



News from Christ Community  
 United Methodist Church  
 3939 Park Road, Selinsgrove, PA 17870

APRIL 2026



**Holy Week Worship Schedule**



**Emmaus Walk Weekends**

**HOLY THURSDAY/GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE** - April 2nd at 6:30pm we will have Worship with Holy Communion as we continue our series “The Way”.

**COMMUNITY GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE** - April 3rd from 12Noon-3:00pm broken into 20 minute segments (come for one or stay for all), at Sharon Lutheran Church, 120 South Market Street, Selinsgrove.

**EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE** - April 5th at 7:00am, Shreiner’s Cemetery with the Susquehanna Valley Baptist Church.

**EASTER SUNDAY** - April 5th we will have our regularly scheduled worship services (8:30am & 11:00am).



**Easter Eggstravaganza**

This year’s Easter Eggstravaganza will take place on Saturday, April 11th, from 10am-12Noon. We will have food, games, an egg hunt and much more! We also have a sensory friendly egg hunt for children with those needs. Mark your calendars now for this fun event! Donations of individually wrapped candy are appreciated and may be placed in the donation bin in the Fellowship Hall.

**APRIL 23-26** : Men’s Emmaus Walk at Wesley Forest.

**APRIL 30-MAY 3**: Women’s Emmaus Walk at Wesley Forest.

If you would like more information about participating in an Emmaus Walk, please contact Mark Reinard.

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## From the Grave to the Sky!

*“But the angel said to the women, ‘Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here, for he has been raised, as he said.’”*

*~ Matthew 28:5-6a*

“You came from heaven to earth to show the way;  
from the earth to the cross, my debt to pay;  
from the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky.  
Lord, I lift your name on high!” ~ Rick Founds

Easter is upon us - the sacred destination of our Lenten pilgrimage. Our journey has been a season of self-reflection, repentance, and unhurried time fixing our eyes on Jesus. He has been showing the way for us, like the symbolic shell showing the way for pilgrims on the Camino de Santiago, showing us that the loving way is the way of resurrection power, that in his life we are set free from the burdens of sin and death, that in him we find the spiritual home our hearts are longing for. Because Christ lives, love is stronger than fear, hope is stronger than despair, and new life is possible!

Beginning on Sunday, April 12, we will join 30,000 United Methodist congregations worldwide to continue our Easter celebration and learn how we can transform the world like Jesus. This six week worship series invites congregations around the world to journey together through the heart of Christian discipleship.

At its center is a simple but transformative truth: **disciples of Jesus Christ are shaped, empowered, and sent by God to bless the world.** Each week explores a core dimension of discipleship—being formed by Christ, empowered by the Spirit, loving boldly, serving joyfully, leading courageously, and ultimately joining God in transforming the world.

As part of this journey, we will be invited to help fund theological education in Africa, Europe, and the Philippines, empowering pastors to serve congregations and communities with courage for generations to come. Be part of this movement: Worship with us each Sunday, April 12–May 17 and pray that God will move boldly through our church and around the world.

**Love Boldly. Serve Joyfully. Lead Courageously. Until we meet him in the sky.**

~Pastor Eric



## “Turquoise Table”

The turquoise table stands in the light,  
A humble, holy, open sight.  
Its weathered boards in shades of blue  
Whisper softly, “there’s room for you.”

It asks no name, it sets no test,  
Just offers space, a place to rest.  
For prayer or tears or laughter’s sound,  
All hearts are welcome, safe and found.

Some bring a Bible, worn and true,  
Some bring a meal they’ll share with you.  
Bread and stories pass along,  
Faith grows quietly, deep and strong.

At times one soul alone will stay,  
With folded hands and words to pray.  
The silence sits, a gentle friend,  
No need to rush, no need to end.  
No place is saved, no seat is claimed,  
Each one belongs, no one unnamed.

This turquoise table, calm and wide,  
Holds grace and love on every side.  
A sacred truth in simple view—  
Where love makes room, may faith grow too.

By: Robin Shafer, with assistance from AI

If anyone, at any time, needs or wants to sit and enjoy time at this table, please feel free.  
It sits along Fisher Road, beside the church parking lot.  
This is our church family’s table, where ALL are welcome!



