



April 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](mailto:frankterhune@gmail.com)  
In Office: Tues. & Fri. 9am-12pm

Church: 610-589-2570  
Office Administrator: Jennifer Miller  
Email: [secretary@millcreeklutheran.com](mailto:secretary@millcreeklutheran.com)  
Lay Leader: Jennifer Rosengrant  
[www.millcreeklutheran.com](http://www.millcreeklutheran.com)

**SUNDAY SCHOOL AT 9AM    WORSHIP AT 10:15 AM**

You can **listen to the worship service** over the phone patch at 10:15 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.



April brings us to climax of our faith. We experience the depths of despair as we walk with Jesus and the disciples to the cross. On Maundy Thursday, we join them in the Upper Room as they share the Last Supper. The Passover meal begins with the joy of remembering how God acted to free the people of Israel from harsh slavery in Egypt to the freedom and promise of new life. But this Passover feast ends with the betrayal, denial, death, and despair of Good Friday.

For many Christians, these events are too sad and somber remembrances. The walk to the cross with Jesus is painful for us to remember. Indeed, if these events were all we have, we would rather forget them. But they are not the end of the Jesus story. God acts. Jesus is raised from the dead. This resurrection is a proclamation that God is at work in our world, restoring our hope with new life.

The Easter mystery of Christ's resurrection is the heart of our faith. Throughout the Scripture we experience stories of God acting to bring hope to broken, battered people trapped in despair. From the dawn of Creation God works to bring hope to people who are overcome by sin, theirs and others. Live spelled backwards is evil. Suffering is seen as the consequence of humanity's quest for power and control over others. God's response is sending prophets with the challenge to put aside our ways of domination and exploitation and submit to God's vision of a world of justice and peace.

On Easter Sunday we gather to celebrate the announcement that God has not left us alone. Christ is risen! Evil and despair have been defeated. Death is overcome. God has acted to shatter the shackles of sin and proclaiming a more excellent way. The celebration of Easter calls us to new life. Easter challenges us to put aside our evil and live in a new way.

Henri Nouwen writes, "Jesus didn't rise from the grave to baffle his opponents, to make a victory statement, or to prove to those who crucified him that he was right after all. Jesus rose as a sign to those who loved him and followed him that God's divine love is stronger than death. To the women and men who committed themselves to him, he revealed that his mission had been fulfilled. To those who shared in his ministry, he gave the sacred task to call all people into the new life within him." Every day we are called to that same promise, hope, and mission. Christ is risen! Let us share that Good News in how we live and love.

Peace,  
Pastor Frank Terhune

## PRAYER LIST

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

Debbie Hartman  
Brian Ream  
Aaron Yiengst  
Greer Zellers

Violet Hepler  
Norm Sharp  
Devon Yiengst  
Pastor Frank Terhune

Liz Leibig  
Gerry Strickler  
Michael Yiengst, Jr.

Portia Lindermuth  
Stewart Wolf

## Evangelism Updates



The next evangelism committee will be meeting on April 8th @ 2:00 p.m. (weather permitting). We will be reporting March Gladness totals in May. Thank you to all who donated to those in need in our ELCO communities!

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

The annual **MLC EGG HUNT** will take place this year on Saturday April 4<sup>th</sup> at 11AM (registration starts at 10:15am). Thank you again for all the donations- you all help make this Egg Hunt a huge success every year!



There is a sign-up sheet on the table for volunteers to help the day of the egg hunt. We are looking for 12 volunteers, which will include two people in each age group (6 groups). This includes guiding the kids to their assigned age group areas and handing out prizes. If you would like to help, please reach out to Nicole Johnson or Jen Rosengrant.

**A SPECIAL OFFERING:** We will be collecting our quarterly donation for the Lower Susquehanna Synod on Sundays April 5<sup>th</sup> and April 12<sup>th</sup>.

