
The Parish Echo

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

October 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

October is the second month in a row that gives us a celebration at the end of the month. The celebration at the end of October is Reformation Sunday. (The celebration at the end of September was Michael and All Angels.) The calendar on pages 10 through 12 of the *Lutheran Book of Worship* designates both of these as Lesser Festivals (indicated by the use of small capitals.) Most of my thoughts on keeping these Lesser Festivals have to do with how those various Lesser Festivals help us learn. Remember—two of my passions are learning and teaching! For example, when our churches celebrated the five hundredth anniversary of the Reformation in 2017, I was (and remain) of the strong opinion that learning events would have been the most helpful way to mark the milestone. Part of the reason I feel that way is that—as Christians who speak our faith with a Lutheran accent—we get the chance to dress our church in red and sing translations of German chorales with gusto every year on the last Sunday in October.

Gail Ramshaw (a Lutheran who is a scholar of Liturgical Language) reminds us that “Over the centuries, Lutherans have kept a special day to thank God for the freedom that the word of God grants to believers and to pray that with the help of God’s Spirit, the church will be continually reformed and renewed.” My takeaway from that statement is that marking the Reformation is an old practice that we can continue to look at in new ways. One gift of our tradition is—in addition to dressing our church in red and singing translations of German chorales with gusto every year on the last Sunday in October—we also get a chance each year to notice reform and plan for renewal.

The watchwords “reform” and “renew” serve as both principles and guides helping us remember that the way forward for the church is to look for God’s reforming and renewing actions here and now and imagine ways to continue to “reform” and “renew” in the future.

My guess is that sounds scary, and I would concede that it is. However, part of what the annual marking of the Reformation reminds us of is that even Martin Luther’s attempts to “reform” and “renew” the church of his day evoked feelings of uncertainty in him. I find this a comfort in the end, because, when it comes to marking the Reformation, I can’t think of any other better company than Martin Luther himself.

Martin Luther's gifts to the church in the Reformation were many—far too many to list in this short article. That means we will have to settle on a single one in this short article. I believe that single gift is the reminder that everything and anything that happens to “reform” and “renew” is God's work through Christ who comes to us in Holy Scripture, Holy Baptism, and Holy Communion and that whenever we celebrate these gifts—these Means of Grace—we celebrate God who gave us Christ who gives us the Holy Spirit who invites us to “reform” and “renew.”

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, 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.

PREVIOUS MONTHS HAPPENINGS:

Hepler Family Baptism:

On August 8, 2024, Evangeline Violet, Madison and Liam of the Hepler family were baptized by Pastor Scott; their parents Erin and Zachary Hepler. Congratulations to all!



Rally Day 2024

Thank you to all who who assisting with the activities and events for this year's Rally Day, especially the nursery volunteers, Sunday School teachers, and kitchen volunteers!



HAPPENINGS IN OCTOBER:

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, October 12th 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 **Wednesday, October 9, 2024**, at **2:00 p.m.**

Thyme with Debbie



Thyme with Debbie continues 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.

October 15, 2024

Topic: All About Alliums

Description: The world of alliums is filled with the start of many dishes' base flavors. We will explore the different alliums, and the ways that they are used from flavoring dishes to the more unique recipes that highlight their delicious nature. One featured recipe will be Julia Child's Classic Onion Soup. One word = Delicious.

Trunk-or-Treat

We are getting ready to welcome our neighbors for our annual "Trunk-or-Treat" event from 1PM to 3PM on Sunday, October 27. There are multiple ways you can help:

- Come in person with a decorated vehicle and treats to hand out.
- Donate items to help make the day fun. We need items such as candy, hot dog buns, hot dogs, ect.



For more information or to help, please contact Nikki Johnson at blouch1986@hotmail.com

Parish Echo

Deadline for items you want in the **church newsletter for November 2024 is Tuesday, October 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:

Operation Christmas Child

Millcreek 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).

Musicians Requested for Veterans Sunday

Calling all musicians to play for Veterans Sunday on November 10. Rehearsals will be the following days at 9:30 A.M.

Saturday, October 26

Saturday, November 2

Saturday, November 9

Please contact Julie Strickler at juliestrickler66@gmail.com for music or any questions. Thank you for your consideration!

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Lay Readers 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

2025 Offering Envelopes

The offering envelopes for 2025 will be prepared for distribution in mid-November. **PLEASE** let me know if you **DO NOT** wish to remain on the envelope list to receive them. If you would like to be **added to the list, I will need your name and your present address**. If you are currently on the list, notify me of any address changes that need to be made to the financial statements. **The information is needed no later than October 31**. Contact information is by leaving a note in my mail slot in the office, seeing me personally or emailing secretary@millcreeklutheran.com or calling 610-589-2570. Thank you – Linda Sheetz



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

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

1	Margie Kriss	17	Aidan Heck
4	Donald Leibig	21	Sara Bentz
	Mary J. Ream	23	Daryl Strickler
5	Debra Tice		Phyllis Stettler
9	Lindsay O'Connor		Sarah Webber
10	Ann Marie Engle	25	Doris E. Bergman
11	Audrey Putt	28	Jordan Rosengrant
16	Peter Bergman		Theresa Frederick



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.

Where is God?

Two brothers were terrible troublemakers. They were always breaking things, stealing things, lying, and making all kinds of general trouble. The parents had tried everything to get the boys to change, but to no avail. Finally, out of options, they asked their pastor if he could help. He said he would talk to the boys, but only one at a time. The parents dropped off the youngest and went home, promising to return to get him soon. The boy sat in a chair across from the pastor's desk and both just looked at each other.

Finally, the Pastor, who wished to install the fact to the boy that God is everywhere and sees everything said, "Where is God?" The boy just sat there and didn't answer. The Pastor said again louder, "Where is God?". The boy shifted in his seat, but still didn't answer. The Pastor who at this point was getting very angry at the boy's refusal to answer yelled out, "Where is God!"

To the Pastors surprise, the little boy jumped out of his chair and ran out of the Pastor's office. The boy continued to leave the church and ran all the way home, up the stairs and into his brother's room. He shuts the door and practically out of breath told his brother, "We're in BIG TROUBLE. God's missing and they think we did it!"

October 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2 - Choir 7PM	3	4	5
6 - Council	7	8	9 - Evangelism 2pm - Choir 7PM	10	11	12 Church Breakfast 8AM
13 - Communion - 3PM Girl Scouts	14  COLUMBUS DAY	15 - Parish Echo Deadline	16 - Choir 7PM	17	18	19
20	21	22	23 - Choir 7PM	24	25	26 - Veterans Service Musical Rehearsal 9:30AM
27 - Communion (Reformation Sunday) - Trunk-or-Treat 1PM-3PM	28	29	30 - Choir 7PM	31 - Halloween 		