## The Impact of CCUMC

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You may recall that several months ago we had collected some personal statements through a questionnaire in the bulletin concerning the impact of Christ Community United Methodist Church on our personal lives, our families' lives, the local community, and the world beyond. Here is yet another installment gleaned from those responses:

### **Some responses on the individual level:**

- There were so many role models in the congregation. How they were and how they carried themselves was at least as powerful as their words of wisdom.
- For a while, one person needed the groceries from the food giveaway, but later, when she was back on her feet, she was able to contribute to the giveaway herself. It was her way of saying thank you.
- It all made more sense when I understood CCUMC's focus on the concept that how we act, think, and feel in everyday life shouldn't be different from how we act, think, and feel in church.

### **Some responses about impact on the family level:**

- The church provides various prayer opportunities to lift up praises, concerns, and needs in prayer. These prayers often lead to very real and concrete responses by church members. Prayers are times to listen to the prompting and leading of the Holy Spirit.
- This is an oft repeated joy: "I love the fellowship of the tureen or potluck dinners when we can share food and fellowship."
- People at CCUMC help me answer the kids' questions, like "What's the Trinity?" and "How can three persons be one God?" and "How do you all know John 3:16?"
- CCUMC people are quick to greet and welcome visitors who may appear on any given Sunday. Sometimes that happens for something else entirely, like the Craft Fair or the free food distribution each month.

### **Some responses on impacting community and beyond:**

- The Pastor's Discretionary Fund is constantly being used as an immediate response to very real and present needs. It doesn't usually translate into new attendees, but Jesus didn't minister to people to get new members. He helped those in need because it's a manifestation of the Second Greatest Commandment — "to love your neighbor as yourself."
- The Easter Outreach includes a sensory friendly egg hunt.
- Things like the Craft Fair welcome people into the church environment in a way that is comfortable to the unchurched.

As always, we invite you to "tell us the stories of Jesus that we love to hear" and how His love and living example have affected the way you live your life. We also invite you to share ideas about other opportunities for this CCUMC mission station to be even more effective in spreading the Good News and doing our part in the Kingdom.

"God is impacting lives through this mission station.

Your generous support of the General Fund is greatly appreciated. Thank you!"



# April at Christ Community



8:30am First Service  
9:45am Sunday School  
11:00am Second Service



## Christ's Prayer Pantry

The next Free Food Drive Thru will take place on Saturday, April 18th, from 10-11am.



## Christian Classics

The Christian Classics will meet on Thursday, April 9th, at 6:00pm. We will have a Baked Potato Bar: Baked Potatoes, Potato Toppings and Dessert. Showcase a unique Antique or Personal Collection (you are invited to bring an antique or a sampling of something you collect).

## MEETINGS

### April

6th - United Women in Faith, 7:00pm  
9th - SPRC, 6:00pm  
9th - Christian Classics, 6:00pm  
12th - C.O.O.L. Family, 12:15pm  
13th - Busy Bees, 10:00am  
14th - Staff, 1:00pm



## EVENTS

### April

2nd - Holy Thursday Service, 6:30pm  
3rd - Community Good Friday Service, 12-3pm, (in 20 minute segments) @ Sharon Lutheran Church, Selinsgrove  
5th - Sunrise Service @ Shreiner's Cemetery, 7am; Easter Sunday w/Communion, 8:30 & 11am; Donations to Christ's Prayer Pantry  
11th - Easter Eggstravaganza, 10am-12Noon  
18th - Free Food Drive Thru, 10am



## United Women in Faith

Everyone is invited to United Women in Faith on Monday, April 6th at 7pm. We will have a guest speaker from Walking Free Clubhouse. They are dedicated to providing safe and supportive activities for individuals in recovery in our area. A ladies meeting will follow.

In an effort to have updated information in our newsletter, we are redoing the birthday & anniversary lists.

If you don't see your name and would like it added, please contact the church office by phone or email.

### April Birthdays



- 01 Mike Engle
- 02 Barb Parker
- 02 Briar Trego
- 05 Cindy Rhodes
- 05 Susy Tressler
- 10 Ralph Johnson
- 12 Katie Savidge
- 16 Ryan Aumiller
- 17 Reagan Rachau
- 18 Vivian Hile
- 18 Marysue Walter
- 19 Dianne Kerstetter
- 22 Linda Wilson
- 26 Monica Hoover
- 30 Bob Straub



### April Anniversaries

- 12/2011 Les & Marilyn Seagraves
- 16/1978 Deb & Dave Sanders
- 23/2022 Alan & Michelle Heintzelman
- 26/1985 Pam & Tim Wolfe
- 28/1979 Greg & Cindy Rhodes



*"I call to you in times of trouble, because you answer my prayers." ~Psalm 86:7*

If you have a prayer request, call Barb Inch (570) 837-5384, Delores Kauffman (570) 743-8322 or the church office (570)743-7303.