## CHURCH BREAKFAST

The next church breakfast will be held at Country Fare Restaurant on **Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup> 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



**SWEET SUNDAY:** Sweet treats by Charmayne returns April 12<sup>th</sup>. Stop by after service

**Parish Echo:** The **deadline** for items for the **church newsletter for May 2026 is April 15<sup>th</sup>.** Newsletter items sent via email should be addressed to [secretary@millcreeklutheran.com](mailto:secretary@millcreeklutheran.com). Items may also be submitted by placing a written note in the secretary mailbox in the church office or by phone.



**Paster Joel Risser** will be the guest pastor for the month of April, filling in for Pastor Terhune while he recovers from surgery. In the event of an emergency or pastoral need, please call Jen Rosengrant at 717-228-8857 and she will coordinate with the covering pastor.

**Empowering the Future Capital Campaign:**

Our Empowering the Future Capital Campaign kicked off last week! We want to express our appreciation for those that have already pledged. As you and your family prayerfully consider your gift, we ask that you complete the pledge form in its entirety by April 12th and designate on your check or electronic payment Empowering the Future Campaign for accounting purposes. Forms can be placed in the treasurer's box in office or given to David Engle. This is your opportunity to make a difference in the future vision of MLC!



**Spring Fundraiser:**



We will once again be holding a pulled pork dinner fundraiser on Saturday May 2, 2026, from 11am-1pm. Tickets are available after the service in the Narthex. We are asking each individual to sell at least 10 tickets. Our GOAL FOR 2026 is to SELL 450 TICKETS. Tickets are \$15 and include pulled pork, a roll, baked beans, cheesy potatoes and cookies. Sign-ups for event day help and cookies are on the table in the Narthex. We had a FUN time last year and look forward to another great day in 2026.

**APRIL BIRTHDAYS**

- |    |                   |    |                 |
|----|-------------------|----|-----------------|
| 3  | Lori Strickler    | 19 | Skylar Johnson  |
| 7  | Garrett Strickler | 20 | Bryan Breidigam |
| 8  | Roy Hoglund       | 21 | Kyle Rosengrant |
|    | Cole Pennington   | 26 | Alyssa Keath    |
| 13 | Conner Pennington | 27 | Breah Strickler |
| 14 | Kerry Strickler   | 29 | Lisa Martin     |
| 15 | Debra Hogeland    |    |                 |
| 18 | Phil Martin       |    |                 |



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

## APRIL 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 7pm Lent service at St. Paul's UCC, Newmanstown	2 7pm Maundy Thursday Service at MLC	3 Good Friday service at Richland Community Bible, 7pm	4 EGG HUNT 1030am register 11am hunt start
5 EASTER SUNDAY 10:15 Communion Service No Sunday School	6	7	8	9	10	11 8am Church Breakfast at Country Fare
12 9am Sunday School 10:15 Communion Service	13	14	15	16	17	18
19 9am Sunday School 10:15 Communion Service	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 9am Sunday School 10:15 Communion Service	27	28	29	30		



## Motivating Lives through Christ

March 23, 2026

### **Subject: Empowering the Future Capital Campaign**

Dear Millcreek Family,

For over 50 years, Millcreek Lutheran Church has been a beacon of faith, community, and service in Newmanstown. Together, we have worshipped, served our community, and grown in faith. Now, we stand at a pivotal moment to secure the future of our ministry.

#### **The Vision: Renewable Energy...A future without Utility Costs**

We are thrilled to launch our Empowering the Future capital campaign to install solar panels and heat pumps, upgrade the current electrical panel, install an outside security system, upgrade to an electronic sign and complete general repairs on our 60 year old building. This project will allow us to eliminate our future utility bills and free up operating income to invest in our mission and better serve our community.

**The Goal is \$200,000 above our normal annual giving.** Thanks to the incredible early support of a few individuals, we have already secured \$10,000 in early pledges!

#### **Your Opportunity to Make a Difference**

To make this vision a reality, we invite you to participate in this journey through a sacrificial pledge over the next 4 years. While we ask you to pray about a significant gift, we ask you to consider an impactful gift to help us reach our goal.

