is because of the timing at the end of September. The fresh feeling of the new school year rhythms has worn off and a little celebration can help lighten the mood and recover a feeling of setting out on something new.

Enjoying some traditional foods is one way we can mark Michaelmas in our lives. The legend goes that when St. Michael threw Satan out of Heaven, as described in Revelation 12, the devil landed on a blackberry bush, which he then spit on and cursed turning the blackberries bitter. The tradition became that blackberries must be picked and eaten by Michaelmas before the devil gets a chance to spit on them. In a Scottish custom, women harvest wild carrots on Michaelmas by digging triangular holes with a three-pronged tool representing St. Michael's shield and trident. Saint Michael's Bannock is a large scone-like cake cooked in Scotland on this day. (There are lots of recipes online.) Goose is a traditional Michaelmas food, but hard to find and not to everyone's taste!

My invitation is to take the time from the beginning through the end of September to plan for enjoying God's blessings, to imagine angels at work around us, and ultimately to celebrate how God works through all of us, but through angels in particular.

Live as children of light!
Pastor Scott Paradise

PRAYER LIST

Please remember the following **MLC members** in your prayers: R. Hart Beaver, Debbie Hartman, Violet Hepler, Abbie Keath, Shad Kreitz, the Leibig Family, Ronald Merkel, Barbara Potteiger, Norm Sharp, Thomas Tice, Debra Webber, Stewart Wolf, Aaron Yiengst, Devon Yiengst, and Michael Yiengst Jr., Greer Zellers

HAPPENINGS IN SEPTEMBER:

Nursery



The Nursery at Millcreek will once again open Sunday, September 17, 2023 during the church service. Ages accepted are 0-8 years old (once your child moves to third grade, they are encouraged to sit in the church with their parent(s)). Care is given to every child in all forms. If the parent(s) can bring diapers, and pullups for their children, that would be preferred and appreciated. Other items recommended to bring are snack foods, bottles already made for the really little ones, and any comfort items your child may want/need during the service. If you would like to reach out to me personally, either to help volunteer in the Nursery, to ask questions, or speak with me regarding specifics for your child/children, I can be reached by phone at 717-639-4767, or by email at stephselah0125@gmail.com. I am looking forward to caring for your child in the nursery. Stephanie Sheetz

Rally Day Service

The church will begin the new church year with the Rally Day service on **Sunday, September 8, 2024 at 10:15 a.m.**, the service will be held **outdoors**. Sunday school students will return and gather at **09:00 a.m.** for "Rally Day Activities".

Following worship there will be a congregational picnic. The church will provide hot dogs and drinks. Please consider bringing a side dish or dessert to share!

Harvest Home—Sunday, September 15

Please consider bringing non-perishable food items for our annual collection during worship.

Church Council

The next church council is scheduled to meet on **Sunday, October 6, 2024**, following worship.

Church Breakfast

The next church breakfast will be held at Country Fare Restaurant on **Saturday, September 14th at 8:00 a.m.** Everyone is welcome & 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

Evangelism

The next meeting Evangelism meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, September 11, 2024, at 2:00 p.m.**

Spang Crest Events and Updates

The "Friends of Spang Crest" invite everyone to participate in their spring chicken BBQ (Kauffman's) and bake sale on **Friday, September 6.** Tickets are \$11 and include chicken, roll, baked potato, and applesauce. **Pickup time is from 2:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.** Please be in touch with Margie Kriss (teacherkriss@comcast.net) to purchase tickets or to donate baked goods.



Important Note: Participating in this event helps provide funds for special activities for the residents of Spang Crest. Thank you for your generosity!

Thyme with Debbie



Thyme with Debbie is back with instructional classes about seasonal ingredients and flavors in the kitchen. All classes are held at Millcreek Lutheran Church from 10 AM to 12 PM with a cost of \$23.00. The next class is listed below. To register for a class or for any questions, please contact Debbie at 484-577-6695 or at thymewithdebbie@gmail.com.

September 17, 2024

Topic: Sweet Talking Sweet Herbs

Description: Herbs can walk the path of sweetness as well as savory. This class will focus on how to use herbs, either fresh, frozen or dried, in ways that add their special nuance to whatever you are creating. From baking to fruits, herbs have a place to add their special touch. Come and join us for a walk down the path of sweetness.

Parish Echo

Deadline for items you want in the **church newsletter for October 2024 is Sunday, September 15.** Newsletter items sent via email should be addressed to mlc.parish.echo@gmail.com. Items may also be submitted by placing a written note in the newsletter mailbox in the church office or by phone.