Tuesday morning Prayer Time at 9:00am in the lounge.

Please remember our shut-in members with a visit, phone call, or "Thinking of You" card to let them know that we miss them. If we have missed anyone on this list, please call the church office.



**St. Martha Center** - 470 Manor Avenue, Downingtown, PA 19335  
Alice Zeeger, Room 102A

**Richfield Healthcare and Rehabilitation Center** -  
631 Main Street, Richfield, PA 17086  
Virginia Host, Room 10

**Heather Court at Nottingham Village**  
281 Ironstone Drive, Northumberland, PA 17857  
Peg Sowers, No room number is needed

**The Manor at Penn Village** - 51 Rte. 204, Selinsgrove PA 17870  
Margaret Wendt, Room 306



Paul Aungst, Box 42, Hummels Wharf, PA 17831



We will finish up THE CHOSEN SEASON 5 STUDY at 6:00pm on April 8th in the Sanctuary with Episodes 7 & 8: THE LAST SUPPER. Hope you can join in for the finale! (even if you weren't able to make earlier sessions)

\*\*The last Lenten Soup Dinner will take place on Wednesday, April 1st, at 5:00pm.



### Helping Hands

We are collecting nail clippers and soap (bar or liquid) for Health Kits that will be assembled at Annual Conference for Mission Central distribution. A box is located in the Fellowship Hall through April.

We have also been asked to collect Shampoo for International Students at Susquehanna University through April. Please add to the Health Care box and we will do the sorting. Thank you for your giving to these two projects!



### Spring Clean Up Day

A SPRING CLEAN UP DAY will be held here, at the church property, on Saturday, May 2nd (June 6 rain date), from 8am-12Noon. The day will include working outside to beautify the grounds. PLEASE try to attend. Many hands make light work and a shorter day. In combination, our Sexton, Heidi Carroll will also be working on WINDOW CLEANING. She would love the extra help. Sign up now on the bulletin board.



Dear Pastor Eric, Pastor Andy, & CCUMC Church Family,

Once again you have been a reflection of God's love in so many ways. You have helped ease our sorrow with John's passing. How you encouraged him through his final days of his journey of life!

We sincerely thank you for every expression of love, care, and concern shown to John and our family through your prayers, cards, phone calls and visits.

May your prayers continue as we deal with Gene's uncertain health concerns.

What a blessing you have been as the body of Christ!

Love & Prayers,  
The Shirk Family



### Pickleball Anyone?

Beginning in April, Marty & Sabrina Sickle have volunteered to help start up pickleball at our church. Whether you already know how to play, would like to learn, or simply want to come watch, we invite you to join us for fun & fellowship!

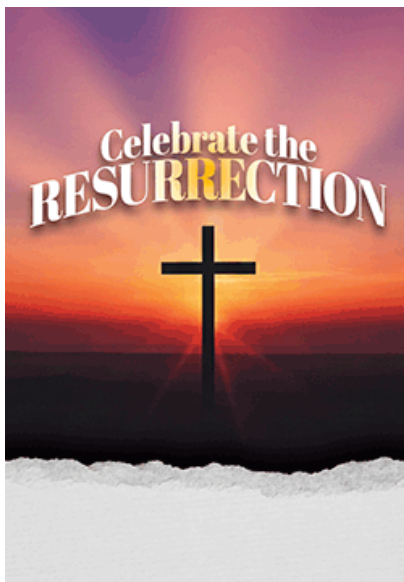
A sign up sheet will be posted on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall for anyone interested in participating.



### Summer Camp News

Camp creates an incredible environment of fun and discovery so different from a young person's norm that they will remember these experiences for the rest of their lives. Their growth in faith and love will continue to shape them far beyond the experience of camp. Registration is now open for Susquehanna Conference Summer Camps at Wesley Forest, Camp Penn, and Sky Lake. There are camps for all ages including Day Camps (Elementary Creepy Crawly Camp & Elementary Nature, Arts, Music, and Science Camp) and Overnight Camps (Whitewater Rafting Adventure, Splash Elementary and many more). Check out the brochure hanging in the Fellowship Hall or for the most up-to-date details on camp programming, go to [suscrm.org](http://suscrm.org) where you can register now and pay your deposit now or later. Discounts are available! **Register for summer camp by May 1st to receive a \$25 early bird discount.** Early bird only applies to summer events unless otherwise listed. You can also register your first child at full price and each additional sibling receives a \$25 discount off their camp event. If you refer a friend who has never been to a Susquehanna Conference camp, you will receive \$50 off your total summer camp balance (make sure both you and the friend you refer complete the Refer-A-Friend form during registration prior to May 1st). The Susquehanna Conference Camp & Retreat Ministry has limited partial scholarships available for families that may need financial assistance. Our scholarship program now offers assistance to help cover up to 50% of the total cost of camp and applications can be found on our website at [suscrm.org](http://suscrm.org).