#### **How to Participate**

1. **Pray** about your participation.
2. **Fill out the enclosed pledge form** and return it by April 12, 2026.

Thank you for your continued stewardship and for your investment in the future of Millcreek Lutheran Church. We are grateful for any help you can provide and thank you for considering our support request.

In Faith,

Culture of Generosity Committee

221 North Sheridan Road, PO Box 399, Newmanstown, Pa 17073  
610-589-2570

[secretary@millcreeklutheran.com](mailto:secretary@millcreeklutheran.com)

[www.millcreeklutheran.com](http://www.millcreeklutheran.com)



# Empowering the Future Pledge Form

## *Motivating Lives through Christ*

**We are kicking off our Empowering the Future Capital Campaign with a goal of raising \$200,000 by June 30, 2030.**

Funds will be used as we move forward with our:

**Solar Installation, Heat Pumps, Upgraded Electrical Panel, New Thermostats, Security System/Cameras for the exterior of the church, Electronic Sign and General Repairs and Maintenance costs to our building and property.**

### DONOR INFORMATION

FULL NAME:			
PHONE NUMBER:		EMAIL:	
MAILING ADDRESS:			
CITY, STATE, ZIP:			

### PLEDGE DETAILS (CONFIDENTIAL)

TOTAL PLEDGE AMOUNT:	\$ _____
PLEDGE TYPE:	<input type="checkbox"/> One-Time <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly <input type="checkbox"/> Quarterly <input type="checkbox"/> Annually
NUMBER OF PAYMENTS:	(if recurring) _____ payments
FIRST PAYMENT DATE:	__ / __ / ____
FINAL PAYMENT DATE:	__ / __ / ____
PAYMENT METHOD:	<input type="checkbox"/> Check <input type="checkbox"/> Venmo <input type="checkbox"/> ACH/Bank Transfer <input type="checkbox"/> Stock <input type="checkbox"/> RMD/QCD <input type="checkbox"/> Other:

### DESIGNATED PREFERENCE (OPTIONAL)

I would like to sponsor a specific item from above:

Please describe: \_\_\_\_\_

### PAYMENT DETAILS

Total Amount Committed	\$ _____
Payment Method	<input type="checkbox"/> Check <input type="checkbox"/> Venmo <input type="checkbox"/> ACH/Bank Transfer <input type="checkbox"/> Stock <input type="checkbox"/> RMD/QCD <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
Payment Due Date	_____



# Empowering the Future Pledge Form

## *Motivating Lives through Christ*

### AUTHORIZATION

By signing below, I affirm my intention to fulfill this pledge as outlined above. (This form is not legally binding, but serves as a statement of intent.)

Role / Title	Print Name	Signature	Date
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### RETURN COMPLETED FORM TO:

**Organization Name:** Millcreek Lutheran Church  
**Contact Person:** David Engle  
**Email:** dgeagle@yahoo.com  
**Mailing Address:** 221 North Sheridan Road, Box 399, Newmanstown, PA 17073  
**Phone:** 610-589-2570

### FINANCIAL/TREASURER USE ONLY

PLEDGE RECEIVED BY	
DATE RECEIVED	_ / _ / ____
DONOR ID (IF APPLICABLE)	
NOTES	

PLEASE RETURN PLEDGE CARD BY APRIL 12, 2026



"The Church on the Hill"

**Motivating Lives through Christ**

## **Empowering the Future Capital Campaign**

How can we achieve this goal by June 30, 2030?

Example 1: If 50 pledges give \$4,000 each. This individual amount can be given as follows:

\$4,000 flat donation

\$1,000 for 4 years

\$400 per quarter for 10 quarters

\$80 per month for 50 months

\$20 per week for 200 weeks

Example 2: 5 pledges give \$10,000 each and 45 individuals give \$3,350

Example 3: 10 pledges give \$10,000 each and 40 individuals give \$2,500