ONGOING & FUTURE HAPPENINGS:

Top Of The Hill Cleanup

Saturday, September 7, 2024

10:00-12:00

It's time, once again, for our annual Top of The Hill Clean Up. This is the time when we rely on volunteers to focus on jobs that are more involved than the weekly cleaning of our church & grounds. A thorough cleaning of special areas within the church once a year helps keep the church & grounds looking good. The amount of work we're able to accomplish depends on the turnout of helpers. There are a few people within the church who have their own personal spaces. This is a great time for those people to devote a couple of hours to cleaning that workspace. It's hard for us to clean & tidy another person's area without disrupting that person's space.

We have had some volunteers but quite a few tasks remain such as:

1. Sweeping the furnace room
2. Cleaning the bell/wheel & winterizing the flower bed planter
3. Clean Sanctuary windows inside & outside
4. Clean kneeling pads & linoleum under pews in Sanctuary
5. Clean & organize shelving & floor in Narthex utility room.
6. Clean wax off brass, floor candelabras used at Christmas
7. Apply sealer to 2 benches outside the S.S. entrance

We hope you'll join our work crew this year. Coffee & doughnuts will be available along with a carefree work environment in which we get a lot accomplished while getting to know each other a little better. Wear your old clothes & bring the cleaning supplies you prefer to use. Some supplies will be provided but the church is limited in the number of ladders, buckets, brooms & cleaning supplies we have on site.

Thank you...Nancy Deiter

Operation Christmas Child

Milcreek Lutheran Church will continue our annual participation in Operation Christmas Child providing simple gifts outside the United State to children affected by war, poverty, natural disaster, famine, and disease.

Brochures, pre-printed shoe boxes, and labels are available at the church. If you have questions, please contact Lisa Martin (610-589-5501) or Pat Ontkso (610-589-4350).

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Layreaders Requested

We have a nice group of readers on the lay reader list, but I would like a few more lectors in addition to the present list. If you enjoy reading, please consider adding your name to the list and share in reading to your Millcreek family members. I will be sure to give you the date you are to read well in advance. If you require a larger print copy of the lessons, I will accommodate you at your request. In the event you are not able to read on the date you are scheduled, you may switch with another reader on the list or contact me and I may be available to read for you. If you prefer "seasonal reading" I will be more than happy to put you on the list as you advise me. Biblical names may be difficult to pronounce, but don't let that deter you. Pastor Scott is more than willing to help with pronunciations. You may put a note in my mail slot, email me at Secretary@millcreeklutheran.com or call 610-589-2570 if you are interested in becoming a lay reader.

Thank you - Linda Sheetz

Central Pennsylvania Blood Bank

Milcreek Lutheran Church will be the site of a Community Blood Drive for the Central Pennsylvania Blood Bank on **Thursday, September 19 from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.** Appointments can be scheduled at the below address.

https://donate.717giveblood.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/40044



www.wreathscrossamerica.org/PA0679

PARISH-Richland Cemetery
Richland Post 880 & Heritage Society

2024

**We are starting our Campaign
"Sponsor a Wreath" for are 165
Veterans 2024 we need your support!
Buy 2 get one free!**

Sponsorship Group ID PA0679

Coordinator's contact

26 N Race St. POBox 509 Richland Pa. 17087

Gary Althouse Sr. 717-866-7050

Charlotte Peffley 717-507-7152

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Stephanie Seldomridge
- 4 Judy Engle Seely
- 5 Carol Merkel
- 11 Anderson Stoudt
- 15 Dale Bentz
- 21 Lynn Leibig



If you would like to be included on the birthday list, please contact David and Aislinn Staaby by email at mlc.parish.echo@gmail.com, or place a slip of paper in the Newsletter mail slot in the church office.

An Unusual Service

An inexperienced preacher was to hold a graveside burial service at a pauper's cemetery for an indigent man with no family or friends. Not knowing where the cemetery was, he made several wrong turns and got lost. When he eventually arrived an hour late, the hearse was nowhere in sight, the backhoe was next to the open hole, and the workmen were sitting under a tree eating lunch.

The diligent young paster went to the open grave and found the vault lid already in place. Feeling guilty because of his tardiness, he preached an impassioned and lengthy service, sending the deceased to the great beyond in style.

As he returned to his car, he overheard one of the workmen say to the other, "I've been putting in septic tanks for twenty years and I ain't never seen anything like that before!"



“The Church on the Hill”

September 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 - Sunday School Resumes - Rally Day Service & Picnic (Outdoors 10:15) - 3PM Girl Scouts	9	10	11 Evangelism @ 2pm	12	13	14 Church Breakfast @ 8am
15 - Parish Echo Deadline	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					