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United Methodist Church  
3939 Park Road  
Selinsgrove, PA 17870



## OPPORTUNITIES AT CHRIST COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

### General Information

#### Weekly Services

8:30a.m. - Service of Praise  
9:45a.m. - Sunday School for all ages  
11:00a.m. - Traditional Service

#### CHURCH OFFICE

Office Hours:  
Monday-Friday 8:00am-1:00pm  
Phone 570-743-7303

Senior Pastor: Rev. Eric J. Shafer

Director of Congregational Care :  
Andy Bucke

Director of Music Ministries:  
Liz Stevenson

Secretary: Pam Eister

Pianist: Josh Stevenson

Sexton: Heidi Carroll

#### Children's Sunday School

Nursery                      Beginners, grades 1 & 2  
Primary, Pre-K & K      Middlers, grades 3-5  
Sundays, 9:45-10:45am

#### Youth Sunday School

Grades 6-12  
Sundays, 9:45-10:45am

#### Youth Group

Grades 6-12  
Meets Tuesday afternoons during  
the school year from  
4:00-5:30pm

#### Awana

6:00 P.M. Wednesdays for age 3-Grade 6  
September-April

#### Adults

Sunday School Classes  
9:45-10:45am

Elective Class - The Book of Revelation

Agape Class - Harmony of the Gospels

#### Music Ministry Aug.-May

Bell Choir                      5:45 p.m. - Tuesday  
Chancel Choir                6:45 p.m. - Tuesday  
Praise Team                    As Needed

#### Seniors

Christian Classics usually meet on the  
second Thursday of each month.

#### Women

United Women in Faith meet on the first  
Monday of even numbered months at  
7:00 p.m.

# April 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<i>1</i> 5pm Lenten Soup Meal 6pm Lenten Study 6pm Awana	<i>2 Holy Thursday</i> 6:30pm Worship Service	<i>3 Good Friday</i> 12Noon-3:00pm Good Friday Community Service @ Sharon Lutheran, Selinsgrove	<i>4</i>
<i>5 Easter Sunday</i> 7am Sunrise Service @ Shreiner's Cemetery 8:30am Worship 9:45am Sunday School 11am Worship	<i>6</i> 7pm United Women	<i>7</i> 9am Prayer Time 4pm Youth Group 5:45pm Handbells 6:45pm Choir	<i>8</i> 6pm Lenten Study 6pm Last Awana-Kitchen & Fellowship Hall Reserved all day	<i>9</i> 6pm SPRC Meeting 6pm Christian Classics	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i> 10am-12Noon <i>Easter Eggstravaganza</i>
<i>12</i> 8:30am Worship 9:45am Sunday School 11am Worship 12:15pm COOL Family Meeting	<i>13</i> 10am Busy Bees Meeting	<i>14</i> 9am Prayer Time 1:00pm Staff Meeting 4pm Youth Group 5:45pm Handbells 6:45pm Choir	<i>15</i>	<i>16</i> 10am-3pm Conference Women in Ministry Event Luncheon	<i>17</i>	<i>18</i> 10am Free Food Drive Thru 6pm Fellowship Hall & Sanctuary Reserved
<i>19</i> 8:30am Worship 9:45am Sunday School 11am Worship	<i>20</i>	<i>21</i> 8am-4pm Conference Seminar 9am Prayer Time 4pm Youth Group 5:45pm Handbells 6:45pm Choir	<i>22</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>25</i> 12Noon-3pm One Room School House Luncheon
<i>26</i> 8:30am Worship 9:45am Sunday School 11am Worship	<i>27</i>	<i>28</i> 9am Prayer Time 4pm Youth Group (in Fellowship Hall) 5:45pm Handbells 6:45pm Choir	<i>29</i>	<i>30</i>		